

# stay connected

We connect people to Jesus and help God change their lives.



## Save the Steeple

Church Family & Friends,

At our Annual Meeting, we heard about many great things that God is doing in our church. With your participation, our church ministries touch people in our community and throughout the world. We thank you for your generous support.

We also heard about multiple projects that are needed on the church building. A big part of this is masonry work needed to fix our steeple to stop water leaks and preserve the integrity of the structure.

We also have several places on the roof that need repairing. And we want to upgrade our restrooms to be handicap accessible and family friendly.

We estimate that these projects will **cost around \$100,000**. Our goal is to have these funds raised by the end of 2021.

Funding projects this large will require special giving. We are asking you to prayerfully consider contributing to this undertaking. Every gift, no matter the size, is meaningful.

This letter with a pledge form was sent out in early March. If you haven't already done so, please fill it out and return it indicating the amount you are willing to pledge

for the Capital Campaign in addition to your normal giving.

You can contribute:

By Check – please indicate “Capital Campaign” in the memo field and sending it to Milton SDB Church, 720 E. Madison Ave. Milton WI 53563

Through the Church website – [theconnecting.church](http://theconnecting.church) – under the “Giving” tab (through Paypal, 2.2% fee)  
GoFundMe – under the name “Save the Steeple – Milton SDB” (no fees!)

**You currently have an opportunity to double your gift! We have a \$5,000 matching grant offered for any support that comes in now until June 16th. Thank you to our generous donors! Tell your friends!**

According to our Vision Lens, “We Live for God’s Glory”. Your gift ensures that God’s glory may continue to shine around our community and beyond through the work of our church.

May we continue to “connect people to Jesus and help God change their lives” for many years to come in this beautiful building with which God has blessed us.

For God’s Glory,  
The Milton SDB Church Trustees

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# MAY

# May Prayer Focus – Parenting & Mentoring

by Renee Sanford, Prayer Coordinator

Biblical examples of parents and mentors abound.



Parents who succeeded. Parents with flaws. Amazing mentors and painful struggles. We can distill principles from the parents we admire, those who:

**Watch carefully** and are active in their children's lives (Job offering sacrifices for his children)

**Stand firm in their faith** no matter how complex the issues (Abraham with Isaac)

**Share their faith** (Naomi guiding Ruth)

**Keep their promises** (Hannah dedicating Samuel)

**Pray for their children** (Hagar praying for Ishmael)

**Bring their children to Jesus** (father of the boy with an evil spirit – I believe, help my unbelief)

**Model obedience and righteousness** (Noah with his sons)

**Provide good advice** (Paul with his spiritual son Timothy)

**Respond to rebellion with love** (the father of the prodigal)

**Seek a future for their child** no matter what the cost (Jochebed hoping for Moses' life)

**Worship and praise God** (Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist & Mary, mother of Jesus)

**Prepare the next generation for leadership** (Moses with Joshua, Elijah with Elisha)

We can learn from parents with flaws and crushing difficulties – seeing the adverse impact on their children when they

**Overprotect or manipulate** (Rebekah with Jacob)

**Show favoritism** (Jacob with Joseph)

**Fail to resolve conflict and jealousy** (Leah and Rachel)

**Suffer the consequences of sin** (Adam and Eve

with Cain and Abel)

**Must cope with conflict and grief** (David with Absalom)

**Fail to discipline** (Eli with his sons)

The very best example of parenting is, of course, God himself who reveals himself as our heavenly father, showing how to love and discipline, prepare and protect.

The very best example of mentoring is Je-



sus, providing the ultimate example of how to live; teaching and preparing his disciples individually and as a group for the task of evangelism.

*LORD, thank you for the richness of Biblical examples of parenting and mentoring. May we be godly parents and mentors. Guide us as we consciously seek to promote the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual growth of those you have entrusted to us.*

## YES, God (Your Encouraging Story) by Barb Green

As I was sorting through a box of old letters and pictures I discovered an article written by my brother, Jon, for a series, called Faith at Home which had been done some years ago. In it he told how our mother's faith had molded our home life. At the end of the paper, he summed it up by listing several characteristics of mom that he felt were outstanding and showed her faith. Coincidentally, the Grow Group lesson I was preparing for that Sabbath concerned the importance of having Godly parents who lived out their faith for their children each and every day. Guess what I used as a springboard for discussion? Was this a coincidence? Of course not, it was God providing that article for me just when I needed it before I even knew I needed it.

This was my encouraging story for that day. What is yours? It doesn't have to be something big or earth-shaking. It is all about being aware of how God works even in the small things and giving Him the glory.

