

Remembering an Old Sermon

Sometimes I hear someone say, "Bob, that was a good sermon last week." I smile, say thank you, and then try to remember what in the world I said last week!

Many sermons are preached and most are forgotten, if we are going to be brutally honest. I readily admit this and cannot remember most sermons I've heard myself over the years. There are few exceptions and one in particular I want to share with you in this article.

I was a freshman at Messiah College and was attending the mandatory chapels each week. If I remember correctly, this sermon was given by a former athlete and he captivated the congregation as soon as he walked on stage. I remember listening attentively to the words he spoke. I even still remember the three main points of his sermon:

1. Don't sweat the small stuff
2. Everything is small stuff
3. Go with the flow

Of course, he provided biblical support for the thesis of his message, but these main points have stuck with me for over 33 years. That to me is a pretty successful sermon. For example, if anyone remembers any one of my sermons for 33 years I will feel like an adequate preacher to be sure.

The three points of this sermon have provided me a framework of thinking and living throughout my life. Our culture, and some people, have a tendency to make mountains out of molehills. Admittedly, when something

happens to any one of us, we have a hard time seeing the forest for the trees. We tend to go into that "woe is me attitude" and have a hard time. This is natural but preventable. We have to learn to stop sweating the small stuff.

Most of our stuff is small stuff anyway. Compared to living in heaven for eternity, this lifetime is short by comparison. There are not too many things or too many decisions I make on a daily basis that are earth shattering. For that matter, there probably are very few of my sermons that will be remembered for much longer than a few minutes or a day. Does it matter? Not really. Does it make me regret what I do? Not really. I simply understand that much of what we think matters is all small stuff when we compare it with God.

Going with the flow can be dangerous. I remember my parents clearly telling me: "Bobby, be careful who you hang out with because it can get you into lots of trouble." You know, there were times when I wished I would have listened to my parents better! But going with a good flow is a good approach. God provides us with skills, talents, and interests. We enjoy using them because they are God-given and they are just natural to us. Going with God's flow in my life is what I aim to do.

What sermons do you remember? What life-lessons have you learned along the way? God speaks to us. We just have to listen!



Bob Shank

Daily Scripture Readings

February 1
Psalm 66

February 2
Psalm 67

February 3
Psalm 68

February 4
Psalm 69

February 5
Psalm 70

February 6
Psalm 71

February 7
Psalm 72

February 8
Psalm 73

February 9
Psalm 74

February 10
Psalm 75

February 11
Psalm 76

February 12
Psalm 77

February 13
Psalm 78

February 14
Psalm 79

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Psalm 80

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Psalm 81

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Psalm 82

February 18
Psalm 83

February 19
Psalm 84

February 20
Psalm 85

February 21
Psalm 86

February 22
Psalm 87

February 23
Psalm 88

February 24
Psalm 89

February 25
Psalm 90

February 26
Psalm 91

February 27
Psalm 92

February 28
Psalm 93

Gather! Grow! Make a Difference!

OUR STROUDSBURG YOUTH GROUP IS SUPPORTING WORLD VISION'S 30 HOUR FAMINE (FEB 24-25, 2017)

From now until February 25th, we're raising funds to help the hungry all over the globe! Our group goal is to raise \$2500.00, and we need your help. All monies donated are tax deductible and will go directly to World Vision. Please contact Bill Hardy, 570.856.1850 for donation information or any youth group kids between services.

If you are able, please stop by on February 24-25 to show your support of our youth! The 30 hour fast will end on Saturday the 25th at 6:30pm, with the United Methodist Men providing a meal and breaking the fast. We will discuss our experience and pray for those that will still be in need of food and water during and after we experience our fasting. Please see Dick Seip or Bill Hardy to find out more details.

