

January 2018



Wait!

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We met last night to go over some of the details. It was for the winter fly fishing excursion to Arkansas with my son and a few other men that I've looked forward to for weeks. Each of the guys showed excitement at the prospect of fishing for trout in this trophy producing river, even if only to catch a few average sized fish. I found myself with a mixed bag of thoughts. I kept thinking I would be happy to be quiet and be still, by myself, in the cabin. I felt like I looked forward to that prospect more than fishing! Hence, Psalm 46:10 came to mind this morning, "Be still and know that I am God" (KJV).

We often refer to that passage when we know we need a break, or to encourage someone else to take a rest. Actually, in the context of the Psalm, it's more likely directed to Israel's enemies and given as instruction for them to stop waging war against Israel. And yet the Psalm does reflect trust in God. The first verse says, "God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble." (*Psalm 46:1, NASB*)

As I opened my Bible for some Old Testament and New Testament readings, and with my prayer list, pencil, and journal before me (which I haven't been keeping up very well lately), I told God I just need to be still before Him. When I'm feeling weary, fun isn't what I want. I want to be quiet and know the Lord's presence. The last few weeks have been stretching (four funerals between November 30th and December 15th, one of which was my dad's), and Christmas is still a week away. I thought about last Sunday's message and the location of Christ in our world as most often seen through His presence in us. The Lord brought to mind, "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." (*Galatians 2:20*). His presence, love, and self-sacrifice ministered to my soul.

January is now upon us. Perhaps you are weary from all the extra activities and expectations and commitments that come with Christmas and December. As you already know, life is made up of "seasons". Some are busy, fun, exciting, and filled with joy. There are seasons of calm, maybe boring, some filled with grief, sorrow, stress, fear, or pain. Some seasons are long, some are short. Some are filled with hope, others with disappointment.

But in every season, though we may bounce and wobble, in the Lord we have a stabilizing anchor. *Hebrews 6:19* says, "This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil". And though we feel weak and vulnerable, He remains a steadfast rock to retreat to for refuge. *Psalm 18:2* says, "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." When our purpose and meaning are assaulted, and we don't know which way to go, the Lord is still our light to shine the way. "Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life." (*John 8:12*)

When I get overwhelmed my tendency is to try to do more, to clean up the nagging loose ends so that I can feel some peace. I'm still learning that I need to go first to the Anchor, the Rock, and the Light for there is much in life that I cannot control. Have you learned to first go to the Lord when weary and in need of rest? The Psalmist wrote in *Psalm 130:5*, "I wait for the LORD, my soul does wait, And in His word do I hope." Are you spending some time "waiting"? January is a good month to practice!

