

Community Stuff

1. Ways you can get involved...

*Help in with clean up on Sunday evenings... contact Kimberly Claire at

kimberlyclaire81@hotmail.com

*Help in the nursery with our kids on Sunday mornings or evenings... contact Leonor at

info@scumoftheearth.net

*Help at the Scoop on Sundays... contact John Hyde at

info@scumoftheearth.net

2. Groups of Three

Get involved in meaningful encouragement and accountability. Contact Kimberly Claire or

Josh Cook

kimberlyclaire81@hotmail.com

jrcook1@gmail.com

3. Women's Small Group

Women's Bible Study on John's Letters

Every other Tuesday night (dinner included)

Contact Elizabeth Yoder at

excalibur.elizabeth@gmail.com

Heads up! Men's and Women's retreats will happen this Summer.. the dates are being finalized. We'll be letting you know more soon.

SOTEC Staff News

Joshua and Liann have picked a last name! They are now Mr. and Mrs. Dylan. Congratulations to you both. :)

Mike Sares is working hard on his book that is due to the publisher on July 1st. Please pray for his ability to focus and finish well.

Kimberly Claire graduated from Denver Seminary on May 16th with her Masters of Divinity degree.

Church Council thanks to those who helped on Clean up day!!

Scotland Update: Ben Mercer

The ScuminScotland 2009 team was detained & refused entry into the UK on Wednesday 27 May 2009 because of new international volunteer regulations that neither we nor the ministries we were hoping to work w/ in Glasgow knew of. We spent that day loving the immigration & security people God brought into our lives while trying to figure out how to get into the UK. People on both sides of the Atlantic spent the 13 hours of our detainment trying to find us a sponsor but it didn't work & we got sent home. The next week was spent trying to find a sponsor to help us get into the UK. That didn't work either & we've decided to set aside the trip & use the money raised for future trips we will be taking. Thanks so much for all of you who prayed, supported & encouraged us during this time!



Scum of the Earth was declared "not guilty" of disturbing the peace. Say "Hallelujah" quietly!

Scum of the Earth was declared "not guilty" of disturbing the peace in Denver court on June 4, 2009. Just so you all know, it was a real trial. There were witnesses sworn in and testimonies, objections sustained and overruled, complaints of "leading the witness" and "hearsay." We owe a great deal of gratitude to Mark Sares, Mike's brother and our lawyer, for his time, energy and expertise,

Pray that we may love our neighbors effectively.

And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Romans 5:2-5

These verses are not about suffering, really. Rather they are about hope ~ but suffering is where our minds go when we read them. Perhaps that is because there is so much suffering in this life. Perhaps it is because the idea of rejoicing during suffering is so alien to us. "What kind of a whacko God tells you to rejoice in suffering?" we ask ourselves. We conclude that God is either out-of-touch with our pain or enjoys our pain since it does so much good. Neither of those conclusions are correct. He knows what it is to suffer ~ Jesus proved that on the cross. The miraculous thing is that God could make anything good come out of suffering at all. Those who suffer in Christ end up putting all their hope in him. There is simply nowhere else to go. He responds to our hope by filling our hearts with amazing love (see above). Jesus' words on the cross show a supernatural love for friends, enemies and God in the middle of great suffering. "Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing," and, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit," are some of his dying words. The great hope in suffering is that we will begin to love God and others as Jesus loved; and that is a good reason to rejoice.

-Mike Sares