



Welcome to First Assembly

12805 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, MD 20906

301/933-2612 301/933-0735 (fax)

church@silverspringag.org pastordoug@silverspringag.org

www.silverspringag.org

Douglas W. Seaman, Pastor

Parsonage: 301/570-0354

From the heart of Pastor Doug September 5, 2010

I welcome you on this wonderful Labor Day weekend! If this is your first time with us, please take a moment to introduce yourself after the service. And would you do your best to fill out the guest card and drop it in the offering? It will be given to you during the service as we welcome all of our first-time guests.

As everyone has noticed, the sanctuary is full Sunday after Sunday. This past week we mailed out our first printed newsletter and it went to nearly 500 addresses! While that's wonderful, the problem is that the sanctuary seats less than 300 people. And each home address we have may represent two or more people, so we have a serious problem, do we not? Church growth studies tell us that when a church reaches an attendance of 80% of its seating capacity, it is full and the situation must be addressed.

Having led Believers for many years, I have also found that how people perceive their attendance at church influences them as well. In other words, people want to know that their presence in a service is needed and makes a positive difference. Currently, we are creating the impression that the services are so full it really doesn't matter if everyone shows up or not. This is contrary to the things we most need to succeed in our walk with the Lord: fellowship and worship. For these reasons and several others like them, we are now offering a second service, in English, every weekend.

In a sense, the first one was last night outside. But beginning this Saturday at 6:00 pm, Pam and I will be here each week to offer more room for everyone, more opportunities to serve in ushering, greeting, praise team, and the like, and more evangelism to the community. As much as possible, the service will be the same as the service the following morning. So if you have to work mornings, or if you are attending the new Swahili gathering on Sunday afternoons, or getting up on Sundays is really, really hard, you have a solution!

Pastor

Communion Sunday



As we prepare our hearts to receive communion, let's remember He paid the debt He did not owe and we owed the debt we could not pay.

New Beginners Class

New to First Assembly? New to the faith? This class is for you. Starts today in the Conference Room--Pastor Doug, teacher

Swahili Language

This fellowship starts today and the following Sundays @ 2pm in the "Upper Room"

Membership Classes

Starts today and continues thru October. Bro. Yommer is the instructor. Those who signed up should be prompt and attend all classes. On completion, the class will be accepted by the Board and entered into membership

Parents, Boys, Girls

Girl's ministry & Royal Rangers 1st registration is 9/8 at 7:30pm.

Men's Retreat

Sept. 17-19 @ Potomac Camp. Signup sheet is in the foyer.

Ladies Fall Getaway @ Potomac Camp, 9/10-11/10

Alicia Chole, Speaker, **Pam Seaman**, Praise/Worship

Online registration at www.potomacag.org

Cost: \$95 includes registration fee, meals (4) & lodging; \$60 without meals, Saturday only (no lodging) is an option
Coordination for carpooling but must sign-up (in Foyer)

Manna House Food Drive

The "Back to School" lunch box drive was a success. Thanks to all who participated.