

# THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

## Pastor Scott's Perspective— "What Is God Saying?"

What did you hear Sunday evening? What follows is certainly not the definitive or last word on the subject, but simply what I believe God was saying to us through the members of the body Sunday evening.

First of all, thanks to all who came – whether to speak or to listen. There were no inappropriate comments. There were many edifying and helpful and insightful comments. It will take time and further discussion, prayer and study for the vision to emerge, but Sunday evening provided much helpful raw material for the vision team to use as they seek God's will for our church's future. We don't see the big picture of God's vision yet, but some of the pieces are now in view in their elementary forms.

We were reminded Sunday evening that vision is not about what we can or want to do for God; rather vision is God revealing to us what He wants to accomplish through us. We need to step back, pray, and allow God to work. Personal and corporate prayer will be key to this entire process.

One of the strong themes that was affirmed repeatedly Sunday evening is the need to give the Spirit of God the freedom to work freely among us throughout this process. We need to be open to the sovereign and supernatural working of the Spirit in our midst. We need to let God ignite us spiritually and rekindle our spiritual passion. One of the manifestations of that freedom would be greater freedom of expression in worship. We need to let the Spirit of God take hold of us in all areas of life, including passionate and Spirit-led and God-filled worship. One of the great turn-offs for children and youth is passionless church wor-

ship services. Why would they get excited about the Christian faith when many mature Christian adults seem to be bored, expressionless, and listless during worship? No wonder many kids would rather be playing sports on Sunday mornings.

To those of you desiring greater freedom of expression in worship, I say: *Just do it!* And to those of you who may be more inhibited and uncomfortable, I say: *If you can't do it yourself, at least don't discourage others from doing it.*

For myself, I was listening Sunday evening and I will be working with the worship team and worship purpose team to strive to facilitate more Spirit-led freedom in our worship services that will give God room to make His presence known.

Another strong theme that emerged was that God wants to take our church outside the walls of our building – getting our hands dirty serving and engaging a fallen world with broken people. In this fallen world, people all around us become broken by sin, by natural disasters, by broken relationships, by various addictions, by health problems, by job losses and financial problems, etc. Many are lacking hope – fearing their lives are so broken that they will be discarded and "thrown away" as worthless trash. We must not seek to insulate ourselves and our families from such brokenness; rather, we are called to reach out to the "debris" of society and help them rebuild their broken lives.

One particular need was mentioned several times: **fatherless children** -- whether true orphans without parents or children and youth from broken families who have been

(Continued on page 2)

## Upcoming Events

- Sept. 3 8:15 p.m. Home Group Leaders Meeting
- Sept. 4 11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon at Cracker Barrel
- Sept. 7 AM Communion 6:00 p.m. Home Groups
- Sept. 8 6:15 p.m. AWANA & Grades K-2 Parent's Night
- Sept. 10 Prayer & Fasting
- Sept. 11 Noon 50+ Free Lunch in ROCK
- Sept. 14 NURSE OFFICE Serve Fest Fall 08 1:30 p.m. NS Food Pantry Golf Open
- Sept. 15 6:15 p.m. AWANA & Girls Gr.3-6 Parent's Night
- Sept. 19-21 Men's Retreat at Pine Lake Camp, Eldora
- Sept. 20 Trustee Meeting
- Sept. 20 9:00 a.m. CPC Pregnancy Resources Walk for Life
- Sept. 21 6:00 p.m. Home Groups
- Sept. 22 6:15 p.m. AWANA & Boys Gr.3-6 Parent's Night
- Sept. 26-28 Women's Retreat at Pine Lake Camp, Eldora
- Sept. 27 Date Night for Couples to see "Fireproof" & Village Inn after movie
- Sept. 28 NURSE OFFICE 1st week of "Salt & Light" Noon Moldova Chili 6:00 p.m. Home Groups

abandoned or neglected by absentee fathers. Children and youth who are lost and troubled because they have no father present or actively involved in their lives.

In fact, about half of the speakers mentioned children and youth in one way or another – the dominant theme of the night. *How can we reach unchurched kids? How can we minister to orphans and widows and single parents and fatherless children? How can we express in practical ways God's heart for lost children? How can we release our children and youth to serve God's purposes and to reach out to others? How can we train and prepare our children and youth for evangelism and missions? How can we get our kids involved in service opportunities that will capture their heart and passions? How can we train and equip fathers to raise sons who will be fully devoted followers of Jesus? How can we get more men involved in bringing the Gospel to children and youth? How can we better equip children and youth to share the Gospel with their friends? How can we reach kids with both truth and love? How can we reach and train parents to be able to influence their kids to follow Christ? How can we ignite spiritual passion in our children and youth?*

At this point we have more questions than answers, but I would expect these kinds of questions to be on the agenda of our vision team as they meet over the next several months.

