

THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Scott's Perspective — "Becoming Wise by Listening to Advice"

"No! I can do it all by myself!"

Most parents of strong-willed toddlers have heard those words of protest in rejecting parental or sibling help with tying shoes or some similar task the child is learning. Beth and I certainly heard those words many times in our home (mostly from Jill).

Of course, some of that is good and necessary for developing a healthy sense of confidence and independent functioning while acquiring certain skills. But an independent attitude can be carried too far and can become self-defeating stubborn pride in teenage and adult years.

I learned that lesson the hard way with my financial fiasco in 1991-94. I got into major financial trouble "all by myself." I did not seek wise counsel or advice from friends or family members or church members who knew much more about investing in stocks than I did. I did not even consult with my wife. (I was afraid they would say no to my risky schemes so I plowed ahead "all by myself.") I ended up bankrupt "all by myself" – with many others adversely affected by my foolish actions.

It is with good reason the Bible teaches:

Proverbs 15:22 (NIV) Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.

Proverbs 13:1 (NIV) A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a mocker does not listen to rebuke.

Proverbs 19:20 (NIV) Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise.

I have learned my lesson. Since then, I have hardly ever made any significant decisions

alone. I work closely with the pastoral staff and deacons at church. I consult with Beth. I seek advice from wise and godly counsel before making important decisions.

Recently I have been contacted by two young men – each asking for my permission and blessing for them to pursue relationships with Jill and Emily, respectively. Not only have they asked my permission and blessing to proceed, they have also sought godly counsel from other sources. That is a sign of good wisdom and maturity.

God provides authority figures in our lives to protect us from making foolish decisions. *If you want to experience the fullness of God's protection and guidance, you need to be living under the authority of those whom God has placed over you.*

The choice of a marriage partner is way too important a decision to make "all by myself." A poor decision in that area can lead to much misery and heartache years down the road.

Once romantic feelings are involved, many people become poor judges of character. Before pursuing a relationship that could lead to marriage, it is wise to seek counsel from people who know you well and want the best for you.

Many of you will be making important decisions during 2007. Relationship decisions. Financial decisions. Job decisions. Education decisions. Housing decisions. Church decisions. Health care decisions. Mission trip decisions. Family decisions. Ministry decisions. Lifestyle decisions. Spiritual commitment decisions.

What will be your approach toward making those key decisions? *I can do it all by myself? Or Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise?*

Sometimes we choose our own counselors and advisers. Sometimes God chooses them for us. Both are helpful.

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

- Jan. 4 11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon at Iowa Machine Shed, Davenport
- Jan. 7 AM Communion 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 7:00 p.m. Dusty Feet/ Pastor Tony's home
- Jan. 9 5:30 p.m. CLASS 301 Blueprint for Maturity
- Jan. 11 6:45 p.m. Missions Committee Mtg.
- Jan. 11 7:00 p.m. Youth Purpose Team Meeting
- Jan. 12-14 Jr. Hi. Retreat at Pine Lake Camp
- Jan. 13-20 New Orleans Missions Trip
- Jan. 14 Nurse Off. Open 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 7:00 p.m. Dusty Feet/ Pastor Tony's Home
- Jan. 19-21 Sr. Hi. Retreat at Pine Lake Camp
- Jan. 21 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 7:00 p.m. Dusty Feet/ Pastor Tony's Home
- Jan. 26 7:00 p.m. CBC Trivia Night/ROCK
- Jan. 26-28 Jr.'s Retreat at Pine Lake Camp
- Jan. 27 6:00 p.m. Girls Night Out at Thunder Bay Grille, Davenport
- Jan. 28 Nurse Off. Open AM Quarterly Meeting NO HOME GROUPS 7:00 p.m. Dusty Feet/ Pastor Tony's Home

What do I mean by *sometimes God chooses them for us*? Parents are an example. God chooses your parents for you, and the Bible commands you to *"heed your father's instruction."*

God uses parents to protect children from making foolish and self-defeating decisions. Wise children (and youth and young adults) heed their parents' instruction. Foolish children (and adults) think they know better and make decisions "all by myself."

