



Cornerstone Connection

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 5

NOVEMBER 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov 1 8:45 am-10:45 am MOPS
- Nov 3 Noon Ladies Luncheon @ Iowa Machine Shed
- Nov 4-6 Family Life Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference in Cedar Rapids
- Nov 5 9:00 am Women's Iron Sharpens Iron Conference
- Nov 6 Daylight Savings Time; AM Communion
- Nov 8 Election Day; 9:00 am Young at Heart Pancake Breakfast
- Nov 10 7:00 pm Dewitt Building Dedication
- Nov 11 6:30 pm The Timothy Initiative Seminar
- Nov 12 8:30 am The Timothy Initiative Seminar; 9:00 am Baby shower for Adriane Hubbard
- Nov 15 8:45-10:45 am MOPS
- Nov 16 8:15 pm Elder Training
- Nov 17 7:00 pm Missions Meeting
- Nov 19 7:30 am Trustee Meeting
- Nov 20 6:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service
- Nov 23 No Evening Church Activities
- Nov 24 Thanksgiving
- Nov 27 1st Sunday of Advent
- Nov 30 8:30 pm Elder Mtg

Pastor Scott's Perspective—*"Waking up on November 9th"*

Many of us will wake up depressed – and distressed – on November 9 – regardless of who wins the Presidential election. We are faced with the worst choice of nominees in my lifetime. I have not always been excited by the choices in previous elections, but this is the first time I find myself in the position of responding to each new revelation with *"I couldn't possibly vote for her"* followed by *"I couldn't possibly vote for him"* – alternating *ad nauseam* as ever more appalling information comes to light. I could easily fill the rest of this article with reasons not to vote for these two candidates, but that would not be very edifying.

What is even more disturbing, however, is that these two were chosen by the American people to run for the highest office in the land. *What does that say about us?*

It probably says that we are in stage 3 of our spiritual, moral and social decline. (If you missed last Sunday's sermon on Romans 1:26-32, call the church office for a CD or go to our website: www.cornerstone-eldridge.org and on the menu scroll down to media-sermons.) We have exchanged the glory of God for

lesser things. God has handed us over to sexual lust and impurity. The sexual revolution has led to sexual brokenness and the degrading of bodies, women and sex itself. Unrestrained heterosexual immorality has provided

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the fertile soil for social acceptance of homosexuality and the LGBTQ agenda. In all matters pertaining to sexuality and marriage and gender, we have exchanged the truth of God for lies, and God has handed our society over to dishonorable and unnatural passions such as homosexual behavior that is contrary to nature and God's design of the human body and purpose for sex. Having removed God from our knowledge base and worldview, we have "progressed" from rejecting

biblical truth to rejecting the facts of nature – with the result that God has handed us over to a debased mind – incapable of making sound moral judgments -- resulting in widespread practice and approval of all manner of unrighteousness. **We are indeed broken from the inside out.**

Our downward progression has taken us from rejecting God and His truth to heterosexual immorality to homosexual immorality and finally (Stage 3) to the moral incapacity of a debased mind. One evidence of this confused state of mind is (as we saw in the video Sunday) is the inability of well-indoctrinated college kids to tell a 5'9" white guy that he is in fact – in reality – NOT a 6'5" Chinese woman.

Having redefined marriage, now we have redefined gender. Look up gender in any dictionary published prior to 2000, and it will simply say as the first definition: *sex*. But now the word gender has been divorced from biological sex, and thus gender (like marriage) can mean anything our culture-shapers want it to mean. Instead of teaching children to be kind to persons who are

(continued on Page 2)

A Word From Pastor Mark

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Why keep investing and serving in the church? The main reason the church is worth investing in is because:

Jesus loves the church and died for her. Following Jesus means we value what He values. Jesus loved the church. Ephesians 5:25 (ESV), "Husbands, love

your wives, as Christ loved the church and **gave himself up** for her..." Jesus Christ, because of His love, chose to die on a cross to bring people into His church. If Jesus sacrificed His life for the Church what value should it have in our lives? It should be very important in my life as well. Am I sacrificing for the church if I just

show up for a worship service in order to meet my needs?

