

# THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

## Pastor Scott's Perspective —

### "God's Calling for Cornerstone"

The story of Michael Oher (*The Blind Side*) is both unique and all too common. As a physical specimen, Michael Oher is unique. But multitudes of children, including many in our own community, have grown up in similar circumstances: poor, fatherless, abandoned, broken or dysfunctional families, under-nurtured, under-educated, with inadequate resources and little hope for any future success.

One thing stood between Michael and the tragic fate of nearly every other boy in his housing project: Sean and Leigh Anne Tuohy. They had lots of money, but Michael needed so much more than money. They gave Michael hope, love, faith, mentoring, tutoring, life skills, compassion, encouragement, instruction, time, personal attention, family life, sense of purpose, correction, guidance, connections, protection, resources, opportunity. They gave Michael a chance to realize his potential.

Sean and Leigh Anne Tuohy made a significant difference in the life of an at-risk teenager. They figured out how to do it as they went along. Heart is more important than training or methods. Their children, Collins and Sean Junior, also made a difference in Michael's life.

Not every youth has the potential to be an NFL lineman. Not every family has the financial resources of the Tuohys. Not every story is as dramatic as *The Blind Side*. But there is no shortage of "at-risk" students and vulnerable families in our community, and no shortage of opportunities for our church to make a significant impact in many of their lives. **God is calling us to do just that.**

The vision God has given us is as follows: ***Becoming a spiritually dynamic body making a significant impact in vulnerable families through our neighborhood schools.*** That is

what God is calling us to be and to do in the next 3-5 years. *Our goal is to make a significant impact in 30 vulnerable families in the next 3-5 years.*

**Significant impact** means we've helped **vulnerable families** in more than one area (financial, physical, relational, spiritual, emotional, educational, vocational) while moving them toward fulfilling God's purpose in their lives. **Vulnerable** refers to being capable or susceptible to being wounded or hurt (financially, spiritually, physically, emotionally, relationally, educationally, and/or vocationally). *Examples of vulnerable families would include those living in poverty, the homeless, minorities, refugees, disabled, depressed, single parent families, the elderly, those lacking extended families, at-risk students, ex-convicts, children with an incarcerated parent, jobless or under-employed, families with alcoholism or substance abuse, pregnant teens, social misfits, divorced, HIV-AIDS, etc.*

**Making a significant impact in at least 30 vulnerable families** will take money – but much more than money. Mostly, it will take compassion – and time – and perseverance – and faith and hope and love. We will need tutors and mentors – for both students and their parents. We will need volunteers to teach job skills and learning skills and social skills and sports skills and handling finances and parenting skills and home-making skills and marriage mentoring. We will need volunteers to do service projects and provide meals and babysitting to help families in need. We will need prayers and evangelists and disciple-makers and Bible teachers. We will need children and youth from our church to befriend vulnerable children and teens in their schools.

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(Continued page 2)

## Upcoming Events

- April 1 11:30 a.m. Ladies Lunch at Ia. Machine Shed 6:30-6:55 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service at Cornerstone
- April 2 7:00 p.m. North Scott Good Friday Service at St. Ann's, Long Grove
- April 4 **Easter Sunday** 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at DeWitt Lutheran Camp No Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Morning Worship
- April 9 & 10 QC Writer's Conference at Cornerstone
- April 11 Nurse Office Open AM Communion
- April 12, 19, 26 6:45-7:45 p.m. Center Shot Ministries
- April 17 7:00 a.m. Trustee Meeting at Village Inn, Dav. 7:00 p.m. Women's Night Out/Incredible Pizza
- April 18 Sonshine Ministries Lunch & Annual Meeting following Worship Service 1 -4 p.m. No Limits Seminar, Homewood E. Free, Moline
- April 20 4:00 p.m. Kids Baptism Class
- April 25 Nurse Office Open 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Serve Fest/ Lunch
- April 29 7:00 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting
- **COMING:** May 2 6:00 p.m. Congregational Prayer for the Vision

Poverty is not merely the lack of money. It is the lack of hope and the lack of resources and the lack of role models and the lack of support systems and networking. Providing those resources can be far more costly than writing a check. Sometimes it takes an entire church family to make a significant impact in one vulnerable family.

