

# The Fishing Line

## St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30 Rev Dr Jim Black, Pastor Church Office: (904) 771-1596 May/June 2017

#### SHAKE IT OFF AND STEP UP

Once upon a time there was a farmer who had an old mule. The mule fell into a deep; dry well and began to cry loudly. Hearing his mule, cry, the farmer came over and assessed the situation. The well was deep and the mule was heavy. He knew it would be difficult, if not impossible, to lift the animal out.

Because the mule was old and the well was dry, the farmer decided to bury the animal in the well. In this way, he could solve two problems: put the old mule out of his misery and have his well filled.

He called upon his neighbors to help him and they agreed to help. To work they went. Shovel full of dirt after shovel full of dirt began to fall on the mule's back. He became hysterical. Then all of a sudden an idea came to the mule. Each time they would throw a shovel full of dirt on his back, he could shake it off and step up. Shovel full after shovel full, the mule would shake it off and step up. Now, exhausted and dirty, but quite alive, the mule stepped over the top of the well and walked through the crowd.

What a great attitude and a great way to approach life! Shake it off and step up. Too often we hold on to what has happened to us.

We hold on to it for a week, a monthly, even after years. We cannot shake it loose from our memory. It eats away at us and steals our joy, happiness and peace of mind. The past hurt can create feeling of bitterness, resentment anger and revenge.

We have a choice: keep it inside and embrace the hurt or shake it off and step up. Give it a try. Words that have been said or actions that have been taken, shake I off and step up. Let it go. Whatever it is: a rude comment, a past mistake (and we all make them), being ignored, taking an offence when it was not even intended but taken the wrong way by us, shake it off and step up. We go around telling others what "they" did or how they must have been out to hurt us, etc. Don't nurse these memories. I will only bring you down more.

The cure is to accept what has happened, or said, and try to make sense of it, learn from it, forgive someone, if need be, then shake it off and step up. Does that hurt, as you handle it, make you bitter or better? Emerge from it and be stronger.

THAT'S LIFE! If we face our problems and respond to them positively, and refuse to give in to panic, bitterness, self-pity or revenge....those adversities that come along and bury us usually have within them the potential to benefit and bless us.....especially, if a person asks for your forgiveness or understanding!

Remember that forgiveness, faith, prayer, praise and hope....all are excellent ways to "shake it off and step up" out of the wells we often dig for our very own selves!

In closing, I want to apologize to anyone I may have unintentionally hurt or offended while I have served here with you. I ask, again, your forgiveness.

Pastor Jim Black



- 14 Mother's Day; Mothers & Family Breakfast 9:00AM
- 18 Thursday Night Dinner
  Pot Luck 6:00PM
- 28 Memorial Day Tribute to Veterans; Graduates Honored & Luncheon
- 29 Memorial Day

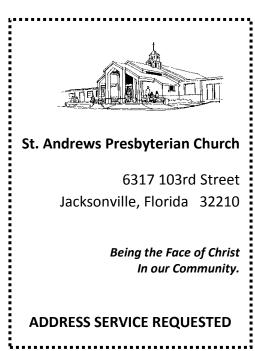


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• 4 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration & Picnic

- 18 Father's Day
- 21 Summer Begins



MAY/JUNE 2017

#### **Secretaries**

Donna Kirksey Judy Medearis Judith Yeaton

#### **Active Elders**

Roger Barr – CCN and M&E Summer Hackney – CE Frankie Hawkins - CCN Phyllis Herpy – BFS&P Donna Kirksey - Fellowship Mary McNair – BFS&P Elaine Mechelke – B&G Linda Miller – Fellowship Janet St. Jacques - Worship JR Wood – B&G Judith Yeaton - Worship

#### SINCE WE ARE ON ALIENS AS "COUNTER CULTURE PEOPLE" (CHRISTIANS)

Nativism is the policy of protecting the interests of native-born or established inhabitants against those of immigrants. Nativism got its name from the "Native American" parities of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and referred to those who claimed to descent from the settlers of the original thirteen colonies, NOT the Native American population that those earlier settlers displaced. 19<sup>th</sup> century Nativism was a reaction to the inflows of immigrants, primarily from Ireland, but later also applied to those of German and Chinese heritage. After WW I, Nativists directed their concern toward Catholics and Jews from Eastern Europe.

