

get connected

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



Report on Friday Night Prayer

by Pastor Nate Crandall

Jesus is our life, and prayer is one of the indispensable ways that we remain connected to the wholeness of his life. May it be said of us in 2023 that our life is full of "often" getting away to spend time in prayer with him.

Everyone who was able to join Michelle and me for prayer on Friday nights in March was

blessed with the joy of sharing Jesus with one another. It was a truly great time where we talked about what God was doing in our hearts and in our lives and asked the Lord to provide

for all of our needs. I didn't expect there to be as much joy and laughter as we experienced, but it just makes sense because, as the scripture says, **"In your presence there is fullness of joy."** (Psalm 16:11)

The "petition" part of prayer was fun because no one was allowed to ask for anything for anyone else – only for ourselves. That was hard to do! Yet, it was freeing to know that the Lord cares about us just as much as everybody else.

The "intercession" part was exciting because we only prayed for those who do not know the Lord as Savior and Lord. I can't say

that we've seen answers to these prayers yet, but I will say that I have more hope that the Lord is doing something big!

For the "confession" time, as a group we read what could be considered classic prayers of confession. There is a time for personal confession, but there's something to be said about con-

fessing together. We are all in need of forgiveness and cleansing of our hearts from the things that cause us to wander from the Lord.

Our God is so great and wonderful! Sometimes there is a barrier that we put up between us and the opportunity to seek him and pray to him together. Let me encourage us all to take a step of faith and engage in group prayer opportunities. There is nothing like being in his presence with those who love the Lord and are seeking to draw close to him in prayer.

The Lord has been placing it on Michelle's and my heart to keep on praying together on Friday nights. I don't know what that will look like, but stay tuned. God isn't done with us yet!



April 2023

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JOIN US TO REMEMBER THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST IN PERSON AND ONLINE

THE CRUCIFIXION
Friday, April 7, 6:30 PM

THE RESURRECTION
Saturday, April 8, 10:30 AM

Livestream at:
youtube.com/theconnectingchurch

720 E Madison Ave, Milton, WI
608-868-2741



See YOU at Camp Wakonda this summer

Camp Discover

For children entering K-3 grades
June 26 – 30

Camp Collision

For children entering 7-12 grades
July 9 – 16

Intermediate Camp

For children entering 4-6 grades
July 16 – 21

*Online registration is available on our website
theconnecting.church/wakonda
and forms are in the church Welcome Center.*

Camp Discover fee:

\$10.00 for first child in family
\$5.00 each additional child in family
if registered by June 4th.

\$20 for first child and \$10
each additional child in family
if registered after June 4th.

Camp Collision fee:

1st year camper – \$100.00
Returning camper –
\$200.00 if registered by June 4
\$230.00 if registered after June 4

Intermediate Camp fee:

1st year camper – \$100
Returning camper –
\$170.00 if registered by June 4
\$200.00 if registered after June 4

Scholarships are available.

Contact the church office at
churchoffice@miltonsdb.org

Ministry Spotlight on Camp Wakonda

by Pastor Nate Crandall

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him.” (1 Corinthians 2:9)

It's that time of the year again when we start to gear up for summer ministry at Camp Wakonda. The camp board and staff have been planning for a great summer, but even more exciting to me is that God has been planning great things for this summer at camp! He has been preparing something so fabulous that we can't even imagine just how awesome it will be. But here's the kicker: anyone who doesn't come to camp won't be able to experience God's great plans. So let's get the word

out! Let's pray kids in. Let's help them get here. Let's drag them if we need to! (Just kidding...kinda)

This year we will once again have two overnight camps, Intermediate for grades 4-6 and Collision for grades 7-12, and Camp Discover afternoons for grades K-3. Information is available on the church webpage and at the Welcome Center. Staff applications for all camps are also available. We are especially in need of female staff for Collision, so be in prayer with us for that.

Here's the big news: our SDB Conference has generously given us an approximately \$31,000 grant for camp which

we will be using to get a stove upgrade and comply with current fire codes. If you have a chance to thank any of our Conference people, please do so! This is fantastic!!

Finally, check out the prayer requests for camp in this newsletter and start praying! God has great things planned for this summer, and we get to be part of it. Praise His Name!