***Making a significant impact will involve meeting both practical and spiritual needs.*** It will include everything from evangelism to mentoring to counseling to organizing work projects and sports activities to prayer-walking to providing babysitting to parenting classes to financial classes to job training to cooking classes to home repairs to home Bible studies. It will include ministry **to** children, youth and adults – **by** children, youth and adults.

***In the next 3-5 years, God is calling us as a church body to make a significant impact in at least 30 vulnerable families through our neighborhood schools.*** We will be focusing our resources, our energy, our ministries and programs, our people and gifts on this God-sized assignment. *Neighborhood schools* are the public, private and home schools where our church attenders live, with our primary congregational focus on the North Scott Community School District. This is not an exclusive focus (we will serve and witness to anyone, wherever the Spirit leads), but it will be our primary focus for the next 3-5 years according to the vision God has given us.

*Through our neighborhood schools.* Where to start? With our neighborhood schools – here in Eldridge – and wherever our members and attenders live. Our educators want to help at-risk students become successful and graduate from high school. But they often lack the resources to do everything that needs to be done. They need volunteers. They need volunteer mentors and tutors and “lunch buddies” and “Big Brothers” and coaches and other kinds of helpers. We will be forming new partnerships with neighborhood schools via mentoring programs, intramural programs, service projects, etc. Our community outreach will not be restricted to schools exclusively, but our neighborhood schools – especially the North Scott school system -- will be a primary focal point for our church’s outreach the next 3-5 years.

***Making a significant impact in at least 30 vulnerable families through our neighborhood schools is a God-sized vision.*** It will not be accomplished by human effort and in-hand resources. *It will be accomplished by God working in us and through us.* The key to fulfilling this vision is the first phrase of the vision statement: ***Becoming a spiritually dynamic body.***

*It is the Holy Spirit who frees us to experience genuine, passionate and enthusiastic worship, prayer and service.* ***Becoming a spiritually dynamic body involves striving toward the goal of being more like Jesus – loving Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and loving our neighbors as ourselves – by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to produce change in the people who call Cornerstone their home.***

**If we want to make a significant impact in our community, then we must allow the Spirit free reign to make a significant impact in our lives and in our church body.** ***Becoming a spiritually dynamic body*** emphasizes that the vision is as much about “being” as “doing.” It is NOT a matter of

the “same old church” doing a new assignment by doing more of the same. Rather, it is about becoming a spiritually renewed church body. Some spiritual changes have been taking place in the last year. More changes are forthcoming as the Spirit continues His transforming work among us.

***Becoming a spiritually dynamic body involves being Strong in the Spirit and in Scripture as well as in Service.*** Cornerstone has historically been strong in the Scriptures and in Bible teaching and Bible studies for all ages. That will continue – and strengthen. *But God is also calling us to seek an increased level of Holy Spirit activity in our church body and ministries and outreach.*

**Fulfilling this vision will require us to be a passionate and adventurous and spiritually powerful people.** This will require a growing corporate prayer life and intercessory prayer ministry. This will require an increased openness to the ministry and fullness of the Spirit. This will require increased teaching on the ministry and gifts of the Spirit at all age levels. All the gifts of the Holy Spirit will be useful and needed in fulfilling this vision. We need to be a fully functioning body of Christ, fully equipped and empowered by the Spirit, and acting in unity under the headship of Jesus Christ.

**Becoming a spiritually dynamic body will require a dynamic worship ministry.** Corporate worship is the fountainhead of congregational spiritual vitality. *Becoming a spiritually dynamic body may lead us to calling a worship pastor who would not only be a musician and song-leader for our Sunday morning worship services, but would also mentor and develop our worship team, and would be involved with youth worship, and would also be a spiritual director leading us in theology and practice of worship and in spiritual renewal.*

To make a significant difference in the lives of the Michael Oher’s of the world and other hurting students and families will require us to become a spiritually dynamic body – passionate in the Spirit and strong in the Scriptures as well as adventurous in our compassionate Service to others. *We will need dynamic, Spirit-filled worship. We will need to love one another and work together in unity. We will need a simple and effective discipleship process that will ground our people in biblical teaching. We will need to discover and utilize our own spiritual gifts as well as accept and encourage the use of other members’ gifts. We will need to yield to Christ’s authority as head of our body. We will all need to participate in reaching out to struggling students and hurting families in our community.*

Imagine the lasting impact in our community when 30 families in our area that are struggling with poverty or broken relationships or addictions or spiritual bondage or hopelessness are given new life through the power of Christ’s love being expressed through a spiritually dynamic church body called Cornerstone. *Imagine the joy and satisfaction of being a part of a major work of God in our community – a work of God that could spread to other communities and nations.*

Will you align your heart with God’s heart for the vulnerable and will you join us in fulfilling Christ’s mission in our community?