Parents are not infallible, of course. Some parents are not living according to biblical values and instruction in their own lives. But God is able to work through even such parents to protect their children from foolish decisions in many areas of life. **God provides authority figures in our lives to protect us from making foolish decisions.** *If you want to experience the fullness of God's protection and guidance, you need to be living under the authority of those whom God has placed over you.*

The same principle applies to those whom God has placed in spiritual leadership over us. I take seriously the counsel of

Church Financial Report

Giving to the General Fund for the first four Sundays in December has averaged \$10,473 per Sunday (compared to budget of \$8,076). *We are current for the fiscal year with our \$4,000 / month giving from the general fund to the Debt Retirement fund.*

\$13,648 has been given to the Building Fund so far in December. We surpassed the \$1 million mark in total ROCK campaign giving since 2002!! Praise God!!

May God continue to enable us to excel in the grace of giving.

Perspectives on World Missions

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement is probably the best course ever designed to teach Christians God's global purposes and our part in His purposes. *Perspectives* is a dynamic, challenging course that is strongly biblical and effectively casts a vision for what God is doing around the world.

We must make major adjustments to join God in what He is doing. Nothing significant in missions happens without a cost. *Perspectives* is a 15-week course that will be held at Parkview Church in Iowa City January 14 – May 6, 2007. It costs some money – but mostly it will cost time – several hours Sunday afternoons plus homework. If you are captured by God's holy calling, it may eventually cost you more.

the Deacon board (deacons and other pastors) at Cornerstone as well as the counsel of other IBC pastors in our LEAD team and our IBC executive minister, Skip Hansen. *I want to experience the fullness of God's protection, so I place myself under the authority and direction of those whom God has placed in spiritual authority over me.* Not only does this deter me from making foolish decisions, but I believe this line of authority is vitally important in spiritual warfare – **spiritual protection and submission to God-given authority go hand in hand in spiritual warfare.**

Of course, sometimes that means "not getting my own way." If you want to make sure that you get your own way, then do it *"all by yourself."* I've been there and done that and have discovered that making decisions *"all by myself"* can lead to getting in big-time trouble "all by myself."

Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed. Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise.

Quarterly Business Meeting

January 28th
immediately following the morning worship

We will be voting on the revised Constitution and By-laws .

Please make every effort to attend!!!

Yet nearly everyone who has taken the *Perspectives* course says that it is well worth every cost. *Pastor Scott, Lee Randall, and Terry & Lucy Schmidt took the course last winter in Iowa City.*

Perspectives begins January 14, 2007 (6:00 – 8:30 pm) at Parkview Church in Iowa City. The cost is \$250 (\$350 for couples). *See Pastor Scott for registration materials. Some scholarship help may be available.*

Check out their website at: www.perspectives.org

A Word From Pastor Mark

Prior to being called to Cornerstone I spent three years going through theological and practical training while in seminary. Each year, I try to attend at least one seminar where I can continue to glean wisdom from others. I am committed to continue to grow in effectiveness as a pastor, husband and father. Where do you go to glean wisdom from others? How often do you attend seminars that will help you to minister more effectively? I am sure it doesn't happen too often due to lack of time and/or money. Well, each year EQUIP (Christian Worker's Conference) tries to solve the time and money issue. EQUIP is one of the most inexpensive ways to provide training for people working with children, youth and adults. The cost to attend EQUIP 2007 (Feb. 16-17 in Peoria, IL) is \$25. Not only is EQUIP inexpensive but it is designed to offer a myriad of classes in a short amount of time (a two day period). You can choose to attend Friday and/or Saturday's seminars.

