

# get connected

We connect people to Jesus and equip them to be his disciples.



## Hey! What's Your Story?

by Pastor Nate

Lately, we've been emphasizing that a disciple is someone who knows, loves, serves and shares Jesus. Hopefully, this has gotten on your radar because if we are going to be obedient to the Lord and make disciples, first we have to know what a disciple is. The first three aspects of being a disciple are probably well understood by those who are in the habit of going to church. However, the final aspect, sharing Jesus, may need some clarification. Sharing Jesus is more than sharing the gospel. Certainly, the gospel is something that disciples of Jesus need to share with each other and also with those who do not know Jesus. We can't make disciples if we're not sharing the gospel.



But what does it mean then to share Jesus? To answer that question let me tell a story. Our daughter, Julianna, went away to college this past fall, and along the way she found a boyfriend. I don't remember exactly how we found out about it, but what I do remember is the excitement that she had to tell us all about him. As parents, we were very interested to hear all about it for obvious reasons. There were questions

asked and stories related about how the relationship came about. There was wise (very wise) parental advice given and received (we hope) about relationships. How does this relate to sharing Jesus? When you have a story to tell, you just want to tell people about it. When our life intersects with Jesus, we have a story to tell. Sometimes the story is more about the day to day life experience with the Lord, and sometimes it's about amazing things that God has done. We can talk about what we are learning about

Jesus through the Bible and our experience. We can share how the Lord has touched our heart through prayer or worship or the encouragement of a fellow believer. We can

tell about how the Lord has done something for us or to us that only he could have done. (Those are called miracles by the way.)

If you know Jesus and you have come to love and serve him, then you have a story to share. In fact, you probably have a million stories and you just don't know about it. In an effort to help us all become better at sharing our God stories, this spring we are going

### February 2022 Inside this issue:

2022 Church Goals	2-3
More Prayer for Our Community	4
Koinonia Update	5
Operation Christmas Child	5
Bulletin Board	6
Calendars	7



Continued on page 4

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## 2022 Church Goals

**The following list of goals were developed by leaders in the different areas of ministry of our church. They were accepted by the congregation at the business meeting on January 23.**

### Leadership Development

In partnership with SDBU, train existing and emerging leaders in Biblical Interpretation, Practical Theology and Ministry, Discipling and Leading in the Church, Seventh Day Baptist Church Life and Public Witness, and Seventh Day Baptist distinctives modules.

Expand opportunities for Elders Carl and Nick to preach through multi-week series.

### Youth Ministry

Continue to develop and deploy staff in leadership of Collision.

Meet with staff for in-house training and growth 4x/year.

Identify and train new Collision Coordinator.

Lead youth to focus outward with the gospel.

### Prayer Ministry

Follow up on providing a visible means of sharing prayer concerns at church.

Develop those who feel called to pray more into a rapid response team.

Provide monthly single

sheet handouts on world-wide prayer concerns from Operation World. Put in the bulletin and/or at Welcome Center.

Schedule corporate prayer opportunities, including praying at Camp Wakonda, praying at our schools, inviting others to join in regular prayer for our field workers, and a regular or semi-regular opportunity on Friday night. These may be announced or individual invitations.

Continue efforts to broaden our corporate prayer life beyond petition by providing prayer resources and teaching on prayer.

### Camp Wakonda

Recruit and train new leaders: Program Coordinator, Medical Director, and Camp Director.

Continue working on 5 year strategic plan.

Pursue having an SCSC ministry team to act as camp counselors.

### Outreach

Further develop June Missions Month, educating congregation on the Great Commission using the AIMS missions videos and other resources.

Explore the continuation of a relationship with



Uganda SDB Conference and discover needs. Pursue a ladies' Q Place in summer 2022 to be held at the YMCA in Milton. Continue a spiritual and financial commitment to church planting, and explore sponsorship of developing Chicago church plant.

### Communications

Continue to recruit photographer(s) and collect pictures

Ramp up Yes God videos  
Document Social Media practices

### Caring Ministries

Restart the Mental Health class/support group.

Continue to support increased deacon ministry to shut-ins and other ministry opportunities.

Develop Urgent Care capacity to respond to emergent needs in the church family and community.

Upgrade "kitchen ministry" now that we are more able to have events.

During May (Mental Health Month) provide infor-

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## 2022 Goals, *continued*

mation and encouragement around topics such as suicide prevention, cancer survivorship, and other mental health issues.

### **Children's Ministry**

Continue to study the book *Resilient – Child Discipleship and the Fearless Future of the Church*. We will seek to help the children we serve **BECOME. BELIEVE. BELONG.**

These goals reflect this discipleship model.

Provide ways for children to take up leadership roles in each of the 3 parts of our club night (Game, Small Group, Large Group). This could include, but is not limited to leading prayer, worship, helping others memorize scripture, being a team leader, etc.

