

The Connection



Monthly Newsletter of South Point Community Church June 2021 – Volume 46

Father's Day Reflections by Tracy and J'Aime

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Deuteronomy 6:6-7

June is the month where we get the opportunity to celebrate the men in our lives on Father's Day and let them know how much we appreciate them and that we notice how hard they work to provide and take care of their families. As a mother of 2 young men and a wife to a hard-working man, I wish this was the message they heard all year long, but if you turn on the TV, they often portray fathers, and men in general, as being lazy and incompetent in many of the sitcoms. These cultural stereotypes are not okay; we need to remember to encourage all of the men in our lives all year long and remind them of how valuable they are to us. Below, you will find an article written by J'Aime about the importance of having a male figure in our lives to come alongside us and to teach us valuable life lessons.

Father's Day tends to be a touchy subject in my house. Less so now than in previous years, mostly because of Autumn's age and the fact that she's grown up knowing nothing except a single parent household. Every year in June while she was in grade school the children would be given their Father's Day crafts to complete and each teacher guided Autumn through the process with care and love, understanding that the craft was going to a grandfather in lieu of her dad.

June Dates

6 th	Drive in Worship 10:30 am
7 th	Women's Book Study Begins 7 pm
8 th	Prayer Walk 7 pm
13 th	Online Video
14 th	The Chosen Study Begins 7 pm
20 th	Happy Father's Day
20 th	In House Church 9, 11& 1
21 st	Women's Book Study 7 pm
27 th	Drive in Worship & Baptism 10:30
26 th	The Chosen Study 7 pm

Autumn has no memory of her father. What she has are pictures of her as a baby in the arms of a man she can't recall. Memories are shared with her, often through laughing tears. I am truly blessed in that my late husband's family remains close to me and we have that love that surrounds us. Seeing her laugh with her Avô brings joy to my heart and I know her presence brings comfort to his.

Despite our best attempts to keep memories alive I know Autumn is constantly confronted by the fact that she will never see her father's smile or hear his laugh. There is a chunk missing from her life and it's very difficult to admit that I can't do anything about it. Fortunately, God has a plan. We don't understand it, but it's there, working in our lives.