April Prayer Focus – Camp Wakonda

- LORD, thank you for Camp Wakonda!
- Thank you for all the lives impacted
- Thank you for always providing resources
- Keep Wakonda a peaceful, welcoming place
- Let all the administrative tasks run smoothly
- Fill the season with faith, fun & friendship
- Keep everyone safe physically & spiritually
- Provide staff & guide them
- Give them health, rest, focus & patience
- Draw young people to camp
- Give us direction & boldness to invite campers– especially from unchurched families
- Open campers' hearts to your gospel
- Let there be healing, growth & salvation
- Make worship times sweet & powerful
- Help campers remember all they've learned
- Continue Godly relationships after camp
- May this camp season give you glory

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/wakonda.

Awana Highlights this Spring

by Angie Mullen, Director of Children's Ministry

Spring is upon us whether or not the weatherman's forecast says it's so. As we are eager for the rebirth of the vegetation and the warmth of the summer, the spring time means that our Awana year is quickly winding down. The number of weeks we have left to meet are few, but they are packed full of things to help our children grow in their knowledge, love and service to our King. Here are the highlights:

- We have had 7 children come to a leader to "confess with their mouths and believe in their hearts" that Jesus is Lord during our "Finding Treasure on the Romans Road" unit that wrapped up in March. Rejoice along with us that these young children have realized salvation in Jesus! Thank God for this work He has done in their hearts and ask him to help us all continue to lead these young followers of Christ in his ways. May they always follow hard after Him.

- Our Spring Missions Project is underway. We are collecting money for Victoria and other widows in Uganda to purchase chickens for their poultry farms. It will take \$1.25 to purchase 1 chicken. Our goal is to be able to help them purchase 200 of the 1,500 chickens in this project. Local chicken farmer, Kelly Bascom, brought some week old chicks to Awana and shared what it takes to raise a chick to become an egg producer. Murray our Missions Monster will be "eating" any funds our Awana children bring in throughout the month of April. We will reveal the total number of chickens we are able to purchase at our Awards Night on May 3rd.
- We will celebrate Easter and Jesus' resurrection at Awana on Wed., April 5.



All of you are invited to join us for this family Easter Celebration Service at 7:00 in the sanctuary.

- Our annual Awards Night is right around the corner, too. Plan to join us to celebrate the hard work of these children who are faithfully studying God's word and committing it to memory! We will meet in the sanctuary on May 3rd at 6:30 pm.

Thank you for allowing 8 of our T&Ters to lead you in worship on Sabbath, March 18th. These 3rd-6th graders worked hard to learn some of their favorite worship songs that we have been singing in Awana this year. I'm so thankful for a church family that *welcomes* our children and is willing to train them up to be the leaders of tomorrow's church. I hope you were as blessed by them as they were to be able to have this leadership opportunity.



April 15

Unit 15: Session 4 -
Every Person Matters
(Psalm 139)

Lead Teacher: Angie Mullen

April 29

Unit 16: Session 1 -
Jeremiah Encouraged
God's People

Lead Teacher: Tara Rotzoll

Operation Christmas Child - Praise & Pray!

This year, 2023, marked the 50 millionth child disciplined through Samaritan's Purse The Greatest Journey discipleship program. The children not only receive a shoebox with our gifts inside, but they are offered the discipleship program for themselves and their families. We praise Jesus for this tremendous milestone! In 2022 alone, over 2.4 million Greatest Journey students put their faith in Christ.

On November 5, 2022 our church and the community packed 301 boxes. Our boxes went to five countries on three continents:

- South America: Suriname and Guyana
- North America: Jamaica
- Africa: Zambia and Lesotho

Jamaica – Pray for the children in Jamaica who have received our boxes:

Located in the Caribbean Sea, Jamaica is known for its beaches, mountains, rainforests, and reggae music. Distribution of shoeboxes started there in 1997, and The Greatest Journey follow-up discipleship program started in 2013.