I see a definite convergence between the desire to raise the children and youth from our church families to become fully devoted followers of Jesus and the need to get our hands dirty and reach out with compassion to extend Christ's love to broken families and fatherless children. I suspect that exploring this convergence will lead to at least part of God's vision for our church's future. One of our congregation's greatest resources is an abundance of strong, healthy, young Christian families. One of the world's greatest needs is rebuilding lives that have been broken by dysfunctional and broken families. In that convergence we may see something of God's vision for our church.

It is significant that the sharing Sunday evening went way beyond: *the church needs better programs to meet the needs of my kids so that my kids won't lose their faith as they grow up.* There was very little if any of that kind of self-centered religious consumerism.

Rather, there was a recognition that children and youth are most effectively taught, trained and disciplined by fathers and mothers who are themselves fully devoted Christ-followers. The Bible clearly places the primary responsibility for teaching and disciplining children on the shoulders of Christian parents, not church ministries and programs (though the church has a vital role to play in strengthening marriages and families). The most powerful way that churches can help and bless children is by strengthening marriages and training fathers to be godly spiritual leaders in their homes.

But what about children who don't come from such healthy, loving and Christ-centered families? Those are the kids who need children's and youth ministries. Those are the boys who need to be interacting with godly Christian men. Christian parents can disciple their own kids. It is the kids who don't have Christian parents or who don't have a father – they are the kids who most desperately need church ministries and programs to bring them to the Lord and to bring them into contact with loving Christian adults. Kids from Christian families most need time with their own parents and to be part of a church that is spiritually alive. Boys and girls from non-Christian or broken families most need church ministries staffed by caring Christian men and women.

And our own children will benefit greatly from being part of a family and a church that engages in compassionate outreach to broken people. We are setting the bar way too low if our goal is to protect our kids from the world so that they don't lose their faith and purity. The goal is not merely raising kids who will keep the faith – but rather raising kids who are actively growing in their faith by sharing their faith with others. The goal is to train and equip children and youth to serve and evangelize others both through local outreach and global missions. It is the children who grow up with an external focus and Kingdom focus who are most likely to be walking with the Lord when they are 18 or 20 or 25.

And this is where the "God-sized" dimension of the vision may come into play. I recently heard that 75% of Southern Baptist youth are not attending church at age 20. Many have grown up in churches with wonderful children's and youth ministries with multiple paid staff, first-class facilities, and Bible-based curriculum – yet when they leave home, they stop attending church and are no longer walking with the Lord. Obviously, better children's and youth programs at church is not the (whole) answer.

Better music and entertainment will not produce more devoted Christ-followers. Our kids need more than "the next new thing" to attract a crowd. Our kids need encounters with Christ; they need parents and adults to be authentic Christ-followers; they need the church to be the body of Christ; they need to see God at work; and they need to be actively engaged in reaching out to others.

What changes need to take place within Christian families and churches and children's and youth ministries to produce better results? How do we raise children and youth to become passionate Christ-followers who love to worship God, who boldly proclaim Christ, and who give their lives to serving others in love? How do we train children and youth for evangelism and missions and compassionate outreach to the lost and broken of the world? That may be one of the issues the Lord will direct us to investigate as part of the vision process.



## 1st Annual North Scott Food Pantry Open

Where: Rustic Ridge Golf Course, Eldridge  
Date: Sunday, September 14, 2008  
Time: 1:30-4:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$30 per player (includes 9 holes of golf & cart rental)  
100% proceeds go to NS Food Pantry  
Call Jeff or Karen at 285-1383 for more information or to sign up to play.

## A Word From Pastor Mark

Is God good? Does God have my best in mind? Where is God in a world full of such pain and tragedy? How would you answer these questions? Has your experience shaped the way you'd answer them? The way we answer these questions- not just with our head but with our hearts- will determine how we view God. And how we view God is everything! If I believe God doesn't look out for my best interest then my faith in Him is very conditional. If I believe that God is behind all bad things that happen on earth then why should I really ever trust Him? These are crucial, life changing questions to answer. We might find it easy to say absolutely God is good and He has my best interest in mind when our lives have been relatively easy and with limited pain. But what if something difficult comes into our lives? What if death or disease or abuse or loss of job or loss of health or loss of property comes knocking? Would your view of God change based upon your experiences?

Would you like to read a book that traces the thought and heart processes of a man who experienced great pain and sadness in his life? Would you like to see how God answers this man's tough questions about God's goodness and power to stop pain from happening? I recently heard people speaking about a book that was encouraging to their faith. They said the book was excellent and thought provoking. The only downside to the discussion was when they mentioned the book was fiction. I don't have a problem with books of fiction; I just don't read them too often- actually rarely. I like non-fiction, history, true life stories, self-help books- oh and books about fishing. After hearing such glowing reports about this book I decided to buy it. I am so thankful that I did. It has to be one of the most powerful books that I have read in quite some time. I would recommend all of you to read it. Those who I have encouraged to read the book have and agree that it is an amazing book. The book that has made an impact in my life

## SERVE Fest Fall – September 14th

This is just a reminder that we will be having a short worship service at 9:00 a.m. followed by serving in our community from 10:00 a.m. - noon. Then all will be coming back for lunch together. There will be nursery for children under 18 months at church. Come and make an impact on our community through serving. A sign-up list will be in the foyer soon.