# The Other Crops We are Growing *by Winifred Hoffman*

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As we plunge over the brink into another growing season, full of bright promise and unknown risks, hopes for bountiful harvest and fears of failure, I am more and more aware that the produce of our land and livestock of our pastures are not the only crops we're raising.

For example, an elderly reader speaks fondly of her favorite aunt, who used to take her on walks exploring the woods and meadows.

"She always had time for us," she remembers warmly. That dear aunt was nurturing seeds of lasting importance in the time she spent with the children in her life.



Another friend remembers precious summer afternoons outside collecting butterflies with her young son instead of keeping up with her housework. She saw the worth of letting go of mundane duties enough to capture some timeless moments.

I heard of a farmer who let his boys take a break in the hayfield for a quick game of catch. When another farmer asked if he wasn't worried about getting the hay baled before it rained, he responded, "I'm raising boys, too, you know."

(I expect he found that the boys were more enthused about their work when they weren't driven constantly.)

My own dear husband was not known for being the farmer most caught up with his tasks at hand. But somehow the time he invested in his children, doing projects and having fun together, has borne ample fruit in their lives.



He also included them in his work, which of course made the tasks take longer when they were small, but then they picked up how to labor hard AND value time with family.

One spring afternoon he made them a tiny, home-made wooden windmill and mounted it on a post in the front yard. Another time he delighted the two-year-old by bringing a nice, soft, rotten board onto the porch for the tot to practice hammering nails into.

"Never mind the mess," hubby comforted me, as I fretted about how to clean up after them while I had a newborn baby.

Another time there was the quick trip to the basement for some scrap wood to make a marble game, which still is a favorite of the children that come to my house. One of my

adult sons commented that the time invested in that project has paid off many times over.

Setting fence posts became a soil science experiment. The little boys liked to get down in the hole, while being cautioned not to knock the dirt back in. Once they even collected clay from the bottom and fashioned a duck.

Digging holes to plant apple trees and cherry bushes is another happy memory, which still literally bears fruit for us.

These are stand-out moments, priceless cameos of experience out-weighting the lackluster balance sheet unimpressive to the bankers at the time. And what about you? Who planted and watered seeds of companionship and appreciation as you were growing up? Are there children of any age in your life that might warm to some time spent together this summer?

Shall we pause together to truly see and cultivate what is growing in our midst?

**Father,  
I pray my child will  
experience Gods love  
through the Christian  
adults in their lives.**

# Camp Wakonda

Do you sense it? Are you getting excited? Do you long for the warm weather? The sunshine? All the great outdoor activities? Camp Wakonda!

As I write, Camp Wakonda Promotion Sabbath is a mere 13 days away, but perhaps as you read it's now in the rear view mirror. Thoughts are now

turning to summer time activities and the out of doors. Camp is just around the corner. First let's be reminded of the our Camp dates:

## Camp Calendar

### VBS

No Camps on 4<sup>th</sup> of July Week

### Intermediate Camp

### Junior High Camp

### Senior High Camp

**June 24 – 28, 2019**

June 30 – July 6, 2019

**July 7 – 12, 2019 (Sun.-Fri.)**

final registration deadline: July 3

**July 14 – July 21, 2019**

final registration deadline: July 12

**July 21 – July, 28 2019**

final registration deadline: July 19

**Registration** is now open for camp. Early registration deadline is June 21. Registration materials with complete details, fees, and registration deadlines are available in the Welcome Center at Church or online at <https://theconnecting.church/wakonda/>.

If you are hesitant to attend or sign up your child for concern about funds, the Camp Wakonda Scholarship Fund is healthy! Talk to us! Arrangements can be made. Also we invite contributions to the scholarship fund to help those attend camp.

**Themes:** The overall theme for Camp Wakonda overnight camps in 2019 is Friendship with God and takes its lead from the sermon series Pastor Nate has been emphasizing this Spring from **1 John**. Our VBS theme is **God Knows Me**. Intermediate Camp has

chosen the specific theme **Friends of God** and their high-light Scripture comes from **1 John 4:7, 11-12**. Junior High Camp will highlight **A True Friendship with Jesus** which takes its aim from **John 15:15**. Senior High Camp will focus on the main theme **Friendship with God**, with a key Scripture taken from **Psalm 42:2**.

