

get connected

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



Resurrection Rejoicing

by Pastor Nate Crandall

“The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.’” (Matthew 28:5-6)

At first the Lord’s disciples were deeply grieved at his death. Then at the announcement of his resurrection by the angel, they were terrified. Soon, their fear gave way to joy, as they saw with their own eyes the risen Lord.

For those of us who know this most amazing of all stories, our range of emotions is not as great as his disciples on that weekend of his crucifixion and resurrection. We believe that these events truly took place. We have placed our faith in Jesus as our Savior and Lord. We have hope that at some point in the future Jesus will return and bring to a completion his work of salvation in the world. All of this brings us cause to greatly rejoice in the salvation that we have received through our Lord.

So why does it seem that we so easily tend toward complaining about daily life instead of rejoicing over the victory that Jesus gave to us over sin and death?

Perhaps we’ve just not yet kicked the habit of complaining. Maybe the consummation of God’s coming Kingdom seems a long ways

off given the trials that we are facing. Perhaps we are focusing way more on the things of daily life to the exclusion of life eternal.

Whatever the case, Easter is on the way, and with it we have a great opportunity to cut out the complaining and put on some Resurrection Rejoicing! **This year on the evening of Good Friday we will be gathering to worship and honor our Risen Lord.** We are going to rejoice in his resurrection and all that it means for our coming resurrection. As a part of this service we will be praying for healing and freedom for all who are hungry for it!

On Easter Sabbath, we will be gathering as usual for a morning of rejoicing in the Lord. So let’s prepare our hearts and turn our attention to the Lord who saves, heals, redeems and set us free to rejoice!

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Sabbath School

Saturdays, April 23 - May 28, 9:00 a.m. *by Renee Sanford*

Families! Families share a history. When they gather, families share stories - Stories about grandparents and people we miss. Funny stories about the children growing up. Silly, embarrassing stories about odd relatives. We tell them over and over again - these stories that help us know who we are.

As members of the church, the family of God, we've joined a family with an incredibly rich history. We know some of the family stories - Adam & Eve, Noah & the flood, the Tower of Babel, Abraham, Moses, David & Goliath. Others stories - not so much - Nadab & Abihu? Joab? Dinah? Absalom? Shimei?

Back in 2013 Pastor Nate challenged us to begin a "Bible Discovery" group. We started off in Acts and quickly "discovered" that we did not

know the family stories (see Stephen's testimony in Acts 7). Without the Old Testament background, we lacked context. So in 2016 our small group of 6 to 12 ladies, opened our Bibles to the very beginning - In the beginning, GOD...

For over 6 years we've met, plunging through genealogy, narrative, poetry, law, and even construction plans. After over 300 weekly studies, we've arrived at the end of King Solomon's reign. We've learned our family stories of faith and courage, failure and shame. Stories that show us who God is and what He is doing, stories connecting us with our heritage. Old Testament stories that bring us a richer understanding of Jesus.



This spring we've been asked to share some of what we've experienced. Did we really enjoy Leviticus? Can a group of ladies survive the death spiral cycles in Judges? What does God mean when He says David is a man after his own heart?

Please join us for Sabbath School Sabbath mornings this spring to taste and see the goodness and truth of God through our family stories recorded in scripture.

Sabbath School will NOT be held on April 16.

Join us that day at 9:30 a.m. for a special **Easter Treats that Tie** in the Fellowship Hall.



April Collision	
4	Roller Skating with Koinonia
6	Collision
13	Collision
20	Collision - Pizza, Invite-a-friend
27	Collision
29-30	Spring Recharge @ Camp Wakonda

Collision Spring Recharge @ Camp Wakonda

**April 29th, 7:00 pm -
April 30th, 10:00 pm**

Food, Fun, Friends, Fellowship
in the Lord!

Register at
<http://theconnecting.church/recharge/>

Easter at Awana - A Sunrise SURPRISE!

by Angie Mullen, Director of Children's Ministry

Easter is such an important celebration to Christians. Without the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have no basis for our faith. Phil Vischer, creator of many children's ministry series including Veggie Tales, once said that Easter should be the Superbowl of holidays in our culture. Kids need to recognize the significance of our Easter celebrations and what Jesus did that Holy Week! For this reason, we hold a special "Easter Celebration" at Awana each year.

What you are about to read is top secret, though. If you know an Awana clubber, please DON'T tell them what you are about to read. It will ruin the SURPRISE!

