



Cornerstone Connection

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 2

AUGUST 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 1 9:30-1:30 Maple Ridge Outreach (pg 10)
- Aug 2 12:30 pm All Church Picnic @ Scott County Park
- Aug 4 7-8:15 pm DeWitt Ladies Bible Study
- Aug 6 Noon Ladies Lunch at Granite City, Dav.
- Aug 7 7 pm Young at Heart Sing-along with Kaczinski's w/ ice cream social
- Aug 8 am Men's conclave & BOD squad remove roof in Eldridge; 1-3 pm Wedding Reception Open House for Steve & Abby McElhiney
- Aug 9 11 am & 12:15 pm Moldova Taco Dinner; Nurse Office Open
- Aug 10 2-7 pm CBC Blood Drive
- Aug 15 7:30 am Trustees
- Aug 16 AM Pastor Hideyo preaching; 3-5 pm Bynum Open House in ROCK
- Aug 19 5-6:30 pm AWANA Registration (pg 10)
- Aug 20 7 pm Missions
- Aug 23 Nurse Office Open; 4 pm Outdoor Baptism @ Hansel's Pool
- Aug 26 8:30 pm Deacons
- Aug 30 Adult ABF's combined to hear Chad Entinger (Exec. Director Deaf Missions)
- Sept 1 8:45-10:45 am MOPS begins
- Sept 6 SERVEFest

Pastor Scott's Perspective - "Full of Grace and Truth"

(This comes from my heart – but to give full credit – also inspired by a message by Pete Briscoe.)

How long will it be until a young adult raised in our church “comes out” as gay and/or wants to marry someone of the same sex? How long until one of our church members is asked by a son or daughter to give a parental blessing at their same-sex wedding? How long before a gay or lesbian couple requests baptism and/or church membership?

Already there are youth and college students raised in our church who are questioning – or disagreeing -- or rejecting – Christianity’s teachings about homosexuality and marriage. Those kinds of difficult family conversations will become more and more common moving forward.

And we will not all agree how to handle those situations. Even in cases where we agree on what the Bible teaches about sexuality and marriage – we will disagree with the way some other brothers and sisters in Christ handle these difficult family situations. Or church policies.

A Word From Pastor Mark

Cornerstone DeWitt is a little over 2 months away from celebrating year number 2. We are grateful for all the prayers, servants and encouragement. God has been faithful. Here is a brief update on what is going on.

•We are averaging low 70’s on a weekly basis. A few weeks back we had a great Sunday of 86 with Rich & Connie Coy present.

These issues can become very emotional, personal, volatile – and divisive. Friendships have been ruined and churches have split and young adults have left evangelical churches over these issues. More will in the future.

What will hold us together when Satan will seek to use this as a “wedge issue” to drive us apart?

Grace and Truth

I strongly resist – as contrary to the Gospel – the idea that we have to think alike on every issue to belong to the same church. I strongly resist – as contrary to the Gospel – the idea that in order to worship and fellowship and serve in the same church, we must love Jesus AND think alike on _____. (Fill in the blank: *baptism of the Spirit, tongues, women in leadership, eternal security, predestination, rapture & tribulation, immigration policy, gun control, climate change, age of the earth, common core,*

educational choices for children, vaccinations, politics, etc.) That is saying that our unity is NOT in CHRIST but rather in whatever fills in the blank. That is contrary to the Gospel which teaches that just as salvation is in Christ alone so also our unity as members of his body is in Christ alone. **If you love Jesus, you are welcome at Cornerstone. Period.** *And even if you don't love Jesus – yet – come and hang out with us and we think you eventually will.*

But this issue (homosexuality, gay marriage, gender, etc.) will test that unity eventually. Already some families are feeling the strain. What will hold us together when Satan will seek to use this as a “wedge issue” to drive us apart?

Grace and Truth. *Grace and truth will hold us together. Full of grace and full of truth just as Jesus was full of grace and truth in manifesting the glory of the Father in his humanity.*

Some of you tend to be more grace-givers than truth-tellers. *(continued on Page 2)*

news is we still get to worship with them off and on.

•The new office has been a great blessing. People are recognizing where we are located which is important. It lets the community know that we are here to stay and not just a Sunday only church.