Still learning to Wait,

Pastor Dan





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! MBC Office Closed No Prayer Meeting	2 Missions Mtg. ~ 6 pm	3 Men's Noon Bible study ~ LL #102 Awana: 5:30 ~ Jr High/H.S. 6:15 ~ 3 yr.—6th Gr.	4 Good News Club ~ 3:15 pm, Parkside School NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102	5 Fusion at Districts, Green Bay	6 Fusion at Districts, Green Bay Men's Breakfast ~ 8 am, NC
7 Worship Services: 9 & Café 10:30 am Sunday School for all ages & Pipeline Class "Raising Kingdom Kids" ~ 9 am Ignite ~ 4 pm, LL #106 No Fusion ~ returning from Districts Next Steps—Step 2 (s 1) ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102 Life Groups Resume	8 Prayer Mtg.~ 6:30 pm, LL #102 Elder Bd. Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106	9	10 Men's Noon Bible study ~ LL #102 Awana: 5:30 ~ Jr High/H.S. 6:15 ~ 3 yr.—6th Gr.	11 Good News Club ~ 3:15 pm, Parkside School NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102	12	13
14 Worship Services: 9 & Café 10:30 am Sunday School for all ages & Pipeline Class "Raising Kingdom Kids" ~ 9 am Ignite Leaders Mtg. ~ Noon, Watson's home Ignite ~ 4 pm, LL #106 Fusion ~ 6 pm, LL #106 Next Steps—Step 2 (s 2) ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102	15 FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Prayer Mtg.~ 6:30 pm, LL #102	16	17 Men's Noon Bible study ~ LL #102 Awana: 5:30 ~ Jr High/H.S. 6:15 ~ 3 yr.—6th Gr.	18 Good News Club ~ 3:15 pm, Parkside School NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102	19 Primetimers 11:15 am, Pizza Hut lunch	20
21 Worship Services: 9 & Café 10:30 am Sunday School for all ages & Pipeline Class "Raising Kingdom Kids" ~ 9 am Ignite ~ 4 pm, LL #106 Fusion ~ 6 pm, LL #106	22 Prayer Mtg.~ 6:30 pm, LL #102	23 Pleasant View Service ~ 9:30 am Board of Deacons Mtg. ~ 6 pm, LL #106	24 Men's Noon Bible study ~ LL #102 Awana: 5:30 ~ Jr High/H.S. 6:15 ~ 3 yr.—6th Gr.	25 Good News Club ~ 3:15 pm, Parkside School NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102	26	27
28 Worship Services: 9 & Café 10:30 am Sunday School for all ages & Pipeline Class "Raising Kingdom Kids" ~ 9 am Ignite ~ 4 pm, LL #106 Fusion ~ 6 pm, LL #106	29 Prayer Mtg.~ 6:30 pm, LL #102	30	31 Men's Noon Bible study ~ LL #102 Awana: 5:30 ~ Jr High/H.S. 6:15 ~ 3 yr.—6th Gr.			



**BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH**

- 1 Victor Paske
- Bernie Roidt
- 2 Donna Bisegger
- Jonathan Rhoe
- Jeff Wunschel
- Crystal Zimmerman
- 5 Shannon Ackerman
- Cheryl Hartwig
- Isaac Wyss
- 6 Annie Ranum
- 7 Craig Tuttle
- 8 Margie Johnson
- Elena Wyss
- 10 Kevin Geiwitz
- 11 Deb Meyer
- 12 Ronald Bernhagen

- 12 Jodi Kegebein
- 13 Tess Nafzger
- 14 Jayden Boom
- Kim Heinbaugh
- Carson Montgomery
- 15 Curt Wytenbach
- 16 Shane Figi
- 18 Sarah Ragan
- 20 Julia Figi
- Amy Haworth
- Joram Hurlbert
- Erich Krahenbuhl
- 21 Richard Thoman
- Larry Young
- 23 Gene Schultz
- 24 Lynn Klitzke
- Brinley Roidt
- 25 Angie Geiwitz
- Avery Ostenson
- 26 Deb Hendrickson
- 27 Avery Bartelt
- 28 Tyler Hartwig

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!

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- 29 Mike Brandenburg
- 31 Kay Bloom

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 6 Tom & Jill Skoumal
- 17 John & Nicole Bartlet
- 18 Kevin & Linda Samson
- 29 Duane & Crystal Zimmerman
- 31 Ron & Joan Coppes



Ladies! Save the date!
May 11 & 12, 2018
Faith Community
Church in Davis, IL



Many thanks to the Kraehenbuhl ladies for hosting the Gathering of Friends event in December. It was lovely.



We would like to extend our sympathy to Ruth Krahenbuhl, Pastor Dan and Jennifer, Anne IIs & family, Erich Krahenbuhl, and the family of Meghann (Aaron) Holverson at the death of their Husband, Father and Grandfather, Walter Krahenbuhl. Walt passed away Monday, December 4th, 2017.

Sympathies go to the family and friends of Neoma Stoflet. Neoma passed away Thursday, December 7th, 2017 at Pleasant View Nursing Home.

We would like to extend our sympathy to Annie Ranum and her family. Annie's husband, Mark, passed away Saturday, December 9th, 2017.

May God's strength and peace sustain each one of you.



Our comfortable Cry Room is located in the Lower Level. The church service is live-streamed so you won't miss a thing while attending to your little ones.

*Sunday School
and Pipeline will
resume Sunday, January 7th
at 9 am!*



Beginning in January the Good News Club will have opportunities for you to supply treats. Please—nothing with peanuts due to peanut allergies for some children! Contact Kay Bloom or sign-up at the Welcome Center if you are willing to help.

