

The South Louisville Christian

SOUTH LOUISVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH E-NEWSLETTER
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The Church were you can't possibly "NOT" fit in!

Change

By: Neil Seow

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight." This has been my favorite Bible verse for a long time now. There is such a peace when we stop making our own plans and follow God's. I'm not saying that it's always easy to follow God's will but it is always freeing and always the right path to choose.

As I write this article I am sitting in what will soon become "my" chair at "my" computer in an office that has been filled by an amazing servant of God for the last 25 years. Trying to replace Mary upon her retirement, who has meant so much to so many is no small task. I thought the first time that I did this that there would be a nervousness to the moment but that isn't the case. That's the way it always is when you are in God's will. We receive from him a "peace that transcends all understanding." However, I would be dishonest to say that there isn't some anxiety to my new job. I want so badly to honor God through the work He's called me to do. I feel blessed to work

alongside men whom I have a great deal of love and respect for and I do not want to let them down. There is the congregation to which I serve and I want to do so in such a way that they have no reason to ever question my love and dedication to this church. With all that being said, I know I will make plenty of mistakes and I pray that I will learn and grow from them all to be a better servant of God.

I am so excited to be able to work at a place that I love so much. To get to participate in the work of God on a daily basis is both humbling and exciting. What I am looking forward to the most is being able to build on current relationships and the opportunity to starting new ones. You have now been with me as a church family as I became a husband, a Christian, a father, and a leader of this wonderful church so it's only natural that you be with me through the next stage in God's plan for my life. I am so grateful to all of you for your prayers, patience and support through all of these years and I look forward to serving together as we do the work here at South Louisville.

Mark Your Calendar!

- June 22, 5:30 PM -- Erick & Cierra's wedding at SLCC -- The Church family is invited!
- July 8 & 22, Aug. 12 & 26 , Sept. 9 & 23-- Food Distribution
- July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11 -- Women's Ministry Mtg.
- July 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, 9:00 AM, Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Vacation Bible School -- July 9 -- 14
- July 29, 11:00 AM -- Women's Prayer Brunch
- Sept. 16, 2:00 PM -- Women's Autumn Tea
- Sept. 23, 12:00 Noon -- Elders, Deacons and Staff Leadership Meeting

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Prayer

One of my favorite parts of our worship service is the invitation time. It thrills me to see so many of God's people coming to the foot of the cross and kneeling in prayer. And I have noticed that it is often the same people who are coming to pray. Each week there are a few new people kneeling and praying. But alongside those new people are a small group of South Louisville Christians who come to pray every week. Every week I offer the invitation – and every week that small group of people get out of the pew – and they talk the long walk down to the front of sanctuary – and they get on their knees – and they pray. And I have talked to enough of these people to know that they are very often praying for the same thing over and over and over and over – week after week after week after week. Their devotion to prayer and their trust in God inspires me. It inspires me to see people who just keep right on praying until they get the answer they were hoping for.

Have you ever felt like you prayed and prayed about something, but didn't get the answer you were hoping for? Of course you have. We all have. But it's always too early to give up on God.

There are things that can interfere with our prayers --- and make it hard for God to answer us. May I offer a couple of suggestions?

First, be sure your prayer is righteous rather than self-indulgent. James 4:3 says, **"When you ask, you do not receive because you ask with wrong motives..."** Sometimes we ask God for things that gratify us – but do not glorify God. If we pray with a selfish heart, how can we expect God's generosity? Make sure your prayer is righteous.

Second, make sure there is no unconfessed sin in your life. If you are harboring some sin that you have not confessed, that will put a dead stop to anything that God wants to do for you. The psalmist said, **"If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened"**, (Psalm 66:18).

We all have sin in our life. But if you have some sin that you are holding on to – that you have failed to confess – God is going to have a hard time listening to your prayers. Your unconfessed sin becomes a barrier between you and God.

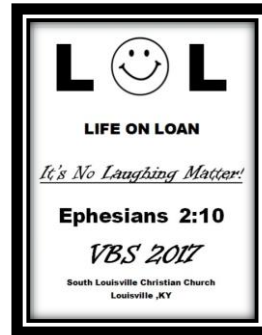
Finally, just keep asking. If these first two issues are in order, then keep asking and keep seeking and keep knocking. Be persistent. **"Pray without ceasing,"** Paul instructed the Thessalonians.

You may get impatient at times. I certainly do. I can get impatient waiting for my food at the drive-thru. It's easy for me to get impatient with God. I want my prayers answered *now*. But my experience has taught me that if I run ahead of God's will, I always regret it.

Sometimes when you pray, the Lord says, "Eventually, but not now." We have a tendency to say, "I'll just take matters into my own hands, then." And God says, "Go ahead – but you'll be sorry."