## Church Financial Report

Both giving and worship attendance have been up this August compared to last August. Giving to the general fund (church budget) has averaged \$8,406 for the first four Sundays of August. This is substantially above year-ago levels but still below what is needed for the budget (\$9,246). We are current on our Debt Retirement fund payments from the general fund.

Giving to the Building Fund has totaled \$6,651 so far this month. That is more-than-adequate for our mortgage payment but below our desired goal of \$9,000 per month (to pay off our mortgage more quickly).

*Thank you and God bless you for your faithful support of the Lord's work at Cornerstone.*

recently is called *The Shack* by William P. Young.

Why is this book so wonderful? First, it takes place in Oregon. Right away, you know this must be a good author. (: Go DUCKS! Second, it deals with the questions above about God- and some answers that are so helpful for our faith. And third, the author gives you a picture of how the Trinity- God the Father, Son and Spirit might work in our lives.

*The Shack* drips with the intimacy that God desires for us to experience with Him. There is so much more of life that God has created us to experience with Him but there are blockages that hinder us from experiencing all that He has provided for us. These blockages can be disbelief, trauma, living in the past and strong independence. The main character in the story (Mack- another reason why I like the book) has experienced great pain growing up and also a traumatic, life altering experience in adulthood. These tragedies have been his focus so he has been living in the past and not the present for years. His wound has impeded him from going any further with God. He puts God at an arm's length away. But one day, God invites Mack back to the place where he experienced great tragedy and loss- the shack. There God lovingly helps Mack work through his soul squelching questions. I won't write more because I don't want to give away too much.

There are some very powerful truths in this book that I believe will set you free. I personally feel closer to God right now than I have in a while- not that I felt distant from Him- but I just recognize His presence more quickly. Please pick up the book (Family Christian, Wal-Mart, Target, Borders, etc.). In a few months there will be a sermon about the truths of the book. If you do get a chance to read it then please let me know how God used this book of fiction to change you.

## Prayer Mtg. Goes "On Location"

On Wednesday, September 24, the Wednesday night prayer meeting will not be meeting at church. Instead, we will be going to Heritage Church in Rock Island to pray for the "See You At The Pole" follow-up youth rally. We will be praying for those in attendance during the event. If you would like to join us, please let Teresa Bivens know. Carpooling will leave the church parking lot at 6:00 and we'll return around 9:00.

## Mexico Mission Trip

**December 27, 2008-January 3, 2009**

Staying at Mission Camp in Reynosa, MX

Need people to help with construction, paint, help the medical team, puppetry, Bible School, teach kids how to brush teeth, sing with the groups and most importantly love them.

Besides the transportation cost (bus or plane) there is about a \$450 fee, which takes care of food, lodging, etc. First organizational meeting **Tuesday, September 2nd, 7:00 p.m.** at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasant Valley. Sign up by calling Lois Schurr 563-289-5473 or 343-8315.

## Pastor Tony's No Limits News

"Sir, are these kids with you? "An opening line you don't want to hear in a crowded pizza joint waiting for your pizzas to come with 18 youth conspicuously sitting in the middle of the place.

"Yes, they are," I answered with a little concern growing in my stomach as to what they might have done to get this lady to come seek me out. "They are our church youth group. We're out for a movie and pizza event." Still waiting for the hammer to drop. She said, "Oh I should have said something but I chickened out." Then looking to the ceiling she said, "Forgive me, Jesus for being weak." Then turning to me again she said, "I just wanted to say how wonderfully well behaved your group is. I knew there must be a spiritual reason for their behavior, but I was afraid to come straight out and ask you. I didn't want to offend you." Then she went on to praise our youth for the laughter and kindness they shared with each other. And again how well behaved they were.

She was not the only one in the restaurant who noticed our group. I often like to sit and take in the view of what people are doing when I am in public. While this lady's view of our group was shaped by her Christian world view, she saw hope and joy and a spiritual element of good. There was another group there that was right next to ours and honestly was a bit inconvenienced by the seating arrangements as there wasn't a great deal of aisle space, making their trips to the buffet line a challenge. They had a different view of our group. Yes I was eaves dropping on their conversation. They were annoyed, and in their self first world view didn't enjoy the intrusion of our group into their dining experience. Thus the increased level of my own concern for how we appear to others.