(continued on Page 3)

Pastor Scott's Perspective (continued)

Others of you lean more toward being truth-tellers rather than grace-givers. Some of you are strong in truth but weak in grace. Others of you strong in grace but weak in truth. Others of you are better-balanced with both.

Even if we are not all well-balanced individually, it is important that as a church body we are full of grace and full of truth – and that grace-givers learn to appreciate truth-tellers and vice-versa.

Practically speaking, what does it mean for us all to be full of grace and full of truth as we relate to one another concerning this and other issues?

Putting “grace-giving” into practice means “stop judging one another.” A word of clarification:

contrary to the moral relativism of today's culture, “do not judge one another” does NOT mean that there is no such thing as right or wrong or truth or error. Upholding God's moral standards or clearly-revealed truth is NOT being “judgmental.” To be full of grace does NOT mean accepting all beliefs as equally valid and all behavioral choices as equally moral.

To be full of grace DOES mean to show loving acceptance and kindness to people who disagree with you or make choices you disapprove of or even treat you with hostility. “Do not judge one another” does mean do not regard yourself as superior to someone who thinks or behaves differently than you do on this or any other issue. It DOES mean do not pass judgment on whether or not someone is truly a Christian based on their position on this or any other issue. It does mean do not pass judgment on someone who handles a difficult family situation differently than you would when you don't know all the facts, can't see inside their heart, and just don't have what it takes to be the righteous Judge of all the earth.

“Stop judging one another” is a two-edged sword. Truth-tellers are prone to judge grace-givers as “compromisers” or “liberals” or “don't take the Bible seriously.” Grace-givers are prone to judge truth-tellers as “bigots” or “judgmental” or “mean-spirited.” *It is hypocritical to judge someone else for being too judgmental, isn't it?*

Of course, there are people today who reject unpopular biblical truth on controversial issues. That is not grace – that is just un-truth or error. *And there are some people who really are unkind and judgmental and lacking in compassion. That is not being full of truth – that is just being void of love.* But some grace-givers really do believe the same biblical truths as you do – but they relate to people chiefly according to grace. *And some truth-tellers really do treat individuals with kindness and compassion – but in arguing for biblical truth, they are firm and forceful and unyielding.*

Putting grace-giving into practice means “stop judging one another” and instead, extend kindness to one another – even when you disagree. What does it mean to put “truth-telling” into practice?

If there is to be unity in a spiritually dynamic body that is strong in the Scriptures, there must be unity on some basic biblical truths that are clearly taught and nearly-universally agreed upon as sound doctrine.

Pertaining to the topic at hand, those truths include the following: **God created humans male and female; God ordained marriage as the union of a man and a woman; the gift of unitive and procreative sexual intercourse is to be enjoyed within the context of the marriage of a man and a woman; all sexual activity outside the marriage of a man and a woman is contrary to God's design**

and will and is therefore sinful.

These are NOT disputable matters. Until recently among some in the West, these truths have been taught in all churches of all denominations at all times and all places for 2000 years. *The Bible is still clear on these matters. Denying these basic truths will create division and disunity in churches, as is the case in some denominations today.*

Jesus is The Truth. To be full of truth requires us to accept his words and teachings as truth – in this and all other matters. *The teaching of Jesus on marriage is clear (Matthew 19:4-6).*

If being full of grace means “stop judging one another,” then being full of truth means “stop following blind guides – stop listening to people who contradict Jesus – stop believing and passing along ideas that are contrary to the words of Jesus and the New Testament.”

Full of grace and full of truth. In our conversations. In our relationships. In our use of social media. *When do we speak the truth? When do we hold our tongues and show kindness and respect and loving acceptance? How do we speak the truth in love? Are the words I'm about to speak – or write – or post – full of both grace and truth? When do we confront sin – and when do we pray and allow the Holy Spirit to do His work apart from us? What does grace look like in this particular situation? How does Jesus want to manifest his grace and truth in and through me in this situation?*

We won't all think alike on every matter. We won't all speak or behave the same way in every situation. *But if we all seek to live full of Christ – if we all seek to be full of grace and full of truth as Jesus was – and is – then we will be able to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace – even in these contentious times in which we live.*

August
Food Pantry
needs are
side dishes, canned or
boxes potatoes,
pork & beans and
miscellaneous beans.
Please place items on
stand next to
Nursery.
Thank you!

