

NEWSLETTER

ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL
5124 164th Street SW, Edmonds, WA 98026 Telephone: (425) 743-2323
March, 2011



March 2011 A.D. -- Thoughts From The Pastor

Last month I wrote a bit about smiling and laughter and how we might come across it in the Bible if we really look for it. Yet, we usually don't think about Jesus smiling or laughing during His public ministry. The work that He was doing for the salvation of all people was very serious business. So, have you ever seen a picture of a smiling Jesus?

The pictures of Jesus with the little children often have Him with a pleasant demeanor and come closest to Jesus laughing and having a really good time. A few years ago I was given a picture of a smiling, grinning, happy looking Jesus without any children around. His face overlooked some fishing nets and boats by the Sea of Galilee. The colors used in that picture were warm, loving colors that added to Jesus' great big smile.

That picture of a smiling, happy looking Jesus brought to mind a Bible passage that may have been in the artist's mind when they made that picture. In the 12th chapter, the writer of Hebrews wrote under inspiration of the Holy Spirit "that for the joy set before Him, Jesus Christ endured the cross, despising the shame".

The Lenten season this year begins on March 9th, Ash Wednesday. Many of our scripture readings during our 7 p.m. Wednesday evening services will focus in on how Jesus enduring much suffering even before He was nailed to the cross. There was no joy in that. But what Jesus saw as the end result of His crucifixion on the cross for all of us, that thought brought Him great joy as He suffered and died in our place.

For us who by faith believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, there is great joy set before us too. Heaven awaits us at the end of our days here on earth. Paul told Timothy [2 Tim 4:7-7]: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing." Jesus promises: "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Yes, indeed. Smile! God in Christ Jesus loves you and me!

May the love of the Lord Jesus always be in your hearts!

Rev. Richard E. Flath, Pastor
pastor_r_flath@msn.com
360-568-6580

Preschool Happenings

March 2011

Your preschool staff and our Northwest District are thankful to St. Timothy for hosting our early childhood seminar on Saturday, February 12th. We are especially grateful to our Ladies Guild members Lisa Whitfield, Sylvia Robinson, and Shirley Bodenstab who set up, served, and cleaned up for our luncheon. We had 16 ladies join us from the Puget Sound region, our district office in Portland, and Concordia University.

It is already March and, even if spring is not quite in the air, we are ready to start teaching and celebrating the things of new life. Miss Becky's Pre-K class will learn about "Bunnies and Bullfrogs, while Miss Cindy's Preschool class will study things "On the Farm". We will also celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Wednesday, March 16th with a special snack.

Our weekly Bible lessons are "The Prodigal Son", "Jesus Feeds 5,000", "Jesus Blesses the Children", and "The Rich Young Man". Each class day we learn about Jesus' love for us through our lessons during our devotion time. Each Wednesday the children go into the church for *Chapel Time* at 11:15am. All of our St. Timothy family is welcome to join the children for chapel.

We are working on songs for Preschool Sunday on March 20th during our service. There will be a cake reception after church and fellowship time between our Preschool families and our St. Timothy families. Preschool Sunday is in held recognition of our National Lutheran Schools Week, held each year in March. This year's theme is based on John 8:31b-32, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Our Parent-Teacher conferences are on Friday, March 25th during our regular class-time hours of 9:00am - 12:00pm. If you are around the church on this day, please introduce yourself to our Preschool parents and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with them if time allows.

March is also when we begin the enrollment process for next year ~ 2011-2012 school year. New applications and information will be available in the Narthex and outside the church office door within the week.

Thank you to Craig Skrede for repairing the leak in our boy's restroom. The generosity of all our members who share their time and talents is what makes St. Timothy such an incredible place to call "home".

Blessings of Our Lord to all,



Cindy McEntire

Preschool Director

LADIES GUILD NEWS

The Ladies Guild purpose is to provide women of St. Timothy Lutheran Church an opportunity for in increase in knowledge of our Savior, and in fellowship and service.

Many of you go to garage sales or replace your own household items and can donate items for the homeless shelter that houses numerous families in transition situations. They really need our help. Every little bit adds up to a lot of love and caring for these folks from St. Timothy Lutheran Church.