## A Word From Pastor Mark

Cornerstone is committed to becoming stronger in the Spirit, Scripture and Service. These past few years Cornerstone has reached out to the community in greater ways of service. In the past, Cornerstone was known as the church that gave out water bottles at the Quad City Air Show or Eldridge Days as well as goodie bags on Christmas Day. But Cornerstone is now being known as the church that serves. We are now known for cleaning porta potties, picking up garbage and making the parks look nice. And Eldridge Public Works knows Cornerstone as the church that painted over 500 fire hydrants and rakes leaves in the fall. In the QCA we are becoming known for our service to AIDS Project Quad Cities and at the Humane Society.

Some from Cornerstone are known for making a difference in their local schools. You have helped remove huge bushes, fixed the soccer nets and installed two new basketball hoops at Neil Armstrong. You are volunteering in classrooms or loving on a kid through the Lunch Buddy program. And you have been generous at meeting vulnerable public school kids' needs during Christmas.

## Smart Discipline Parenting Seminar-Friday, May 7th

There will be a Smart Discipline Seminar at Cornerstone on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m. The seminar is free and is open to all parents. Consider inviting your neighbors, co-workers to this event. Here is an excerpt from the website: "The Smart Discipline for Parents Seminar is a fast-paced, 2 hour seminar that teaches parents how to self-motivate their kids to follow the rules while, at the same time, instilling in them a sense of self-esteem. Jim Garnett, Nationally Certified Parent Trainer, is the seminar presenter. Jim brings to each

Jesus came to serve and that is what He did while on earth. The more Cornerstone serves those in need the more we resemble the Head of the Church- Jesus Christ Himself.

As we move forward to fulfill the vision that God has for us for the next 3-5 years we are going to be more focused on seeking to make a significant impact in vulnerable families. The great news about the vision is that every one of us can be part of seeing this fulfilled. If you have a heart for kids, youth, adults, marriage, single parents, post abortive women, working with finances, helping the disabled or infirmed. If you love to counsel, give a listening ear, or love to be generous. If you love to educate or help kids with learning or behavioral disabilities. If you have a heart for the underdog. These are just a few ways that God can use you to significantly impact vulnerable families.

seminar over 30 years experience in family counselor. With a delightful blend of humor and honesty, he identifies the problems that parents face, then offers practical solutions. It is estimated that over the last ten years, Jim's seminars have impacted the lives of over 50,000 children!"

There will be childcare available. Please RSVP to secure your spot (especially if you have children). Please call Pastor Mark @ 285.8080 or send him an email ([zev4cbc@netins.net](mailto:zev4cbc@netins.net)).

## Serving in Haiti This Summer

Pastor Mark is looking to build a team of 15 adults eighteen years old or older to take to Haiti to help construct an orphanage and widow's village (see [www.opendoorhaiti.com](http://www.opendoorhaiti.com) for the visuals). We will be doing construction type work. You don't have to be proficient with your hands to help. There is also an opportunity for nurses to work in the onsite medical clinic. The cost has yet to be determined. The date set in pencil is June 30-July 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in going or learning more please contact Pastor Mark. You can contact Pastor Mark @285.8080 or [zev4cbc@netins.net](mailto:zev4cbc@netins.net)

In preparation for the trip you will need a passport and receive several vaccines. You can check with your doctor about getting vaccines done. Most doctors, however, do not carry some of the vaccines. Passport Health @ 515 Valley View Dr. Phone # 309.757.1252 may be the best place to get your vaccines.

For more information go to [www.passporthealthusa.com](http://www.passporthealthusa.com)

## Financial Report

Giving to the General Fund (church budget) for the month of March averaged \$11, 174 per Sunday. For the quarter, weekly giving averaged \$10,109. That is just about what we will need for the 2010-11 fiscal year budget beginning April 1. Details for the 2009-10 finances will be available in the Annual Report and at the April 18 Annual Meeting.