A Word From Pastor Mark *(continued)*

- The women’s Bible study is meeting on Tuesday in the office and averaging 11 women. The study seems to be very encouraging and motivating.
- Dan, our custodian and friend, is taking a full-time position working days so he will no longer be working with us on Sundays. Since we started the church Dan has taken only one day off. He even showed up on a Sunday right after Carpal tunnel surgery! He felt committed to what we are doing. Though we are sad he will not be there weekly, he plans on coming to Cornerstone off and on. He is very excited to serve during SERVE Fest.
- DeWitt and the surrounding communities have really opened themselves up for several new SERVE Fest projects on Sunday, Sept 6th. We have at least four big projects already secured. We will be serving Central High School, DeWitt Parks & Recs, Camanche Elementary school and Country Estates.

This coming Sunday I have the privilege of preaching in Eldridge and DeWitt. I look forward to seeing you there.



Outdoor Baptism @

The Hansel’s on Sunday,

August 23rd at 4 pm

We look forward to being one church in one location on the 23rd to witness baptisms and those joining the church. If you are interested in being baptized and/or join the church and have taken the kid’s baptism class or CLASS 101 please let Pastor Mark know your interest soon. zev4cbc@gmail.com It is going to be a great night!

S.E.R.V.E. Fest is Sunday, September 6

Please join the CBC family on Sunday, Sept. 6th in making an impact in our communities. It is when we step out of the church that we have a greater opportunity to show Jesus’ love to the community. Leaders of businesses or schools or non-profits are very thankful for your volunteering.

On a given SERVE Fest Sunday we give away over 500+ hours of volunteer hours. If you have yet to participate, please take a step and join us. You have gifts that translate well into the community.

When you serve outside the church remember you are serving Jesus.

Our Schedule will look like this:

8:30- 9:15 a.m. shortened worship services in Eldridge & DeWitt. We recommend you worship closest to the service project so the teams can start on time. Serving in Eldridge-Worship @ CBC Eldridge. Serving in DeWitt-Worship @ DeWitt campus.

9:30-11:30 a.m.- Serve in the community

11:45 a.m.- Meet back at Cornerstone Eldridge for pizza

Weekend To Remember Conference, by Teresa Bivens

“Great Marriages Don’t Just Happen” is a catch phrase that Family Life is using for their upcoming fall “Weekend to Remember” marriage conferences. After attending three conferences, we can’t say enough about how valuable they are! No matter if your marriage is young or old, strong or struggling, this conference is for you! The next local conference will be held in Cedar Rapids from November 6-8. We’ve attended this one twice and hope that you’ll consider signing up.

If you want to register, please contact one of us or go to their website - familylife.com/weekendtoremember. Use “CornerstoneBaptist” (one word) as the code to receive a discount. If the cost is an issue, let us know; we may have access to a scholarship. Scott & Teresa Bivens – bivstikk@netins.net.

CBC T-Shirts, by Tammy Bullock

Do you still need to get your custom SERVE Fest or Cornerstone T-Shirts? Order forms are available in the CBC Eldridge Church office. August 16th is our deadline for placing this order to receive them in time for Fall SERVE Fest.

Pastor Drew's Webb of Worship

We are all well aware of the racism that continues to exist in our own land, well after the era of racism and slavery supposedly ended. Unfortunately, we have a long ways to go before we can say that racism is dead in our land. This is in part due to the fact that we still have a tendency to be scared of anything that is different from us, whether in the color of skin or in the cultural actions that we don't understand and believe are inferior to our own.

The interesting thing is that this is nothing new, racism has been around for millennia! We aren't necessarily experiencing anything special per se, except that one would think that after thousands of years of humanity's existence we would be well past this scourge on humanity. Apparently the smarter and more advanced we get, the less our capacity to live in unity with others who may be different from us; the less our capacity to agree to disagree.

When I look at the Word and consider the New Testament I'm not usually drawn to the issues of race relations gone bad, but I can't help but think about how progressive the gospel truly was/is. We are all aware of the Good Samaritan and the Jewish traveler whom he helped, two men who normally would have looked down upon each other. These 2 groups of people would not even find themselves in the same room together, let alone reach out in a sacrificial manner to help the other.