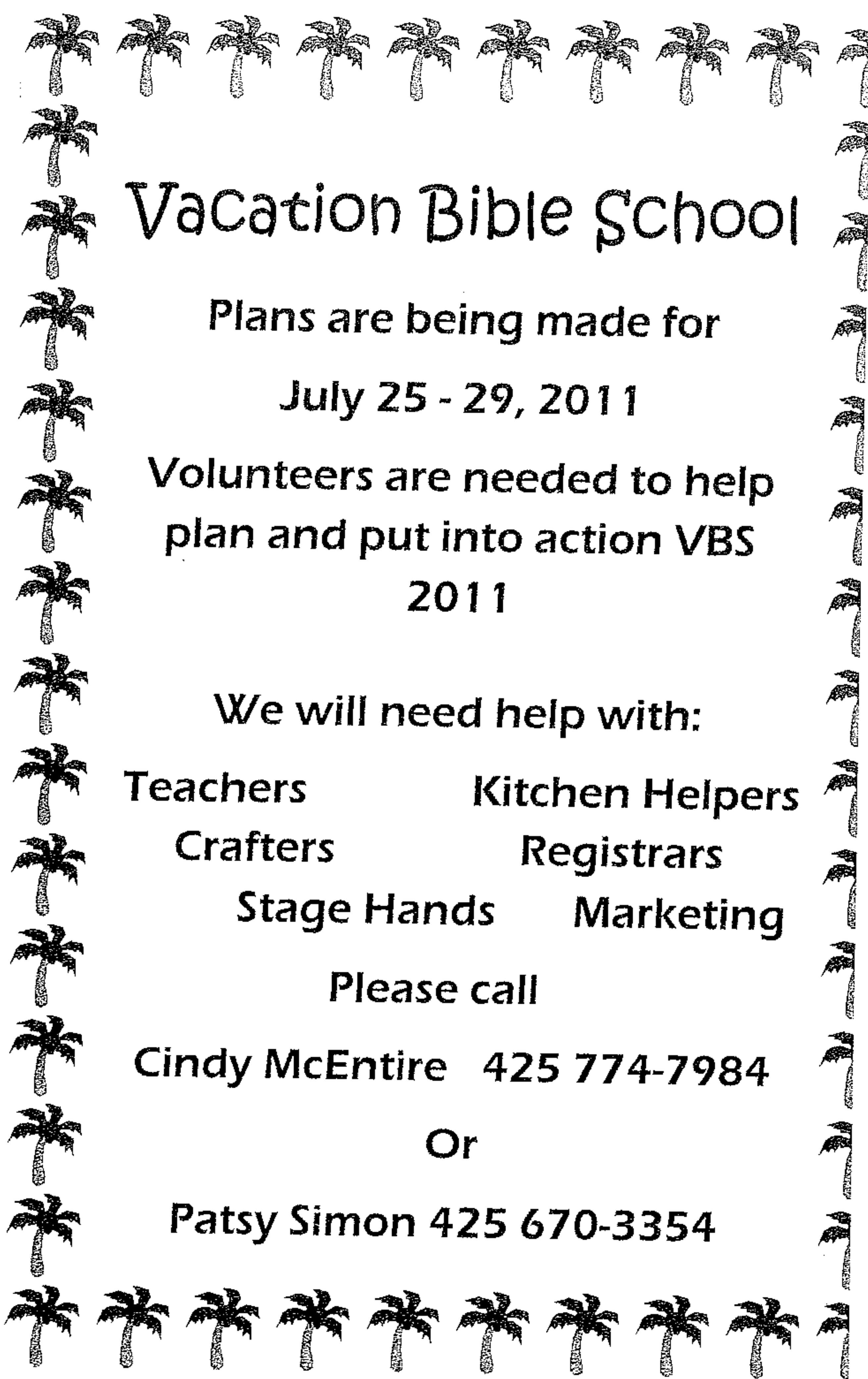
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Remember to bring your Mission Mites to Church on the fourth Sunday of each month.

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SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS
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THANK YOU to all who supported the Ladies Guild bake sale. \$166.50 was brought in, which will be given to Good Shepherd Homes.

