



The Buzz

November 17, 2022

Living for Jesus Means Walking with Jesus

"No good thing does he withhold for those whose walk is blameless." -Psalm 84:11

When people die and are buried, special words are often written on their tombstone or grave marker. These words are called an epitaph. They are usually kind words about the person who is buried there. For instance, Thomas Jefferson has inscribed on his gravestone, "Here was buried Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence of the Statute of Virginia for religious freedom. Father of the University of Virginia." Some people like to have a special Bible verse as their epitaph. What would you think could be inscribed on your tombstone? Maybe that's not a great thought, but what would you like to have written about you? What would you like to see as your epitaph?

Perhaps the grave marker of the man we are about to meet could have read: "He really enjoyed his walks." I said it "could have read" because there never was a tombstone for this man. That's because he never needed one. You see, this man never died. His name was Enoch.

We read about Enoch in Genesis chapter 5:18-24. Very little is mentioned about who he was. We don't know what work he did, or what his personality was like, but we do know one very interesting thing about Enoch: he enjoyed walking.

Enoch was born when Adam was only 622 years old. (Remember, Adam lived to be 930.) That meant Enoch probably knew Adam for about 300 years. Enoch's father, Jared, was 162 years old when Enoch was born. (Enoch was the father of Methuselah, the oldest person on record.) One might imagine that living among the great Bible fathers would mean that everyone believed in God back then, but that was not the case. Jude writes in the Bible, "*Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: 'See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him'*" (14,15). There is no doubt that Enoch lived among some very wicked people. Maybe it wasn't too different from our world today.

As was mentioned before, Enoch loved to walk. That is, he loved to walk with God. In other words, he loved to do what pleased the Lord. The Bible tells us that he walked with God for 365 years. After that, Enoch took one last walk, and the Bible says that he "*was no more*" (5:24). God took Enoch by the hand and walked him right into heaven!

That means that Enoch never died. He simply strolled through heaven's gates and came face-to-face with friends and family members he hadn't seen for years.

Why did God do that for Enoch? What kind of man was Enoch that caused God to treat him so special? Let's see if we can find the answer in the story of Enoch. Twice in the Genesis verses it says that "*Enoch walked with God.*" The writer of the book of Hebrews also wrote "*by faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God*" (11:5). Enoch stands as a monument to God's children. He spent all his life living for Jesus. What a great example for us to follow. We should try to walk in Enoch's footsteps.

Enoch never needed an epitaph on his gravestone because he was never buried. He simply disappeared. As God's children, we will all want to walk the path to heaven just as Enoch did. We can do that by living for Jesus every day of the year. And what better time than to begin this very day.

In Christ, Mike Allard, Principal @ St. John's

Thanksgiving Schedule: There will be no school for 3K-8th Grade Wednesday through Friday, November 23rd-25th, as we enjoy Thanksgiving break.

ELC Schedule: The ELC will be open for childcare on Wednesday, November 23rd. **The ELC WILL BE CLOSED Nov. 24th-25th.**

11/24-Thanksgiving Worship: We will be having a special Thanksgiving Day worship service on November 24th at 9:00 a.m. All of you are invited to join us for this special service as we give thanks to our gracious God for his continued grace and blessings to us

BB Practice: Our first basketball practice will be held on Tuesday, November 29th from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Winter Apparel Order: Online ordering is available for Hornet and ELC apparel. More long-sleeve options are available for winter, as well as a variety of T-shirts. Check out the color and logo options for many of the items on the website. Parents, if your child will be playing basketball, please order the black mesh shorts, which are to be worn during basketball games. All ordering must be done online. Deadline to order is Sunday, November 27 at 11:59 p.m. Items ordered will be here before Christmas.

The order link is:

<https://stjohn22wi.itemorder.com/>

Women's Advent Program: Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 4th! This year's Women's Advent program, being held at 2:00 p.m. in the church basement, is called "Countdown to Christmas." Using a Melissa & Doug Advent Calendar, it will provide a way for you and the child(ren) you love to bring a Christ-centered focus to your Christmas preparations. Moms are welcome to bring their children along. Invitations are available from the school office.

Cookie Decorating: Our Pioneer group will be having a special meeting on Wednesday, December 7th, at 5:30 to decorate cookies and make cards to be put into care packages for our shut-in members. Some supplies are needed: cut-out sugar cookies, white frosting, apples, oranges, string cheese, and fudge. If you are able to help by donating any of these items, please contact Mrs. Shadrick at 715-897-0903. Thank you!

12/18-K-8 Christmas Service &

12/20-3K/4K Christmas Service: All students are expected to participate in our children's Christmas services. We wanted to give parents a heads-up so that you can plan accordingly. This is part of our religion curriculum.

The service on Dec 18 will be at 9:00 a.m.

The service on Dec 20 will be at 6:00 p.m.

Winter Clothes: We will plan to go outside for recess most days during the winter, weather permitting. Please make sure to send along outdoor winter clothing with your children (snow pants, boots, hats, mittens/gloves, coats, etc.)

Upcoming Events

Thurs. Nov 17

Picture Retake Day

Sun. Nov 20

Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15 am

Bible Class 10:15 am

Tues. Nov 22

Worship 6:00 pm

Wed-Fri. Nov 23-25

No School-Thanksgiving Break

Thurs-Fri. Nov 24-25

ELC CLOSED

Thurs. Nov 24

Thanksgiving Worship
9:00 am

Sun. Nov 27

Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15 am

Bible Class 10:15 am

Mon. Nov 28

Dartball vs. Globe/Christie
7:00 pm

Tues. Nov 29

BB Practice 4:00-6:00

Worship 6:00 pm

Wed. Nov 30

Chapel 8:20 am

Thurs. Dec 1

BB Practice 4:00-6:00

Sun. Dec 4

Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15 am

Bible Class 10:15 am

Advent for Women
2:00 pm

Mon. Dec 5

Dartball @ Greenwood
7:30 pm

2023 Calendars for Sale: Living Stones Youth Group is selling beautiful 2023 calendars with inspirational Scripture verses and plenty of room for writing birthdays, appointments, etc. in the date squares. Get one for \$8 or two for only \$15. Get yours today before they're gone! Calendars are available in the school office. Make checks payable to Living Stones.

Early Learning Center Staff Positions Available: Is anyone interested in helping out our childcare a couple afternoons a week? We are looking for support staff that are friendly, work well with kids, and enjoy a fun laid back atmosphere! Parents have fit well into this position because your children will be welcome to come along or stay after school! Maybe you'll have to come back to pick up kids after sports practice? Why not just stay and help, play, and earn a small wage!

St. John's Early Learning Center has positions available for after school hours. After school caregivers assist teachers in supervision of children from 3:00-5:00pm. Position options are flexible. Must be at least 16 years old. Stop by the St. John's school office or contact Megan Allard 715-937-7535 or preschool@stjohnsneillsville.com if interested.

Thanks for considering!



Dani Shadrick

The student of the week is Dani Shadrick. Dani is in 5th Grade. She is polite and respectful, always ready to help out wherever she can, and participates well in class.

Congratulations Dani!