Here are a few of the classes offered at EQUIP: *The Five Non-Negotiables in Teaching Children, The Discipline Challenge, Creative Prayer, Missions- God's Heart Cry, Preparing for Remarriages, Reaching and Teaching Today's Tweens, Mentoring and Prayer Team Ministries, How to Share Your Faith Without Losing Your Friends Through Neighborhood Bible Study, Financial Freedom for Your Family, VBS Preview.* There are many more classes that you can benefit from.

If you are interested in learning more about EQUIP please contact Pastor Mark. I will get a brochure for you to peruse. Last year eleven from Cornerstone attended EQUIP and all came back very excited about going again. We will be carpooling to Peoria again this year.

CLASS 301 Blueprint for Ministry — Tuesday, Jan. 9th from 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Come and learn how God has uniquely S.H.A.P.E.d you for ministry in this four hour class. Pastor Scott and Mark will be helping you discover God's design on your life. Included in this time is a free pizza dinner. In order to take CLASS 301 you will need to have completed CLASS 201.

Cornerstone Trivia Night

Friday, January 26 7:00-9:30 pm

The Evangelism Purpose Team is sponsoring an evening of trivial fun! Cornerstone Trivia Night is designed for you to spend time with those you are reaching out to in a fun, warm (and sometimes competitive!) environment. Teams will answer 100 questions divided into 10 questions/10 rounds. Cost is \$10 per person. And **all** money will go toward Obang Okello's political cause. Obang will be travelling from Minneapolis to Cornerstone to share about the Annuak Justice Counsel and the progress being made on behalf of the Annuak people.

Consider sponsoring a table for \$80 and invite you coworkers, neighbors, and friends. Or team up with those in your ABF or small group or ministry to reach out to others outside the church. Make it a girls night out or a men's only table! Consider it a fun opportunity to spend time together. Trivia nights are wildly popular in the QC area- we know your friends will want to come! This is for singles and couples alike- odd groupings are okay and the EPT will try to fill up to 8 per table.

When: Friday, January 26 7:00-9:30 pm
Where: Rock Center

Cost: \$10 per person/\$80 per table. The Evangelism Purpose Team will also put together teams if you do not have a full table.

What if I cannot afford to sponsor an entire table: Team up with others from church in your ABF, ministry, neighborhood, job and split the cost of a table. (As always, do not let the cost hold you back. Talk to Pastor Mark if finances are an issue.)

What if I can only think of 1 or 2 others to invite: That's okay. We can group you together with others.

Cause: Obang Okello and the Annuak Justice Counsel

Food: Refreshments will be provided

Childcare: Unfortunately, we will not have childcare available. So line up a babysitter soon!

So, who would you like to invite? A neighbor you would like to get to know better? A co-worker that you'd like to invite to church? This evening is by invitation only. It is not open to the public, like Comedy Sportz in 2005. Invite as many as you like.

So come ready for fun and bring that trivial knowledge with you!

Pastor Tony's No Limits News

'Twas the month after Christmas, and all through the house,
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste,
At the holiday parties, had gone to my waist.

When I got on the scales there arose such a number!
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber).
I'd remember the marvelous meals I'd prepared,
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared.

The punch and the candy, the bread and the cheese,
And the way I'd not said, "No thank you,
please.".....

We often think of adding more discipline to our lives around the New Year; but that is not the discipline I wish to discuss. After our last parents meeting I understood that many may have missed the new discipline policy we have begun using. So I thought I would use my newsletter this month to give it to you again.

