



UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 3 AM Communion; SOLID Fundraiser Luncheon (see pg 4); 2:30 pm Financial Peace @ DeWitt Office; 7 pm Jr & Sr High SOLID Youth (D)
- April 5 8:45-10:45 am MOPS
- April 6 7 pm Prayer; 7 pm Jr & Sr High SOLID Youth (E)
- April 7 Noon Ladies Lunch at Pizza Ranch; 7 pm Missions Meeting
- April 10 Nurse Office Open; 2:30 pm Financial Peace @ DeWitt Office; 3-5 pm Sally Retirement Party (see pg 10); 7 pm SOLID Jr & Sr High Youth (D)
- April 13 7 pm Prayer; 7 pm Jr & Sr High SOLID Youth (E)
- April 16 7:30 am Trustee Meeting
- April 17 2:30 pm Financial Peace @ DeWitt Office; 7 pm SOLID Jr & Sr High Youth (D)
- April 19 8:45-10:45 am MOPS; 11:30 am Young at Heart Soup Lunch & Service Project
- April 20 7 pm Prayer; 7 pm Jr & Sr High SOLID Youth (E)
- April 22 & 23 Deacon Retreat
- April 24 Nurse Office Open; 2:30 pm Financial Peace @ DeWitt Office; 5 pm Worship & Communion/Annual Meeting in ROCK (see pg 2)
- April 27 7 pm Prayer; 7 pm Jr & Sr High SOLID Youth (E)
- April 29 5:30 pm Men's Ministry Event/Heart Shot Ministries (see pg 10)

# Cornerstone Connection

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 10

APRIL 2016

## Pastor Scott's Perspective - "True Tolerance vs. the New Tolerance"

Josh McDowell was prophetic in warning us several decades ago about a game-changing, culture-shaping ideology emerging in the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century: *the New Tolerance*.

Tolerance used to mean giving others the freedom to express differing or dissenting opinions and treating them with civility and respect in spite of those differences. But now tolerance has been redefined to mean acceptance and approval of other's beliefs and choices and lifestyles. Tolerance used to mean: "I disagree with you and I think your views are wrong; but I grant you the freedom to express your views freely." Now tolerance means: "If you don't support our agenda and agree with our views and approve of our choices and actions, then you will be ostracized and marginalized as an intolerant bigot." Tolerance is no longer a matter of how we treat those who disagree with us. Tolerance now is defined as approval of homosexuality and same-sex marriage and other aspects of the sexual revolution and LGBTQ agenda. Dissenting opinions are not welcome and will not be tolerated or protected.

**Parents: You need to understand this issue well enough to explain it to your kids – or this will likely be the underlying reason why they do not embrace certain beliefs and values of the Christian faith.**

**Tolerance is following the Golden Rule in one's behavior toward people holding views that one regards as objectionable or even offensive.**

### What is true tolerance?

Tolerance is not a belief system or ideology or set of positions on particular issues. Tolerance has to do with forbearance, civility and respectful behavior toward people with differing or opposing views. Tolerance has nothing to do with being liberal or conservative, Democrat or Republican, religious or irreligious. Tolerance has nothing to

do with being for or against abortion or same-sex marriage or immigration reform. Liberals can be as intolerant toward conservatives as conservatives can be toward liberals.

The test of tolerance is not the content of one's beliefs or the particular positions one takes on controversial issues, but rather the ability to treat with dignity, respect and civility persons who hold contrary or opposing views on important matters.

For example, if a person who believes that all roads lead to heaven treats religious fundamentalists with contempt, then that is intolerance (and vice-versa). It is attitude and behavior, not theology, that determines tolerance or intolerance.

If a person who believes homosexuality is an acceptable lifestyle and who strongly supports same-sex marriage treats with contempt people who believe that homosexuality is sinful and that marriage is the union of a man and a woman, then that is intolerance (and vice-versa). It is not one's views on homosexuality or (continued on Page 2)

## A Word From Pastor Mark

As May quickly approaches SERVE Fest Spring 16 is just around the corner. We will be serving again on May 1st. I thought it would be good to remind those who were here at the launch as well as educate those who are newer to our church on why we do SERVE Fest.

