

# MOVING SPIRIT

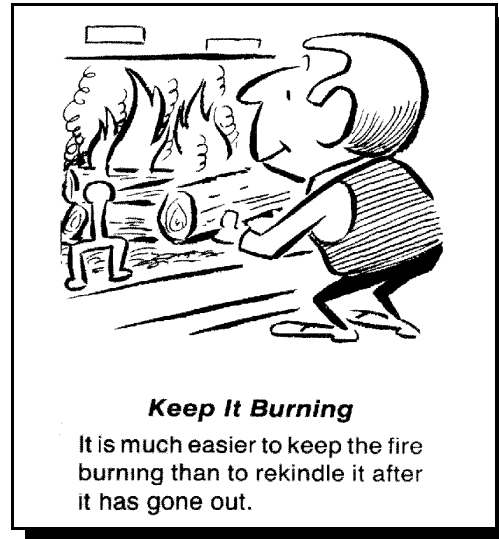
Winter, 1996

## *Eskaton Village Community Church*

### *The Pastor's Parcel*

Many of us have experienced times when God touched our lives and set our souls aflame with spiritual love for Him and His kingdom. Between those times of spiritual fire, and we use various spiritual disciplines to "keep the fire burning," such as daily prayer, regular Bible reading, and attending church. When illness makes attending church impossible, the church must come to us. This in part happens through a pastor's visit, but visitation is the business of the whole church. We can all work to keep a sick fellow-believer's fire burning. How do we do this?

The most important thing is your presence. There is nothing like the human touch. This is part of the beauty of the Incarnation of Christ. If you are a Christian, Jesus indwells you by the Holy Spirit, so that you bring His presence when you bring yours. An ill person doesn't have the energy to sit through a sermon, but may be encouraged through your comments on last Sunday's sermon. They might not even have the strength to read through the worship folder, but you could read the words of one of the hymns to them.



Short prayers or reciting the Lord's Prayer can be a wonderful blessing to them.

When ill, please, let us know, so we can come visit. And when you are well and know of someone who is sick, don't miss the blessing of keeping someone's fire burning!-- *Pastor David*

\* \* \* \* \*

### *People's Pieces*

(from our church folks)

**Words from Warren . . .** Did Adam and Eve experience a conversion? Yes, when they stopped believing the truth and started believing a lie. But when a person is converted to become a Christian, they become a new creation. "Behold, all things become

new!" (2 Cor. 5:17-18) They are:  
"In Christ"--united with Christ through faith in Him and commitment to Him.

"A new creation"--a restoration of God's purpose in all of creation, by redemption in Christ, through Whom all things were made and in Whom all things are restored or renewed.

"All this is from God"-- God takes the initiative in redemption, sustains it, and brings it to completion.

"Ministry of reconciliation"--the privilege and obligation of us, who are the recipients of divine reconciliation, to be, like Paul in a sense, the heralds and instruments in God's hands to minister the message of reconciliation throughout the world . . . and particularly for us, right here at Eskaton Village.

In our re-creation in Christ, we have been given the power to stop believing the lie and start believing the truth! In effect, this "undos" Adam and Eve's conversion and "redos" God's original plan, allowing the Christian to again walk and talk with God in His Garden, right here and now, while experiencing His forgiveness, His love, His mercies, His compassion, His GRACE, all of which translates to experiencing God's Riches At Christ's Expense!

\* \* \* \* \*

On the first page of the Bible presented to me in Sunday school on June 21, 1925 was written: "Thy

word have I laid up in my heart, that I might not sin against thee."--Psalm 119:11. I looked it up and the title or caption at the top of verses 9 to 16 was BETH. I was so touched and still am. --Beth Stege

\* \* \* \* \*

We received a sweet gift from Heaven on Nov.4th at 3:55 a.m.: a 10½ lb. boy, **Isaiah Thaddaeus**, Thanks so much for your prayers, gifts and cards. Someone wrote us that Isaiah has more grandparents than anyone else on earth!

