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



Camp Wakonda: A Home – Part of Our Story – A Place to be Fed *by Verne Wright*

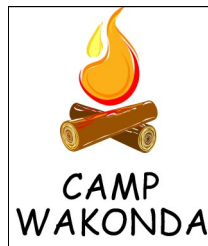
We all need a home; we all have a story and we all need to be fed.

We all need a home. Right now, as I type this article, I am looking at an old black and white photograph of a shaded house with a '57 Chevy parked in front. The picture (no, not online! and yes I am **that** old) is one of the first homes of which I have very clear memories. My parents and I lived in that home for seven years. I recall my sadness when we had to move. Since that time more than 50 years ago when I have traveled back to Massachusetts I managed to drive by that old neighborhood to see that old house. A home gives stability and roots. A home is where learning, protection, and shelter take place from the rest of the world. And yet for all that, many of us go through many homes over our lifetimes. Since that old house in Massachusetts, I personally have had about twelve different places I could call "home". Sometimes moving from home to home produces a lot of anxiety. And truth be told any home we have here in this world, no matter how permanent or secure is transient. Jesus' disciples knew this reality first hand. John 14-17 narrates Jesus preparing his disciples for his eventual death. He is getting ready to leave and they are sad. Jesus at John

14: 2-3 (NASB) assures the disciples *"in my Father's house there are many dwelling places, were it not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you and if I go and prepare a place for you I will come again and receive you to Myself that where I am there you may be also."*

This is a word of assurance, and while we normally may associate this word with the conclusion of one's earthly life I think it also appropriate to remember that Jesus is with us now by the power of the Holy Spirit.

So the question comes back to Camp Wakonda. How do we make Camp Wakonda home for our campers, even if just for the one week they will spend there? We make it home by remembering it's not a place to be but a Who. Camp Wakonda becomes a home when we invite the presence of the Risen Lord Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit to be the One we come for as our home. And Jesus always goes with us no matter where our transient "earthly" home might end up being located.



Continued on page 2

July/August 2019 Inside this issue:

Camp Wakonda	2,3
Prayer Focus	2,3
What is an Elder?	4
One Apple Lunch	5
Bible Breakfast	5
With Gratitude	6,7
Refugee Update	8
News from Nathaniel & Zac	9
Operation Christmas Child	9
News from James Lima	10
Prayer Shawl Thanks	11
Generosity	11
Revelation	12
Lemonade for the Church Roof	13
Lyme Disease	14
Bulletin Board	13-15
Calendars	16-17



Camp Wakonda, *continued*

We all have a story. Did you ever consider that Camp Wakonda is a gardening ministry? Gardening is about planting seeds. Let me explain, but first, I share from the Upper Room devotions for May 1, 2019. The contributor of the day, Matt Simmons explains that he had visited his friend, Willy, for over a year. In that time, he had listened patiently to the story of Willy's life. A story that talked about his "children, nature, and the stoke that made him less motivated and angry. Willy had a long history of drug abuse, alcoholism, wrong turns, and pain that he carried deep inside." Matt, in the commentary on the Scripture passage indicated "Willy just needed to be heard." One day when Matt drove up Willy told Matt he "...went to the Church and got right with God." Soon thereafter Willy died. Matt concludes his comments "In the last months of Willy's life the Holy Spirit had called him to walk through the church doors and forever be with God."

What has this got to do with gardening and Camp Wakonda? The Apostle Paul comments at 1 Corinthians 3:5-6: "What is Apollos? What is

Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one. I planted. Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth."

During the sessions of camp, we will hear the stories of the campers. Though maybe not as dramatic as Willy's by hearing the campers stories, as sometimes fragmented and in bits and pieces as those stories come, we will have the chance to "plant seed" and "water" trusting "God to cause the growth". Like Willy in the devotional our campers "just need to be heard" because we all have a story. A story the Holy Spirit can use to invite us to make Jesus our home.

We all need to be fed. If at Camp Wakonda we come to our home in Jesus and we have a gardening ministry; then we also need to feed the campers. Our bodies will quickly wear out and weaken for lack of food. Also our souls.

The contributor to the Upper Room devotion for May 7, Martyn Haynes, recounts how



in the 1950s when visiting his grandparents in Ohio a homeless man drifting from one place to another could often be found sitting on the back porch of his grandparents house eating a sandwich and milk prepared by his grandmother. Seems his grandparents' house was near the railroad tracks and a pile of unused railroad ties marked by homeless men drifting through using chalk or paint or whatever was available directed other homeless men behind them where to find food. The contributor goes on to narrate that his grandparents' example is why he participates in prison ministry today: to show others where to find nourishment for their souls: The Word of God. Our children attending Camp Wakonda need to be fed for their souls. Jesus reminds us: "...People won't live only by bread, but by every word spoken by God."

(Matthew 4:4, CEB. See also Deut. 8: 3 NASB)

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Who are our camp directors? Who are our camp counselors? Servants who plant and water by listening to our campers stories, trusting God to give the growth.

PRAYER FOCUS – July and August

Our July prayer focus will be on Camp Wakonda. Our August prayer focus will be on the education community (schools, teachers, students, support staff).

We'll provide more information and prayer points each month.

Please take time to pray!



Camp Wakonda...Still Time to Register for Camp!