There are several reasons to plan a SERVE Fest Sunday. First,

Jesus gives us the answer in the Sermon on the Mount, "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." When we do good deeds God receives the glory.

Second, it is antidote against the mindset that "church is all about me". Church worship services can sometimes become focused on meeting my needs, my

preferences, my wants. The church is about coming together to worship God, grow in faith and serve the Body with our spiritual gifts. As we go out into the community on SERVE Fest Sundays we are worshiping and serving God and meeting needs of vulnerable families and the community.

(continued on Page 3)

## Pastor Scott's Perspective *(continued)*

marriage that makes one tolerant or intolerant; it is how one treats people of opposing views.

**Tolerance is following the Golden Rule in one's behavior toward people holding views that one regards as objectionable or even offensive.**

The New Tolerance is quite different from the classic understanding of tolerance. The New Tolerance is a dogma that asserts that all religious beliefs and cultural values and sexual behaviors are equally valid and morally equivalent. No religious faith or moral standard or culture is better than another. It is considered judgmental and intolerant to regard some beliefs as true and some as false or to regard some behaviors as moral and others as immoral. And the advocates of the New Tolerance are absolutely intolerant of any moral judgments.

D.A. Carson writes in *The Intolerance of Tolerance*: "The old tolerance is the willingness to put up with, allow, or endure people and ideas with whom we disagree; the new tolerance is the social commitment to treat all ideas and people as equally right, save for those people who disagree with this view of tolerance."

**The New Tolerance is based on a rigid adherence to moral relativism and a zealous hostility toward any claims of absolute truth.** All moral values are merely subjective preferences that can vary from individual to individual and from culture to culture. All beliefs and values are morally equivalent. Thus Christian fundamentalists opposing same-sex marriage are regarded as morally equivalent to Islamic fundamentalists raping women and children and beheading Christians and blowing up airports and subway stations.

**In the New Tolerance, the only absolute value is the non-judgmental approval of all consensual sex -- regarding all sexual relationships as morally equivalent.** Thus a casual hook-up or sex between a cohabiting man and woman is morally equivalent to sexual union between a husband and wife which in turn is morally equivalent to sex between two men or two women or any other combination. And any conviction – however factual – that children fare better being



raised by a married mother and father than by a cohabiting couple or gay couple or lesbian couple – is regarded as intolerant and bigoted. **And such intolerance cannot be tolerated.** All family structures are equally good. Reality notwithstanding. Anyone suggesting otherwise must be silenced.

Many colleges are now practicing censorship and silencing of all dissenting voices. All challenges to the modern dogmas of "diversity" and "multiculturalism" and "relativism" and LGBTQ rights must be silenced. The very definition of intolerance under the classic understanding of tolerance. But now justified on the basis of defending Tolerance. **Practicing intolerance in order to defend Tolerance.**

No child or teen growing up today wants to be labeled as intolerant or judgmental or a bigot. The absolute truths and moral judgments of biblical Christianity will be embarrassing for many kids today. They may not reject Jesus altogether, but the Jesus they believe in will be a

non-judgmental Jesus who approves of homosexuality and same-sex marriage and believes that all people of all religious faiths go to heaven. They are surrounded on every side with voices telling them that disapproval of same-sex marriage equals hatred of gays. If you stand firm on biblical teaching regarding sexuality and marriage – they will judge you to be intolerant and a bigot. They will become ashamed of your biblical faith – and either walk away from Christianity and the church altogether – or end up with a watered-down faith in an imaginary Jesus having little in common with the Jesus of the New Testament.

**Parents today must teach their children well: the grace and truth of Jesus; the wisdom and truthfulness and authority of the Bible; the uniqueness of Jesus; God's good design for sex and marriage and family; the dangers and fallacies of moral relativism; etc.**

And parents must practice true tolerance as well as teaching their children the difference between true tolerance and the New Tolerance. **True tolerance is a courteous and respectful attitude toward people who disagree with us; the New Tolerance is a belief system, ideology and agenda rooted in moral relativism.**

What is tolerance? **Tolerance is following the Golden Rule in one's behavior toward people holding views that one regards as objectionable or even offensive.** Let us practice true tolerance while holding firm to absolute truths and biblical moral standards.