**Prayer Support:** Your prayer support for Camp Wakonda is solicited and encouraged. Our directors and support staff appreciate your prayers as they recruit and build their staffs. Also please pray for the entire staff God will be calling to serve this summer. Many times over the years there is the planned pro-

gram we have at camp and there is the program that God has in store for the individuals He calls for many reasons to be at Wakonda for just the purposes He has in store for them. By way of reminder our Directors and support staff are: Vacation Bible School: **Doneta Osborn & Kathleen Holbrook** (directors); Intermediate Camp: **Cheyane Merz** (director) with **Angie Mullen** (assisting with teaching); Junior High Camp: **Shelly Perry** (director); Senior High Camp: **Pastor Nate** (director); Kitchen Supervisor: **Doneta Osborn** and her kitchen staff; Medical Director: **Sydnee Palmer**.



# CAMP WAKONDA

# Welcoming our “new” Nursery Coordinator

by Angie Mullen, Director of Children’s Ministry

It is my pleasure to introduce to you our new Nursery Coordinator – Emily Williams. The words “introduce” and “new” are used very loosely here. Emily has actually been with us, working with our children in the nursery since 2014.

Not only does she care for our children here on Sabbath mornings and Wednesday evening, she also cares for children in the community each day as a Lead Teacher at Saint Johns Little Saints Learning Center in Edgerton. She has much experience working with little ones in her care.

She currently attends Mercy



Hill Church in Janesville. When not working with children, Emily enjoys spending time at the library, riding her bike, and spending time with her niece, Piper.

Emily took on the role of Nursery Coordinator for us on March 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition to loving and caring for our infant – 4 year olds in our nursery, she is responsible for scheduling and supervising the other nursery workers, maintaining

a safe, clean environment in our nursery, preparing the Gospel Light lessons for our littlest ones each week, and other oversight of the nursery. Emily is supported by our Children’s ministry program here at church, with Angie Mullen and Pastor Liz supervising her. Please stop in and officially “welcome” her to this new position. Join us in praying for her as she carries out the important ministry of loving, caring for, nurturing and teaching the youngest members of our church family and their parents.



May	
1	Collision
8	Collision
15	Collision
22	End of Year Cookout– Goodrich Park



**Annual End-of-School Year Family Cookout**

The last night of Collision is May 22<sup>nd</sup>. All family members of Collision students are invited to a cookout at North Goodrich Park from 6-8 pm. In addition to the food there will be some game time for students and a time to celebrate our graduating senior. Parents, please RSVP to [collisionyf@gmail.com](mailto:collisionyf@gmail.com) so we can get a good head count.

# Memorable Moments from CROSS *by Linda Lyke*

For those of us who went to CROSS Conference, the young adult missions conference in January, the impact is lasting. Each month I'll share a few memorable quotes from various speakers:

When you are living to make disciples of the nations, then you are living for something you cannot do on your own. You need the word of God and the Spirit of God at every moment.

If God says he's going to do something in the face of everything that seems to oppose what he promises, you trust

that promise; and that means being strong and courageous against all the odds.

You cannot separate theology, worship and missions. They go together inextricably.

Spend your life for Jesus 'cause one day it'll all be over, the final curtain will come down. And you'll be asked one question. "What have you done for the Gospel treasure that I entrusted to you?"

In glory, we will get to have a beautiful glorious feast, gathered around Jesus, all together.

er. And we'll be able to glory in the fact that the Lord accomplished that through a bunch of sinners who linked arms and trusted him and he did things that we could never have done on our own.

I don't want my life to be built on my fears but on the solid rock of Jesus.

Idolatry of American society is safety. Scripture does not say we will be safe, it says suffering will be part of life. Wrong question: will I be safe? Those fueled by his Spirit are willing to endure suffering.

## Summer Missions Scholarships

Is God calling you to a short-term mission trip or project this summer? Applying for a scholarship is simple – filling out a form and agreeing to report back to the church on what was accomplished and how it impacted you. Your church would like to support you monetarily and through prayer. Please contact the church office if you plan on doing a mission summer mission project or trip.

## Kwik Trip cards

are available in the church office!

Profits go to support our church's outreach and missionary efforts.



## School's Out for the Summer

We're giving you the summer off from Grow Groups *again* this year! We encourage you to take a break and an opportunity to spend more time with family and friends and all the fun options that summer brings. We'd also encourage you to join up with one of our regular year-round Bible study opportunities like Men's Breakfast or the one of the women's studies. If you want more information see Pastor Liz.