A reminder that there is still plenty of space and time to register for camp. The dates and final registration deadlines for each of the overnight camps are:

- Intermediate Camp – entering grades 4-6, July 7-12, final deadline for registration: July 3
- Junior High Camp – entering grades 7-9, July 14-21, final deadline for registration: July 12
- Senior High Camp – entering grades 10-12, July 21-28, final deadline for registration: July 19

Registration forms and complete information are available at the Welcome Center at Church and online at theconnecting.church/wakonda.

Remember snack/food donation clipboards are at the Welcome Center to sign-up for items to donate and help support Camp Wakonda.

Also remember that scholarship help is available as well. Lastly, we ask for your prayer support for the camp directors, staff, and campers for each of our three overnight camps.



Camp Wakonda Prayer Scriptures 2019

SALVATION – LORD, help our campers choose to receive the blessing of salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory (John 10:28-29 - *I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.*)

SEEKING GOD – Fill our campers with your Spirit, guiding them to seek you with all their heart and soul (Deuteronomy 4:29 - *You will seek the LORD your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul.*)

HEALING – LORD, you are the healer and comforter. Please heal the emotional and physical wounds that our campers have experienced in their young lives (Isaiah 53:5 - *But he was pierced for our transgressions;*

he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. John 14:16 - I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.)

KINDNESS – Help our campers to be kind to each other and to everyone else. Help them build healthy relationships with the staff and other campers (1 Thessalonians 5:15 - *See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.*)

TRANSFORMATION – Do your mighty work of conforming our campers to the image of Christ; renew their minds so that they will not be conformed to this world (Romans 12:2 - *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and ac-*

ceptable and perfect.)

GUIDANCE – Please lead our campers along paths of righteousness (Proverbs 3:5-6 - *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*)

PURITY – Create clean hearts in our young people and let that purity of heart show in their actions (Psalm 51:10 - *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.*)

GROWTH IN GRACE – May our campers grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18 - *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.*)

COURAGE – May our campers be strong and coura-

Continued on page 7

What is the role of an elder?

Article by Matt Perman, Guest Contributor

According to the New Testament, elders are responsible for the primary leadership and oversight of a church. The function and role of an elder is well summarized by Alexander Strauch in his book *Biblical Eldership*: “Elders lead the church [1 Tim 5:17; Titus 1:7; 1 Peter 5:1–2], teach and preach the Word [1 Timothy 3:2; 2 Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:9], protect the church from false teachers [Acts 20:17, 28–31], exhort and admonish the saints in sound doctrine [1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 3:13–17; Titus 1:9], visit the sick and pray [James 5:14; Acts 6:4], and judge doctrinal issues [Acts 15:6]. In biblical terminology, elders shepherd, oversee, lead, and care for the local church” (16).

“Elder” and “pastor” are not two different offices. As John Piper argues in section five of the booklet “Biblical Eldership,” they are simply two different words for the same office. He gives three reasons. First, in Acts 20:28, elders are encouraged in the “pastoral” duties of overseeing and shepherding. Second, in 1 Peter 5:1–2, elders are exhorted to “shepherd” the flock of God that is in their charge, which is the role of a pastor. Third, in Ephesians 4:11, the one time that the word pastor occurs in the NT, pastors are treated as one group with teachers. This suggests that the chief role of the pastor is to

feed the flock through teaching, which is a primary role of elders (Titus 1:9). Hence, the NT seems to indicate that “pastor” is another name for “elder.” An elder is a pastor, and a pastor is an elder.

Some have thought that the Bible speaks of a category of church leaders above elders/pastors, called “overseers.” However, the biblical evidence indicates that “overseer” is simply another term for elder as well. Paul refers to the elders at Ephesus as “overseers” in his farewell sermon of Acts 20:17–35. Likewise, “overseer” in Titus 1:7 seems to be a synonym for the term “elder” used in verse 5. Most scholars now acknowledge this, as J.B. Lightfoot pointed out already in the 19th century: “It is a fact now generally recognized by theologians of all shades of opinion, that in the language of the New Testament the same officer in the Church is called indifferently ‘bishop [overseer]’ (episkopos) and ‘elder’ or ‘presbyter’ (presbyteros)”

(quoted in Strauch, 180).

John Piper summarizes the biblical use of the terms “elder,” “pastor,” and “overseer”: The New Testament only refers to the office of pastor one time (Ephesians 4:11). It is a functional description of the role of elder stressing the care and feeding of the church as God’s flock, just as “bishop/overseer” is a functional description of the role of elder stressing the governing or oversight of the church. We may conclude therefore that “pastor” and “elder” and “bishop/overseer” refer in the New Testament to the same office. This office stands alongside “deacon” in Philippians 1:1 and 1 Timothy 3:1–13 in such a way as to show that the two abiding officers instituted by the New Testament are elder and deacon.

Further Resources
Alexander Strauch,
Biblical Eldership



Our Elders are Pastor Nate Crandall, Pastor Liz Green, Pastor Carl Greene and Pastor Nick Kersten. We voted on and welcomed Pastors Carl and Nick at our mid-year church meeting on June 23rd. Pray for all our elders as they are responsible for the spiritual oversight of our church.

One Apple Lunch Bunch – Serving Children in our Community

by Angie Mullen, Director of Children's Ministries

Did you know that the carefree days of summer break aren't so carefree for all children? There are children and families who rely on the free and reduced breakfast and lunch programs that are offered at public schools during the school year. For some children, even in our small-town of Milton, these are the only 2 meals they are guaranteed each day. Imagine their concern when the first day of summer break comes and that guarantee of meals is gone.

