

From: FCCV (fccv@snet.net)
To: fccv@snet.net;
Date: Thu, July 26, 2012 11:32:01 AM
Cc:
Subject: Pastor's Weekly Email

"Don't worry that your children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you."
Robert Fulghum

Fulghum's rich observation of the importance of our being role models for our children has been running through my head in recent days. This has been a summer of disillusionment for me in many ways. Beginning with the news earlier this summer that Lance Armstrong, whose battle with cancer and subsequent success in the cycling world has been so inspirational, was having a great many of his achievements taken from him because of suspicions of using illegal methods to improve his performance. Followed by the Freeh report on the behavior of the highest leaders of Penn State University and the severe penalties placed on the school by the NCAA as a discipline. Rounded out by the beginning of distorted and negative political ads, some of which have major errors in them as documented by independent sources, but which continue to be broadcast by candidates, in part because they are effective. Fulghum's words speak a prophetic truth for us as individuals, as a nation and a culture.

We are all role models for our children and we would be wise to remember that they are watching us. They are watching to see our reaction to all this and what efforts we take to support the values we seek to live by.

All of this reminds me of the importance of our Christian Education programs. Sunday School and the different efforts by every faith community to communicate and reinforce our morals, values and responsible ways of living are critical if we are to raise the next generation to be moral citizens and Christians.

Linda Shivers and the members of the Board of Christian Education are hard at work in preparing for Rally Day and the return of Sunday School, Confirmation Class, and youth group activities. I hope we will all keep them in our prayers and find ways to be supportive of their efforts to shape and influence our impressionable young people.

Pastor David

PS: One way to show support for this ministry is to get involved. At this time, we are in need of someone to teach or team-teach the class for 6th-8th graders. Those interested in helping in this important ministry are encouraged to speak with Linda Shivers or Cindy Madden.

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Last Sunday, we rejoiced in having our TPC student Joseph Tobin and his wife Susan with us in worship once again. Joseph preached a sermon reminding us of the importance of looking ahead for Jesus' call. During the service, we formally decommissioned Joseph as our TPC student, giving thanks for his work and presence among us.

This Sunday, I plan to address some of the issues raised by the recent tragedy in Aurora , Colorado and its impact on us as people of faith. It's a week in which the thoughts are coming together slowly and at this

time, I've not yet identified what the Scripture lesson will be. Our worship will be inspired by the music leadership of James Burr and Ye Olde Tyme Gospel Quartet (Harry Croye, Russ Kunz, Paul Shimer and Dick Wurst).

God willing, we can all be together for this day of rest and worship.