

THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Scott's Perspective — "Who Is My Neighbor?"

I was born in 1952, so I was too young to be very aware or outspoken on the racial issues of the 1960's. I would like to think that I would have been an advocate for racial reconciliation and for social justice for our black brothers. I don't know. Regrettably, many white conservative Christians were not. Many blacks still remember today who their friends were – and were not – in those days of struggle for justice and equal opportunity under the law.

I am among many evangelical pastors who have rarely if ever addressed the biblical teaching that expresses God's heart for the poor and oppressed and for the alien. I want to show you some of what's in my heart in this newsletter. You are free to disagree with some of my views, but I hope this article will challenge you to examine your own views in light of biblical teaching and values.

***Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to
breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teem-
ing shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-
tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden
door!***

One of the "hot button" issues of our day is immigration reform. Some look at illegal immigrants primarily as law-breakers and even criminals. Others look at them as desperately poor and needy people willing to take risks and work hard to provide a better standard of living for their families.

As Christians, how do we balance our concern for "law and order" with our concern for helping the poor and needy? What changes need to

be made in our nation's laws and policies so that they will be more just, compassionate and effective?

It is difficult for most of us to imagine the frustration of living in grinding poverty and knowing that on the other side of a river there are plentiful jobs that pay wages many times greater than what you could earn on your side of the river. And to know that there are many more jobs -- offered by willing employers -- than there are legal work permits or visas. And to know that your chances of obtaining legal status to work those higher-paying jobs are about as slim as winning the lottery.

Our economy and many industries and employers need many more immigrant workers than are allowed to enter the country legally. Wherever there is a huge disparity in wages and standard of living separated only by a river, and wherever there are plenty of employers willing to hire workers and pay them much higher wages than they could earn back home, one way or another those employers and those jobs and those workers will find each other. Law of supply and demand prevails over man-made policies.

I know that there are Nepalis who would risk their lives crossing the Himalaya mountains if the USA were located on the other side. Why? Because U.S. minimum wage translates into about 14,000 Rupees a week – about 3-7 times as much as the average worker earns in Nepal.

Human nature is human nature. If there were a huge disparity in wages between the US and Canada, we would face similar prob-

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Upcoming Events

- **May 1-7**
WEEK OF PRAYER
- **May 2**
Day of Fasting & Prayer
7:00 p.m. Prayer Service
- **May 4**
National Day of Prayer
7:00 p.m. Prayer Service
- **May 5 & 6** *IBC Annual Meeting at Stratford, IA*
- **May 7** *AM Communion*
6:00 p.m. HUGS Musical
- **May 9** *5:30 p.m. CLASS*
301 Blueprint for Ministry
- **May 14** *Mother's Day*
- **May 20** *7:30 p.m. Men's Bonfire at Gaylon Ideker's*
- **May 21** *Senior Recognition Sunday*
7:00 p.m. Baccalaureate at NSHS Auditorium
- **May 26-29** *Family Retreat at Pine Lake Camp*
- **May 28** *NSHS Graduation*
NO HOME GROUPS
- **COMING: June 5-9**
Vacation Bible School
9:00 a.m.-noon

lems on our northern border. If wages east of the Mississippi River were 2-3 times higher than west of the Mississippi, but you needed an Illinois drivers license to work in Illinois, and only a limited supply were legally provided each year, you can be sure that a certain percentage of Iowans would figure out some way – legally or illegally -- to cross the river to work for those higher wages as long as employers would hire them. Human nature and the law of supply and demand at work.

What would Jesus do? Deport millions of illegal immigrants? Imprison them? Punish the employers who hire them? Grant some or most or all of them some kind of conditional or unconditional amnesty – or some kind of legal work status? Shut down the borders – or open them up? Let more immigrants come here legally to work – or fewer?

We will probably not all agree on our answers to those questions. That's OK.

It is not my purpose to endorse or oppose any particular legislation in this article. I am not advocating amnesty or any particular political agenda. I simply want to stimulate thinking about this important issue from a Kingdom perspective.

As Christians, we are citizens of the kingdom of heaven. Our primary allegiance is to our King, Jesus, not to any political party or ideology or national self-interest. We get our values from our King, not from Republicans or Democrats or conservatives or liberals or secular media or radio talk shows.