- MISSION POST SCHEDULE FOR 2011**
MARCH - Meal in a bag. Give up a meal or two during Lent. (Cloth bags provided)
APRIL - Easter treats and children's books for Easter baskets for homeless shelter.
MAY - Bath towels and wash cloths.
JUNE - Pillows and pillow cases.
JULY - Twin bed sheets.
AUGUST - School supplies and paper products for our Preschool.
SEPTEMBER - School supplies for Preschool and/or homeless shelter
OCTOBER - New or good used dishes and tableware for homeless shelter.
NOVEMBER - Food to restock shelves after Thanksgiving, at food bank.
DECEMBER - Coffee mugs (any kind) and items to make "snowman soup", (packages of cocoa mix small candy canes, Hershey's chocolate "kisses", nine marshmallows) for homeless shelter.
 Socks of all kinds that will go to the shelters, for our big Christmas stocking.



Vacation Bible School

Plans are being made for
 July 25 - 29, 2011

Volunteers are needed to help
 plan and put into action VBS
 2011

We will need help with:

Teachers	Kitchen Helpers
Crafters	Registrars
Stage Hands	Marketing

Please call
 Cindy McEntire 425 774-7984
 Or
 Patsy Simon 425 670-3354

MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES – 7:00 p.m.

Among the Lord God's many gifts to the church are customs and symbols which enrich our faith. We will consider some of those associated with the season of Lent each Wednesday.

- March 9 [Ash Wednesday]Ashes
- March 16Fasting
- March 23Penitence
- March 30.....Foot Washing
- April 6The Veil
- April 13Palms

Highlights - February Church Council Meeting

The February Church Council meeting was great! Happy people - serving their Church in a variety of capacities.... Awesome!

The following is a *brief* summary of the meeting highlights:

1. The 45th Anniversary of St Timothy is coming up soon. A celebration is being planned, perhaps in June. Stay tuned for more information as this plan is being developed.
2. Some child friendly materials are now available for children on Sunday mornings as they enter for the worship service. They can be distributed on clip boards or given to parents. Many thanks to the Evangelism Committee for their work on this and other issues.
3. Children's sermons will now happen on all non-communion Sundays.
4. The fire alarms have been recently tested and we passed! We also now have an occupancy sign posted that meets all our legal responsibilities.
5. A new wireless fire alarm notification system is being worked on. The new system will have an upfront cost but it will pay for itself within 10 months then it will save us nearly \$50 per month in the future.
6. VBS is scheduled for July 25-29th. Volunteers are needed to help plan and staff the event. Talk to Cindy McEntire for details.
7. The Fellowship Committee will be arranging a potluck every 5th Sunday. The first one will be February 27th. Sounds like fun!
8. The Elders are preparing a letter to be sent to visitors as a follow up.
9. A copy of our By Laws was sent to the District as requested.
10. St Timothy's member list has been updated. Former members who are now attending elsewhere have been removed from our outdated list. The new list is much more accurate. We now have 100 – 125 members on the active list.
11. It was decided that a Voter's Meeting is needed in the near future. One has been scheduled for March 13th after our service and fellowship.

A lot happens at Council Meetings! All of our meetings are open door and you will be welcomed. Please consider attending to see what happens and more importantly, come and provide some input. The more we hear from members – the better we are able to meet the needs of members. Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Janet Anderberg, Acting President

PRAYER TEAM

Those who indicated they wanted to be on the Prayer Team are as follows:

- Carol Hauge (425) 743-9430
- Brenda Gonzalez (425) 245-3452
- Shirley Howell (425) 778-8391
- Laura Washabaugh (425) 741-0517
- Delores Sparks (425) 743-4388
- Pat Jones (425) 379-7077
- Patsy Simon (425) 670-3354
- Kim Reinig 206-542-8050

Church families are encouraged to contact any of the members of the Prayer Team to request prayer support. Confidentiality is maintained and prayer requests can be limited to one prayer or shared with the team. We seek to uphold all needs, short term and long term of the Church body. There is not a need to small or answered prayer too little, to neglect to mention to the Heavenly Father.

Patsy Simon (425) 670-3354 to begin the prayer.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12.