### Annual Meeting April 24

Cornerstone's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, April 24 with the following schedule:

5:00 pm Worship  
and  
Communion in  
the sanctuary.  
6:00 pm Potluck in  
the ROCK  
6:30 pm Annual  
Business  
Meeting in the  
ROCK

The agenda for the Annual Meeting will include a membership vote on the proposed Constitution and By-Laws that were presented on January 24.

## A Word From Pastor Mark *(continued)*

Third, serving is a testimony to those outside the church. When we enter the community on a Sunday to serve, people are surprised to see us giving up our time. The community is able to see God's hands and feet at work and they come into contact with the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

Fourth, where are all the Christians usually on a Sunday morning? In church. Where do the unchurched meet believers on a Sunday? They have to come to church. On SERVE Fest Sundays we bring the church to them.

And a fifth reason to serve on a Sunday is that we are able to mobilize more people than on any other day. Many of us have sports or work or other family activities on Saturdays. But most of us have Sundays marked off on our calendars. Therefore, that enables us to send out much more servants into the community making a larger impression.

It was the year 2007 when Cornerstone began SERVE Fest. We have now been doing it twice a year for more than 8 years now. Cornerstone has given THOUSANDS of volunteer hours to vulnerable families and to our communities.

As I reflect back on these years I believe our culture has changed a lot as a result of participating in SERVE Fest. We are much more alive and generous with our time. We are defined more by our service than by our large gym. We are known in the community by vulnerable people and by key community leaders as a church that cares and puts their beliefs into practice. Serving in the community is now part of our DNA and is one of the three pillars in our vision, "Strong in Service."

SERVE Fest has not only impacted vulnerable families, our communities and us, it has also impacted other churches and their communities. Since we launched SERVE Fest other churches have heard what we have done. As a result we have helped four other churches launch their own "Serve Sundays" in their communities. God is good!

You may wonder why we do some projects routinely and some we do once in a while. Consistency builds trust. We will consistently do a school or community project that we know will strengthen our relationship with them. For example, we plan on cleaning the Auditorium and gym in DeWitt

again this spring. That project continues to build trust and appreciation by the school. They greatly appreciate that we clean it so spotless right before graduation. Not only the school appreciates the work but so does our custodian. He is able to see places cleaner than he has time to do himself. Or we keep weeding outside a school. It may not seem like a worthwhile job to us but in doing the little things well the school may ask for our help in bigger things later.

We are looking for more opportunities to serve vulnerable families. If you have a suggestion for a SERVE Fest project please let me or Andrea know.

I appreciate Pastor John Ortberg's comments, "Most of the time when we think of church, we think of Sunday. But Sunday is really about Monday. If our job as Christians was simply to get together and worship God, we could do that in Heaven. But our job is more than that: that's why God has us strategically placed right where we are." Together, we can make a difference. Two weeks before SERVE Fest you will be seeing the various projects. We hope that you will participate in being part of CBC by serving that day.

## Cornerstone's New Office Administrator

Sally Howell's retirement the end of April after 27+ years has created the need to do something none of the pastoral staff has ever done before: *hire a new Office Administrator*. The decision was made very difficult by having to choose among three very capable and well-qualified applicants. The pastoral staff has chosen – and the Deacons have approved – **Julie Tingle** to be Cornerstone's new Office Administrator. Julie is the wife of Fred and the mother of Sarah and Sidney.

Julie will start April 1. She will be trained by Sally throughout the month of April. Her job description will include what Sally was doing plus adding a few more duties and hours a week. Please welcome her and be patient with her as she has a steep learning curve ahead of her. The staff is confident she will do an excellent job.

## Church Financial Report

Giving to the General Fund (church budget) during the month of March averaged \$15,908 per week (compared to budget of \$15,038). That was sufficient to generate a year-end surplus for missions! The exact amount will be announced sometime after all the books are closed after the end of the fiscal year (March 31).

