

**[sunset@sunsethillschurch.org](mailto:sunset@sunsethillschurch.org)**

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**From:** Ron French [revfrench@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 03, 2008 11:31 AM  
**To:** Ken & Rita Vetter; Lea Heller; Lila Anson; Minarick, Sarah; Neal North; Pam Hamlin; Pastor Ron; Pedro Okoruwa; Ray, Donna; Ron Lenhart; Rosemary Gordon; Roy Karlen; Sandy and Pat Smith; Scott Darden; Shannon Wallace; Sunset Hills Baptist Church; Tasha Helms; Terry Anderson; Todd Ray (Snowdog Printing); Tracy Gilmer; Yvonne Swearingen  
**Subject:** Rons Ramblings

**What's Happening...**

- † Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center had very positive growth last year. The addition of the staff position held by MaryBeth Robertson is paying for itself in revenues from more and more groups using the facilities. We had set a goal for usage of Calvary Lodge and we achieved that goal in the first full year of operation.
- † Our congratulations to the congregation and search committee of FBC, Beatrice, in the calling of Rev. Theodora Boolin to be their pastor. Theodora has been serving FBC, Pierre, SD.
- † HURRAY!!!! [WWW.SUNSETHILLSCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.SUNSETHILLSCHURCH.ORG) If you have not taken the time to view our new website it has now progressed far enough that we can announce it to the world. Send the link to friends and family. Share it with co-workers. There is, however, more construction to occur such as putting out additional sermons so that eventually there will be several on the site at any one moment. The same will be true of the newsletter and the Ramblings. Let us know what you think. Send the church office an email ([sunset@sunsethillschurch.org](mailto:sunset@sunsethillschurch.org)) and give us your comments.
- † WORK DAY: Please come help us this coming Saturday at 8:30am. Bring some work gloves and a smile. And "Thank you" in advance.
- † WOW! We had a great time at the ABMen's breakfast and National Day of Prayer gathering this past Saturday. The food was wonderful and the missionary, Mike Mann, gave a moving presentation of his work in Thailand. It just made you want to go there right now and help out. And it didn't hurt that we were able to purchase some genuine Thai coffee, as well. A great big thank you to all those men involved in arranging this time of learning and sharing.
- † Don't forget to move your clock forward one hour this Saturday evening. Those late to the worship service will be asked to preach the next Sunday!
- † Also don't forget to put March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm down on your calendar. That is our Maundy Thursday service. Invite a friend!

**Bit of Humor**

Supposedly these were real calls to 911.

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is your emergency?

Caller: I heard what sounded like gunshots coming from the brown house on the corner.

Dispatcher: Do you have an address?

Caller: No, I'm wearing a blouse and slacks, why?

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is your emergency?

Caller: Someone broke into my house and took a bite out of my ham and cheese sandwich.

Dispatcher: Excuse me?

Caller: I made a ham and cheese sandwich and left it on the kitchen table, and when I came back from the bathroom, someone had taken a bite out of it.

Dispatcher: Was anything else taken?

Caller: No, but this has happened to me before, and I'm sick and tired of it.

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is your emergency?

Caller: Hi, is this the Police?

Dispatcher: This is 9-1-1. Do you need police assistance?

Caller: Well, I don't know who to call. Can you tell me how to cook a turkey? I've never cooked one before.

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is the nature of your emergency?

Caller: I'm trying to reach nine eleven but my phone doesn't have an eleven on it.

Dispatcher: This is nine eleven.

Caller: I thought you just said it was nine-one-one

Dispatcher: Yes, ma'am, nine-one-one and nine-eleven are the same thing.

Caller: Honey, I may be old, but I'm not stupid.

And the winner is ...

Dispatcher: 9-1-1

Caller: Yeah, I'm having trouble breathing. I'm all out of breath. I think I'm going to pass out.

Dispatcher: Sir, where are you calling from?

Caller: I'm at a pay phone. North and Foster.

Dispatcher: Sir, an ambulance is on the way. Are you an asthmatic?

Caller: No.

Dispatcher: What were you doing before you started having trouble breathing?

Caller: Running from the police.

## **Devotion**

A few years ago while in seminary I was taking a class on chemical dependency and alcoholism. This particular class turned out to be very enlightening for me. It was a topic I knew little about, yet I did know that there are many in our world today who are all too familiar with this problem. As part of the class we were to learn about an organization that helps people with chemical and/or alcohol dependency issues and develop a presentation for the class on what we learned.

I visited the Director of the National Alcohol and Drug Dependency organization in KC and was given a wonderful tour of their facility. During that tour we stopped in a small, comfortable room that was meant for small children to play in while a counselor attempted to get the child to open up as to what was going on at home and in their life. The children were often asked to draw pictures of their home life when they couldn't seem to find the words. On the walls were numerous crayon drawings created by these children.

One of the drawings was that of a small child in between two adults. One of the adult figures appeared to be that of a mother who was saying "I love you" while the other drawing appeared to be the father who was saying "I'm going to kill you." Although due to the crudeness of the drawing it was difficult to tell, it appeared that the father had a bottle in one hand. I cannot even imagine the pain that small child must have been going through and the chaos that must have occurred in that home daily.

If someone reading this email has experienced such pain then God bless you for what you are doing to find healing, forgiveness, and peace and to move past such suffering. If you are not there yet, then please consider what a merciful Jesus Christ can do for you in your journey of healing. There is abundant love available for you and I believe He rewards those who earnestly try to break the cycle of abuse and suffering.

As for the rest of us, when we get down on our knees (Don't forget our "On Our Knees at 9" prayer time), when we pause to speak to the Almighty, when we take a moment to give thanks, may we be ever mindful of the many in our world --- some in our very midst and we don't know it ---- that need

to be prayed for. It's not all about us and what we want and what we are dealing with. The next time you pray consider the abused, spouses and children, in particular; consider the homeless, the starving, the poverty-stricken, the trampled and oppressed, and the many who have lost hope.

And after we have done that, not rushed it, really engaged ourselves in prayer, let us then give a huge round of thanks to our Lord and Savior for what we have. If you can't think of at least 20 things right off the top of your head, you're not thinking. Consider a warm home on a cold day; food that you ate today; clothing; health; job; money in your pocket/purse; a nice conversation with a friend; safe travel on dangerous streets; the coming warm weather is just around the corner; a church building; a church family; doctors and nurses; butchers and janitors; a loving home; a pet; teachers; music that pleases you; a nice book; golf; cooking skill; and yes, even refrigerators. And the list goes on and on.

There are many who would look at you, yes YOU, and say, "You never had it so good."

### **Sermonette**

He who loses money, loses much; He who loses a friend, loses more; He who loses faith, loses all.

God bless you,

Pastor Ron French  
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