

CREATION MOMENTS

Proclaiming Evidence for Truth

THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

The Purple Thief



He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD is gracious and full of compassion. (Psalm 111:4)

Birds and insects that take nectar from a flower without picking up any pollen are known as nectar robbers. Now, you'd probably think that nectar robbers would be harmful to plants and trees, but the desert teak tree couldn't survive without a nectar robber – the purple sunbird.

In order to reproduce, this tree needs birds to pollinate its flowers. But since a tree cannot reproduce with its own pollen, it needs birds to fly from flower to flower and from one tree to another. Anything that encourages the pollinating birds to fly farther away helps out the teak trees.

That's where the purple thief comes in. Researchers at the University of Delhi discovered that the sunbird visits the flowers one hour before the pollinating birds arrive. The purple sunbird has a long, sharp beak that pierces the base of the flower to feed, so it doesn't pick up any pollen. It does, however, empty the flower of about 60 percent of its nectar, leaving relatively little for the pollinators. This means that the pollinators will have to travel to more flowers and trees to get enough food, spreading pollen wherever they stop for a meal.

The researchers noted that "the robber plays a constructive and crucial role in the reproductive performance of [a] threatened tree species." How right they are! And this unusual but crucial dining arrangement shows once again what an ingenious God we serve!

Ref: "These trees don't mind getting robbed", Science News. Photo: Purple sunbird. Courtesy of J.M.Garg. (CC BY-SA 3.0 Unported)

Memorial



August 27, 2023

Church Office

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This Week at Memorial

Sunday, August 27, 2023

8:45am - Discipleship Classes

10:00am - Worship

A Look Ahead

9/3 - Breakfast

9/3 - Pastor Nathan Preaching

9/6 - Kids' Connection Resumes

9/9 - Beast Feast

9/12 - Karate Begins

9/13 - Nursery Workers Meeting

9/13 - Christmas Program Practice Begins

9/10-17 - Missouri Missions Wk. of Prayer

9/22 - L.I.F.T.

9/23 - Youth Activity - Zoo

Save the Date

11/7 - Veterans' Luncheon

Thank you for joining us for worship today. If you are visiting or have any prayer needs, please fill out an **MBC Connect Card** and place it in the offering plate.

Christmas Program Practice

Practice for this year's Christmas Program beging September 13. Practice will be each Wednesday from 5:00pm - 5:45pm, with the exception of October 11 and November 22.

Nursery Worker Meeting

There will be a nursery worker meeting at 5:00pm on Wednesday, September 13 in the classroom closest to the restrooms in the FLC. We will be going over policies and invite anyone that might be interested in helping to join us.

August 27, 2023

Joy Junction

8:45am - Cindy S.

10:00am Svc. - Ben S. & Kim S.

Wed. - August 30 - Cindy S.

Junior Church

Lisa R. - Levi J.

Kids Connection

RESUMES 9/6

Usher Ministry

8:45 - Sunday School - Kevin M.

10:00am - Chris S., Gary S., Curtiss C.

Wed. - August 30 - Tim R.

September 3, 2023

Joy Junction

8:45am - Jamie B.

10:00am Svc. - Julie S. & Eric S.

Wed. - September 6 - Linda W.

Junior Church

Jamie B. - James P.

Kids Connection

Amy J. - Ryan G.

Usher Ministry

8:45 - Sunday School - Steve G.

10:00am - Ben S., Ryan W., Gary S.

Wed. - September 6 - Tim R.

Beast Feast

The Beast Feast will be September 9 and will include a 3d bow shoot, bait casting contest and kids' bb gun shoot. Outdoor activities are from 12:00pm - 4:00pm.

There will be a whole hog roast, fish fry, deer, turkey, and other wild game at 5:00pm The guest speaker will be Mark Liggett.

We will need sides and desserts. If you plan to bring food, it must be cooked.

See the flyer on the bulletin board in the hallway near the sanctuary for further details.