

## ***Thoughts from Tom*—Playing the Superiority Game**

The other day I noticed a small ceramic wall hanging for sale at our local Goodwill Store. In very nice script, it declared, “Jesus Loves You.” Then below that statement in a smaller font was a second line: “But I’m His favorite.” Cute? Yes. But sadly, it is a real attitude that can become divisive. Throughout the history of the church, people have played the superiority game, claiming to be more blessed or more spiritual than another brother or sister in Christ.

This poor attitude plagued followers of Jesus from the beginning. Our Lord’s twelve apostles argued about who was the greatest. Jesus responded by explaining that the one willing to take the lowest and humblest position will be viewed as great in the eyes of God.

“An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little child and had him stand beside him. Then he said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest’” (Luke 8).

But it seems they did not readily learn that lesson. Toward the end of Jesus’ life, two of these apostles, James and John, asked Jesus for a special request. “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked. “They replied, ‘Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.’ “You don’t know what you are asking,’ Jesus said. ‘Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?’ “We can,’ they answered.

“Jesus said to them, ‘You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.’ “When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. Jesus called them together and said... ‘Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many’” (Mark 10).

Today individual Christians still play the superiority game. And whole denominations of churches dare to say their particular “brand” is the only one going to heaven. The next time the thought “I’m better than you” enters our minds, let’s carefully and prayerfully read 1 Corinthians chapter 12: “...The body is not made up of one part but of many... There should be no division in the body; its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.”

Remember: In Christ, there are no favorites. “You are the body of Christ, and each one is a part of it!”



# **First Church of Christ**

300 W. Spruce Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

**Know Jesus • Follow Jesus • Share His Love**

**October 2018**

**October is Minister Appreciation Month!**

## ***Minister’s Appreciation Pie Social***

**Monday, October 15th at 6:30 p.m.**

Please mark your calendar and join your FCOC family in a night of sharing a piece of pie, fellowship, and thanks for our ministers:



Tom Cash  
Randy Peasley  
Zack Woiteshek

**Sign up at the table in the lobby,**  
and let us know if you can  
bring a pie to share!

## **Downtown Trick or Treating!**

**October 26th, 5-7:00 p.m.**



**We will have a booth on Ashmun Street  
and we will hand out candy and  
invitations to First Church of Christ!**

**Ways to help:**

**Donate a bag of candy!**

**Sign up in the lobby, and place candy in tub in office.**

**Come downtown and join us!**

## Upcoming Events



### We need goodies!

**His House Christian Fellowship** has a worship service every Thursday evening for the college students attending LSSU. We provide the treats! If you would like to help, please sign up to supply cookies, brownies, or something yummy at the Information Table in the lobby. Thanks!

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



**Operation Christmas Child** gives donated items to children across the world who would have no knowledge of Christ's love for them without this special ministry. **Boxes are provided! Pick up a gift tag and box at the display with ideas for gifts.** Choose from a boy or girl and different age groups. Please add a \$7 check made out to Samaritan's Purse for shipping.

**Boxes are available at the display in the lobby and are due November 12th!**

**Please plan on helping pack the crates with boxes on November 16th at 10:00 am. It takes 1 hour!**



**for 6th thru 12th Grade Students  
November 2-4, Lansing, MI**

**Registration fee is covered by FCOC;** students will need money for 2 meals and activities TBA. **Sign up in the lobby**, and registration is on the FCOC Youth Page on Facebook. Fill out the both forms and return to Zack.

**See Zack for more information!**

## Giving Information

September	Giving
2	\$4,722.45
9	\$2,047.00
16	\$4,234.20
23	\$3,763.00
30	N/A

## Prayer Concerns (Please call the church office with updates)



Our country and those serving in the military, those adjusting after service  
 Kevin Farrar—Breathing issues due to RA, RA flare-ups  
 His House Ministries  
 Kenn Filkins—Serious health issues  
 Hannah Grace Monroe—Continued prayers for her feedings and health  
 Jeannine Kelly (Therese Boucha's mother) - Parkinson's Disease  
 Gary Matheny (Dave's brother) - Hoping for a lung transplant soon  
 Ron Atkins (Pam Postma's brother) - Praise that there is no lung cancer! Has liver/pancreatic cancer—to Mayo for treatment options  
 Bonnie Dale—Surgery successful, still having difficulty walking  
 Carol Miller—Cancer treatments going well  
 Evelyn Henry—Health issues  
 Mona Skaggs (LaCrosse) - Doing well after cancer treatment, pray completely healed  
 Linda Gades (Nancy Earl-Wojo's sister) - Metastasized cancer, confusion  
 Brenda Brown—Health issues, that doctors would figure out how to help her  
 Therese Boucha—New treatment begun. Continued prayers for healing.  
 Gary Ferns (Mary Armstrong's bro) - Last scan stable! Prayers for continued healing  
 Gary Korman (Friend of Dave Weir) - Health issues, would appreciate prayers  
 James Burton—At Army Boot Camp. Prayers for courage and strength in the Lord  
 Gail Mullins (Ed Boso) - Diagnosed with diabetes  
 Peg Pifer (Dan Smart's mother-in-law) - Recovering from a stroke  
 Evelyn Henry, Terry Lawson, Lee Lawson, and Patty Jones—Family issues  
 Nancy LeGreve—Recovering from spinal surgery  
 Ardis Bruno—In Tendercare Room B6 for PT after surgery, would like visitors  
 Cathy Abramson—Liver and kidney transplant, difficult recovery  
 Jennifer Veum—Having cancer treatment  
 Rachael Jones (the Henry's granddaughter) - Strength to stay drug and alcohol free and turn to God, trying to get her children back  
 Joanne Arbic (Anne Abbott's sister) - In Intensive Care at WMH  
 Jim Smith—Praise! Hip replacement went well, prayers for continued healing  
 Family of Jason Ninneman—Passed away, prayers for wife and children