No Limits "YES" Behaviors

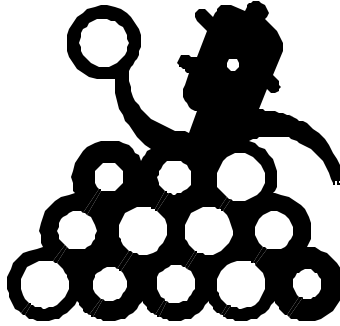
1. Show respect for others & their property, church included.
 2. Have fun in the ROCK Center - avoid old building - downstairs classrooms, closets, and offices.
 3. Enjoy snacks made available, don't make your own. Stay out of kitchen area and snack bar in the youth room.
 4. Use good language keep it school appropriate or better!
 5. Keep your body pure from illegal substances, before, during, and after group.
 6. Old school PDA's (Public Displays of Affection) for married couples only.
 7. Save your parents money. Don't let us see your electronic devices in group time --we will take them.
 8. Flush the toilets and pick up after yourself.
 9. Dress comfortable and casual, keep all cracks covered (upper or lower) or our staff will play dress up and you're the model.
 10. Use sports equipment properly
 - a. Basketballs aren't for dodge ball, volleyballs don't like being kicked.
 - b. No "half court shots" toward the kitchen
 11. Fighting, kicking, punching, or spitting to be done by properly trained professionals only.
 12. Check your weapons at the door. Better yet, leave them at home!
 13. Please wear under garments.... just don't let us see them.
 14. Share the 411 in order, one person talking at a time.
 15. Be a good neighbor- use DEODORANT!!!
- If student needs to be removed from the group:

1st offense - They are required to go to the youth office to talk to a staff person and complete a behavior form. Depending on the student's attitude, they may return for the wrap-up or remain in the youth office during the wrap-up. Their atti-

tude will also determine if they can hang out after group or need to leave now.

2nd offense - Parent(s) called and student needs to leave for remainder of evening.

3rd offense - Parent(s) called and student needs to leave for remainder of evening, will be suspended for one week and will not be allowed to return until student/parent(s)/Pastor Tony meet.



We want No Limits to be a safe environment for all who come to learn together. We ask the youth to follow these guidelines and while we don't wish to kick anyone out, we have had to do so to show the proper respect for the youth as well as the program.

I would also like to bring to your attention the new hours for Wednesday night starting January.

ary.

- 6:30 — 7:00 Jr. High open Gym and snack time
- 7:00 — 7:30 Combined group time.
- 7:30 — 8:30 Cell group time
- 8:30 — 9:00 Sr. High open gym

Upcoming Events January

- Wednesday 3rd No Limits 7:00-8:30
- Friday 5th Deadline for registration Jr. High Retreat
- Sunday 7th Dusty Feet 7 pm Pastor Tony's house
- Wednesday 10th No Limits 7:00-8:30
- Friday 12th Deadline for registration Sr. High Retreat
- Friday 12th-Sun 14th Jr High Winter Retreat.
- Sunday 14th Dusty Feet 7 pm Pastor Tony's house
- Wednesday 17th No Limits 7:00-8:30
- Friday 19th-Sun 21st Sr High Winter Retreat.
- Sunday 21st Dusty Feet 7 pm Pastor Tony's house
- Wednesday 24th No Limits 7:00-8:30
- Sunday 28th Dusty Feet 7 pm Pastor Tony's house
- Wednesday 31st No Limits Volunteer training 6:30-8:30
Open Gym 6:30-8:30

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.25:35-36) to live life abundantly (Jn10:10b).

Sleep Apnea

Sleep apnea is a common disorder that is characterized by brief interruptions of breathing during the night. These brief interruptions of sleep last 10 – 20 seconds and occur repeatedly throughout the night. People with sleep apnea will partially awaken as they struggle to breathe, but in the morning they will not be aware of the disturbances in their sleep. The most common type of sleep apnea is obstructive sleep apnea. It is caused by relaxation of soft tissue in the back of the throat that blocks the passage of air. Central sleep apnea is caused by irregularities in the brain's normal signals to breathe. Most people with sleep apnea will have a combination of both types. The hallmark symptom of the disorder is excessive daytime sleepiness. Additional symptoms of sleep apnea include restless sleep, loud snoring (with periods of silence followed by gasps), falling asleep during the day, morning headaches, trouble concentrating, irritability, forgetfulness, mood or behavior changes, anxiety, and depression. Not everyone who has these symptoms will have sleep apnea, but it is recommended that people with or experiencing even a

few of these symptoms visit their doctor for evaluation. Sleep apnea is more likely to occur in men than women, and in people who are overweight. Sleep apnea can also occur in very thin people also.