Jesus loved asking people questions. He enjoyed digging into their minds and hearts so that they could understand what matters. Matthew records one of those key questions that Jesus asked the disciples. **It is also a**

(continued on Page 3)



KEEP
CALM
AND
TRUST
JESUS

Pastor Scott's Perspective (continued)

different from them, we teach them there are now 20+ genders with accompanying pronouns. Evidence of a collective debased mind.

Another evidence that we are in Stage 3 – given over to a collective debased mind and moral incapacity? *The American people have chosen Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump to run for the highest office in the land.*

There is no moral high ground in this election. Neither candidate a man or woman of integrity, of godly character, of high moral values, of proven commitment to a biblical Christian ethic. No one who is even remotely qualified to be a spiritual leader to return our nation to living under God's righteous rule. Then again, is that the President's job – or the church's?

So what do we do?

1. **Don't judge one another.** There simply is no case to be made this year for "all Christians should vote for _____." Some Christians will be more appalled by Hillary's sins and will vote for Trump. Some Christians will be more disgusted by Donald's sins and will vote for Clinton. Some will be so dismayed that they cannot in good conscience vote for either. *Vote your conscience and don't judge others for making a different choice.*
2. **Adjust to the new reality.** *We are sojourners and aliens in this world.* Neither the Republican Party nor the Democratic Party is home to us. No party headed by Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton can be counted on to advance the cause of Christ or moral righteousness in this land.
3. **Be the church. Act like the body of Christ.** The Kingdom of God does not advance through political

parties or ungodly political leaders. *The Kingdom of God advances through the church and the preaching of the Gospel.* It's a lot more challenging to fulfill our calling as the light of the world and the salt of the earth and to make disciples than it is to vote for a Presidential candidate to save our nation. Christians should remain engaged in politics – and in political parties – as salt and light – *but we must refrain from identifying the Kingdom of God or cause of Christ with either party.*

4. **Believe in the Gospel as the power of God unto salvation.** Do we believe the Gospel is powerful enough to change lives and even transform families, communities and our nation? The first century church had no help from the Roman Emperor or Senate – in fact they faced hostile opposition and persecution – and yet they "turned the world upside down" by their preaching of the Gospel. Roman sexual morality was every bit as depraved as ours – or more so – and yet their culture was transformed over time by the power of the Gospel.
5. **Teach our children the truth of God – and of nature.** Many high school and college kids already have debased minds that have been thoroughly indoctrinated by cultural lies. They need Christ. They need the Gospel. They need to be renewed in their minds by the Word of God and enlightenment of the Spirit. *But most of our children have not yet been so corrupted. But they are vulnerable. They too will be exposed to cultural lies. While their hearts and minds are still open to truth, they need to be well grounded in biblical truth. Today more than ever, getting involved in*

children's ministries at church is strategic for the future of our community and nation.

6. **Let us "humble ourselves, pray and seek God's face and turn from OUR wicked ways."** No point in self-righteously pointing fingers of blame at non-Christians for thinking and acting like non-Christians. *Light is stronger than darkness. The only way that darkness can advance against light is if the light is not being the light.* Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. Preach the Gospel. Make disciples. Love sinners. Stand firm in the truth. Pray. Repent. Worship. **Don't despair.** Pray some more. Repent some more. And pray some more. *Stage 3 is not doomsday. It's not over until Christ returns. Stage 3 is just a wake-up call.* This election is a wake-up call to pray and repent and shine forth with the light.
7. **Live an abundant life on November 9.** *God has blessed me with so many good gifts – and they all will still be there on November 9 – no matter who wins the election.* My wife. Our daughters and their families. My extended family. This church. Good friends. Our new home in Eldridge. **And Jesus Christ will still be in my life – and my destiny is secure in him.** *I won't stay depressed for long. I will move forward into the future with the hope that God is still on His throne as Sovereign King of the universe. He has overcome darker days than these with the light of His love and truth shining through His people.* Challenging days lie ahead of us – but we are indwelt by an all-powerful God.

