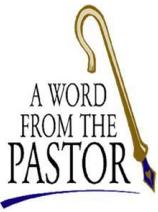


“Speak for Unity”



Romans 1:29-31 is pretty depressing. It’s a listing of many unrighteous acts: *“They are filled with all unrighteousness, evil, greed, and wickedness. They are full of envy, murder, quarrels, deceit, and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, arrogant, proud, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, and unmerciful.”*

Whew! That list will wear you out. And right in the middle of it is the evil deed of gossip. The simple dictionary meaning of gossip speaks volumes. Some dictionaries call it “idle talk.” Some connect it to rumors. Others say it is unproven personal or private information about others. Gossip is bad. And gossip is destructive in the church. Few things can destroy the unity of a church like gossip. A unified church is a powerful church. Gossip tears apart that unity and renders a church powerless.

A man who leads a well-known Christian organization said that the prohibition of gossip is actually spelled out in the employee policy manual. If an employee has a concern about another employee, he or she is supposed to take that concern directly to the employee. If, for any reason, the concern can’t be presented directly, the employee must go to his or her supervisor. Gossip is not tolerated. An employee can even lose his job over it. Why? Because it tears down the unity in the organization.

James minced no words when he wrote about the negative power of the tongue: *“and the tongue is a fire. The tongue, a world of unrighteousness, is placed among the parts of our bodies. It pollutes the whole body, sets the course of life on fire, and is set on fire by hell”*. (James 3:6).

So how should we respond to this issue of gossip in our church? First, don’t be a source of gossip. If you have any doubt whether something is gossip or not, don’t mention it. Keep your tongue under control. Second, if someone in the church begins to share gossip with you, gently rebuke him or her. You don’t have to be harsh in your response to them. Kindly say that you would rather not hear any gossip and you would hope it wouldn’t continue to spread.

“For the one who wants to love life and to see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit”. (1 Peter 3:10)

Blessings! Pastor G

The School Scoop by Wydette Ackerman

April is a very busy month. NWCA has many projects ongoing as we get ready for May and the end of this school year. Excitement builds as we approach the Spring Festival. Practice for the Spring Musical and the drama are still moving along. It is great to hear the students singing throughout the day as various classes practice.

The Rice Festival and parade float takes a lot of work, planning, and coordination. Many thanks to Pastor Hanna and Mrs. Lisa for the work that they do for the church and school in preparation for this event. Thanks also to our church and school parents for your participation and support of this event. Where would we be without our youth who willingly give of their time and talents for the opportunity to bring God to our community?

We are very pleased with the teachers of NWCA as they have completed three courses for staff development that promote their continuous education classes. They have been working very hard on our school accreditation plans for the SCACS team visit in May. Sports have been somewhat dampened by the rainy weather recently, but spirits remain high. Accreditation is a time to look inward at what our school is doing, has accomplished, and what needs to be done to improve what we do and how we do it. SCACS accreditation constantly reminds us that God must always be the leader and be first in all that we do in His name. NWCA staff is reminded of this daily as we teach our students in the ways of God and prepare them for the world of work in which God has given them their specific talents and abilities. We are an extension of the Christian home in training young people in a Christian environment to reap eternal gains. This ministry co-labors with parents in training children to love God, love learning, and love life. Proverbs 22:6, “Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Here at North Walterboro Christian Academy, we’re *‘Teaching Children to Make a Difference’*.



May 1	6:30	WOM Meeting
May 1		Migrant Kits Due
May 3	7:00	K’Motion Kidz “Finding Jesus”
May 3	6:30	National Day of Prayer Service
May 4	6:30	Deacon Visitation
May 4	7:00	Spring Musical @ NWCA
May 5 - 7		Women of Joy Conf. (Myrtle Beach)
May 6	8am	Men’s Bible Study
May 7	8:45	Deacon Meeting
May 7	7:00	Church Council Meeting
May 8	6:30	Men’s Ministry Meeting
May 10	7:00	K’Motion Kidz “Finding Jesus”
May 11	6:30	Deacon Visitation
May 13	8am	Men’s Bible Study
May 14		 HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY
May 15	2:00	Veteran’s Victory House Singing
May 17	7:00	K’Motion Kidz “Finding Jesus”
May 18	6:30	Deacon Visitation
May 20	8am	Men’s Bible Study
May 21	10:00	New Member’s Class
May 23	6:30	Deacon Visitation
May 24	7:00	K’Motion Kidz “Finding Jesus”
May 25	9am	K-5 Graduation @ NWCA
May 27	8am	Men’s Bible Study
May 29		Memorial Day

From the Associate Pastor...

Hello everyone. I pray that you are having a wonderful day today. As I am writing this, we are finishing up our preparations for the 2017 Rice Festival. This is going to be a great time for some evangelism as we spread the love of Jesus Christ to our community. I hope that we get to see all of you downtown.

Also, as most of you know, I had my **50th** birthday this past week. Sometimes I wake up and wonder what happened. The time goes by so fast anymore. Thank you all for the birthday cards wishes and gifts. It is truly a birthday to remember.

There is a lot going on with our music department learning some wonderful new songs. Our praise band is working on several that we think you will really enjoy singing with us. The choir did an outstanding job on the Easter cantata entitled "Because He Lives". Thanks to all of you who participated. I'm looking forward to gathering our choir more often.

Driven Youth Ministries had several events coming up as we approach the summer months. We are planning a Carowinds trip, a Riverbanks Zoo trip, bowling, a lock-in & skating in the near future. We are also continuing our weekly bible studies. Also, please pray for this group as we are working toward our mission trip to Lakewood Campground in July.

Folks, as always, it is a pleasure to serve with you. If I can assist you in any way, don't hesitate to call on me.

I love serving the Lord and I love serving Him with you.

Pastor Steve



Pastor Godfrey will be offering a New Members Class on Sunday morning's during the Sunday School hour. The first class will be held on Sunday, May 21st.

NWCA's Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony will be Thursday, May 25th at 9am. Everyone is invited to come celebrate this momentous day in the lives of these young graduates.



We're GOING DEEPER with our Faith! The sea contains many wondrous sights created by God. When we go under the sea and take a closer look, we see that the sea has much to teach us about God!

"Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." - Romans 8:39 (NIV)

The Marriage by Design Class that had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances will be rescheduled soon. If you were not able to sign up for the first class, here is your chance. Watch the bulletin for rescheduled class dates and see Pastor Godfrey if you are interested in attending.