We know from Scripture that God's overarching purpose in human history is to redeem for Himself a people from every tribe, tongue, nation and people group to become worshipers and followers of the Lamb, Jesus. How does immigration play into God's Kingdom purposes? What ministry and mission opportunities does the immigration crisis present to the body of Christ?

Did you know that our denomination, the Baptist General Conference, began as an outreach to Swedish immigrants in the mid-1800's (first BGC church was in Rock Island) and was originally called the Swedish Baptist Conference? Did you know that many BGC churches still had Swedish-language worship services as late as the 1930's and that official BGC documents were still published in Swedish until 1933 and that BGC Board members needed to be Scandinavian as late

as 1937? So much for the theory that white European immigrants all switched immediately and exclusively to the English language and American culture when they came to America.

Currently there are many times more Latinos in the USA than Scandinavians. And even if we built the Great Wall of China north of the Rio Grande, Latino population will continue to grow disproportionately – with Latinos becoming a majority in some states in the near future. Latinos are here to stay. How will the evangelical church respond to this tremendous ministry opportunity to make disciples of Latinos coming to the US?

What kind of message are we sending Latinos – both immigrants and citizens – through our talk in this national debate? If the primary thing white conservatives become known for is a hostile attitude against illegal immigrants and the desire to shut down the border to keep “them” out of “our” country, then we will have largely disqualified ourselves from any effective Gospel ministry among Latino immigrants (and present and future citizens) for years to come.

I suspect there are differences of opinion even within the Latino community on questions such as amnesty and border security and what kind of reform is needed. My concern is that – whatever our political opinions – we extend the love of Christ to all Latinos and to all immigrants. We need to wrestle with Jesus' response to the lawyer's question: *Who is my neighbor?* (the parable of the Good Samaritan).

I will leave the politics of this complex issue to each of you to decide for yourselves, but I would like to conclude with some recommended Scriptures for all of us to reflect upon as we seek to apply biblical, Christ-like Kingdom values to this vital issue of our day:

Exodus 22:21-27 // Exodus 23:9 // Leviticus 19:9-18 // Leviticus 25:6-7 // Deuteronomy 15:7-11 // Ruth 2 // Psalm 72:1-4, 12-14 // Psalm 82:3-4 // Psalm 140:12 // Proverbs 14:31 // Proverbs 19:17 // Proverbs 21:13 // Proverbs 22:22-23 // Proverbs 29:7 // Proverbs 31:20 // Isaiah 58:1-11 // Jeremiah 22:13-16 // Zechariah 7:8-10 // Matthew 7:12 // Matthew 22:36-40 // Matthew 28:18-20 // Luke 10:25-37 // Luke 16:19-31 // Romans 13:9-10 // James 2:1-10 // I John 3:16-18

Debunking “The Da Vinci Code”

On Sunday, May 21, Pastor Scott will be preaching a sermon entitled “Debunking *The Da Vinci Code*.” This message will expose many of the historical inaccuracies and distortions and theological errors found in Dan Brown's best-selling book and in the upcoming movie (to be released May 19).

You are encouraged to invite to church your friends and co-workers who are asking questions about Jesus, the Bible, and *The Da Vinci Code*. This message will also equip Christians with credible answers to questions being raised in conversations in their schools, workplaces, families and neighborhoods.

NS Food Pantry

May needs for the Food Pantry are laundry detergent, toothbrushes, shampoo, and cleaning products. Cash donations are always appreciated, as well as any excess freezer meats. Please place items in basket in foyer. THANK YOU!!

A Word From Pastor Mark

If you have read my annual report then this will be a repeat.

I am only a little over one year away from the ripe old age of 40. I cannot fathom how quickly life has passed by. I can remember sitting against my garage in Springfield, Oregon and talking with a friend about wanting to someday be 15 when I could get my driver's permit. I was around the age of seven then. I can also remember hoping to one day be 5' 5" tall. Well I am more than twice the age of fifteen and also 9" taller than my "dream height" as a kid. But age and height are not the only things that change when we get older. I think the excitement and desire to invite others to something we like is hindered. I can remember as a kid going through my neighborhood and inviting all the kids to a church event. I had no fear of rejection or what they might think of me. I was so excited about the event that I was willing to be denied. I can see that same fervency in my oldest son Jackson (7). He has invited many kids to AWANA this year. Through his excitement and willingness to ask his classmates, four of his friends are now regularly attending. And one of his friends loved AWANA so much that he invited another classmate too. It is now a struggle to get all the kids to AWANA. We can only fit four in our Explorer. Therefore, the other parents have committed to driving all the kids together in their minivans each week. I know for sure one of the girls is now a Christian from attending AWANA. It is no wonder why Jesus loves childlike faith. He said, "Anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it" (Mark 10:11). When kids are excited about something they don't keep it to themselves. They want others to experience the same joy they are experiencing. So what happens to

that excitement, joy and willingness to risk being rejected when we become adults?