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**THE
2 CHRONICLES 7:14 GROUP**

A Prayer group will meet every Sunday promptly at 8:24 AM in the "Meeting Room" (blue room). We are seeking God's guidance for our church and country and our individual lives. Everyone interested in participating in prayers for St. Timothy and our community is welcome to join us.

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LUTHERAN HOUR

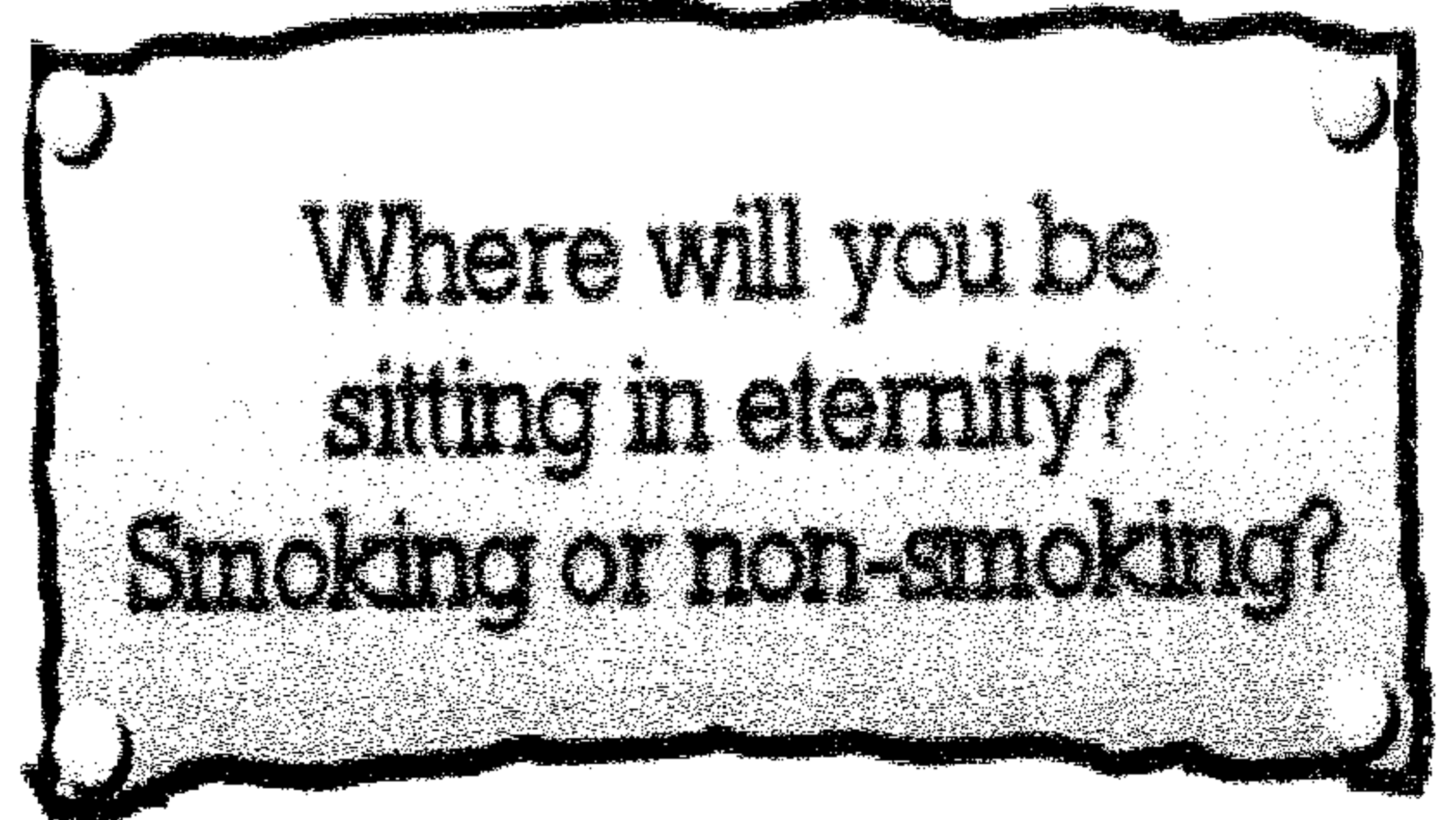
Lutheran Hour broadcasts in the Seattle area:

- KIXI AM 880 (Bellevue) @ 6:30 a.m. on Sundays
- KRKO 1380 AM (Everett) @ 7:00 a.m. on Sundays
- KLAY 1180 AM (Tacoma) @ 9:30 a.m. on Sundays

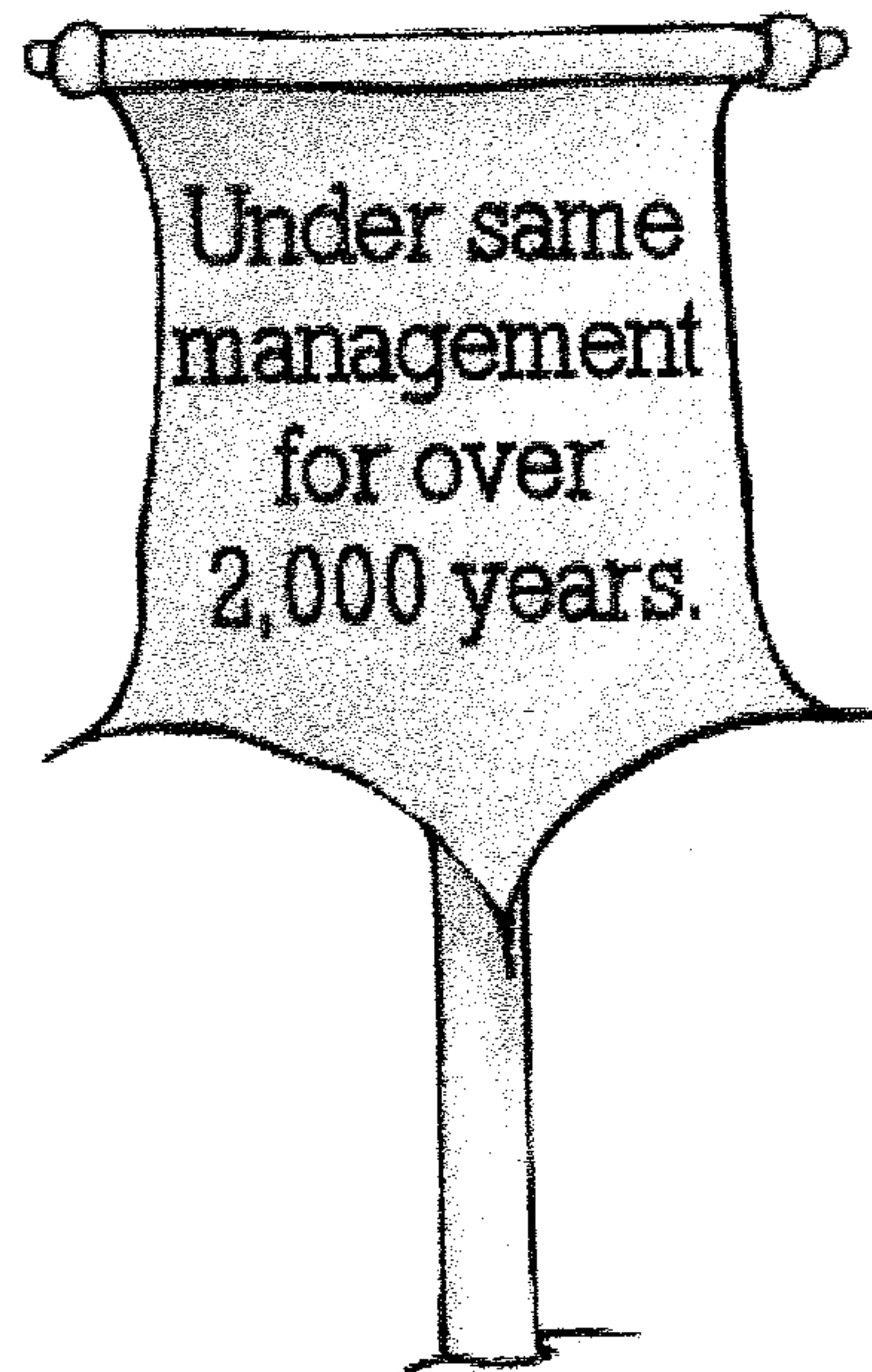
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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS...
ST. TIMOTHY MARKS 45 YEARS IN JUNE**

CHURCH SIGNS



Love this next one?