In Acts 10 Peter receives a vision where a sheet with all kinds of animals, including those that are considered unclean, are dropped down from heaven - three times. As Peter is instructed to eat of these unclean animals he is perplexed as to what it could possibly mean, he struggled to grasp the fact that the Gospel was going forth from his own Jewish people. Previously the Gospel had been spread to the Jews (in Acts 2) and then the loathed Samaritans (in Acts 8), but now it was to go out to the Gentiles. People whom the Jews could not have fathomed associating with were now partaking in the glories of the risen Christ, the abundant life that He offered, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel had crossed boundaries that the culture was reticent to cross. In Ephesians 3.6 Paul refers to the mystery of the Gospel. He affirms that "Gentiles are now fellow heirs...members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel." Gentiles and Jews, 2 sets of people who did not get along, are united together as equal heirs in Christ Jesus. They are declared brother and sister in Christ, making no distinction between race, ethnicity, or culture. God brought unity and man brought division and law. As freedom was released and spread through the gospel the Judaizers want to place the law on the gentiles. No doubt the Judaizers thought they were doing a good thing, but the reality is that they were missing what God had done in

the incarnation, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Through Him all peoples of the world could be reconciled to God and made heirs together. At the foot of the cross all are considered equal.

May we not do as the Judaizers did and force people to look like us, act like us, and even believe exactly like us. No doubt it is imperative that one believe he is separated from God by his own sin and that he needs Savior. Placing one's trust in Jesus, as the Savior is all that matters. Secondary issues, such as how the world came into existence, eschatological views, or the sign gifts are not important. Even one's political party is not important. Might I also add that we must be careful to distance ourselves from positions on immigration policy that, rightly or wrongly, appear to be racist in nature. That is not to say that all conservative perspectives on this issue are racist, but that there are some out there who have racist motives. Let such not even be named among us.

Faith in the risen Lord's sacrifice unites people all over the world - and those in our own communities who don't look or act like us. The gospel puts an end to racism, but we, like the Judaizers like to put restraints on those who are free and call them to act and be like us. May we as the Church, the bride of Christ, be arbiters of truth, life, and freedom. As the gospel spreads we will see race relations healed and the Church united as one.



Sunday, Aug. 2

12:30 pm @

Scott County Park

Buffalo Bill Shelter

Hamburgers, Hot

Dogs & Drinks

Provided

Bring both a LARGE

Side dish & Dessert

to share! And bring

table service for

your family!

Family News

Congratulations to Ryan Greving and Amber Sadtler on the birth of their daughter, Birdie Blu who was born July 11, weighing 6 lbs, 9 1/2 oz. Grandparents are Ray & Sharon Greving and Jan Kloss.

Our deepest sympathy to Shane Knoche and his family on the loss of his grandfather, Red Knoche.

Hideyo's Hopes & Happenings: S.O.L.I.D. Silence...?

Are we too busy? ... This summer has "flown by." We at S.O.L.I.D. have been slamming & jamming all the faith filled fun we could into our SOLID Summer Schedule. We've certainly tried to keep busy with:

1. Three weeks/3 rounds of "Unity Games," to close out the school year,
2. Pine Lake's youth church camp,
3. Multiple Service Projects preparing for our World Changers' Mission Trip (including painting the Children's Sunday School rooms),
4. A *Theological Theater* movie & discussion night of "John Q",
5. *Pre-Trip Studies* for World Changers,
6. CBC's "Night at the Ballpark" [River Bandits game]
7. The actual *World Changers Mission Trip* to Memphis,
8. July 3rd's "Freedom & Faith Film Fest" [= watching *Selma*: then comparing & contrasting "the Civil Rights Movement" and "the Sexual Revolution of homosexuality"],
9. SOLID DeWitt Youth's "Freedom & Faith Film Fest", and finally
10. *Student Life's church youth camp*, [where I currently find myself writing this newsletter...]

And you can see how this summer could be described as such...

But, that got me thinking back to what my seminary professor and mentor Dr. Creech says, "Business is the enemy of silence..." which basically means when we allow ourselves to become "busy," we are allowing "the world" to drown-out God's peace and communication from our lives.

Think about it, countless times in scripture we find God communicating to His people in "non-loud" ways:

God's appearing to Elijah at the mountain in a "gentle whisper", and not the "great and powerful wind, earthquake or fire..." (1 Kings 19)

God's calling of young Samuel, that was so gentle Samuel thought it was just Eli calling him, while Samuel "lay next to the Ark of the Covenant..." (1 Samuel 3)

Jesus' countless custom of withdrawing early in the morning to be alone in the silence with God (the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John)

And, of course Psalm 46:10's "Be still and know that I am God..."