Jesus took the world by SURPRISE when he showed up on the scene 2,000 years ago. Never before had the world

seen such power, love, and holiness.

Jesus' disciples were equally SURPRISED when Jesus was crucified and died on the cross. They expected Jesus to overthrow the Roman government. Instead, he was in the grave.

But nothing could equal the SURPRISE that the world experienced the very first Easter Sunday morning. The tomb was empty, and Jesus was alive!

In this lesson, the children will learn that **Jesus is the SURPRISE that the world needed.** "The angel said, '..."

You are looking for Jesus...He isn't here. He has been raised from the dead." – Matthew 28:5, 6

Don't Be Surprised, Jesus is ALIVE! When we put our faith in Him, He will forgive our sin and give us new life.

We plan to have some fun SURPRISES for our clubbers at Awana on April 13th. **Would**

you be able to help us carry out some of these surprises? Contact Angie for some tasks such as helping with some simple

"surprise party" decorations in the sanctuary during the day on April 13, or a simple assembly project that could be done at home.

Please join us in praying that our clubbers will think of a friend or two to invite to Awana for this special Easter "Surprise" and that more hearts will be open to the best SURPRISE the world has ever seen – JESUS IS ALIVE! and kids will accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior!



April/May Awana Bible Science	
6	Club
13	Club
20	Club
Fri. – 22	Bible Science Pizza Party!
27	Club – Last Club Night
May 4	Year End Awards & Recognition Night



Awana Clubs **BIBLE SCIENCE**

ALL AWANA CLUBBERS ARE INVITED!

PIZZA PARTY

FRIDAY, APRIL 22
6:00-8:00 PM
PIZZA, SCIENCE ACTIVITIES AND FUN!

RVSP BY WED, APRIL 20

by email at awanaclubs@miltonsdb.org or contact Angie at 608-295-6484



Counselor Applications

Are you interested in serving as a counselor at Camp Wakonda this summer? Camp is a very special place. Each summer we see God's powerful presence move in the hearts of the campers as well as the staff.

If you have a personal relationship with Christ, you are invited to submit an application to show that you are interested in serving at one of our overnight camps.

Applications are available in the church Welcome Center and on the website, theconnecting.church.



Join Us at Camp Wakonda in 2022

Camp Discover
For children entering K-3 grades
June 27 – July 1

Intermediate Camp
For children entering 4-6 grades
July 5 – 10

Camp Collision
For children entering 7-12 grades
July 10 – 17

*Registration forms available on our website
theconnecting.church
and in the church Welcome Center.*



**At Camp Wakonda
Sunday, May 1st
8:30 a.m.**

Your help is needed to roof the boys dorm, do some painting, split some wood and to help with in-depth cleaning.

Contact Brandon Crandall or Doneta Osborn for more details.

A detailed sign-up for cleaning jobs is in the Welcome Center.

Prayer Focus – Ukraine *by Renee Sanford, Prayer Coordinator*

Ukraine is about the size of Texas, but with twice as many people (44 million).

A bit of background has helped me pray: Ukraine is a major producer of Europe's wheat – it generated more than 25% of the entire Soviet Union's agricultural products. Since gaining its independence in 1991, Ukraine has struggled to take advantage of its economic potential and remains largely dependent on Russia for oil and gas.

Tensions with Russia and internally in Ukraine are nothing new. During the 71 years of Soviet rule, Ukraine endured famines deliberately created by Russia – over 8 million people died – almost one-fifth of the population. The Soviet government undermined Ukrainian culture, forbidding the study and use of the Ukrainian language. The nuclear meltdown at Chernobyl in 1986 continues to inflict environmental damage, disease, and death.

In 2013, the Ukrainian government sought improved relations with Russia. The

history of oppression led to massive protests with hundreds of thousands in attendance. When the government passed anti-protest laws, the protests escalated into deadly riots. Though these laws were later annulled, fighting and unrest continued across Ukraine, resulting in the loss of thousands of lives. In the midst of this internal chaos, Russia annexed part of Ukraine (Crimea), adding further frustration to an already divided nation. Attempts at peace and reconciliation have been largely unsuccessful – with the current invasion the latest escalation.