Utilize the arrival time to have personal discussions about Jesus – the gospel message and how Jesus is working in their lives.

Build more opportunities to help kids feel like they BELONG here; specifically outside of the 6:25-8:00 club time.

### **Spiritual Growth**

Diversify adult classes with more variety and varied presenters/facilitators.

Reimagine primary grade classes and possible alternate ways to meet the need.

### **Church Family**

Hold one large group event in conjunction with Heritage Sabbath.

Find opportunities for 2-3 additional smaller group events throughout the year.

Hold one or more trivia nights for fellowship and fun.

### **Worship**

Continue to invite new presenters to help with Sabbath morning worship.

Pilot monthly Friday Night Worship and Healing service for three months.

Increase special music presentations.

Invite outside speaker for Heritage Sabbath celebration.

Replace projector.

### **Pastor Nate**

Shift ministry focus to include more evangelism with the goal of new

church development. Prioritize equipping and empowering leaders in all areas of church ministry.

### **Pastor Liz**

Attend one class or training to enhance ministry skills.

Read 3 ministry development books.

Mentor one or two people in leadership, spiritual and personal growth.

### **Church Administrator**

Reorganize the Workroom

Write a Camp Wakonda Fact Sheet (covering size of buildings, equipment available, etc.)

Continue to train Brittany Kersten and Marcy Kersten as Assistant Treasurers

Continue sorting and organizing Historical items and computer files



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## More Prayer for Our Community

By Renee Sanford, Prayer Coordinator

How can we serve our community and the people around us? We can love our community through prayer! As Christ followers, we have the authority, privilege and ability to radically influence our home towns. Every problem, every need, every moment we live, we walk with the presence of the indwelling, crucified, risen and TRIUMPHANT Lord of the universe!

And He has given us clear guidance to pray – and promises that our prayers will be effective:

*1 Timothy 2:1-2* - I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and **all those in authority**, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

*Jeremiah 29:7* – (as sojourners on earth) – Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...and **pray to the LORD on its behalf**, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

*Genesis 12:2* – (as members of Abraham’s family) – I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**

*Proverbs 11:10-11* – When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices...**by the blessing of the upright a city is exalted.**

*2 Chronicles 7:14* – if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then **I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.**

*James 5:16* – The prayer of a righteous person is **powerful and effective.**



*John 14:13-14* – And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and **I will do it.**

*John 15:16* – You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask **in my name** the Father will give you.

We can pray with holy expectation!

Let us join together to pray for God to bring salvation to the lost around us and to guide our leaders in making God-honoring decisions.

As we obey by praying, let us listen for how he wants us to respond. How can we as individuals and a church body minister to the lost, hurting, confused people we live among. How can we be part of someone else’s salvation story?

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## What’s Your Story?, *continued*

to be sharing our YES GOD stories during Sabbath worship. (YES GOD means “Your Encouraging Story that Gives God Glory.”)

Would you like to share your YES GOD story with your church family? **Please reach out to me sometime over the next few weeks and tell me about it! We will be recording them in an interview style**

**format to share on video during one of our worship services.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

So, what’s your story?

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## A Place to Be Yourself

by Larry Schultz, Koinonia Missionary



Dear Friends in Christ,  
Last night at youth group it came up in discussion time that coming to Koinonia Youth Group is a place where people aren't 'Judgey', and that kids can be themselves. It was in comparison with many other places kids are surrounded by other kids.

It made me grateful that we have this ministry here in the area to be a place of comfort for young people to feel free from much of the expectations they feel from the world.

There have been many other times that discussion would come up as to 'why do you come to Koinonia Youth Group?' And like most kids they say they like getting together with friends. But the friends here are easier to be with. They are more accepting and not 'Judgey'!

And why is that? In many ways these kids are just like any other kid in the world and deal with the same imperfectness, but there is a special spirit here that is different. It is this: Matthew 18:20 ...  
*For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them*".

It makes me think: 'How many places in the world can you find this kind of atmosphere?' It's unlike any other the world has to offer. The world has many resources and doing helpful things, but there is nothing that can come close to the miraculous things that happen around the workings of Jesus Christ in the spirits of people.

That same night a young man happened to show up early and he and I got to talking about how we sense the pres-

ence of Jesus in our lives.

We both found it a bit hard to find the perfect words to describe the mysterious way it happens that Christ is working His presence personally, 'but He is!' The young man said it was a mysterious thing, but real.

What a blessing to get to be a part of seeing and hearing about the Lord's mysterious working in the lives of young people in the secret hard to explain places of a person's heart, but it is happening!

So, again. Thank you for helping to make this ministry a safe place for kids to come and not feel 'Judgey'.....and especially, to meet and to know that Jesus is '...among them'!

