

# get connected

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



## Have You Asked the Question?

by Pastor Nate Crandall

*“Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul. For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth.”*  
(3 John 1:2-3)

During the times of the Puritans, many hundreds of years ago, the followers of Christ practiced a spiritual habit which has been largely forgotten. They called this habit, *Conference*. A conference can be a formal meeting, like the annual gathering of Seventh Day Baptists which this year will take place on the campus of Calvin University from July 23-29. Or conference can be when two people are engaged in discussion. In the case of the Puritans, conference had to do with talking about the condition of their soul with another believer. They would begin this conversation with a simple question.

### How’s your soul?

It’s a different question than, “How’s it going?” This question opens the door to conversation that is below the surface. It gives an invitation to talk about deeper things than the weather or the

Packers. The Puritans understood something that we in our day have not really grasped. **We all need to talk about the condition of our souls!** We are weaker spiritually when we don’t have the opportunity both to share about our soul and to hear about the condition of someone else’s soul.

Once you start talking about the state of your soul, it naturally leads into prayer. I don’t understand all of the reasons why it happens that way, but it just does. As a child of God, prayer is our heart language, and when we start talking about the things of the heart and soul, we are moved to pray.

For this year when the Holy Spirit is moving on our people in the area of prayer, let’s take this next step. Let’s start to ask the question: How’s your soul? Then, let’s follow it up with praying for one another.

Do you want to see the power of God? Then, let me challenge you to ask the question, and just see what God will do.



## June 2023

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# Ministry Spotlight on East Side Story

By Pastor Nate Crandall

*“And the glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain that is on the **east side** of the city.” (Ezekiel 11:23)*

The 2022-23 school year is almost complete, so now is a good time for an update on our outreach to Milton East Elementary. Though COVID severely limited our opportunities to show the love of Christ and to share the gospel of Christ with our neighbors at Milton East, this past year allowed for renewed connections and ministry opportunities. Here’s a quick rundown.

Last fall, we started off with a prayer walk around Milton East. Joining us for the first time were some staff members from East as well as some believers from other churches in the area. It was a great experience to see that others have a heart for Milton East and are praying for the teachers, staff, students, and families just like we are!

Also, in the fall we invited our church family to participate in the Scoopie night for East. A

few people came out in support. This next year, we hope to participate again and to see if we can get more of our church family to be there!

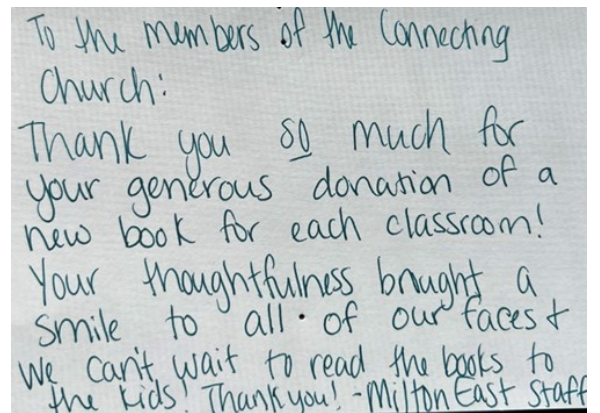
One of the really cool things that was started at Milton East this year was the “Hey Neighbor” mentoring program. This is the first year of the program, and it was a huge success. There were many mentors, and I (Pastor Nate) was happy to be one of them. I met weekly with a third grade boy, and we had a fabulous time. In the basement of Milton East, the staff set aside a location full of games and crafts for the students and mentors to enjoy during their time together.

**Our church family provided a great number of the games to help get this area stocked and ready for use. Thank you to everyone who contributed!! It is well-used every week!**

Finally, during parent teacher conferences, Milton schools do book sales as a fundraiser.

**This spring our church family bought a book for every Milton East teacher to use in their classroom!** To borrow a phrase from Awana: **Way To Go Good Job!** The teachers wrote us a Thank You note. Check it out below.

I believe that we need to show the love of Christ in order to also share the good news of Christ. East Side Story is all about loving our neighbors at Milton East Elementary. Our hope is to be able to share the good news of life in Jesus. **If you have a heart to love on the kids, the teachers and staff, or the families of Milton East, then please come talk to me.** God is doing good things on the East Side!