But as they were discussing the groups and why we were there, they finally decided we must be some kind of a church group. Everything from Mennonites to Amish was offered as to what kind of religious group was a possibility. Though I did feel somewhat embarrassed to be listening, it was fascinating the amount of ignorance they shared about the various groups and how our youth matched up to their ideals about them. I almost started laughing when they decided we must be a group of Amish youth here to eat pizza. But then I thought, "Even those who didn't share our worldview were also drawn to think about and discuss religion and what that means." I now wish that when I prayed for the meal, I would have prayed the Gospel message over the pizza. It may have cleared up some of the conversation and pointed them in a straighter direction. Or better yet we should have started our own discussion and let them listen in to gain understanding. Theresa and I used to go out and witness to each other in restaurants when we knew people were eaves dropping on us. Or

what if we would have actually just sat down at their table and started a discussion with them. Maybe a little over the top but so...

St. Francis Assisi once said, "Preach the gospel always and when necessary use words." This year in No Limits our theme is "Whatever it takes" from 1 Corinthians 9: 22-23 "... I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings."

Please pray for our youth that they will be bold in their efforts to share that gospel. Pray for our adult leaders as well, we need boldness too.

### Up Coming Events September

- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> No Limits Youth Group Open to all Cornerstone Youth and friends 6:45-8:30
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> SYATP Planning Event — Leave right after church.  
Dusty Feet Pastor Tony's House 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> No Limits Youth Group Open to all Cornerstone Youth and friends 6:45-8:30
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> No Limits 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Open Gym  
After football game till midnight.
- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. SERVE FEST FALL 08  
Dusty Feet Pastor Tony's House 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> No Limits Fall Kick off Pig Roast Open to all Cornerstone Youth and friends 6:45-8:30
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Dusty Feet Pastor Tony's House 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> See You At The Pole 7:00 am — local school flagpole  
See You After the Pole Rally 7pm  
Heritage Church Rock Island  
Leave church 6:30, back by 9:00
- Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Paintball Leave church 9:00 am  
bring lunch and \$5.00  
RSVP by Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> 285-8080
- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday School Subway Outing after church walk to Subway  
Dusty Feet Pastor Tony's House 6:00 p.m.

### Fall Pine Lake Retreat Dates:

**Men's Retreat                      September 19-21    Contact Marvin VanEe**  
**Women's Retreat                September 26-28    Contact church office**



*"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." 2 Corinthians 4:16*

**As we age...  
A way we can love God with all our mind**

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:30-31*

As we age, we are in the process of wasting away. Though we can't prevent our decline, we still can age with grace and love the Lord with everything we have. This is the last in a series of four that shows ways we can continue to love God with all our heart, soul, mind or strength as we age. This month's topic deals with loving God with all our soul.

To take care of our physical bodies and live a healthy life we need to do the following things-regularly see our doctor for check ups, eat right, get rid of the unhealthy things in our lives, exercise, protect ourselves from getting sick, have good health insurance, get medicine or treatment for health problems, and get enough rest. Our soul is our spiritual body and just like our physical body, it has a variety of needs that need

## The Vision Process

*If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; but when they attend to what He reveals, they are most blessed. Proverbs 29:18 (The Message)*

Our journey to seek God's vision for Cornerstone officially began in a powerful way this past Sunday at the Experiencing God service. The Holy Spirit was clearly present and blessed us with many heartfelt testimonies! If you were there, you could sense the energy and encouragement from the sharing. Thank you to all those who responded to the Holy Spirit's call to share!

The information gathered from the sharing will be forwarded to the vision team and will be used in forming the vision. If you missed the sharing and feel God has given you a message to share, please email your comments to Pastor Scott. The sharing is available on CD. Please see Sally to obtain a copy.

The next step in the vision process will be to finalize the vision team. We have two very important dates coming up in September. On September 10<sup>th</sup>, the deacon board will confirm the appointed individual from each purpose team. The deacon board will also select five additional team members to assure a good cross section of our church is represented on the team. The second important date is September 24<sup>th</sup>. Five additional members will be selected by the vision team. If you feel God is calling you to serve on the vision team, please let Pastor

to be met in order to be healthy. To meet our spiritual body's needs and love the Lord with all our soul we spiritually need to:

1. First and foremost seek a knowledgeable physician and follow his advice- God knows it all and is the best!
2. Have regular daily check ups as you kneel in prayer
3. Watch what you eat- feed daily on God's word and only put healthy things into your mind
4. Know and keep a check on your sin level
5. Exercise daily by applying God's word to your life, by worshipping and thanking God for all He has done for you, and by observing His sacraments
6. Protect yourself from illness by making sure those around you are healthy and by wearing your armor everyday in case you are around someone who is "sick"
7. Have the "insurance" of Jesus Christ
8. Be willing to take your medicine, have necessary tests and surgeries, or have a "heart transplant" if necessary
9. Get plenty of rest in the Lord

If taking care of your physical body, God's Holy Temple here on earth that is here today and gone tomorrow, is important, how much more important is it for you to take care of your spiritual body that will last for all eternity in the presence of the Lord!