We have such a wonderful location, buildings, people, and most of all the powerful, life changing message- the gospel of Jesus Christ. We have so much to be excited about. We have all that we need to reach out to those in our community. The key ingredient missing is: YOU. You have a sphere of influence unlike anyone else in our church ("You" being: deacons, pastors, deaconesses, trustees, purpose team members, members of Cornerstone and attenders- that is all of us!) That sphere includes co-workers, neighbors, family members, friends, parents of your kids' friends, etc. God wants to use YOU to reach them for Jesus. Remember, people come to faith and the church when we allow God to work through us. When we step out in faith and invite people to join us on a Sunday morning or to a special event God honors it. Remember the statistic that says 1 in 4 people will attend church if they are asked? You have a 25% chance of someone saying yes to your invitation. What if you invited just 8 people this year to Cornerstone? Statistically, two would come and experience what we have to offer. Let's then say that one of the two that attended decided to call Cornerstone his or her home. In just one year, Cornerstone would double in size.

Don't you think it is time to get that childlike faith and excitement back in 2006? Watch out, it is contagious.

I was encouraged to see several of you take the time to invite someone to Easter service. Way to go!

A Mother's Reflections on Short Term Missions Trips

I would like to share some of my thoughts about our trip to Nepal last March. First of all, thank you so much, Cornerstone family, for your generosity to us and also for your prayers. I appreciate them more than I can express.

Every member of our family has now taken a short-term missions trip. I was the last person in the family to go on a missions trip. (I don't even like camping!) It was a stretch for me, but I came back with a renewed burden to pray for and to reach those who do not yet know Christ. I am so grateful for my life here and all the blessings that we enjoy – my bright, clean classroom, the right to come and go whenever I please, my comfortable house, and our church. Nepal is an incredibly beautiful country, but it is spiritually dark.

It was wonderful to see Jill operating in Nepali culture and to have the chance to meet her friends and neighbors. People often ask me how I can let Jill live in such a dangerous place. It is true that Nepal is very unstable, but recently I was reminded that even though Emily lives close by, I couldn't prevent a tornado from ripping through her neighborhood.

Wherever my children are, I need to entrust them to their Heavenly Father, Who loves them even more than I do. Having said that, it was a great comfort to me to see Jill's house, her school and her regular routine. Many of her friends there reassured us that they would be looking out for Jill.

For those of you who don't think you could ever go on a missions trip, I want to challenge you to try it. I didn't think that I could do it, either, but God answered many prayers and was beside me every step of the way. I was way beyond my comfort zone most of the time, but I am so glad that I went and would go again in a heartbeat. Do you want to develop a heart for missions in your kids? Take a short term trip. I attribute much of our family's interest in missions to a short-term trip to the Philippines that Scott took when our girls were 8, 6, and 4. It had an impact on them then and is still affecting us. Who knows what the impact of this Nepal trip will be? Thanks for sending us. Beth

Pastor Tony's No Limits News

This is always one of the busiest Month's of the year as school is breaking and graduations taking place. I want to remind you about the Graduation Sunday when we honor our graduates during the morning worship service on May 21st this year, also I would like to put in a plug for the Baccalaureate service that evening as we have the privilege to still have such a event in our community. That will be at the North Scott Auditorium at 7:00 pm.

As many know, we are facing some challenging choices as we try to plan for our summer activities and schedules. I found this article and wanted to share it with you this month. May it encourage you and guide you as you help your youth make important choices with their time.

When Ball Becomes Baal By Jim Elliff

It's rare to see kids playing sports in the neighborhood anymore. We're now organized and "professionalized"—including uniforms, state-of-the-art facilities, endless trips to the field, competitive coaches, equally competitive parents, and the after-season tournaments designed to give parents "bleacher bottom." In addition, you've got to pay to play—and when you've paid that much, you'll be sure to play.