Which got me wondering...

"Are we keeping our youth *TOO busy?*" OR "Are we allowing life to get *TOO Loud?*" ...

With: select team and school sports of all kinds, scholastic arts programs of both musical and dramatic, college credit school courses, plus afterschool jobs, iPods, iPhones, iTunes, headphones stuck in or on their ears of all shapes and sizes, and we can't forget Netflix, etc.

Are we keeping/allowing our youth to be *too busy...* or the world to be *too loud...*? How can our kids find, have, and enrich a vital & personal relationship with Jesus Christ and know God, who comes to us often in the silence... if we are never "still" & "silent" enough to hear him or even look to Him?

Just a little something for all of us called to and entrusted with the privilege of "raising" and "disciple-ing" the next generation of the Christian Church to think about...

Thank You CBC, from Barb Montgomery

My heart is overwhelmed with the generosity of CBC VBS! Not only do you welcome our kids with open arms and love on them, teach God's Word with passion and conviction, give your time to accommodate many children...you give so generously to Christian Friendliness (CF)/Youthhope! Wow!!

When Nick called and asked if I would teach the Missions Session, I jumped on it. Then when he asked if CF/Youthhope would like the missions donation for the week, I literally cried. What a blessing for you to think of us!

The money will first of all be used for Bibles as most of the families do not have them. The kids earn their Bibles by memorizing verses and they can bring them to weekly small group Bible studies. These Bible not only influence the children, but their families as they read. For example:

One mama brought her son who was headed to Juvenile Detention to say goodbye and for us to pray for him. We gave him a Bible, but he left it at home. While he was gone, mom read it and then came to the center asking how to become a Christian. And she later led her son to the Lord. Our God is amazing!

The rest of the money will go to operations – specifically gas for vehicles and food for the kids! This summer we are attending 12 different VBS' in the QC. Our goal is that all 250 kids attend at least one VBS! Eight of the 22 kids that attended CBC had NEVER been in a church before!

Thanks to all the many volunteers that made this VBS work so smoothly! I know there are so many kids, and each child felt the love of Jesus. Bless you!




Do you still have a baby bottle at your house from the Pregnancy Resources Baby Bottle Campaign? We still have 45 unaccounted for and will still welcome your donation. Please turn them into the church office ASAP! Thank you!

Church Financial Report

Giving to the General Fund (church budget) during the month of July averaged \$12,337.

This is below budget of \$15,038 and less than a year ago. All bills are paid. We are still in good financial condition but do need an increase in weekly giving.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<p>2 7:45-8:10 am Prayer AM Communion AM Pastor Mark 12:30 pm All Church Picnic/ Scott County Park</p>	<p>3 7:30-9:00 pm Women's Basketball/ROCK</p>	<p>4 7:00-8:15 pm DeWitt Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p>5 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's/NW Blvd. 7:00 pm Prayer</p>	<p>6 NOON — Ladies Lunch at Granite City, Davenport 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball/ROCK</p>	<p>7 7:00 pm Everyone Welcome to attend Young at Heart Sing-a-Long with Kaczinski's with Ice Cream Social following</p>	<p>8 9:30 am-1:30 pm Maple Ridge CONVERGE Serve</p> <p>8 AM — Men's Conclave & BOD Squad remove and install new roof at residence in Eldridge 1:00-3:00 pm Steve & Abby McElhiney Wedding Reception Open House,</p>
<p>9 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Nurse Office Open 11:00 am & 12:15 pm Tacos for Moldova</p>	<p>10 2:00-7:00 pm CBC Blood Drive/ROCK 7:30-9:00 pm Women's Basketball/ROCK</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's/NW Blvd. 7:00 pm Prayer</p>	<p>13 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball/ROCK</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 7:30 am Trustee Meeting</p>
<p>16 7:45-8:10 am Prayer AM Pastor Hkleyo 3:00-5:00 pm Jamie & Eddie Bynum Open House/ROCK</p>	<p>17 7:30-9:00 pm Women's Basketball/ROCK</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's/NW Blvd. 5:00-6:30 pm AWANA Registration 7:00 pm Prayer</p>	<p>20 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball/ROCK 7:00 pm Missions</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Nurse Office Open 4:00 pm Outdoor Baptism at Hansel's home</p>	<p>24 7:30-9:00 pm Women's Basketball/ROCK</p>	<p>25 September Newsletter Articles due</p>	<p>26 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's/NW Blvd. 7:00 pm Prayer 8:30 pm Deacons</p>	<p>27 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball/ROCK</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Combined ABFs — Deaf Missions</p>	<p>31 7:30-9:00 pm Women's Basketball/ROCK</p>					<h1>2015</h1>