Thankfully, children in our community no longer have to worry about getting something to eat in the summer months due to a program called One Apple Lunch Bunch. Children of all ages are welcome to stop



by the picnic shelter at Lamar Park each week day from 11:30 -12:30 to pick up a free lunch during the summer break. The Milton United Methodist Church began sponsoring this program last summer. While they coordinate the program, all types of community groups and community businesses pitch in to make it happen with their gifts of time and donations. Our church was able to help feed these children for one week in Aug. last summer and we will once again join in to help this year.

Would you consider joining the team from our church we week of **Aug. 12 – 16** to serve lunch to the children in our community? The time commitment is small and that's all you need to give – your time (and of course

the love of Jesus as you greet these kids). All the food and supplies will be given to us. We need a small team of people each day to meet at the church at about 10:30 to make up the bag lunches and then head on over to Lamar Park to serve them. We will be all done by 12:45. You could volunteer to help one day or multiple days. People of ALL ages are welcome to help, so moms of little ones, don't be afraid to sign up. This is a great way to get kids serving!

If you have a little time to give to help with this community project, you can sign up in the Welcome Center. Look for the "One Apple Lunch Bunch" clipboard. You can also contact Angie Mullen to sign up or if you have any questions – 608-295-6484 or asmullen92@gmail.com.

2019 Bible Breakfast is Coming

Make sure you mark your calendars and plan to join with our church family for our annual Bible Breakfast. Each year we gather at the end of summer to enjoy a breakfast together and look forward to our coming Fall Grow Groups. We celebrate the physical and spiritual growth of our children entering kindergarten and third grades by presenting them with age-appropriate Bibles. We'll also review the 5 Master Threads for our children and youth.



This year's **Bible Breakfast** will be Sabbath morning, **August 24th**. Breakfast will begin **at 9:00** with the program beginning around 9:30. **EVERYONE** in our church family is encouraged to join us. All you need to do is let us know you are coming either on the Facebook event or **sign up** on the clipboard in the Welcome Center **by Aug. 21st**. We look forward to seeing you at this fabulous time of fellowship with the family of God.

With Gratitude *by Rob Appel*

Our present-day life is busy enough without all of the distractions that it brings; texting, tweeting, retweeting, video games, sports, and television. There are distractions of the political charges and countercharges, and made up and sensationalized news reports. And then there is Facebook. On Facebook you can find discussions about anything and everything. And these distractions are sometimes not pleasant and can rob you of your time and energy. It might also take a bit of your sanity away from you as well.



The problem with these distractions is that they can divide us and scatter us. They can scatter in such a way that it can keep us from engaging with each other; even if we are standing next to one another! But if we can get away from all of the distractions of this world, we will find plenty we can be GRATEFUL for. Here is something we all need to be grateful for; Christ died for all of us! Isn't that something that we all can be thankful for?

In fact, we as Christ Followers should feel blessed and thankful all the time; in spite of how we were brought up, or who brought us up, or what baggage we have brought with us into this new relationship with Christ!

We, as Christ Followers need to

follow the example of the apostle Paul. Paul was a thankful guy and he wrote about it in Philippians 4:11-13 where he said, ¹¹ *I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.* ¹² *I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.* ¹³ *I can do all this through him who gives me strength.*

Being happy and contented is one of the significant traits that I learned during my time as the Executive Director of the Seventh Day Baptist Conference! I arrived at being happy and contented simply by being GRATEFUL; I am grateful to God for His watch care while in this position, I am grateful for my LORD and Savior Jesus Christ, and I am grateful for the guidance by the Holy Spirit!

The spirit of thankfulness is one of the most important qualities that we as Christian's can develop! There are few other characteristics that can influence our lives more than thankfulness. It is a distinguishing characteristic and a quality that helps define us in this world today! Thankfulness should not be an option for us as Christians and the Bible teaches us that "THANKFULNESS" should be a normal part of a Christian's life.

In 1 Thessalonians we read that we need to be thankful in all circumstances.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
¹⁶ *Rejoice always,* ¹⁷ *pray without ceasing,* ¹⁸ *give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

In Philippians 4:6 we read:
The Lord is at hand; ⁶ *do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

It says, In everything! It doesn't say in somethings, or only the important things, but rather in EVERYTHING by prayer and with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

Too often we wait to give thanks to God only until we get the answers we want and/or expect! But it is SO important for Christians to be THANKFUL people all the time! And there is good reason for that!

And here is the reason. In 2 Timothy 3:1-5 we read, ¹ *But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty.* ² *For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,* ³ *heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-*

Continued on page 7

With Gratitude, *continued*

control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

The Bible teaches us that in the end times the “spirit of the day” will be characterized by a lack of God in their lives. God doesn’t want our lives to be like those of this world! And if the lack of thankfulness is to be the normal character of people’s lives in the end times, then we should be striving towards something completely different.

God’s people should be the MOST THANKFUL PEOPLE ON THE PLANET! Being thankful should be one of the most distinctive marks of the believer in Jesus Christ! We must not allow the spirit of ungratefulness to creep into our lives and harden our hearts; and then ruin our relationship with God.

Learn to make GRATITUDE YOUR ATTITUDE! It will bless everyone, including yourself! Whatever TODAY brings, stop and say “Thank you God!” I hope and pray that we all have enough presence to know that today, and every day, is a blessing from God.