## by Brent Bullock

Scott or myself know.

We desperately need the involvement of the entire church body whether you are actively serving on the vision team or not. We need you to be covering this process with your prayers! Specifically, we ask for your help on September 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. We have designated the 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> as a day of prayer and fasting (2 Chronicles 20:3-4, Acts 14:23) as we finalize the vision team. We are asking you to pray and fast in private. In the evening, please come join us for a time of corporate prayer at the Prayer Meeting.

Once the team has been finalized, the vision team will begin meeting approximately two times per month. The vision process will be led by the Holy Spirit and filled with lots of prayer, worship, Bible / book study and sharing. Through this process, we will look to know God in a much deeper way, know ourselves and understand the environment in which we live and how we are called to join God in His work.

Through this process, it is important that we grasp God's vision for Cornerstone and persistently and passionately pursue that vision in order to help build His Kingdom here on earth. We can not do this on our own – we need God's power and strength!

The excitement is in the air. I cannot wait to see what God has planned for us! Please join us in preparing to receive God's vision. We need your prayers to surround this process!

All for His Glory, Honor and Praise!

## Moldova Missionary Need:

There are still 10 missionaries from the Orhei church to the surrounding villages that are in need of a second supporter for prayer and \$15 per month! You may even consider asking your children if they would like to support a missionary. This is a wonderful way for them to learn about missions and missionaries as they pray for and give to support one. Of course, it is also good for adults!! Please see Theresa Phillips or Lucy Schmidt to acquire a missionary.

# Sonshine Community Ministries

by Jan Kloss

*1 John 3: 17&18: "If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth."*

WOW!!! The recent "Experiencing God" service that was held Sunday, Aug. 24 was a great evening of sharing. If you were unable to attend, I would encourage you to get a CD from Sally. What I was hearing for the most part was this: the importance of prayer, Missions, reaching kids. This is an exciting time to be a part of CBC. Are you ready to be used by God to make a difference in our community and in the world? I can hardly wait to see how He will use us as a church body.

Things are going great at Lot 13. We've had some community get togethers. The kids are coming on Mondays before AWANA to have supper. I have had the opportunity to spend time with several of the moms and a Bible study will be started in early Sept. The clothing room is being used. I have the Jr./Sr. High girls' Bible study and dinner on Thursdays.

Veggie tales and pancakes is always fun. It's a really busy place and each activity allows me to share the gospel and God's love. However, I really need your help. I am going to list the things I need and I hope you will prayerfully consider how you might contribute.

I need someone with strong organizational skills to organize the clothing room and make it easier to maintain. This would take approximately one or two afternoons and would be a great project for 2 or 3 ladies.

I need someone with strong organizational skills to organize the game/computer room. Maybe someone who could visualize how this room could be best used. There are also book cases with lots of books that need to be organized. This

## "Let Us Be Light"

### Salt and Light Study to begin Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>

Hopefully many of you remember the series Cornerstone did a couple of years ago called "Fire and Reign," sponsored by the Baptist General Conference and covering the first half of Acts. Starting **Sept. 28** and running until November 16<sup>th</sup>, we will be using the ABF hour to study the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of Acts (8-15). There will be workbooks for this series (couples can share and the cost is \$10), and you may get those through your ABF or at the table in the foyer starting Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>.

Pastor Scott also will begin an 8-sermon series using the Salt and Light materials. If you do not attend an ABF, you may still want to purchase a workbook.

Through "Fire and Reign," Cornerstone had a renewal of working to further the cause of Christ's Kingdom, and many lives were changed as a result. Please join us as we continue to seek to be the salt and light for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

*(submitted by Chad Guge)*

would be a great project for a married couple or a few of the young singles. This might only take one afternoon and some thought and discussion how to really get the most benefit out of it. It has three computers and two are not hooked up so this might be someone who has some computer savvy.

I have a "Birthday Box" for kids 4 yrs. to 6th grade. I could use some new or "gently" used toys or games that the kids could pick from. They love being remembered on their birthdays. This doesn't have to be anything expensive.

I need two or three helpers (adults/teens) for Monday afternoons from 5 - 6 PM. Your duties would be to help serve the kids the meal and to supervise in the game room, or during nice weather, outside, and help clean up afterward. If you do AWANA, you could leave right at 6:00 so you wouldn't be late. Maybe several people could volunteer and only have to do it once in a while. This is a great way to serve and to make a difference in a young child's life. You'd get a free meal out of the deal, too.

I could use one or two people to help when I have Veggie Tales and pancakes. This is only once or twice a month on Sat. mornings from 10:30-Noon or 12:30. Can you flip a pancake? Hug a child? You're hired.

Here are some needs for the trailer: mac & cheese, apple juice, bottled water (cases of child-sized, gallon size, case of reg. size), cookies, peanut butter, jelly, dry pancake mix, syrup, diapers, detergent, sauce pans, dinner plates, dessert size plates (can be plastic, but reusable), brownie mixes, bubbles, outdoor chalk, balloons, yard games (check with me first), kool-aid or juice boxes or pouches.

