M.C.C. Newsletter May, 2024

Birthdays and Anniversaries-

5/03

Dennis Hardman

5/04

Dennis & Mona Hardman

5/18

Ron Brusven

5/23

Samantha Deming

5/29

Tery Trebino

5/29

Cullen Doyle

Pastor's Page~

As another school year begins to wind down and summer begins to look like it is coming, we also are gearing up for some great things. I am excited and encouraged to see the culture and heart of the congregation desire to become involved. We have seen some new folks come and begin to plug into the opportunities here. If you have not met them yet, I would encourage you to do so during greeting time of worship or stay for a potluck or fellowship time.

We have added a grief support group that meets on Thursdays at noon in the library and may soon be moving to the large classroom. If you have experienced a loss of any kind in your life and would like to come check this group out, we encourage you to do so. Trivia Night has also become a well-attended event for fun and fellowship. Watch the calendar and make plans to join our next one.

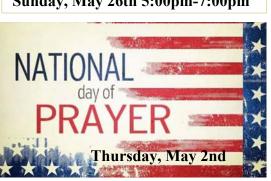
Summer will be bringing our annual participation in the 4th of July Parade as well as our water give away booth. V.B.S. also is on the schedule again for this summer as is more worship nights. See, great things are happening! Why not get involved? We are continuing to pray and believe God for His best as He brings us all into closer relationship with Him and each other.

Pastor David Brown



















NEWS ABOUT GOD'S CHURCH AND PEOPLE......MAY 2024

A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT MICHAEL WILLIAM PLIMPTON.....

You won't know Michael but he was our brother in Christ. His story is sad at times but also inspiring and heartwarming. A story that I feel is important to tell.

Michael's story begins in South Lake Tahoe in 1970. He was born to Alice and Brownie Plimpton. His parents separated before he was born. He was born early weighing 2.7 pounds. It was a miracle that he survived given the medical knowledge available at the time. He came home after 4 months in the hospital and shortly after came down with Meningitis. His first year of life was spent in the hospital. He had cerebral palsy and would never walk or run or do the things that we take for granted. According to Michael though, he was not disabled. After all, he had a mind, the use of one arm, and he heard, understood, and accepted the gospel. He would say it is those who do not know God who are the disabled ones.

As a young child he needed a lot of medical attention so he and his mother moved to Sacramento where his grandparents and many family members lived. His loving grandmother, Carol, kept him much of the time until he and his mother moved to Davis, Ca. By the time Michael was 16 he was on his own. He knew of his father but Brownie never included him in his life. Around that time he met Scott, a teacher, and his wife Carol, a school Psychologist with Department of Health Services. They became his lifelong friends and introduced him to their church, Grace Valley Christian Center. Grace Valley became his family. They included him in every activity and celebrated him in every way. His last birthday, February 1st, he welcomed over 20 people, including a cake, to his small apartment. They never forgot his special anniversaries.

Every hour of Michael's life was more challenging than it was for most of us. But he loved the Lord and was determined to be in church. In the early years he traveled the 10 miles to church in his wheel chair, a journey that took at least two hours one way. There he grew in Faith and in the knowledge of his Lord and Savior, Jesus. He always loved sharing his faith with anyone who would listen. He was never bitter. Nor did he blame God for his difficult circumstances. Through his many surgeries and procedures he never complained, he knew God was there taking care of him.

Michael had serious disadvantages, but his mind was working all the time. He was very smart. He filled his mind with the Word. His friend Scott said "almost every time any of us wanted to read or recite a portion of scripture, Michael's habit was to interrupt us and finish reciting whatever the passage was, almost verbatim, from memory". He may have lived a different life than most people, but was secure in his relationship with God and knew he had the greatest blessings of all, a Savior and church that loved him unconditionally. Although he was thankful for all his blessings he was human and could be a bit stubborn at times. It did come in handy when emergencies with his health happened regularly, though.

Michael would say that the year of his birth was important and was proof of God's providential care, since the 1973 Roe vs Wade decision would have probably changed the outcome of Michael's life. We are so grateful for his life and what he brought to the many lives he touched.

Michael loved to ask people 3 questions: 1. How did you use the time I gave you? 2. How did you use the gifts I gave you? and 3. What did you do with My Son? Through these questions you heard Michael speaking for God. Then he would ask how he could pray for you. He prayed continually.

His mother had passed away years earlier, but the one thing that Michael longed for was some type of contact with his father. When his health started to fail, Brownie was located and was told of Michael's desire. A "zoom" call to his son was made and Michael was finally able to ask the hard questions that he desperately desired to have answers to. He finally had peace concerning his father.

I know of Michael and his deep faith in God because he was my cousin. I talked with him through the years and enjoyed the fact that his church met so many of his needs and their deep love for Michael, including all final expenses. Michael went to Heaven on March 17th where he is running, jumping, enjoying all the things his body wouldn't let him do here on earth but mostly he's enjoying being with his Savior. I will miss his exuberance, his acceptance of the way things are, his love for God and his church, and watching a church embrace him the way God intends for us to do.

May God richly bless you.....Lynda Funk

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In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

EPHESIANS 2:22, ESV

A wonderful poem written by Tery Trebino -

Oh Lord it is hard to be humble when it is so easy to stumble. Try as I may, myself gets in the way. My goal is to pay attention, but there is so much temptation. I try to keep my focus on you, Lord. Please forgive me when I falter, Lord. But I will humble myself before you and try and try again.