## Men's Softball

Monday Nights  
May 6, 6:00 p.m.  
May 13, 8:00 p.m.  
May 20, 6:00 p.m.  
Dawson Field  
in Janesville

*Come on out and cheer them on!*

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# The Significance of the Church in Missions

by Bethany Crandall

At first it seemed a little counterintuitive; to not just mention, but spend generous amounts of time on the local church at a missions conference geared towards sending young people out into the world. But as the mentions of the local church grew in number and culminated in a sermon by Trip Lee, I realized that in my love, research, and experience with missions I had fundamentally skimmed over its key: the church. Over the course of the CROSS Conference, a young-adult missions conference that a group from Milton SDB attended in January, the Lord began to correct and refine my love for the local church and its role in the global mission. The church is not only important in spreading the gospel, but is inextricably connected to missions.

The church is not as popular today as it once was. Too often members walk away from their church bodies, not to walk away from the Lord, but due to division within the church. College students never find a home church, families hop churches every couple of months, members attend churches for years and never fully invest their time or talents. Music taste, relational disputes between members, and minor theological disagreements create division and lead to half-hearted service or giving up all together. Our churches are made up of bro-

ken people, and broken people coming together, even redeemed broken people, can be messy. But the body of Christ builds itself up together.

Ephesians 4:13-16 *“until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”*

However messy, often difficult, and mundane the local church can be, she is the bride that Christ has chosen; the means given to keep us, grow us, and glorify God through us.

Since we can clearly see the importance of the local church, we must directly apply this to missions. Our goal in missions must be the establishment and growth of the church. In making disciples

and discipling believers, the church must be the goal. If we are excited about going into the world to bring people to

Jesus, but not excited about our local churches, then we are misinformed and misleading those to whom we preach. Likewise, if we are dedicated to the growth and vibrancy of our churches, but not concerned with bringing

people to them and sending our members out, we are not fulfilling Christ’s mission for the church. The local church grows, trains, supports, and gives people to go. It is our duty as the church to teach on the importance of missions. It is our duty to provide support and opportunities to members interested in global missions for whatever length of time. It is our duty to encourage the spread of the gospel in the local context as a body and as individual members.

Invest deeply in your church. Seek mentorship from older members, encourage younger members, give of your gifts and talents freely, and understand that in this you glorify God and honor Christ’s bride. Make it your mission to go out and make disciples, bringing them into the loving community of your church.



# Thank you for Your Donation of Diapers to Devon Oasis

On Wednesday, March 27, fourteen from our church – including 8 youth – traveled to Chicago's "Little India" neighborhood to our partner ministry, Devon Oasis. Pastor Bob Andrews leads Devon Oasis with his wife Lynne. He took the time to explain to the youth that 132 of the 195 countries in the world are represented in this densely populated neighborhood, the most densely populated neighborhood in the US other than New York. In the local schools, over 50 languages are spoken.



There are over 25 million refugees in the world now – those who are forced to flee their country. Over 100,000 are permanently resettled in other countries, with the US having more refugees than all other countries combined. With the Rohingya, over 700,000 fled their home of Myanmar in one year – similar to the population of the entire city of Milwaukee.

Information about Devon Oasis' work:

- There are 50 plus interns that serve every week.
- There are approx. 60 volunteers total at Devon.
- They partner with approx. 10 churches, including ours. Usually because the churches are a distance

away, they cannot send volunteers on a regular basis, but they support them financially and through prayer. Not all of them are able to support them financially because of their small size but



sometimes individuals within the churches support them regularly. Only 20% of the ministry is in their storefront location because their rent is too high to have a bigger place, which forces them to be out in the community building relationships. Which is a very good thing!

A few of us stayed behind to help with a diaper distribution to the neighbors in need. They were very much appreciated!! 4252 diapers and many baby wipes were collected! Thank you for your generosity!

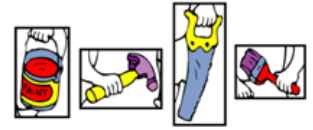
**Mark your calendar for our annual Day for Refugees: June 1st:** Once again, we will have a service devoted to the refugee situation in the world and how we can impact this for God's glory.





## Calling All Wise Guys

Attention men and boys! On **Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – Noon** at Camp Wakonda we will hold the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Gathering of the **Wise Guys**.



Our mission is to help with projects that will get Camp ready for the summer. In addition to the camaraderie that we will enjoy working together, we will also be sharing in brunch together along with a devotional message on “How To Be A Wise Guy” from Pastor Nate. All men and boys of the church are invited. If you have friends that you will like to invite, they will be welcome to join us! If you have questions about the projects we will be tackling that morning, see Brandon Crandall.

## Operation Christmas Child Look for these Items in May & June!

Here is a list of items to donate for Operation Christmas Child for the “item of the month.”

However, if you see an item at a bargain price, grab it. Place items in the trunk in the back stairway.