Treatment for sleep apnea begins with lifestyle changes, such as avoiding alcohol and medications that relax the central nervous system (sedatives and muscles relaxants), losing weight, and quitting smoking. Some people are helped by special pillows or devices that keep them from sleeping on their back, or oral appliances to keep the airway open during sleep. If these conservative methods are inadequate, continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) can be used. It is a device in which a face mask is attached to a tube and a machine blows pressurized air into the mask and through the airway to keep it open. There are also surgical procedures that can be used to remove tissue and widen the airway. Some individuals may need a combination of therapies to successfully treat their sleep apnea.

Untreated, sleep apnea can be life-threatening. Excessive daytime sleepiness can cause people to fall asleep at inappropriate times, such as while driving. Sleep apnea also appears to put individuals at risk for strokes, is associated with coronary heart disease, heart failure, irregular heartbeats, heart attack, and high blood pressure. Although there is no cure for sleep apnea, recent studies show that successful treatment can reduce the risk of heart and blood pressure problems.

A Fruitful New Year

Here we are again, at the beginning of another year – a time to reflect on the “top” things of 2006 and hope for good things to come in 2007. For some, this is a time for making commitments to things we'd like to change in our lives. For others, there's a sense of defeat because too many past resolutions have failed, so why try again. Does this sound familiar:

- I resolve to be more **loving** to my spouse and kids.
- I resolve to be a more **joyful** person.
- I resolve to have more **peace** in my home.
- I resolve to be more **patient** with other cars on the road.
- I resolve to be more **kind** to my neighbor.
- I resolve to do more **good** things this year.
- I resolve to be more **faithful** about church attendance.
- I resolve to be more **gentle** with my co-workers.
- I resolve to be more **self-controlled** with my eating habits.

By Teresa Bivens

If we head into the new year with a resolve to do things in our own strength, it's no wonder we fail somewhere in the first few months. Many of our resolutions are commitments to do things that can't be done on our own – things that come as Fruits of the Spirit.

As we enter 2007, let's do it with a prayer – something like this.... “Heavenly Father, I know that in order for me to live a life that is pleasing to you, I need your Holy Spirit's strength. I need You to fill me with your Holy Spirit so that I can bear good fruit in my life. Help me to be faithful in my relationship with You, seeking You first in everything, knowing that You will provide. Help me to be faithful about reading my Bible and fellowshiping with other Believers so that I can remain strong in my walk. I know that if I remain in You, You will remain in me, causing me to bear much fruit. Apart from You, I can do nothing on my own. In the strong name of Jesus, Amen.”

New Tax-Saving Opportunity for Donors Aged 70 1/2

Under a new law recently passed, donors aged 70 ½ or older may make charitable gifts directly from an IRA to a church or charity with the gift being fully excluded from federal taxable income. This new law will be especially beneficial to those using the standard deduction on their federal taxes.

Donors may give up to \$100,000 per year, and the gift must be made before Dec. 31, **2007**. The gift must be given directly from the IRA to the church or charity. This law applies only to IRAs (not pensions or other retirement funds).

Contact your IRA custodian if you would like to make such a gift to a charitable organization.

Reflections on New Orleans

God has really been putting this message on my heart to share with others after returning home from my second missions trip to New Orleans. I shared with the young adult's volleyball group on Dec. 21st, and I would like to share with you. Please do not take offense to it, but please do think about it, and if you have comments to make, catch me at church sometime.

Immediately after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, the geography teacher in me kicked in as I thought about how dumb New Orleans was for putting their town in a flood-prone depression near the ocean. My thoughts were at the time very intellectual and not very Christian. Thoughts like "You know what, those people knew what was coming, they could have gotten out" and "Maybe they should get the hint and live somewhere else."

But then I started to think about it some more. We live in a tornado-prone area, and I know that tornados will happen, but yet I stay here. People who live in California know that earthquakes are nearly an everyday occurrence, yet I have never said how "dumb" they are for staying there. So I decided to go to New Orleans, if for no other reason, to see just why people would want to stay.

