

## October Newsletter

### From Heaven's Heart

#### Remembering Sandy

Just a little over ten years ago, Andrea and I began our ministry here at Shallow Ford Christian Church...and it has truly been the happiest ten years of our lives.

Thank you for making us feel like family. And thank you for confirming what my good friend told me about you. "They are good people who love the Lord, who love their church family and the people in the community". This is what he had heard about you and he was right.

So today, more than any other thing, I want to congratulate you for being His and for your life being a reflection of Jesus Christ. Can anything said about us be more important than that? What could be more important than investing our lives in the ministry God has called each of us to be a part of? Is this not the best investment we will ever make?

Ten years ago, we were about to get started in our ministry here. I received word that Sandy Hensley has gone to be with the Lord after her battle with cancer. Andrea and I decided to drive over from Lexington to attend Sandy's service. We had never met Sandy but had heard so many wonderful things about her...and Ronnie. Little did I know that her husband Ronnie and I would become such good friends.

Ronnie would often stop by the office on Tuesdays to visit. I seldom if ever remember a visit that he did not bring up Sandy. Story after story told of his deep love and devotion for her and stories of her love for the church and the best investment she had ever made...in her ministry here. Thank you Sandy and thank you Ronnie.

What is the best investment you've ever made with your life? Maybe you and I should stop for a few minutes and answer that question right now.

The Bible tells us there is something we will take with us to Heaven but it's not the things of this world. It's not our personal belongings, our favorite collectible, our money...This is what the Bible says will determine the rewards God will hand out to us for our good works...our investments in the building of His church and His

ministry...investing in the lives of other people. How can any of us, if we are honest, argue with God's plan for eternity.

The Bible tells us in 1 Timothy 6:18-19 Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this they will be storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven...it is the only safe investment for eternity. And they will be living a fruitful Christian life down here as well.

Sandy and Ronnie are now in Heaven together. And both of them discovered upon their arrival the treasures God had been storing up for them...because of their giving of themselves. So I honor Sandy today, not with a list of all the good things she did while serving the Lord but by simply saying thank you to a good and faithful servant of Her Lord. Sandy found a pot of gold and precious jewels waiting on her when she arrived in Heaven.

For those of you who knew Sandy, you have special members of the best investments she ever made. Now let your memories inspire and motivate us all to make our own memorable investment of our time, talents, gifts and yes our money in our Heavenly Fathers plan for His church. We will carry with us to Heaven these investments...the best investments we will ever make.

With my deepest love for you and most sincere gratitude for allowing Andrea and I to serve God here as we have tried our best to serve others with Christian love, care and kindness,

Pastor Steve

P.S. Thank you for another successful Stew and Bake Sale Event.