Giving to the Building Fund in April totaled \$7,800. We are getting close to having the ROCK mortgage paid off – some

time during the next 3 months.

Worship attendance for the quarter was up about 10% over year-ago levels.

*To God be the glory for another year of His faithfulness – and God bless you for your continued support of the Lord's work at Cornerstone.*

## Pastor Tony's No Limits News

"Is it hot?" Now **THERE** is an understatement! Is the sky blue? The ocean wet?

We are at Buffalo Wild Wings, and of their 14 different sauces, Blazin' should be used with extreme caution! My personal favorite is Mango Habanero which is 3<sup>rd</sup> from the top of their hottest sauces. It has a sweet mango favor that teases your tongue while you are waiting for the burn of the habanero to send your mouth into code red. But the blazin...they take no prisoners!!! Your lips go numb before your tongue even knows why it hurts. The last time I had some of those, I was in pain for three days and worried that my insides would be permanently damaged. But all the warnings just make young men want to try to be man enough to eat them all the more. But the sweat pouring off their brows, the empty drink glasses, and the constant fanning of the mouth trying to get the sting of this evil flavor that only those without pain sensors in their mouth should try... That wasn't the best part of the day.

We had taken a rather large group of 24 down to the restaurant that was already crowded with people watching the NCAA tournament and enjoying their Sunday lunch. It was a difficult task to fit a table for a group our size. So when we had to divide into two groups we weren't shocked or disappointed. The plan was to spread the adults out over a few tables, giving better opportunity to share discussion. But with the two tables set up and the way the seating went, you guessed it...we had most of the youth at one table and most of the adults stranded at the other. All except the new kid and my daughter who had stayed behind to help lock up the van. But what was exciting was that the new kid was fine with this arrangement. Coming from the south and not knowing anyone except for a few adults and being from a very different living setting, he was more comfortable just eating with us and not being pushed out of his comfort zone and risking rejection from a large group of youth not very much like himself.

But three of our youth weren't ok with that. 1<sup>st</sup> they asked if we would mind moving some adults to our table so they could have one more youth sit at their table. Then they demanded (and went the extra mile) to make all the youth on one side of the table squeeze together and crowd one side to add an extra chair so that both of the youth could join them. Now he had very little choice. They had gone to too much work to include him for him to stay at our table! Though we had already ordered and got settled, their persistence paid off and the switch from visitor and outsider to part of "us" now had been carried off, all at the control of the youth without any adult encouragement.

**This is sooo cool!!!** Our youth are doing the ministry and going to great measures to make new people fit in and feel accepted. I couldn't have been prouder. And the tears it brought to my eyes weren't really from the smell of the blazin' wings as they were passed down to the next victim of guerilla wing attack.

Then another blessing to enjoy. Three of the girls who had been busy talking as if they were up to something devious finally gave up the game. "Do you have any gospel

tracks?" they asked. I might have one in the van, but I didn't bring any in with me.

"We need one for the guy we have been talking to." My puzzled face must have been obvious as I looked down at the all girl corner of the table. They had been texting a friend of one of the girls and while having fun using the new technology to reach across the airwaves to carry on a conversation, they had also been using the opportunity to witness to the young man and the three had tag teamed to share the gospel! And he wanted more information! Thus the need for a gospel track to place into his hand.

Whether or not he follows through and comes to Christ (That would be quite awesome!), the fact that they had been using their time to witness was amazing. Again I could feel the warmth moving through my chest and into my eyes. And it wasn't the wings; I was way down the heat scale with my parmesan garlic. But the warmth of this meal will be remembered and cherished for quite some time. They need to add another flavor to the list called SWEET JOY. It is the flavor of the Holy Spirit working in the lives of youth, watching them love on each other and reach out to those around them and invite them in. It is a mild tangy flavor that warms the depth of your soul without the pain of spice.

