



Friends,

I always find it a "God Thing" when it comes to how the sermon topic or sermon series lines up with the reality of what happens during the week in the church or what happens in the lives of people. The sermon always seems to speak into the situation being experienced. This past week we talked about dealing with fear, anxiousness, and worry. We said that too often we forget to guard our hearts and our minds from the turmoil of anxiousness. Paul reminds us that we are not to be anxious about anything in Philippians 4:6-7. So then why are we anxious? It is because we fail to pray, and present our requests to God who will and does guard our hearts and minds. Prayer ends up being the last resort instead of the first thing we should do when we are under attack.

I know life for all of us can get crazy, and I may be biased, but in my years in ministry, and my observation of my colleagues, and my own personal experience, the job of the Pastor is one where he or she is subjected to their share of criticism and constant negative talk behind the scene. Obviously this kind of constant assault at any level, on anybody, is uncalled for and certainly has no place in the life of the church. As your pastor, I am certainly not spared this kind of behavior, and at time it becomes overbearing, but as I said last week, the first defense is to pray, so that God can guard my heart and my mind from such attacks.

Unfortunately when this kind of behavior is manifested, the body fails to follow what it says in Matthew 18:15. It says if you have a problem, go to that person one on one. Not on face book, not on social media, not on e-mail, and probably not on the phone, and before you go, you need to pray so you can resolve whatever you may be upset over. Picking up your toys and disappearing without a conversation, or spreading your discontent with others, or asking others to join your side so you can "win," does not say a lot about our Christian witness as brothers and sisters who are to be unified as one in Christ. Here is the point: this undue assault of criticism, the spreading of half-truths, untruths, and negative and hurtful talk, is not good. It is especially not good when it is shared to hurt people. Scripture is full of instructions about slander, gossip, and negative talk that does nothing but cause anxiousness, fear, and worry among the body of Christ.

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So as followers of Jesus, here are some suggested ways in which to handle this problem, no matter what profession.

- 1) The way to deal with the assault of negative talk that brings anxiousness, worry and fear is to first start with prayer. It is prayer that will guard your heart and your mind from the ugliness of gossip and negative talk.
- 2) As you pray, allow God to take Captive any Thoughts that are not of God. Pause and offer grace to the person who may have offended you. Consider finding out, if it is second hand knowledge, what the true story might be. Pray about having a one-on-one conversation with that person.
- 3) After considering what I said in number 2, and it does not seem to be working, then "**Give it all to God for what you Cannot do.**" Consider taking it to the next step as Matthew 18:16 says: Take a second person and sit down and work it out. Continue to Pray and turn over to God for what you cannot do.
- 4) Trust God, no matter what. Keeping trusting, Keep praying, Keep your lips sealed, and do not spread gossip, because all that does is hurt people. Unfortunately "hurt people" hurt people. So trust God to resolve this problem, but do not cause harm to your brother or sister whom, as a follower of Jesus, you claim to love.

As we learned last week, it is **Prayer that moves the heart of God and it is Prayer that changes the chemistry in your brain.** In other words, prayer changes and renews your mind and your heart, which is what will guard your heart and mind from speaking and spreading hurt. So make prayer the first and the last thing you do constantly so you will guard your heart and mind from the anxiousness, hurt, fear, and worry, of those who may want to hurt you.

Last Thought: "**If you do not control what you think, you will never control what you do.**" Think about what you think about and make Prayer the first thing you think about, and I guarantee that you will then control what you do.

WEEKEND WORSHIP

This weekend we will look at how "It is all in your mind." We will consider how we might evaluate our minds. Are they negative or more positive? How can you know whether you are one or the other? Attitude goes a long way as to how you deal with the struggles in life. Join me as we look at ways we can deal with our own negativity and the negativity of others. Hear what Jesus has to say to this issue in our lives. I look forward to your presence this weekend in worship.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Ash Wednesday Service will be held on Wednesday, March 6th, at 7:00 pm. I hope you will set that time aside as we begin the season of Lent. This marks the 40 days leading up to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. This service will set the table for you to begin to think about the love and sacrifice Jesus offers and gives to each of us as a gift of eternal life. I hope you will make time for this important service as we begin the Lenten Season of preparation leading us to the cross, but then to the celebration of the resurrection.

Hope to see you this weekend as we continue in part five of our series: "Reframing Your Thinking." Have a great day and may God continue to lead you and direct your every foot step.

Blessings,
Pastor David

Stephen Ministries

Celebrate Recovery



FEBRUARY 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

ALL MEETINGS ARE PUBLIC WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SPRC

FRIDAY- February 22, 2019

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery (S)

SATURDAY- February 23, 2019

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
2:30 p.m. Celebrate Ldrship (RM 13)

SUNDAY - February 24, 2019

9:00 a.m. Traditional (Sanctuary)
9:15 a.m. Upper Room (RM 8)
10:30 a.m. Contemporary (S)
10:30 a.m. Kennedy Discussion RM 8)
6:30 p.m. Scouts roop 415 (T)

MONDAY - February 25, 2019

7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal (C)

TUESDAY - February 26, 2019

6:00 p.m. Praise Team (S)
6:30 p.m. Cubs Pack 415 (T)
6:30 p.m. Finance (RM 13)

WEDNESDAY- February 27, 2019

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
2:30 p.m. UMW Board Mtg
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (RM 22)
6:30 p.m. Church Council (C)

THURSDAY - February 28, 2019

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store



Remember to stop by and sign the prayer cards on Sunday morning. Then if you would, take the time to write a personal note of encouragement to these persons as well. The Care Notes are available at the table on Sundays. Thanks for serving and caring together as the CRUMC family of faith.