To the members of the Connecting Church:  
Thank you so much for your generous donation of a new book for each classroom!  
Your thoughtfulness brought a smile to all of our faces +  
We can't wait to read the books to the kids! Thank you! -Milton East Staff



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## New Sabbath School Class

Join us for viewing **The Chosen – Season 3**, at 9:00 on Saturday mornings on May 27, June 3, 10, 17 and 24. We will skip the month of July, and finish Season three on August 5, 12, 19 just in time for the **Bible Breakfast on August 26**. Youth are encouraged to join this class. Because the videos are about one hour long, there will be no planned class discussion, nor will we be zooming.

If you are not able to be here, we encourage you to enjoy season 3 for free on your own streaming device at Angel.com.

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## Prayer Focus – East Side Story

**PRAISE** – Let’s give praise to the Lord for all of the ways which we have been able to love our neighbors at Milton East!

Prayer walks, Scoopie night, “Hey Neighbor” mentoring program support with mentors and games, and Books for teachers.

**CONFESSION** – We confess that our love for our neighbors at Milton East does not often reach the level of loving them as we love ourselves. Let us consider how God has placed them as our neighbors so that we can love them with the strength of his love.

**MEDITATION** – *“If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well.”* (James 2:8)

**PETITION** – Ask the Lord to bless our church family so that we may be a blessing to everyone who is a part of Milton East.

**INTERCESSION** – Ask the Lord to send more people to show the love of Christ and to tell the gospel of Christ with students, families, teachers and staff who have not yet trusted Christ as Savior and Lord.

**THANKSGIVING** – Let us thank the Lord for wonderful teachers and staff at Milton East who do such a great job every day!

**REST** – As the summer comes and we take a break from our East Side Story ministry, let us trust that the Lord will renew our commitment and energy to be the light of Christ to our neighbors at Milton East.

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## Spiritual Conversations

Do you have any lady friends who are seeking God? They want to know if he is real? They want to know why God would allow pain and suffering? They are going through a difficult time and need hope? Since 2017, our church has facilitated Q Place discussion groups (Q stands for Questions) for those looking for a safe, nonjudgmental place to talk about life, God and the Bible. Melissa Lade, Shanny (Snyder) Ayres, and Linda Lyke continue to facilitate these groups along with a newly trained facilitator, Jenn Preiss.



Participants can come in person to the Milton YMCA or attend on Zoom so friends who are nearby or far away are welcome!

Our next Spiritual Conversations group starts June 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 p.m. If you have lady friends, family, neighbors who want to explore faith, please give their contact information to one of us facilitators.

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# Awana Awards Night

by Angie Mullen, Children's Ministry Director

The Awana club year officially ended on Wednesday, May 3 with a sanctuary FULL of clubbers and their families at our annual Awana Awards Night. We offered praise to God for all that He has done in the lives of these children this year. Psalm 40:16 says, *"But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, 'Great is the Lord!'"* Our hearts were full of rejoicing, and we are so glad in all the works of our Great God through the Awana ministry this year. We trust him completely to grow all the seeds that were planted in the hearts of more than 60 kids this year.

We also celebrated our clubbers' hard work with awards. 43 book awards were presented. This includes 2 Sparky awards to 2<sup>nd</sup> graders Theo Lubke and Graycin Dummer for completing all 3 Sparks handbooks.

Our highest award, the Timothy Award, was presented to 6<sup>th</sup> graders Isaac Harris, Isaac Kersten, and Sophia Kersten. These clubbers completed all 4 T&T handbooks which require a significant amount of work outside of club to memorize scripture and show that they understand what those verses mean.

We also honored 7 T&T students for completing all weekly extra credit bible stud-

ies on their own with the Silver Award. Those clubbers were Alexander Lang, Andre Lang, Ava Williams, Helena Pennycook, Isaac Kersten, John Harris, and William Holbrook.

This evening was also bittersweet for some. We graduated an amazing NINE 6<sup>th</sup> graders from our Awana ministry. Some of these clubbers have been with us on Wednesday nights since they were 3 years old and most of the others since they were in Sparks. They have stayed with Awana as long as they could and have been strong leaders to the other clubbers. We sent them off with knowledge and faith that God has big plans for these kids; plans for good, of hope, and a future with Him. Please join us in praying for Andre, Arya, Callie, Colter, Isaac H., Isaac K., Mason, Sophia, and Truman. We pray they continue to walk with Jesus and seek his love and ways for their lives.

