

Dear Parish Family,

Lisa and I and the kids are getting ready to go see our sister parish and the children we sponsor. We thank you for your support, gifts, well wishes and above all your prayers! We are learning how to travel light...how to be flexible...and above all how to trust our loving heavenly Father with the little things and the big ones.

While I am away **I am counting on many of you signing up** and so you can join with me and many others in our parish and other parishes in our Heart of North America (HONA) Network in Fort Wayne, Indiana, for what is being called our first Regional AMiA Reunion. The dates are September 17 and 18. The theme will be Firm Foundations. It will take place at Heartland Church in Fort Wayne and the **members of that church have offered to house anyone who asks**. There will be two days of great teaching by:

Bishop Chuck Murphy  
Bishop Thad Barnum  
Bishop Doc Loomis  
and Worship Director Andy Piercy

Here is the web site that has been set up for the event:

<http://docloomis.com/hona/registration.html>.

On that web site you will find the hour by hour schedule, information on the speakers, how to find the location in Fort Wayne, an opportunity to sign up for housing in a home or nearby motel, and the registration form. **The registration cost is less than \$50 per person and will include supper on Friday and breakfast and lunch on Saturday**. On the web site there is even a short film of Bishop Doc describing the event.

**If you are not sure about how you would get to Fort Wayne**, talk to Dave or Karen Simmons who would like to encourage you to join them on what they are calling a *One Tank* trip to the Reunion. Contact Karen at [karenskitchen33@yahoo.com](mailto:karenskitchen33@yahoo.com) or call her cell at (248) 388-1510 to let her know of your plans to attend.

ONE MORE THING: The first **Evangelism Through the Local Church** class was held at the office last night. Here is part of the review that Dave sent me today: *We had a good group last night at the church office for our class. The discussion was lively and it was well received by all. The format was the same as Alpha. We gathered for some of Karen's yummy strawberry-pound cake with fresh strawberries and real whipped cream that was dripping with sugary sweetness (sorry, I got carried away there) and were all there by 7:00 pm. I gave the first lesson that covered some seminal definitions of Basic Christianity and Evangelism, and how we define these terms frames our Mission. I gave out copies of the book, Basic Christianity for reading for the next class, and we then broke out into group discussion, finishing with an informal questionnaire covering our experience with sharing the faith. We broke at 8:35 and all said it was edifying.*

It is not too late to start attending the class on Wednesday evenings in August, and I hope that more of you will be there for the next class on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

The lessons I will be preaching from on Sunday are printed below.

Yours in Christ,  
Allen

### 1 John 1:1-10

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life--the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us--that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

### PSALM 36

- 1 There is a voice of rebellion deep in the heart of the wicked; \*  
there is no fear of God before his eyes.
- 2 He flatters himself in his own eyes \*  
that his hateful sin will not be found out.
- 3 The words of his mouth are wicked and deceitful, \*  
he has left off acting wisely and doing good.
- 4 He thinks up wickedness upon his bed and has set himself  
in no good way; \* he does not abhor that which is evil.
- 5 Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, \*  
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,  
your justice like the great deep; \*  
you save both man and beast, O LORD.
- 7 How priceless is your love, O God! \*  
your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
- 8 They feast upon the abundance of your house; \*

- you give them drink from the river of your delights.
- 9 For with you is the well of life, \*  
and in your light we see light.
- 10 Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, \*  
and your favor to those who are true of heart.
- 11 Let not the foot of the proud come near me, \*  
nor the hand of the wicked push me aside.
- 12 See how they are fallen, those who work wickedness! \*  
they are cast down and shall not be able to rise.

John 8:12-28

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." So the Pharisees said to him, "You are bearing witness to yourself; your testimony is not true." Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness to myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge according to the flesh, I judge no one. Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone that judge, but I and the Father who sent me. In your law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me." They said to him therefore, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father; if you knew me, you would know my Father also." These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

So he said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek me and die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come." So the Jews said, "Will he kill himself, since he says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?" He said to them, "You are from below, I am from above. You are of this world, I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins." So they said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been telling you from the beginning. I have much to say about you and much to judge; but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." They did not understand that he spoke to them about the Father. So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority but speak just as the Father taught me.