We continue to receive responses from those around the world who have received our shoeboxes from last November. Here is the latest warm reply:

Hello friends....my name is Pastor Price Leketa from Maseru, Lesotho , Southern Africa. This letter serves to confirm that our children's church has received some shoes boxes from your lovely church. On behalf of my kids..... thank you good people

Serving at GIFTS April 24, 25 and 27

Our days to provide meals at the GIFTS Men's Shelter are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, April 24, 25 and 27th.

The sign up sheets will be in the Welcome Center on Sabbath, April 8th for donating food for the meals or for serving the meal.



Summer Missions Scholarships

Summer missions scholarships are available to anyone participating in a short-term missions trip, including Koinonia. Please contact the Church Administrator for more information or for a scholarship form.

Bulletin Board



April

BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Nathaniel Muench
- 2 Gary Groelle
- 5 Jon Cruzan
- 6 *Randy & Marcy Kersten*
- 8 *Alan & Elise Walker*
- 11 Corbin Kersten
- 13 Marcy Kersten
- 15 Elizabeth Lawton
- 16 Melissa Lade
- 17 John Harris
- 19 *Jim & Linda Lyke*
- 24 Isaac Harris
- 29 Mickey Johnson
- 29 Pam Adams

Men's Chorus

will rehearse at 8:00 a.m. on Sabbath, April 15th and sing during worship that day at 10:30 a.m.

Ladies Sit 'n Sip

Tuesday, April 11th
9:00 a.m. at Sharla's
Come relax with some church friends!

Spring Fling Game Weekend – April 1-2

Saturday, 12:30 p.m. – Sunday, 5:00 p.m. @ Camp Wakonda

We will be playing a large mix of board games including Bible Trivia at 7 p.m. on Saturday. Please RSVP to Ryan Holbrook at time_weever@yahoo.com by 5:00 p.m. only if you want to participate in the Bible Trivia game. No RSVP is necessary for the general board games.

Food will **not** be provided, so feel free to bring your own. If you plan to stay overnight, bring your own bedding and personal items. This event is open to all ages, however, anyone under the age of 18 needs to be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for them. Clean up Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service

The Greene Family is hosting a time of worship at their home on Sunday, April 9th at 6:00 am. You are invited to join in song, Scripture reading, and prayer as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Take in the sunrise on the prairie: 11313 E County Road MM, Avalon WI.

For more information, contact Cindy at cindygreene620@aol.com.

Work Day at Camp Wakonda

Sunday, April 16th, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Contact Brandon Crandall for details of outside projects including painting, repairing the wire fence, moving gravel and chainsaw trimming.

Contact Doneta Osborn for inside cleaning jobs.

Many hands make light work. Hope to see you there.

April and May

5	Club – Easter Celebration
12	Club
19	Club
26	Club – Last Club Night
3	Year End awards and Recognition Night



April

3 (Mon.)	Roller Skating with Koinonia
5	Collision
12	Collision
19	Collision – Pizza Party
26	Collision







Focus on Funds

as of February 28, 2023

General Fund Balance	\$ 1,545.51
Cash at Mem. Fund	\$45,411.80
Feb. Undesignated Inc.	\$17,976.45
Feb. Total Income	\$22,449.66
Feb. Expenses	\$35,971.96
Denomination Giving YTD	\$ 1,735.00
Capital Campaign Fund	\$ 9,224.38

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Sabbath Sunset Times</p> <p>March 31 7:21 p.m. April 1 7:22 p.m. April 7 7:29 p.m. April 8 7:30 p.m. April 14 7:37 p.m. April 15 7:39 p.m. April 21 7:45 p.m. April 22 7:47 p.m. April 28 7:53 p.m. April 29 7:55 p.m.</p> </div>						<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship</p> <p>12:30 Game Weekend - Camp Wakonda</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>9:00 Redeeming Grace Church</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Game Weekend ends</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>8:00 TOPS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>7:00 Scouts</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's</p> <p>9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom</p> <p>6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Good Friday Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Resurrection Sabbath Worship</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service - Carl & Cindy Greene's</p> <p>9:00 Redeeming Grace Church</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p>8:00 TOPS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p>9:00 Ladies Sit 'n Sip - Sharla's</p> <p>7:00 Scouts</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's</p> <p>9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom</p> <p>6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p>8:00 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship and Children's Church</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">16</p>  <p>8:30 a.m. Camp Wakonda Work Day</p> <p>9:00 Redeeming Grace Church</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p>8:00 TOPS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p>7:00 Scouts</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p>6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's</p> <p>9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom</p> <p>6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">20</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">21</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p>9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p>9:00 Redeeming Grace Church</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p>8:00 TOPS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GIFTS Night</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GIFTS Night</p> <p>7:00 Scouts</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's</p> <p>9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom</p> <p>6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision - Camp Wakonda</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GIFTS Night</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p>9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship and Children's Church</p>



