

Cliffnotes ~ November 2009

St. Peter Lutheran
Student Ministry
17051 24 Mile Road
Macomb, MI 48042
586-992-9816
586-992-9817 (fax)
bchapman@splcs.com

A note from Bo ...

He laid out the stats one by one. It wasn't a pretty sight. Right before our eyes the numbers flashed with the news we had dreaded hearing. Something was wrong. His claim? The church is broken.

That was the premise that apologist Tony Horvath laid out for us as he spoke on "The Top 5 Things Killing Christianity." The research he shared with us was numbing. Numbers like in the last decade 10% fewer people in America consider themselves Christian. In other words, a reduction of some 30 million people.

Then he shared other numbers like statistics showing a mass exodus of our kids from the faith. Kids who

have grown up in the church and are now rejecting their faith.

And the list went on. Something is wrong. The church is broken.

This kind of news is hard to hear because we have the greatest news of all to share. The good news of Jesus Christ. Yet, very real problems exist within the faith today.

So, the question becomes, "If the church is broken, what do we need to do to fix it?"

I listened to Tony's top 5 things and my mind really held onto to some of them. Real issues that we can address right here, right now. Of course, none of it is popular. None of it will give people a tingly sensation inside. It will require a lot of prayer, a

heart of change, and a sincere desire to move forward.

Will you join me?
Can we move forward together?
Because the faith is that important, let us faithfully be that salt and light in this world.

Peace,
Bo

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"Within the next 10-20 years, most of the main-line churches will be appropriately down on their knees praying for their own survival."

Dr. David Tracy as quoted in the Sunday Mail, as reported by Ken Ham in Already Gone. (pg 17)



SPRINGHILL RETREAT ...

When: January 22-24th

Where: SpringHill Retreat Center (Ewart, MI)

Who: High School Students

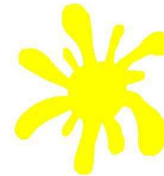
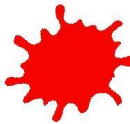
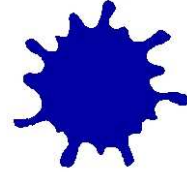
Why: A great weekend to getaway with friends, slide down the inner tube hill of death, play broomball, and grow spiritually like never before. And that is just the beginning!

Misc: (1) We have reserved 20 spots for students. Once they are gone, I can't guarantee that additional spaces will be available.

(2) The cost of the retreat is \$140 which includes transportation, lodging, four meals, and most of what SpringHill has to offer (band, speaker, tubing, etc.)

(3) A nonrefundable deposit of \$75 is due to reserve a spot. The remaining balance will be due the Sunday before we take off.

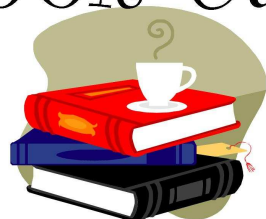
(4) Any questions? Contact Bo at bchapman@splcs.com or at 586-992-9816.



7/8th Grade Students

Tuesday night, November 10th, we have the opportunity to help the Macomb Charitable Foundation by moving a gazillion books from one end of the church to the other. Moving all of these books will help the MCF prepare for their used book sale which will in turn help out several families in need within our community. Meet me at the church "crossroads" at 7p.m.

Book Sale



**Thanks in advance for
making a difference.**

7/8 Grade Semi-Formal Dance

Friday night, December 11th

7:30—10:00 p.m.

Dancing, food & drinks, prizes, and all your friends

\$7 admission

(tickets go on sale Nov 30th in the church office)

Friends are welcome with a ticket

Dress code:

Guys: Tie, Slacks, dress shoes, and dress shirt

Ladies: Dress up



**Student
Led
Advent
Service**

Wednesday, December 2nd

7:00 p.m.

Main Sanctuary

Come and join us as we lead the congregation in a time of worship. Also, if you would like to be a part of the evening (greeters, readers, musicians, etc.) contact Bo at bchapman@splcs.com or by phone at 586-992-9816.

*Laugh
Out
Loud
8*

March 26th

*How can you help
make a great event
even better?
Stay tuned for more
information on how
your involvement
can make a ton of
difference for HIS
Rock and our
student ministry.*

Coming your way in the next few weeks will be the information you need to start planning for our summer mission trips next summer.



Already we know that we are heading to Brooklyn from July 17-24th. We are currently working on our June trip which will probably take us to the Gulf Coast for home repair. Tentative dates are June 13-19th. As always, this is a pinnacle time of the year for us to take the things we have been doing in our church and community and move it into the world at large. We are about making a difference and want you to join us in the adventure.

**Facebook page
happening this
month! Check us out.**



Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving! May we never forget the blessings that our Lord and Savior has bestowed upon us. May it touch our lives so much that we can't help but share it with other people. Amen!