Matthew 6:16-18

16 "When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

WORLD VISION'S

**30 HOUR
FAMINE**



FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adult 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	30 1:15 PM Monday Tea Time-Nancy Haase's home 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal - Dining Room	31 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room	1 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary 2:00 PM Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal	2 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary	3	4 Venture Crew Fundraiser-Dining Room 9:00 AM Monroe County Farmer's Market
5 8:30 AM Worship/Communion-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adult 11:00 AM Worship/Communion-Sanctuary 1:00 PM Leaders Planning Meeting 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	6 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Nar Anon - Dining Room	7 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room	8 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal	9 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary	10 Scout Lock-in	11 8:00 AM Cub Scout Valentine Breakfast-Dining Room 9:00 AM Monroe County Farmer's Market 5:30 PM Second Saturday Supper-Dining Room
12 Scout Sunday 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adult 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	13 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Nar Anon - Dining Room	14 6:30 PM M & E Meeting - Lounge 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room	15 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal	16 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary	17	18 9:00 AM Monroe County Farmer's Market 3:30 PM Band Concert-Sanctuary
19 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adult 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	20 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Nar Anon - Dining Room	21 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room 7:00 PM Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge	22 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal	23 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary	24 6:00 PM Youth 30 Hour Famine	25 Youth 30 Hour Famine 9:00 AM Monroe County Farmer's Market
26 8:30 AM Worship-Sanctuary 9:45 AM Sunday School-Children through Adult 11:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary 4:00 PM Soup Kitchen-Dining Room	27 7:00 PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Nar Anon - Dining Room	28 6:30 PM Farmer's Market Meeting-Dining Room 7:00 PM Digging Deeper Small Group-Conference Room	1 10:00 AM Bible Study-Lounge 12:00 PM Prayer and/or Quiet Reflection-Sanctuary 2:00 PM Stitch & Pray Small Group-Lounge 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service at ESUMC 7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal	2 10:00 AM My Brothers' Keepers Quilting & Little Quilts-Dining Room 7:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary	3 7:00 PM Free Movie Night - Sanctuary	4 9:00 AM Monroe County Farmer's Market



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

UNIT 11, MONROE COUNTY, PA

Marlene Maula
President
570.656.8922

January 2017

Dottie Davis
Vice President
570.223.8294

TO: CHURCHES/WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Nora Cilurso
2nd Vice President
570.426.1887

RE: ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS OF CWU

Lucey Small
Recording Secretary

Church Women United extends an invitation to church women and their Pastors to learn more about our organization and join us in a community of prayers, advocacy and service.

Betty Campbell
Correspondence Secretary
570.629.0649

Organized in 1959 as a local unit, we are part of an international ecumenical movement bringing Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian women together. We join women around the world in celebrations as in World Day of Prayer, May Friendship Day, World Community Day and annual Christmas meeting.

Donna Talcove
Treasurer
570.688.1334

We encourage women of all churches, through their Women's Groups or as individuals, to join CWU. It is customary to have 2 members at least to represent their church at our business meetings, usually three times a year. For specific dates & times, call 570-629-0649. We meet at the Hughes Library on 9th Street, Stroudsburg. Dues of \$25.00 from women's groups, churches are welcomed, payable to Church Women United of Monroe.

Over the years, the following programs were started :

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING ROOM

MEALS ON WHEELS – Active & independent, CWU initiated the movement with the blessing and cooperation of County Clergy.

PATH (Pocono Area Transitional Housing) Started by CWU, Clergy and local leaders.