Pray for Basic Needs

- Keep people safe amid the chaos
- Meet daily needs for food, shelter, clothing, medical supplies
- Help families stay in touch
- Provide safe havens for refugees
- Strengthen the faith of believers - encourage them and comfort their fears

Pray for an End to Conflict

- Let your peace and reconciliation overcome hatred, conflict, and war



- Address the historic oppression and conflict
- Show forth your glory as you control the destiny of nations
- Provide wisdom for world leaders in response to Russian aggression
- Change the hearts and minds of Russian leadership
- Open the eyes of invading Russian soldiers – draw them to you and to peace

Pray for Salvation

- Let followers of Jesus arise as messengers of hope to war victims and the oppressed
- Let the chaos and misery draw people to you – to faith and salvation in Christ
- Equip your church to minister to hurting people and disciple new believers

Ramadan starts on Sunday, April 2. It's the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and a time Muslims seek to grow spiritually and become closer to Allah and their loved ones. They do this by fasting and abstaining from pleasures like eating, smoking, drinking and intimacy between sunrise and sunset each day. Once the sun sets, there may be a feast or other social event. Observing Ramadan is one of the Five Pillars of Islam (the others being a profession that Allah is the one God, giving alms, praying five times a day, and a pilgrimage to Mecca).

During this holy season for Muslims, our **e-mail prayer chain will include a daily prayer for the Rohingya from the worldwide prayer network "Pray for Rohingya."** If you aren't on the prayer chain e-mail list, this would be a good time to join! Just contact the church office.

Q Place Groups Update *by Jan Teat*

Through your prayers and support, Christians are starting groups for spiritual seekers! Read what participants in my recent coaching groups said about their new Q Place groups.



Miguel works with international college students in Everett, WA, and started his new group in January after going through Q Place Coaching in the fall.

After 4 months of friendship building, in January we started a “Questions of Life” Group. Since most of our friends are pretty closed to religion and suspicious of the Bible, we are talking about questions like “What is the meaning of Life” or “Why is there suffering?” Four not-yet-Christian college students from Bangladesh, Costa Rica, and Japan are very committed, and five more from Russia, Pakistan, India, and Peru come occasionally. Everyone shares their own perspective and of course we share a Christian perspective, but in a gentle and loving way.

One guy from a Muslim background was very open to spiritual conversations and the Bible. So, we have started a Bible study in the gospel of Mark just for him. This is what

he said, “Today as I read about Jesus, I literally felt goosebumps.” ~ Miguel, WA

Jill, a professor, went through coaching for the second time so that she could invite her friend, Karen, to join her. In January they started a new group in MI.

I’ve been asking God to give me a bigger life, one with more influence, and He sure seems to be answering that prayer! In the fall 2020, I was leading a group of women through the 9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations when I was invited to Q Place Coaching. Coaching was so encouraging as the leaders shared many personal stories of how non-believers seemed to value having a space to discuss spiritual things, but I was resistant because after all, I didn’t know any of my neighbors, I didn’t have a co-facilitator, my workplace is an absolute nonstarter, etc. But God was working on my heart, and within a few months, He provided two other women excited to join my team. We prayed for our contacts throughout the summer, and just kept walking through the doors as He opened them. Our Q-Place group started on January 31st on Zoom, and we are all excited to create a safe space to watch God work in all of us. To Him be the glory! ~ Jill, MI

Jochen and Andreas, from a small village in Germany started their group in September. Ten men have been coming. They meet outside by a campfire with reindeer skins to keep warm! On Feb. 17th we got back together to check in and share how God has been working. Here’s what they said:

Andreas: We are really enthusiastic about our men’s group around the campfire. It is full of many interesting men. We always get something out of it and there is good and deep talking. I never would have the attitude towards leading a group like this if I didn’t have the coaching. I have such a relaxed attitude and I don’t have to teach or preach. I am just there, and we can be friends. It is so special.

Jochen: We love being there and it is so easy to invite men. When my dental patients share their problems, I ask, “Would you like to join us Wednesday evening?” Everyone is so enthusiastic. They like to come and want to come. Jesus has created a place where men can relax and have deep relationships and that’s great. Andreas and I are still the biggest fans of Q Place. We’re thankful that you helped us to establish the Q Place.

Pastor Keith from Pennsylvania says why he started a Q Place group.

Continued on page 7

Serving at GIFTS *by Linda Lyke, Outreach Coordinator*

The mission of GIFTS is to show Christ's love to homeless men in Rock County by advancing renewal and hope through a unified Christian effort. Our church partners with GIFTS to help them accomplish their mission by supporting them in person two weeks during the year.

