

Shepherd's Staff

May 2015

We gather to worship, we go to serve our Lord.

"You will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth!"

Parkersburg Christian Reformed Church

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m. ~ Church School 10:45 a.m. ~ Life Plus Wed., 6:30 p.m.

Who Is Walking Whom

Since I started walking our son and daughter-in-law's dog a few weeks ago I have been asked the question, "Who is walking who?" Maybe it is a valid question when the pull on the leash is evident. It may even be that the "four leg pulling power" Emma has gives the impression she has the advantage over the aging two leg model holding the end of the leash. I am hoping it does not imply that I seem to wander aimlessly and need a guide dog to find my way, but I am sure I would be the last to know if this were the case.



No matter the reason for the question, we are gaining an understanding between the two of us. She was not used to what I expected from our walks when we first went out together, and I was not entirely aware of her quickness and agility especially when another dog is around to challenge her for "her" turf! With a mighty lunge at the leash she can quickly remind you that it is important that we be aware of our surroundings at all times. Here too we are gaining an understanding of how a "lady" should act.

Our walks do have many benefits though. I am getting the exercise I was not getting as I could always find an excuse that would have the power over the inherent need. She also enjoys the time outside, and it helps her burn some of the energy a young dog stores up. Together we have found common ground while walking, enjoying what God has made.

Still I cannot help but think about the question, "Who is walking whom?" This might be a good question for everyone to ask themselves in regard to their walk with Christ. Many cars once had the specialty license plates that explained "God is my Co-pilot." The simple question would be the same, "Who is in charge of our lives?" The counter to the specialty plate which stated that "If God is your co-pilot, change seats" not only made me chuckle but at least started to answer the real question.

In the world today it seems that we have lost the concept of God being in charge. We strive to "do it my way" to the point of being an "Army of One!" I don't know about you but when I need an army, I want more than an army of one! This slogan may work for the recruiting campaign but I do not think that it is completely true to what I understand of military life giving each control of their life. So again I ask, "Who is walking whom in our lives?"

In scripture we find that we are to surrender our very lives to God. We are to acknowledge that Christ desires to be our Lord and Master, meaning that everything we do and all that we are belongs to him. We may not be used to giving over our selves so completely living in society today, but that is what we must do if we wish to conform to a life in Christ. The surprising benefit of this surrender is that when we do give ourselves to Christ we have the benefit of knowing that we are in the hands of the One who knows all our tomorrows. He promised also to never leave us or forsake us or even take his watchful eye from us.

When I walk with Emma, the dog, I watch out for hazards along the way but this cannot begin to compare with what God does for those who trust in him for everything in this life and eternal life. I know that with God we are secure when we give him our all on a daily basis. This way I am confident that God is walking me through life even when it may appear that I am being led by a leash attached to Emma.

Pastor Rus

MOTHER'S DAY:

For a special tribute to Mom's, we'd like to have a display with your Mom's picture. Please bring them to church (preferably in a frame) by May 6. They will be returned right after Mother's Day. Any questions, please contact Angie or Deb.



A Mother's Love

There are times when only a mother's love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a mother's love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we've dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a mother's faith
Can help us on life's way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day.

For a mother's heart and a mother's faith
And a mother's steadfast love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above.

--Author Unknown



Congratulations to Laura Edeker and Nolan Prier on their graduation from A-P High School!

The congregation is welcome to celebrate with Laura and Nolan at their respective parties.

Laura: May 23 from 4-7 at the church.

Nolan: May 23 from 5-8 at the Aplington Recreation Complex.



Hope to see everyone there!





May Birthdays/Anniversaries



Happy Birthday

5/3	Steve Kramer
5/4	Dale Meester
5/5	Bernice Freemon
5/9	Emma Haan
5/14	Sharon Schipper
5/16	Dale Vry
5/20	Amy Mulder
5/21	Irvin Haan
5/26	Cayden Shepard
5/28	Rollyn DeGroot
5/29	Ryan Edeker
5/30	Dave Mulder

Happy Anniversary

5/14	Steve & Charlene Kramer
5/16	Delbert & Sharon Cordes
5/23	Lloyd & Frances VanEllen
5/26	Henry & Kathy Heeren



Reminder: If you have anything you'd like included in the Shepherd's Staff, please try to have it to Wendy Mulder by the 20th of the month. The goal is to have the newsletter in your mailboxes on the last Sunday of the month.



CRC Service Schedule

	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Coffee*</i>
5/3	Ken & Janet (N) Pat & Deb (S)	Gaylen Mulder	Ken & Jan
5/10	Henry & Kathy (N) Don & Annie (S)	Mark Kramer	Gene & Janet
5/17	Delbert & Sharon (N) Mark & Lanae (S)	Gerald Haan	Mike & Kayla
5/24	Ken & Rhonda (S) Pastor Rus & Mary (S)	Delbert Cordes	Sunshine Circle
5/31	Sylvia & AnnaMae (S) Jean Trey (S)	Ken Meester	Steve & Charlene

*If you are unable to serve coffee on your Sunday as listed, please find your replacement. Thank you.

Mother's Day

B G S T Y A Y U F Q H L S Q D
 U F N R D L O O R I M Z P D X
 F F W I I W R V B E N K E Z O
 L V L M R E J U Z U P X C Y M
 L R A O V A V I P Q I R I R H
 P F F E W B C H J I M B A O A
 P E R Y T E X W T N G O L Z C
 S M Z S S G R S D U H H M A F
 R E H T O M A S K F E D L M U
 Q K M L U F A M A M A W O Y Y
 Z O O V K C H I L D R E N A Y
 B V R A L G U W F K T L Y M C
 E M E Q F K I S S E S F V C Z
 V R O K F J T R T D O H Z Q X
 B A X M U V C B C T B I Y G N

BREAKFAST
 FAMILY
 HEART
 MAMA
 MOMMY
 UNIQUE

CARING
 FLOWERS
 KISSES
 MAY
 MOTHER

CHILDREN
 FOREVER
 LOVE
 MOM
 SPECIAL



Get more free printable activities for kids of all ages at www.printables4kids.com.

©2006 WWW.PRINTABLES4KIDS.COM

This puzzle is for personal use only and may not be sold or duplicated for sale.