uggestions for elebrating SAY SOMETHING NICE SUNDAY

Say thank you to people who have made a difference by bolstering spirits at the right time. There are those people who seem to know when a word of encouragement is needed. Speak to them in person or send a brief note. Make someone's day with an unexpected note or gift.

Involve the younger generation by holding a poster contest or essay contest. Post all the entries in some conspicuous place.

Put a "Thank You" box like a Valentine's Day box in the social hall where people can put notes to other members in the church. Distribute the notes on the special Sunday or Wednesday following.

Have a sermon or series of sermons based on the theme or a special Sunday school lesson on the theme on the first Sunday in June.

Recognize the church staff and their families on Say Something Nice Sunday. Families of staff members also deserve recognition for the long hours and family sacrifices that are involved with staff members.

Select a group of young people, senior citizens or a combination of these to read the suggested Bible passages aloud in the worship service on Say Something Nice Sunday and/or include the Sunday before and after.

Print suggested Bible verses on individual pieces of paper and have worshipers take one as they leave to concentrate on during the week.

Say Thank You to Volunteers

Say Something Nice Sunday presents a wonderful opportunity to recognize all the volunteers in the church who give of their time and energy to make sure that all of the activities take place.

It is also a great time for the members to recognize the hard work and dedication of the staff. It takes everyone to carry out the work of the church.

We often forget how important a word of encouragement can be. The right word at the right time can work miracles. "Words fitly spoken are like apples of gold in baskets of silver."

We are to build each other up. It is not a difficult task, but it is easily forgotten in our time crunched lives. A simple thank you or I have been thinking of you is enough. Everyone is disappointed when he or she is not greeted by Clyde at the front door of our church on Sunday morning. He has a friendly and heartfelt greeting for everyone who enters and a piece of hard candy. He is glad to see them and lets them know it.

There are volunteers teaching Sunday school, volunteers singing in the choirs, volunteers on the parking lot, volunteers in the nursery, volunteers on dozens of committees, volunteers at the crisis shelter, volunteers on mission trips, volunteers in the kitchen, volunteers taking care of the sanctuary and volunteers serving as deacons. Every where you look there are people volunteering for the cause of the gospel. They do it out of a thankful heart and not for praise. It takes everyone working together for all of the activities to be coordinated and to run smoothly.

Take a minute on Say Something Nice Sunday to say thank you and to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for all of these wonderful people.