

Steve & Rhonda Schwarze - Philippines

We continue to adjust to all the changes that have come into our lives these past 6 months. Weather is just one of them. I will be experiencing tropical warmth again as I head back to the Philippines on January 8th to try and finish transitioning my school responsibilities to the next person and pack up our house. I'm spending time now during my knee recovery going through 34 years of files and uploading pertinent things for Faith Academy to have. I will be there for two months and would appreciate prayer for wisdom and endurance to be able to accomplish this without Rhonda there with me. After I get back, I will have total knee replacement on my left knee near the end of March, and spend another two months in recovery before we begin to speak in our churches and meet with as many of you as we can who have faithfully supported us all of these years.

I'm hoping that while I'm in Manila I will be able to see the results of almost four years of work come to fruition. In 2015, I began working on a change of status for our school that required approval from the Congress of the Philippines. The bill would recognize Faith "as an Educational Institution of International Character". It would put us on solid ground as an international school in the Philippines and allow our staff and students to be exempted from payment of visa and immigration fees. On average it costs us about \$1,000/person a year for visa and immigration fees, so this would be a huge blessing. I met with members of the House of Representatives and Senators. By God's grace we were able to get sponsorship from key members, including the current Senate President of the Philippines. We also got a favorable endorsement from the Department of Education. After the third reading, our bill was unanimously approved by the Senate in October 2018 and is pending in the House of Representatives. Our earnest prayer is that it will be approved by the House by the end of February, and I will be there. The reason we would love to have it approved by February is that in May 2019, all 297 seats of the House of Representatives will be contested in local elections. Campaigning begins March 30th, so not much will get done after that. If our bill is not approved by the May elections, we would have to start all over. Thank you for praying with us.

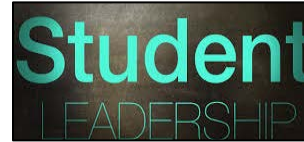
My right knee turned a corner a couple of weeks ago and is beginning to feel much more normal. Thankfully there is a wonderful facility near us where I do physical therapy and this helps a great deal. Rhonda has improvement but additional issues with allergies. She went to a rheumatologist and was diagnosed with an auto-immune disease – Sjogren's – which is the cause of the extreme issues with dry eyes and mouth.

While I am gone, Rhonda will be doing a refresher course to get her Minnesota nursing license current. The course is quite intensive, so she would appreciate prayer as she returns to a student mode. There is a great need for nurses here, and working in home health care or hospice seems like something she would be good at and be able to do.

Happy New Year!

Steve & Rhonda

Thanks to all who made the Men's afternoon game time a great success!



Ignite Leaders will meet at 12:30 pm **today** in the Nehemiah Center for lunch and a meeting.

Fusion Leaders will meet Sunday, January 13th at 12:30 pm in the Nehemiah Center for lunch and a meeting.

Lost & Found will be on display in the Nehemiah Center today, January 6th. Please be sure to stop and take a look at the items. Whatever is not claimed will be donated. Thank you!

Women's Recovery Workshop ~ see the bulletin insert for more information.

Next Steps – Step 2 is cancelled for today and next Sunday.



Sunday, January 13

The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am
Sunday School ~ 9 am
Pipeline ~ 9 am, NC
Men's Study ~ 12:15 pm, LL #102
Fusion Leader's Meeting ~ 12:30 pm, NC
Ignite ~ 4-6 pm, LL #106
Fusion ~ 6-8 pm, LL #106

Monday, January 14

Prayer Meeting ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102
Elder Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106

Tuesday, January 15

Library Open ~ 10 am - Noon, & 1-3 pm

Wednesday, January 16

Awana: Trek & Journey ~ 5:30 pm, &
Clubbers 3½ yrs. – 6th grade ~ 6:15 pm

Thursday, January 17

Good News Club ~ 4 pm, Parkside
Elementary
Narcotics Anonymous ~ 7 pm, LL #102

Friday, January 18

Primetimers Birthday Lunch ~ 11:15 am,
Pizza Hut

Friday-Saturday, January 18-19

Awana T&T Boy's Event ~ 5:30 pm Friday-
9 am Saturday

Tuesday, January 22

Board of Deacons ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106

Friday-Saturday, January 25-26

Awana T&T Girl's Event ~ 5:30 pm Friday-
10 am Saturday

Tuesday, January 29

Women's Recovery Workshop begins ~
7-9 pm, location TBA

Week of Jan. 6-12

Today, Sunday, January 6

The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am
Sunday School - 9 am
Pipeline (Discipleship in Relationships)
~ 9 am, NC
Men's Study ~ 12:15 pm, LL #102
Ignite Leader's Meeting ~ 12:30 pm, NC
Ignite ~ 4-6 pm, LL #106
Fusion ~ returning from Districts
Next Steps-Step 2 cancelled
Life Groups Resume

Monday, January 7

Prayer Meeting ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102

Wednesday, January 9

Awana: Trek & Journey ~ 5:30 pm, &
Clubbers 3½ yrs. - 6th grade ~ 6:15 pm

Thursday, January 10

Good News Club ~ 4 pm, Parkside
Elementary
Narcotics Anonymous ~ 7 pm, LL #102
Young Adults Study Concludes ~ 8 pm,
LL #106

**Prayer Focus – Nursery Ministry
Ministry Leader – Patricia Harder
Please PRAY:**

- † For more volunteers. We would love to have enough volunteers where each person could sign up for one Sunday every month or two.
- † That we are reaching out to new families, making them feel welcome and at home, and letting them know that the nursery is an option for them.

Entire Bible	Family Plan
Deut. 11-12, Job 24, 1 Cor. 10	I Thess. 4:13-18
Deut. 13-15, Job 25-26, I Cor. 11	I Cor. 1:18-31
Deut. 16-18, I Cor. 12	I Cor. 11:17-34
Deut. 19-21, I Cor. 13-14	I Cor. 13
Deut. 22-24, Job 27, I Cor. 15-16	I Cor. 15: 1-19
Deut. 25-17, Job 28, Matt. 1	

**This Week
New City Catechism:
Part 1, Question 15**



Monroe Bible Church

January 6, 2018

Senior Pastor Dan Krahenbuhl
Associate Pastor of Family Ministries Troy Watson
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608-325-3966

office@monroebiblechurch.org
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Sunday Worship Services 9 & 10:30 am
Radio Broadcast WEKZ – AM 1260 – 8:15 am
Sunday YouVersion Available
Wireless Network: MBCguest
Password: worshippingere