*God is good! God is faithful! Thank you for your support of the Lord's work at Cornerstone.*

**Save the Date!**  
**National Day of Prayer**  
**Worship and Prayer**  
**Thursday, May 5**  
**6:30 in the Sanctuary**  
**Light Refreshments Provided**

## Pastor Drew's Webb of Worship

On the night before Easter Sunday we sat down as a family to watch a telling of *The Passion*. The version that we watched was a bit different. It had a list of secular musical artists that many of you would recognize. My presumption had

been that these famous names would literally be telling the story of Christ's passion in song. Something akin to a musical. Well, it was a musical of sorts, just not in the manner I expected.

This event was a semi-live event that Fox TV had planned. It incorporated many moments of live television all throughout the city of New Orleans, as well as some previously filmed dramatic pieces, and a procession of a 20-foot illuminated cross through the streets of New Orleans. From a strictly technical perspective I was quite impressed with the whole thing. Pulling off an event where an orchestra and band are playing live in one location while the singers hear it in a completely different location AND sing along to the music is really quite impressive to me, not to mention then airing it on national television, but that's not what this newsletter article is about!

The telling of Christ's passion was done through the use of secular pop songs. It took songs that could potentially speak to that particular moment and used the songs to help push the dialogue and story forward. Some moments were more compelling than others, but at the end of the show there is a scene where Jesus, portrayed by Prince Royce, sings the Katy Perry song, *Unconditionally*.

Jesus has just been resurrected and He is addressing the people. His followers, most notably Peter, had turned their backs on

Him at this desperate hour. In spite of the actions of His followers (and by implication, us) Jesus declares that He will still love them. As the lyrics are sung it became apparent that those in attendance at this event were being moved by the power of those words - "Unconditional, unconditionally, I will love you unconditionally. There is no fear now; let go and just be free. I will love you unconditionally."

It felt somewhat odd to me that while I was watching this show about Christ's suffering it was a "secular" song that was pointing towards Christ and moving my heart towards Him. It reminded me of a statement that bears repeating, "all truth is God's truth." Theologians have been touting this perspective on truth for nearly 2 millennia! Such theological greats as Augustine and Calvin have espoused this view on truth being found in the secular realm. To proclaim that truth is God's is to say that there is objective truth and that truth can only be found in God. The world may, unknowingly, search for it, but it cannot find truth apart from God. The other side of this coin is that morals and ethics all speak to God and His code that is written on human nature. Indeed, a secular humanist perspective can not, when drawn out to its logical conclusions, arrive at the notion of goodness and morality.

In reading up more on this topic I came across a theological blog post that spoke specifically to the idea that all truth is God's truth. In this post the blogger, Keith Mathison, stated: "...if something is true, it is because it is something that has been revealed by God, or because it is an accurate understanding of the nature of something created by God, or because it is an accurate description of something decreed by God." Unconditional love is something that 1. God reveals as He loves each of us in spite of our own sin (Romans 5.8), and 2. we are commanded to

love as God loves (John 13.34). The words of this song connect in a generation left empty by broken down love that is highly conditional. This is not the love that God speaks of, and which this song also speaks of. There is something in each of us that yearns for that unconditional love that is found only in Christ's embrace.

Quite often the world gets it wrong espousing various qualities that are less than Christian, to say the least. Sometimes, though, the world is reaching, grasping, attempting to communicate and experience something that is deeper than the typical shallow fare that you typically hear in most pop music. Such is the case with Katy Perry's song *Unconditionally*. The first time I heard it I instantly began to wonder what was going on in her heart, was she making a return back to the God that she knew years ago? I can't really speak to that, but I am intrigued by some of the quasi-spiritual content she has put out over the last few years. There definitely seems to be some sort of searching going on in her heart. Please note that I do not endorse all of her music and I own none of it!

As I close I encourage you to take note of the truth and the godly qualities that you see demonstrated and perpetuated in the music, arts, and even television that you consume. I am NOT talking about baptizing some pagan hedonistic movie (that you have no business watching as a Christian) in theology, but rather taking note of the characteristics that speak to God's truth and the qualities that are consistent with what a Christian is and should be. Then as you take note of these things, those with children would do well to have conversations about such qualities that speak to God and His character. Allow yourself to see God's working and grace in places that you may not have expected to see it.