Family needs: double stroller, crib and sheets, futon bed or single bed.

Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way...I couldn't do it without you.

## Fall Moldova Trip & Chili Dinner

### Fall Moldova Trip

As of the time of writing this, it appears that God is forming a small team to go to Moldova this fall to continue the work of reaching the lost and growing the churches in the villages surrounding the Orhei region. Teresa Bivens and Tammy Bullock will be tentatively leaving on Tuesday, October 21. Details are still coming together, so please join us in praying for God's continued direction.

### Chili Dinner

On Sunday, **September 28**, there will be a chili dinner after the morning service to raise additional funds for pews for the church in Orhei, Moldova. A year ago, we raised enough money for the Orhei church to get started on replacing their short pews with longer ones and passing their short pews on to a new village church. We'd like to raise \$2500 more, the amount needed to complete this project, so please plan to stick around after church for lunch with a free-will offering. Meet the fall team and hear what their plans are for Moldova. Kid-friendly food will also be offered.



# September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>7</b> 8:30 a.m. Prayer AM Communion Noon—"See You at the Pole" Mtg. RI 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 6:00 p.m. Dusty Feet at Pastor Tony's home</p>	<p><b>1</b> Labor Day</p>	<p><b>2</b> 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible 7:30 p.m. College-Career-Singles at Idekers</p>	<p><b>3</b> 6:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast at Cracker Barrel, Davenport 6:45-8:30 p.m. Jr. &amp; Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 8:15 p.m. Home Group Leader's Meeting</p>	<p><b>4</b> 11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon at Cracker Barrel, Davenport 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>8</b> 8:30 a.m. Prayer AM Communion Noon—"See You at the Pole" Mtg. RI 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 6:00 p.m. Dusty Feet at Pastor Tony's home</p>	<p><b>8</b> 1:00 p.m. Moms-In-Touch 6:15-7:30 p.m. AWANA (grades K-6) K-2 Parents Night</p>	<p><b>9</b> 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible 6:30 p.m. Youth Purpose Team Meeting 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible 7:30 p.m. College-Career-Singles at Idekers</p>	<p><b>10 Prayer &amp; Fasting</b> 6:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast at Cracker Barrel, Davenport 6:45-8:30 p.m. Jr. &amp; Sr. High No Limits 7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 8:15 p.m. Deacons</p>	<p><b>11</b> Noon 50+ Free Lunch in ROCK 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK</p>	<p><b>12</b> After football game till midnight — No Limits 5th Quarter/ROCK</p>	<p><b>13</b> Marriage Seminar at Grandview Baptist Church, Davenport &amp; Marriage Seminar in Galena, Illinois</p>
<p><b>14</b> 8:30 a.m. Prayer NURSE OFFICE OPEN <b>Serve Fest Fall 08</b> 1:30-4:30 p.m. NS Food Pantry Golf Open 6:00 p.m. Dusty Feet at Pastor Tony's home</p>	<p><b>15</b> 1:00 p.m. Moms-In-Touch 6:15-7:30 p.m. AWANA (grades K-6) Girls grades 3-6 Parents Night</p>	<p><b>16</b> 6:30 p.m. Singles Game Night/ROCK</p>	<p><b>17</b> 6:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast at Cracker Barrel, Davenport 6:45-8:30 p.m. Jr. &amp; Sr. High No Limits Kickoff 7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg.</p>	<p><b>18</b> 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK 6:30 p.m. Missions Mtg.</p>	<p><b>19</b> September 19-21 Men's Retreat at Pine Lake Camp, Eldora, Iowa</p>	<p><b>20</b> 7:00 a.m. Trustee Mtg. at Village Inn, Davenport 9:00 a.m. CPC Pregnancy Resources Walk for Life</p>
<p><b>21</b> 8:30 a.m. Prayer 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 6:00 p.m. Dusty Feet at Pastor Tony's home</p>	<p><b>22</b> 1:00 p.m. Moms-In-Touch 6:15-7:30 p.m. AWANA (grades K-6) Boys grades 3-6 Parents Night</p>	<p><b>23</b> 7:30 p.m. College-Career-Singles at Idekers</p>	<p><b>24</b> 6:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast at Cracker Barrel, Davenport 7:00 a.m. See You at the Pole 6:30-9 p.m. No Limits to SYAP Rally, RI 7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 8:15 p.m. Vision Team</p>	<p><b>25</b> 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK</p>	<p><b>26</b> September 26-28 Women's Retreat at Pine Lake Camp, Eldora, Iowa</p>	<p><b>27</b> 9:00 a.m. No Limits leave for Paintball Date Night for Couples to see "Fireproof"/Village Inn after movie</p>
<p><b>28</b> 8:30 a.m. Prayer 1st week—Salt &amp; Light NURSE OFFICE OPEN No Limits SS Class to Subway for Lunch Noon Moldova Chili 6:00 p.m. Home Groups 6:00 p.m. Dusty Feet at Pastor Tony's home</p>	<p><b>29</b> 1:00 p.m. Moms-In-Touch 6:15-7:30 p.m. AWANA (grades K-6)</p>	<p><b>30</b> 7:30 p.m. College-Career-Singles at Idekers</p>				