Many of you know that I am retiring from the position of Executive Director. I am very thankful that we have selected our new Executive Director and he is located right here in the Milton Church!

We are all blessed that the reverend Carl P. Greene will be our next Executive Director. He has already started the job and will be confirmed in the position at the SDB General Conference sessions in Lancaster, PA in late July. The position of the Executive Director is truly a labor of love and it is a position of a true servant/



leader. Carl is just that; a servant and a leader. My hope and prayer are that you all support and encourage Carl in the same way you have for me these past 15 years. I am thankful that God has placed Carl in front of us for a time such as this.

Striving for an attitude of appreciation and mature gratitude, and giving thanks for all you have and do not have, should be our goal.

So, with GRATEFULNESS in mind I want to thank the Connecting Church in Milton, Wisconsin for your support for the past 15 years.

Thank you for your compassion, your grace, your love, your kindness, your humility, your prayers, your mercy, your understanding, and your generosity.

Camp Prayer Scriptures, *continued*

geous in their character and in their actions

(Deuteronomy 31:6 - *Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.*)

PERSEVERANCE – Help our campers to hold on to what they learn at camp and make their faith the center

of their lives. Make them strong in the Lord and his mighty power (Ephesians 6:10-11 - *Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.*)

INFLUENCE – LORD, may our campers attract many to you as they influence

the world with truth and righteousness. Encourage them to go and tell others all that you have done for them (Matthew 5:13-16 - *You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*)

Update on Refugees *by Linda Lyke, Outreach Coordinator*

With the June 1 Day for Refugees, our hope is that we keep the refugee crisis in our hearts to continue to pray and impact them for God's glory.

I've heard people ask, "Would God really allow people who have never heard of Jesus to go to hell? Is it really their fault that they never heard of him?" Well, God is moving people groups frequently so they have the opportunity to hear the Gospel. There are also many accounts of God giving Muslims dreams and visions of Jesus in these times! Pray that God will bring a Christian to these Muslim people so that they can hear the Good News. That is our job, to pray for the unreached to hear about salvation that can only come through Jesus. And pray for missionaries to go to those unreached people groups. And for us, as a church, to send missionaries to the unreached.

Frontiers is a mission organi-

zation whose purpose is to inspire transformational movements to Christ within unengaged Muslim people groups. Here is the update on the many Muslim peoples who have not heard of Jesus from a recent Frontiers newsletter:

In the South Asian countries of India and Bangladesh, there are **more Muslims than in the Middle East and the entire continent of Africa combined.**

This region has some of the world's largest concentrations of unengaged Muslim people groups that have no effective long-term Gospel witness in their midst. With its sprawling megacities, South Asia is teeming with people. One [field worker in a South Asian city describes](#) how she'd have "the doorbell ringing twenty times a day. I felt so surrounded by humanity. People and relationships are everything there. The clock stops for people. Time is irrelevant

and inconsequential if you're with a friend. And you're always with a friend."

Until they meet someone like you, many Muslims will never have a chance for a relationship with the One who really stops time: Jesus Christ. God is building something incredible in South Asia. Watch this video to learn more:

<https://vimeo.com/131302797>

Ready for adventure and opportunity? Teams in India and Bangladesh are welcoming new workers and training them for fruitful ministry. As early as 6 months, new workers can have enough know-how, language, and understanding of culture to launch into strategic cities that still have no workers bringing Muslims the message of Jesus Christ. If God is calling you or someone you know to go make Him known in this beautiful region, let's talk! Write mob@frontiersusa.org.

Refugee Pencil Boxes – Service Opportunity

In our ongoing partnership with Devon Oasis, we are packing pencil boxes with much needed school supplies for refugee and immigrant children in Milwaukee.

Come pack pencil boxes on Wednesday, July 24 at 9:30 a.m.

at Renee Sanford's house, 544 Blanche Drive in Milton

Who can help? Men, women and children – 50 boxes to pack.

Expect it'll take an hour.



Thank you to those who donated to our Day for Refugees. The donations will help us purchase the supplies for these boxes. A big shout out to Lynnette Millard for purchasing the supplies and Tara Rotzoll for arranging the packing of the pencil boxes.

News from Nathaniel (with a little bit of Zac) *by Nathaniel Muench*

Just wanted to shoot a little update your way. In a couple weeks we're going to be building a ramp at a Christian youth festival, so I'm super stoked on that. I'll also be giving a talk there, hopefully in German... But we'll see cause when it comes to youth my sarcasm is only good in English. Should be a good time. The dates are July 6-8.

Over the past couple months, a friend of mine and I were praying about Sri Lanka and surf and skate ministry there. We talked a lot about going and what it would look like on a scouting trip and what not, and finally bucked up and bought some flights. He flew out 3 weeks ago and I will join him after the youth festival. It's really similar to India, with a polytheistic culture. There is a growing skate culture as well as surf culture, but as always little to no gospel.

The goal is to try and build a press for manufacturing skateboards so the Sri Lankan skaters will not be dependent on European and North American brands. In a way teaching them "how to fish" rather than giving them fish for a day. And in the process, building relationships. There are a couple surf ministries active in Sri Lanka and we're going to be coming alongside them. This partnership works great because of the similar cultures. And here they have established a surfboard making process, so they can help us through that process – what's possible and what is not.

If we can make boards, and the only boards produced locally are made by Christians, that will make a huge impact.