It is also fun, and it can be instructive. I love to watch my kids play sports. In fact, they need to play—some. But, it's not so easy as handing over seventy bucks and saying, "Sign up Johnny and Susie this year." Making that decision means that you may be out four to five times each week during the season. Soon sports becomes all about calendarization and control of your life—especially if you have more than one kid. Perhaps nothing outside of a change in your job has so much potential to turn the family schedule upside down.

"This man understands," you say.

Now comes the part you won't like: "Behold, I say unto you, you have made sports the household god." Too strong? OK, not all of you. But the deification of sports is happening to many.

How does ball become Baal? Answer: When it controls you, and you give it devoted worship. It is around your god that you order your life—and you can almost never say "no" to it.

Like "athlete's foot" on the hygienically-challenged teenager, sports has taken over more and more of the life of believers. Almost overnight we have awakened to the sad fact that, in many communities, sports has even usurped the hours believers meet on the Lord's Day. All too often members are saying to church leaders, "We'll be gone next Sunday because of the soccer tournament." In turn, leaders are supposed to acquiesce humbly. After all, we can't afford to appear "legalistic;" everyone knows that the greatest crime a church can commit is to demand something of someone.

You'll hear, "But the team needs all the players. We can't let the team down." It never occurs to them that the church Body is being deprived of a necessary body part, or that God is marginalized and disobeyed. We are not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, states God in Hebrews 10:25.

Devotion is the operative word. When the team says, "We need you," we sacrifice to do it. But when it crosses the time allotted to spiritual edification and worship, the Ruler of the universe is often sent to the bench. In the process, we teach our children that devotion to sports is more important than

both devotion to God and loyalty to our spiritual family. Have you considered that you may be teaching your kids to worship sports?

Here are some ways to put sports in its proper place:

First, decide beforehand that there will be no contest between the church's essential activities designed for your family's spiritual growth and what the team plans for your lives. If you will talk this over ahead of time with your child and then the coach, there will be no confusion. Through the years I've found that many coaches respect that decision. But, it must be a prior decision, not one made on a case by case basis. When sports conflicts with Sunday worship or youth camp or a special spiritual activity, the decision has already been made.

Secondly, determine that your children cannot play every sport. There is a sanctity to the home life that must be protected. You need quiet evenings at home. You need meals together. Just let your children know that you are excited about sports, but there are limits. You then determine what those limits are. For us, we attempt to have only one sport per year for each child.

Finally, think about some creative choices. One of my sons played basketball, but the season was interminably long. I was also traveling. So, I would be gone speaking over the weekend, then, when I was home, I was out two or more nights sitting on the sidelines watching my son practice. It was not really "time together." This wasn't going to work.

The solution came to me after prayer. I asked him if he would be willing to learn golf in the place of basketball. We could play together, along with his brother, and we could do it whenever we wanted. We could enjoy this for the rest of our lives. I've paid some extra money, but I've bought back some time with my sons and some good exercise for me also. It's a bargain.

God Himself uses sports language in the New Testament. He's not against it, unless it steals the devotion belonging to Him. All other gods have to go!

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Up Coming Events

May

3	Wed.	Sr. High / Jr. High No Limits	7:00-8:45
7	Sunday	Gospel Journey	7:00 pm
10	Wed.	Sr. High / Jr. High No Limits	7:00-8:45
14	Sunday	Mothers Day No Groups.	
17	Wed.	Sr. High / Jr. High No Limits	7:00-8:45
21	Sunday	Senior Recognition Sunday	
		Baccalaureate Sunday/Practice	5:30/ service 7:pm
24	Wednesday	— Pizza & putt putt	
		Leave church 6:30	Cost \$10.00
28	Sunday	Graduations	
		Gospel Journey	7:00 pm
31	Wed.	Graduation Party at No Limits	7:00-8:45
		Sr. High / Jr. High No Limits	

Digging Up the Thistles

By Teresa Bivens

Now that spring has sprung, so have the thistle weeds. I recently walked through my yard and ignored one of those thorny sprouts, thinking to myself *I'll take care of that later.*

Sin can sprout in our hearts in a similar way. As we go through our busy lives, we sometimes ignore the sin and tell ourselves that we'll take care of it later.