Five Day Academy is slated for Mar. 10-15

A Journey of Life and Love Together will be held March 10-15 at the Florida Five Day Academy in March at the Life Enrichment Retreat Center in Fruitland Park, near Leesburg.

It's a retreat for lay and clergy of all denominations to deepen their relationship with God and live as faithful servants in the world.

Presenters include Steve West and Kathryn Damiano. West is a graduate of Candler School of Theology and serves in the North Alabama Conference. His focus will be communion and spiritual formation.

Damiano, a Quaker and lifelong contemplative and spiritual director, sees her ministry as working for peace and justice through spiritual formation.

More information and registration are available at <http://www.flumc.org/fivedayacademy>

Dear Folks, this is Karen Janota. I love Academy! It is a different kind of spiritual growth experience, held at the LEC in Fruitland Park. I know both of these presenters, and I know that you will be blessed by both the content and the people who share the experience with you.

All the info you need can be gotten by going to the link above, but if you need to know more, give me a call at 270-3353. I hope some of you can go. Blessings, Karen.

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

8:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels (K)

9:30 p.m. Worship Design (RM 13)

10:00 a.m, SM Supervision

6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (C)

7:00 4H (Y)

FRIDAY- March 1, 2019

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store 9

a.m. - 4 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery (S)

SATURDAY- March 2, 2019

Our Fathers Table

Divinely Unique Thrift & Gift Store

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

2:30 p.m. Celebrate Ldrship (RM13)

if you have a change or cancellation of a regularly scheduled meeting/Bible Study, please be sure to call the front office with your information so that our calendars remain current.

Thank You!

Sanctuary- (S)

Bethel Chapel- (BC)

Choir Room- (C)

Tabernacle- (T)

Kitchen- (K)

Please Contact The Church Office for a Listing at 795-3148



Bright Beginnings Learning Academy is Accepting Applications for Kindergarten, First & Second Grade. To apply call

MARCH 20TH @ 6:30



JOIN US IN THE SANCTUARY

352/795-1240



Preschool Hours are 6:30
a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Infants through VPK

Now enrolling for VPK
2018/2019 School Year
VPK Hours
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
with wrap care available

Call 352-795-1240
Lic# C05C10049

facebook

Please don't Forget



To complete and return your

*Estimate of Giving
Commitment Card*

*Extra commitment cards can be found at
the connection point or by going to
www.crumc.com/giving.asp*

**OFFICE
HOURS**

MON - THURS
9 A.M. - 12 P.M.
Closed Fridays



THE DISCOVERY GROUP IS SPONSORING

SOS DINNER #3

TO HELP FUND ELECTRIC BILL AND TO UP-
GRADE CRUMC SANCTUARY LIGHTING

100% of the proceeds will go to this effort

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019

TIME: 5:30 – 7:00 PM

CRUMC SANCTUARY

Menu: Pulled pork served with rolls, assorted salads, cole-
slaw and desserts

Beverages: Water, iced tea, lemonade and coffee

Donation: \$10 per person.

Children under 10 eat free.



February 26
Thomas Kennedy

If we have missed your
Birthday, please contact the
Care Team at

careteam@crumc.com



February 6
Patricia & Gerry Schabruch

February 10
Jenny & Ron Bass

February 14
Judy & Terry Leavitt

February 18
Justine & Jerry Storey

If we have missed your
anniversary, please
contact the Care Team at

careteam@crumc.com

Divinely Unique Thrift Store



5015 N. Citrus Ave • Crystal River, FL 34428

(352) 436-2221

Wed thru Fri 9 - 4

Saturday 9 - 1



Answering God's call
to serve others

A Ministry of Crystal River United Methodist Church



Our Nomads are here.

Please show your support and gratitude



for all that they do for our church by signing up to provide and serve lunch. Available dates for lunches can be signed up for at the Connection Point or by calling the front office!

FEBRUARY 27TH
@ 6:30

church council
MEETING

IN THE CHOIR ROOM

Share Our Spirit



Sign up for a four week learning experience @ the connection point



Do you love discussing Scripture and offering your thoughts on it?

Then we have the perfect class for you!

9:15 a.m.-Upper Room Jesus Fellowship (Room 8)

10:30 a.m. - Kennedy Discussion Class (Room 8)

We can't wait to see you there!



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Our Congregational Care Team helps to connect people in the congregation through visitation, phone calls, emails, & correspondence. If you have a need, please call the office @ 352-795-3148 or email careteam@crumc.com



Join us every Friday night for Celebrate Recovery. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. Worship follows shortly after at 7 p.m. following with small groups

All are welcome to



Mrs. Ruth and CRUMC received a letter from the Salvation Army thanking her for the collection of \$2,938.04 during the week she recruited all of us to "ring the bell" for the Red Kettle at Publix

The Salvation Army Bell Ringer
Appreciation Breakfast:
March 1st 8:00 A.M.
@ the Homosassa UMC



**Get Your Copy @ The
Connection Point**

attend.

**Free child care is available -
please call the church office
to make arrangements!**

Click to like
(Click banner below)



Stephen Ministry is an ongoing ministry to meet the needs of persons going through a crisis or in need of care.

Stephen Ministers provide one-on-one confidential Christian Care giving to those in need. To refer yourself or someone else, call Judy Leavitt
@ 352-746-7716.

Stephen Ministers meet every fourth Thursday of each month for continuing education and supervision.

[To view the best version of the message, please click here](#)

4801 N Citrus Ave, Crystal River, FL 34428

352-795-3148

<http://www.crumc.com>