MISSION:MONROE

Mission:Monroe is alive and well. We have maintained a presence at the Monroe Area Community Closet over the past several months. Additionally, we have provided skilled and manual labor for the new Habitat for Humanity house in New Glarus.

As you enter the new year, rather than making a new resolution that will most likely be broken, consider embarking on establishing a new life-time habit of serving others. MACC is in need of volunteers on Mondays 2:30-6:00 (winter hours) at the church of the Nazarene.

Continue to check the Habitat website for workdays. <http://www.greencountyhabitat.org/> Register with the Green County Volunteer Network which works to connect volunteers and organizations. MAAC is linked here. <https://monroechamber.org/volunteer-network/>

Remember to join our Mission:Monroe Facebook page as well as the Green County Habitat for Humanity page, the Green County-WI Volunteer Network page, and the Monroe Area Community Closet page.

**contact Carol Larson at
larson8@gmail.com or call 588-1475**

NEXT STEPS

Step 2—"Our Core Beliefs" (2 sessions)

Sunday, January 7th &
Sunday, January 14th
6:30 PM, Lower Level #102
(Please note location change)

**Please sign-up at the
Welcome Center!**

Pick up a brochure at the
Welcome Center for a listing of
the 2018 classes.

Primetimers

Primetimers will gather for their monthly Pizza Hut lunch on Friday, January 19th. Please try to attend and you will enjoy a nice salad and pizza buffet at a nominal price. Good fellowship is thoroughly enjoyed, beginning about 11:15 am. As a reminder, this is a monthly event, always the third Friday. Any "Empty Nesters" are welcome to join us. No reservations necessary. Hope to see YOU there!

**Questions? Contact Carol
Hasselmann, 815-505-3324**

****Please Note: the Tuesday
Lunch and Games has
been discontinued for the
foreseeable future.***

The kids of Parkside Elementary School say "Thank You" for all of the wonderful donations to the Backpack Buddies program!



pipeline

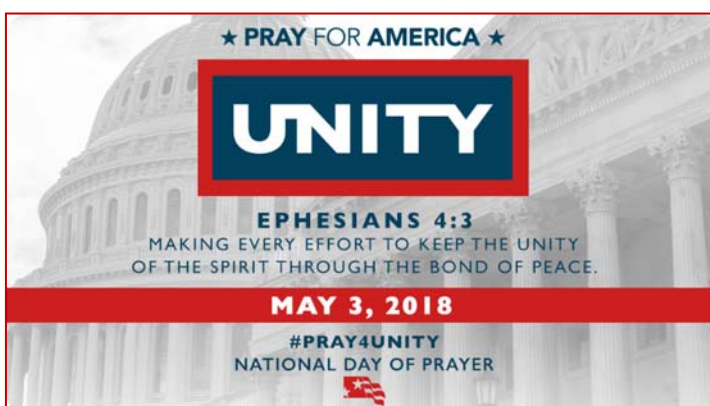
Pipeline Adult Class will resume Sunday January 7th with the study "Raising Kingdom Kids" at 9 am. Participants guides are \$7
Please sign-up at the Welcome Center!

Most of us believe passionately in contributing to our children's physical, social, and intellectual development. But what about their spiritual growth? This video based study features the teaching of Dr. Tony Evans, & calls parents to raise children who follow God's Way. Class topics include the power of prayer, God's Word, getting through trials, controlling the tongue, and the surrender of service. Please pre-register and plan on joining us for 6 power-packed weeks of discussion and study!

2018 National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 3rd. Mark your calendar and save this date.

Prayer brings people together. Prayer builds bridges between opposing persons and even political parties. Prayer reminds us that we are created in God's image and He desires for us to represent Him everywhere we go. Prayer brings UNITY. In 2018, our theme will be **Pray for America - UNITY**, based upon Ephesians 4:3 which challenges us to mobilize unified public prayer for America, "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."





