

March Pastor's Page continued

First you have opening day of baseball. It's almost like a holiday for baseball fans, myself included. It's a new season and so for the first few weeks your team, my team has a chance to compete and maybe make a run for the series (granted I am a diehard Pirate's fan and my excitement and hope tends to die out after the first few weeks BUT they always have a shot at the beginning).

Flowers and trees show signs of new life. For the past 4 months or so our trees and plant life have been dormant and so there has been little sign of life. But come March we start to see flowers bloom and trees bud and we see that they have life in them. And that life just brings so much color and fresh smells that seem to lift our spirits.

Animals give birth to young. In a few months we will see baby animals. Bunnies, deer, cows, bears... the little ones are full of life and if we take time to watch them they make us smile in how they act.

Easter comes in the spring time and with the onset of Easter we find ourselves coming out of the solemn time of Lent and into the joyous time of the resurrection of Christ. With Easter we look at how we have a newness in life when we accept Christ into our hearts. When we accept Christ we are made into a new creation. We now are not beings who live according to the world we are now beings who live according to the way Christ lived. We are changed inside and out. Our hearts are warmed, our souls sing for joy, and we have a great sense of peace. All of this comes from the new life we have with Christ.

Our church can have a springtime moment also. Lately the churches in our area have been slipping in attendance. No matter the denomination or faith, all churches around us have been losing attenders. Not because people are upset at the pastor or even at the members of the church but because we have gotten caught up in other things. We have been distracted with life and so church and worship has taken the back burner. Our ministerium is praying for a revival in our area. We are asking God to move mightily in our area and in the lives of the people in our area. We are asking God to put a burning desire in the hearts of all people (those who attend worship, those who have left, and those who have never stepped foot in a church) to know HIM and grow closer to HIM. We are asking God to fill our churches.

I am confident that if we ALL pray for a revival we will see it. It's been done in the past and God is one who is constant, which means it can, no it WILL happen again. So I urge you to pray 2min or more a day for growth in our church. As we have been praying for the past three years we want growth in growing closer to the Holy Spirit, we want growth in mission/outreach, we want growth in attendance, and growth in finances. We also want revival in our town. Ask God to move MIGHTLY in our town ask HIM to put a burning desire in the hearts of all people to come and know HIM and Christ better. Ask God to bring them to our church. But also ask God to make us a people who will love all who come into our building. If God is putting a desire in the hearts of others to know HIM they better see HIM in our words and actions. We want them to feel welcome and at home in our building so that they may come back each week to know God and grow closer to Christ with each week.

May God bless you in all that you do,

May God Bless You in all that you do

***Pastor Sharon***