## Hideyo's Hopes & Happenings: "Do you believe?...Do you **OBEY**?"

Recently, I've been acting a little "childish...." which is to say that some of you may have had the privilege or punishment (depending on your enjoyment level) of seeing me act a little "childish" during my Palm Sunday children's sermon. I acted-out and told the story of Palm Sunday and Jesus' "Triumphal Entry" during Holy Week, over 2,000 years ago, from the personified perspective of the young foal donkey colt, which Jesus rode into Jerusalem. However, Pastor Scott brought a much more adult and less celebratory message about the fact that Palm Sunday Has Passed...

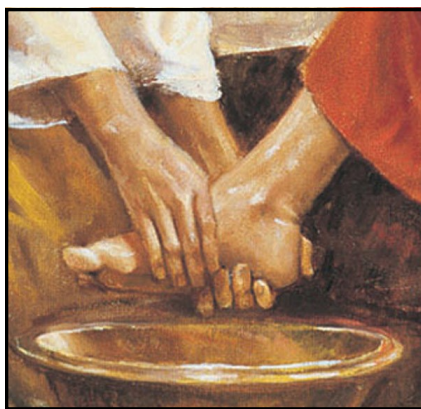
This got me thinking, and should of got us all thinking, about how we are all going to follow Jesus Christ, now that the Truth and Teaching of Jesus is not "socially acceptable." This fact and thinking lead me to remember my favorite class day of "Ancient Biblical Greek" during my time at Baylor's George W. Truett Theological Seminary. That day, in Greek class, we looked at the most famous verse of biblical scripture = John 3:16... and its "context of John chapter three, because "text" taken out of "context" only leaves you with a "con"... I'll let that marinade for a while... LOL ... Well, as you all know John 3:16 says:

*"16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that **whoever believes** in him should not perish but have eternal life." [English Standard Version (ESV)]*

However, most of us either forget or neglect to read on and discover that according to the Apostle John, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of his gospel, the opposite of "**belief**" is not "disbelief," rather the opposite of "belief," according to John Ch. 3, is "**disobedience**." Just read the end of John Ch. 3, particularly the last verse, vs. 36, of John 3:31-36:

*"31 He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. 32 He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. 33 Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. 34 For he whom God*

*has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. 35 The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. 36 **Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.**" (ESV)*



Add this together to Jesus' final teaching words and commandments to his disciples during the "last supper" and "foot washing" in John's 13<sup>th</sup> Ch, and particularly Jesus' "New Commandment," John 13:3-5, 12-17, 34-36:

*3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ... 12 When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. 16 Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 If*

*you know these things, **blessed are you if you do them.** ... 34 **A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.**" (ESV)*

**AND... Jesus also said, in John 14:15, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."**

Therefore, the only thing left is to ask ourselves: Do we really "**love & believe in** the Son," and thus, "Do we really **OBEY** the Son?" Are you, I, we regularly and lovingly serving Christ, His Kingdom, His Body the church? A church of our size, with three separate services, adult, youth, children, and baby ministries, has lots of holes to fill... and according to Jesus, serving extends past the teacher(s) to everyone who wishes to call themselves a disciple and follower of Jesus Christ... **Do you believe/OBEY?**