I will be out there for a month, and directly when I get back Zac and the Barcelona YWAM gang are coming in on outreach for a couple weeks in Nuremberg, so that will be really good.

I was able to get the necessary papers allowing me to leave Germany for Sri Lanka and return, but I still am in desperate need of an updated German visa.

I'm focusing on God's goodness in providing the papers...and praying for him to move the visa process forward. Please join me in prayer! God is so good, and your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Love you guys!



Kwik Trip cards are available in the church office! Profits go to support our church's outreach and missionary efforts.

How can you help Operation Christmas Child Now?

Here are 3 ways you can help:

LIKE to Shop? We'll put you on an email list and email you when items go on sale. You can pick up those sale items for OCC.

DON'T Like to Shop?

Support Super Shopper Lynnette Millard. She finds great deals throughout the year on items needed for our shoeboxes. Pay the church \$20 per month from July through November (\$100 total) and she will

pick up the items on sale.

Like to Keep Your Hands Busy while Watching TV?

Help us de-package the OCC items at home and help us prep for the packing party.

Watch for these sign-ups at the Welcome Center soon.

July/August Items:

School Supplies: pens/pencils, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, crayons, markers, writing pads or paper, solar

calculators, small coloring/picture/sticker books, erasers, dry paint sets, scissors, glue sticks, stamps/ink pads

WOW Items (fun gifts): small cars, small dolls, small stuffed animals, small toys (puppets, trucks, small etch-a-sketch), kazoos/harmonica, yo-yos/Slinkys, small Lego kits, playdoh, small games, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), flashlights, musical instruments, playing cards, glow sticks

Missionary James Lima

One of the missionaries that our church supports, James Lima, preached at our church on June 15th. He and his wife Lexi live in Oshkosh and James has been a staff member for InterVarsity at Fox Valley Technical College for four years. As he finishes seminary in the next year and a half, he is now transitioning into church planting work. If you desire to support James financially in his work, send him a note of encouragement or to remember to pray for him, stop by the Welcome Center at the church to pick up his information.

Dear Ministry Partners,

I think this will be my last InterVarsity prayer letter. It is a bittersweet letter for me to write as I think over all God has done these past four years and as I look forward to diving fully into this new calling. The past few weeks have been a whirlwind of work finishing up my last duties with InterVarsity. At the end of the semester at Fox Valley Tech I threw a goodbye party for all my current and former students (see *image above*). It was such a joyful time gathering with some of my first student leaders alongside the students who will continue the work at FVTC without me. Many of the alumni present at the party are contributing to the life and witness of their churches and some have even participated in different missions works since graduation. I love seeing students take the skills and love for the gospel they gained in college into



churches and missions work after college. So many church leaders and missionaries either became Christians or developed their love for evangelism because of God's work in college ministries like InterVarsity. Please continue to pray for God's work at FVTC, especially over the next few months as they get settled after my transition.

Over the past month I have also spent two weeks teaching at Chapter Focus Week up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The first week I directed the small group leaders training. That is always one of my favorite classes to teach as I believe helping students learn to study God's Word and lead others in engaging with God's Word so as to see Christ and be transformed is so important. The second week I helped teach a class called Origins, which does a broad overview of the Old Testament. I loved seeing college students challenged and changed by the Old Testament as they developed a deeper understanding of God's plan of redemption unfolding throughout history.

My final day with InterVarsity is officially June 30th. I have already said most of my goodbyes to my fellow staff and students though I

know many of them will remain my close friends and fellow workers for the gospel.

Continue to pray for Lexi and me through this transition. Transitions in life are generally both exciting and scary. Please pray for peace and trust for us as we follow God's lead. Also, if you are giving to my work with InterVarsity, please continue to give through the end of June and if you give an annual gift, but have not given for the 2018/19 school year please consider giving that annual gift as support for the work that has been done and so that I can bless my InterVarsity team by leaving them in a good financial situation.

As my new work is in a young church plant and we will be going out after seminary to plant a new church, I need to continue developing a team of financial partners to come alongside us in our ministry. Please consider switching your support over in July to my new work at Living Stone Church through the On Wisconsin Network. For information on how to give online or by check see this attached letter. If you have questions about my new work I would love to talk with you on the phone or meet with you. I will also continue sending out prayer letters so you can continue to pray for us.

Thank you for your support over the past four years. To God be the Glory!



Prayer Shawl Ministry Thank you

Jon & Sue Cruzan and my friends from the Milton SDB Church:

I am writing this note to thank you for the beautiful Prayer Shawl. It means a lot to me and I know that it was made with many prayers and caring hands! As I go through this journey, I know I am not alone... that God, who has been with me since it all started back in 2011, will never leave me or forsake me. As it says in Romans 8:38-39, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all

creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

One of my favorite verses is also appropriate for my journey with my situation with my Lord: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding: in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your



paths straight."! As I continue forward with the Lord in my amazing journey, I will praise our God in the good days and the bad. Thank you again for your prayers, thoughts and beautiful prayer shawl.

Walking with Our Lord daily,
Mary Pierce

Our Deacon's Fund

is available to help those in financial need.

Currently the funds are low.

If you are willing to make a donation, please mark Deacon's Fund in the memo of your check.

Showered with Generosity *by Linda Lyke*

Our church is good at practical giving!