A Word From Pastor Mark *(continued)*

question that He wants you to answer. Matthew 16:13–20 (NLT), “When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘**Who do people say that the Son of Man is?**’”¹⁴ “Well,” they replied, “some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.”¹⁵ Then he asked them, ‘**But who do you say I am?**’”¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”¹⁷ Jesus replied, “You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being.”¹⁸ Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means ‘rock’), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.”

Jesus is saying, nothing will win out against the church. The Islamic State cannot defeat the church, anti-Christian countries cannot defeat the church, evil spirits and Satan Himself will not be able to defeat the church.

For decades Communist China has been persecuting Christians. Christians have met secretly in house churches as they sought to follow Christ. Communist China could not stop the church no matter how aggressive they were and are. “The Church in China is growing at an unprecedented rate. China is on the way to become the largest Christian nation by 2030.”

Because Jesus is committed to the church that is a great reason for us to be. Jesus is just as committed to seeing Cornerstone thrive as He was on day 1. And He is faithful to keep building up the church body through you and me.

Jesus will take us on a great adventure when we obey Him. The road is not always easy but it is always good. So what benefits do we receive from being committed to a church- specifically Cornerstone DeWitt? We are going to briefly look at four this morning.

The first benefit, **Regular church involvement blesses the family- especially the kids.** Unfortunately, more and more people are putting other activities above consistent church attendance. Regular church involvement blesses the family. A study by sociologist John P. Bartkowski and a team of researchers at Mississippi State University examined data from the nationwide Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, which evaluated first-graders. In the study 9,500 parents and 8,800 teachers were interviewed. The study was sponsored by the U.S. De-

partment of Education's National Center for Education Statistics.

The study found that young children of churchgoing parents fare better **behaviorally, emotionally and cognitively than do children of parents who never attend church.** In fact, **the more often the parents attend, the better it is for the kids.** And the study concluded that the children who are doing the best are in households where both parents attend worship services frequently.” If you have been involved in Cornerstone Eldridge or DeWitt you have gained many friendships, social networks with people of all walks of life. You get to know a lot of children, youth and adults- great people of all ages.

A second benefit of regular church involvement. **Regular church involvement helps us reach our spiritual potential.** The church consistently teaches what God's Word says about you. You and I are valuable and were created for great things. Apostle Paul explains our purpose: “For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” (Eph 2:10) You are God's masterpiece. His greatest creation. And He has prepared work for you to do.

What is your spiritual potential or goal? We are to become like Jesus. Romans 8:28–29 (ESV), “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.”

Are you capable on your own to become perfect like Jesus? I know I am not. When we are around other believers in Christ weekly they love, encourage, motivate, support and strengthen us. Those relationships enable us to grow in our faith and to take risks for God. These spiritual family members keep us from getting stagnant in our faith. They join us in serving others. They share a need that we can help them meet. They see our flaws and lovingly help us get them corrected. **Without our brothers and sisters in Christ we will never reach our spiritual potential. We need each other.**

A third benefit of regular church involvement. **Regular church involvement**

helps us when we face difficulties in life.

Life is not fair. We are not exempt from difficulties or tragedies in our lives. Health or financial or marital or family issues often raise their head when we least expect it. So where do you turn when you are in need? Maybe you have a very close knit family that lives in the area that you can turn to. If that is you then you are a rarity. For the majority of us our families are scattered around the country, even the world. My closest family member is 1,800 miles away. My family has personally been helped in some tough times that we did not expect. I know Cornerstone would do the same for you.

God designed the church is to be your spiritual family. The church offers love, compassion, financial assistance, wisdom, counsel, direction, accountability to help you in your times of need. The church is there to help you get through the tough times. And then **God can use you to help others in the church when they are going through tough times.** Apostle Paul understands how we help one other. He writes, “All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort.”⁴ He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.” 2 Corinthians 1:3–4 (NLT)

A fourth benefit: **regular church involvement helps to expand our love for the world.** It is so easy, in the busyness of life, to create a world that dwindles down to the size of your family. We become focused on meeting our family's needs for food, education, recreation, entertainment, socialization and then go to bed and get up and do the same thing all over again.