Our spring week to provide meals at the GIFTS Men's shelter is just around the corner:

**Monday, April 18
through Thursday,
April 21.**

Sign Up at the Welcome Center to:

- Donate food items (that will be used to cook meals for the men)
- Volunteer in serving the meal to the men on one of the nights
- Stay overnight – two men or a married couple



Medical Missions Trip

Marian van Dalen-Anderson is leaving soon on a short-term medical mission trip along the Amazon River in Brazil. You can support the trip by donating medical and hygiene supplies.

Items needed include: Vicks vapor rub, Small packages of cough drops, Muscle rub, Cortisone cream, Anti-itch cream, Anti-fungal cream, Vaseline, Allergy meds for adults and children, Tylenol and Motrin for children, Pepcid or some other Tums, Vaginal yeast medication, Knee and ankle braces, Triple antibiotic ointment, Washcloth – 25, Bar of soap – 25, Toothbrushes – 25, Toothpaste – 25, Additional small items – combs, brushes, chap stick, motel size shampoo

Please place items in the bin by the trunk on the back steps of the church by **April 13th**. Thank you for helping to bless those in need along the remote Amazon River.

Q Place, continued

It's not easy to reach out to the unchurched in a small, rust belt Pennsylvania town. Over 20% of the town's population lives below the poverty level. Drug use is rampant. And hope has declined with the declining population. Deacon Don and I reached the conclusion that

neighborhood home groups might be a good way to reach people, so we started a group! And now Deacon Don and his wife are also starting a group with another couple in their winter location—Venice, Florida! ~ Keith, PA

You can start a Q Place group too! Learn how at QPlace.com/getequipped. May God bless you!

**Warmly,
Jan Teat**



Bulletin Board



- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Nathaniel Muench | 16 Melissa Lade |
| 2 Gary Groelle | 17 John Harris |
| 5 Jon Cruzan | 19 <i>Jim & Linda Lyke</i> |
| 6 <i>Randy & Marcy Kersten</i> | 21 Lindsey Call |
| 8 <i>Alan & Elise Walker</i> | 22 Faith Green |
| 11 Corbin Kersten | 24 Isaac Harris |
| 13 Marcy Kersten | 29 Mickey Johnson |
| 13 Jake Horn | 29 Pam Adams |
| 15 Elizabeth Lawton | |

Kwik Trip Cards

Gift (can be used for gas and inside purchases), **Fuel Only**, and **Grocery Only** cards are available from Kwik Trip now. The specific types and dollar amount cards can be ordered and usually arrive within 2 days. Talk with Janet (608-868-2741) to specify what you would like.

The church receives a 5% discount when purchasing the **Gift** and **Fuel Only** cards. The church receives a 15% discount when purchasing the **Grocery Only** cards.

Kwik Trip is eliminating the 10% rebate on in-store purchases that the church has also benefitted from.

When you purchase these 3 types of cards at face value from the church, you are supporting the church's **Outreach Fund**. This fund is used to assist missions like: Koinonia Singers, East Side Story, refugee pencil boxes, and church members who go on mission trips.

Amazon Smile

If you make purchases with Amazon, just log into smile.amazon.com, click on "Supporting", and choose Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church as your current charity. There's no extra cost and the **Outreach Fund** will receive a small portion of the sale.



Baby Shower – April 23rd

In honor of Katelyn and Jackson Butler's baby due in late June. They are registered at babylist.com.

Gifts/cards can be left in the church workroom if you are unable to attend. Larger gifts will need to be mailed to their NY home. Ladies, please contact Janet Butler (608-774-7710) for details.



Focus on Funds

as of February 28, 2022

General Fund Balance	\$24,512.70
Cash at Mem. Fund	\$61,031.10
Feb. Undesignated Income	\$21,914.33
Feb. Total Income	\$29,290.85
Feb. Expenses	\$23,099.45
Denomination Giving YTD	\$ 5,755.00
Capital Campaign Fund	\$21,190.76