## September Birthdays:

1	Don Davis	19	Matt Haycraft Dana Kirby Andrew Noel
2	Ben Haycraft Carter Owens	21	Bill Gerth Glory Hansel
4	Peggy Goltry Brandon Martin	23	Dan Allison Bob Brady Andrew Chapman
8	Richard Clark Ron Walker	24	Chad Guge
9	Joshua Haycraft	26	Hailey Kaiser Kelly Ramsey
10	Dorothy Wilford	27	Cassie Carlson Steve Scull Donavin VanEe Mark Youmans
11	Lori Paulus	28	Connie Braden Tom Hurr
12	Harmony Hansel Mercie Hansel	29	Peggy Grell
13	Lauren Armbrester Marc Orcutt	30	Nick Dose Kristin Green Victoria Hawley Brian Nielsen Lorena Seline Gabe Smith Anita Wright
14	Chelsey Blake Andrea Ideker Emerson Reid Amanda Wilford		
15	John Drinnon		
16	Kim Lacey		
17	Betsy Allen Teresa Bivens Sandy Green Nolan Hagge		
18	Pastor Tony Phillips Lance Bader		

## September Anniversaries:

5	Rick and Kelly Heppe Kerry and Leslie Skinner
7	Jason and Amanda Schwartzhoff
8	Alan and Wendy Grimme (35 yrs.)
12	Jim and Kim Lacey
14	Richard and Renae Mohr
15	Dennis and Judy Dean
17	John and Alice Green Phil and Mollie Hart (25 yrs.)
18	Scott and Leah Carlson Pastor Mark and Andrea Zevenbergen
20	David and Susan Newsum
22	Dale and Julie Farmer
25	Dave and Paula Mess Ozzie and Bonnie Osterberg
26	Mike and Vicky Becraft

## HUGs & HOT RODS Update

The HUGs Puppet team and the HOT RODS dowel rod team would like to share with you how we feel God is moving in these ministries for the upcoming year. The Lord has truly blessed us with many opportunities over the past many years to lift our **Hands Up for God** as well as getting our **Hands Out To Reach Others Declaring Salvation**.

As leaders we felt that this summer needed to be spent praying for the direction God would have for these ministries, and we feel that God has given our teams a very different assignment this year. He is asking us to pray. We have experienced some changes in our leadership and feel the leading of the Holy Spirit to take a “rest” this year. This does not mean that we will be ending puppets for the long run. This simply means that we need to take some time off to Reevaluate, Refresh and Rejuvenate. We need to Reevaluate where God is taking these ministries, what His will is for us. We need to Refresh ourselves and just take a step back and revel in His peace that passes all understanding. Finally, we need to rejuvenate this ministry through the power of Jesus Christ. If we would attempt to continue this year doing as we always have there is a possibility for burn out. Instead, we want to rebuild our strength in the Lord and continue strong next year.

It is important that us as leaders, our puppeteers, and our church family understand what is not meant by taking a year off to “rest”. It is NOT failure and it is NOT a final good-bye. We are confident that God has amazing plans for this ministry and after this year of Reevaluation, Refreshment, and Rejuvenation we look forward to starting up again in September of 2009.

Even though we will be taking a “rest”, we are still planning some team times together for continued skill-building, prayer, and fun throughout the year. As we continue these activities, we may find skits or songs that we feel need to be shared even still this year. So

## Morocco Missions Moment

When I headed to the Urbana youth conference in December 2006, I had no idea that the experience would become one of a chain of open doors, resulting in me winding up on a mountainside in Morocco less than eighteen months later! Looking back at my experiences throughout college and even before, I can trace a clear trail of circumstances-- a trail that can only be credited as a “God-thing”--leading me to where I am today. Which is...not in Morocco at the moment, exactly, but preparing to go back. Before I sat down to write this, I fretted over how I could possibly convey in just a few lines the complexity of Muslim culture, my rich experiences with the Moroccan people, and my reasons for wanting to return... until I realized that what I most want to communicate about Moroccans is actually the simplest concept for people who’ve never been to Morocco to understand. It’s this: Moroccans, with their different language, “unusual” table manners, traditional worldview—and even their Muslim mindset—are simply human beings who possess the same set of emotional desires and spiritual needs that we do. Americans and Moroccans might differ in how they answer some of life’s deeper questions—but they *ask* the *same* questions. “Who am I in the context of my community? How do I define my value and worth? What principles and practices are important to me?” And perhaps the most significant FAQ... “how can I understand and relate to God?” Yes, in Morocco I learned experientially a mountain’s worth of information about how to relate to people who are vastly different than me: what to say to the shop keeper when I enter a store (salaamu ‘alikum), how many times I should kiss a new acquaintance on the cheek (two—it’s three for a good friend), and which hand to keep in my lap while eating (left! Good luck to all you other lefties, like me!)... but I think the most important “essential understanding” that I left Morocco with was the realization that all of us, everywhere—whether we grew up in the

