

Back To School

Well, it has happened again. Another summer has seemingly flown by. School has started up again. Many things at church start up again too, including Catechetical classes for 7th & 8th graders leading to Confirmation, Communion instruction for 2nd graders, and an exciting new rotational Sunday School model for Pre-K through 8th grade.

It is a good time of year to take stock of what we know and what we want to learn as Christians. We come to worship services every week because God is worthy of our worship and praise. It is quite simply our duty. But, *if* we come to worship regularly, we also find that we learn more about God through the Bible lessons we hear read, through the sermon, and through singing the good theology found in good hymnody.

If we take the next step, and come to Sunday school or Bible study, we learn more about God's Word revealed in scripture. We are more familiar with the Bible, and with characters whose lives and faith struggles are much like our own. We also become familiar with each other. We find a place to share our struggles, to realize that we are not alone, and to learn from each other as we learn together from scripture about God's amazing grace.

If we did not send the kids off to school, they wouldn't learn much that they need to know in this life. If we don't bring them to worship, Sunday school, and teach them the Bible, they won't learn the most important lesson in this life and the next. They won't know about Jesus, but more importantly, they won't know Jesus. They won't have a relationship with Jesus. They won't have experience with grace.

Now is the time to set your goals and your faith lesson plans, for yourself and the children in your life. You get yourself up to work in the morning because it is important. You get the kids off to school because it is important. What does it say about us when we fail to do the same on Sunday? There is no getting around it. It says in no uncertain terms that we don't think worshiping God and learning more about God is important.

It is a good time of year to take stock of what is truly important. May God bless us in that process.

Peace,
Pastor Chris