--Pastor David & Rosemary Hatton

\* \* \* \* \*

---

## *Praise's Portion*

---

### **A Prayer of Praise**

Unshakeable, immovable, faithful and true, full of wisdom, strength and beauty, these things are true of You. Fearless, courageous, righteousness shines through in all You do, yet, You're so humble, You laid down Your life; these things are true of You. You're patient, compassionate, love flows through You. You never give up on the hopeless ones; these things are true of You. Holy and blameless, You stand up for justice and truth, yet, You love mercy and forgiveness; these things are true of You. As I turn my face to You, oh Lord, I ask and pray by the power of Your love and grace, make these things true of me too. --Tom Walker,

*Break Down the Walls*

\* \* \* \* \*

Thanks be to God  
For the light and darkness  
For the hail and snow  
For the shower and sunshine  
For all things that grow  
For lightning and tempest  
For weal and woe  
For His own great goodness  
For what is so is so  
For harvest and plenty  
When the barn is low  
When our pockets are empty  
Thanks be to God  
When they overflow.  
(an Irish thanksgiving)

---

## *Poetry's Place*

---

### Love Grows Here

Take a look around you--  
tell me what you see;  
People here to worship the Lord,  
just like you and me.  
Some have come in gladness,  
some have come with fear,  
But all have come because  
they know that love grows here.

Yes love grows here,  
and all of us can share the  
wonder and joy that it can bring.  
For God is near,  
teaching us to care--  
and showing our heart how to sing.

Some of us are lonely--  
some have many friends;  
Some lives just beginning, some are  
near the end.

Yes, we come together, knowing God  
is near,  
Once again reminding us that love  
grows here!  
Yes, love grows here.

---

## *Prayer Priorities*

---

Oh, Master and Maker!  
My hope is in Thee.  
My Jesus, dear Savior!  
Now set my soul free  
From the hard prison,  
My spirit uprisen  
Soars upward to Thee.  
---Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots  
(just before her execution)

\* \* \* \* \*

### The Unseen Bridge

There is a bridge whereof the span  
Is hidden in the Heart of Man,  
And reaches, without pile or rod  
Into the plentitude of God  
It carries all that honestly  
Is faith or hope or charity.  
No other traffic will it bear:  
This broad yet narrow  
Bridge of Prayer.  
(Gilbert Thomas, *Guideposts*)

\* \* \* \* \*

### Courage for the Road

These are the gifts I ask  
Of Thee, Spirit Serene:  
Strength for the daily task,  
Courage to face the road,  
Good cheer to help me  
bear the traveler's load,  
And for the hours of rest  
that come between,

And inward joy of all things  
heard and seen.  
(Henry Van Dyke, *Guideposts*)  
\* \* \* \* \*

Prayer may not change things for you,  
but it for sure changes you for things.  
--Samuel Shoemaker  
\* \* \* \* \*

### **Points of Light**

Everlasting Light, Almighty God,  
whose light is of Eternity and  
knoweth no setting, shine forth and  
be our safeguard through the night,  
and though the earth be wrapped in  
darkness and the heavens veiled from  
our sight, let Thy brightness be about  
our heads and Thy peace within our  
souls, and Thy Fatherly blessing upon  
our sleep this night. Amen. (Author  
unknown)

---

## *Precious Principles*

---

### **Peace**

Do not look forward to what might  
happen tomorrow; the same everlasting  
Father who cares for you today, will  
take care of you tomorrow, and every  
day. Either He will shield you from  
suffering, or He will give you unfailing  
strength to bear it. Be at peace then,  
and put aside all anxious thoughts and  
imagnations. ---Francis de Sales  
\* \* \* \* \*

The healing power of hope--"Heirs  
having the hope of eternal life" (Titus  
3:7).

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Faith Is--Praying for Guidance**

God promised He will give you  
guidance. In the depth of your heart,  
you know with an unflinching  
certainty, and invincible awareness, the  
course of action you life must take.  
This is God Himself, answering your  
prayers for guidance. He gives you a  
strong and powerful will to proceed  
along a determined pathway. Consider  
these prayers of affirmation: I am  
driven by a divine destiny. I am  
praying for guidance. I am opening my  
mind consistently to God--the way the  
tip of a branch is unceasingly alert and  
responsive to the wind! --Robert  
Schuller

\* \* \* \* \*

I shall pass through this world but  
once. Any good, therefore, that I can  
do or any kindness that I can show to  
any human being, let me do it now. Let  
me not defer nor neglect, for I shall not  
pass this way again. (anonymous)

\* \* \* \* \*

God's strength behind you, His concern  
for you, His love within you, and His  
arms beneath you are more than  
sufficient for the job ahead of you.