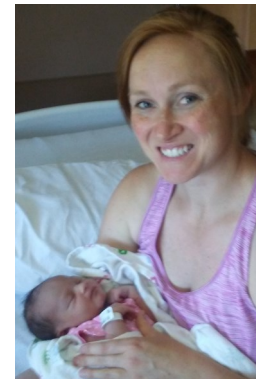
Recently I hosted a baby shower for Rachel Smith, a young woman who I mentor. Rachel is really seeking the Lord and as a single mom, she so appreciated the love poured on her at the shower.

I've seen the generosity in our church many times before – in Operation Christmas Child donations, GIFTS and camp food, for a few examples. With Christ as our example, our church body encourages generosity, starting with the young ones, as in our Awana program and in the capital campaign.

In the Matthew 20:1-14 parable, the master of the house chose to pay those who started working at the end of the day the same as those who worked all day, showing God's generosity towards us. The master says, "Am I not allowed to choose what to do with what belongs to me?" What we have belongs to God yet he allows us to do what we want with it.

In 2 Corinthians 9, God tells us he loves a cheerful giver. A generous heart is a gift from God, to give back to the world, resulting in glory to God. I felt this in a profound way at Rachel's shower, when twenty women cozied into my small

living room; some had met her once or a few times, but most had never met her, all to shine Jesus' light on her. I have seen our church choose generosity – in time and resources – and I am so grateful to be a part of this church body!



Rachel pictured with her one day old baby girl, Teresa Rose, born June 12th.

The Book of Revelation *submitted by Renee Sanford*

Six months ago, at the Cross for the Nations conference, David Platt preached a 50-point sermon from the Book of Revelation. It was profoundly moving. I urge you to take the time to listen to it on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X8W2RjdjCkw>

Here's the introduction and the points with general scripture references.

Our lives revolve around God not around ourselves. Going and sending on mission to unreached peoples only make sense if God is worthy of all the worship in the world. And He is. The Book of Revelation is the culmination not just of the Bible--it is the culmination of world history. It is all about Jesus. It is in the context of who Jesus is that going and sending actually make sense:

CHAPTER 1

1. Jesus is fully man
2. Jesus is fully God
3. Jesus is the fulfillment of centuries of biblical prophecy
4. Jesus is the final and ultimate sacrifice for sin
5. Jesus is infinitely old
6. Jesus is infinitely wise
7. Jesus sees all things
8. Jesus knows all things
9. Jesus' purity has no error
10. Jesus' power knows no equal
11. Jesus' voice resounds with authority
12. Jesus declares eternal salvation for all who trust in Him
13. Jesus decrees final judgment for all who do not trust in Him
14. Jesus' face radiates with

light

15. Jesus has the first word in creation
16. Jesus has the last word in creation
17. Jesus was dead for a time
18. Jesus is alive for all time
19. Death is controlled by Jesus

CHAPTER 5

20. Jesus is the conquering Lion
21. Jesus is the slaughtered Lamb
22. Jesus is the sovereign Lord
23. Jesus' worth is undisputed
24. Jesus' work is unforgettable
25. Jesus' worship is universal

CHAPTER 7

26. Jesus is the author of our salvation
27. Jesus is the shepherd of our souls
28. Jesus is the source of our satisfaction

CHAPTER 19

29. Jesus is the groom who chooses us as His bride
30. Jesus is the God who makes us beautiful
31. Jesus is the faithful witness
32. Jesus is the righteous judge
33. Jesus is the divine warrior
34. Jesus' eyes have flaming fire
35. Jesus has many crowns on his head
36. Jesus' name is great – there is much mystery yet to be revealed
37. Jesus conquers God's enemies
38. Jesus reveals God's Word

39. Jesus rules the nations of the world
40. Jesus treads the wine press of God's wrath
41. Jesus is king of kings
42. Jesus is lord of lords

CHAPTER 21

43. Jesus will usher us fully into the presence of God

CHAPTER 22

44. Jesus will completely undo the curse of God
45. Jesus will open our eyes to the face of God
46. Jesus will shine His light on us
47. Jesus will share His reign with us
48. Jesus will come back for us

And then begins the never-ending story where every chapter is better than the one before.

EXHORTATIONS based on the above

49. Pursue Jesus as the all-consuming passion of your life
50. Spend your life for the fame of Jesus' name where He is not yet known

Again, church family, we who went to the Cross Conference thank you for the opportunity to hear and be moved by these incredible speakers, who were themselves moved by the Spirit of God.

“The American Cancer Society **Road To Recovery** program provides free rides to cancer patients who otherwise would have difficulty getting to their cancer-related appointments. Donate your time and the use of your car by becoming a volunteer driver today. To get started, call 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org/drive.”

Lemonade for the Church Roof *by Michelle Crandall*

Recently, I was perusing Facebook on a Sunday morning. I came across a post that had me shout to the family, "Let's go!" What could have inspired me to get moving on a lazy day? Sophia, Zoey, Caedmon and Taliesin Kersten's cute little faces were looking right at me, saying, would you like some lemonade? A family in our church was having a lemonade stand to raise money for the church roof!

Our family jumped in the car and raced (within the speed limit) over to the Kersten's home. Those adorable faces were selling lemonade, coffee,

muffins and cookies! Their mom told me they asked how they could get money to give to the church. She gave them a choice or taking from savings or earning it. They chose a lemonade stand. Without much notice and on a Sunday, they raised \$172.00!

