



SRPC life

the monthly newsletter of the southfield reformed presbyterian church

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vol 1 issue 3 April 2009

meet the member

When Luke Adams was 13 years old, an elder at church asked him if he had really put his whole life in Christ's hands. He'd grown up in our church where his parents and grandparents still attend, and his great-grandparents had been missionaries in China. Despite this, or perhaps even because of this, he had never truly questioned his personal salvation, or thought about the serious possibility that he might not be saved. The Holy Spirit used this question to shake up his life and ultimately bring him to a saving faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Since then Luke has grown tremendously. In high school he served as a leader in the youth group, helping organize and lead activities. Our church has had the privilege to watch him as he has become a man and is working every day to commit his life to Christ.

Luke is currently a freshman in college, studying to become a physical therapist. After being homeschooled, he's found college classrooms to be exciting but challenging. "Since I was homeschooled I hadn't faced a lot of obstacles that others had encountered on a daily basis, but my faith in Christ has given me a solid foundation to evaluate these new challenges. I didn't know a lot of non-Christians before I went to school, and I was surprised at how much they really struggle with in their lives."

Despite his new class load, Luke continues to be very involved at SRPC. What is it that keeps him connected? Luke appreciates the family environment at our church, and the honest friendships he has here. "I know that anyone here would give me the shirt off their back if I needed it." He also meets with Pastor Faris once a week for a Bible study and attends the monthly Fireside Chats. He's looking forward to being more involved with the softball teams this summer, and is thinking about more ways he can actively spread the gospel.



spotlight on southfield

Every month students gather in the Farises home, eager to fellowship with like-minded students, learn more about Christ, and of course, to eat good food. The evening starts out with a chance for people to chat and relax, and then moves to a more organized, though informal, Bible study. Many of these young people who attend have grown up in our congregation while others attend from Lawrence Tech University. The diverse background leads to thought provoking questions and discussion, ultimately leading to the challenge to align our lives with Christ.



Students mingle after a FSC.

Currently the Fireside Chats are looking at the so-called "Seven Deadly Sins", studying what the Bible actually has to say about them, and what our response as Christians should be. This has led to many lively conversations and an impressive number of bad puns from Pastor Faris. So far we have covered lust, gluttony, greed, and this month we will cover sloth. We welcome everyone who cares to get out of bed to come and they are diligent to be sure their homework is done ahead of time.

We are thankful to the Farises for opening their home every month and creating such a warm environment to study the Scriptures together.

softball season starts!

The SRPC men's softball weekly games start April 20 for the Monday team and April 23 for the Thursday teams. The games will be at Inglenook park...times will be announced.

Ice cream at the Faris' follows the Thursday games. Contact Jeff @ 586.978.1847 for more details.

the pastor's pen



Pastor Faris leads the Crusade discussion

The Apostle John wrote in old age, "I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one." (1 John 2:14). Writing to encourage young people to abide in the word of God, John

certainly remembered being with Jesus as a young man himself. As an old man, he remembered what had made him truly strong in those early years. It was Jesus promise that, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in your, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you" (John 15:7). John grew strong by being with Jesus. After Jesus' ascension, young John – perhaps twenty years old – stood trial before the most powerful men in Jerusalem. They were so confident in their faith that the authorities marveled at the boldness of Peter and John. We are told that, "they realized that [Peter and John] had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13).

The Apostle John is dead and gone. But Jesus' work of strengthening young men and women lives today at SRPC as young adults abide in Jesus and as His words abide in them. Luke Adam's testimony (front page) demonstrates how former children of the congregation grow to maturity through God's word. I wish that space would allow the whole congregation to see the spiritual hunger of college students at the monthly fireside chats in our home as we read and discuss the word of God! Furthermore, while we have students connected to several colleges and universities, the Lord has placed us on the doorstep of Lawrence Technological University. The students who lead Campus Crusade for Christ have invited me to speak several times each semester at their Thursday meetings; it is my joy to see students being transformed by Christ there. We are grateful that some of them worship with us at SRPC. Please pray that God would make His church strong by continuing to provide young adults who desire to grow strong by being with Jesus in His word.

pencil us in! upcoming events at SRPC

Westminster Conference

April 3 - 5, 2009

As part of a yearlong celebration of the Lord's faithfulness to us, Dr. Wayne Spear will be speaking on the history of the Westminster Assembly.

Youth Group Get-Together

April 17, 2009

Watch for more info...

Ladies Night

April 18, 2009

Join the women of the church as they "cook for a month." Call Elizabeth @ 248.356.3932 for the details.

Family Night Dinner

April 24, 2009 @ 6:30

This month there will be a colonial dinner and theme. More details to follow.

Fireside Chat

April 26, 2009

College and career - join us for the fourth installment of the "Seven Deadly Sins." This month we will be talking about "Slothfulness."

Weekly Activities

Sunday

Sabbath School @ 9:45 am

Sunday Worship @ 11 am and 2 pm

Lunch @ 12:45 pm

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting @ 7 pm

April 22 - Everyone @ church

**The Westminster Conference
is this weekend :
April 3-5, 2009.**

All are welcome!

Visit www.reformed.com for a full description of the conference.

Please join us at this first event in celebration of 175 years of worshipping God in Southfield.



SRPC

Where Christ is the Center of it All.