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The “Circle of Life” Meets “Hakuna Matata”...

OK...I admit it...I’m a Disney junkie at heart. Maybe it’s my refusal to totally grow up. But I like to think it’s my desire to celebrate life and to know that we do not simply move from one age or stage to the next without carrying a part of the previous one with us into the future—hopefully carrying more joy than sorrow with us as we go.

I just learned that the Lion King is returning for a 3D visit! Not sure it can get any better than the original release or the stage musical, but time will tell...When I recall the songs and yes, I do sing along, I usually start out singing the words to “*The Circle of Life*:”

*It's the Circle of Life
 And it moves us all
 Through despair and hope
 Through faith and love
 Till we find our place
 On the path unwinding
 In the Circle...The Circle of Life...In the Circle... the Circle of Life...*

And before I know it, I hear myself singing, “*Hakuna Matata*:”
*Hakuna Matata! What a wonderful phrase
 Hakuna Matata! Ain't no passing craze
 It means no worries for the rest of your days
 It's our problem-free philosophy
 Hakuna Matata! Hakuna Matata! Hakuna matata!
 Hakuna Matata! Hakuna matata! Hakuna Matata! Hakuna matata!
 Hakuna Matata! Hakuna--It means no worries for the rest of your days*

It’s as if Elton John & Tim Rice were writing music & words to Psalm 151...a Psalm for a New Day...a Psalm for you and me. As we move through this life, we don’t go it alone...God is always there as our constant companion; accompanying us through “despair and hope; faith and love; till we find our place...every last one of us...no matter what...in the Circle of Life.

To be sure, we live in interesting times that present us with good cause for feeling lost, insecure and uncertain of what the future holds. But our faith reminds us of who holds that future; who gives us coping skills from minds that think and hearts that feel; the One who calls us out of our comfort zones to be faithful; to sacrifice; to take risks.....to turn lose of all fear...trusting and believing (that’s always the catch, isn’t it)? “that all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well...”(Julian of Norwich).

Finding our place on the path of unwinding in the Circle of Life allows us to shout from the mountain top, Hakuna Matata!-no worries for the rest of our days...

May it be so, O God...May it be so... **Blessings, Rev. Joanne**

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Let Us Pray...

Everyone is invited to a weekly 30 minute time of prayer; EVERY Thursday, 7-7:30p;
 Uniting our spirits as we discern God’s leading for our congregation.

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News from Our Moderator

It can't be October already! I haven't even finished up the list of things I needed to accomplish in September...or even August! Unfinished and incomplete tasks, I will admit, drive me a little crazy. I am a person who likes to be able to check stuff off my to-do list. For the list-checkers among us, I am happy to report that there are a couple of opportunities this month that will allow us to address our to-do lists:

The first is our annual "**Fun-D-Raising Day**", **Saturday, October 15**. There are lots of ways you can help, so please sign up to help and plan to come. We'd like to beef up the yard sale this year, as the proceeds from this event go toward operating expenses. So, clean out your attic, your closets, your garage and basement, and bring it to the church. You'll have more space at home, we'll sell your unwanted stuff, and you will have helped the church you love. Need help transporting your stuff? Call the church office and we'll arrange pick-up.

The second opportunity is to help out at the **NC State Fair October 13-23**. St. Paul's Christian Church has a full-service restaurant every year at the Fair, and they need our help. They pay Covenant per shift worked. By signing up for a shift, your time contributes directly to Covenant's operating expenses. Plus, you get free Fair admission, so you can ride the Ferris Wheel on your way in or out! Sign-up online: http://www.stpauls.net/?page_id=2171 or in the church entryway. If you sign up online, please also sign up in the entryway, so we will have a correct list.

So, let's check a couple of things off our lists:

- ✓ Clean out closets, attics, basements, garages
- ✓ Go to the State Fair
- ✓ Log some volunteer time
- ✓ Help out Covenant
- ✓ Feel good by giving back to the faith community we love

Whew! I feel better already. *Darla Baldwin, Moderator*

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Calling All Adults, Children & Youth! We're Having a Church-wide Family Game Night & Pizza!



Friday, October 7, 6:30-8:30p
(Childcare for infants & toddlers)

You're On!

Monopoly, anyone? Do you have a Clue how to play? Or will you just sit around and feel Sorry for yourself? It could Boggle your mind or be a real Twister. It's up to you how you play your hand! ☺ Just bring your favorite game and join in the fun while we eat pizza!

Invite your friends & neighbors!

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DISCIPLES MEN BIG ON THE "FunD Raising Day"! Saturday, October 15

Our Disciples Men will be playing a big part in the FunD Raising Day at the Church. Our three main functions will be the YARD SALE (Chrs: Alan Wilkinson & Don Brooks), ANTIQUE SALE (Chr. Bob Kennel), and HELP WITH THE BBQ Lunch (ALL).

We also need to help with the set-up on Friday-any time from 9a on. We can start bringing yard sale items to the parking lot POD Saturday, October 1, 9a-noon; any M-F, 9a-1p; or on Thursday evenings, 7p.

Questions? Call Ted Glasener, President: 557-9512; or Bob Kennel, Secretary: 557-0847.

Annual Fun-D Raising Day! A Craft Sale; Bake Sale; Yard Sale; Antique Sale & BBQ Lunch Rolled Into One Fun Day! Saturday, October 15

Read all about it, and then do something about it! We need our help to make this the most successful sale we've ever had. So...what do we need from you?

