

URGENT PRAYER

- David Streeter, Emanuel Hospital
- Frank Clisby, health
- Lana Clisby and Family, Mother passed away in Atlanta, GA.
- Elwood Reid's Parents, health
- Carl Parker and Family, Brother passed away in California
- Cindy Cobbs, recovery
- Sister Oris Wesby, recovery

LIFT EVERY VOICE

19th ANNUAL Choir Workshop and Concert

GREAT DAY

celebrate His second coming

FREE CONCERT
SATURDAY, MARCH 2nd at 6PM

The word for the year is _____? Joy, you're right!

In a recent conversation with friends, I asked if there was a difference between joy and happy. One individual said he thought of them as synonyms — although he personally couldn't remember ever using the actual word "joy." Another said they thought of joy as a more explosive version of happy.

So is there a difference? "Happy" is an emotion, in which we "experience feelings ranging from contentment and satisfaction, to bliss and intense pleasure. "Joy" is a stronger feeling or state of being. It may be achieved through selflessness, to the point of personal sacrifice. We feel joy when we are spiritually connected to God or people. Buddha says, "We are shaped by our THOUGHTS. We become what we think, when the mind is pure. JOY follows, like a shadow that never leaves."

Recently, an organization guru has recommended only keeping those things that "spark joy" for us — and people took exception to that. But if you apply the true meaning of "spark joy," then you have things, people, and activities in your life that literally causes your heart to flutter, gives you inspiration and a possible sense of anticipation.

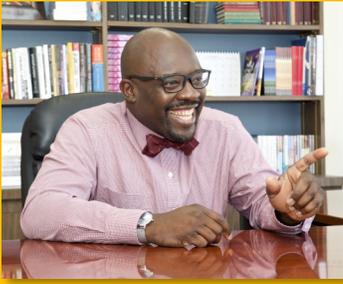
There are lots of things in this world that may bring a fleeting feeling of happiness, but ultimately they leave us feeling empty. In Galatians 5:19, Paul actually lists some of these things: ". . . sexual immorality, idolatry, selfish ambition, etc." But Paul goes on to explain that if we walk in the ways of God, then we will experience joy, as well as love, peace, patience, kindness, self-control, etc.

We may experience happiness as a result of other things that aren't morally wrong. Joy, on the other hand, is grounded in the idea that we are acting towards someone else's well-being and not towards self-satisfaction. If all of our efforts are focused on being happy, we're missing the point. If instead, our purpose is to have joy, then we have committed to one another in a way that seeks something better and more life fulfilling.

If you have a personal moment where you've experienced joy and would like to share it in the "loop" please send an email to jann.stowe@gmail.com and let me know.

Portions of the article above are from a blog by Rev. Dr. Christopher Benek (Associate Pastor of Family Ministries, Providence Presbyterian Church). Reminder, \$10 will be sent to the first individual that replies with the correct number of times the word "joy" is mentioned in each monthly "Joy" article. You can send your response to: jann.stowe@gmail.com or via text to 503.866.6316. Rodney Larry was February's winner.

CONTACT THE SHARON COMMUNICATION TEAM at office@sharonchurch.comcastbiz.net or 503.287.7649



LET'S CHAT!

with Pastor D

SHARON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

March 2, 2019



I was watching a video from a sister church online recently. The church featured a soloist singing a well-known song. The song hails Jesus as king and crescendos by asking individuals to rise in worship.

The singer struggled with the notes and the words of the song. I looked around to see my son staring at the video shaking his head in disapproval. "Please stop!" He said to the screen as if in an argument. "What is she saying? Oh my goodness." When she hit a high note and screeched, my son blurted out, "She screamed all rice."

I listened to him repeat "all rice" till he received his dinner.

Music is an important component of our lives. It is even more significant when it is presented for worship. Every singer should realize the importance of their role in worship and take it seriously. It was obvious that the soloist needed time to practice and learn the words of the song. Worship songs should bring the singer and the listener into the presence of God.

Despite our situation in life, music can capture the joy and sadness, fear and peace, pain and happiness of our experience. Gospel music is especially important because it re-focuses our attention to Christ.

The words of the songs remind us about Jesus' intention to redeem his people. Moreover, the songs are not a set of nicely arranged rehearsed words but derive from an experience of the heart.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH

- 4 Bible Study 12pm
- 6 Mid-week Study 7pm
- 6 Communion Prep 7pm
- 8 **PAA Early Release 12:30pm**
- 9 Sabbath School 9:45am
- 9 Communion Divine Worship 11am
- 9 Bible Study 2:30pm
- 10 **Daylight Savings Time Begins 2am**
- 10 Elder's Meeting 10:30am
- 11 Bible Study 12pm
- 13 **PAA Early Release/Teacher Conf 12:30pm**
- 13 Mid-week Study 7pm
- 16 Sabbath School 9:45am

- 16 Sabbath School 9:45am
- 16 Youth Divine Worship 11am
- 17 Church Board Meeting 10:30am
- 17 **St. Patrick's Day**
- 18 **PAA Spring Break 3/18-3/29**
- 18 Bible Study 12pm
- 20 Mid-week Study 7pm
- 23 Sabbath School 9:45am
- 23 Divine Worship, Oh joy! Baby Dedication 11am
- 23 Regional Ministry Day
- 23 Community Svc Food Pantry 2pm
- 25 **PAES Spring Break 3/25—3/29**
- 25 Bible Study 12pm

Items that appear in red are at partner locations, additional information on Sharon church bulletin board.