During that trip, we did a Bible study on Philippians. In this letter, Paul talked about Christian humility in Chapter 2.

"If then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any

Dear Cornerstone Family:

Thanks be to God and Praise to His Name for the opportunities He presents to us to serve others here in our community.

This year we were able to touch the lives of 9 families and 24 of God's precious children through the Angel Tree Outreach. Alleluia!!

We are the hands, feet, ears and eyes of our Lord Jesus. May we continue to seize each opportunity presented to touch the lives of the lost and bring them into union with Him. So they too may reap the riches of a relationship with our Lord and Saviour. May he continue to work through us that we will be his Living Breathing Word. May His light burn brightly to all the ends of the earth through missions, ministries and

Food Pantry News

Many thanks to all who assisted in the assembling of the Christmas baskets. The Pantry received a sizeable donation from Santa Claus. Thank you, Santa!!

January needs for the Food Pantry are boxed dinners, ramen noodles, and macaroni and cheese.

By Chad Guge

*consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, sharing the same feelings, focusing on one goal. **Do nothing out of rivalry or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. Everyone should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.**" (Philippians 2:1-4 emphasis mine)*

In these verses, Paul describes the type of love that Christ shares for us. Even though we don't deserve it, He sacrificed His life to allow us to live. ("*...consider others as more important than yourselves.*") I thought about this verse all night long. Yeah, in my mind, maybe the people of New Orleans ignored the warnings and kept doing what they normally do when a hurricane comes. But how many times do we ignore the warning signs of our sins and continue to do what we think is right? Yet God shows us humility and grace, overlooking our "stupidity" and sent His Son to pay for our sins.

Many times it is very easy for us to pass judgment on people for what they choose to do and not do. Yet, do we ever think about judging ourselves when we sin? Whether it is with the people of New Orleans, your neighbor with an addiction, or a friend who repeatedly comes to you for help about the same sin issue, God has called us to show humility and grace to those who may not know any better.

Outreach.

I thank you all for your generous hearts in the season of His birth.

Your sister in Christ,
Polly

"Blessed is he who has regard for the weak, the Lord delivers him in times of trouble." Psalm 41:1

He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he does." Proverbs 19:17

January 2007



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day	2 9:00-10:00 a.m. Moms-In-Touch/Library 7:30 p.m. College-Career-Singles/Idokers	3 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 7:00-8:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting 8:15 p.m. Deacons	4 11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon at Ia. Machine Shed 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK	5 6:30-8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball/ROCK Deadline for Jr. Hi. Retreat	6 7:00 a.m. Men of Integrity
7 8:40 a.m. Prayer AM Communion 4:00-6:00 p.m. Puppet Party at Van Ee's 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 7:00 p.m. Dusty Feet/ Pastor Tony's home	8 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30-8:15 p.m. AWANA	9 9:00-10:00 a.m. Moms-In-Touch/Library 5:30-9:00 p.m. CLASS 301 Blueprint/Ministry 7:30 p.m. College-Career-Singles/Idokers	10 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 7:00-8:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	11 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK 6:45 p.m. Missions Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Youth Purpose Team Meeting	12 6:30-8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball/ROCK Deadline for Sr. Hi. Retreat Jan. 12-14 Jr. Hi. Retreat/Pine Lake	13 7:00 a.m. Men of Integrity Jan. 13-20 New Orleans Mission Trip
14 8:40 a.m. Prayer Nurse Office Open 3:00 p.m. Sr. Puppets 4 p.m. Jr. Pup. & RODS 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 7:00 p.m. Dusty Feet/ Pastor Tony's home	15 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30-8:15 p.m. AWANA	16 9:00-10:00 a.m. Moms-In-Touch/Library 6:30 p.m. Singles Game Night/ROCK	17 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 7:00-8:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	18 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK	19 6:30-8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball/ROCK Jan. 19-21 Sr. Hi. Retreat/Pine Lake	20 7:00 a.m. Men of Integrity 7:00 a.m. Trustee Mtg. at Village Inn, Davenport
21 8:40 a.m. Prayer Sanctuary of Human Life 3:00 p.m. Sr. Puppets 4 p.m. Jr. Pup. & RODS 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 7:00 p.m. Dusty Feet/ Pastor Tony's home	22 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30-8:15 p.m. AWANA	23 9:00-10:00 a.m. Moms-In-Touch/Library 7:30 p.m. College-Career-Singles/Idokers	24 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 7:00-8:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting 8:15 p.m. Deacons	25 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK	26 7:00 p.m. Cornerstone Trivia Night/ROCK Jan. 26-28 Jr's Retreat/Pine Lake	27 7:00 a.m. Men of Integrity 6:00 p.m. Girls Night Out at Thunder Bay Grille
28 8:40 a.m. Prayer Nurse Office Open AM Quarterly Meeting 3:00 p.m. Sr. Puppets 4 p.m. Jr. Pup. & RODS 7:00 p.m. Dusty Feet/ Pastor Tony's home NO Home Groups	29 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30-8:15 p.m. AWANA	30 9:00-10:00 a.m. Moms-In-Touch/Library 7:30 p.m. College-Career-Singles/Idokers	31 6:30 a.m. Men at Maid-Rite, Eldridge 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30-8:30 p.m. No Limits Volunteer Training 6:30-8:30 p.m. No Limits Open Gym 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting			

