



# LET'S VISIT

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## GIVING GOD THE SCRAPS

The older I get, the more I seem to reminisce. I was thinking not long ago and talking about what it was like growing up as a PK (that's preacher's kid) and going to church 75 miles from home every Sunday because daddy was a "tent-making" preacher. Naturally, driving that far, we spent the day, so Sunday started out leaving home about 8:30 on Sunday morning and ended getting home around 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. on Sunday night. It also meant that we spent Sunday afternoon at someone's house.

I remember one home where we went when I was young where it was especially a favorite place of mine. The lady of the house would always leave her cake she had made for Sunday dinner at the edge of the table. She would leave extra plates and forks there along with a knife to cut the cake. She would also have a chair pulled up to the table so a certain young 4 year old lad could climb up and cut his own cake. She was also known to scold the young lad's mother and father if they dared to "get on the boy" for cutting the cake in whatever way he desired to butcher it to get the most of her delicious chocolate icing. She was a really special lady, especially to a little boy. I remember crying when I heard she had been killed in a car wreck.

Then, as I got a little older there was a particular home where I always wanted to go for lunch on Sunday, especially during football season. You see, in addition to the table always being burdened with food, they also had a color television and that was a rare thing in the 1960's. I watched the very first Super Bowl in that home. There would usually be somewhere between 15 and 30 people invited for Sunday dinner. I remember that after dinner, when the ladies were cleaning up the carnage, someone would stand and fill a bowl with the scraps. When

they were gathered, someone would take the bowl to the back door, whistle for Bullet (the dog) and he would get the scraps.

Have you ever thought that we are sometimes inclined to treat the Lord that way? We have a feast and cast the scraps before the Lord. We are blessed abundantly in so many ways. Surely we do not want to give the Lord the "left overs", but would insist on serving Him in such a way that a sacrifice will be made. David, the man after God's own heart was making plans to erect an altar unto Jehovah. David proposed to buy property from the Jebusite, Arunah on which to build that altar. However, Arunah was reluctant to sell because he wanted to give the property to David. Yet, we hear David say, "I will not offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing."

Do we have the same depth of commitment? Do we determine to give to the Lord to such an extent that it will be a sacrifice? There are those who cast in "out of their abundance" and others who make sacrifices in serving the Lord.

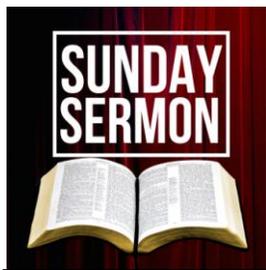
This principle is not just applicable to our financial giving. This principle is applicable to every phase of our Christian service. In the matter of finances, our time, our activity, surely we should not be content with the amount devoted to the Lord if there has been no sacrifice involved. Let's not give the Lord the scraps, let's serve him devotedly. *tp*

### In Search of the Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry  
KSHV 45 - Shreveport - 7:30 a.m. Sunday  
DISH channel 239 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday  
DIRECT TV channel 307 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday

# Gathered Here and There



## *They First Gave Themselves*

### For The Pantry. . .

February 8 – Cookies (variety packs)

**Offering – February 1, 2026 . . \$ 4,677.00**

**The Lord's plan of giving ... "as ye have prospered"**

## The Day We Fired The Preacher. . . .

I'm not certain how long he had been with the congregation before the members began to notice.

Surely, he must have been on his best behavior for at least a few months.

Some of the members believe the first time they noticed was the night he failed to appear for the scheduled personal work activities. The next day he explained to a fellow member that one of his neighbors had invited him to a high school basketball game. "I knew you could carry on without me," he said with a smile.

He also missed a number of Wednesday evening Bible studies. He always provided a substitute teacher, but people kind of expected the preacher to be at Bible study. His usual explanation was, "I had a job left from our remodeling to get done at home. It wasn't much but it was really bothering my wife."

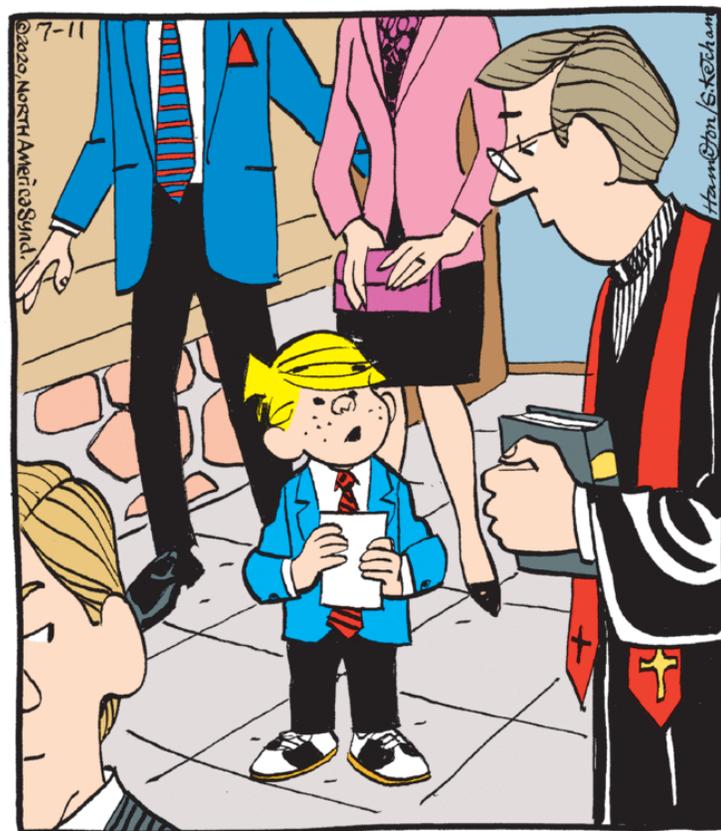
Then he missed a Sunday evening service!! Just the week before he had spoken of the essential nature of worship and the importance of Christian fellowship. His explanation was, "Since we had a guest speaker coming in anyway, I was really tired and probably wouldn't have gotten much out of the service, so I stayed home with the family."