And we are thankful for all our Awana staff who have given up many, many hours to be at the church on Wednesday nights meeting with these children. They are such faithful servants who are sharing the Light of the World in our community on a weekly basis. Without their commitment and sacri-

face, this Awana ministry would not be possible. When you see these people, please thank them for their service: Marcy Kersten, Teresa Kersten, Brittany Kersten,

Pastor Liz Green, Joel Osborn, Michelle Crandall, Jill Groelle, Kathy Crandall,

Brandon Crandall, Eric Camenga, Deirdre Camenga, Kathleen Holbrook, Jocelyn Dutcher, Connie Fisher, Michael Hoffman, Melissa Lade, Jeremy Lade, Tara Rotzoll, Rich Gallegos, Ryan Holbrook, Jen Dutcher, Ernie Fisher, Sarah Uhlich, Rick Mullen and Dale Green.

We are already looking forward to Awana 2023-24! We appreciate your prayers this summer for God to give us clear direction in planning, for a full slate of passionate volunteers, and for many, many children to come to hear about Jesus. God has always been faithful in this ministry we have here in Milton and we know he will do it again. See you in September.





**Cubbies** –  
our preschoolers who earned  
their Honeycomb book awards.



**Sparky Award Winners** –  
Theo Lubke and Graycin Dummer

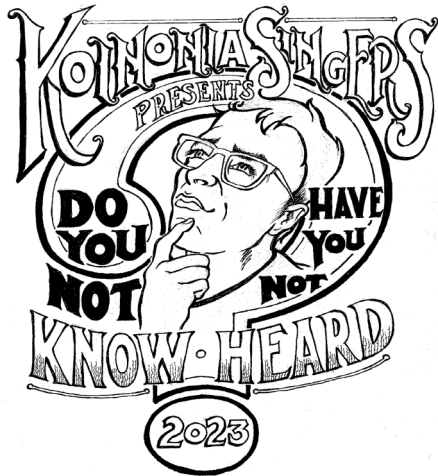


**Timothy Award Winners** – Sophia Kersten,  
Isaac Harris and Isaac Kersten



Our nine 6<sup>th</sup> graders who graduated from Awana this year and their leaders.

## Koinonia Singers Concert at Milton SDB Church Sunday, June 25, 7:00 p.m.



*“Do you not know?  
Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the  
earth. He will not grow tired or  
weary, and his understanding  
no one can fathom.”*  
Isaiah 40:28

This is the key verse for this year’s Koinonia Show, Do you not know? Have you not heard?. Many in our secular generation have not heard with their physical ears and especially with the spiritual ears of

their hearts about Jesus or the Gospel. As this year’s story unfolds, we see one of these souls changed. As he has his spiritual eyes and ears opened by God to hear and respond to the Gospel, he is truly saved. His secular friends witness this change and also get to hear the Gospel clearly! And many of them for the first time! In the process, the characters see that there is a true and absolute God and He is the God of the Bible.



### Meeting Together

**Mid-Year Meeting**

**Sunday, June 25, 9:00 a.m.**

### Seventh Day Baptist Conference Week

*“How Great is Our God”*

July 23-29

Calvin University, Grand Rapids MI

Must register online by July 1.

No Walk-up registrations will be allowed.

[seventhdaybaptist.org/conferenceweek2023](http://seventhdaybaptist.org/conferenceweek2023)

### Operation Christmas Child Fun Facts

*by Lynnette Millard, OCC Project Leader*

Every shoebox is a gospel opportunity to show God’s love in a tangible way. OCC estimates each box impacts 6-8 people with God’s love.

Last year over 10 million boxes were packed world-wide, of these, 9.3 million were packed in the US. Our region of 10 Wisconsin counties packed 13,950 with 301 packed by our church. Wow!



We are mostly in need of smaller toy items to fill in the nooks and crannies of the box. These include: McDonald’s toys, small cars, yo-yos, jump ropes, marble, plastic tea sets, etc.

Watch for the **Christmas in July** fundraiser. More information coming next month!



## The Rummage Sale is Back! August 20th, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We are excited to be able to have the rummage sale this year! After Covid and lack of leadership, we are making a few changes. In order to avoid the chaos of emptying the classrooms, we will have delivery of items

**ONLY during certain times the week prior to the sale or by**

**appointment.** Tables will be set up and labeled with types of items for you to place your items on. Please separate them at home to make this easier when you arrive.

Assistance will be needed on the day of the sale, both to take payments and to clean up. We will also need help setting up the tables on Sunday, August 13th in the afternoon. Please sign up in the Welcome Center or contact Janet Butler 608-774-7710 if you are willing to help.

Items will be sold by weight from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for \$1/pound. From 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. all items will be \$1/paper bag full. Heavy items may be priced separately.

Get going on cleaning your closets and storage areas of items you no longer need!