### **Remaining S.O.L.I.D. Youth Schedule:**

- Youth Fundraiser Luncheon**  
= Luncheon after both 8:15am & 10:45am Sun. services = **April 3, 2016 @ R.O.C.K. center**
- Dare 2 Share** = Chicago, IL: Evangelism Retreat = **April 8-9, 2016 = \$80 per youth [Only 15 total Tickets/Attendees]**
- World Changers** = Mission Trip to Indianapolis, IN = **June 11-17, 2016 = \$ Price TBD by Number of Attendees**
- Student Life Camp** = Church Rec. Summer Camp: Lynchburg, VA **July 5-9, 2016 = \$ Price TBD by Number of Attendees**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>COMING: May 1 SERVE Fest</b>	<b>2016</b>				<b>1</b> Annual Reports due	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 7:45-8:10 am Prayer AM Communion (DW) Pastor Mark 10:30 am & 12:30 pm SOLID Youth Fundraiser/ ROCK 2:30 pm Financial Peace Univ. @DeWitt CBC Office 7:00-8:30 pm SOLID Jr. & Sr. High @DeWitt CBC Office	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8:45-10:45 am MOPS	<b>6</b> 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00-8:30 pm SOLID Jr. & Sr. High Youth	<b>7</b> NOON Ladies Lunch at Pizza Ranch, Bettendorf 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK 7:00 pm Missions Meeting	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Nurse Office Open 2:30 pm Financial Peace Univ. @DeWitt CBC Office 3:00-5:00 pm Card Shower Retirement Rec/Sally H./ROCK 7:00-8:30 pm SOLID Jr. & Sr. High @DeWitt CBC Office	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:30 pm Associate Pastor Search Team	<b>13</b> 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00-8:30 pm SOLID Jr. & Sr. High Youth	<b>14</b> 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 7:30 am Trustee Meeting
<b>17</b> 7:45-8:10 am Prayer (DW) Pastor Mark 2:30 pm Financial Peace Univ. @DeWitt CBC Office 7:00-8:30 pm SOLID Jr. & Sr. High @DeWitt CBC Office	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 8:45-10:45 am MOPS 11:30 am Young at Heart Soup lunch & Service Project	<b>20</b> 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00-8:30 pm SOLID Jr. & Sr. High Youth	<b>21</b> 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK	<b>22</b> April 22 & 23 Deacon	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Nurse Office Open 2:30 pm Financial Peace Univ. @DeWitt CBC Office 5:00 pm Worship & Comm./ Potluck/Annual Meeting in ROCK	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> May newsletter articles due	<b>27</b> 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00-8:30 pm SOLID Jr. & Sr. High Youth	<b>28</b> 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK	<b>29</b> 5:30 pm Men's Ministry Event/Heart Shot Ministries Donahue	<b>30</b>



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2016 Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</b>						
<b>3</b> Dan Holtz Melissa Holtz	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Angelique Graham	<b>7</b> John Arter	<b>8</b> Katie Gainer	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Mike Becraft Everett Christenson David Nuss Sheri Whitford	<b>11</b> Sharon Hohnacki Dawnetta Van Ee	<b>12</b> Clint Burklow Kris Proctor Dick & Lee Swanson	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Jake Hayward Matthew Simmons	<b>15</b> Samson Ranfeld Nora Salowitz Dylan Wheeler	<b>16</b> Tammy Bullock
<b>17</b> Cassidy Cook Kayla Christenson	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Sally Howell Barbara Montgomery	<b>20</b> George Rae Arndt	<b>21</b> Nicole Arndt	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Melissa Chapman
<b>24</b> Larry Croty Jessica Hasenmiller Betsy Loehr	<b>25</b> Alexander Owens	<b>26</b> Judith Holt	<b>27</b> Alexander Hasenmiller Neal Keppy Braden Kuster	<b>28</b> Christy Runge	<b>29</b> Jacob Bailey Grace Blustrom Brittany Bullock Jackson Trotter	<b>30</b> Adalyn Edmark

## From Sandy Nass, Director of Children's Ministries

AWANA finished up at the beginning of March; thank you again to all who helped throughout the year. The Sparks and Cubbies learned lots of new verses and had great Bible teaching every Wednesday night. Our 3rd-6th graders participated in Bible studies rather than AWANA, studying the book of Matthew (3rd/4th grades) and the book of Romans (5th/6th grades), and while there are some changes/adjustments to be made, I was so excited to see about thirty 5th and 6th graders (about half of which were boys and about half of which were non-churched kids), make their way across the ROCK stage on awards night. Pray those seeds that were planted will flourish and grow in the lives of these kids who studied God's Word for the very first time. A special 'thank you' goes out to Melissa Holtz our AWANA Commander for these past two years; Melissa has stepped out of the Commander role and has

passed it on to Kevin and Sandy Stanley. We're looking forward to what God will continue to do in this ministry as we move forward!

