



THE OPEN DOOR

June 2021

Pastor's Corner

Is God a charity?

When we consider our financial giving to the church, do we see this as charitable giving? On average in the United States each person donates 2.1% of their income to "charity." In Edinburg, our average income level is \$50,000 at 2.1% giving that would amount to a gift of \$20 weekly ($50,000 \times .021$ then divide by 52). But giving to God is *faith* giving- not charity. In Genesis 28, "Jacob rose early in the morning and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. Then Jacob made a vow saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you." Notice the if-then statement. Also notice that Jacob seeks something from God. It wasn't charity- it was security, protection, sustenance - one could even call it reward. Jacob set up faith giving. Something we give to God with recognition that God blesses the gift. There are plenty of examples from the Bible about faith giving. Jesus talks a ton about money too. Have you examined your faith giving amount lately? I feel it fairly unlikely that reading this quick letter will convict you to examine years of charity giving vs faith giving. Please note this is NOT a plea for the church budget- this is a plea for your life. God blesses those who trust and are obedient and give. God wants our whole heart and we show that we trust and are obedient with our money much more than any other aspect of our lives. The book that helped convict me is called "You of Little Faith" by Ryan Thomas. I'll loan you my copy if you are willing to dare yourself to give by faith and trust that God provides more than enough.

"Autopsy of a Church:

Discovering Life through death" worship series will begin on July 13th. During this worship series, we will examine how and why churches cease to exist and what we can do about preventing church death.

Scripture references for the following weeks:

13-Jun Acts 20:24

20-Jun Matthew 28: 16-29

27-Jun 1 Corinthians 10:24

4-Jul Proverbs 29:18

11-Jul Isaiah 40:31 & 2 Corinthians 4:16

18-Jul Acts 1:8



Volunteers are still needed!!!!

Are you willing and able to help with VBS this summer?

July 12-15, 2021

VBS brings joy and Jesus to so many children and as a volunteer you'll be amazed at what you will receive as well!!!!

Please email Sara Kinter at slkmx21@aol.com or text/call her at 330-687-6867.



Congratulates to Maxwell Finney on his Eagle Scout award. The Court of Honor was held on 25 May at Edinburg Park and was a terrific ceremony.

Max installed 2 Little Libraries (here at the church and one in Charlestown) to help literacy in our area. Thank you Max for your efforts, your dedication to Scouting and congratulations again on achieving Eagle.



**Congratulations
to all the
2021
graduates**

Congratulations to Danielle and Ryan Zimmerman on the birth of their second child, Kane Ryan Zimmerman born on 19 May (7 pounds 2 ounces). Proud grandparents Mary and Dwayne Kaley. Welcome to the world Kane- we can't wait to meet you!



Rose Victoria Schiraldi was born on 10 April to proud parents Meghan and Andrew Schiraldi and heartily welcomed by big sister Mary Ann. Congratulations!



Karen & Jay Brown	June 2
Linda & Ian Shaw	June 7
Lee and Jim Schmitz	June 9
Sara & Scott Kinter	June 10
Megan & Josh Gray	June 13
Denis & Terry Tatgenhorst	June 13
Mike & Jen Thames	June 22
Michelle & Steve Dorsey	June 27
Crystal & Mark Pirri	June 27
Lisa & Brian Kinter	June 29

Rebecca Nezbeth (Evans)	June 9
Jo Anne Zeigler	June 9
Barbara Rohn	June 10
Lori Knapp	June 11
Mazwel Finney	June 15
Harold Bradfield	June 16
Tyler Brown	June 21
Barb Hillegas	June 22
Sandra Ulbricht	June 23
Beth Lange	June 24
Terri Davis	June 25
Ryland Gray	June 25
Rylee Dysert	June 30
Cheryl O Connor	June 30