We hope you will join us in whatever way you choose. Thank you.
Betty Campbell, Correspondence Secretary



To Serve You in February

Greeters 8:30
Carole & Richard Everitt (all month)

11:00
5 Sue & Ron Gouger
12 BJ Bachman
19 Joanne Reed
26 Joyce & Gerald Neil

Ushers 8:30
Dick Everitt
Carole Everitt
Cliff Rogell
Diane Rogell

11:00

Counters
Carole Everitt & Pam Price

Altar Guild
Carole Everitt & Jackie Herrero

Soup Kitchen
Sunday Afternoons at 4:00 pm
5 Stroudsburg HS Key Club
12 Stroudsburg HS Key Club
19 NSSHLA-Jeff Weber
26 BPW-Carole Everitt



OUR CHURCH STAFF:

Ministers Everyone
Pastors Bob Shank & Ted Good
Pastor Emeritus Tom Anderman
Church Secretary Jackie Herrero
Choir Director David Lantz
Organist Marti Lantz
Youth Leader Bill Hardy
Handbell Director Lynn Seip
Custodian Matt Parton

OUR CHURCH LEADERS:

Daniel's Dream Team
Chairperson, Sue Scarborough
admin@poconoymca.org

Worship
Chairperson, Pastor Bob Shank
bobshank@stroudsburgumc.com

Property & Building
Chairperson, Dick Seip relseip@ptd.net

Servant Resource Team
Chairperson, C. J. Penwell cjpen53@ptd.net

Stewardship
Chairperson, Paul Edinger
paul.edinger@stroudsburgumc.com

Missions
Chairpersons, Ruth Weber & Kathy Cook

Membership & Evangelism
Chairperson, Peggy Stewart bpstew@juno.com

Lay Leader Beryl Hellgren
bykoh@verizon.net



February Birthdays

2	Ben Principe
12	Diane Rogell
14	Cliff Rogell
16	Art Schwedler
19	Amanda Cunard
22	Eileen Butz
25	Emily Stewart
27	Jean Warner

If you would like a card on your special day, please call the church office - 570-421-6020

2017 Pocono Cluster Lenten Services:

Loving the Way Jesus Loves – 1 Corinthians 13

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evenings

Featuring a Variety of Worship Experiences

Child Care Provided Each Night

Offerings to be Dedicated for Mission Outreach Fellowship & Refreshments Afterwards

March 1, Ash Wednesday Holy Communion

At East Stroudsburg UMC, 83 S. Courtland St, East Stroudsburg
Pastor Larry Mark –

March 8, Contemporary Worship

At Reeders UMC, 2167 Route 715, Reeders
Pastor Bill Kuntze – “Love does not insist on its own way”

March 15, Love Feast

At Faith UMC, 1160 Clause Dr, Stroudsburg
Pastors Nina Patton-Semerod & Candy LaBar

March 22, Reformation 500th Anniversary

At Poplar Valley UMC, 1035 Poplar Valley Rd East, Stroudsburg
Pastor Jim Todd – “Love keeps no record of wrongs”

March 29, Healing & Anointing Service

At Cherry Lane UMC, Cherry Lane Church Rd & Cherry Lane
Pastor Paul Crikelair – “Love bears all things, endures all things”

April 5, Reaffirmation of Baptism Service

At Wooddale UMC, 100 Barren Rd, East Stroudsburg
Pastors Candy LaBar & Nina Patton-Semerod



OVER THE TOP

Help for homeless families with children provided by Family Promise of Monroe County in 2016 exceeded all expectations and finished “over the top”. Below you can read through the details, but to summarize: 90% of our Aftercare families have stayed in their own homes for over 12 months, and our shelter families returned to their own home with an average length of stay in shelter of only 71 days. Phenomenal!!!

Program Services Report January 1, 2016 – December 31 2016

Census

Families sheltered	11
Individual guests sheltered	45
Number of children (age 0-17)	27
Percentage of total who are children	60%
Average length of stay (days)	71

Housing Status at Exit

Families securing permanent housing	7
Families securing transitional housing	0
Families still in program	3
Families that were dismissed	1
Families that left before completion	0

Family Composition

Two-Parent Families	3
Female Headed Single Parent Families	8
Male Headed Families	0

In Addition-

Families receiving case management other than as guests	18
Individuals case managed other than as guests	65
Families serviced through Rapid Re-housing Program	15
Individuals serviced through R-RH Program	55
Total Families Served	44
Total Individuals Served	165
Total Church Volunteer Hours	6314
Total Meals Served	2122
Total Transportation Mileage	8910
Total Nights of Shelter	2997

Thanks to all our volunteers, supporters, and everyone taking an interest in helping homeless



PIZZA with the Pastor

Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 12:00 pm

Join Pastor Bob in the Fellowship Room after church for Pizza with the Pastor.