I ignored the thistle, though it truly was there, but I was only fooling myself. Similarly, "If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." 1 John 1:8

When I did finally get around to digging out the this-

tle, I had to dig out several; the one had multiplied. Digging out one would have been easier and would have caused less disruption to the ground.

May I suggest that when we recognize sin we deal with it quickly in prayer before it multiplies and causes more trouble? "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

Starting on May 10, weekly prayer meetings will be held on Wednesday nights at 7:00 in the R.O.C.K. conference room

Don't Let "Fire and Reign" become "Fizzles and Rain!" By Chad Guge

The other day, I heard the song "He Reigns" which is one that we have sung several times in church. But I felt God's presence as I listened to the words...

*"It's the song of the redeemed, rising from the African plain,
It's the song of the forgiven, drowning out the Amazon rain,
The song of Asian believers, filled with God's Holy fire,
It's every tribe, every tongue, every nation, a love song born of a grateful choir!*

It's all God's children singing Glory, Glory; Hallelujah, He reigns. He reigns"

Can you imagine what it would be like to hear **ALL** of God's people sing, "He reigns?" Can you fathom how our Lord would be glorified by the sound of His children, **ALL** of His children singing in unison? But there is one problem, and that is getting **ALL** of His children to learn about Him, to know His redeeming power, His forgiveness, His holy fire.

Now, before you turn the page because you don't want to read about missions, I encourage you to continue. I will be the first to admit, I am not ready to travel to a foreign country to reach others.

"It costs too much, and I can't take off the time from work."

"I don't want to leave my family behind."

"I'm so uncomfortable sharing the Gospel because I don't have verses memorized."

These are common reasons that I hear people say, and even thought of myself. However, think about the following questions:

Do you think that any of the disciples wanted to travel around the world?

Do you think that they wanted to give up jobs, homes, and lives

to serve?

Do you think Jesus was comfortable when He shared the Gospel, knowing that He would be tortured beyond recognition, and then suffer one of the most horrible deaths mankind has seen?

Simply put, it boils down to one fact: The Lord calls us to serve and to witness to the un-saved. *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)

So where do we go from here? The Fire and Reign series will be coming to an end on May 2nd when the last Tuesday service will be held. It is up to us to make sure that we as a congregation don't lose the fire this renewal of God's Holy Spirit in our church has sparked. So I challenge each of you to do one of the following...

1. Commit to regular prayer for a missionary, the Missions Team, or the Evangelism Purpose Team.
2. If you are able to, commit to financial support towards missions (but please do not take away from your normal giving)
3. Think about taking a short-term mission's trip, or volunteering time for any of Cornerstone's outreach groups. Then focus your prayers that He would reveal His plan for you in that area of your life.

Remember, there are un-reached people all around us, whether it's next door, at work or school, at the mall, in our state, nation, and all around the world. Let's keep the fire of His Holy Spirit going, and reach out to these people for God's Kingdom!

HUGs Puppet Team & The HOT RODS Dowel Rod Team May 7th at 6:00 pm

"Dear God, how big are your muscles?"

Have you ever wondered about stuff like...Does God really hear my prayers? What is God really like? Can God really answer all my questions? Does God love me more because of things I can do?

Join us as we will discover...

Christ's love is greater than anyone could ever know, but I pray that you will be able to know that love, then you can be filled with the fullness of God. With God's power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything that we could ask or imagine. (Eph. 3:19-20)

All things were made through Christ and for Christ. He was there before anything was made and all things continue because of Him. (Col. 1:17)

Our God is an AWESOME God! God doesn't make mistakes - He's perfect!

God knows how many grains of sand there are on every beach in the whole world. Have you ever wondered how long would it take you to count just one bucket full?

You won't want to miss this opportunity to experience God through puppetry, dowel rods, and a short time of prayer together. Bring the whole family... see you there.

Parish Nurse Corner



Parish Nursing exists at Cornerstone Baptist Church to minister to the body of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, by helping to meet health care needs (Mt.35:35-36) to live life abundantly (Jn10:10b).

Stroke Awareness

A cerebrovascular accident (CVA), more commonly called a stroke, occurs when oxygen cannot get to a portion of the brain. That portion of the brain dies. There are two common causes of a stroke. One, a blood clot forms in an artery supplying blood to the brain. The other is caused by a break in a blood vessel causing bleeding into the brain.

Risk factors for a stroke are high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes. Those individuals with high blood cholesterol levels are at higher risk for a stroke as well as individuals who smoke.

