

joseph carson

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**From:** Larry Trotter <larry@concordumc.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 20, 2019 1:20 PM  
**To:** jpcarson@tds.net  
**Subject:** In the Loop



# In The Loop

with Larry Trotter



## Update On A Recent Letter

You may be aware that one of our members, Joe Carson, used the church database to send letters to some of our members and attendees advancing a personal agenda. We offer access to the database in good faith to all members. However, there is far too much ministry to be accomplished in our community and beyond to allow anyone to misuse church resources for personal reasons. As a result of these actions, the Board of Trustees has directed our legal counsel to write Mr. Carson and instruct him that he is not to come onto our campus including the grounds, the parking lots, or inside the buildings. While everyone is welcome in our church, no one will be allowed to misuse the resources God provides. I hope you will join me in praying for Mr. Carson and his family. Also, if you know Mr. Carson and encounter him in any setting, remember, he is a child of God who should be treated with respect and dignity.

## Pastor Wil Has A New Book!

Congratulations to Pastor Wil on the release this week of his second book, *From Heaven To Earth: Christmas For New Believers, Old Believers, and Nonbelievers* co-authored with Paul Seay. And congratulations to Pastor Glenna who wrote the Study Guide for Leaders to accompany the book to help small groups and classes explore the content. Speaking of content, the core message of the book is focused on why God became human, which is the core of what Christmas is all about. We will be using this book as the basis for our sermon series in Advent this year and you can learn more about the book at

[heaven2earthbook.com](http://heaven2earthbook.com). What a blessing Wil is to the greater United Methodist Church, our church, our staff, and to me, personally.

## **Is God In Your Workplace?**

Where is your workplace? For most of us, it may involve more than one location. For me, some of the places are obvious: my office, the Worship Center and Sanctuary, hospital rooms, assisted living and skilled nursing facilities. Yours may seem obvious, too: your office, job site, your car if you are in sales, the classroom, the boardroom, etc. But some are not as obvious. I often find myself "working" at Walmart or Chick-Fil-A when I run into a church member or engage an employee or server in conversation. Some folks at my gym know I'm a pastor and bring up "God" conversations that emerge from their lives. I once had a deeply evangelistic conversation with an employee at a DMV facility who noticed my occupation on my application for renewal.

This Sunday, our current series, Make It Count, explores how we can make the most of our work by honoring God with whatever we do, wherever we do it. We all work in that we have things that we do with our time. Along with the above examples from the workaday world, retired folks work around the house, in the yard, caring for loved ones, and in volunteer positions. Students of all ages work to learn and grow and advance in their courses of study. The Apostle Paul encouraged the Christ followers at Colossae to do whatever they do with all their heart, as if they were doing it for the Lord.

That applies to you and me, as well. We bring honor and glory to God by using the energy he gives us to the best of our abilities. Embracing this spiritual reality can help bring great joy and satisfaction from our work, regardless of the location of our workplace or the nature of our work. Some of us spend hours each day at our work. How awesome to think that all that time can be used to not only make a living, but to glorify God and be a witness to his goodness. Bring a friend and let's dig in this Sunday.

## **Quickly...**

- Support Student Ministry missions by stopping by the Potato Bake and Cake Auction in the gym this Sunday beginning at 10:30 a.m. with cake auctions at 11:30 and 12:30.
- We continue to celebrate United in Recovery's one-year birthday each Monday in September in the Worship Center. Food at 6:00, spirit-filled worship at 6:30, and open share groups at 7:15.
- You can still join us for our Fall Break Mission Trip to Port St. Joe, FL to help with continue Hurricane Michael cleanup. [Click Here](#) for details and to register.

On a personal note, I appreciate all the support you have shown in the last two days via calls, texts, emails, Facebook PMs, and hallway conversations. It is said that leading a church can be lonely, but in this case, it's clearly not.

I love you and want you to be in the loop.

Larry

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