Have you been looking for inspiration to raise money for the church roof? Maybe you want to take money from your savings to contribute. Or perhaps you want to earn money just for the roof. No matter what age you are, you

can participate in the Wall of Money! Let these youngsters be an inspiration to us all. Get out there, be creative and earn some money for our



Capital Campaign Update

Income as of May 31, 2019	\$18,913
Pledges through Dec., 2021	\$29,550

SDB General Conference Offering

Purpose: To support the efforts of the SDB General Conference through the work of our Directors and their Councils and Societies; Tract & Communication Council, Council on Ministry, The Education Council, the Council on History and the Women's and Missionary Societies.

Please place your offering in the regular offering plate by July 20th. Checks should be made out to **Milton SDB Church** with *Conf. Offering* in the memo.

Thank you for supporting God's work amongst Seventh Day Baptists.

Focus on Funds

as of May 31, 2019

General Fund Balance	\$17,128.48
Cash at Mem. Fund	\$65,213.94
May Undesignated Income	\$14,662.06
May Expenses	\$20,504.06
Denomination Giving YTD	\$ 4,348.50

Milton Seventh Day Baptist Golf Outing

Sunday, August 25, 2019
1:00 p.m. – Prompt 12:30 check-in
Bonnie Meade Golf Course, Milton
\$25.00

Price includes 9 holes of golf with cart and lunch (hamburger, bratwurst, chips and soda). Pick up a registration form at the Welcome Center and return it with payment to the church office by August 17th.

This event is for everyone, 12 and older.

Please contact Rich Gallegos at 608-449-5640 with any questions.

Lyme Disease *by Barb Green, Parish Nurse*

It's summer which means your chance of being bitten by a tick increases. The tick population rises during wet weather so this year you may be especially apt to get bitten. There are several different types of ticks each causing its own unique disease. Lyme disease is caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected black-legged (deer) ticks.

Most humans are infected through the bites of immature ticks called nymphs which are tiny (about the size of a poppy seed) and difficult to see. Adult ticks can also transmit the bacteria but are much larger and likely to be discovered and removed before transmitting the disease. Adults feed in the cooler months and nymphs in the spring and summer months. If a tick is removed within 24 hours the chance of being infected is greatly reduced.

- To remove a tick: use a fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
- Pull upward with steady, even pressure.
- Don't twist or jerk the tick as this can cause mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If this is impossible to do easily leave it alone and let skin heal.
- Thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.
- Dispose of a live tick by putting it in alcohol, placing it in a sealed bag, wrapping it tightly

in tape or flushing it down the toilet.

If you develop a rash or fever within several weeks of removing a tick, see your doctor. Early symptoms of Lyme disease (3-30 days after tick bite) include: fever, chills, headache, fatigue, muscle and joint aches and swollen lymph nodes. A rash occurs in 70-80% of infected people. It begins at the site of the bite after a delay of about 7 days and gradually expands over a period of days reaching up to 12 inches or more across. As the rash enlarges it may result in a bull's eye appearance. Lyme disease is called the great imitator as its symptoms are present in many other diseases. Making sure your doctor knows that you have had a tick bite may shorten the diagnosis time.

Days to months after a tick bite other symptoms can occur: severe headaches/neck stiffness, rashes on other areas of body, arthritis with severe joint pain, facial palsy, irregular heart beat or episodes of dizziness or shortness of breath. Nerve pain, numbness or tingling in the hands or feet or problems with short-term memory can also occur.

Treatment depends on symptoms, history of exposure to ticks and blood test results. Most tickborne diseases can be treated with a short course of antibiotics. In the early stages of Lyme disease antibiotics used include doxycycline, amoxicillin or ceforoxime axe-

til. Those with more serious forms of the illness may be treated with IV antibiotics.

Prevention of Lyme disease centers around preventing a tick bite.

- Use insect repellent with 20-30% DEET, 10-20% icardin, 15-20% IR3535 or 30-40% oil of lemon eucalyptus on skin and clothes.
- Apply permethrin- a pesticide that kills ticks- to clothes, shoes or gear. The pesticides kill ticks when they crawl on clothes.
- Wear long sleeves, long pants and socks including light-colored clothes to make it easy to find ticks; tuck shirts into pants and tuck pants into shoes or socks
- Avoid direct contact with ticks by walking in the center of trails, not brushing up against plants and avoiding wooded and brushy areas with tall grass.
- Check for ticks after being outdoors. Perform full body checks and check clothing, gear and pets before going inside. Ticks are mostly found in hard-to-see areas such as behind the knees, armpits, scalp, ears, belly button and groin.
- Take a bath or shower as soon as possible to wash off ticks.

Summer is a time for fun and enjoying the warm weather after a seemingly endless, cold winter. Don't let the threat of a tick bite spoil your fun. Remember the prevention tips listed in this article, watch for the signs and symptoms of Lyme disease and see your doctor for treatment. Lyme disease can have some long-lasting consequences so be aware and prepared.

(Information found on cdc.org/Lyme disease).

Bulletin Board

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, July 21, 8:30 a.m. Milwaukee Grill, Janesville
 Sunday, August 18, 8:30 a.m. Tasty Bites, Milton
 All are welcome!

Ladies Sit & Sip
 Tues., July 16, 9:00 a.m.
 & Tues., August 20, 9:00 a.m.
 Havana Coffee,
 1250 Milton Ave., Janesville

Church Rummage Sale
 Sunday, August 18th, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.




