

that calling in your life? Think about these things and write your reflections here.

### **Thursday, October 17**

During the message Pastor Jack offered an opportunity through which God just might be calling our church to respond to the calling of Changing our World through Christ's love. Have you ever heard of Baldwin Center? As a mission in the City of Pontiac, how might you be able to respond to that calling? Are you interested in helping families in Pontiac? Are you interested in helping others to have a brighter and happier Christmas Season? Are you interested in presenting a witness of God's compassion to those in need in Pontiac? Would you like to be part of a team effort to make a difference? That operational dates are December 11-14 and there will be set up before and tear down and boxing items afterwards. What is your availability? How might you participate in this ministry? Write your thoughts here and ask for God's guidance for your response to this call to a local mission and ministry.

### **Friday, October 18**

Yesterday we considered the partner ministry of The Baldwin Center as a possibility for our church to respond to families in need and offer a compassionate presence during the Christmas Season. If that doesn't interest you, what would you like to see happen within our church that we may be the church outside the walls of our church building? Dream a while and dream big! Write your idea here and then share it with either Pastor Jack or another Staff member or Leader in our church! See what happens as you plant the seeds of new and innovative ideas!

## **Message Notes – October 13, 2024**

### ***Living God's Vision – You Calling\****

- I. All of us, as followers of Jesus Christ, are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Not always to \_\_\_\_\_ but to relationships, to our \_\_\_\_\_, to utilize our gifts and graces in a variety of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Augustine lived in the fourth century. He was as \_\_\_\_\_ a candidate for sainthood as any you'll find.
- II. God has issued some other \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. First, let's consider \_\_\_\_\_, originally named \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  - B. Then there's the \_\_\_\_\_ Isaiah.
- III. The Scriptures are filled with stories of men and women who are just as \_\_\_\_\_ and equally \_\_\_\_\_, and yet whom God calls anyway.
  - A. There are a couple things I want you to think about God's calling, and about each and every one of us as \_\_\_\_\_ candidates to do God's Kingdom work here on earth.

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\*I Corinthians 15:1-11 and Isaiah 6:1-8

B. First, there's only one requirement for discipleship, in the last analysis: a \_\_\_\_\_ to submit to God's call.

C. The second thing I want you to know is that God will \_\_\_\_\_ the call.

IV. Now we know that God's call comes from all sorts of \_\_\_\_\_, through all kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ and from all types of \_\_\_\_\_.

A. This past month, we took two surveys that reflect our Mission Statement and it was clear that in the future you want to be involved with \_\_\_\_\_, specifically \_\_\_\_\_ and involved in issues of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

B. Well, you're about to hear God's call upon your life right \_\_\_\_\_ and right \_\_\_\_\_.

C. Haven't we \_\_\_\_\_ — somewhere, sometime — heard something of God's call in our lives?

1. "Whom shall I \_\_\_\_\_, and who will go for us?" demands the voice of God.

2. Isaiah says, "Here am I, \_\_\_\_\_ me."

3. What say \_\_\_\_\_?

## ***Daily Devotional Guide***

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

### **Monday, October 14**

What do you think of when you hear the words "Called by God?" or "What's your calling?" Often people think of callings as a passion; something a person really enjoys. However, there are

times when people are called to participate in unpleasant tasks. What do you think? To what have you been called to in the past? Meditate on these questions and write your reflections here.

### **Tuesday, October 15**

Read I Corinthians 15:1-11 and Isaiah 6:1-8. Pastor Jack shared that both the Apostle Paul and the Prophet Isaiah were unlikely candidates for God to call to a mission and ministry. He listed many other examples of unlikely servants. Which represents your favorite Bible Story? Is there a call story from our scriptures that was not mentioned in the message (Jonah, for example)? What makes a person worthy of God's call? What attributes does that person need in order to successfully respond to God's call upon his or her life? Remember the two attributes that Pastor Jack mentioned (a willingness to submit to God's call and the belief that God will equip the call). How did the Biblical people mentioned finally respond to God's call? Write your thoughts here.

### **Wednesday, October 16**

In her book, *The Stories We Live – Finding God's Calling All Around Us*, Kathleen Cahalen writes a sentence that illustrates the many ways that God calls us to not only mission and ministry but to life, relationships and situations. That sentence is "I and called **by** God, **to** follow, **as** I am, **from** grief, **for** service, **in** suffering, **through** others, **within** God." The highlighted prepositions in that sentence reveal a different dimension of our callings. For example being called **from** grief means that what breaks your heart compels you to move to a compassionate response. Read the sentence a couple more times and meditate on it, specifically the prepositions. How have you experience a calling from God? What were you doing at the time? Who was with you? What was the situation in which you thought you might be able to respond to