You can reduce your risk for a stroke by proper diet and exercise, having regular checkups with your healthcare provider to screen for high blood pressure and diabetes and then follow your health care provider's recommendations. You can also reduce your risk for a stroke by quitting smoking. (Pamphlets are available in the Parish Nurse Office.)

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

S = Ask the individual to **SMILE**. The smile should look symmetrical. Frequently on a person experiencing a stroke, when asked to

smile one side of their mouth will droop.

T = Ask the person to **TALK**. Have them speak a simple sentence like "It is sunny out today." If a person is experiencing a stroke often they cannot speak a simple sentence like that coherently.

R = Ask the person to **RAISE** both arms. A person experiencing a stroke will have one side that they may be able to lift but unable to lift the other. One side may drift away as the person tries to lift.

If the person cannot follow any of these simple instructions or if you have any doubt, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher. The faster a person experiencing symptoms of a stroke seeks medical help the better the outcome will be.

If you have any questions about strokes please ask your health care provider or one of your parish nurses (Liz Arter, Betty Carter, Julie Davis, Andrea Ideker, or Deb Luett).

Submitted by Betty Carter and Julie Davis

Parish Nurse Office Hours:

Beginning in May on the second Sunday of the month, Betty Carter will be in the Parish Nurse Office (located across the hall from the library next to the women's bathroom) to answer health related questions and check blood pressures. Please stop by and use this service. We look forward to serving you.

Work Bible Study

Do you ever recognize that good can come when at times the world seems to be a dark place? Knowing a potential layoff was coming in October 2001, a group of co-workers started meeting to pray that God would lead our company as difficult decisions were made. Then came September 11th 2001, as you know it was a painful day for our nation. One brave woman Kim, at the John Deere location where I work, sent an e-mail out suggesting we meet around the fountain the next day. Some prayed, some stood silent, and we kept it going for a few days. The group gradually dwindled in numbers and we agreed we needed to keep the prayer group going and it became a work bible study. The layoff came and went with sufficient people accepting early retirement and no one was laid-off! Mike a male co-worker offered to lead the studies. We went through several books of the bible and few complimentary book studies. Our group is very diverse by gender, ethnic and Christian religious background.

Mike accepted a transfer to the Pacific Northwest last year. The group was determined to carry on. I was humbled to be asked to lead the bible study. I've had little formal training and this was way outside my comfort zone! About that time we started attending Cornerstone's ABF with Kerry Skinner studying Acts. I was able to lead my co-workers through the

same study of Acts. Several of my co-workers bring Barkley's and other commentaries on the book we are studying. When we finished Acts, we studied the contents of CBC Class 101 and saw how common we are when it comes to Christian Foundations as our group attends Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic, and non-denominational Christian churches in the QC's. The key is we have common ground in our belief in Christ as our Savior and suddenly the doctrinal differences do not seem to matter in this bible study setting. We just finished Class 201 Blueprint for Maturity and now will begin the book of Genesis (thanks to materials from Pastor Scott's ABF!). It is so good to be in the Word every Friday morning at 6:30AM with co-workers and retirees at the Community Christian Fellowship in downtown Moline. Some weeks only four of us can make it. Some weeks we get ten to twelve it really doesn't matter. The invitation for Prayer and Praise goes out to 25 people. Some cannot attend and choose to simply share a praise or prayer request via e-mail. This work bible study came together when anxiety was peeking for many of us. Indeed good things can come from darkness when prayer, the Word, and Jesus Christ are the focus.