Even when it goes by the name of "patriotism", we do well not to confuse Nativism with Christianity, which is based on the life, work and teachings of Jesus who taught that in receiving the stranger and alien we are receiving Jesus himself (Matt. 25: 31-46). "America First", a slogan first used by Woodrow Wilson before the U.S. presidential election in 1916, expresses Nativism. "(Jesus) is the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End" (Rev. 23:13) expresses Christianity.

Granted, these are tough times. Vetting has its' place as we have to deal with fear and vulnerability. We don't want to lose what we have or lose what we think is rightfully ours. It is easy to forget what Jesus thought or wanted. It is love, of course, that draws us toward Christ, the One who promised to meet us in the stranger and alien. Although it pains us to do so, we do well to openly acknowledge our fear. And we do still better not to capitulate to it, remembering that there is no fear in love and that perfect love, the love with which we have ourselves been loved, casts out fear (I John 4 18). Pastor Jim Black

### **Mission & Evangelism Committee**

Mission and Evangelism collected One Great Hour of Sharing on Easter Sunday. On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrated the hard work of the many ladies who sewed pillow case dresses and clothing protectors for our mission outreach. We made 54 dress and 54 clothing protectors this year. The seamstresses were: Pat Eubanks, Janet Fowler, Terry Hallihan, Phyllis Herpy (made 17 purses), Donna Kirksey, Jan Poley, Sue Ramsey, Mary McNair, Stephanie Moore and Leoline Young. Thanks also to our fashion show models: Gracelyn Hall, Sydney Baldwin and Virginia Johnson.

Thanks to Stephanie Moore for her leadership and hard work in this mission. The clothing protectors go to the Duvall Home. Dresses will go to Medical Mission at Home and Little Dresses for Africa. Thanks to all the talented women who made the dresses and clothing protectors.

On Mother's Day we will collect the Blanket Offering a great mission to offer spiritual and physical warmth one blanket at a time.

The Hope Chest is doing very well and staying busy, if you would like to volunteer one or two hours of your time check with Donna Kirksey or Elaine Mechelke.



Eula Rae Alban, Diane Baylor, Barbara Bradshaw, Pat Bukovac. Barbara Canipe, Christiansen Family, Kim Cope, Susie Cullum, Kathy Dahl, Joyce Doty, Andy Eberhardt, Lynda Edwards, Terry Fountain, Terry Hallihan, Brian Hackney, Paul & Barb Hansel, Carol Jepsen, Virginia Johnson, Dale Kerup, Redick Loring, Guy Madri, Ray Massey, Sue Massey, Shirley Merritt, Rod Morris, Merri Kay Nelson, Chrystal Norton, Bart Parramore, Charleen Pavlakovich, Tim Pierson, Vickie Roberts, Nathan Senn, Charles Severance, Vivian Sims, Butch Stafflenio, Jack & Linda Strickland, Bill Strubbe, Jr., Phyllis Stubbs, Pat Sundt, Clarence Sweat, Betty Tanner, Sam Taylor, Caroline VanKouwenberg, Roselle Wade. Jan Westmoreland, Don Wight & The following Families: Moore, Dennison/Davis, & Pastor Jim and Virginia



#### **BFS&P** Committee

#### Church Finances

March — Income: \$8,502.86, Expenses: \$8,750.62 = Negative (\$247.76) YTD: Income \$29,656.57, Expenses \$27,725.90 = Positive \$1,930.67 We are still in the positive for the year 2017. Thank you for your continued support!!

#### The Condo

We have sold the condo!!! Closing date around May 8, 2017. Thank you to all who helped clean up the condo getting ready for the market. Also, a big THANK YOU for Sheryl Harmon of Hunley Realty. She has put in a lot of hard work to get it sold!!

#### Office Support

Help is needed in the church office! A volunteer is needed who can assist in the office on a regular basis. Skills needed: computer skills, light typing, operating copier & fax machine. Training provided!!! Office hours are 9am to noon, Monday-Thursday. We need someone to work ONE day a week. Prayerfully consider how you can help this mission of the church.

#### New Office Hours

Pastor Jim's new office schedule will be Tuesday & Thursday's (previously it was Monday & Thursday). This will be the schedule until we have a volunteer secretary for Monday.

BFSP meeting dates - Tuesday, May 9 and Wednesday June 14, both at 10 am.

Mary McNair

# SHUT-INS



Anyone interested in visiting and/or taking Communion to our shut-ins, contact Pastor Jim Black.