We forget there is a hurting world that is in need of champions who will care about their plight. Regular church involvement will broaden or expand your love for people you have never met. Your family will be challenged to care about people beyond your everyday sphere of influence. Your family will be invited to help provide funds for food and water and spiritual resources for people in places of the United States and other parts of the world. Your family will be invited to physically go and touch people with the words and love of Jesus.

It is in your best interest to be committed to Cornerstone. Join us in making a difference.

Pastor Drew's Webb of Worship

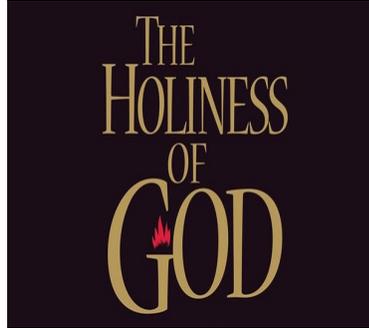
When I think about God the foremost character trait that comes to mind is His holiness. Sure, God is love, truth, justice, peace, and sovereign, but above all these things He is holy. Every part of Him comes from and is driven by this one quality. His love is a holy love. His truth is holy truth, His justice is not exacted merely on a whim, but rather, is a holy justice.

Consider the fact that the words repeated around the throne in heaven are "holy, holy, holy" (Isaiah 6.3 & Revelation 4.8). The place where God revealed Himself to Moses was "holy ground" (Exodus 3.5) and necessitated Moses treading there with caution and taking his shoes off. This holiness is surely something that we can not ignore.

So what does it mean to say that God is holy? It means that He is in a class all by Himself, that He is above all other gods in this world. He is pure and righteous in all His ways. Everything that He does is with the right motive and has a purity of intent that humans are incapable of.

As we look at all God does in Scripture it can sometimes be difficult to reconcile the things we see with our modern understanding of the world. Surely God would not authorize the blood shed of seemingly innocent people, right? Well, we may interpret situation as innocent, but that is because we lack the proper holy perspective that God has. He has such abhorration for sin

and disrespect of His name (read character) that He goes after the sin to root it out. This was much of what we see in the Old Testament and is foundational to the principles presented in the New Testament.



In 2 Samuel 6 we read the account of when David was having the Ark of the Covenant brought back to Jerusalem from its time with the Philistines. David and the people knew that the Ark represented the holiness of God, even the very presence of God. Verse 2 tells us that God is enthroned between the two Cherubim fixed to lid of the Ark.

As the Israelites begin to bring it back (in a manner that was not consistent with the instructions in the Law) the Ark began to tip and Uzzah reached out His hand to steady the Ark. In that moment he showed disregard for God's absolute and perfect holiness and so he was struck down.

Uzzah likely had good intentions but the ark was not to be taken lightly in

its handling. The ark would be housed in the Holy of Holies, and was to be treated with absolute regard, reverence, and awe-full fear. Initially the taking of Uzzah's life made David angry because he had temporarily lost sight of God's holiness. When the soon-to-be King realized the blessing that comes from God's presence and holiness he chose to continue with the project...and he rejoiced for the opportunity to provide a place for God's holy presence to dwell. We learn from this account that even at the moments where we feel like we have the right motives we can still dishonor God and His holiness.

So, how do we apply this to our lives today when we don't have an Ark to transport? It shows God's passion for His name to not be defamed. This means that God desires to be shown righteous in all that He does - His character and attributes bear this out. In response to His holy character being revealed we are to offer our lives in obedience. This means that we eliminate sin from our lives. You will recall that in Leviticus 11.44; 19.2; & 20.7 we find God's initial adjurement to be holy as He is holy. Peter then quotes these verses in 1 Peter 1.16. Now, of course, we will never fully eliminate sin from our lives, nor if we could would we attain to all that God is as His holiness is beyond mere sinlessness. However, as we grow in our walk with God we will become increasingly sensitive to the holiness of God and our own necessity for personal holiness.