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Sabbath Sunset Times</p> <p>April 1 7:23 p.m. April 2 7:24 p.m. April 8 7:31 p.m. April 9 7:32 p.m. April 15 7:39 p.m. April 16 7:40 p.m. April 22 7:47 p.m. April 23 7:48 p.m. April 29 7:55 p.m. April 30 7:56 p.m.</p> </div>					1	2
3	4 8:00 TOPS - Library	5	6 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's & zoom 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and zoom 6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda	7 11:00 Ladies Bible Study - Library	8	9 9:00 Sabbath School - Room 6 & zoom 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship - Sanctuary and YouTube
10	11 8:00 TOPS - Library	12 9:00 Ladies Sit 'n Sip - Sharla's	13 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's & zoom 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and zoom 6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda	14 11:00 Ladies Bible Study - Library	15  7:00 p.m. Worship & Healing Service	16 8:30 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 9:30 Special Easter Treats that Tie - Fellowship Hall 10:30 Easter Celebration - Sanctuary and YouTube 
17 	18 8:00 TOPS - Library GIFTS Night	19 GIFTS Night	20 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's & zoom 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and zoom GIFTS Night 6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda	21 11:00 Ladies Bible Study - Library GIFTS Night	22 6-8:00 p.m. Awana Pizza Party	23 9:00 Sabbath School - Room 6 & zoom 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship - Sanctuary and YouTube
24	25 8:00 TOPS - Library	26	27 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's & zoom 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and zoom 6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda	28 11:00 Ladies Bible Study - Library	29 7:00 p.m. Collision Recharge at Camp Wakonda	30 9:00 Sabbath School - Room 6 & zoom 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship - Sanctuary and YouTube



April 2022

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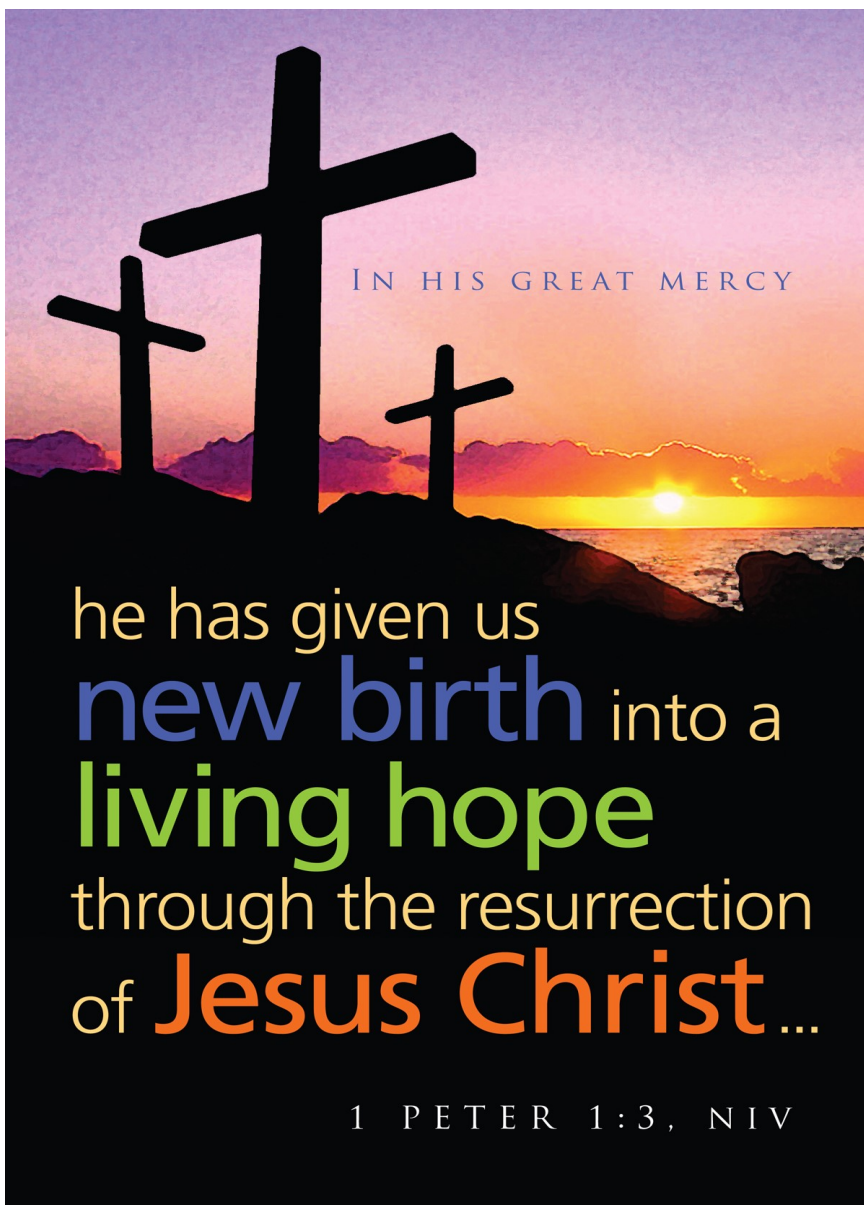
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Online Worship

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.