Has anyone noticed the recent explosion in our nurseries (at both campuses!) over these past several months? God continues to bless Cornerstone with kids! Thank you to all our nursery workers who care for these little ones each week so their parents have the opportunity to worship.

Mark your calendars; VBS is June 6-10. Cornerstone sees 300-400 kids walk through our doors each day that week; it's a HUGE outreach to the kids of our community. Please start praying now for souls to be saved for the glory of God!

The follow up we do with kids who express spiritual interest during the week of VBS (last year about 150 kids) is vital. I have a great resource that

walks kids through what it means to be a Christian, and am looking for someone who has a heart for kids and wants to get involved in Cornerstone's vision to coordinate a follow up Bible study that will meet once a week for four weeks after VBS. Please call me at (563)676-9881, or email me: [sandra\\_nass@hotmail.com](mailto:sandra_nass@hotmail.com) for more details!

During the month of April, please join me in praying Cornerstone's Kids will never be without godly friends and role models, will make discerning choices about friends and their lifestyles - caring more about inward beauty than outward appearance and achievement (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, 1 Samuel 16:7, 20:42).

May the LORD bless us as we raise the next generation to treasure Him above ALL!

## Pine Lake Summer Camps, 32203 230th Street, Eldora, IA

Summer is right around the corner—Time to start thinking about camp!

Use church pass code of "2016CORNER" when registering online at [PineLakeCamps.org](http://PineLakeCamps.org) \*All registrations postmarked on or before May 1<sup>st</sup> will receive a \$25 discount.

Date	Camp Name
• June 12-17	Juniors 1 (Grades 3-5)
• June 19-24	Teens (Grades 6-8)
• June 26-July 1	High Teens (Grades 9-12)
• July 6-9	Primary Camp (Grades 1-2)
• July 10-15	Young Teens (Grades 5-7)
• July 17-22	Juniors 2 (Grades 3-5)

### FAMILY WEEKENDS:

- Memorial Day Family Camp May 27-30
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Family Camp July 1-4

### SPECIAL DAY:

- "Ringing In 60 Years" July 16<sup>th</sup> The bell is ringing and it's time to gather at camp. We want to reconnect with you and share together in the history of God's work at Pine Lake. Let's celebrate 60 years of God's faithful ministry at Pine Lake and get excited for the future. NOONish-2:00 pm -- Join us for a Pine Lake grill-out, Anniversary Cake and short program. FREE Time from 3:00-5:00 pm (the pool & boating area will be open until 5:00 pm) Register at [PineLakeCamps.org/Anniversary](http://PineLakeCamps.org/Anniversary)



Pine Lake Camp brochures are available in the church office.



## Sonshine Community Ministries, by Jan Kloss



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Sue Morris and I took 3 of our teens bowling in March at Bowl-Mor. (home of our annual Bowl-A-Thon) It was girls against boys (3 against 2). No records were broken (high score was under 100), but we sure had fun and a lot of laughs. Afterward we went to a Chinese Buffet. While the girls were on board, the boys weren't so sure. Ethan was happy they had chicken and it was fun watching Zach navigate options and no one went home hungry. Sue & I were able to talk to the teens about the importance of an education, but more importantly, the need for them to trust and follow the LORD. We need to be creative in how we share the gospel—sometimes it's a game of bowling and a table of good food.

I decided rather last minute to have an Easter Egg Hunt at Lot 13 on Friday the 18th. I enlisted the help of teens and Heather to fill 250 plastic eggs. I invited kids and their family to come for a "light brunch" and the Easter story and I was very pleased with the good turnout of both kids and parents. Everyone enjoyed donuts, sausage dogs, breakfast burritos, coffee, juice and milk. Then I sat the kids down and told them the Easter story, using the Resurrection Eggs. I loved that not only did the kids listen well, but the parents did as well. What a great way to explain the Christian's most Holy Season. Then it was off to the hunt and everyone got lots of eggs and had fun. I had filled 12 of the eggs with numbers only for special prizes. I asked the kids if they received more than one prize egg to give the extra one to someone who did not have a prize egg. I was so proud that the kids were so quick and willing to share the prize eggs. In the end every child received a prize. And they also heard again the reason for the season.