November Food

Pantry Needs:

"Hot/Cold

Cereals &

boxed meals

(example:

Hamburger

Helper)"

Please place

donated items

on the cart

outside the

nursery. All

items due by

November

10th.

Thank you.

Church Financial Report

Good News: Our Capital Funds Campaign for the DeWitt church building is off to a great start with cash and pledges totaling \$137,500 toward a goal of \$155,000. Enough cash is in already to pay for all renovations and begin repaying the mortgage at an accelerated rate with a goal of being debt free by June 2017.

Bad News: Giving to the General Fund for the first four weeks of October has averaged \$13,698 per Sunday (compared to budget of \$15,863). **Missions for October has been paid, but currently there are insufficient funds for salaries to be paid out Nov. 3 with only this Sunday's offering (Oct. 30) to cover the need.** We need a strong offering this Sunday to be able to pay salaries next week.

God is faithful, and Cornerstone people are generous. Thank you and God bless you for your faithful support of the Lord's work at Cornerstone.

Family News

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Jeff Olson & family on the loss of Jeff's mother, Carolyn.



Hideyo's Hopes & Happenings: What are you, I, and we "known" for?

Congratulations Cubs' fans! You are going to the World Series! Now, I bet for some of you long suffering Cubs fans, this occurrence is somewhat of a shock for you... I mean it has been 108 years since the Chicago Cubs won the World Series, and over 70 years since the Cubs were even playing in the World Series, and many passionate fans and faithful Christians thought that the Lord Jesus Christ would orchestrate His second coming before the Cubs ever made it back to the World Series. Yes, it is certainly true that you cub fans have "**known**" disappointment. My goodness, even the casual Cubs fan, or just the casual baseball fan, as well as the baseball rival fans and haters of the Chicago Cubs, "**know**" the Cubs by their long and lasting past of losing records and seasons, year after year, decade after decade, and yes, more than a century of losing. Thus, in order to be a true Chicago Cubs fan means to "**know**" about the "Billy-goat curse" and the "Bartman incident." But, that is just what the Cubs have been "**known**" for.

This got me thinking... **What are we Christians known for?** I ask this simple question because, due to the cultural climate lately, we fans of Christ and God's "truth," have been "**known**" and described as many things and words, and not all of them have been "Christian"...

You see Jesus in John 13, and during His last sit-down supper with His disciples distinguished Himself from all other rabbis and teachers of the one true God, by serving and loving His disciples by washing their feet...

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.

Interestingly, Jesus doesn't stop there... With servant leadership and loving as his context, Jesus tells those who have chosen to follow Him and call Him Lord, what they will be **known** for, by giving them a new commandment...

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."

So, **what are we Christians known for?** Because, according to Jesus, we Christians should be known for our "*love for one another*." Therefore, in a day and age when "God's truth is being suppressed," denied and challenged, how well are we, Christians: building-up, affirming, serving, helping, and **LOVING** each other. I mean if we don't do it, I doubt anyone else will.

Yet, "loving one another," does not mean denying "sin" or avoiding God's truth and correction of humanity's confusion and corruption of God's created order. However, "loving" does mean embracing the fact that we all have a "fallen nature," with tendencies to "sin" in various ways, but work together to resist and deny our sinful desires to get back to God's will. Yes, Jesus "loves" us even as sinners, "*God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*" (Rom. 5:8) But, Jesus loves us so much that He doesn't want us to stay that way! That's why Jesus came and died to deliver and free us from our past of loosing to our sinful desires. And everyone knows that winning is made easier when a team works together. So the Christian church needs to start "loving each other:" serving each other and working together. Who knows, maybe we, like the Cubs, can quickly change what we are **known** for... and by **loving**... "*all people will know that [we] are [Jesus'] disciples.*"



Upcoming Youth Events

- ◇ Nov 5th Re-Leaf Fest 10am - 2pm = Wracking leaves for our CBC Saints & Eldridge Community
- ◇ Nov. 20th No DeWitt S.O.L.I.D. b/c of CBC Thanksgiving Service
- ◇ Nov. 23rd No Eldridge S.O.L.I.D. b/c Thanksgiving School Vacation
- ◇ Dec. 3-4 Planet Wisdom Conference & Convention in Twin Cities, MN (\$80 per/youth)

Timothy Initiative Seminar

David Nelms of *The Timothy Initiative* will be presenting a seminar for church leaders and anyone interested in starting evangelistic small groups to build relationships and share the Gospel. The seminar will be held at Pleasant View Baptist Church in Bettendorf Friday evening, Nov. 11 and Saturday morning, Nov. 12.