January Birthdays:

1 Gayle Bennett
Mickey Owens
Sena Hagedorn

4 Michaela Klatt
Kris Schwarz
Jonathan Kaiser

5 LaVonne Skadal

6 Dale Arentson

7 Trudi Clark

10 Daniel Van Dyke
Cara Hockett
Kendra Bivens
Jay Wilke

11 Marianne Hart
Leilana Keeney

12 Juliet Brewer
Mike Kaiser

13 Jodi Reid
Colleen Olson

14 Joy Halterman

15 Valerie Pierce
Isabelle Wheeler
Janelle Clauseen

16 Vernon Long

18 Bea Dreter
Rachel Newsum

19 Cody Preston

January Anniversaries:

7 Craig and Sylvia Faust

8 Harlan and Bonnie Perry

14 Jeff and Diane McCabe

19 John and Liz Arter

21 Tony and Elisabeth Rupe

26 Terry and Lori Major

31 Richard and Jan Lindstrom

20 Laura Kuster

21 George Arndt, Jr.
Devin Taylor

22 Don Green
Betsy Jones
Sarah Hansel
Elisabeth Rupe

23 Joshua Lacey
Alice Green

24 Michael Paulus
Austin Ihrig
Jan Kloss
Kyle Skinner

26 Sarah Arter

27 David Mess

28 Kathy Wilke
Helena Neill

29 Kirsten Bivens
Christine Truong

30 Don Paulus
Kevin Johnson

31 Ashley Grell

Sonshine Ministry (A Division of Urban Edge Ministry)

It is Christmas night and I've had a wonderful day and evening with my family, but the newsletter articles are due tomorrow AM, so here I am at my computer. Where do I begin? This has been a year of lessons learned (thank you, God), and a year of great encouragement. Never have I felt so called to do what I do.

First I would like to thank everyone who gave a gift or gift card to a Meadowlawn resident and /or the kids. One teen, upon receiving her gift card (along with a book by Max Lucado) exclaimed that this was her "best day ever". We were getting ready to leave the No Limits Christmas party and another girl (a girl from our Cornerstone family) gave her a Lava Lamp that she had won as a prize. She could hardly contain her joy upon receiving this second gift. This was her first time at No Limits and she was so delighted to feel so loved thru these simple gifts.