Items brought to the church can be put in the alcoves off the Fellowship Hall. Clothing should be sorted if possible and put in the room next to the Library. Office hours are Tues. – Fri., 9:00 – 3:00. We also need helpers the day of the sale. Sign up sheets will be in the Welcome Center soon.



Men's Softball Games
Dawson Field, Janesville

July 1	7:00 p.m.	North
July 8	8:00 p.m.	East
July 15	7:00 p.m.	South
July 22	9:00 p.m.	North
July 29	8:00 p.m.	East
August 5	9:00 p.m.	South
August 12	9:00 p.m.	North



July & **AUGUST**



Birthdays and Anniversaries

3 Steve Gincer	1 Deirdre Camenga
6 Ken Johnson	3 Frank & Deb Perrino
6 Jackie Geske	6 Connie Fisher
7 Janet Butler	9 Chris Gallegos
7 Dale & Barb Green	13 Teresa Kersten
9 Sam Skaggs	13 Joe & Karissa Bornemann
10 Frank Green	19 Evelyn Sonntag
10 Rich & Chris Gallegos	19 Ethyle Harvey
13 Linda Gilmore	19 Neil & Katie Lubke
15 Stephen Thorngate	20 Hayden Rotzoll
16 Ellie Lubke	20 Robin & Brian Bliese
19 Kory & Jackie Geske	20 Rob & Cheri Appel
21 Molly Bliese	23 Lance Call
21 Scott Buchanan	28 Steve & Beverly Thorngate
22 Nick & Brittany Kersten	28 Carl Greene
22 Nate & Michelle Crandall	29 Eric & Deirdre Camenga
24 Silas Geske	
25 Jon & Sue Cruzan	
27 Jane Leach	
30 Frank Perrino	
30 Leif & Amanda Sykora	

Third Thursday Prayer
 July 18, 6:30 p.m.
 Pray for Camp Wakonda

August 15, 6:30 p.m.
 Prayer Walk at Milton East



SAVE THE DATE









Sept. 5 19

OPEN HOUSE NIGHT

July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> English Immersion Group renting the church until July 23rd. Stop by for a visit! </div>	7:00 Men's Softball - Dawson North		6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP	Meet at Michel's or Anderson's to watch the parade		9:30 Coffee & Conversations 10:30 Worship 12:00 Potluck with brazil English Im-mersion Group - Bring a dish to pass
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> Intermediate Camp - Sunday, July 7, 1:00 p.m. - Friday, July 12, 9:00 a.m. </div>						
	8:00 Men's Softball - Dawson East		6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP	9:30 Women's Study - Pastor Liz's office		9:30 Coffee & Conversations 10:30 Worship
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> Junior High Camp - Sunday, July 14, 4:00 p.m. - Sunday, July 21, 9:00 a.m. </div>						
	7:00 Men's Softball - Dawson South	9:00 Ladies Sit'n Sip - Havana Coffee	6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP	6:30 Third Thursday Prayer - Parlor		9:30 Coffee & Conversations 10:30 Worship
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30 Breakfast Club - Milwaukee Grill			6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP	9:30 Women's Study - Pastor Liz's office		9:30 Coffee & Conversations 10:30 Worship
<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> Senior High Camp - Sunday, July 21, 4:00 p.m. - Sunday, July 28, 10:00 a.m. </div>						
	9:00 Men's Softball - Dawson North					
28	29	30	31			
<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> SDB General Conference, Lancaster, PA </div>				<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px;"> Sabbath Sunset Times July 5 8:36 p.m. July 6 8:36 p.m. July 12 8:33 p.m. July 13 8:33 p.m. July 19 8:29 p.m. July 20 8:28 p.m. July 26 8:22 p.m. July 27 8:21 p.m. </div>		
	8:00 Men's Softball - Dawson East		6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP			

August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px;"> <p>Sabbath Sunset Times</p> <p>August 2 8:14 p.m. August 3 8:13 p.m. August 9 8:05 p.m. August 10 8:04 p.m. August 16 7:55 p.m. August 17 7:54 p.m. August 23 7:44 p.m. August 24 7:43 p.m. August 30 7:33 p.m. August 31 7:31 p.m.</p> </div>				1	2	3
					<p>SDB General Conference, Lancaster, PA</p>	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	9:00 Men's Softball - Dawson South		6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP			9:30 Coffee & Conversations 10:30 Worship
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	<p>One Apple Lunch Bunch</p>			6:30 Third Thursday Prayer - Milton East		9:30 Coffee & Conversations 10:30 Worship
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
 8:00 Rummage Sale 8:30 Breakfast Club - Tasty Bites 2:00 Rummage Sale Cleanup	9:00 Men's Softball - Dawson North	9:00 Ladies Sit'n Sip - Havana Coffee	6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP			 9:00 Bible Breakfast 10:30 Worship
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:00 Trustees Mtg. - Library  1:00 Golf Outing - Bonnie Meade 			6:30 Men's Breakfast - IHOP			9:30 Coffee & Conversations 10:30 Worship
						

Milton SDB Church
720 E. Madison Ave.
Milton, WI 53563
Church Phone: 608-868-2741

Pastor Nate Crandall
Cell Phone: 608-322-8824
Email: pastornate@miltonsdb.org

Pastor Liz Green
Cell Phone: 608-289-3029
Email: pastorliz@miltonsdb.org

Administrator: Janet Butler
E-mail: 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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July//August
2019



O Lord,
open my lips, and
my mouth will

DECLARE

YOUR

Praise.

PSALM 51:15