The cost is free. Light supper will be served at 6:30 Friday evening, and the session will last until 9:00 pm. Light breakfast Saturday morning with session from 8:30 – 10:30 am.

Please let Pastor Scott know if you're planning to attend or RSVP at 563-332-5233 or email: office@pleasantviewbett.com.

Community Thanksgiving Service

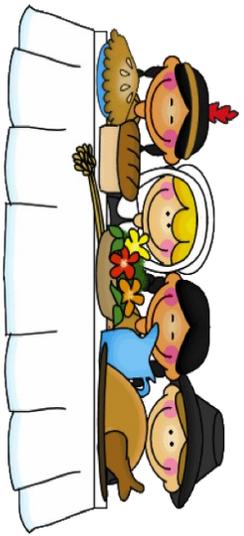
This year's North Scott Community Thanksgiving Service will be at CBC-Eldridge on **Sunday, November 20th at 6:00 pm** with Pastor Steffan preaching.

Join us for a time of worship, congregational sharing, testimonies and giving thanks. There will be a Thanksgiving offering of both food and money. The food will be given to the North Scott Food Pantry. And the money will go to the North Scott Clergy Group fund that is used to give money to CareLink for people in need in our community.

2016 November Activities Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 Daylight Savings Time AM Communion 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Pastor Scott preaching (E) Pastor Mark preaching (DW) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth (DW)		1 8:45-10:45 am MOPS	2 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Prayer (DW) 6:45 pm Bible Study & Prayer (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth (E)	3 9:00 am Women's Bible Study @ QC Prayer Center Noon Ladies Luncheon @ Iowa Machine Shed 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball	4 Family Life Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference in Cedar Rapids (Nov 4-6)	5 9:00 am—5:00 pm Women's Iron Sharpens Iron Conference 10 am -2pm SOLID Jr. & Sr High Re-Leaf Fest
7 6 Daylight Savings Time AM Communion 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Pastor Scott preaching (E) Pastor Mark preaching (DW) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth (DW)		8 Election Day 9:00 am Young @ Heart Pancake Breakfast & Packaging shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study @ home of Laura Engle	9 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Prayer (DW) 6:45 pm Bible Study & Prayer (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth (E)	10 9:00 am Women's Bible Study @ QC Prayer Center 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball 7:00 pm DeWitt Building Dedication (320 2nd St)	11 6:30 pm The Timothy Initiative Seminar @ Pleasant View Baptist Church	12 8:30 am The Timothy Initiative Seminar @ Pleasant View Baptist Church 9:00 am Baby Shower for Adriane Hubbard
14 Nurse office Open Pastor Scott-Predaching (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth (DW)		15 8:45-10:45 am MOPS	16 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Prayer (DW) 6:45 pm Bible Study & Prayer (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth (E) 8:15 pm Elder Training	17 9:00 am Women's Bible Study @ QC Prayer Center 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball 7:00 pm Missions Meeting	18	19 7:30 am Trustee meeting
21 Pastor Scott preaching (E) Pastor Mark preaching (DW) 6:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service @ CBC Eldridge No SOLID Youth (DW)	20 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Pastor Scott preaching (E) Pastor Mark preaching (DW) 6:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service @ CBC Eldridge No SOLID Youth (DW)	22 Newsletter Articles Due	23 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. No Evening Church Activities	24 Happy Thanksgiving	25	26
28 27 1st Sunday of Advent 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Nurse office Open Pastor Scott-Predaching (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth (DW)		29 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study @ home of Laura Engle	30 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's, NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Prayer (DW) 6:45 pm Bible Study & Prayer (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth (E) 8:30 pm Elder Meeting			