In HIS Service,
Mark Bader



May 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 WEEK OF PRAYER May 1-7 7:00 p.m. No Limits Purpose Team Mtg.	2 Day of Fasting & Prayer 7:00 p.m. Prayer Service 7:00-8:30 p.m. Men's Basketball/ROCK	3 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 7:00 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. No Limits Prayer/Library	4 National Day of Prayer 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK 7:00 p.m. Prayer Service	5 No Mom & Kids May 5 & 6 /IBC Annual Meeting/Straford, IA	6 7:00 a.m. Men of Integrity 9:00-11:00 a.m. HUGS Puppet Practice/ROCK
7 8:40 a.m. Prayer AM Communion 6:00 p.m. HUGS Puppet Presentation 7:00 p.m. No Limits Gospel Journey	9 5:30 p.m. CLASS 301 Blueprint for Ministry 7:00-8:30 p.m. Men's Basketball/ROCK	10 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 7:00 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. No Limits Prayer/Library 7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg.	11 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK	12 6:00 p.m. Heritage School Silent Auction, Spring Musical & Live Cake Auction/ROCK	13 7:00 a.m. Men of Integrity	
14 8:40 a.m. Prayer MOTHER'S DAY NO PM Activities	16 6:30 p.m. Singles Game Night/ROCK	17 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 7:00 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. No Limits Prayer/Library 7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg.	18 6:30 p.m. Women's Volleyball/ROCK 7:00 p.m. Missions Mtg.	19 9:00 a.m.-noon Mom & Kids/ROCK	20 7:00 a.m. Men of Integrity 7:00 a.m. Trustee Mtg. at Village Inn 7:30 p.m. Men's Bonfire at Gaylon Ideker's	
21 8:40 a.m. Prayer Senior Recognition Sun. 5:30 p.m. Baccalaureate Practice/NSHS 7:00 p.m. Baccalaureate at NSHS NO HOME GROUPS	23 NO ROCK ACTIVITIES Heritage Christian School Rental	24 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 6:30 p.m. No Limits Pizza & Putt Putt \$10 7:00 p.m. No Limits Prayer/ Library 7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 8:15 p.m. Deacons	25 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK	26 9:00 a.m.-noon Mom & Kids/ROCK May 26-29 Family Retreat/Pine Lake Camp	27 7:00 a.m. Men of Integrity	
28 8:40 a.m. Prayer 7:00 p.m. No Limits Gospel Journey NO HOME GROUPS	30 7:00-8:30 p.m. Men's Basketball/ROCK	31 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 7:00 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. No Limits Prayer/Library 7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg.				
29 Memorial Day						

May Birthdays:

1	Ashley Crouch John Schaub	17	Sam Marlow Dennis Mirfield	31	Chris Olson Adam Major Corey Olson
2	Alannah Skinner Luanna Brabant Jaclyn Green	18	Barry Shaw Mickey Blake		
3	Adam Lacey Brenna Bullock Kaitlyn Crouch	20	Kelly Heppe		
4	Kirsten Munson Marianna VonMuenster	22	Andrea Zevenbergen Dee McGimpsey Kaleb Henry Kirsten Wohlford Lauren Van Dyke		
5	Brittany Dalton	23	Jennifer Wilford		
7	Nicholas Boddicker Emily Truong Janet Haycraft Logan Eliassen	24	Jennifer Kabel Connie Beer Devon Byers		
8	Pastor Scott Pearson Amanda Henry	25	Isaac Brewer Debbie Aisenbrey		
9	Clarissa Rowe Stephanie Newsum Shelbie Hagge	26	Don Ryan Jim Yetter Pastor Mark Zevenbergen		
10	Betty Carter	27	Cheryl Hageman Rob Beer Ethan King		
11	Jamie Burt Liz Arter	28	Gaylon Ideker Denise Halstead Joyce Kelly		
12	Judy Saxton	29	John King		
13	Adam Schwarz	30	Sasha Faust Linda Holst		
16	Michelle Paulus Kevin Munson				

May Anniversaries:

1	Charles & Cheryl Hageman
4	Chuck & Bea Drener Bill & Ingrid Gerth
9	Ron & Rosemary Mess
25	John & Catherine Schaub
26	Bill & Nancy Hagge
27	Mike & Julie Kaiser Lonny & Shawnelle Eliassen
29	Gaylon & Andrea Ideker

Ahoy Matey

By Kim Lacey

We are excited about this year's Vacation Bible School to be held June 5-9 from 9:00 a.m.-noon. This year's program is Son Treasure Island, a week of treasure hunting adventure in the Caribbean Islands.

We will have a great time with lively songs, hilarious skits, creative crafts, exciting games, Bible stories, and tasty snacks — all of the things that make Vacation Bible School so much fun for children. On top of that, we will be helping children learn about God's amazing love.



Son Treasure Island is open to all kids entering Kindergarten in the fall through those who have just completed 6th grade.

Teens and parents can join in the fun by signing up to be a teacher, teacher helper or snack provider.

Plan now to join us for a great time at Son Treasure Island!