### Church Property Maintenance Opportunities

We're looking for volunteers to commit to certain jobs that need to be done this summer at the church. Instead of a Work Day, you can choose the day and time. Check with Janet in the church office to be sure nothing else is happening. (Remember we have a Sunday rental from 9-2)

#### To Do List



- ◆ Prepare and paint rear metal door that has rusted and add weather-stripping
- ◆ Paint floor by new water fountain in basement
- ◆ Clean and paint Large Group Area wall
- ◆ Wash windows
- ◆ Vacuum pew cushions
- ◆ Polish wood in Sanctuary including backs of pews
- ◆ Replace fabric on Parlor benches
- ◆ Assist in removing dead tree at parsonage
- ◆ Assist in removing old AV equipment
- ◆ Deep clean kitchen
- ◆ Wash lower walls in Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Clean out window wells, rake



*For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised.*

*Genesis 18:19*

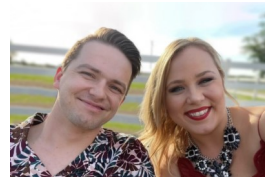


Consider spending a week at beautiful Camp Wakonda!

Camp registration forms & counselor applications are available at [www.theconnecting.church/wakonda](http://www.theconnecting.church/wakonda)

### Camp Wakonda 2023

Camp Discover June 26-30  
Camp Collision July 9-16  
Intermediate Camp July 16-21



### Bridal Shower for Shanny

Join us for a bridal shower for Shanny (Snyder) Ayres on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, directly after church. RSVP to Linda Lyke ([lykelinda@gmail.com](mailto:lykelinda@gmail.com)) or Melissa Lade ([melissadlane@hotmail.com](mailto:melissadlane@hotmail.com)). Lunch will be served.

They are registered at Amazon.com under either Shanny Ayres or Micah Ayres: <https://www.amazon.com/wedding/shanny-ayres-micah-ayres--august-2023/registry/2Z6TFOGWUDQA>



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Isaac Kersten
- 4 Merry FitzRandolph
- 4 Miriam Shook
- 6 Ralph Hays
- 6 Natalie Geske
- 7 *Paul & Denise Green*
- 10 Jen Dutcher
- 11 Carol Watson
- 14 Julianna Crandall
- 15 Rich Gallegos
- 15 *Neil & Carol Aiken*
- 18 Theodore Lubke
- 20 Tracy Porter
- 20 *Angie & Rick Mullen*
- 20 *Carl & Cindy Greene*
- 21 Zach Groelle
- 23 *Brian & Carol Watson*
- 25 Joel Osborn
- 29 Martha Shaw
- 29 Robert Muench
- 30 Brittany Kersten

## June Bulletin Board



### ARE YOU GRADUATING?

**or do you know someone who is?**

We want to recognize our graduates in June, so please let Janet know in the church office of any graduates. We want to celebrate with you!

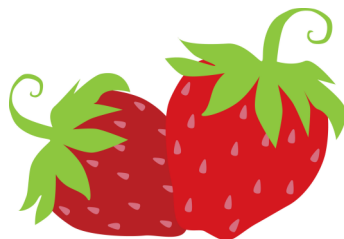
## June Children's Church

**June 10**  
**Unit 16: Session 4**  
**Big Truth Session**  
God is Present with Us (Isaiah 7)  
Lead Teacher: Angie Mullen

**June 24**  
**Unit 17: Session 1**  
God Delivered His People (Ezra 1)  
Lead Teacher: Tara Rotzoll  
Assistant: Mackynzie

### Ladies Sit 'n Sip

Tuesday, June 13th  
9:00 a.m. at Sharla's  
Come relax with some church friends!



### Focus on Funds

as of April 30, 2023

General Fund Balance	\$ 3,822.48
Cash at Mem. Fund	\$45,783.57
April Undesignated Inc.	\$18,278.54
April Total Income	\$26,908.95
April Expenses	\$21,795.26
Denomination Giving YTD	\$ 2,290.00
Capital Campaign Fund	\$ 9,724.38