November Birthdays & Anniversaries 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Ryan Doty Angela Ingwersen	2 Mark Bader Evelynn Bradley Deac Ryan Jody & Marcia Boddicker	3 Dennis & Mickey Blake Doug & Deb Halstead	4 Sarah Proctor	5 Jacqueline Wilke
6	7 Bob Brabant Ava Perrin	8 Tresha Ambrosy Nick Hansel	9 Frank Ellis Lori Swanson James Wheaton Joe & Megan Roy	10 Hannah Butler Adam Wilke Audrey Wilke Andy & Amanda Ranfeld	11 Marv Van Ee Dave & Donna Allbrook	12 David Engle Carol Hartbecke
13 Howard Keeney	14 Chuck Arnold Louise Collins Emma Stanley Rick & Lori Swanson	15 Franziska Kipper Susie Newsum Lynden Zewenbergen	16	17	18 Judy Dean Jeff Halterman Judi Hodgett	19 Larry Brewer
20 Judy Fiala Jordan Hageman Kim Hawley Todd & Michelle Connor	21 Chad Ingwersen Veronica Kohler James Simmons Becky Waack	22 Tim & Kathy Doty	23	24 	25	26 Emerson Olsen
27 Marcie Bradley Alivia Roy Ryan & Diana Senkbile	28 Connor Nass Andres & Darlene Arana	29 Scott & Teresa Bivens	30 Ingrid Gerth Ryan Reid			

Family Life
Weekend to
Remember Marriage
Conferences

Cedar Rapids:
Nov 4-6

St. Louis:
Nov 18-20

Minneapolis:
Feb 24-26, 2017

Contact Scott or
Teresa Bivens with
questions at
bivstikk@netins.net

Always use
"CornerstoneBaptist"
(one word) as the
group code in order
to get discounts, and
so that we can get
scholarships.

**Honeymoons
aren't just for
newlyweds**

Capital Funds Campaign, by Bucky Percuoco

As of today, the total cash and pledges received for the Dewitt facility is \$137,500 toward our goal of \$155,000. Praise God! This is simply amazing! Thank you for your faithfulness and faith in giving. You should know that sowing your finances into the Kingdom of God has started (or continued) a process that God Himself has promised to fulfill. Galatian 6:7 says "whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." While we don't give to get, God still has a harvest (reaping) for you in mind. This is how He funds His Kingdom and blesses His people. Praise God, more seed is on the way! Paul explains this principle to the Philippians in Philippians 4:15-20.

¹⁵ "Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. ¹⁶ For

even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. ¹⁸ Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. ²⁰ Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen."

Paul speaks of giving and receiving. He said some good thing would result from their giving – fruit would abound to their account. God is keeping account of our giving – He does not forget about the seeds we have sown and neither should we. A farmer does not plant seeds and walk away and forget about them. He sows with expectation. We also should give with the expectation that God will fulfill

His promises. Because of their giving, Paul said, "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." I've said all this to encourage you to hold fast to God's promises in your giving. Tell others whenever God supplies your needs. Tell them why He supplied them. It brings glory to God and encourages others in their faith to give. Paul ends his teaching with "Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen." God gets the glory!

Some members were out of town for Pledge Sunday and have asked if they can still pledge. YES! You can pick up a Pledge Card in the ELD office and place it in the next offering. The pledge period continues to May 21, 2017. Thank you for partnering with Cornerstone to expand the Kingdom in DeWitt!

Sonshine Community Ministries, by Jan Kloss

Well, the 9th Annual "Strike Out for Sonshine" Bowl-a-Thon is a happy memory. Thank you to all who came out for this event and bowled or shopped the Silent Auction or to just hung out. Thank you to everyone who supported this event by sponsoring a bowler. Thank you to everyone who contributed a Silent Auction basket. I thank the 5 Kohl's Associates who came and made it possible for us to receive a nice monetary gift from the department store. Thanks Jason Schwartzhoff for doing a great job at the mic! And, of course, the Sonshine Board members and other friends who helped keep things running so well. Bowl-Mor did a wonderful job also. It is always such an encouragement to have the support of our church families (CBC and North Ridge), our families and friends. Thank you all! And we look forward to

our TENTH Annual Bowl-a-Thon. It will be a great event and we might even have a few celebrities.