### Up Coming Events for April

- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> No Limits Youth Ministry  
**6:55 pm – 8:45 pm** Doing tough things
- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Dusty Feet Pastor Tony's house 6:00 P.M.  
Revelation Chapter 2
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> No Limits Youth Ministry  
**6:55 pm – 8:45 pm** No Worries Man
- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Wired UnSeminar — A creative and inter active experience to grow in your self awareness of how God has uniquely equipped you so you can begin to make wise decisions about your future.  
1-4 Homewood Free Church, \$15 if registered through No Limits
- Dusty Feet Pastor Tony's house 6:00 P.M.  
Revelations Chapter 3
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> No Limits Off Campus **6:30 pm – 8:45 pm**  
GlowGolf and Pizza \$10
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Knights Broomball TBA  
\$5 plus \$2 if you want skates
- Sunday 25<sup>st</sup> Dusty Feet Pastor Tony's House 6:00 pm  
Revelations Chapter 4
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> No Limits Youth Ministry  
**6:55 pm – 8:45 pm** Acting 101

## The UrbanEdge

Dear Cornerstone Family,

This has been a particularly hard six months as we have struggled to find children and families that were evicted over the summer. We have had no Homework Club this year and our numbers for church attendance are low. However, we have been praying for God's direction and wisdom as we have many ideas on service and we want to be where He is working already.

There are currently four teens coming to Wednesday night youth group at Cornerstone and they are really feeling welcome and they love it. They readily participate in the large group setting, which really surprises me.

We had a funeral for a young man who attended Homework Club and Sunday school when we first started. It was an incredibly sad affair, but God ministered and met needs.

A few mothers have spent time talking about their decisions and their lives with me (Lori). They need prayer and are still not tired enough to accept Christ. Their willingness to share is a huge step, though.

One of our teens graduated from high school and is attending college in Des Moines! He also got a job at Wildwood Hills Ranch, which is the camp that allows us to send children for free every summer.

We have been in contact with Pastor Howard Johnson of Grace Brethren Church and we are planning on starting an afternoon Sunday school at his church, which is located in a great area to reach some of our current families and also do outreach to bring in new families living in Horizon Homes. Please pray that we are able to build new relationships with new families. That congregation has been praying for ways to outreach in that neighborhood and we are excited about working with them.

We still dream of a day when we can do full-time ministry. Please keep that in prayer also as well as for the children and families we haven't been able to get in contact with.

In His Service,  
Terry and Lori Major

## Holy Week Services April 1-4

### Maundy Thursday, April 1

**7:00 pm** Maundy Thursday Communion Service in the Sanctuary. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper Jesus spent with His disciples and the institution of the Lord's Supper. All are welcome to attend.

### Good Friday, April 2

**7:00 pm** North Scott Community Good Friday Service at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Long Grove. The service will feature a series of Scripture readings and hymns focusing on the Cross. *It is important to take time to give thanks to Christ for his sacrifice for us.*

### Easter Sunday, April 4

**6:30 am** Sunrise Service at Grace Lutheran Camp in DeWitt.

**7:30 am** Breakfast at Grace Lutheran Camp in DeWitt.

**10:10 am** Easter Worship Service in the sanctuary and ROCK Center

The Sunrise Service and the Easter Worship Services at Cornerstone will be different from each other, and we encourage you to attend both. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LAWN

CHAIR TO THE SUNRISE SERVICE IF POSSIBLE. Casual dress (warm clothing) for the Sunrise Service; casual or "Easter finest" for the 10:10 Service.

Grace Lutheran Camp (Hwy. 61 & Hwy. 30) will be a beautiful setting for a Sunrise Service and is only a couple of minutes farther from church than Scott County Park. There will be an outdoor service overlooking a lake – weather permitting – but there is also a lodge in case of inclement weather. For breakfast, there is a lodge and also an outdoor covered pavilion.

Please come early for the 10:10 am Easter Worship Service. It will help parking and seating congestion if as many as possible come at 9:50 am. *Regular attenders in good health: please park in the Mel Foster lot or the lots near the annex to make more room for guests and those who need to park closer to the building.*

**There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, but there will be Jr. Church as usual.**

## Directions to Grace Lutheran Camp (for the Easter Sunrise Service)

From Cornerstone: Take Hwy. 61 North about 12 miles to Hwy. 30 West (Exit 311-A toward Cedar Rapids). Go about 1 mile west on Hwy. 30 and then turn left at the first blacktop (there will be a camp sign). Then take another immediate left onto the frontage road. Follow the frontage road into the Camp.

## Communicating Cornerstone's Vision

*"Becoming a spiritually dynamic body making a significant impact in vulnerable families through our neighborhood schools."* That is what God is calling Cornerstone to be and to do during the next 3-5 years.