- Sign up to help! Volunteer sign-up sheet located in the entry way. Here's how YOU can help:
- Baking goodies; chicken pot pies, etc.
- Making Craft items
- Setting up the sanctuary (Friday); "restaurant" in the back parking lot & yard sale area early Saturday am.
- Working as cashiers & hosts
- Pricing sale items all day Friday, October 14
- Delivering dinners to businesses on Saturday
- Cleaning chickens (yes, if Glenn Thornton and Ken Hoffman can do all of that cooking, we can certainly clean 'em ☺ - I'm begging...please help!
- Bring your "stuff" for the yard sale & antique sale...**And so much more...**

The storage POD arrives Saturday, October 1. You can bring items beginning then, 9a-noon; or during regular office hours (M-F, 9a-1p); or Thursday evenings, 7-7:30p) *Renie Palmer, Chr.*

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State Fair Booth with St. Paul's Christian Church (DOC), October 13-23:

For 18 years we shared in the people-power and the profits with St. Paul's, who own a restaurant booth at the Fair. In the past 4 years a handful of Covenant folks have continued to work a number of shifts for which Covenant received so much money per shift that is filled.

This year, St. Paul's need for more volunteers meets Covenant's need for fundraising!

We need to fill 30 time slots during the 11 days of the Fair. Volunteers are also needed to set up (October 12); and clean up (October 24).

- All Adults & High School youth needed to help prepare & serve food for 3 meals per day/take orders, etc.;
- Middle School youth to staff the drink section & bus tables **ONLY; MUST BE accompanied by an adult.**
- Children 8-11yrs old can **ONLY** bus tables (for safety reasons); **MUST BE accompanied by an adult.**

The shifts are as follows:

6:30a-11:30a

11a-5:30p

5-10p

You can fill an entire shift or more; or part of a shift, i.e. if you can serve 6:30a-9a...someone else can serve from 9a-11:30a. Or maybe you can help out while your children are in school by working 10a-2p. You get the idea...**How many ever it takes to fill one shift...just know that we are receiving \$\$ for each shift; NOT each volunteer worker.** All volunteers get free Fair passes and a free meal-before or after your shift. A sign-up sheet's in the entryway each week thru October 9.

Or go to http://www.stpauls.net/?page_id=2171 and you'll be directed to a page on the St. Paul's website. At the bottom of the page is a green button that states "Sign Up Now!" and follow directions to do so. Sign-up for any of the shifts and as often as you would like to work.

When you choose the shift/position that you want to work, click the "Sign Up" button. If this is the first time that you have used this program, you will need to set-up a login with a valid email address so you can receive a reminder 2 days prior to your chosen shift.

Please note these requests when you are signing up to volunteer:

Remember to type COVENANT in the "MY COMMENT" box beside the job chosen.

If you sign up electronically, we still need you to sign up on the sheet in the entryway, so we can keep track and to check on the split-shifts...



TRUNK OR TREAT!

Are you ready for a treat? On Sunday, October 30 @ 4 PM, Covenant will be hosting it's annual Trunk Or Treat! Join us in your best Halloween costume and enjoy pizza, games, tattoos, CANDY, raffle(s), a cake walk, hit the minister with a pie contest, & of course TRUNK or TREATING! You won't want to miss this event – bring your friends, neighbors, & family members for a night of family-friendly fun.



***Pizza, chips, drink, & dessert - \$3 per person (or \$10 per families of 4 or more)**

***Cheesecake Raffle Tickets - \$1 per ticket**

***Cake Walk Tickets - \$1 per ticket**

***Smash The Minister In The Face With A Pie Ticket - \$500 per ticket!**

(Actually they are only \$.50 – but I think they should be \$500)

For more information regarding this event, please contact the church office or email Rev. Randy @ randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER...

On **Saturday October 15th**, we need help from all our 5th – 8th graders! The church-wide Craft, Antique, Yard, & Bake Sale will be happening on this day and it is the perfect time to kick-off our "Butter Braids" fundraiser! We need youth to pick a one or two hour shift and help us sell some "Butter Braids". Mark your calendars and be ready to help out on this date. For more information please contact Rev. Randy at the church office or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.

Youth News - Calendar!

CHI-RHO (6th-8th grade)

October 2nd – CROP Walk – Meet @ 1:45 PM @ Christ The King Lutheran, over between 3:30 & 4 PM.

October 9th – Chi Rho Program! Bring \$4 & a friend. (5:30 – 7 PM) – Bullying – Officer Macario

October 15th – Butter Braids Fundraiser 9 AM – 2 PM – email me with your volunteer time slot!

October 16th – Canoe Trip Training (Bond Park) 1 PM. Bring \$4 for canoe rental fee & an adult chaperone!

October 22nd – Canoe Trip (River TBD). Meet @ church around 7 AM. Adult chaperones needed!

October 29th – Rain Date for Canoe Trip

October 30th – Trunk Or Treat!!! We need your help! 4 PM.

November 5-6th – District Wide Lock-In – Hillyer Memorial – “*The Fast That Lasts*”

November 20th Disciples Day @ Barton College

CYF (9th -12th grade)

October 2nd – CROP Walk – Meet @ 1:45 PM @ Christ The King Lutheran, over between 3:30 & 4 PM.

October 15th – Fishing Trip @ Wrightsville Beach. 9 AM – 7 PM (\$8 reel rental & \$\$\$ for 3 meals)

October 30th – Trunk Or Treat! We need your help! 4 PM.

November 5-6th – District Wide Lock-In – Hillyer Memorial – “*The Fast That Lasts*”

November 20th Disciples Day @ Barton College in Wilson