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Birthdays & Anniversaries						
2 Amanda Schwartzhoff	3 Mae Randel Colby Ridgley	4	5 Parker Birtell Joshua Schwartzhoff Shana Snyder	6 Don & Julie Davis Raub & Amy Olsen	7 Raub Olsen Dan & Melissa Holtz Shane & Amy Knoche	8 Conner Ambrosy Carter Loehr Robin Mays Kayleigh Suiter Jimmy & Stephanie Skadal
9 Jeremiah Graham	10 Dave Allbrook Summer Arndt Abby Gainer Judy Nielsen	11 Amanda Ranfeld Deac & Mary Sue Ryan	12 Eric Perrin	13 Shelly Curry Dennis Dean Pearl Randel	14 Kathy Rollings Brandy Simmons Bob & Carmene Granger Chad & Sara White	15 Luke Simmons
16 Julie Bader Rachelle Neill Cory Waack	17 Abbygail Mess Pastor Scott & Beth Pearson	18 Mike Granger Heather Perrin Aaron & Ashley Edmark	19 Barb Yetter	20 Donna Allbrook Laura Goftry Eimmaline VonMuenster	21 Matt Burklow Neil Chapman Ryleigh Waack	22 Jordyn Olson Leslie Pepping Madison Trotter
23 Graham Orcutt Keith & Shelly Curry Craig & Robin Mays	24 Dustin Henningsen Tressie Senkblie	25 Phyllis Arentson Jewel Hayworth Harold Senkblie Holly Shaw	26 Andy Anderson Craig Ridgley James & Brandy Simmons	27 Lora Nigh Craig & Julie Ridgley	28 Will Burklow	29 Jenna Lenz Sandy Nass Alana Sosnowski Michale So snowski
30	31 Andrea Hernandez Richard Mohr Barry & Holly Shaw					
2015						

Fall Pine Lake

Retreat Info

Women's
Retreat
Sept. 18-20
"Seasons of Life"

Men & Boy's
Retreat
Sept. 25-27
"Man Up God's Way"

Each camp is \$50.
For more information
visit
pinelakecamps.org

From Sandy Nass, Director of Children's Ministries

● Thank you to our summer Sunday school teachers who took on the responsibility of teaching our kids to not only give some of our regular teachers time to rest and be refreshed, but also to teach our kids something outside of our regular curriculum. The 3rd - 8th graders in Eldridge were taught foundational apologetics and the younger kids in DeWitt and the PreK/K class in Eldridge learned about a Ugandan family and what life is like in a 3rd World country through Compassion International's 'Step Into my Shoes' curriculum and video series. I'm hoping we can continue this cycle each year.

● 'Promotion Sunday' is August 30th, the Sunday after school starts. Kids will advance to the next grade level in Sunday School and Jr. Church that day.

Watch for emails and bulletin inserts in the next few weeks

telling you how our nursery/preschool/Jr. Church age kids will be divided, who your kids' Sunday School teachers will be, and what classrooms they'll meet in (Eldridge campus).

● Sunday School, as I've said before, is where the 'meat' of our church discipleship takes place for our kids. Parents if your kids haven't been part of Sunday School in the past, start now! Consistent attendance the elementary years helps your kids to develop a foundational knowledge of who God is while they're most open to it, and it helps them establish relationships with like-minded peers who will encourage them as they navigate the rough waters of Jr. High and High School.

● If you have not completed a 2015-16 registration form for your kids, ages 0 - 6th grade, please do so soon. The forms can be found on the 'Welcome

Tables' at each campus (please put the completed forms in my mail slot in Eldridge and give to Robin Mays in DeWitt), or online at: cornerstone-eldridge.org and cornerstone-dewitt.org, under the 'Ministries' then 'Children' tabs.