At the elementary Christmas party, a new kid showed up (a cousin of one of my regulars). What was I to do, I didn't have a gift for him...I had checked my list against the gifts that I had and I had just enough, no extras. But as I handed out gifts (and this boy watched quietly as everyone received a gift) a girl informed me that there were two gifts for the same boy...lo and behold, I had an extra gift...and was able to give it to the "extra" child. One little girl (5 years old) who lives in a singlewide mobile home with her 6 brothers and sisters, plus mom & dad, asked me if she would get to take her gift home. She was ecstatic with the crayons and coloring book she had received. There are so many stories to tell concerning the joy these kids and the residents feel when they receive not only the gift, but also the love that comes with these gifts.



Also, thank you so much to those who helped with the Meadowlawn party. Everything went so well; there was many from church that attended, many nice gifts, and lots of good food. I believe the staff and residents felt God's love in this outpouring of kindness. Thank you, thank you, and thank you for partnering with me. I know I ask for a lot at this time of year and I'm so grateful that you give so generously.

I was diagnosed with sleep apnea this fall. Now I knew why I was always so tired, but what to do? Without insurance, how could I be treated and get the equipment I needed? Thanks to Liz Arter & the Parish nurses, the deacons and a very generous anonymous donor, I was able to pay almost all of my bills. I am happy to say that the machine (Cpap) is doing its job and I feel much more rested and have more energy. All the better to serve God.

Look for some exciting things happening in this ministry in 2007, especially at Mt. Joy. I do need a prayer warrior that would be willing to pray with me once a week, concerning the Mormon influence at Mt Joy. I believe change will come, but we need to pray consistently. Call me if you would like to partner with me in this.

If you would like to help support me financially in this work, you can write checks in one of two ways. You may give a gift to me directly, written out to me personally, but this would not be tax deductible. To be able to receive a tax deduction for your gift, the checks need to be written to Urban Edge with "Sonshine Ministry" written in the memo portion. Thanks to all who have given in the past and for those who have prayed. I couldn't do it without you.

Jan Kloss (349-2342 or 323-5843)

Calling All Women!



Our monthly "**Women's Night Out**" is **Saturday, January 27th**. Meet at Thunder Bay Grill in the back room at 6:00 PM.

Come enjoy dinner and hear our wonderful Beth Pearson speak things of her heart. Questions contact Sarah Hansel at 285-5530.

Marriage Tips

In the coming weeks, the bulletin will include an insert for the congregation to fill out, concerning tips on a healthy marriage. If you have advice about growing a healthy, happy marriage, please pass it on.

Space permitting, advice will be compiled and shared in the February newsletter.

TNT – Teach N Transform, A Teacher Enrichment Seminar

Imagine the Potential.....Witness the Change

When: Saturday, January 6th from 9 a.m. to noon

Where: Pleasant View Baptist Church

Cost: \$3 registration

Contact: Pleasant View Church or

Phone 332-5233 or Mary Scull 225-3810

*Why TNT? Children in Spiritual Crisis (How does God see the child without Christ? How is the world impacting the lives of today's children?)

*Trigger Transformation — The Power of the Gospel (Learn how to present the message of salvation clearly on a child's level, using the unique Gospel Flipper Flapper)

*Transform Your Counseling Skills (Learn how to use the right questions to guide children to a genuine decision for Christ)

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

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www.cornerstonebaptistch.org

"Family News"

Our deepest sympathy to Art Nickerson and his family on the homegoing of his wife, Kay.

Welcome New Members of the Cornerstone Family:

Mollie Hart — joined us on Nov. 26th
Paula Mess — joined us on Dec. 17th

January Prayer Focus Calendar

Wednesday, January 3
Moldova (with Maria and Natasha in attendance)
Wednesday, January 10
Lori Osterberg's mission to Slovenia
Wednesday, January 17
Purpose Teams
Wednesday, January 24
Constitution/By-Laws revision
Wednesday, January 31
Sanctity of Human Life



Come and join us on Sunday Mornings:

Sunday School Opportunities for the Family	9:00 a.m.
Worship Service	10:10 a.m.