



DCPC Faith and Families Newsletter February 2, 2018

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Letter from Robert

Transformation and Groundhog Day

Dear Friends,

Perhaps you have seen the movie *Groundhog Day*. It is a classic tale of the transformation of a person from cold and selfish tendencies to warm, loving, and selfless tendencies. It is a great follow-up to this past Sunday's sermon theme which had to do with how we use and/or abuse power.

In the movie, Phil, who is a very egocentric and selfish individual, re-lives the same day until he learns the message of love. The good news of selfless love breaks the endless cycle of winter in his heart and opens the way to spring, new growth, and transformation. This is the gospel story. God's love also breaks the cycle of cold hard-heartedness and opens the way to renewed relationships that are based in love and mercy.

How does this transformation need to happen in our own hearts and our own homes? Where have we abused our power and position as parents? How have we used our energy to focus more on our own wants and needs than on the needs of others in our home?

Groundhog Day is as good a day as any to light a candle and say a prayer – asking God to change your heart – thawing it out from something cold and self-

centered to something warm and filled with love for others. May spring come early for all of us.

To God be the Glory!

Robert

UPCOMING STUFF

For Parents: Playing for Keeps

We will not meet this week due to the Super bowl.

Each Sunday evening at 5:30 a special Parents Group gathers in the DCPC Parlor with the goal of helping us regain some balance in priorities and invest wisely in our children over the course of time. Parents Group meets 5:30–6:30 pm in the parlor (or get started with dinner at 5 pm). You can find some other great resources for regaining balance by [clicking here](#).

Mission Opportunities

Spring Break PDA Mission Trip – April 2–6, 2018 – Columbia, SC. Families are invited to consider spending their spring break in service to others. Greg and Holly Moton, along with their two children, are leading a trip to work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in Columbia, SC. Children need to be age 14 or older. If you would like to learn more about this mission opportunity, please contact Holly Moton at hollymoton@bellsouth.net or 704–604–8426.

Nicaragua Partnership Trip – This summer we will return to visit our partners in Kilambe, Nicaragua June 15–23. The trip is open to those who have completed the 9th grade through adulthood. Would you like to join us this year? Come to an Information Session this coming Sunday (February 4th) at 12:15 pm (right after 11 a.m. worship) in the DCPC Parlor and learn more or contact Robert Alexander at ralexander@dcpc.org.



If there are concerns or joys that you would like to have listed here please email me at ralexander@dcpc.org so that we might keep one another in prayer.

Mike Briggs – Mike is the stepfather of Stephanie Shryock. He is recovering from a recent stroke.

Family of Colin Bryan – We pray for Col and his family following the death of his father.

Judy Gabel – Judy is the mother of Meredith Harris. She is recovering from a recent shoulder injury.

Margaret Jones – Margaret is the mother of Kelly Pharr. She has recently been diagnosed with cancer.

Michelle Malushizky – Michelle is David's sister-in-law. She has Stage 4 liver cancer and is also recovering from a very serious infection.

Jeff Osman – We continue to pray for Jeff and his family as he awaits a possible liver transplant.

Sheila Spack – Sheila is the mother of Steve Chaffin. She has been hospitalized with several health concerns.

Bart Tritch – Bart is Rachel Lewis' brother. He has been dealing with a number of health concerns and is currently hospitalized.

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