How can you learn more about this vision and how to participate in it? In addition to Pastor Scott's *Perspectives* article in this newsletter, here are some upcoming opportunities for gaining a better understanding of the vision:

**Sunday, April 11** – *Discussing the vision will be the focus of the 9:00 am Adult Bible Fellowships that day. Whether or not you are a regular ABF attendee, you may attend one of these ABFs to learn more about the vision.*

## Purpose & Vision Statements

What is the difference between a mission / purpose statement and a vision statement? Will Cornerstone's vision statement change our purpose statement?

Though there may be a technical difference, for the purpose of this article, I will be using mission and purpose statements synonymously. Cornerstone's purpose / mission statement—in effect for over a decade—is as follows: **"Cornerstone exists to worship God, proclaim Christ, and develop fully devoted followers of Jesus who will extend His love to others."** *That purpose statement will not change with our new vision statement.*

A mission statement explains the main aim or purpose of the church. Mission statements are based on the mandates of Christ for all churches, for example, the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) and the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-40). The mission statements of evangelical, Bible-based churches would be fairly similar.

The mission / purpose statement answers these questions: *Why does the church exist? What are the core tasks of the church? What are the church's marching orders (from Christ, the Head)?*

The vision statement answers these questions: *Where is the church going with the mission? What will the future look like if you fulfill it? What is the church's specific calling that distinguishes it from other churches?*

## Family News

Congratulations to Jason & Tina Ferrel on the birth of their first child, Lily Paige, born on Friday, March 26th. She weighed 3 lbs. 13 oz. and was 16 1/2" long.

Our deepest sympathy to Vanessa McNeely on the death of her father. May God comfort you and your family during this hard time.

**Sunday, April 11** – *All of the home groups are asked to discuss the vision as a primary focus of their home group meetings that day (or whatever other day they choose to meet).*

**Sunday, April 18** – *There will be a brief vision presentation during the 10:10 Worship Service and a longer, fuller, more detailed presentation of the vision by the vision team during the **Annual Meeting** (following worship and lunch in the ROCK Center).*

If you would like to submit questions you may have about the vision or the vision process or implementing the vision, feel free to do so to Brent Bullock or Pastor Scott or Pastor Mark or any vision team member (preferably via email or in writing) prior to these meetings. Your questions will help us in preparing our presentations.

The mission statement describes the general purpose of the organization whereas the vision statement describes the specific direction. Mission statements apply to many churches; vision statements are unique to each particular church. The vision statement is more specific to the local situation of a particular church. The vision statement has a narrower focus than the mission statement. The vision statement expresses the church's sense of calling for that particular congregation in a particular location at a particular time in history.

*"Cornerstone exists to worship God, proclaim Christ, and develop fully devoted followers of Jesus who will extend his love to others."* That is our mission / purpose statement—still in effect.

*"Who will extend his love to others."* Which others? Our vision statement narrows the focus: to *"vulnerable families."* **"Becoming a spiritually dynamic body making a significant impact in vulnerable families through our neighborhood schools."**

And part of our strategy will be *"through our neighborhood schools"*—with our church focus primarily on the NS Community School District. The vision statement is more specific, more particular, more narrowly focused, and unique to our church compared to our purpose statement which would be similar to many churches'. The purpose statement is still valid—but the vision statement gives a more specific calling unique to our church.

## Centershot Ministries

**Centershot Ministries** (Archery Program)  
Begins April 12th at 6:45-7:45 p.m.  
It will be held on Mondays for 8 weeks  
Ages 5 yrs. & up

Contact Rich Mohr at 563-505-5243 if you are interested.



