

**Direct From Dave —
August 9, 2018**



Carrying the torch during the Olympics has become a highly valued experience. Many of us watch as the torch in the Olympic Stadium is set afire. 2 Timothy 1:6 says *“fan into flame the gift of God.”* We need people who have the flame of God roaring in their lives.

Paul is writing to Timothy, and the context in 2 Timothy is that Paul knows that the faith that Timothy has was passed down from Timothy’s grandmother, Lois, and his mother Eunice. Paul then reminds Timothy to *“fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you...”* There is something to be said about a faith legacy being passed from generation to generation.

Instead of a family tree, we spiritually have a **faith circle**. For Timothy it was not only his mother, but also his grandmother. Who in your family is part of your **Faith Circle**? Who was it that laid the foundation, or planted the seed, for your Christian development? Let me make a side note and say I wonder about Timothy’s father and grandfather. I wonder why they were not mentioned.

Many years from now will we be listed as part of the **faith circle**, part of the spiritual influence, of our children and grandchildren? Some may be first generation Christians. That is, you may be the first in a long line of your family tree, who has embraced Christ. Think of the legacy you will be able to leave. Oh to **fan the flame** and **pass the torch** to future generations. How important to think that you had a part to change the world years from now because of the faith you are living now.

Sarah and I began our family in seminary, so basically our 3 children have always been known as a PK (Preacher’s Kid). Of course they came with us to church not only because of ‘dad’s job,’ but because of our faith development passed down to us from our families. When our oldest son went away to college--- Go Ospreys!!! (Uh, that would be the University of North Florida mascot.) We were concerned what would happen with Ben going to church and more importantly, his faith. In phone calls I would gently ask him about going to church and suggested he find a church---it did not even have to be United Methodist! He ended up finding a small group on campus that became a disciple group for him. I remember the phone call when he told us, *“I realized that I couldn’t rely on your faith, Mom and Dad; I had to make it my own.”*

We had the privilege of **passing the torch** and **fanning the flame** so he could make his personal decision about his relationship with Jesus. He texted us a video recently of he and his wife working with their 4-year old daughter and 3-year old son. The kids were quoting a Bible verse they had learned. Wow!!

Let’s continue to fan the flame and pass the torch for future generations!!!

With the Joy of Christ,

Pastor Dave



Expanding our Campus---Update

In April of this year I shared the exciting news that a building project had been approved for a 2-story building between building B and C! The Board of Education is using a portion of their reserve fund to make this happen, as well as proceeds from their major fund raiser. This has no impact on the church budget. We are blessed to have the opportunity to plant Kingdom of God seeds into the lives of children. A motto we have this year is "WE ARE ONE!" We are one campus with many ministries. What an overwhelming blessing to minister in the many ways God has provided. We will provide a lot more details later, but here is the latest:

- *Our civil engineer is getting all the proper permits
- *Harvard and Jolly is in the process of preparing the architectural design.
- *Park & Eleazer will be the Building Contractor

In the near future, you will be seeing and hearing much more! Since "WE ARE ONE," we can celebrate all the ministries going on here at the campus of PHUMC! Please contact Michelle Premuto our Finance Manager at mpremuto@phumc.net to make a contribution to the Glory of God for this project (indicate "New Building" with your contribution).



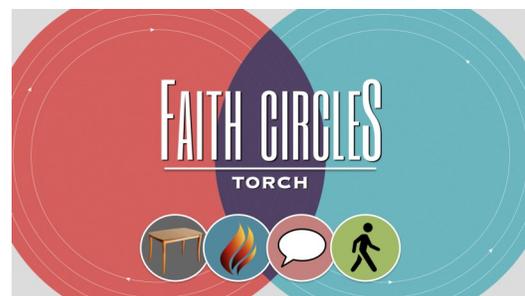
SUNDAY SERMON

August 12, 2018

8:05, 9:30, 11:05 a.m.

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:3-7

*I want to pass my faith
to the next generation.*



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