Find out what's happening in our church, enjoy some pizza and fellowship!

Have questions? Feel free to ask!

Hope to see you there!

Pastor Bob will follow up with a new member's class on
Sunday, February 26 at 9:45 am in the third floor classroom directly above the
Fellowship Room.

If you have already received a letter from Pastor Bob inviting you to join the new
member's class he will see you then. If you haven't received a letter but would like
to join our church, please either call the church office or feel free to join the class on
February 26 at 9:45 am.

Items Needing a New Home

A church member is looking to donate a 32" Phillips Magnavox
with remote. Works great.

Also looking for a new home is a full size bed with pillow top. Excellent condition.

If you are interested or know someone who is interested, please call the
church office.

Thank you!

The Membership and Evangelism Team
invites everyone to our February

Second Saturday Supper
February 11 at 5:30 pm

We'll provide:

Plates, utensils, and beverages

(iced tea, punch, and coffee)

Our Program will be:

*Pastor Bob will be sharing photos, experiences, etc.
from his trip out west last summer.*

Help us plan: Please sign up in the back of the sanctuary or call the church office (570-421-6020) and let us know how many will be coming and what type of dish you plan to bring.

Questions?? Contact Peggy Stewart
570-424-0625 or bpstew@juno.com



**Cub Scout Pack 86 Presents Our
Valentine's Day Pancake Breakfast**

Treat mom to a Valentine's Day Surprise of Pancakes,
Sausage, Juice, Coffee and Tea served by our Boys!

Saturday, February 11, 2017 • 8:00am-11:00am

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church

(Please use the Ann Street Entrance and parking lot)

Adults \$5.00, children 6 and under eat for FREE!



Free Movie Night
Friday, March 3, 2017
7:00 pm



Free popcorn will be available, too!

“A troubled youth vandalizes a church and winds up in a close association with the woodcarver whose work he destroyed.”

Rated PG-13; 1 hour, 36 minutes in length

Please contact the church office with questions. Hope to see you there!

My Valentine Present
By Karen Nelson Vaughn
1-22-2017

It was a cold snowy day, and the snow was over my head. That was easy because I was four years old. I loved the snow but that day was different. My Mom was outside with me and she was headed toward the chicken coop where my Dad was lying on the snowy ground. He had slipped on the ice and could not get up. Mom was a little fat and had a hard time helping him. Shortly, I was visiting him in the Hospital. He had a broken leg.

During the two weeks he was in the hospital, a nice nurse helped me type a letter to him. Then she took me in the ward to talk to him. His bed was against the wall. He had a cast on his leg and I wondered if he would always have to wear it.

On February 14, 1943 my Father was discharged from the hospital by the back door and my Mom was admitted by the front door. She didn't have a broken leg. My Father and I stayed with Aunt Gustie. I did not know where my Mom had disappeared but I did not worry about it. When I was four years old I did not worry but took things as they came.

On Sunday morning my Aunt Gustie told me we were not going to Church. Instead my Uncle drove us the hospital in a snowstorm. Mom was waiting to go home. She sat in the backseat of the car and between my Mom and me was a little baby, my sister. I wondered how she got there. Years later, I figured it out. My sister came with instructions. My Mom told me not to push her eyes in, like I do to my dolls.

Valentine's Day in 1943 was a special day. I got a sister who has been my friend all my life. Thank you God for such a blessing.

STROUDSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
547 MAIN STREET
STROUDSBURG PA 18360
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February 2017