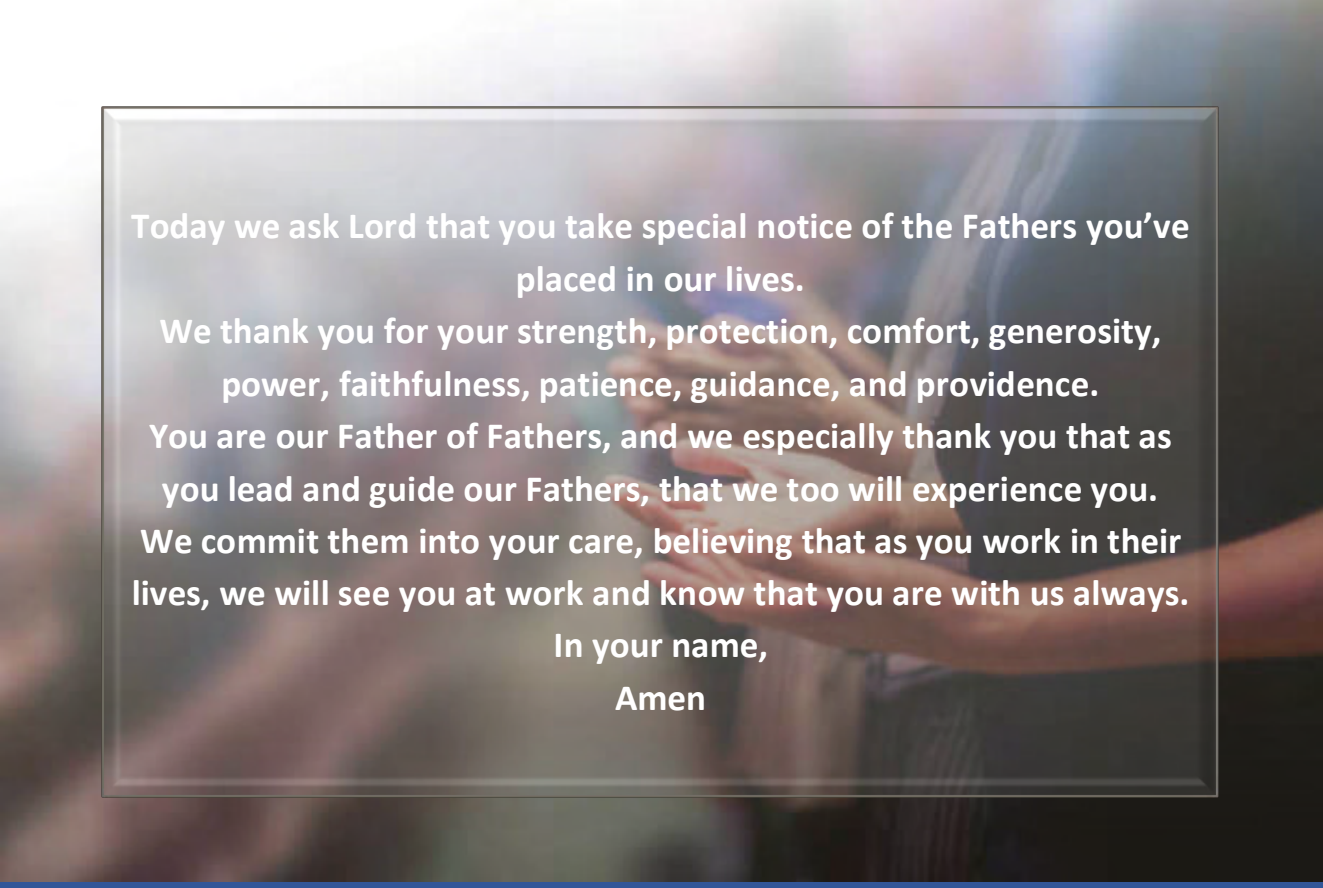
As I said with Mother's Day, it's not just about our earthly mother. As is the case with Father's Day, it's not just about our fathers. I am thankful every day for the men in our lives who have taken the time to walk beside us. Despite not having an earthly father Autumn has never been without strong father figures from whom she has learned so many valuable life lessons.

The Bible tells us that God knows us in the womb

(Jeremiah 1:5) and that we are all fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). He took the time with each of us to create something unique, beautiful, and worthy and He knows our hearts. His plan is so delicately interwoven that we'll never understand it all. He is our Heavenly Father. There is vast amount of comfort to be taken in the thought that God's plan covers it all. Even in our darkest hour there are blessings to be had (Matthew 5:3-12).

It sounds silly, but even the tiniest of life lessons, taught in earnest, are vastly important. Those little lessons are planting seeds that bloom into the flowers of wisdom. Men don't be afraid to reach out and share those lessons with the folks around you because your words and actions are valuable in ways you may not understand. Whether or not they realize it, Autumn's grandfathers have both, in their unique ways, taught her a bold and fearless way to love and live. They've also taught her a great many other very important life lessons like... don't over water your flowers and don't eat axle grease.

I pray for a safe and happy Father's Day for everyone. May God bless you all.



Today we ask Lord that you take special notice of the Fathers you've placed in our lives.

We thank you for your strength, protection, comfort, generosity, power, faithfulness, patience, guidance, and providence.

You are our Father of Fathers, and we especially thank you that as you lead and guide our Fathers, that we too will experience you.

We commit them into your care, believing that as you work in their lives, we will see you at work and know that you are with us always.

In your name,

Amen

Barnabas Notes

Everything that Dads are:

Mr. Safe Place

Mr. Rescue

Mr. Fun Guy

Mr. Dependable

Mr. Nice Guy

Mr. Mom

Mr. Protector

Mr. Cleanup

Mr. Soft Heart

Mr. Ingenious

Mr. Fix It

Mr. Messy

Mr. Taxi Driver

Mr. Money Maker

Mr. Stubborn

Mr. Give In

Mr. Hard Head

Mr. Teacher

Mr. Compassion

Mr. Advice

Mr. Referee

There's nothing easy about being a father, especially nowadays, but it's good to have our Father Gods Word to guide us through life.

Whoever fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for their children it will be a refuge. Proverbs 14:26.