**If you are buying clothing for the OCC, please note that we have all the socks that we need for this year. Plenty of other clothing is needed, but not socks. Thank you!**

### May & June:

**Summer Items:** children's t-shirts (plain, no writing), smaller flip flops, small slip-on sandals, smaller balls, uninflated soccer balls & pumps, jump ropes, summer toys, sunglasses, hats/ ball caps

**WOW Items (fun special gifts):** small cars, small dolls, small stuffed animals, small toys (puppets, trucks, small etch-a-sketch), kazoos/ harmonica, yo-yos/ slinkys, small lego kits, play doh, small games, toys that light up or make noise (with

extra batteries), flashlights, musical instruments, playing cards, glow sticks

**Since we know our packed boxes went to Gabon and Mongolia last year, here are prayer requests for these two countries:**

**Mongolia:** Praise the Lord that Christianity is a reality for the first time in modern history! Perhaps only 4 Mongolian believers existed in 1989 but by 2010 over 40,000 believers worshiped in hundreds of churches and groups around the country! The church is less than one generation old, but already sends missionaries to unreached areas, runs national ministries, and develops its own Mongolian-style worship music. Pray for the strength of their faith in the Gospel and for continued growth of new Christians.

**Gabon:** In Gabon, 80% of population are Christian but 2/3 of them are Catholic. Spiritist beliefs and practices lie



beneath the surface of Catholicism, other Christian groups and Islam. Many Gabonese still use charms, hallucinogenic drugs, and ancestral spirits, and go to medicine men. Some leaders of the government, the police, and the army participate in night-time rituals that use witchcraft and black magic. Christians who don't participate can be refused academic or professional opportunities. Pray that the light can penetrate the darkness and the truth of the Gospel can shine through.

Source: [Pray for the World](#)

## Zac in Spain

Zac Muench has been in Spain just a few weeks – but he’s been busy:

I’ve been helping plan the skateboarders discipleship school that will be starting this spring, as well as learning about administration & hospitality/organization. Learning the language has been somewhat difficult, but all the staff meetings here are in Spanish so it puts me in a place of having to learn – which is rough but successful. **I’m so thankful that He has given me a community here where I can learn and grow.**

The culture shock has been surprisingly harder than I assumed it would be. I’m so busy - most days end with me wishing there were 2 more hours to accomplish everything I need to. Honestly, I’ve been feeling a little stretched thin – but God has been working!

A week ago I was having my quiet time and God showed me an image of endless light on the left side and the lightness fading out on the right side. He was saying that His grace (the light) is as deep as I allow it to be, whether enough for survival somewhere towards the right side of the spectrum, or diving into the endless depths of it on the left. I decided I wanted the vast ocean of His grace; so that was really encouraging for me.

You know how sometimes God just knows exactly what you need and how to encourage

you? He sure does with me. Knowing that skate supplies are pricey here, I brought my old beat-up board and a new spare from the States. I figured I’d use my old one until I couldn’t anymore, and then switch it with the new when I absolutely had to. Walking into my room one day, there was a barely used skate-deck laying on my bed in very good



Some of the guys I’ll be doing skate ministry with for the upcoming years!

condition. With it was a note from my roommate saying that it was for me. I was super humbled! God keeps showing me that He is providing for my needs, and even sometimes for my wants, which is still so crazy to embrace.

**Things like this keep reminding me that He’s in charge of finances/everything and that I don’t have to stress.**

God faithfully continues to guide me. Ever since last year, I had peace about staying in Barcelona long term, and God seemed to be pointing me in that direction again and again (in spite of me not always liking it). After these few weeks it’s become even clearer, so I will be officially staying for 3

years, learning how to start, lead, organize, and pioneer different ministries. Although learning administration, hospitality and structure don’t particularly sound exciting, they’re a vital part of a ministry’s foundation.



### Prayer Requests:

- For the school: Students, staff, leadership, planning & structure.
- For a continued reminding of the simplicity of God’s grace.
- Working with others is great, but it can be difficult. So prayers for unity, forgiveness, and love in the YWAM Barcelona

community.

- Financial provision
- Getting visa appointments & ID cards (we got fingerprinted and applied for resident visas)
- That learning the language would come with ease.

*From Renee Sanford:*

Zac still has funding to raise. He needs \$17,400 annually and has commitments for about half of that. You can donate through church or on line at <http://skatersofchrist.org/support-skaters-of-christ>

He’d also love “tangible paper letters” at Gran Via De Les Corts Catalanes, 863 Piso 3-3 08018 Barcelona, Barcelona Spain.