# Fellowship

#### May

The month of May is fairly quiet. Our committee is meeting after services on May 14<sup>th</sup>. We will have a Thursday Night Dinner covered dish on May 18<sup>th</sup>. No formal speaker but dinner participants are encouraged to bring ideas for stretching your finances to make ends meet more productively in this crazy time of rising prices and stagnant income. Feel free to bring family members, friends and neighbors. On the May 28<sup>th</sup>, Graduates will be honored with a light lunch. Come out and wish our Graduates the BEST.

#### June

June is a very important month this year! St. Andrews will be celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday! June 4<sup>th</sup> is the big day, Picnic, Picnic, Picnic! We will provide the meat (ribs & chicken). Come and join the fun and bring your favorite dish! Complete the sign-up sheet in the Narthex as sides. There are also blue 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary t-shirts available. Contact for shirts is Linda Miller; if you wish to see a picture of it, and price is \$15, check can be made out to St. Andrews. Must order by 14th of May! They need 2 weeks to create the t-shirts. There might be a dinner on the 15<sup>th</sup>, so stay tuned. We will not be meeting again this summer, unless Thursday night dinners are planned.

> In The Lord's Name, Donna Kirksey



#### May

- 11 LeoLine Young
- 13 Chuck Kersten
- 15 Scott Haynes
- 17 Sam Heredia
- 19 Janet Fowler
- 23 Valerie Boardman 23 Phyllis Herpy

20 Michelle Simms

21 Rachel Kersten

25 Virginia Johnson

#### June

8	Meredyth Hume	
12	Flo Six	22
15	Brett Christiansen	26
18	Kenadie Christiansen	27
19	Pat Sundt	29
21	Ron Moore	29

Veda Gilmore William R. Strubbe, Jr.

Colen Johnson

- Frankie Hawkins
- Katlin Starkey



#### May

- 10 Ron & Stephanie Moore 26 Aaron & Michelle Simms
- 12 Trevor & Kim Cope
- Todd & Jennifer Allen 18 Herman & Flo Six
- 27 Carlos & Wendy Villa
- 28 Joseph & Helen Ballester
- 31 Scott & Shirley Haynes

#### June

20

- 1 Scott & Suzanne Brooks-Cope
- Michael & Susan Jones Joe & Janet Fowler 19
- 14 Jim & Virginia Black Bert & Judith Yeaton 24



# Hi Everyone,

B&G has been busy, work day was GREAT. Special thanks to all who helped, including the Boy and Girl scouts and their leaders!

We are working on replacing all exit lights which are VERY OLD as well as the water heater in the Fellowship Hall among other things. Bill pressure washed for Easter. Thanks it looked great!

Herman and Flo are doing a great job as well as Marie Jean on flower beds. We continue to work on other normal projects as they pop up as usual. Herman thanks for the Palms on Palm Sunday also! Dick will be getting our sewage station inspected soon. Oh yeah, Bill got Lake St Andrews drained!

Please remember to lock doors and turn out lights and check the air conditioning temp when you leave a room, even for a few minutes many have been found unlocked even on Sundays during services. Its summer and we do have a JEA bill.

Please continue to support our Thrift Store, it has been the biggest step our Church has taken in years for funding and outreach!

Thanks and God Bless!

J.R. & Elaine

**Building and Grounds Chairpersons** 

#### **Congregational Care & Nurture**

The CC&N committee met on April 15, the day before Easter, to deliver Easter lilies to those in our congregation who have physical limitations in accessing our church. Marie Jean, Judy Medearis, Frankie Hawkins and Roger Barr delivered lilies to Charleen Pavlakovich, Jean Yeaton, Caroline VanKouwenberg, Phyllis Stubbs, and Jack & Linda Strickland. All of the visited received us graciously and we heard great praise for our pastor and his care for his extended flock. While our intent was to offer an Easter message of care and encouragement to those visited, it became obvious to our committee that it was the committee who received the care and encouragement from those we visited. Our next step is to pair individuals with our homebound congregants. We hope in this way to communicate the importance of our members who are no longer able to travel to church events to remain engaged in the ministry of St. Andrew's. We are looking for folks interested in this vital ministry to contact either Frankie Hawkins or Roger Barr for information on becoming a contact person to one of these members.

Frankie Hawkins & Roger Barr



St. Andrews has numerous activities in May (5/14-Mother's Day Breakfast; 5/28-Graduation Sunday Luncheon) and June (6/4- 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic). Please bring your family and friends and participate.