--William A. Ward

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Because**

Because someone cared today,  
I knew God's love was strong.  
I found new hope to bear my cross  
And courage for my song.  
My neighbor's heart  
conveyed the love  
I needed for my pain,

And happily I felt the faith  
To dream and smile again.

--Inez Franck

\* \* \* \* \*

### A Daily Plan

Say something to God. (Philip.4:6)

Let God say something to you.

(1 Peter 2:2)

Say something for God. (Matt.5:16)

Do something for God.

(1 Cor.15:58)

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Love is . . .**

Writing a letter of appreciation  
to someone.

Taking flowers, food, or others  
needs to shut-ins or the sick.

Expressing sympathy to those  
in sorrow.

Making the way easier for someone  
who is trying to live right.

In short, love is Christian care  
and compassion in action.

---

## *Pearls of Prudence*

---

### Go to Church Weekly

Evidence is growing that religion is  
good medicine. Three fourths of  
those in a Georgetown University  
study showed positive effects of  
religious commitment on health.

"People who attend church are  
physically healthier...less depressed,"  
said Dr. Harold Koenig of Duke  
Univ. Medical Center.

\* \* \* \* \*

Don't hurry--don't worry. You're only  
here for a short visit. So be sure to

stop and smell the flowers.

\* \* \* \* \*

Whoever is happy will make others  
happy, too. He who has courage and  
faith will never perish in misery.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bend a little: let someone intrude in  
your life.

\* \* \* \* \*

When someone leads you, don't give  
directions; let them show the way.

\* \* \* \* \*

God dwells wherever man lets him in.

--Menahem Mendel of Kotzk

\* \* \* \* \*

A proud man is always looking down  
on things and people; and, of course,  
as long as you're looking down, you  
can't see something that's above you.

--C.S. Lewis

\* \* \* \* \*

I would rather die of pure love than  
let God escape from me in dark  
wisdom.

--Mechthild of Magdeburg

\* \* \* \* \*

God has cast our confessed sins into  
the depths of the sea, and He's even  
put a "no fishing" sign over the spot.

--Dwight L. Moody

\* \* \* \* \*

### A Sermon That Really Speaks

I'd rather see a sermon  
Than hear one any day;  
I'd rather one should walk with me  
Than merely tell the way.

The eye's a better pupil  
And more willing than the ear;

Fine counsel is confusing,  
But example's always clear.

And the best of all the preachers

Are the men who live their creeds;  
For to see good put in action  
Is what everybody needs.

--Edgar A. Guest

### CHRISTMAS COLORS

The white and gold, the red and green,  
What do these Christmas colors mean?  
Were they at random chosen for  
This season's decking hall and door?

As one year ends, as one more starts,  
An Unseen Will decrees for hearts  
To pause before a Plan Divine  
For which the colors are a sign.

We see beyond the Christmas red  
A shadow on the manger bed:  
A blood-red Cross for Mary's Son  
Where Passion paid for everyone.

We see a heart in darkest sin  
Made snowy white and clean within,  
Where holy light from Christ the King  
Has washed the soul and made it sing.

We see a life that's growing free  
And green, and flowered fertilely,  
All fresh with fruits in holy love  
Engendered by the Spirit Dove.

We see a soul that's tired and old  
Step out beyond the Christmas gold  
To ageless glory, gleaming bright,  
To golden joy in Heaven's light!

As one year goes and one draws near,  
These Christmas colors all appear:  
A time bestowed upon our race  
To ponder life and love and grace.

Angelic gold, the snowflake scene,  
Saint Nick's red robes, the holly green,  
Reflect the plans behind the birth  
Of Christ, the Savior of the earth.

---David L. Hatton, 12/9/89