**April
2023**

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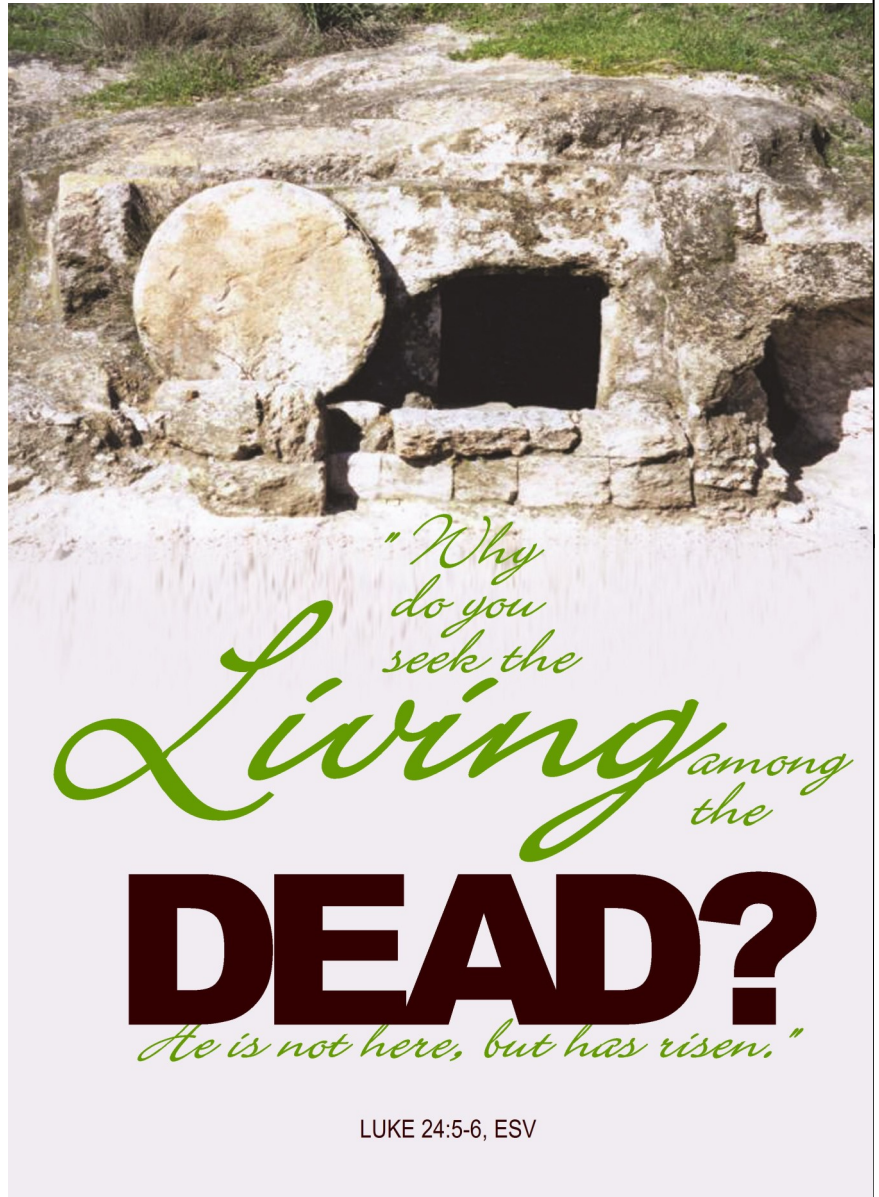
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*"Why
do you
seek the
Living among
the*

DEAD?

He is not here, but has risen."

LUKE 24:5-6, ESV

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.