

KEEP KNOCKING

It all sounds very simple. Perhaps too simple. We learn these encouraging words in the childhood of our faith: ask, seek, and knock, followed by the promises of receiving, finding, and doors being opened. Then life intrudes. Our lessons are put to the test. We learn that you don't always get what you ask for. Some things remain hidden no matter how hard you search, and there are doors that will not open. As a result, we are tempted to lose faith.

Luke's presentation of these simple words is prefaced by other all-too-familiar words—a simple prayer of a hallowed name, a coming kingdom, daily bread, and forgiveness. For Luke, this prayer ends with these words, “and lead us not into temptation” (NIV).

Between prayer (Luke 11:1-4) and promise (11:9-10) comes parable (11:5-8). With a story, Jesus speaks of putting friendship to the test with a midnight request (asking) at a neighbor's door (knocking) when cupboard is bare (seeking). “Do not bother me,” the friend sleepily replies. Then Jesus lauds the seeker's persistence. It is because of this character trait that the door eventually opens.

Again, it all sounds very simple. Perhaps too simple. Bringing our childhood faith into adulthood is not easy. Disappointment, discouragement, and distress threaten to lead us into distrust. We are tempted to give up too easily. *Persistence!* A child knows to keep asking, so why do adults stop? Being mature does not mean giving up prayer and promise. It means living out the story, the parable of our lives, with persistence. And that is no simple matter.

—Peter L. Haynes, pastor
Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren
Glen Arm, Maryland

Text for Today

Luke 11:1-13 (9), *NRSV*

And [Jesus] said to them, . . . “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and **the door will be opened** for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”



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The door will be opened



Sheldon Church of the Brethren
 David Loveall, Pastor
 Ministers - All Members
 July 25, 2010
 9:30 a.m. Worship
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



NOTE: The blue hymnal will be used today, unless otherwise noted.

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL DAYS

PRELUDE / LIGHT CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP **July Memory Verse:** For you have been called to live in freedom - not freedom to satisfy your sinful nature, but freedom to serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

* GATHERING HYMN #352 *Gentle Shepherd, Come & Lead Us*

*INVOCATION

One: We come to pray.

All: *To talk to God and to listen to God.*

One: We come to experience the wonders of God's world.

All: *Where we see God and hear God.*

One: We come to celebrate God's presence in one another.

All: *We know that God is within us and among us.*

One: Come, let us worship God.

PRAISE HYMN #355 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

CHILDREN'S TIME (Gathering Song: *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)
"The Lord's Prayer"

OFFERTORY STATEMENT

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY #119 (blue hymnal)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN #348 *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

PASTORAL PRAYER

SING LORD'S PRAYER (see insert)

SCRIPTURE Luke 11:1-13

MESSAGE "Pray Like This"

PRAYER OF BLESSING ON THE WORD

*CLOSING HYMN #483 *What a Friend We Have In Jesus* (red hymnal)

*BENEDICTION

*THREEFOLD AMEN #382 (blue hymnal)

* - *Please Stand, if you are able*

SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, July 25:

Message	Pastor David Loveall
Children's Message	Pastor David Loveall
Music	Teri Kelderman
Ushers	Mark Bilisland and Scott Maggert
Adult Sunday School	Restart after Labor Day
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, August 1:

Message	Pastor David Loveall
Children's Message	Pastor David Loveall
Music	Donna Brinkman
Ushers	Mark Bilisland and Alan Cox
Adult Sunday School	Restart after Labor Day
Children's Sunday School	Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

OUTREACH MINISTRIES



Haitian Ministry directed by Rev.
Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier.
www.unitedchristiansinternational.org

2009 CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator

Linda Adams

Deacons

Clarence & Rhelma Evans
Linda Adams & Jo Rolston

Clerk

Jo Rolston

Treasurer

Sandi Cox

Adult Sunday School Teachers

Linda Adams
Donna Brinkman
Alan Cox
Marcene Cox

Scott Maggert

Sally Young

Children's Message

Marcene Cox

Children's Sunday School

Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

Church Facility Trustee

Scott Maggert

Church Sign

Ross Cox family

Custodial Care

Members take monthly turns

Farm Trustee

Ross Cox

Fellowship Time

Clarence & Rhelma Evans

Lawn Care

Jed Cox
Ross Cox

Messenger Agent

Donna Brinkman

Ministerial Committee

Marcene Cox
Ross Cox
Rhelma Evans
Jo Rolston

Nominating Committee

Ann Maggert
Sally Young

OUR CHURCH

Worship Service9:30am

Christian Education (Sept.-May) .10:50 am

Communion

1st Sunday of Each Month

The Sheldon Church of the Brethren

3011 Marsh Ave

Sheldon, Iowa 51201

(712) 324-3842

Email: pastor@sheldonbrethren.org

Web Addresses:

The Denomination:

www.brethren.org

Northern Plains District:

www.northernplainsdistrict.com

The Church:

www.sheldonbrethren.org

www.worship.sheldonbrethren.org

Anniversaries and Birthdays for July

Many happy returns of the day of thy birth. May sunshine and gladness be given and may the Dear Father prepare thee on earth for a beautiful birthday in heaven.

Church Events

Welcome!

Welcome to all members and guests. You came to worship, go now to serve!
You've been blessed by God's love, go now to share it!

Adult Sunday School

We look forward to your continued support when we resume after Labor Day weekend. Have a great summer!

Community

Summer - Sheldon Farmers' Market at Pamida. Mondays from 4:30-6:30 pm and Fridays 11 am-1pm.

Those Who Need Our Prayers

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. - Romans 12:12 (NIV)

1. Pastor David Loveall is slowly recovering from his back surgery.
2. Jeannette Grove at Fieldcrest Assisted Living, 2501 East 6th St. Apt. #111. Visit her, call her at 324-0028, or send her a card.
3. Jennifer Caldwell, daughter of Linda Adams, who needs prayer support.
4. Julie Fisher, daughter of Clarence and Rhelma Evans, who has thyroid cancer.
5. Ann Evans and Rev. John Elder who have cancer.
6. Matt Pruin and Darla Vaandrager of Sheldon who have brain cancer.
7. Our congregation and children, may all continue to grow in the Lord.
8. Living Peace Church, Sioux City. May its ministry be continually blessed.
9. UCI - Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier's ministry in Haiti.
10. Lost Brothers and Sisters. May we minister unto and lead by example.
11. Those Serving in the Military. Keep them from harm and danger.



SERMON NOTES of Sunday, July 25, 2010

“Pray Like This”

Scripture: Luke 11:1-13



The 'Lord's Prayer

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And when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father . . . -- Matthew 6:6

MALOTTE
Albert Hay Malotte
Arranged by Fred Bock

Matthew 6:9-13

Unison

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed

be Thy name. Thy king - dom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in

heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly

bread, and for - give us our debts as we for - give our

debt - ors. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from

e - vil, for Thine is the King - dom and the Pow - er and the

Glo - ry, for - ev - er. A - men.