#### **Christian Education Committee**

Christian Education is buzzing with activity in May. We will start the refurbishing of the children's Christian learning room, much more information to come later. The Youth did a **GREAT** job helping with the Children's Easter Party. With over 25 kids and 750 eggs the Egg Hunt and Party were a **HOPPING** success. Thank You to everyone who donated candy filled eggs, the children loved them. The Youth are planning a Mother's Day Family Breakfast for May 14th at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall, everyone is invited to come celebrate our Mothers. We are working on offering bible study to the kids in the community this Summer and so much more. Stay Tuned for more Christian Education Fun...

> Keep on learning, Pastor Jim Summer Hackney Ashley Zeilic

**JULIET** (Join Us Ladies Into Eating Together) Fourth Tuesday each month @ 6:00pm location TBD.

Adult Bible Study in Lieu of Sunday School – Each Thursday at 11:00AM

JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE \*\*\* JUNE 19th \*\*\*

Articles can be e-mailed to Terry Hallihan: gwhfth@comcast.net Or placed in the Newsletter box in the office

#### A big thank you to all who helped with our Season of Lent and Easter. This includes those who participated in the work day, the Lenten services and meals, the Easter party for the children and both services on Sunday along with others who helped in any way.



Kourtney Noelle Starkey, who is graduating from Robert E. Lee High School, on May 26, 2017 at Veterans Memorial Arena. She was inducted into the National Honor Society and studied Engineering in Lee's magnet program. She plans to attend FCSC to study criminal justice. Her proud parents are John and Suzi Starkey. The congregation of St. Andrews is also proud of Kourtney and her accomplishments.

Zachary A. Six, who is graduating from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton Florida on May 4, 2017, with a Nursing Degree. He is the son of Gregory Six. His proud Grand Parents are Herman and Flo Six.

Madison Jones, who is graduating from Greeneville High School as a GHS honors Scholar and plans to attend Milligan College on a dance and academic scholarship. She will be majoring in both Business Management and Child Youth Development studies, while minoring in Missions. She plans to serve in third world countries and to follow where God leads her. Her proud Grand Parents are Phyllis and Jack Herpy.

Hunter Jones, who is graduating High School in Fayetteville North Carolina and will be attending Wilmington University in North Carolina. His proud Grand Parents are Roger and Cathy Barr.

# Worship Committee

Worship Committee meetings follow the Sunday Worship Service and are scheduled for :

- May 7 (one week early because of Mother's Day)
- June 11 (Father's Day is the next Sunday) We expect to be able to take a couple of

months off after our June meeting. New members are always welcome and needed.

Yours in Christ, Judith Yeaton

# **Hope Chest**

As of this time we do not have any flea markets planned for May or June. If you or anyone you know would like to set up a flea market table, we still want to do tables! We have been doing great with the store & having a lot of fun. There have been so many nice volunteers. Elaine is now the senior member in charge. I am very happy working along with her. Diane Parker has stepped in on Wednesday mornings 8-12 to help me. Marie has been assisting in any area we need her. Michele has been doing a lot; she pulled all the books from the mirage room so we could have a BIG BOOK sale! We are still selling books; there are a lot (only 10 cent)! We are asking for donations of women's summer dresses, shorts etc.; men's shorts & summer shirts, any Mexican style items for Cinco de Mayo.

We are trying to expand our reach to other parts of town so we can offer our fellowship to more people. I have been giving out flyers & trying to get them posted at locations where people will see them. You can pick one up in the store. I am in the process of making Business Cards for The Hope Chest & soon every member will have one to share. The Church's service times will be written on the back. We are hoping this will bring people in to our services. If you haven't come into our store; I wish you would; you'd be charmed, we have wonderful things & even some surprises in store for you! We are open after services on Sunday.

Elaine was scheduled for surgery on her left hand in late April., so Donna had to step in and set up on Wednesday, with much help from volunteers. Keep her in your prayers. After surgery, she will be at the store, just not doing much physical work.

We have been giving away so much bread, muffins, pastries, doughnuts, & cookies. We owe a big thank you to Barbara and The Gleaners!

Many thanks to all you wonderful volunteers! Couldn't do it without you!

