



## Distracted

I love to read. This addiction comes with its own problems, of course. It means that when I see a book on sale, even if I don't need it or know anything about the subject, I must get it. Why? Because it will look good on my shelf, and when people come over or walk into my office, they will think I have read it. "Someday," I tell myself, "I will read it," but you and I know that day may never come.

I love to read so much, that when I am waiting in the checkout line, I will occasionally glance at those magazines. You know which ones I mean. The ones with famous people on them doing their thing. I think to myself...who buys this? But someone must, because every time I go back to the grocery store, there they are. Those famous people are staring at me, confessing their secrets, or rather someone else is offering a made up confession in order to sell more magazines. It's a mess!

Yet, somewhere deep inside we feel a need to revel in the mistakes of others. After all, when someone else messes up it takes all the attention off of ourselves. We are distracted by the downfall of others and we can forget, if for a moment, that we have downfalls of our own.

Our text this week, John 8:1-11, is concerned about the mistakes of others. We will hear about a woman caught in a tough situation, and we will see how Jesus reacts. Will he condemn? Will he accept? Will he forgive? I'm sure you have a guess. I think if they had tabloids in Jesus' time, he might have been on the cover a couple of times at least. Especially in the last week of his life. Maybe if we could see the world as Jesus did, we might not need such distractions in our lives. We might even discover that there is plenty of room for all at the Welcome Table. We could even begin to see all people as genuinely loved by God. Who knows, we might even live in a tabloid-free world.

Shalom!

Matthew Silvers

### Capital Campaign News

As we continue to envision the many bridges we will build in 2012, we have a great opportunity to contribute to our capital campaign. This work is a project that will not only improve/create spaces for some of our youngest participants, but it will also improve our overall welcome with parking lot renovations. If you have already pledged, we are simply reminding you to mark your designation to the building fund in the memo line of your capital campaign checks, or you can give us instruction of how you want your offering check divided between regular offering and the capital campaign. If you haven't pledged, we invite you to consider this tremendous opportunity to become a physical bridge-builder. What a wonderful testimony to our commitment to guests, young families, and life-long learners!



### CHILDREN'S NEWS

Regular Sunday night activities for Kids Club, JYF and children's choirs have resumed. Join us each Sunday beginning at 4:00pm. \*\*Note, no activities on

**February 5th. Enjoy the Super Bowl with your families!**

**\*\*CANCELLATION\*\***Freaky Fun Friday for 5th-8th graders has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. It has been rescheduled for February 10th. We hope to see you then. Bring a friend!

**Attention children, youth and families!** Please join us for tubing at Snow Creek in Westin, MO on Sunday, January 29th. The cost to tube is \$26 per person for 2 hours. If you're coming but not tubing, you can sit by the fire pit and socialize for free! Please meet at the church at 1:30 to caravan to Westin. **(PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A TIME CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS)** Tubing will be for two hours, starting at the time of ticket purchase. Youth are welcome to come without parents (there will be sponsors). Children (up through 6th grade) must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or approved adult. Please contact Suzanne Kerr or Jennifer Parson if you plan to go **OR IF YOU CHAPERONE**, so we can help arrange transportation for everyone.

**MEMBERSHIP CLASSES:** Classes will begin in February for youth sixth grade and older who decide with their families that they are ready to explore church membership and baptism. Current sixth graders will receive a letter in the mail with more information. If your child is older, but has not participated in membership classes, please call the church office to sign up for the classes. There will be a parent information meeting Sunday, February 12th at 3:00 pm. Classes will begin Sunday, February 19th and will continue throughout Lent. More schedule details will be available at the information meeting or by contacting Jennifer Parson.

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#### **YOUTH NEWS**



**TNT IS MOVING!** The Young Adult (20s & 30s) study group is moving from Monday evenings to Sunday mornings @ 10 in Rm 117. We're starting a new study using the book "What do our neighbors believe?: Questions and Answers on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam." See you there!

Mark your calendars!

**Freaky Fun Friday**—(5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders) **MOVED** from this Fri (1/20) to Feb 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Jan. 22nd (Sun) Parent Meeting-** 3 PM.

**Jan. 29th (Sun) Tubing at Snow Creek in Westin, MO.** Meet at the church at 1:30 and we'll leave from here. Cost is \$26 per person for two hours of tubing. **PARENTS, IF YOU CAN CHAPERONE/ DRIVE, PLEASE LET ME OR JENNIFER PARSON KNOW.**

**Casting Crowns March 22nd (Thurs)-** Christian artists, Casting Crowns will be in concert at the Independence Events Center. **All are welcome! Tickets are \$22.50. ONLY 6 tickets left!**

#### **SUMMER MISSION TRIPS! *Mark your calendars now***

Mission Trips can be life-changing experiences, many of our youth and adults have shared with me the differences these trips have made in their lives. We prepare all year for our summer mission trips—learning about needs in the world, reading scripture and learning how our faith calls us to respond, working to raise funds to go, and building relationships with each other.

**Middle School Mission** (current 7th-8th graders)- June 10-15 (Sun-Fri).

**High School Mission** (current 9th-12th graders)- July 24-July 31 (Tues-Tues).

More information & registration forms will be available soon. Non-refundable Deposits (usually about \$75) will be due in February. Scholarships are available from the Mary Rosebrough Scholarship Fund, please ask about it.

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## CALENDAR

**January 21: MLT Retreat at LSCC at 8:30am at LSCC.** If you have not already RSVP'd, please do so by e-mailing [jholbert@lschristian.com](mailto:jholbert@lschristian.com) by Thursday, January 19th.