A SIMPLE WAY TO PRAY

How One Should Pray For Peter, the Master Barber

Luther wrote these instructions when Peter, his barber, inquired of him how an ordinary person could pray without being disturbed by worldly thoughts and occupations. He included a brief explanation of the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Apostles' Creed.

Dear Master Peter: I will tell you as best I can what I do personally when I pray. May our dear Lord grant to you and to everybody to do it better than I! Amen.

First, when I feel that I have become cool and joyless in prayer because of other tasks or thoughts (for the flesh and the devil always impede and obstruct prayer), I take my little psalter, hurry to my room, or, if it be the day and hour for it, to the church where a congregation is assembled and, as time permits, I say quietly to myself and word-for-word the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and, if I have time, some words of Christ or of Paul, or some psalms, just as a child might do.

It is a good thing to let prayer be the first business of the morning and the last at night. Guard yourself carefully against those false, deluding ideas which tell you, "Wait a little while. I will pray in an hour; first I must attend to this or that." Such thoughts get you away from prayer into other affairs which so hold your attention and involve you that nothing comes of prayer for that day.

It may well be that you may have some tasks which are as good or better than prayer, especially in an emergency. There is a saying ascribed to St. Jerome that everything a believer does is prayer and a proverb, "Those who work faithfully pray twice." This can be said because believers fear and honor God in their work and remember the commandment not to wrong anyone, or to try to steal, defraud, or cheat. Such thoughts and such faith undoubtedly transform their work into prayer and a sacrifice of praise.

5th Sunday Potlucks

The Fellowship Board has planned to have 5th Sunday Potlucks through 2011. This is in the spirit of increasing all church fellowship and community. On February 27th the first one will be held after worship service in the downstairs hall. The theme is "Friendship". Although January was the first 5th Sunday, it was decided to move it to the end of February so as to begin the series. Mark your calendars for the remaining 5th Sundays:

May 29th

July 31st

October 30th

If you would like to be a part in planning and serving please contact Patsy Simon, Fellowship Chair 425 670-3354. Barb Eneberg, Sharon Starck, and Lisa Tangen also are members.

Help Needed for Lent and Easter Egg Hunt

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday March 9th. Volunteer groups are needed for hosting the Lent Soup Suppers before services March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6, and 13. Easter is on April 24 of this year. Let Patsy Simon or the office know of your availability.

Traditionally St. Timothy puts on an Easter Egg Hunt. This would be scheduled for Saturday morning April 23rd. Volunteers are needed for organizing and conducting the event. If you are interested in being a part please contact Patsy Simon, Evangelism Board chair, 425 670-3354 or Pastor Flath 425 743-2323 in the office. It has been a well received event for the community in years past and a chance to speak of the real reason for celebrating new life in Christ Jesus.

MISSOURI SYNOD CONVENTION – 2010 Constitution Amendments

The Synod in convention last year adopted two resolutions to amend the constitution of the LCMS. The constitution requires that the member congregations must approve these amendments by a 2/3 vote of the churches.

Resolution 8-10 amends Constitution Articles X and XI to change the title of "Vice-President-Finance-Treasurer" to "Chief Financial Officer" and make this an appointed position.

Resolution 8-27 adds a new Article XIV to the Constitution to clarify the relationship between the Bylaws and the Constitution and renumber former Article XIV accordingly.

The Congregation will be asked to vote on these two resolutions at our Voters Meeting in March.

Fred Starck

Democracy = God is supreme, People next. Government serves the people.

THIRTY BOOKS OF THE BIBLE – A PUZZLE

There are 30 books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them?

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing the banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving the puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are real easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, The Chronicle surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Hamnuna humbly puts it, the books are right there in plain view hidden from sight. Those able to find them all will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without the numbers. Also keep in mind that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know all the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus. There really are thirty books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.