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# A Businessman and a Distinguished Speaker?

by Nathaniel Muench

Greetings! It's been another wild and busy 7 weeks! It's been rad seeing what the Lord has been up to!

## run skateboard co.

And now for something completely different! I've been working on developing, marketing and selling skate merchandise. Yes, really.

Around three years ago when I was living in Berlin, God put a vision on my heart for a skateboard brand – not a normal one but one that would be used as a platform to reach skateboarders with the Gospel. I pushed it off and didn't act or do anything with it. I would think about it time and again and even wrote up a business plan, but it just sat on the shelf.

This year God started to bring it back to my heart. In January I started watching videos on fabrics and fashion and was hooked. I watched a documentary called "The True Cost," which talked about the clothing industry and how many clothes are thrown away each year as well as the cost and number of people who are forced to work for so little so we can buy a cheap tee-shirt at Walmart.

I wanted to do this brand differently, with the gospel weaved in it as well as valuing

the people who make clothes and being good stewards of what God has given us. What I came up with is the motto "**Fair and Recycled**



## Shreddables."

Shred is a term we use in skateboarding for doing a wild trick. I started tinkering with ideas and used leathers and

fabrics to make stuff. That's where the recycled part comes in. The goal is to have high quality gear that every skater would want to buy, as well as sponsoring local skateboarders and being present at skate contests. The way the platform that will reach the larger skate scene around Europe. We hope to have a website up soon and begin offering merchandise.

## Shreddable Weather and Conference Opportunities

The weather is finally clearing and that has opened the doors for skating again, and really focusing on the upcoming shred season. We're really excited about what God is going to do in the local Nuremberg scene this year.

We are working together with an organization called SHINE on a large Christian youth festival. We will be doing demos and **building a halfpipe for the event and giving a talk.**

Another cool thing I'm really stoked about is an email I got a

few weeks ago from the European Christian sports movement. They are having a national gathering and have **asked me to be a speaker on skate and action sports ministry.** So the end of May I will be there on the podium! Please keep me in prayer! Specifically, for:

**Wisdom** – for the right decisions to be made with the skate brand project and ongoing ministry

**Financial Support & Visa approvals** – always nagging there in the background is the annual visa renewal and the need to document financial support (which sometimes is erratic and lags a bit)

**Energy** – the past few weeks have been all gas, no breaks, so prayers for energy and motivation when it's hard to sometimes find

**Fruitful ministry** – that God will continue to guide us here with skate ministry and that we can be good stewards over the relationships and opportunities that he has already given us

Thank you so much for all your prayers and support. I'm beyond thankful for all the Lord is doing and the doors He has opened as well as the doors he's closed. Lots of love!

Nathaniel

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## **GIFTS** *by Beau Gilmore*

We completed our week of serving at the Gifts ministry with great success. I would like to thank all those who provided food, volunteered their time either serving the meals or/ and staying overnight. It was great to see a number of new people who became involved for the first time. Our next date for serving the ministry is the week of Oct. 7th. The men are still talking about the quality of meals we provided. They don't always get such a well balanced meal. The shelter has a number of nights that are open for serving

a meal this spring and summer. If you are interested in providing a meal on one of these nights either contact me or Brittany Ranum, who is the outreach director, at 608-373-1901. This would be a great way for a family, group of co-workers, or an organization to serve the Lord.

The biggest news for the Gifts ministry is that our building has been paid off. The goal of 1.6 million dollars has been



met. This is truly an act of the Lord. God has blessed the shelter many different times and this is one of those times. I have seen what the Lord is doing and has done in the lives of the men, and it is exciting. I ask that you keep the shelter and the men in your prayers as the summer months approach. There are a number of things that the shelter is always in need of – paper napkins, coffee creamer, sugar just to mention a few. God bless to all.

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## **Koinonia Singers** *by Larry Schultz*

*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with Him, and He with me.*  
Rev. 3:20



Koinonia Singers are gearing up to go 'knocking on doors' of hearts as this year's tour is approaching on June 21-June 30. The theme this year is based on the above verse from Rev. 3:20. Not only is Jesus 'knocking at the doors of human hearts', but Jesus is Real and not just a Thing, a Club, Religion or only a Belief, but He is Someone. And He is Someone you can really know and meet with.

We have 45 young people participating this year and about 17 volunteers going as chaperones. We'll share details next month so you can come see the singers.