# April 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>4 Easter Sunday</b> 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service/DeWitt Luth. Camp No Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Morning Worship</p>	<p><b>5</b> No Moms-In-Touch 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery</p>	<p><b>6</b> 7:30 p.m. College-Career -Singles at Ideker's</p>	<p><b>7</b> 6:30 a.m. Men at Cracker Barrel, Dav. 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30 p.m. NL Vol. Mtg. 6:55-8:45 p.m. Jr. &amp; Sr. High No Limits Youth 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting</p>	<p><b>8</b> 5:30-6:30 p.m. Women's Basketball/ROCK 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK</p>	<p><b>9</b> April 9 &amp; 10 QC Writer's Conference at Cornerstone</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11</b> 8:30 a.m. Prayer Nurse Office Open AM Communion 3:00 p.m. Jr. Puppets 4:00 p.m. Sr. Puppets 6:00 p.m. Dusty Feet at Pastor Tony's home</p>	<p><b>12</b> 1:30 p.m. Moms-In-Touch at Crouch home 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:45-7:45 p.m. Center-shot Ministries</p>	<p><b>13</b> 6:30 p.m. Singles Game Night/ROCK</p>	<p><b>14</b> 6:30 a.m. Men at Cracker Barrel, Dav. 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30 p.m. NL Vol. Mtg. 6:55-8:45 p.m. Jr. &amp; Sr. High No Limits Youth 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting 8:15 p.m. Vision Team</p>	<p><b>15</b> 5:30-6:30 p.m. Women's Basketball/ROCK 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 7:00 a.m. Trustee Meeting at Village Inn, Brady Street, Davenport 7:00 p.m. Women's Night Out at Incredible Pizza</p>
<p><b>18</b> 8:30 a.m. Prayer After AM Service — Sonshine Ministries Lunch &amp; Annual Meeting 1-4 p.m. No Limits Seminar/Homeewood, Moline 3:00 p.m. Jr. Puppets 4:00 p.m. Sr. Puppets 6:00 p.m. Dusty Feet at Pastor Tony's home</p>	<p><b>19</b> 1:30 p.m. Moms-In-Touch at Crouch home 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:45-7:45 p.m. Center-shot Ministries</p>	<p><b>20</b> 4:00 p.m. Kids Baptism Class 7:30 p.m. College-Career -Singles at Ideker's</p>	<p><b>21</b> 6:30 a.m. Men at Cracker Barrel, Dav. 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30 -8:45 p.m. No Limits Youth Group to Glow Golf &amp; Pizza 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting</p>	<p><b>22</b> 5:30-6:30 p.m. Women's Basketball/ROCK 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK 6:30-9:00 p.m. Dare to be Different "Marriage Comedy Sportz Night" at Heritage Church,</p>	<p><b>23</b> No Limits 1st Knights Broomball</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>25</b> 8:30 a.m. Prayer Nurse Office Open 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Serve Fest 3:00 p.m. Jr. Puppets 4:00 p.m. Sr. Puppets 6:00 p.m. Dusty Feet at Pastor Tony's home</p>	<p><b>26</b> 1:30 p.m. Moms-In-Touch at Crouch home 4:45 p.m. Puppets to Grand Haven, Eldridge 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:45-7:45 p.m. Center-shot Ministries</p>	<p><b>27</b> 7:30 p.m. College-Career -Singles at Ideker's</p>	<p><b>28</b> 6:30 a.m. Men at Cracker Barrel, Dav. 6:00-9:00 p.m. Archery 6:30 p.m. NL Vol. Mtg. 6:55-8:45 p.m. Jr. &amp; Sr. High No Limits Youth 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting 8:15 p.m. Deacons</p>	<p><b>29</b> 5:30-6:30 p.m. Women's Basketball/ROCK 6:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball/ROCK 7:00 p.m. Missions Mtg.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>Coming:</b> May 2 6:00 p.m. Congregational Prayer for the Vision</p>

**April Birthdays:**

1 John Hawley  
Joe McElhiney

2 Jani Hoerner  
Monica Sissel

4 Jeannie Newton

6 Megan Hart  
Robert Schladetzky

7 John Arter  
Barb Conner

8 Katy Gainer  
Steve McElhiney

10 Mike Becraft  
Ryan Phipps  
Emily Ramsey  
Sheri Wilford

11 Pete Bibens  
Sharon Hojnacki  
Dawnetta Van Ee

12 Kris Proctor  
Savannah Skinner

15 Dylan Wheeler

16 Tammy Bullock

17 Jenny Ferrel

19 Denise Hoover  
Sally Howell  
Delia Meier  
Barb Montgomery

**April Anniversaries:**

1 Jason and Mickey Owens

12 Dick and Lee Swanson (45 yrs.)

18 Joe and Karen McElhiney

22 Mark and Lora Youmans

25 Lou and Debbie Aisenbrey

20 George Rae Arndt  
Isaiah Eliassen

21 Nicole Arndt  
Chris Noel

23 Melissa Chapman

24 Larry Crotty  
Betsy Loehr

25 Alexander Owens

27 Braden Kuster  
Luke Major

29 Brittany Bullock  
Jackson Trotter

30 Jordan Bennett

## Voice of the Martyrs Letter

Please read the letter below from the Voice of the Martyrs director, Tom White. As you read this, may it remind you once again to pray for those brothers and sisters around the world whose faith in Jesus is very costly.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your help for the persecuted church.

