

Birthdays

WHITEHEAD, VINCENT	08/02
WOOD, GAYE	08/04
RUSSELL, JOY	08/05
O'SHEA, HUNTER	08/07
BENISCHEK, MIKE	08/09
STREIGHT, WAYNE	08/09
MARGESON, SANDEE	08/10
PALMER, CHRISTA	08/10
JOHNSON, SHARI	08/11
FERGUSON, DICK	08/13
SMITH, MIKE	08/13
MAGEE, KATHRYN	08/14
SPAINHOWER, KATHY	08/16
WARD, GAIL	08/18
CRONRATH, ARLEN	08/20
NORRIS, ALICE	08/26
QUEVEDO, MELISSA	08/26
BENSON, DAN	08/27
EVANS, DENISE	08/29
SPRAGUE, RACHEL	08/29
ENGEL, DAWN	08/31
RANEY, GEORGE	08/31

Dear friends and family of OCUMC:

"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light.
~ Matthew 6:22

In the middle of Downtown Dallas, we came to a strange sight: a 30 foot eyeball that takes up half a city block. It is a piece of artwork that has spilled over from a hotel. When we told the hotel clerk that we were going to go see the piece, they asked, "What is it?" Never heard of it. Never seen it before. I wanted to say "It's a 30 foot eyeball in the middle of the city! How can you have missed this?" It made me think of the line from a Christmas song:

"Do You See What I See?"

Yes, it's in a Christmas carol - so why am I mentioning it here during another time of year?

Sometimes I feel like this is what God is asking me – "Do you see what I see?"

Do you see the young mother that needs encouragement? Do you see the child that needs hope? Do you see My love, My grace? Do you see?

It's so easy in our busy worlds to lose sight of the spiritual realm around us. I know in my own life I can become so focused on the physical and all that is going on around me, I miss seeing the reality of His work all around me.

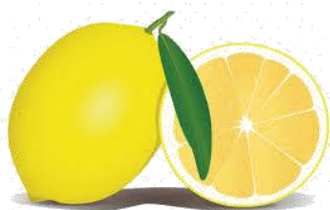
It might sound simplistic - but we "see" what we focus on; and we're amazed that others don't see (or believe) what we see. A painter looks at the Grand Canyon and sees a masterful use of color and dimensions. A geologist sees the Grand Canyon and sees the history of a million years in the rocks and layers. A cowboy sees the Grand Canyon and thinks, "This is a horrible place to lose a cow." We see the world by what we focus on.

If you focus on how messed up this world is, either by watching too much news, lamenting with friends, reading/watching the daily struggles - you will find negativity in your life. If you take a break from the negative in your life, you will find more light and happiness. It really is that simple. And if we take a moment to read the words of another, we see the world through other people's eyes, as CS Lewis put it.

If someone could miss a giant eyeball a few blocks away for years, what could we miss in our daily walk? May we see what God sees. The pain, the suffering of others? But also the joy and lightheartedness in life? May we see ourselves as He sees us - a child of God.

Blessings to you this week!

Pastor Mike



Mission Possibilities for YOU

While we are all striving to do our best in difficult times there are those around us who are struggling. Our Mission Team is promoting 3 possibilities which would allow those of us who can to share our resources and help provide for others.

Shoe Drive with Love, INC.

- Men's size 14 & 15
- Women's size 9.5
- Kid's shoe size 5 to 13.5
- Girl's size 11 and 12



A Father's Heart street ministry in Oregon City

- Men's & Women's T-shirts
- Jeans (38x32, 30x32, 28x32)
- Shorts
- Walking shoes (new or gently used)
- Disposable masks or homemade fabric masks
- Socks and underwear must be new
- Bottled water is always a need
- All clothing items must be new or gently used and laundered
- They post specific needs on their facebook page as they come up



Oregon City "lunch lady"

- Bread
- Chunky peanut butter
- Jam (raspberry or strawberry preferred)
- Individual chip bags (Costco)
- Apples, bananas or grapes
- Cookies
- Sandwich bags
- Brown lunch bags.



Here is how you can help. If you wish to purchase shoes, or have items needed by A Father's Heart or the OC lunch lady you can bring items to the church. Donation hours are 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Monday-Thursday. If you would prefer to donate financially please mark your donation with the mission you wish to support. The monies collected will be used to purchase needed items for the mission you select. If you have questions you can contact Jane Myers 503-656-0117 or Chris Larson 503-655-4080.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I needed clothes and you clothed me Matt 25:35-36a