What a blessing that we can continue with this ministry which has touched so many lives throughout the 44 years we've been able to go with the Lord's message of Salvation. We've been all over Wisconsin and 14 states in those years

and here we go again! We are thanking Him, and you, that this has been possible through His leading and your willingness to contribute with your prayers and financial support. Speaking of prayers, we would ask that you pray for safety and that all vehicles and equipment run well. But most of all we ask prayers for the Lord to open the doors of hearts to meet our Real Savior, Jesus Christ.

And speaking of support for the ministry, we want to be sure everyone knows about the change from YFC to Koinonia Youth Ministry over the past few months. So if you have questions as how you can keep supporting us please reach out to me at 608-921-9999. And we are looking for new support so please help us spread the word. We are also working on a website coming soon.

Thank you again for joining us with Jesus to 'knock on the doors of human hearts' with the best good news that Jesus is Real and a soul can Really know Him. Contributions can be made to Koinonia Youth Ministry by making your check out to Milton SDB Church with KYM in the memo.

# Grow Group: Mental Illness is Not a Choice

by Barb Green, Parish Nurse

May is National Mental Health month- a time to focus on the real and sobering facts of mental illness and the consequences to all of us. For every person who suffers from a mental health problem there are others who are also affected: spouses, children, parents, grandparents, teachers, friends, co-workers, classmates, neighbors, medical personnel and the church, to name a few. The list is endless.

On Sabbath mornings from 9-10:00 in the library there is a group that focuses on mental illness and the problems it presents. Those who attend may suffer from a mental illness, have a family member who does or just be interested in the topic. The goal of the class is to provide a platform where we can become educated, speak about our problems, support and pray for each other and banish the stigma surrounding mental illness. Anything discussed is confidential.

We do this in a variety of ways including Bible studies, movies, discussion of current events and speakers from the church and surrounding community. Through these means we have learned about suicide, eating disorders, anxiety, counseling opportunities, adverse childhood events, support groups and other topics.

We have learned that mental illness is a disease of a physical organ, the brain. Like diabetes or cancer it is real and treatable. We have gained empathy from listening and discussing. We also learned that the stigma attached to mental illness runs rampant and discourages people from talking openly about their illness and from seeking treatment. This stigma is often based on fear and misunderstanding and serves to harm as much or more than the illness itself.

The church has often failed to support the mentally ill in our midst because we don't understand the illness, what the person needs from us or how to relate. This grow group is working to remedy this. The church needs to provide healing to all people by forming relationships and exposing mental illness to the healing light of God's love. The church should not lag but lead the way in creating an environment in which it is safe to talk about mental illness and where those suffering from this disease feel welcome.

Guests who have attended our Grow Group have been amazed that a church would have a group who openly discusses these issues. One of the best ways to combat the stigma surrounding mental illness is to become educated. Please join us on Sabbath mornings as we share, care and learn.

## Grow Group Guest Speaker

On May 4<sup>th</sup> Jerry Schuetz will speak to the mental health support group about his ongoing struggles with post traumatic stress disorder which occurred as a result of his police work.

All are invited to attend on Sabbath morning, May 4 at 9 a.m. in the church library.

## Pregnancy Helpline

Have you seen the movie "Unplanned"? Did it motivate you to help the pro-life movement, save babies, help families, and show your faith in God's creation? Pregnancy Helpline and Resource Center was founded in 1983. It is a faith-based organization whose mission is to advocate for life, faith and family. Their hotline assistance is available 24/7/365 days a year.

Volunteers are always welcome. Activities for this year include a Spring Banquet on May 10, diaper derby on June 1<sup>st</sup>, participation in Freedom Fest and an August Golf outing. For more information please call 608-755-0285 or e-mail Cheryl@pregnancy-helpline.net.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Josh & Margot Harris	17 Celeste Armstrong	25 Eric Camenga
6 Annmarie Bennett	17 Wesley Sonntag	26 Robin Bliese
6 David Geier	19 Jeff & Lacey Sonntag	27 Kristina Payne
7 Josh Harris	20 Rinald & Teresa Kersten	27 Fred & Leanne Wuerthele
7 Attia Walewangko	20 Tom & Tara Rotzoll	28 Matt Uglum
13 Dale Green	22 Phil Watson	29 Jill Groelle
13 Brian & Kristina Payne	22 Genna Mullen	29 Jamie & Jennifer Dutcher
15 Angie Mullen	23 Shawn Hamm	29 Deb Perrino
15 Jeremy & Melissa Howard	24 Becky Leitel	29 Shanny Snyder
		29 Becky Snyder

## Bulletin Board

### Third Thursday Prayer – WHAT'S COMING UP

We'll be heading outdoors for Third Thursday Prayer in May and June. May 16 our focus will be Eastside Elementary. We'll do a prayer walk, praying for the teachers, staff, children and families of Eastside – and picking up some trash as well.