Barnabas

Ministry Highlight

Youthful Volunteers



Youthful volunteers at South Point are one of the things that make South Point a truly wonderful place to be. We've had so many students over the years share their skills, talents, and time with us it would be hard to name them all. So, I thought for this month's newsletter we could let Maybel and Louis stand in as our example of amazing young volunteers. What's so amazing about Maybel and Louis? Well for example they don't assume they are the best; they just joyfully share what they have. And, what they have happens to be really, terrific. Turns out God has given us all something to share and there is not a minimum age for that, nor is there a maximum age. Also, Maybel and Louis support Miss Shea. We all agree that Miss Shea is quite wonderful, but she needs a team to work with. Otherwise, not only is all the load on her shoulders but after a while, even as adults, without a team we start to lose our own motivation and interest.

Speaking of interest, Maybel and Louis have a fan club! In fact, they have 3 groups in their fan club: ages 2 – 12, ages 30 – 59 as well as ages 60+. Ages 2 – 12 sincerely listen to the message Miss Shea has to share primarily because Maybel and Louis legitimately listen to Miss Shea; just as Miss Shea intentionally listens to Maybel and Louis. This dynamic is wonderful. Ages 30 – 59 are generally the busy parents and working adults who often feel all the responsibilities of the world on their shoulders. They are just *so grateful* to see Maybel and Louis genuinely helping with some of the work! I know work is a four-letter word that isn't very popular. Still, it is what usually makes the difference between whether or not any project "works-out". Interestingly, volunteering to help the 'busy parents and working adults' is a surprisingly fun and safe way to discover and develop new interests and talents. Ages 60+ are one of the most significant parts of

the fan club. Teaching and inspiring children is great. Having the chance to help an adult with something important is great too. But the wonderful people who are age 60 and up are starting to look at life from a different perspective. Frankly, they want to see who's going to be taking over when they are gone. Maybel and Louis you offer this wonderful group of people *hope*. That's an amazing gift to offer anyone and I am again so grateful that you are willing to take the time to do it.

But what about those who are age 13 – 19? Well, they have their own club. It's not a fan club. I believe it's called the Wai-wai-oef Club (or the WWO Club for short) which stands for: Who am I, what am I on earth for? Those are super important questions of course. I can only hope that all the members of that club will get the chance to volunteer to help with something too. Volunteering is one of the best ways to figure out life, especially at church. That may come as a bit of a surprise, but you see it's pretty simple; God never wastes your time. Let me say that again, "God never wastes your time." If God, has you helping with something that's Kingdom building, He'll make sure it helps you even more. It is not why we help but it is just always true. Our personal benefit might be direct or indirect, but God is always the most generous person in the room.

Maybel and Louis it is important to us that you know you are appreciated. God is using you. Thank you for letting Him.

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

(1 Timothy 4:12, NIV)

Cooler Corn



- Shuck corn and place in a clean cooler
- Pour boiling water over the top of the corn (about 2 qt per dozen -enough water to cover the corn)
- Close the cooler and let sit for 30 mins
- Drain cooler and keep the lid closed. The corn will stay warm with a just-right texture for about 2 hours.
- Butter and salt to your liking. Enjoy!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 st Carl	14 th Irene
4 th Owen	14 th Doris
9 th Christopher	20 th Larry
9 th Dawn	20 th Lois
11 th J'Aime	21 st Neena
13 th Liam	27 th Hollie

"A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society."

—BILLY GRAHAM

Hello baby

Ezra Lee Chamberlain

Born: May 17th

Weighing: 7lbs 4.5oz





Philippians 4:13 says, *"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength"*. This verse comes up often in my

choice for this month's movie review, *Soul Surfer*, which is on Netflix right now. I first watched this movie back when it came out in 2011. That was the year that my Benny was born. Did I feel like I could do all things, with three babies under three? I don't know. But there is something to be said about those true stories, that are full of inspiration. Stories about real people, who have overcome and done extraordinary things, they remind us that yes, we can do all things through Christ. That God does give us strength; sometimes we need a little strength, just to get through the day, other times we need a lot of strength, to get through major changes, like Bethany does in this inspiring true story.

