



November 2009

The Lamplighter



The Pastor's Corner

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Philippians 1:6, New Living Translation

Long before the advent of texting and the additions of LOL and OMG to our vocabulary, famous composer Johann Sebastian Bach began signing these three letters to his musical works: SDG. They are shorthand for the Latin phrase, Soli Deo Gloria, which means, "to the Glory of God alone".

As we enter this month, we will begin by giving thanks to God for all those saints who have gone before us, whose lives still encourage us to serve and to worship, to live "to the Glory of God alone." On Tuesday, November 10th, we will be hosting our annual Charge Conference here at Ward's Chapel, where we will give thanks for all that God has been doing among us and will continue to do through us "to the Glory of God alone." Saturday, November 14th will be our first annual Leadership Retreat from 9 to 1, focused on bringing our leadership together for prayer and mutual support as we discern where God is calling us to go in the coming years "to the Glory of God alone." That Sunday, November 15th, we will celebrate the ways we can give of ourselves and our resources to fulfill Ward's Chapel mission "to the Glory of God alone." At each worship service, Tim Ferrell of The Navigators will challenge us to consider our stewardship of all God's gifts. We will gather for a celebration luncheon at noon that day. We will be gathering around tables nearby and far away to give thanks to God and finish out the month by ushering in the season of Advent. As we give thanks, as we prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of Christ, we will seek and find ways to give the Glory to God alone.

The good news in all this activity is that the One who began this good work among us is still working and will continue to work in us and through us until Jesus returns. I continue to give thanks to God for all the ways that the members of the Wards Chapel family love and serve one another and those around the world. I am thankful, most of all, for your willingness, in everything you do, to bring glory to God and God alone!

SDG,
Pastor John