Don't run ahead of the Lord. Wait for God's perfect timing. If you believe that what you are asking for is righteous – and there is no unconfessed sin in your life – then keep praying and don't give up. James 5:16 – **"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."**

God's very best to you in your prayer life,
Pastor Theo



LIFE ON LOAN is the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School program. Our youth will spend from July 9th – 14th discovering that their life and the choices they make should be in line with the

will of God. There will be some changes this year to the program. The first change you may notice if you attend, will take place on Sunday night. We usually kick off with a regular night of Vacation Bible School, but this year we will start with a night of fun and inflatables in our parking lot. The purpose of this is that the neighborhood will see the excitement and fun and then come and join us. The second change is for the next four nights the 2-5 graders will be performing dramas based on each night's theme. We could use your support, there will be a volunteer signup sheet at the Connect Table on May 28th. Don't wait too long or the spot you like may fill up.

Kid Check –

As you know our Kid Check station was MIA for some time, but thanks to the generosity of an individual, we have Kid Check back and running. What this means is that I need parents and guardians to go back and make sure your child's information is correct and that the emergency number is accurate. You can do this at home by following these simple steps.

1. Go to www.kidcheck.com
2. Click the login button at top right of screen
3. Type in your email and password
4. Go to **my account** and edit and save your information

It's that simple and will help us with the safety and security of your child.

-- Ron Matthews

Who Is Metro Christian Legal Aid?

By: Pat Davidson

How We Help

Metro Christian Legal Aid holds free clinics at five locations in Louisville and Southern Indiana to help individuals and families by providing Christ-centered legal assistance. One of our clinics is located at South Louisville Christian Church every Wednesday from 4 to 6 pm.

What Legal problems do MCLA attorneys address most often?

Marital: The most common issues we address involve the family – child custody, divorce and marital abuse. In these situations, the care of the children is very important and the division of visitation and responsibility of caring for the children can involve complex and emotional issues. Also, sometimes a grandparent or other relative desires to be responsible for the children, particularly if the child's parent is incarcerated, addicted, mentally incapable or involve situations where the safety of the child is at risk.

Employment: We see individuals who have endured illegal harassment and other targeting or seek to know their rights when dealing with an employer.

Estate planning and elder care: Everyone needs estate planning documents such as a Will, Power of Attorney, Living Will and HIPAA Directive and we can provide advice and direction on what needs to be done and how to accomplish this. We also address situations where adult children need to assume financial and healthcare responsibility for their parents.

Landlord-Tenant: A landlord may not be responsive to tenant complaints in maintaining the property. A tenant may have other disagreements or disputes with a landlord and tenants may be afraid to challenge landlords because they don't want to lose their home or be forced into a property they didn't choose. We provide guidance and direction in addressing these issues.

Immigration: There are many legal steps in the process of moving from asylum to immigration to legal resident with a green card to full citizenship – whether it is for one individual or a whole family. We meet with individuals to advise them about this complex and often intimidating process.

Expungement: Those who have criminal convictions in their past, but who have made positive steps to turn their lives around, are often held back because of a criminal record from years ago. After a certain amount of time, these past convictions may be able to be

removed from a person's record through the process of expungement. There are several steps in the process and forms to complete as well as filing fees to pay to the County where the record arose, but if available expungement will clear a record and give an individual the ability to move forward with one's life.

Forming Christian Not-for-Profit Organizations: Filing for tax-exempt status can be complicated. MCLA provides assistance in forming new non-profit tax-exempt organizations.

Reconciliation: MCLA offers a reconciliation ministry where family and business conflict can often be resolved through Christian mediation.

If you know someone who needs legal help and doesn't know where to turn, please direct them to one of our clinics. **And if you would like to volunteer to help in this ministry**, please contact us through our website (www.mcla.org) or by phone (**502-309-9039**).

Day of Service

By: Rick Brumleve

On Saturday morning May 13th a group of dedicated men and women gathered at South Louisville Christian Church for a day of service. Our morning began with a prayer thanking God for his blessings and faithfulness to SLCC. Afterwards, workers fanned out performing tasks both inside and outside.

Tasks included wiping baseboards, cleaning sanctuary pews, weeding flower beds, edging sidewalks, power washing sidewalks and spreading mulch.

In the span of three hours –

- 500 feet of baseboard was cleaned
- sanctuary pews were cleaned
- 9 flower beds weeded
- 300 feet of sidewalk edged
- 300 feet of sidewalk power washed
- 3000 pounds of mulch spread

The amount of work accomplished in such a small amount of time and the spirit among everyone reminded me of the Apostle Paul's words in Colossians. Chapter 3 verse 23 reads "whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." This truly was a labor of love by all who took part.

A BIG thank you to all who volunteered their time and talents. It was encouraging to see husbands and wives, father and son, and all who helped to beautify what God has entrusted to us.

I look forward to our next work day with eager anticipation. If you have any suggestions, please let one of the Facilities Management Committee members know.