Donna and Elaine

#### Happy 60th Anniversary St. Andrews

In 1954 who would have ever imagined when they drove down 103<sup>rd</sup> street (only two lanes), passing a 10 acre chicken farm, it would ever turn into a beautiful property with a church full of faithful, loving and committed people who love God and their community. That is the beginning of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. A simple request to the committee on church extension for the presbytery. Over the next three years a sub-committee was formed to study the needs of the community, and with its recommendation to the Home Missions Committee, it was decided in 1956 to purchase a chicken farm with a brooder house and an old frame dwelling on 103<sup>rd</sup> street.

With the leadership of William T. Baker, work began to turn that old framed building into a church school, and the large chicken house was turned into a picnic pavilion, and the brooder house was converted into a chapel. The name of the chapel would be St. Andrews and would hold 150 people. The 1<sup>st</sup> service was held June 10, 1956. Over the next few months Rev. Baker worked faithfully to help the Home Missions committee to organize members for the Chapel, and seven months after its first service the Presbytery was petitioned to organize the Chapel into the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, with 76 Charter members who signed the petition. With the Presbytery's approval a commission met on January 20, 1957, and the Chapel was organized into St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

Church officers were elected and Rev. William T. Baker was elected as Minister of the congregation. Over the next four years the Church grew so much that they were cramped for Sunday School space, and on January 2, 1961 the new fellowship hall which had been under construction for some months, opened in a special consecration service. After working faithfully to establish St. Andrew's Rev. Baker honorably retired at his request on October 12, 1961 and in June 1962 Rev. H.D. Mcdanell was called to St. Andrews. Over the next fourteen years St. Andrews continued to grow in membership, space (new buildings) and programs including a thriving youth program, sports programs which included softball, golf, bowling and many fun fellowship events. St. Andrews was also led in Ministry during this time by Rev. Hollyfield and Rev. Cameron.

In June of 1977 St. Andrew's installed its first woman pastor, Rev. Joyce Rimes. She felt building a strong community of believers in Christ with her ministry would build a strong worshipping congregation. In 1988 after 10yrs of ministry Rev. Rimes left St. Andrew's to continue her ministry. On January 14, 1990 the old sign in front of St. Andrews was removed and a wooden cross was raised in front of the church and dedicated to the memory of Walter and Annie Davis, parents of Myrtle Crews. In February 1990, Rev. Jeff Welch was called and received by this ever growing congregation. During his time at St. Andrew's he brought us leadership and spiritual guidance. When his call came to leave St. Andrews in January 1998, St. Andrews received the guidance and love from Interim pastor Micki B. Esselsyn, as she helped the church to prepare for our new called pastor she herself fell very ill, after battling Cancer for several years, she went home to our Lord. During the late 90's and 2000's The church's youth Group and Sunday School Program continued to grow and the mission and activities of the church, grew to even more Bible studies, we had three women circles meeting regularly, a men's group and major improvements had been done to the buildings, including the addition of a Narthex . Pastor Suzanne Brooks-Cope received her call and joined our congregation for almost 12 years, bringing a new sense of worship through the arts, and always encouraging us to reach out and try new ways to care for our community.

During this time the Church was changing and the world was changing, technology had arrived and it was not going anywhere. This congregation was learning a new way of mission and evangelism and when Rev. Tim Roberts became our Interim pastor in the summer of 2012 he challenged us to remember where our church started, where we were in 2012 and how we wanted to grow our church in our ever changing community. Now serving and leading the flock of St. Andrews is the Rev. Jim Black. As our dynamics of the church have changed, he always reaffirms God's love for our flock. Never focusing on the No's of the world, Pastor Jim always guides us through the half way open doors or even cracks in the windows so we know God's Love and Acceptance in our work and missions. A few of those missions God has blessed us with is the Hope Chest Thrift Store, Community Dinners, Dresses for Africa, WESCO, and more..... Over the years our little Church on a two lane Street has turned into an ever growing always loving Church on a six lane street. Just some facts: We have had 13 Pastors (some Interim). Our first session only had five elders and now we have twelve. This church has baptized 276 Children and 129 Adults. We have had the great honor of marring 180 couples here at the church and we have loved and helped 127 families honor their loved ones by celebrating their lives after death. As the view on 103rd St. changes, the wooden cross at the road side welcoming all in to a building of God's love always stays the same.