Soul Surfer is the story of Bethany Hamilton, played by Anna Sophia Robb, a champion surfer from Hawaii, who unfortunately was attacked by a shark while she was out surfing with her friends and loses her left arm. The movie starts out really showcasing Bethany's love for surfing, her great skill, and her fun spirit. It shows the competitiveness between herself and a fellow surfer, and it also shows her close friendships too. Bethany clearly has a supportive family, her parents played by Helen Hunt and Denis Quaid, value time together and their faith. The movie shows the family attending church together and shows Bethany and her friend going to youth group together. At youth group, their youth leader, played by Carrie Underwood, talks about seeing the big picture, and about how sometimes we can't know all that God has planned for us, but that He has a plan for us, a plan to give us hope and a future, not to hurt us. Bethany lets her youth leader know that she will not be able to join the youth group on their mission trip to Mexico, as she has just become sponsored by Rip Curl, and needs to train for their regional competition. Her youth leader seems disappointed, and Bethany doesn't really see why, since her surfing and her sponsorship are a big deal to her.

Then while out surfing and discussing the photo shoot her and her friend will do for Rip Curl, Bethany is attacked and loses her arm. After she recovers, it is hard to adjust to normal life. She questions what happened to *"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength."* She attempts to use a prosthetic arm but is frustrated that it won't help her surf. She decides that she doesn't want to use it. Bethany decides to try surfing again, but it is a real struggle. In the meantime, she

sees that there is a tsunami in Thailand that has devastated the people there. She decides to go with her youth group on a mission trip. The people in

Thailand had lost so much. They were terrified of the water after the tsunami, and through this Bethany finds a way to connect with the people. She learns that surfing isn't the only thing that is important, she learns that love is more powerful than fear, and she learns that God still has a plan for her future. When she returns home, she begins receiving letters and realizes that she is an inspiration to people all over the world, to try things despite challenges, to face fears, and to see the big picture.

Although I love this movie for the great message of hope, resilience and the inspiration that goes with it, there are a few things to consider for families. We watched this as a family after our youngest went to bed, he is almost four. My 7-year-old has watched it several times now, although she said she never plans on going surfing, which is fine with me. There are also a lot of bikinis in the movie, also all the girls are quite thin, (which in today's climate, might be seen as a lack of representation, although it is a movie about surfing, so we might expect that the actresses would be very fit) but, if your kids or your family are sensitive to this, it's worth noting. Another issue is that it is quite frightening to see the shark attack Bethany, it is a quick scene, but still scary. There is also a lot of blood, and it shows Bethany's friend getting sick on the beach after they get Bethany ashore. There is a ride in an ambulance, and Bethany asking for her parents, this whole part could be a lot for some kids, just depending on their sensitivities, and personal experiences. They also show that the shark who attacked Bethany was caught and killed, which can also be concerning for some, and is further explained in the documentary. There isn't really any romance in the film, other than Bethany's parents flirting and kissing each other. Because of all these things, if you haven't seen the film before, I would recommend pre-watching it, if your kids are young. Overall, I think this is a great movie for families or a girl's night when we can resume slumber parties. My boys enjoyed it as well, it is gripping and thrilling. They all loved that it is based on a true story and were very excited to watch the documentary *"Bethany Hamilton, Unstoppable"* which is also on Netflix. It is fun and interesting to see the real surfer and see all that she has done in her life. The big kids here, said they enjoyed the documentary more than the movie.

Isn't it great that God has a plan for each of us, regardless of our circumstances or our limitations? I'm grateful for these true stories written by God, that remind us, while we're snuggled up with popcorn, that He is in control, and has a plan for us that is greater than anything we could come up with on our own.

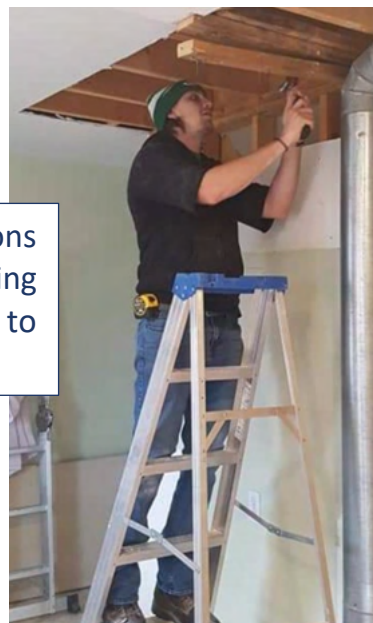
Our South Point Teens and Young Adults



Dylan is a proud new dad to Ezra. He is working full-time for ZT Electrical, hoping to start his apprenticeship in the fall.