# June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<b>Sabbath Sunset Times</b> June 2 8:29 p.m.    June 3 8:30 p.m. June 9 8:34 p.m.    June 10 8:34 p.m. June 16 8:37 p.m.    June 17 8:38 p.m. June 23 8:39 p.m.    June 24 8:39 p.m. June 30 8:39 p.m.    July 1 8:39 p.m.				1	2	3 9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship  <b>12:00 Bridal Shower            for Shanny Ayers</b> 2:30 Nelson Piano Recital
4 <b>Early Camp            Registration            Deadline</b>  9:00 Redeeming Grace Church  2:30 Nelson Piano Recital	5 8:00 TOPS	6   7:00 Scouts	7  6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's  9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom	8	9	10 9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship and Children's Church
11 9:00 Redeeming Grace Church	12 8:00 TOPS	13 9:00 Ladies Sit 'n Sip - Sharla's   7:00 Scouts	14 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's  9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom  <b>FLAG DAY</b>	15	16	17 9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship
18 9:00 Redeeming Grace Church   <b>FATHER'S            DAY</b>	19 8:00 TOPS	20   7:00 Scouts	21 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's  9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom  	22	23	24 9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship and Children's Church
25 9:00 Redeeming Grace Church <b>9:00 Mid-Year            Meeting</b>  <b>7:00 Koinonia            Concert</b>	26 8:00 TOPS	27	28 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's  9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom	29	30 <b>Final Camp            Registration            Deadline</b>	



June  
2023

**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

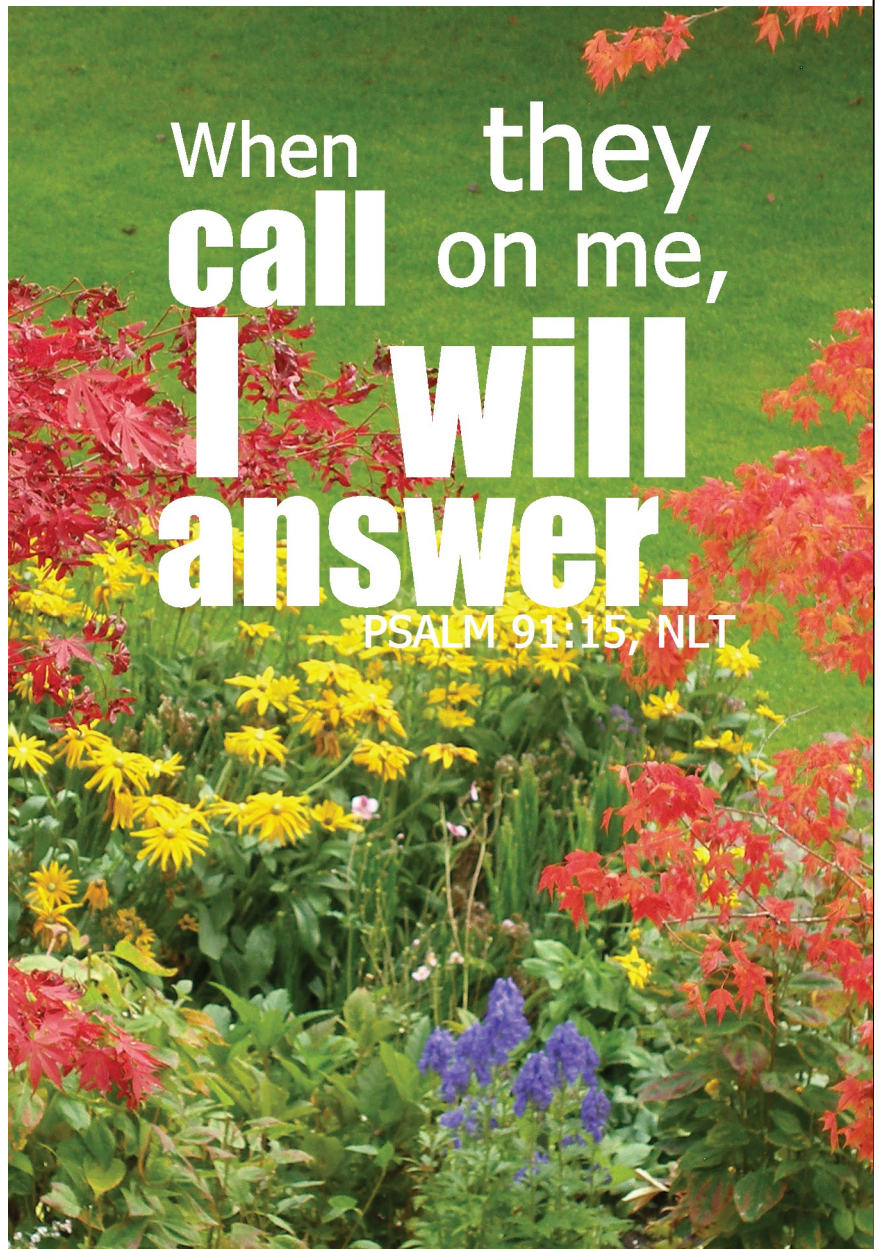
**Administrator:** Janet Butler  
churchoffice@miltonsdb.org

**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.