

**WE EXIST TO GUIDE PEOPLE TOWARD THEIR
NEXT STEP IN CHRIST.**

*I was glad when they said
unto me, "Let us go into
the house of the Lord."*

Psalm 122:1

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Back on Campus!

It was so good to see many of you for our first Sunday back on campus for corporate worship! Yes, it was different. But, oh so good! "I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'" (Now that you have that song playing in your head. . .)

Our parking attendants, greeters, ushers, and cleaning crew worked with enthusiasm and great cooperation with Pastor Rob in assisting our transition back to campus. I appreciate the grace you extended to us while we navigated new ways of operating that we've not had to do before in our 50+ year history as a local church.

We are asking for God's wisdom and direction, but as of this writing we do not have a timeline for small groups, children's ministries, Refit, etc. to resume fully-functioning on campus. While we don't have a projected date yet, we are eager to have our campus buzzing with excitement and people learning and growing in their faith together and deepening relationships that are difficult to cultivate on a screen.

We have 40 students and 6 leaders headed to camp at Snowbird in Andrews, North Carolina on June 29. SWO is all about pointing students to Christ. Take a moment and pray for our students to be refreshed spiritually and come back home with a deeper understanding of what it means to be followers of Jesus and live their lives serving Him.

Royal Family Kids Camp will host a "virtual" camp this year. Our Director, Johnda Stambaugh, is working with several volunteers to create videos and to put together care packages with cards and letters from camp staff that will give each child who would have been at camp a "virtual camp experience" presenting the gospel to each one. Let me encourage you to pray for this endeavor to be used by God to minister to the boys and girls in the Tri-State foster system.

Many in our church body have dealt with personal health issues, loved ones passing away, family members in the hospital/nursing home, and depression issues. Thank you for continuing to lift one another up in prayer and for taking care of one another as you have so wonderfully demonstrated these past three months.

—Pastor Larry

We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

Commissioning Service

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

Acts 13:2-3



Sunday, June 14, we will have a Commissioning Service for **Sean Sutherland**. Sean has answered the Lord's call to serve as a missionary with Filter of Hope. The mission of FOH is to help change lives and create hope by providing clean drinking water and sharing the "living water" of Jesus Christ with families living in spiritual and physical poverty.

Upcoming
EVENT

20/20
VISION
SEEING CLEARLY
A WORLD THAT NEEDS JESUS

Hopefully this fall, RC3 and Hay Esperanza (Latino church plant) will partner together for an outreach at Ritter Park. Together we will host a festival with music, food, games, and activities. This will be a great time to cultivate relationships with our Latino brothers and sisters and to demonstrate the unity within the body of Christ among different ethnicities and nationalities.



The Power of Words

Most people are surprised to learn that, for the most part, members of my family are not sports fans. To this day I don't think anyone at the Cotton family reunion could explain the infield fly rule. How in the world, then, did I end up making a career of talking about sports?

Well, it started when Mom and Dad gave me a transistor radio for my seventh birthday. As I lay awake that night, with the earplug in place so as not to wake my brother, I met a man named Ernie Harwell.

Ernie was the radio announcer for the Detroit Tigers. Initially I had no idea what this guy was talking about—words and phrases like bunt, sacrifice fly, knuckleball and grand slam might as well have been spoken in Yiddish for all they meant to me.

Yet I was completely drawn into Ernie's world. I was enthralled by those exciting moments when Stormin' Norman Cash would crush a home run— "it's looong gone!" —or the "hefty lefty" Mickey Lolich would sneak another curveball across the outside corner as the batter "stood there like the house by the side of the road and watched that one go by." Ernie's enthusiasm and obvious love of the game were infectious and I was hooked.

By the end of the summer Mom and Dad thought I was the one speaking Yiddish as I told them about clean-up hitters (do they have mess-up hitters, too?) and Texas leaguers (even in Illinois?) —and I was an improbable sports fan. Plus, I had a great new friend in Ernie, one with whom I would spend thousands of hours in the years to come. Before long, when my friends' favorite Tigers were Al Kaline or John Hiller, mine was Ernie Harwell. I wanted to do his job one day.

All because of words. No pictures, no touch—just sounds coming from that little radio.

Your words can be affirming to those around you too. Pleasant words are *"a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones"* (Proverbs 16:24). An aptly spoken word *"is like apples of gold in settings of silver"* (Ecclesiastes 9:17). Words can also be inspirational and memorable. *"The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails—given by one Shepherd"* (Ecclesiastes 12:11).

Or, our words can have undesirable effects. *"The tongue is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell"* (James 3:6).

When we open our mouths we have the opportunity to build people up or tear them down. *"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly. The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good. The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit"* (Proverbs 15:1-4).

Ernie Harwell doesn't know Steve Cotton from the man on the moon, yet words he spoke some 40+ years ago helped shape the course of my life. We should all keep that power in mind whenever we speak, making our words like honeycomb and golden apples to all within earshot.



Check out the
**ONLINE
SCHEDULE**

ONLINE SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship
9:30 AM -- Facebook Live

Prayer & Encouragement
Tuesday & Wednesday @ Noon -- Facebook & Instagram

Small Groups

Many groups are meeting with Zoom.
Check with your group leader for information.

RC3 Kids

Join the RC3 Kids Facebook Group
for weekly teaching videos & activities.

RC3 Student Ministries

Stay connected through Facebook
& Instagram this summer.

Life Skills Ministry

Counseling by phone is available.
Call the church office @ 304.736.8197 to
schedule an appointment.

We realize that some are hesitant in returning to campus for a variety of reasons. **We understand and will welcome you back when you are ready.** But until then, we encourage you to take advantage of listening and interacting online to stay connected to the RC3 body of Christ.

If you prefer to read this newsletter on our website or if you prefer to not receive this publication in the mail, please let us know by emailing mary@roundchurch.net or call the church office @ 304.736.8197.