

PARMA AREA - MARCH 2013



COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS

Connection

Father of Lights

by Daniell Powell, Co-Director

Daylight savings has just occurred and sadly we have lost some sleep. This past Sunday we sprang forward moving our clocks ahead one hour. This practice provides less light in the morning and more in the evening. Being able to enjoy more daylight hours allows people to be more productive, feel happier, be healthier and feel calmer. Sunlight produces vitamin D in the body, which is an essential mineral for all people. It has many benefits including immune system regulation, weight management, asthma control, as well as helping to keep the brain working efficiently. It is associated with alleviating depression; it also aids in the absorption of vitamins and is believed to diminish the chances of developing several different types of cancers.

In James 1:17 it says "Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow."



There are benefits of being exposed to the natural sunlight as well as innumerable benefits to basking in God's light. The Father of lights is a Jewish title for God. It refers to Him as Creator, as the Giver of light. He has given us these in the form of the sun, moon and stars. (Gen 1:14-19)

God is not identified as being equal to these, as wondrous as they are, He is greater. The Sun may be covered and the earth may eclipse the moon, but in Him there is no variation, no change, and no darkness. Those sources of light will eventually fade, but God's character, kindness, faithfulness, and steadfast love will have no variation or shifting shadow. It is nice to know that regardless of where we spend our waking hours that His light shines continually. Nothing can block out God's far reaching flow of goodness or step beyond the reach of His radiance. We can bask in His light whenever we step into his presence.

As Community Ambassadors we are seeking to be a light in the community, to be a beacon of hope for all those who pass our way. If your church wanted to reach out to the Parma area, what would it look like and how could we do it together? In Matthew 15:5 we read, "Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house." My prayer is that these extended daylight hours remind you that we are supposed to be like our Father, who is the Light of the world.

John 8:12 says "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

LOCAL ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES

James 1:27 NLT - Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans.....

At last month's Ministerial Round Table, we learned some staggering and troubling news..... During the meeting, the Division of Children and Family Services reported that **there are currently 245 youth awaiting adoption in Cuyahoga county**. In other words, there are 245 "orphans" living right now in our very own community. Kids who have no real home. Kids who have no family.



In all honesty, when Community Ambassadors was formed, we did not have a particular mission to eradicate the domestic orphan problem. We did, however, make an unwavering commitment to respond to whatever challenge faced our community. And this is a problem that has revealed itself; this is a challenge that we cannot turn a blind eye to. Pastors, I encourage you to please respond to this urgent crisis and help us spread the word.

If you are interested in building awareness of this need within your church or would like to gather resources to provide to parents who are interested in fostering or adopting locally, please contact us at 216-200-7030. We can provide materials for you to disseminate to those who may feel the Lord

leading them in this direction. We can also arrange for an informative presentation to be done at your church. Let's work together to address this dilemma. Who better to respond than the Body of Christ?

Friday, March 15 7:00 – 8:30 pm
@ Parmatown Mall

In Partnership With



A father-kid night of fun, snacks, & creative building!

Geared for kids 12 & under

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 15, Friday - 7:00 - 8:30pm

HEROES - FREE Lego Night / Father - Kid Night at Parmatown Mall, next to Payless Shoes

March 22, Friday - 7:30 - 9:30am

C/B/S Partnership Meeting @ Greenbrier Senior Center, 6455 Pearl Rd., Parma Heights

March 28, Thursday - 8:00 - 9:30am

Parma Area Family Collab Meeting @ Parma Baptist Church, 12193 W. Pleasant Valley Rd., Parma

Call Us: 216-200-7030

www.ComAmb.org

Email Us: contact@comamb.org