Lord Bless,  
Larry

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## Operation Christmas Child

It is exciting to think that God chose to bring the 295 boxes that our church and community packed last November to 7 countries on 4 continents: Namibia, Colombia, Malawi, Republic of Georgia, Rwanda, Mongolia, Gabon. Continue to pray for the children and families who have received the boxes, that they will be impacted eternally by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Is it too early to start purchas-

ing Operation Christmas Child items for our November packing party? Not at all! Keep an eye out online or in stores for items. Or start making kits and crafts. Here are some ideas:

**Purchase:**

Hygiene Items: such as toothbrushes, dental floss or soap

Extra Accessories: such as hair clips, toy jewelry, stickers, compact mirrors or children's underwear

WOW Items: such as small stuffed animals, small cars, small dolls

**Make:**

Fishing kits, friendship bracelets, knit/crochet hats, mittens, socks or wash clothes (kids sizes)

Place items in the trunk in the back stairwell of the church marked for OCC donations. Thank you!



**mark  
your  
calendar!**

## Bulletin Board

### Join Us at Camp Wakonda in 2022

Vacation Bible School  
**June 27-July 1**  
 Intermediate Camp  
**July 5-10**  
 Collision Camp  
**July 10-17**



## 2022 Church Directory

I'm looking for updated information and pictures for the 2022 church directory. Please email the church office at [churchoffice@miltonsd.org](mailto:churchoffice@miltonsd.org) by February 18th! We will have a photographer at church on Feb. 5 and 12. Thank you.



### February Awana Jesus Said "What?"

2	Club – Valentines for Seniors
9	Club
16	Club
23	Club – Movie and PJ Night

### February Collision

2	Collision
7	Roller Skating with Koinonia
9	Collision
16	Collision – Pizza, Invite-a-friend
23	Collision



### Capital Campaign Final

As of December 31, 2021

Starting Balance	\$ 2,505.00
Total Income	\$106,805.57
Transfer from Memorial Fund Cash Fund	\$8,250
Total Expenses	\$88,243.81
Fund Balance	\$29,316.76



### Focus on Funds




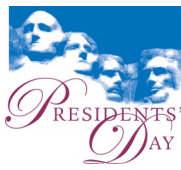
as of December 31, 2021

General Fund Balance	\$21,409.28
Cash at Mem. Fund	\$52,691.10
Dec. Undesignated Income	\$20,290.03
Dec. Total Income	\$28,328.93
Dec. Expenses	\$20,615.47
Denomination Giving YTD	\$11,495.30



- 1 Karissa Bornemann
- 5 Michelle Crandall
- 6 Nola Mae Gray
- 7 Rylee Rotzoll
- 15 Annmarie & Ron Bennett
- 24 Doug & Jayne Lubke
- 25 Sawyer Harris
- 25 Mackynzie Rotzoll
- 26 Beau Gilmore

# February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
		1	2 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's & zoom 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person  6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda	3  11:00 Ladies Bible Study - Library	4	5 9:00 Sabbath School - Library & zoom 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship - Sanctuary and YouTube 
6	7 8:00 TOPS - Library  Collision Skating with Koinonia	8 9:00 Ladies Sit 'n Sip - Sharla's	9 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's & zoom 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person  6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda	10  11:00 Ladies Bible Study - Library	11	12 9:00 Sabbath School - Library & zoom 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship - Sanctuary and YouTube
13	14 8:00 TOPS - Library 	15	16 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's & zoom 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person  6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda	17  11:00 Ladies Bible Study - Library	18  <b>Photo Directory Pictures and Information Due</b>	19 8:00 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 9:00 Sabbath School - Library & zoom 9:00 Kids Fellowship - 10:30 Worship - Sanctuary and YouTube
20	21 8:00 TOPS - Library 	22	23 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's & zoom 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person  6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda	24  11:00 Ladies Bible Study - Library	25	26 9:00 Sabbath School - Library & zoom 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship - Sanctuary and YouTube
27	28 8:00 TOPS - Library					
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p><b>Sabbath Sunset Times</b></p> <p>Feb. 4 5:14 p.m. Feb. 5 5:15 p.m.            Feb. 11 5:23 p.m. Feb. 12 5:24 p.m.            Feb. 18 5:32 p.m. Feb. 19 5:33 p.m.            Feb. 25 5:41 p.m. Feb. 26 5:42 p.m.</p> </div>						



**February  
2022**

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

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

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

**Administrator:** Janet Butler  
churchoffice@miltonsdb.org

**Director of Children's Ministry:**  
Angie Mullen  
asmullen92@gmail.com

**Prayer Coordinator:**  
Renee Sanford  
renee@miltonsdb.org

**Outreach Coordinator:**  
Linda Lyke  
lykelinda@miltonsdb.org

**Communications Coordinator:**  
Joel Osborn  
joel@miltonsdb.org



### **Online Worship**

Our Sabbath morning worship service is available **live** on our YouTube channel. Go to <http://TheConnecting.Church/WorshipOnline> for the link. We are also posting links to the sermon notes on that same page.