Summer Hackney

#### SMALL CHURCH GROWTH BY THE ORDINARY MEMBER

TRY TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PERSONAL INVITATIONS YOU OFFER (MAKE THIS A PART OF EACH MEMBERS DNA). SET A GOAL OF 12 NEW MEMBERS BY THE END OF EACH YEAR. SERVE ALL GUESTS (ANY WHO COME ON THE CHURCH PROPERTY AND USE THE FACILITIES) AND VISITORS WITH HONOR. GET NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL WHO COME ON YOUR PROPERTY FOR ANY REASON.

- 1. OFFER COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS THAT THEY WANT TO FEEL A PART OF AND GET SATISFACTION AND RECOGNITION FOR BEING A PART OF. WHAT ARE THEY INTERESTED IN FOR THE COMMUNITY? HELP THEM GET THEIR OWN VARIOUS NEEDS MET BY INVITING THEM TO JOIN IN WITH YOU. IT BUILDS CONNECTIONS AND FELLOWSHIP.
- 2. HAVE FUN EVENTS AND INVITE OUTSIDE OTHERS YOU KNOW TO JOIN IN WITH YOU.
- 3. REMEMBER! PRAYER FIRST! YOU MUST KNOW YOUR STORY AND THE GOSPEL STORY....ON A NAPKIN. REMEMBER, YOU MUST FEEL HOW IT WAS AND IS "GOOD NEWS" FOR YOU. IF YOU ARE NOT A BELIEVER IN THE ACTUAL RESURRECTION AND CANNOT SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF IT, DO NOT WASTE YOUR TIME INVITING ANYONE TO BE A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST!
  - A. JESUS INVITED US WITH OUR MANY SPIRITUAL NEEDS AND PROSPECTS HAVE THEM TOO:
    - 1. NOT WANTING TO FEEL SEPERATED, FEEL A PART OF A GOOD GROUP, ETC.
    - 2. ACCEPTANCE AND FORGIVENESS.
    - 3. DEAL WITH VARIOUS LEVELS OF GUILT AND SHAME
    - 4. OUR NEED FOR SOME SENSE OF DEEP PEACE
    - 5. OUR NEED FOR LOVE AND MEANING THAT VALIDATES OUR LIVING
    - 6. HOPE FOR SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE IN VARIOUS WAYS AND AREAS
  - B. LET THEM KNOW OF YOUR GENUINE CARE AND HOW THESE CAN BE MET IN/THROUGH LIFE TOGETHER. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS SUGGEST AVENUES, ETC. JUST SHOW WHERE YOU, ONE BEGGAR, TELL ANOTHER BEGGAR WHERE THERE IS FOOD.
  - C. WATCH AND LISTEN FOR AN OPENING. EVANGELISM BEGINS....FIRST AND FOREMOST...BY NOT TELLING ANYTHING! IT BEGINS WITH SINCERE, CARING LISTENING. YOU BE "GOOD NEWS" FOR THEM WITH YOUR CARING AND LISTENING PRESENCE. TRUST THE HOLY SPIRIT. DO NOT PUSH OR COME OFF UNREAL OR USE CANNED STUFF OR USE A STAINED-GLASS MANNER OR WORDS. USE JESUS' METHOD OF WINNING THE RIGHT TO SPEAK AS A RESULT OF THE RELATIONSHIP. JESUS DREW PEOPLE...HE HAD APPEAL. HE ENGAGED AND INVOLVED THEM FOR THEIR SAKE.
  - D. SO WHAT? WE NEED TO REALIZE THAT ALL WE CAN DO IS BE THE PRACTICAL GOSPEL FOR THEM AT THAT MOMENT AT THAT TIME IN THEIR LIVES....WITH GENUINE CARE WHERE THEY FEEL HEARD AND RESPECTED. LET THE HOLY SPIRIT DO ANY CONVINCING AND CHANGING. SO THEY DON'T CHANGE IMMEDIATELY. LET IT BE GOD'S TIME SCHEDULE, NOT YOURS. LOOK AT THE WAVE...IT CHANGES THINGS ON THE SHORE BIT BY BIT AND OVER TIME AND WITH MUCH REPETITION. THERE ARE OTHER "WAVES" OUT THERE BESIDES YOU. YOU BE FAITHFUL TO DO WHAT YOU CAN. LEAVE THE RESULTS UP TO GOD. IT IS HIS PROBLEM MORE THAN YOURS. JUST FAITHFULLY DO YOUR PAR. ALLOW GOD TO FINISH THE WORK OF INVITING THEM BACK INTO A HEALING RELATIONSHIP WITH HIMSELF.

Pastor Jim