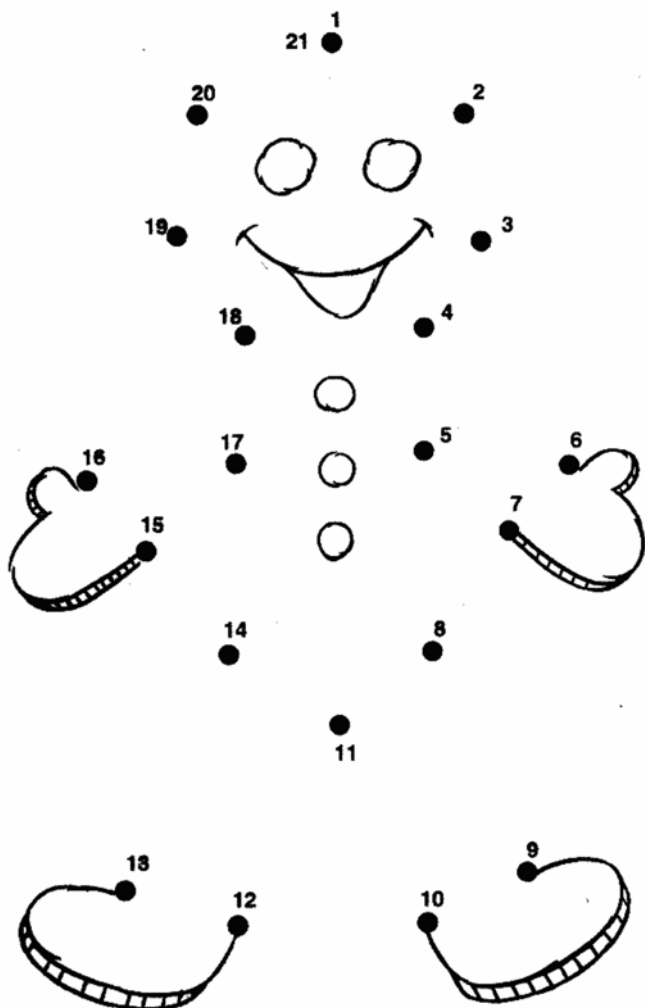
Playground Project

We just started our 2nd year of a 5-year campaign to raise \$20,000 for a playground. Kids Around The World “harvests” unwanted commercial grade playgrounds in the US, refurbishes, and ships them to 3rd world countries. It’s a powerful way to show God’s love, and provides unique opportunities to share the gospel. We raised \$4,305.41 in our 1st year and have the following fundraising events planned for 2018:

February 7 (Wed) – Papa Murphy’s Night
March 19 (Mon) – Culvers Night
June (TBD) – Garage Sale...start saving your items now!
Sept. 14–16 – Cheese Days Tent

Check out the new Missions wall in the foyer. There are prayer cards and general information about our supported missionaries, including a letter from Viktor Schpits in Kazakhstan.

Connect the Dots & Color



Marriage Ministry



The marriage ministry recently completed 6 Pipeline sessions of The Art of Marriage small group study. Many of those that attended commented how much their marriage benefited from the excellent video content and the lively group discussions. Here are some of the questions we discussed and for you to consider discussing with your spouse.

- 1) Discuss the importance and the difference between “accepting” your spouse and “receiving” your spouse as the perfect gift from God.
- 2) Share some of the differences between you and your spouse and discuss how God may be using these differences to shape you as a person and to make your marriage stronger.
- 3) Satan is actively trying to destroy your marriage. Discuss some ways that you and your spouse may be drifting apart and what each of you can do to keep this from happening.
- 4) God’s perfect design for marriage can be summed up with the phrase: equal value, distinct roles and responsibilities for men and women. Describe what this means from a biblical perspective and what it means in your marriage.
- 5) Consider how not only our words but also our heart attitude behind the words can affect healthy communication in our marriage. Explain the difference between winning an argument and resolving conflict.
- 6) Our marriages are a picture of the gospel to a watching world. Name some people who are affected by your marriage. Describe the legacy that you hope to leave for your children, grandchildren and the future generations.

We hope to see you in future marriage ministry events and mark your calendars now for the next January Pipeline sessions - Raising Kingdom Kids!