●●● We're always in need of nursery workers, Jr. Church teachers, and AWANA leaders (See AWANA article elsewhere in the newsletter for more AWANA information). If you have kids involved in Children's Ministries at Cornerstone, we need you to be involved in serving - it's a form of worship! And isn't our God worth it? Contact me at: sandranass@hotmail.com or (563)676-9881 to get involved.

God bless us as we raise this next generation to know Him!

Help CBC Welcome the Deaf, by Adriana Graham & Dawnetta VanEe

As Cornerstone strives to reach out to the Deaf in our community, we want to share about the Deaf Culture and their language. There are approximately 364 million deaf people worldwide with more than 120 different sign languages. In the US there are 22 million deaf people. Behind English and Spanish, American Sign Language (ASL), is the third most widely-used language in the US. And the Deaf have their own culture including norms, beliefs, values and a language shared by members of the Deaf community.

87% of deaf children are born to hearing families with only 13% of deafness being genetic. Deafness can be caused by illness, medications, head injury, and for adults can be caused by exposure to loud noises or aging. More than 70% of families with children using sign language as their primary language do not/cannot communicate fluently with their children. Despite popular beliefs, it is extremely difficult or impossible for a Deaf

person to read lips as only 30% of all spoken sounds are visible on the lips. Not all hearing losses are the same... some rely on signing and talking and others rely on signing only.

Most Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals who are involved in the Deaf community prefer to be called "Deaf" or "Hard of Hearing" rather than "Hearing Impaired", "Deaf and Dumb" or "Deaf-Mute" as these terms can be offensive. Deaf culture tends to be more direct and blunt than most hearing cultures, and as a result, can sometimes seem rude to hearing people, not intentionally however, that is just a cultural difference.

As our church tries to reach out to the Deaf community, we need to know how to communicate with Deaf people. What would you do if you meet a Deaf person that is visiting our church if you don't know ASL? Here are some Dos and Don'ts:

- **Don't** run and hide! Do not avoid meeting our Deaf friends just because you don't know ASL.
- **Don't** start talking to them expecting them to read your lips.
- **Do** communicate by writing notes with paper and pen. You can also use your cell phone...just type your message and show them your phone.
- **Do** use gestures.
- **Do** use an interpreter.

We have asked Chad Entinger, Executive Director of Deaf Missions in Council Bluffs, to come and share with us during a combined ABF hour on **August 30th**. He will share about the Deaf culture and how we can effectively welcome the Deaf in our church. Also, Adriana Graham and Dawnetta Van Ee will offer six-week ABF classes teaching common sign language phrases and the alphabet. The first class will begin September 13th then offered again November 1st.

Sonshine Community Ministries, by Jan Kloss

Summer programs are ending and a new school year is beginning. Thanks to the generosity of the church body, many of the kids will go back to school with new backpacks and school supplies. It is a joy to watch the kids' faces as we give them their new backpacks filled with all the supplies they will need. We also keep school supplies on hand as needs continue through the school year.

I was surprised recently by a family who used to live in Mt. Joy, as they visited and reconnected with me. They have come to church and we spent some time catching up with each other. They are hoping to find

housing in the Eldridge/Park View area so the kids can participate in Sonshine activities once again. This was like reconnecting with family.

Three children have expressed interest in getting baptized. They have accepted Christ as their savior and understand what baptism means. As they get baptized this will be an opportunity for their parents and grandparents to see God at work in their kids' lives. These kids may be the avenue God uses to "save" the rest of their families.

I was at a meeting recently and heard a very dynamic speaker talk about the importance of reaching

the "unchurched". He stated that in a recent poll listing the top 100 "unchurched" cities in the United States, Davenport, Iowa was listed at number 27. I know Davenport is not Eldridge, but they are our neighbor. Mt. Joy is considered Davenport. I wonder how Eldridge/Park View would fare? DeWitt? We have lots of churches but are there people in the pews? Something to think/pray about.

Thank you for your prayers and support. Please continue to pray for us as we feed people spiritually and physically. Because He Lives.

