

Weekly Services

Sunday	Bible Class	10:00am
	Worship	11:00am
Mid-Week Study	@ the Building	6:30pm

Happening Soon

Online Contribution – Troy C of C has set up an online contribution site, please see Duane for details

Mid-Week Study to resume on Wednesday, November 4th
6:30pm @ the Building

Movie Night – Friday, November 20th
Movie Title – TBD

Do Unto Others...Closet
Saturday, October 24th
9:00 – 11:00 am @ the Building
Please note there will be new procedures in place.

Our endeavor to open the Do Unto Others...Closet has already made an impact on our community. Every month we have increased our numbers and met new folks from the community, that are in need. To continue though, we need to consider ways to restock our shelves. Donations are always welcome, and we appreciate all our members and visitors that are able to help.

***Our people must learn to devote
themselves to doing
what is good, in order to provide to urgent needs
and not live unproductive lives.
Titus 3:14***



Welcome October 18, 2020

Today's Service:

Sermon: Bob Shaver
Songs: Duane Cefalu
Communion: Duane Cefalu

Inspiration:

*“For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come
knowledge and understanding.”*

Proverbs 2:6

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Gail Apfel will be traveling back to Florida this week

Continued Prayers for:

Our country and the upcoming election

Nick's Father

Visit our website for a complete list of prayer requests.

 troychurch.org

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Expiration Date

In a place where "first come—first serve" is a frequently-overlooked principle, I discovered cans of soup, vegetables, and other assorted items which had long since passed their expiration dates. These were cans continually pushed to the rear by new arrivals. They looked perfectly normal, except for that expiration date stamped on the bottom. I wondered out loud if they might still be of use but was quickly corrected of that misguided notion.

Few things are as commonplace or as tragic as missed opportunities. Visions of expiration dates come to mind as we hear Paul say, "So then while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith" (Gal. 6:10). "While we have opportunity" suggests that today's opportunities may no longer be available tomorrow. Opportunities have expiration dates. Jesus said, "We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work" (Jn. 9:4).

Doors once open to the gospel can suddenly slam shut, leaving us alone with our feelings of regret. On the other hand, taking advantage of the opportunities God provides produces great rejoicing. Upon returning to Antioch following their first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas reported all the "things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles" (Acts 14:27).

Paul's life was marked by his earnest desire to take advantage of opportunities placed before him through the providence of God. Even in the midst of conflict, Paul wrote to the church at Corinth explaining his decision to remain in Ephesus. He said, "a wide door for effective service has opened to me..." (1 Cor. 16:9). When we feel shut in and isolated because of restrictions placed upon us because of the pandemic, we should consider the fact that, when Paul wrote the Colossian brethren from a Roman prison, His primary concern was not for his physical or emotional well-being but that his brethren should pray that God would "open up...a door for the word..." (Col. 4:3). According to Solomon, the whole of life is to "fear God and keep His commandments" (Eccl. 12:13). In many respects, life is one gigantic opportunity to fulfill that purpose. Like sojourners, we are marching along life's path either taking advantage of opportunities or shoving them to the back until they are no longer viable. As a commendation from the Lord, "Well done" is an expression that will never grace our ears if good intentions are not followed by effective service.

Each day brings opportunity. Each day draws us nearer to our eternal destiny (Rm. 13:11). For each one of us, it is "appointed...to die once and after this comes judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Likewise, for each of us, there is an expiration date known only in the mind of God. Our times are in His hands (Ps. 31:15), so teach us, Lord, to "number our days" (Ps. 90:12).

Glen Elliot
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