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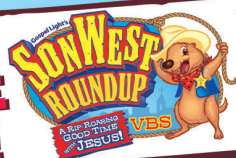
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COME, ADVENTURE IN THE SON!



We're excited about
 Georgetown Christian Reformed Church's
 Vacation Bible School to be held
 July 15 - 19, 2013 from 8:30am to 12pm
 This year's program is SonWest Roundup, a week of fun
 in the Son! As they participate in fun-filled activities, children
 will find ultimate truth in Jesus! We will have a great time with
LIVELY SONGS, HILARIOUS SKITS, CREATIVE CRAFTS,
EXCITING GAMES, BIBLE STORIES AND TASTY SNACKS—
 all of the things that make Vacation Bible School so much
 fun for children. SonWest Roundup can be an inspirational
 and educational experience for your entire family.

Classes for children begin
 SK to Grade 5, Registration is FREE
 and parents are invited to join in
 Thursday, July 18, 2013 from 7pm to 8pm

Call us today at 905.877.4322 for registration information.
 Bring this flyer with you to our registration booth and receive a prize!
 Plan now to join us for a great time at SonWest Roundup!

www.gcrc.com

A Ted Bit

Do we really need to be visually stimulated 24/7?

I've come to the conclusion that the Powers That Be in this world feel we need constant visual stimulation.

Look around you— everyone is punching text into a smart phone, or watching You Tube or a sports event almost continually.

Don't get me wrong, I use a smart phone as much as the next person— but I'm not joined to it at the hip.

Geez, some people can't carry on a conversation without stopping the moment their phone dings, signalling a message has arrived.

And does no one pick up the phone to call anymore?

Nope, they text.

I know texting has its place— I do the same, sending a quick message to The Sidekick to let her know I'm going somewhere, or she'll let me know she is going to be late— that kind of stuff.

Televisions have become babysitters for all our kids.

When I was little, and television was relatively new, my mom had a rule in the house. No TV during the day, if the weather was good outside.

"Go outside and play," she'd say.

And we did.

Today we see child obesity and all the health problems facing kids, partly because they're sitting in front of a TV or on a video game for hours at a time.

And how about those refrigerators that have a television mounted in the door? That seems pretty excessive.

A few weeks ago I thought I'd witnessed the epitome of ridiculousness at an outdoor event. A couple landed in with their two kids to attend the party.

As the day wore on, I noticed their minivan was parked in the shade with the motor running. At first I wondered if someone had forgotten to turn it off.

But as I walked around the back of the vehicle, I noticed that the two kids were in the back seat.

They were watching movies.

Now I'm not sure what the parents spent in gas, (it ran for several hours) and I'm a bit out of the loop when it comes to babysitting costs, but I do believe kids shouldn't spend hours in a van

watching a movie.

Get 'em outside and let them learn how to entertain themselves, not to mention perhaps learn a few social skills— like conversation.

I thought that one took the cake as far as visual stimulation goes.

But I recently saw a situation that reached the upper echelons of reality— when it comes to visual stimulation.

The Sidekick and I went out for dinner last week. It was a nice place, our first time there since it opened under new management.

It's not a sports bar, but it has a number of televisions mounted around the dining room (most tuned in to covering a sports event.)

I could ignore them. It wasn't like I HAD to watch.

But later when I used the washroom, I was taken aback to find a bunch of TVs in the washroom.

In fact, there was one over each urinal, and one by the sinks. For all I know, there could have been one in each stall— I didn't think to look.

Okay, okay, if you're watching THE game of the century, or waiting to see THAT final putt, or the final 12 seconds left in a best of seven, tied overtime game— well that might be important.

But if that's the case, I sure wouldn't be leaving the table to go pee anyway— I'd wait until the clock ran out, or the putt was sunk.

But there they were, lining the wall.

A guy beside me— younger by 30 years I'd guess, looked at the TV, then over at the one by the sink, then at me.

"They sure don't want you to miss anything, do they?" he said rhetorically.

I agreed as we both wondered if the restaurant management had encountered a sale on TVs somewhere.

When The Sidekick returned from the ladies' washroom, she said they had a couple of TVs in there as well.

Being informed is important in this day and age of fast developing events around the world. But there is one thing that strikes me about all.

Personally, I don't need to be entertained when I go pee.

*Ted Brown can be reached at
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**TED
 BROWN**

*'Personally, I don't need
 to be entertained
 when I go pee'*