

You probably have heard this one, but it doesn't hurt to be reminded of it every once in a while.

Once upon a time, there was an old man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach every morning before he began his work. Early one morning, he was walking along the shore after a big storm had passed and found the vast beach littered with starfish as far as the eye could see, stretching in both directions.

Off in the distance, the old man noticed a small boy approaching. As the boy walked, he paused every so often and as he grew closer, the man could see that he was occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The boy came closer still and the man called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young boy paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can't return to the sea by themselves," the youth replied. "When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water."

The old man replied, "But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make much of a difference."

The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one!"

We have the opportunity to help create positive change, although you sometimes find yourself thinking, "I'm already really busy, and how much of a difference can I really make?" This is especially true when we're talking about addressing massive social problems like tackling world hunger or finding a cure for cancer, but it pops up all of the time in our everyday lives, as well. So when you catch yourself thinking that way, it helps to remember this story. You might not be able to change the entire world, but at least you can change a small part of it, for someone.

Announcements

FOOD PANTRY - Will be open today following the morning service to those in need of canned and boxed food assistance.

SHIPWRECKED - This week July 9 - July 12 from 6-8pm Come join the fun & fellowship and see what God has in store for our church. Please contact Brooke Camp.

NIKKI AND KEVIN POWELL BABY SHOWER - July 22nd immediately following morning service. It's a boy! They are registered at Target. Any questions please see Michelle Roberts or Brandi Roberts.

CAR WASH - Rescheduled for July 28th at 11am-1pm. Volunteers needed please sign up at Welcome Center.

OUTDOOR BAPTISM - Praise, Worship Service and Potluck on August 12th at 3pm at the home of Ralph and Susie Balkema. Please bring a side dish to pass to accompany meat that is being served and drinks. If you are interested in partaking in this baptism service please see Pastor Stout.

ALLEN FAMILY - Todd Allen will be providing our sermon on Sunday September 2nd. On Wednesday September 5th Free Church Dinner at 5:30pm and Concert at 7pm.

SOLES4SOULS - As our teens prepare for their trip to Kentucky this year they are gathering new or gently used Tennis shoes to distribute to needy children in the hills of Kentucky that they will come in contact with during their missions trip. Tennis shoes may be left in the designated box in the Welcome Center. Any questions please see Lauren Roberts

COOPER MOYER & TAYLAR SNYDER - Wedding Shower on August 5th - Following the morning service. More information TBA.

MEN'S SOFTBALL GAME - Tuesday July 24th - Home Game at 6:30pm - *12th Street -vs- Spring Valley Church.* Come out & show your support!

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST - Tuesday 8:30am at McDonald's on 9th Street.

FOOD PANTRY - Help others in need of food. See Krista Asher or Lynn Anderson.

NEXT L.A.G. MEETING - Tuesday July 10th at 10am.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY - Tuesday at 1pm. "52 Women of the Bible".

CHOIR PRACTICE - Wednesday at 7:30pm.

YOUTH GROUP - Wednesday's 6pm-7:30pm.

BIBLE STUDY - Wednesday 6:30pm

VISIT us at www.12thstreetbaptist.net for sermons, bulletin, events and other updated information. For Members only you can view members names, addresses, anniversary, birthdays, pictures and business meeting notes on line.

NURSERY

8 Abby Mack, Julie, Kaydence
15 Ashers, Callista
22 Trish Pillars, Retha Kelly, Nate Thompson
29 Krista Asher, Judy Kilburn, Arianna

LAST WEEK

Tithes & Offerings.....\$5,212.00
Children's Offering.....1.50
Coffee & Fellowship.....2.72
Total.....\$5,216.23