On June 20, we'll head out to Camp Wakonda to pray for the camp and this summer's campers. We'll enjoy the beauty of Camp Wakonda and do a bit of outdoor clean up as well.

We have such a privilege as believers to impact our world for Christ. Come and add your prayers as we ask for God's good and perfect will be done at Eastside and Camp Wakonda!

### Ladies Morning Sit & Sip

Tues., May 21, 9:00 a.m.  
Havana Coffee,  
1250 Milton Ave., Janesville

### Ladies Evening Sit and Sip

Thurs., May 23, 6:00 p.m.  
Angie Mullen's home  
5054 Walnut Grove, Milton

Angie will have some light appetizers and various drink choices available as we visit.

If weather is nice,  
we may sit outside.

**All ladies are invited to  
attend both events.**

### Men's Breakfast

All men are welcome to join in this time of study and fellowship. Led by Pastor Nate. Meets every Weds. at the IHOP Restaurant in Janesville at 6:30 a.m.



### Breakfast Club

Sunday, May 19, 8:30 a.m.  
Denny's in Janesville  
All are welcome!

### Focus on Funds

as of March 31, 2019

General Fund Balance	\$ 8,218.72
Cash at Mem. Fund	\$64,783.65
March Undesignated Income	\$21,667.37
March Expenses	\$15,657.04
Denomination Giving YTD	\$ 1,991.59

# May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px solid pink; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Sabbath Sunset Times</b></p> <p>May 3 7:58 p.m.    May 4 8:00 p.m.            May 10 8:06 p.m.    May 11 8:07 p.m.            May 17 8:14 p.m.    May 18 8:15 p.m.            May 24 8:20 p.m.    May 25 8:21 p.m.            May 31 8:26 p.m.    June 1 8:27 p.m.</p> </div>			1	2	3	4
			6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP 9:30 Ladies Bible Study - Sanford's  6:25 Awana Awards Night 6:30 Collision	9:15 Ladies Bible Study - Call's  		9:00 Grow Groups 10:00 Treats 10:30 Worship
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:00 Wise Guys - Camp Wakonda 1:00 Eagle Scout Ceremony - Sanc. 6:00 Awana Staff Appreciation - FH 6:30 Koinoina Rehearsal - LGA	8:00 TOPS - Library		6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP 9:30 Ladies Bible Study - Sanford's  6:30 Collision	9:15 Ladies Bible Study - Call's		9:00 Grow Groups 10:00 Treats 10:30 Worship
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
 Lubke Piano Recital  6:30 Koinoina Rehearsal - LGA	8:00 TOPS - Library		6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP 9:30 Ladies Bible Study - Sanford's  6:30 Collision	9:15 Ladies Bible Study - Call's  6:30 Third Thursday Prayer - Parlor		9:00 Grow Groups 10:00 Treats 10:30 Worship  
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30 Breakfast Club - Jessica's, White-water 9:00 Trustees - Library  6:30 Koinoina Rehearsal - LGA	8:00 TOPS - Library	9:00 Ladies Sit 'n Sip - Havana Coffee Shop	6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP 9:30 Ladies Bible Study - Sanford's  6:00 Collision Picnic	9:15 Ladies Bible Study - Call's  6:00 Evening Ladies Sit 'n Sip - Angie Mullen's		10:00 Treats 10:30 Worship
26	27	28	29	30	31	
6:30 Koinoina Rehearsal - LGA	8:00 TOPS - Library  		6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP 9:30 Ladies Bible Study - Sanford's	9:15 Ladies Bible Study - Call's		 Mid-Year Members Meeting June 23rd 9:00 a.m.

**Milton SDB Church**  
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**Milton, WI 53563**  
**Church Phone:** 608-868-2741

**Pastor Nate Crandall**  
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**Administrator:** Janet Butler  
E-mail: [churchoffice@miltonsdb.org](mailto:churchoffice@miltonsdb.org)  
Office Hours: Tues.- Fri. 9:00- 3:30

**Director of Children's Ministry:**  
Angie Mullen

**Prayer Coordinator:**  
Renee Sanford

**Outreach Coordinator:**  
Linda Lyke

**Parish Nurse:**  
Barb Green

**Camp Program:**  
Verne Wright

**Communications Coordinator:**  
Joel Osborn



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May  
2019

*He saved us  
through the washing  
of rebirth and renewal  
by the Holy Spirit...*

TITUS 3:5, NIV

the **connected** **church**  
Milton Seventh Day Baptist