Church Financial Report

Giving to the General Fund (church budget) during the first four Sundays of April has averaged \$7,493 per Sunday. The proposed new budget – to be voted on this Sunday at the Annual Meeting – will require giving of \$8,076 per week for the 2006-07 fiscal year that began April 1.

So far in April, \$6,985 has been given to the Building Fund. Our monthly mortgage payment is about \$9,000.

Fiscal year 2005-06 financial figures and the proposed 2006-07 budget are in the Annual Report books available in the foyer and church office.

Thank you for your support of the Lord's work at Cornerstone.

Attention All Men

Plan to attend a Men's Meeting at Gaylon Ideker's Machine Shed on Saturday, May 20 from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Bonfire, coffee and hot chocolate!! Please bring pop and munchies to share. Great time of fellowship and a brief discussion on Power, Riches & The Future!!

Please bring a lawn chair. Meet at church at 7:15 p.m. to car pool.

From church take LeClaire Road east 7 miles to Z30; turn left on Z30 for 1 mile; turn right on 250th Street for 1 mile; turn right on 247th Ave. for 1/8 mile to 24883 247th Avenue. (Grey house and machine shed.) Phone 289-3353

A BIG Thank You!!

Thank you to all who helped in any way while I was in the process of selling my home so I could move closer to church and ministries. All prayers were answered, and I had tremendous help in the move. So if you prayed, advised, encouraged or helped move 32 years of "stuff" from one house to the other — THANK YOU!! I deeply appreciate everything. God is good. Mom and I love our new home.

Jan Kloss

New address & phone:

2428 Tremont Avenue
Davenport, IA 52803
(563) 323-5043

"Family" News

Congratulations to Mark & Kelly Orcutt on the birth of their new son, Dylan Robert born on March 29th. He will enjoy playing with his big brother, Hunter.

Our sincere sympathy to Nicole Arndt in the loss of her father, William Gary Foulk, on April 22nd.

Reminder:

All Church Potluck and Annual Business Meeting
April 30th after morning worship

Please bring your own plates and silverware, meat dish, vegetable dish and salad OR dessert.

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

775 E. LeClaire Rd.
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Eldridge, IA 52748

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We're on the web!
www.cornerstonebaptistch.org

Sonshine (A Division of Urban Edge)

First of all, mom & I love our new home. It is wonderful being so close to everyone and everything. God has truly blessed us and I am very thankful to Him. With gas prices going sky-high, His timing, as always, was perfect.

Recently I began a Bible study with 8 girls, 4th thru 7th grade. It is called "The Princess and the Kiss" and it deals with purity. I don't remember the last time I was so excited about teaching something. We meet on Tuesday afternoons, followed by supper together. This is such an important subject and it is beautifully formatted. I appreciate Cheryl Hageman bringing this study to my attention.

Awana has ended and I am looking forward to many activities with the kids this summer that will enable me to keep sharing the gospel with them. If you are at all interested in helping with some of the activities, please let me know. We can discuss your availability and I'll call you as needs arise. There is such an urgent need to keep encouraging the kids to make "choices pleasing to God". Please consider how you can make a difference in a child's life. The rewards are eternal...for you and for them.

Jan Kloss 323-5843 or 349-2342

Meadow Lawn Meanderings

I recently attended the funeral of Ron Engels, a resident of Meadow Lawn Nursing Home. He was only 39 years old and he had Huntington's disease. He had also had a stroke, which disabled him even more. Ron always participated when mom & I came to Meadow Lawn, at least until he had the stroke, which left him bedridden. He was very sociable and loved the treats we brought. I was very sad when I heard of Ron's death, but my sadness turned to gladness, when I heard at his funeral that he had asked Jesus into his heart in December. His funeral was a time of joy, knowing that he would no longer suffer the afflictions of Huntington's or of the stroke. At the close of the funeral service they played Chris Rices' "Dance With Jesus". This was such an appropriate song, as I pictured Ron, free to run to Jesus and joyfully do a little happy dance.

I often share with the residents of Meadow Lawn that someday they will not have to suffer the pain and brokenness they have to deal with in this life. I tell them that in heaven there is no need of wheelchairs or glasses or hearing aides...that if they accept Jesus as their Savior, they will someday have brand new bodies and will spend eternity in heaven. It is my privilege and joy to share the good news of Christ with them.

Thank you for your prayer and financial support that allows me to minister to those who are hurting and need the hope of Jesus.
Jan Kloss