

Service at Country Church

The event finishing off the Antique Engine Thresher show was the Sunday worship service in the Country Church. The brief rain was what the church needed to freshen up the air and cool things down for the crowd that filled much of the church.

Ken Beougher's message was worthy of sharing to those who were unable to attend. The message he gave was one he wrote when he was in Lay Speakers' School, based on the parable of "The Sower" in Luke 8-18, titled, "The Man and His John Deer Tractor".

One cool spring morning a man got up and opened the back door to his little farm house, it's early in the morning and there are still a couple stars out. He walks over to the barn and pulls the large doors open to see his John Deere Tractor. He walks over to the green machine that smells of old grease, diesel fuel and dust. The man climbs on the green machine and turns the key. The motor turns over and black smoke starts coming out from the exhaust. He puts the tractor in gear and heads toward the fields. It's planting day.

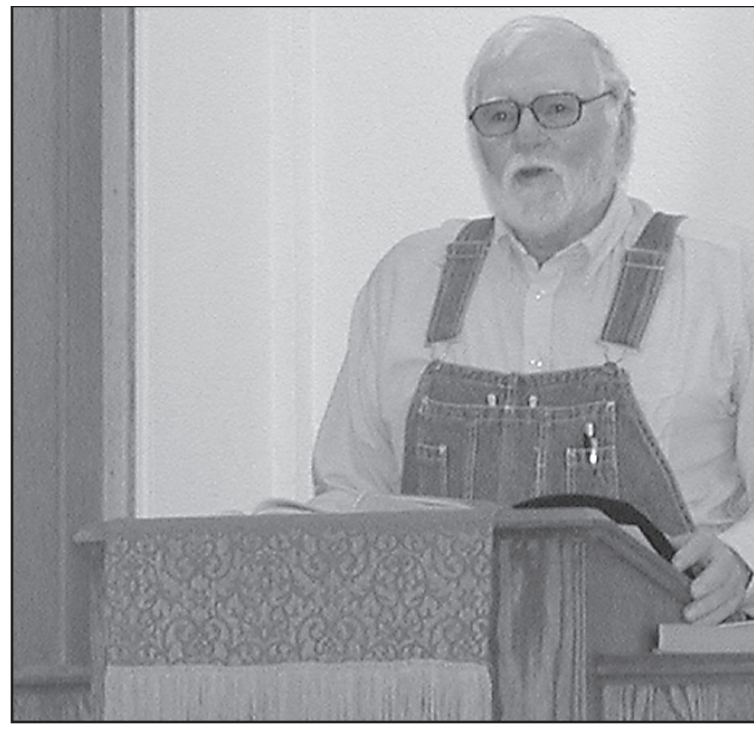
As he drives down the dusty road he hits a bump and turns around to see some of the seed he was planting that day laying among the gravel. The man thinks to himself, "Well there goes a \$250 bag of seed." A car drives past and runs over the spilled seed. The man knew that soon the crows would be there to clean up the mess. He continues to drive toward his fields. As the man gets closer he looks at all the work that had been done and he thought about the work to come as well. His field was perfectly tilled with his J.D. tractor, straight lines and not a weed in sight. He pulls up to the gate and climbs down off of his tractor. He swings the gate open and drives the John Deer into the field. The man drives his tractor along the fence and he starts to plant the seed along the first row. He knows that he is getting good average because some of the seeds are falling off to the side among the rocks and thorns

and nodded receiving the message. Maybe some people just smiled and others said, "Ahhhh okay."

It's easy for all of us to fall in to that same mindset. God as the farmer came and did all the work for us and all we have to do is grow. We get lots of good sunshine enough rain, and lots of good soil. So we just grow where we are planted and God will bring us into the storehouse when the time comes. Well let's keep reading one more verse. "No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or put it under a bed. Instead, he puts in on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light." I imagine that some of the people in the crowd stopped. They may have just cocked their head to the side and thought, "Wait I thought we were talking about farming. What is this lamp business? What are you talking about Jesus?"

Jesus transitions this story so well. He lures the masses of people from every town and then throws out a large net to catch them all. He is saying, "Yes, you who have heard the word of God and hidden it in your hearts are the good crop that is exploding all over the field, but you have a purpose bigger than the field. You are now the beacon of light, of the good news. It's time to find your place where you are to shine out to the masses. God did the first planting, but now it is up to you to till, plant, and harvest more. It's time to get to work."

