

Perceptions

Several years ago I was managing a janitorial crew and one of our accounts was a church building. Just after we changed air freshener sprays from lemon to baby power we started getting complaints that one of the ladies restrooms was not clean. After sending my crew back twice, in desperation I tried just spraying the lemon scented air freshener we had previously used. Suddenly the restroom was clean. What had changed? Only the perception of the users.

We react to the people we meet in life based on our perceptions of them. This can be very dangerous. James 2:1 tells us, "Brethren do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism." James goes on to warn us not to show the rich favoritism over the poor. Our perceptions of people often result in our judging them through our (not God's) prejudices.

Jesus addressed this directly in answering the lawyer's question of, "who is my neighbor" with the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25 – 37). Remember how a man on the Jericho road was attacked beaten, robbed and left half dead? Two men supposed to be devout, a priest and a Levite, passed him by on the other side of the road. A Samaritan stopped, rendered first aid, and carried the man to an inn. Jews and Samaritans hated each other yet the Samaritan went further caring for him through the night leaving money to take care of him, promising to pay more when he came back if the cost was more. Jesus showed the lawyer that even enemies are our neighbors. That ethnic and social standing are meaningless to God. The priest and Levite were moving away from the man but the Samaritan was moving towards him. We have to move towards people to love and teach them.

In conclusion, I want to share a statement on love I ran across. Love does not ask how far do I have to go. Love asks, what can I do. Be careful in how you allow your perceptions to influence your view and interactions with others. Don't let your perceptions keep you out of heaven!

Larry Benson

It Takes a Community

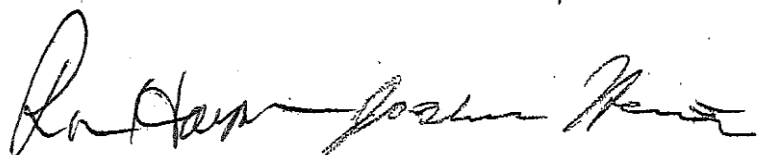
"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

There are 1,025,110 words in the English language. Of this extensive list of words, I can only think of two that truly express the feelings Ron and I have for our congregation: THANK YOU! Salem Creek is home to servants and workers. It is a place where people wake up and ask, "What can I do to help today?" For that, we are grateful. Here's why.

We asked. You delivered. Last weekend we had the challenge of teaching, feeding, and caring for several children at our Vacation Bible School. We honestly didn't know what to expect. Through wonderful planning by our teachers and other workers, we were able to have a wonderful Vacation Bible School that is certain to be even better next year! We asked for food to be brought to the church building such as hotdogs, cookies, and chips and you delivered. Actually, you delivered far more than we needed! We were able to send lunches home with several children and give others to Journey Home. A special thanks goes out to Anthony and Maxine Scales, Rick Corum, Pancake McKnight, and all others who worked on our kitchen staff!

As far as teaching goes, we have the best teachers in the entire county right here in our own congregation. We did not order any materials or curriculum so we were solely on our own. These teachers took our theme and ran with it. We have heard nothing but great things from the students and helpers about how well the classes went. It took a great deal of time, energy, prayer, and preparation to come up with curriculum and teaching methods for all the kids we had. Thus, a thank you to all those who taught, assisted the teachers, and found materials for classes is in high order!

As was said last Sunday, Ron and I could not possibly write a thank you note to everyone because so many people came to help. We love you all so much and appreciate every single member of this great congregation. We truly are blessed!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron and I", written in a cursive style.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Shirley Bibb, Opal Jones, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Wayne Mobbs, Marie Fleming, Lorene Maddox, Selma Boyd, Jeanie Young, Oleta Bullard, Mabel Robertson, Janneil Brown, Kinley Mobbs, Sue Reeves, Willis Clark, Bob Hoover & family, Lois Arnold, Virginia Young, Lukah Story

TAKING TREATMENTS:

Lois Arnold

SHUT INS:

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

*MEMBERS

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann* Nell Jernigan*

DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA: Jean Nickens*

NHC: Lizzie Bush, Geri Melton*, Sue Reeves*

STONES RIVER MANOR: Margaret Davidson*, Jeweldean Hall*, Virgie Leonard*, Louise McKnight*, Ernestine Taylor*, Laura Wisner*, Lillian Whitworth, Edna Vance*

MILITARY:

Tony Berry

NEWS & NOTES

- We extend sympathy to the family of **Gerald Wiseman**; he passed away Monday, July 25th. Funeral service was held at High Funeral Home in McMinnville on Thursday, July 28th. He was the father of Sharon Boothe.
- Our next **Visitation Meal** for Team 1 will be Sunday, August 7th.
- **Youth Devo** – Sunday, August 7th at the home of Jeff & Tammy Glidden.
- **MYM** – tomorrow, August 1st @ 7p.m. at Stewart's Creek church of Christ. Sign-up sheet is in the foyer.
- Please notice on the bulletin board in the foyer, several activities hosted by area congregations.



TODAY IS OUR
church eat church
& 5th Sunday singing.
There will not be a 5:30 evening service.

Salem Creek church of Christ
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 Murfreesboro, TN 37128

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We're on the web!
www.salemcreekcoc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday
 Morning Worship 9:00 am
 Bible Classes 10:15 am
 Evening Worship 5:30 pm

Wednesday
 Ladies Morning Bible Class (Sept-May) 10:00 am
 Evening Bible Classes 6:30 pm

ELDERS

B.K. Ham
 Jim Hatfield
 Jon Holland
 Andy Mitchell
 Randall Phifer
 Keith Short

MINISTER

Ron Harper

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

DEACONS

Larry Benson Andy Melton
 Michael Bowman Brian Melton
 Craig Buckner Alan Pepper
 Bob Hoover Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

July 24, 2016

Sunday	AM worship	274
	Bible classes	NA
	PM worship	138
	Contribution	\$6,124.96

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	126
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)

GREETERS

*Please be at the door
 15 minutes prior to services!*



July 31

Robert & Mary Ann McKnight

August 7

Jeff & Karen Milstead

To Our Honored Guests...

We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back as often as you have opportunity!

We were honored by your presence!