

Healthy Competition

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Romans 12:10 ESV



I have always been a naturally competitive person. No matter what I am doing, I want to be the first, fastest or best. I can make a competition out of anything: washing the dishes – I finished faster than you did last night; folding laundry - I folded quicker and better (is there really a better way) than I did last time; driving – I'm going to make it off the line or to the next red light before the guy next to me. I pass people because, well, I can. I even compete when eating – I finished my meal before you did, and I ate more (as I think about this, it probably isn't a good thing).

Sara is competitive too. In fact, we've learned throughout our marriage that we have to be careful to not let our competitive natures and desire to win take over. (This is why we no longer play chess. We received a beautiful chess set as a wedding gift and got in the habit of playing a few games every evening. After a few weeks and increasing levels of trash talking, and maybe a few pieces flying across the room in either celebration or frustration, we decided that for the health of our marriage we would stop playing chess against one another.)

Being competitive isn't necessarily a bad thing. When I was a student I tried to get the best grades in my class and have the highest GPA possible. While this might have created some stressful nights, it also led to academic success. Competing with ourselves can drive us to improve ourselves and our performance in many areas – academics, work, fitness, eating habits, spiritual disciplines, etc.

I think part of our competitive nature (or at least my competitive nature) comes from a natural tendency to compare ourselves with others. We do this in an effort to determine our self-worth, to judge areas where we are successful and things we need to work on improving. Competitiveness and some comparisons can be healthy, as long as we don't focus too much on others and start viewing everything through the lens of winners and losers.

My Bible verse of the day today, the above verse from Romans, gave me a different perspective on competition. I am not very familiar with the English Standard Version of Scripture, but I was struck by the way it puts this verse: "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor." What a great outlet for competitiveness! Compete with others to see who can love other people the most. Try to out-love others. What a cool idea! Instead of trying to shine above, one-up or simply keep up with (those darned Joneses), what if we simply tried to honor and love other people and be the best in that pursuit? Or, if we still have to be competitive (because, if I'm honest, I do), what if I simply try today to love and honor others better than I did yesterday? What a great example I would be of Christ's love and of Christian discipleship.

I invite you to spend some time this week thinking of ways you can "outdo one another in showing honor" and love.

Thank you for the opportunity to be your pastor and to be in ministry with you to an amazing God.

Blessings,

Chris

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 Services 8 & 10:00 am		1	2 Be an Angel Yoga 6:15 Women's Small Group 7:15	3 Men's Small Group 7pm	4	5 Hillcrest Work Day 8:00 am
6 Services 8 & 10:00 am Charge Confer. 2:00	7	8 Association Meeting 7:00	9 Yoga 6:15	10	11 Kids Mission Club	12
13 Services 8 & 10:00 am	14	15	16 Be an Angel Yoga 6:15 Women's Small Group 7:15	17	18	19
20 Services 8 & 10:00 am	21	22	23 Yoga 6:15	24 Men's Small Group 7pm	25	26 Lazarus Ministries
27 Services 8 & 10:00 am Trunk or Treat 3:00	28	29	30 Yoga 6:15 PPRC Meeting 7:30 pm	31 Happy Halloween		



Women's Small Group
1st & 3rd Wednesday
@7:15

*Contact Sara Snyder at sste-
 phenson.snyder@gmail.com*
OR text to 417-343-1124
to sign up!

UNLOCKING REVELATION

Men's Small Group
 1st & 3rd Thursday
 @ 7:00 pm

Ashley	Don McGowan
Les Case	Jerry Metcalfe
Sandy Case	Bob Necessary
Donna Casey	Don Raymond
Wade Davis	Steve Raymond
Janet Ford	Nancy Rowe
Winnie Fuerst	Larry Sparks
Harvey Geary	Cole Von Ohlen
Michael Hatfield	Dorothy Wilson
Karin (Spreitzer)	Irene Zabel
Anna McWhirt	



Join us for our Fellowship
Breakfast Sunday 29th at 9:00
Please bring your favorite
breakfast dish to share.
Everyone Welcome!

Congregation de Mellier
 Heart and Soul Children's
 Learning Center
 All Ministries
 of the Church

SAVE THE DATE

**COMING
 UP**

Annual Church
Charge Conference
Sunday, October 6, 2 pm
Faith United Methodist
Church, Grain Valley



workday®

Hillcrest Apartment Work Day

Saturday October 5th 8:00 am
Help needed Rebuilding steps and decking
More info contact Dean Rohr 816-377-1110

We need Trunk or Treat Trunks

***Come decorate your trunk and enjoy a great
time with candy,
kids and games.***

***Sunday October
27th 3:00-4:30***

***Sign-up in
CONNECT area***



Thank You

We were able to create and deliver
41 Missouri Hygiene Kits for
Festival Sharing through your
generous donations of
\$ 360.00

Through bulk buying we were able to
make each kit for less than \$10.00
each. These kits will be much appre-
ciated by those who receive them in
the coming year.

Thanks again to a very generous
congregation.