



What was the single best part of the Midwest Honeybee Expo?

Bear with me on this one. I know it seems like a weird question to be running with, but there is a purpose - a good one.

Some of you know that Violet has been keeping bees for about ten years. She absolutely loves it - and I love the honey the bees produce! So, we decided to check out the Midwest Honeybee Expo in Madison, Wisconsin last month. The question above was a question asked on a post-expo survey I received this week.

There were LOTS of fascinating things I learned about honeybees at the Expo, since my involvement with Violet's bees has been limited to helping her with "bee chores" every now and then. I just do what she tells me to do without really understanding what's going on in the hive. But even with all the amazing new things I learned, it was still pretty easy to come up with a "best part":

The Opening Ceremony began with the Pledge of Allegiance after which the emcee opened the weekend with a humble, "from-the-heart" prayer (as opposed to just speeding through one out of obligation).

I was pretty blown away by that little opening ceremony. In a time when it's not "cool" to love our country - and even less "cool" to invite God to be part of a non-church gathering - that ceremony set the tone for the entire weekend! I thought, "The folks who organize this have their priorities straight!"

As Violet and I reflected on that opening, we figured that the folks in charge of the opening ceremony had to have gotten some flack for the Pledge and the prayer. But the important thing is they did it anyway!!! It reminded me of something I've said more than a few times:

*"Do the right thing, because it's the right thing - regardless of how people might respond"*

Thanks for asking,  
Pastor David

Send your questions to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)