**January 21: Habitat for Humanity work day (indoors).** We will leave the church at 7:45am. Please sign up at the communication center.



**January 22: Grace Prayer Circle.** Intercessory prayer at 10am in the Chapel.

**January 22: Mission Trip Parent Meeting** at 3pm in the parlor.

**January 22: Membership Team Meeting.** 4pm in room 106

**January 22: Clowns Ministry** will meet at 6pm

**January 26: Mayor's Character Breakfast 7-9am at John Knox Pavilion.** Signup in the communication center in the narthex or call the church office by January 22 to reserve a seat at a table with other LSCC members. Cost is \$15 per person, payable to LSCC.

**January 29: Installation of Officers at all 3 services**

**January 29: Habitat for Humanity House Blessing.** Help celebrate with the volunteers who helped build this home and the Hernandez family at 1325 S Ralston Avenue in Independence.

**January 30: Micah Ministries.** Because the need is so great to help feed and clothe the needy in our area, LSCC will be going to Micah at Independence Boulevard Christian Church on the 5th Sun. this month (Jan. 30). They will also go on our regular 1st Mon. in Feb. (2/6). Sign up at the communication center.

**February 10: Freaky Fun Friday, 5th-8th graders (7-9 pm).** Join us for pizza, games and music. Bring a friend!

**March 22: Casting Crowns Concert.** Christian artists, Casting Crowns will be in concert at the Independence Events Center. All are welcome! Tickets are \$22.50 **Only 6 tickets left!**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TNT is MOVING!** The Young Adult (20s & 30s) study group is moving from Monday evenings to Sunday mornings @ 10 in Rm 117. We're starting a new study using the book "What do our neighbors believe?: Questions and Answers on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam." See you there!

**Micah Ministries needs Volunteers:** The Micah Ministry of Independence Boulevard Christian Church needs DAYTIME volunteers from 10am-4pm to help sort and stock the adult clothing pantry. If you can volunteer for some period of time or can only volunteer on some Mondays, please still volunteer! They would be so grateful! Please contact Elke at 816-231-0016.

**Chancel Flowers:** If you would like to purchase flowers (\$40) for the chancel on a particular Sunday in honor or memory of a loved one or occasion, contact Linda Rodenberg at 554-1809. Flowers may be taken home after the 11am service.

**Weather Cancellation Policy:** If any of our ministry staff is able to get out, we will always plan to hold

Sunday morning services even if we are reduced to a time of prayer and meditation. However, we would encourage you to use extreme caution and good judgment as to whether the conditions are acceptable to come. We always plan to have snow removed before Sunday but at times if the snow comes in the early morning hours or if it is snowing/sleeting/freezing rain at service times, the parking conditions can become quite slick. It is possible one or more services could be cancelled if we are in the process of making the parking safe. Watch for cancellations on **Fox 4 News**, and/or e-mail notices if bad weather is occurring on a Sunday, or at other times when activities are scheduled for children and youth—these will generally come from Suzanne Kerr and/or Jennifer Parson. Youth and children's groups/activities cancel if Lee's Summit R-7 schools cancel. The adult choirs will generally notify their own members if rehearsals are cancelled.

Christian Ministry Scholarship Fund Dinner: Funds from this dinner support Christian ministry students. The dinner will be held at LSCC on March 6th. Registration deadline is February 28th; pick up a form at the communication table.

Paper Recycling: You've probably gotten your fair share of store ads and catalogs this season, right?!? Once you have leafed through them and all your mail, don't forget to bring them to the church's paper recycling bins (located in the parking lot). Each piece of paper equals funds for the youth mission trips - and it helps reduce waste & will make new paper. It's a win WIN!

Lee's Summit Social Services Needs: Peanut Butter and Jelly, toilet tissue, paper towels, pasta, canned meat, muffin mixes, hot or cold cereal, dry beans and rice, dishwashing detergent, laundry soap, canned fruits and veggies

URGENT Needs for Micah Ministry: The Micah Ministry has immediate need for the following items:

Diapers - sizes 4, 5 and 6

Girls' Underwear - sizes 3-16

Boys' Underwear - 5-8

Childrens' Socks - size SMALL

Boys and Girls Shoes - 6-10 1/2 (Toddler up to about age 6)



How wonderful it is to be part of the Lee's Summit Christian Church! I so appreciate the prayers on my behalf, the visits from Bill, Janet and Jennifer P. while in the hospital, the church women who prepared the cheerbasket I received and the youth who delivered it. We had a good visit that day and I enjoyed seeing them. A big "Thank You" to everyone. I have to mention all the beautiful cards I received from so many of you that brightened many a day. I truly felt the love! Sincerely, Judy Mallen

Please place thank you's in the bulletin & e-news for all who volunteered to donate blood from myself & the Community Blood Center. 20 units of blood were donated! Also please add a special thanks to Bill

Coffman for sharing his personal story about blood donation. And if room, add that the next blood drive is scheduled for Sunday, August 26, 2012. Nancy Talbott

Thank you to everyone who donated shoes for Soles for Souls. Over 400 shoes were collected...what an amazing response! Charlotte Skeens

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Copies of anniversary/birthday lists, thank you notes and the monthly serving schedule are located in the narthex; or view these lists on our [home page](#).

Need to reach a pastor or staff member? Go [here ...](#)

[www.lschristian.com](http://www.lschristian.com)