## by Dawnetta, Renae & Kelly

don’t be surprised if you see us at times during the year in special music, AWANA, Urban Edge or where ever the Holy Spirit leads us.

Puppets and Dowel Rods have been and are great ministries to use the creative arts! What an awesome way to bring glory to God for those who enjoy being creative through songs, art, dance, theater, illusion and just “messaging around” for God!! We want to continue to provide ministry opportunities for those who feel they have gifts in these areas. So we are asking for your prayers. Please pray for guidance in these ministries, for us as leaders and puppeteers to have the ability and strength to Reevaluate, Refresh and Rejuvenate. We also ask for your prayers and God’s leading for leaders and volunteers. These ministries have become much larger throughout the years. Each skit and song takes time and commitment to complete. Each minute is well spent in doing God’s work and the end result, as many of you have seen, is well worth all the time and energy. In order to enable this ministry to continue, we need some leaders! We are looking for people with a passion to serve Christ. If you are creative, enjoy working with youth, and feel that God is leading you into this type of ministry, please contact Dawnetta Van Ee (285-9145 or [mdvane@netins.net](mailto:mdvane@netins.net)). You do not have to be super-talented! God will equip those who are willing to serve Him.

We would also like to thank you, our amazing Cornerstone family, for all of your support throughout the years. We are so blessed to have such a supportive and prayerful Church family!! We would also like to thank the puppeteers and dowel rod members for all their efforts, skills and time. We encourage each one of you to seek the Lord’s guidance in your lives, not only in regards to these ministries but in all areas of your lives. We would like to give heartfelt thanks to the Schaub family for all your immeasurable creativity and hard work throughout the many years!

## by Lindsey Ambrester

ancient Medina neighborhood of Fez, or in Eldridge’s North Scott School District—we are all searching for a lasting source of hope, identity and accepting community.

And for all of us, no matter where we’re from, the question and the answer are both rooted in the reality of the kingdom of God—brought into fruition by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus—“Yeshua”—our Messiah and Lord. Jesus taught us how to pray to the Father, saying, “Thy kingdom come—thy will be done.” As those called to be imitators of Christ, our first priority should also be the growth of his kingdom—the realization of a holy community in which people of all different languages, countries and cultures are numbered among the living redeemed. While it might seem improbable that those of us from small towns in the middle of Midwestern USA might have anything in common with Arab Muslims in the Moroccan mountains, my time in those mountains showed me that contrary to having nothing in common with Moroccans, I have everything in common with them— Jesus loved, and died for, the both of us. The one thing that we don’t have in common is that I know this... and they don’t. So while it’s relatively easy to look at some of our cultures’ outer differences, and assume that Morocco would never be the place for someone like me... when I examine the truth of our mutual identities in Christ, I come to realize that Morocco is just the place for someone like me. Because Morocco is a place where Christ is expanding his kingdom... it is a place where even I, with my small-town upbringing and American worldview, can join the Father in his work. Who could say “no” to an open door as wide as that? So little did I know, when I packed my bags for Urbana that cold morning in early December, that I’d be needing to throw in my hiking boots, too... Moroccan mountains, here we come.

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Family News

CONGRATULATIONS:

Steve & Marianna VonMuenster on the birth of your second daughter, Emmaline Eileen, born on August 20th. Emmaline weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20 1/2 " long.

Cory & Jenny Ferrel upon the adoption of your new son, Kai. He is 10 months old and from Korea. May God bless your new little family.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the Trotter Family during this difficult time in the loss of Deana's father. May you find comfort in our loving Lord.

Date Night Saturday, Sept. 27th

Mark your calendars now! The producers of "Facing the Giants" are releasing "Fireproof" at the end of this month in theatres. This is a great movie about strengthening your marriage. The Fellowship Purpose Team would like to organize a group interested in attending the movie on Saturday, **September 27th**. After the movie we will fellowship at Village Inn with pie and coffee.

The exact time will be determined later in the month once the movie theater has set up their showing schedule, but we will try to view the movie around 6:30 or 7 p.m. Ticket prices are \$9.50 each.

If you would like to have Tammy reserve your ticket ahead of time, please contact her at 285-5293.

**ABFs begin on Sunday, September 7th**

**Serve Fest Fall '08 will be held Sunday, September 14th**



**Come and join us on Sunday Mornings:**

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