We Need



The Moldova Team is in need of 500 pairs of reading glasses. In lieu of collecting miscellaneous over-the-counter medicines this year, we would like to focus on collecting reading glasses of all strengths. Check the supply at The Dollar Tree next to Walmart; in the past, they've been \$1 / pair. Please place glasses in the basket by the kitchen. We will be purchasing all the medicines we need in bulk this year, and your monetary donations to help with this are greatly appreciated!! Make checks out to "Cornerstone STEM" with Moldova in the memo. Thank you!



- **Friday, August 7 @ 7 pm** Young at Heart Sing-along with the Kaczinski's at CBC Eldridge with an ice cream social following. Entire church body is welcome and encouraged to join the fun!
- **Monday, August 10** from 2-7 pm, CBC Blood Drive in the ROCK Center. Call Julie Davis 563-940-7039 or register online at www.bloodcenterimpact.org.
- **Tuesday, September 1**, MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) begins at CBC. Volunteers are still needed to help with the children—call Sara White 563-210-6653.
- **Sunday, September 6** is Fall SERVEFest Sunday. More details on page 3.
- **Saturday, October 24**, Brenda Schaefer from the Quad Cities Prayer Center will be coming for a Prayer Summit. More info to come soon.

"Bruchko" Recommended Read, by Gail Welchman

God spoke to a teenaged boy. Against all odds, with no support, this boy followed the call on his heart to go to the jungles of South America and share Christ. When he found the native tribe to which he was led, the greeting was a warning arrow to his thigh. What followed was disease, pain, hardship, parasites, and loneliness. But the desire to share Christ was stronger than his own discomfort or his

life. Within this native culture is something that will give them understanding of the gospel, but what is the key? Follow the story of one man's faithful journey, and the miracles and testimonies of the love of God.

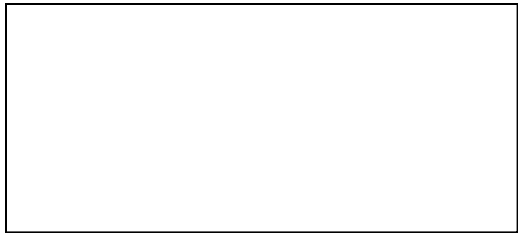
"Bruchko", by Bruce Olson can be found at Barnes & Noble, Christian Book Distributors, or Amazon, in paper or electronic format.



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Aug 1 Maple Ridge Converge Serve

Cornerstone will be joining with World Relief and three other QCA Converge churches – and with some Burmese believers – for a “Party at the Ridge” outreach event at Maple Ridge apartments in Rock Island on **Saturday, August 1 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm.**

- 9:30** – Hand out school supplies to residents.
- 10:30** – Ethnic dancing by Burmese Christians, Worship music with Americans & Burmese, and a brief, translated Gospel message by a Burmese church leader.
- 11:30** – Lunch featuring American and Burmese food
- 12:30** – Water games and other games for all ages

Come for all or part of the event. Meet some Burmese believers. Show God’s love to refugees and other residents of the apartment complex. Bring your children for a cross-cultural experience.

Moved? Changed Churches? by Office Staff

Did you know CBC mails out 280 newsletters every month? That means we regularly use 1,400 sheets of paper, plus ink, seals and postage. If you have moved and/or changed churches and no longer wish to receive our monthly newsletter or periodic mailings, we need your help to update our mailing list and remain good stewards of our resources. Please email your address change or desire to be removed from our list at office4cbc@gmail.com or call 562-285-8080. No action is necessary if you wish to continue receiving our mailings. Thank you!

AWANA Begins Sept. 2, by Melissa Holtz

AWANA is quickly approaching and we need YOU to help! AWANA offers students grades PK-6th a fun opportunity to learn about our Savior, memorize Scripture, build meaningful, influential relationships with adults, and enjoy the fellowship of fellow believers.

Registration for AWANA will be on Wednesday, August 19, from 5-6:30 pm at CBC Eldridge. We welcome your support through prayer and/or volunteering your time. There are opportunities to serve in the nursery, as Bible verse listeners, games leaders, in the kitchen, and as a substitute. Please prayerfully consider if you are being called to help. The fun starts on our first club night, Sept. 2nd. If YOU are willing and able to help please call, text, or email Melissa Holtz at 563-676-9035 or theholtzfamily4@gmail.com. We look forward to a successful, exciting, spirit-filled AWANA Club Year!

Come and join us on Sunday Mornings!

	CBC DeWitt	CBC Eldridge (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