Those that receive the gift must minister the same. God has sown the seed of the Gospel in our hearts, which means that we also have to become farmers. Now I'm not saying that we are to equate ourselves with God, but instead God is showing us what we are supposed to do, by doing it first. He looks at us and he says, "See how I did this? Any questions? Okay now go and do it the same." Now stop for a moment. Does it say anywhere that this is going to be easy? It's the same way with spreading the seed of the Gospel. The people around us sometimes need hard work. The



KEN BEOUGHER, minister for the Country Church service is telling his version of 'The Man and His John Deer Tractor', using the parable of the seeds that fell by the way side.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

boulders in their lives can hang them up. The boulders are what prevent us from getting good soil. And they needed help to get rid of that junk. With God we can dig those out and cast them away and have good soil. So friends it's time to grab a shovel. We plant the seed God makes it grow.

Now we understand that we are the workers now. We are supposed to sow the Gospel into the hearts of people. That's what we are commissioned to do. We sow seeds with everyone that we meet. We till soil. We break our backs trying to share the good news of Jesus Christ wherever we meet. Now pay attention. God does not call for us to make the seeds grow. The seeds grow because of God. What we are called to do is give that seed every opportunity that we can for it to grow. God takes care of the rest. There are times where you will see the wonderful miracle of the Gospel taking root in the hearts of those

around you, but there are also times where you may not. That's okay. God is working in them.

Jesus wraps up his talk with a couple of statements that seem out of place with the light on a stand. This seems really out of place because we do not have the explanation like we did with the parable. Essentially we have him identifying that God will see your good works in the field, but also he will see if you just drive past the field and not do any work. He who gets to work with his talents will be given more, but he who buries his talent will lose it. If we take our talents, or in church terms "our spiritual gifts" or "our ministry," and put it in place God tells us that we will be given more. In closing the good news is that our seed within our hearts will grow bigger than we can comprehend.

Visitors enjoy the show

Henry Burr from Kansas City, a cousin to the late Willis Burr was visiting with Bonnie Burr, as she was tending to her hat shop in the Eggers building.

Henry grew up in Bird City and left during his high school years Harry Burr worked during the shows. He owns a 1937 F 20 tractor that is in the antique car museum. He and his wife Lela Burr enjoys coming back to attend the thresher shows.

Henry says "I remember the first Thresher Show that was held on Chet Sawyer's field." The first show lasted for 4 hours, and has continually grown from there." His Dad, Harry worked during the shows.

During that time Henry used to run a Massey Harris Threshing Machine which was more difficult to steer than the Holt, as it steered from the back.

Joy Fisher (Blume) grew up north of St. Francis and remembers the first show. She said she is glad to know it is still going as, she feels it pulls the community together which is important, and a wonderful resource of education for the younger generation.



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USD # 103

STATE OF KANSAS
BUDGET FORM USD-A
2012-2013

NOTICE OF HEARING 2011-2012 BUDGET

The governing body of Unified School District 103 will meet on the 13th day of August, 2012 at 6:45 pm, in the Board Of Education room at Cheylin High School for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information (including budget profile) is available at and will be available at this hearing.

The Amount of 2012 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2012-2013 Budget. The "Est. Tax Rate" in the far right column, shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

Code 99 Line	2010-2011 Actual		2011-2012 Actual		PROPOSED BUDGET 2012-2013			
	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2012 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)	
OPERATING								
General	06	1,470,520	20.000	1,444,338	20.000	1,460,359	300,248	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	08	413,291	26.930	406,090	27.007	505,519	436,604	26.871
Bilingual Education	14	30,490		30,810		35,546		
Capital Outlay	16	177,118	6.080	131,448	5.990	207,503	97,490	6.000
Driver Training	18	1,050		1,384		1,884		
Food Service	24	85,518		107,168		119,508		
Professional Development	26	0		29		0		
Special Education	30	228,498		242,694		257,564		
Vocational Education	34	125,000		78,761		83,239		
Federal Funds	07	129,857		114,912		109,092		
Gifts and Grants	35	47,192		49,060		65,918		
At Risk (K-12)	13	147,999		145,000		145,076		
KPERS Special Retirement Contribution	51	73,187		120,974		112,057		
Contingency Reserve	53	0		0		0		
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	20,049		12,510				
Activity Fund	56	10,067		8,909				
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	2,959,836	53.010	2,894,087	52.997	3,103,265	834,342	52.871
Less: Transfers	105	595,661	xxxxxx	515,352	xxxxxx	514,292	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	2,364,175	xxxxxx	2,378,735	xxxxxx	2,588,973	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	749,125	xxxxxx	789,115	xxxxxx	834,342	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx
Recreation Commission	84	7,369	0.050	20,121	1.000	17,700	16,260	1.001
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	756,282		804,457		850,602		
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$13,403,241		\$14,132,677		\$15,012,391		
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$14,576,434		\$15,329,153		\$16,248,278		

Hal Anthony
President

* Tax Rates are expressed in Mills
** Sponsoring District Only

Gene E. Young
Clerk of the Board