

## Interlaken Reformed Church

8315 Main Street, PO Box 335 Interlaken, NY 14847 Phone 607-532-4321 Rev. Derek Vande Slunt, pastor

Thursday, May 21, 2009

"Evangelist" Don Sunshine 970 Brownsville Road Wernersville, PA 19565-9640

Our church is thankful to Don Sunshine for his great work in challenging us to share the Gospel with people in our world. It seemed unfitting to not put a title in front of his name, so I chose the title of "Evangelist." I believe this is a well fitting title for Don. His workshop was geared toward encouraging our church members to share our faith.

Don's Passion was well evident in his stories of sharing Jesus with someone while at a motorcycle rally, over a lost goat in his yard, in Wal-Mart, at people's homes, etc. Don is both gifted and talented in noticing where God's leading is and where Jesus is needed in the lives of lost, hurting, and broken people's lives. Don is sensitive to the direction of the Spirit and taught us how to also be sensitive to the prodding of the Holy Spirit.

Don was also well practiced and prepared for teaching and training. He had thought through many of the questions and struggled with the objections and issues that people have with sharing their faith. Don also well applied Scripture to his teaching, being guided by it and using it for direction. Don didn't proclaim or promote himself, but the Holy Spirit working through him and that God could do similar work in and through each of us if we will just let go of our fears and trust God to guide us.

Don's training encouraged practical, everyday actions that normal Christians can use every day to share with and pray for those in their lives who don't know Jesus [The 3-open prayer and the pocket gospels being two]. These tools are very helpful to persons who struggle to "tell" the story. Many are too content to just "show" by living their lives. We need the urge to tell as well and to trust that the Holy Spirit will guide us and give us the words to speak. I commend Don also for recognizing the importance of understanding repentance and sharing that with people in his training sessions.

I highly commend Don (and Kathy) for their work of sharing Jesus with the world. Keep up the great work. I pray that the Holy Spirit and the church of Jesus will find ways to continue to support his mission work and teaching Christians how to share Jesus.

Thanks for your helping us to get the message out to the world.

Rev. Derek N. Vande Slunt