On Good Friday I offered rides for the Good Friday Service at St. Ann's. After passing out invites for our regular service, but I thought maybe someone would like to attend the Good Friday Service. Kia, Jessiah &

Ashley responded so I picked them up. That was when Kia told me that she would be leaving for Arkansas THAT NIGHT, right after I brought her home from the service. She usually goes to her dad's in Arkansas in the summer, but her mom was taking her Friday night. Kia has been attending church and Youth Group regularly and she and I were really building a relationship. It saddens me so much that this has happened (Kia was not happy about it either). She had been involved in Cheer Leading, she just joined track, her grades were good and Mr. Hawley has said that Kia was doing very well in school. Life is not always easy for these kids and I don't understand all the reasons, but I will trust God to keep her in His care. Kia has a good foundation. The seeds have been planted and watered over the years. He has a perfect plan for her. I will keep in touch with her while she is in Arkansas and hopefully she will come back for the fall.

On Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, I am going to have the kids make May Baskets and hand them out to our neighbors in the Mobile Home Park. I can't wait!

### Prayer Requests:

- Kia
- More kids to enter the program
- Whole families to come to church and hear the gospel
- Pray for energy and health for me and creative ideas to keep the kids connected

### Needs:

- Birthday toys for boys and girls; ages 4-15
- "Sorry" board game; an old school one. We have worn out ours.
- "Apples to Apples Game" (not the Jr. one)

Thank you to everyone who prays for Sonshine, volunteers and supports us.

## Associate Pastor

## Search Update

Thank you so much for your continued prayers! The team is excited about where we are in the process and are hoping to have some news to share regarding a possible candidate very soon!

Please continue to be in prayer for the process, the team, and that God's hand would be evident throughout the search!

## SERVE Fest schedule:

Please join the CBC family as we serve our communities. Our schedule for Sunday, May 1:

- **8:30- 9:15 a.m. shortened worship services in Eldridge & DeWitt**
- **9:30-11:45 a.m.- Serve in the community**
- **Noon - Meet back at Cornerstone Eldridge for lunch**

## In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the following families who have lost loved ones this past month:

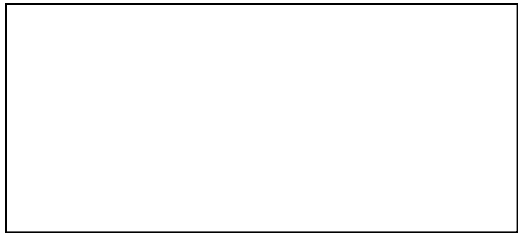
- John Arter and his family in the loss of his sister
- Pinky Stalnaker and her family in the loss of her sister-in-law
- Jan Lindstrom and her family in the loss of her mother



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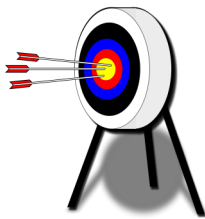
## Men's Ministry Event

On April 29th at 5:30 men's ministry will be holding an event at Heart Shot Ministries base camp. We will have a chance to go through their archery program and then participate in a walking archery shoot. Cookout and bonfire to follow archery event.

*What do you need to bring?* a chair for the bonfire, a dish to share, your drink, archery equipment if you want to bring it.

*What will be provided?* meat to grill, archery equipment, plates, napkins, condiments and cups.

If you love the outdoors and the Lord, this will be the event for you.



## Sally's Retirement Party

Please join us! Let's shower Sally Howell with lots of love and best wishes at her **Card Shower Retirement Reception on Sunday, April 10 from 3-5 pm at Cornerstone-Eldridge in the ROCK Center.**

Light refreshments and cake will be served.

Please bring a card for Sally and include a favorite memory and/or scripture verse for her to open and be blessed during the first few weeks of her retirement.

### Come and join us on Sunday Mornings!

	CBC Eldridge	CBC DeWitt (DeWitt High School Media Center)
Family Sunday		
School Opportunities	9:45 am	8:45 am
Worship Service	8:15 & 10:45 am	10:00 am