The whole issue came to a head the Sunday morning he failed to appear for the service. The members learned that on the spur of the moment he decided to go to the lake and do some fishing!! "Not many good fishing days left" He explained.

That was the straw that broke the camel's back. The decision was made to fire the preacher. The announcement appeared in the church bulletin as follows: "The decision has been made to fire the present preacher. It is clear that he cannot be the minister here because he insists on acting **JUST LIKE THE MEMBERS!**"

*-selected*

## On The Lighter Side. . .



**"REMEMBER, IF YOU NEED A RAISE...  
JUST ASK AND YOU WILL RECEIVE."**

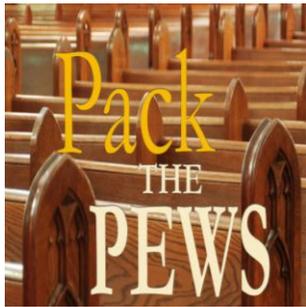
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*The Person who is bored when he is completely alone should be able to understand the position of others when he is around.*

*The first step toward knowledge is to know that we are ignorant.*



## Our Next Luncheon!



## Plan To Be Here!

### March 1, 2026

We will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries for the months of March, April and May. We will also enjoy a great time of fellowship together.

Hospitality group 2 is in charge of the luncheon. The members of that group are Sarah Fletcher, Jana O'Brien and Norma Perkins.

**Begin Now to invite your friends and neighbors to come and join us for this special day!**

**Communion Preparation - February**  
Isaiah & Amanda Molloy

Men's Business Meeting today, February 8, 2026 in the church offices immediately following morning worship. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL** – Mark your calendar and make your plans to join us for our next Wednesday night meal on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Alice Hall has been released from the hospital and is at Holiday Nursing Home for Therapy.  
Martha Jean Golden is recuperating at home.  
Stephen Wiggins will have bypass surgery this week.

### OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Stanley Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Betty Willis

### "EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) Leslie Adams (friend of Diedra Hughes) being treated for brain cancer; Krista Andrus (Tim and Norma Perkins niece) Richard Barbee (Gene Bradshaw's nephew) Peggy Baylor (Tim Bradshaw's mother) David Bissett (Mike O'Brien's brother in law- cancer) Dwayne Brister (Cissy Amos' cousin) Debra Clifton (friend of LaResa Livingston) Coleen Dickerson (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Dot Grant (Friend of Debra Pate) Suzi Hogan (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) Albert Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's father) Norma Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's mother) Karen McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle); Heather Simmons Stewart (Friend of Cissy Amos ) cancer; J. C. Tate & Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's father and mother) Max Windham (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

### THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Reserve these dates for important events in the life of our Church for 2026

- March 1, 2026 – "Pack-A-Pew Sunday"
- April 24, 2026 – Area Wide Singing & Fellowship
- June 7, 2026 – "Friends and Family Day"
- September 13, 2026 – "Back To Church Sunday"
- December 6, 2026 – "No Excuse Sunday"
- December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party



## Across The Preacher's Desk

The year was 1965 and the world was in turmoil. Hal David wrote the lyrics to a song and Burt Bacharach composed the music. The song was first recorded and made popular by Jackie DeShannon and the title was, "What the World Needs Now Is Love". The first stanza reads like this:

"What the world needs now is love, sweet love  
It's the only thing that there's just too little of  
What the world needs now is love, sweet love,  
No not just for some, but for everyone."

You know, that's even more true today than it was during those turbulent days of the 1960's. To be sure, it was the Apostle Paul who wrote so long ago, "Love never fails". (I Corinthians 13:8)

True love is of God, for God is love, and love is an eternal boon to life. In these tumultuous and trying times, God's people more than ever must be an example of love. All around us we see hatred exemplified and often even praised. We see more and more of the worst that mankind is capable of.

When we have love in our hearts, all of life will be richer and sweeter. Not just for us, but also for those around us. Our lives must be dominated by true love inspired of God. Magnify love. Express love for all men. Be an example of a loving soul in a world of hate. Try the way of love in all your contacts of life. It will make a difference!

*it's something to think about.....tlp*

**The Lord's Plan  
For Evangelism –  
Each one Bring one!  
Will you?**