Matt completed most of our recent home renovations and is working at Lakeshore Equipment Solutions doing heavy equipment repair and maintenance, hoping to take certification courses this Fall.



Noal is currently working as a Fertilizer “Mixologist” 😊 at Plant Products in Leamington and will be attending Culinary School studying to become a Chef at St.

Clair College in Windsor in the Fall.



Brennan will be wrapping up his Grade 11 year soon and is really hoping to get back onto the baseball diamonds at any moment to do what he loves best! Brennan can often be found cashing customers out or stocking the shelves at Foodland in Tilbury where he has worked the past two years.



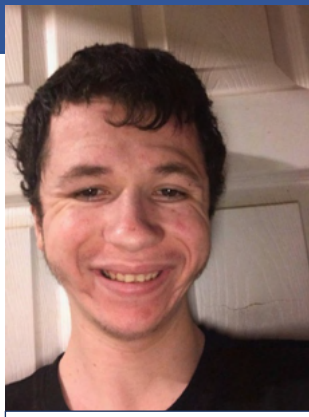
Finn will be celebrating his 7th birthday this Monday May 24th and is working towards completing 1st grade this June. Finn is an avid video game player and loves anything to do with Super Mario, Superheroes and building many of his own creations out of Lego. 😊



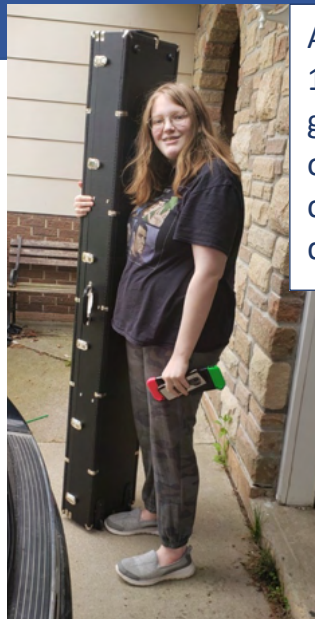
Kellen will soon be completing his Grade 9 Year and has just begun a new job at Foodland in Tilbury where he cleans the meat room, and cuts chicken to be broasted for the “Fritou” chicken counter. Kellen is hopeful to be playing some baseball this Summer and also looking forward to getting back out onto the field to play football again this Fall.



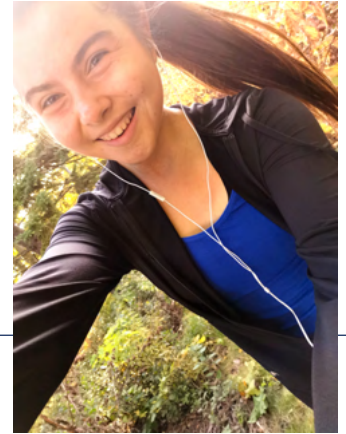
Jesus is the way and I help my friends when they need someone to talk to. Victoria



Following the Lord and playing video games. Curtis



Autumn is finishing Grade 10 right now. She enjoys gaming, doodling and otherwise being artistically creative. She will start driving in August



"I just finished my second year of Health Studies at the University of Waterloo, and I'm currently working at Waterloo Walk-in Clinic. In my spare time, I enjoy running, drawing, drinking tea, and going on long romantic walks to the fridge. Recently, I've also started learning how to crochet, but it sure isn't as easy as it looks!" Jocelyn



Emry is graduating grade 8 this year and is heading to LD in September. Em loves to act and has been in several plays over the years. She is currently taking vocal lessons and loves to be with her friends. She really misses them.



Zack is graduating grade 12 from LD this year and heading to Whistler BC next school year to work and snowboard. He loves photography, snowboarding, and surfing. He is an adventure seeker through and through.



Evan is currently finishing up his Math degree at the U of Windsor. He will start to take courses in the Fall to become an accountant. In his free time, Evan loves to go fishing.



Owen will be graduating from LD this year. In the Fall he will be taking the Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training program at St. Clair. Owen loves to race his dirt bike and go fishing.