This week I spent time with "Esther", a young Chinese Christian woman, and her husband. A few months ago Esther's parents were sentenced to three years in a Chinese prison for their evangelistic work. Their "illegal" church at Linfen, which now includes 50,000 believers, once met in a field and has since built several unregistered churches. (In America we only register to receive tax-exempt status.)

Right now, an army tank sits outside the Linfen church's headquarters, and policy occupy their offices. Another of

their church buildings was destroyed by bulldozers. Thousands of Chinese Christians associated with this mainstream evangelical denomination church are now outcasts, and six of their leaders are in prison for refusing to join the state-controlled Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) church. Even teaching children about Jesus (such as in Sunday School) is against the law in China. We will help them.

You may read a lot of propaganda about wonderful meetings with the state church (TSPM) in China. However, nice dinners, large church choirs and official recognition do not represent the tens of millions of unregistered believers who share Jesus with others. These pioneers are similar to the sacrificial evangelists and pastors who were the salt of our own nation in the last two centuries. We will share the story of the courageous believers in Linfen, China, in the newsletter this spring.

## Mark Your Calendars .....Women's Summer Bible Study

### "Discerning the Voice of God" by Priscilla Shirer

A six-week DVD series with study guide

Having a hard time knowing what God is saying versus what others are saying? This Bible Study from author and speaker Priscilla Shirer is designed to help you know the voice of God: His language, character, and tone of voice. By growing closer to God through His Word, you will be able to discern God's voice from the voice of strangers. The Member Book contains about 30 minutes of personal study for five days each week.

Tuesday, evenings 7-9 p.m.      June 15-July 20  
Thursday, mornings 9-11 a.m.      June 17-July 22

Sign up will begin in May. If God has placed it on your heart to step forward and be a facilitator, please call Tammy Bullock at 285-5293.



## Sonshine Community Ministries

Well, we have cleaned out the "Clothing Room". I believe the timing is right with Barry & Holly introducing the Silent Angel Network. I have worked with Holly & Barb (another contact with the Silent Angel Network) in the past to meet needs for Sonshine families and I look forward to continuing with this wonderful resource. The room that was used for clothing will now be used for a ladies' Bible Study.

I have not had any response regarding helping with the "sandlot baseball team". I would really like to take some of the kids once a week to just have fun playing ball. It will be co-ed and I believe the kids will need help learning how to hit and catch the ball. This activity will be held at the VanEe's and we haven't set a date yet so I am open to suggestions. I do have the equipment. Teens, ladies, men: please consider being a part of this; we'll only have the

"league" for six weeks, once a week. You could volunteer for just one time if that's all you can fit in. It will be in the late afternoon/early evening hours.

On Tuesday, Mar. 30 I will be taking the Sonshine kids around the mobile home park to hand out eggs and invitations to Easter services. Please pray that some families will attend the services and hear the Good News: He is Risen Indeed!

Just a reminder: Sonshine Community Ministries will be serving lunch before Cornerstone's Annual Meeting on April 18th. We will serve maid-rites, hot dogs, salads, desserts, drinks. A free-will offering will be taken. Please join us and let us do the cooking!

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## VBS June 7-11

VBS is about 12 weeks away and we already get to start preparing. Mark your calendars for June 7-11, 8:45-11:30 a.m. All adults and 7th grade (fall 10) and up are welcomed to serve!! If you would like to serve but can't physically serve that week, there are tons of things to help ahead of time such as: decorations, donating snacks, craft cut-outs, etc. Either way if you can help, please see Nick or Sarah Hansel — or they will be contacting you soon. We'll be rounding up questions and driving home answers with Life Way's Saddle Ridge Ranch!

## SERVE Fest Spring 2010 is April 25th

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.



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

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