

The Challenger

Ministerial Staff

Fred Harris, Pastor • Ted Pate, Associate Pastor

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Reaching people, touching lives, and growing together in Christ's love.

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NO. 7-8

I tried desperately to think of an inspirational thought that could encourage us all to march through the rest of the summer with spirits of joy and faithfulness, but I'm afraid only one thought keeps swirling around in my mind.

I miss my dad.

If you would allow me, I would even go as far as to say it wouldn't hurt my feelings a bit if God drug him down from the streets of gold and put him back on his feeding tube and breathing machine just so I could enjoy his company and conversation again.

“Fred, that's so selfish!” True. *“Your dad would wring your neck if God brought him back just because you're being such a whiner baby!”* And I'm totally okay with that. I would gladly apologize to him (with my fingers crossed behind my back) if only God would bring him here and give me the chance. But God is not going to answer my desire (for which my dad is eternally grateful) so I am left with two primary thoughts instead. 1) My dad's not coming back to me, I can only go to him. 2) Someday, I AM going to go to him and I'm going to go through the same doorway of Death that he walked through, like it or not, exercise and bran muffins or not, so I better be ready. Am I?

One of the rather unpleasant tasks that my brother, Tedd, and I are facing is removing my dad's name from everything he ever owned and operated in order to put it into the hands of someone else simply because they're still among the living and he is not: house, car, bank accounts, cell phone, utilities, retirement, etc. Someday, all of us kids are going to have to go through his treasures in the garage that are sentimentally valuable to us and make the decision of whether or not we should keep them since we're quite sure they won't be all that sentimentally valuable to future generations. Will the next generation or their children be all that concerned with how long my dad taught in Winslow or whether or not he began this party called “Because We Care”? Probably not. If my dad placed the value of his life upon everything he owned and operated and how many plaques he earned, his was a sad wasted life indeed because ABSOLUTELY NONE of it followed him. However, if he spent his years valuing his relationship with Jesus and his opportunities to share Him with others through whatever means God placed in front of him – well, he's STILL reaping the rewards of those ones and he always will.

Are those the same goals with everlasting rewards I'm pursuing? Most of the time. Please God, keep me on task so I'll get better. May He do the same for you so that we can all share the experience I'm sure my dad will have where he gets to hear Jesus say, “Well done, good and faithful servant. You were faithful with a little, therefore I can trust you with what's eternal!”

In His Grip,

Pastor Fred



Sunday, July 15th will be the Baptism Service at Clear Creek! On this day, there will be no Sunday School and the service will start at 10:30am. Cookout to follow. The church will provide hot dogs and burgers, but please bring a heat sustainable side dish to share.

*The bus will be available if you need a ride. It will leave at 10:00 sharp...don't be late!!!

Sunday, July 29th is the FIFTH SUNDAY and we will have a noon potluck followed by a Quarterly Update meeting. Please bring a dish to share and stay and be informed about what is happening within the Church.

Fifth
Sunday



Saturday, August 4th 1pm - 7pm
Free Worship concert Eagle Pavilion
For a schedule of events, please call
the Church office, or Robert Smith
587-0313

End of Summer Pool Party

Sunday, August 19th 5:00-7:00

Winslow Outdoor Pool

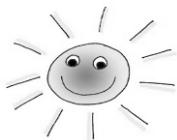
The church will provide hotdogs and burgers.

Please bring a side dish to share...and
desserts are always welcomed!!!

OUTDOOR POOL



May the Lord bless you and
protect you; may the Lord
make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
~Numbers 6:24-25



SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

Friday, July 27th 11:30am

at the Falcon

Friday, August 17th 11:30am

Progressive Luncheon. See

Pastor Ted for details.



Seniors'
Luncheon

AWANA NEWS

8/22 & 8/29 - AWANA

signups will be held in RM.

103A in the Education building.

9/5- AWANA first club night

at 6pm. Meet in Sanctuary.

*If you are interested in
helping with AWANA this
upcoming year, please contact
Robert or Debbie Smith
587-0313

Join us for the
Return of
Marquez Laughlin
As he presents
"Acts of the Word"
Sunday, August
12th at 6pm in
the Sanctuary.
Bring a friend!!

First Priority Club at Winslow
High School invite you and
your family to join us in a Back
to School Prayer Walk
**Sunday, July 22nd, at 4:00
pm**, starting at the Police
Department, proceeding to all
district schools, and ending at
the District Office. More
information to follow.