Recently we took the Sonshine kids to the Pride of Wapsi Pumpkin Patch for all kinds of fun. This is sponsored by the North Scott & Davenport Rotary. There were Walking Tacos, S'mores, a Hayrack Ride, pumpkins to take home and more. Look for pictures on the Sonshine bulletin board.

Our next big project will be the kids' Christmas Party. You will have the opportunity to purchase an outfit for a child and/or a toy. I'd like to plan something for the teens also. In years past we gave the teens gift cards for Wal-Mart. Please be watching for announcements and opportunities to share with some kids in our community.

Thank you all for your support, prayers and encouragement. In the ministry and in my personal journey. I had my last chemo on Sept. 15th. I had an X-Ray and CT Scan on Oct. 10th that came back clear. I will continue to have tests and so forth to monitor my progress. My hair is growing back (YAY!). I am trusting God to keep me lifted up in all circumstances.



Pastor Steffan's Reckless Obedience

Neither boy wanted to visit grandma, there was never anything to do. There were no children to play with and all that the adults wanted to do was sit around and "visit." The car ride was hours long each way. And if it couldn't be any worse, grandma's house smelled funny.

Sam and Jimmy were alike in so many ways...identical twins, they shared the same clothing, the same room, and they looked so much alike that sometimes their own mother got them confused.

But as alike as they were in appearance, they were different in one important way – Jimmy had learned to submit to his parent's will, to obey even if he did not agree. But Sam refused to submit. He fought long and he fought hard.

This difference manifested itself again one morning when the boys were told the family would be driving out to see their grandmother that day. Although disappointed that the day would be "wasted", after breakfast, Jimmy got dressed and headed to the car. Grandma's house is not where he would have chosen to go, but it is where he was expected to be.

Sam, on the other hand, was a battle. He refused to finish his breakfast and got dressed only out of fear of punishment. He had to be carried to the car and forcibly

buckled in while kicking and screaming. His protests continued throughout the trip. He alternated between bouts of crying, yelling and pouting. Nothing that his parents said seemed to make any difference. Threats, bribes, explanations, nothing worked. He was wholly unable to look outside himself. Sam simply did not want to go on this journey, and was determined to make everyone else miserable along the way.

Jimmy had long since learned to tune Sam out, and as the hours-long car ride continued, Jimmy actually began to relax. No, he did not want to go to grandma's any more than Sam did, but he trusted his parents and enjoyed spending time with them...even during long car rides. And as Jimmy gazed out his window, this particular ride proved to be one he would always remember.

Jimmy watched in awe as two hawks lazily circled over a field, only to have one dive to the ground and capture his dinner. And although he had never flown on a plane, he looked on with wonder as airliners soared high in the sky, no more than tiny specks, but leaving long contrails of white in their wake. And when he saw a crop duster at work for the very first time, the deal was sealed - he decided then and there, that flying would be in his future. He would become a pilot. He would fly someday. He was certain of it.

Sam finally quieted down once they arrived at grandma's, unhappy with where he was, but thankful to be out of the car. He was still Sam, still the same.

Jimmy wanted to be at grandma's no more than Sam did, but he got out of the car a different person than who he was when he got in. What he had experienced during the car ride changed him.

Both brothers arrived at the same destination at the same time, one was changed, one was not. One grew, the other remained the same. The only difference between them was their heart attitude as the journey began. An obstinate attitude of self-will and defiance in one boy, versus an attitude of humble submission and trusting faith in the other.

When He who is in authority over me asks of me something I do not want to give, or directs me somewhere I do not want to go, I have a choice to make. Do I go like Sam, fighting every step of the way, kicking and screaming, unwilling, unable to look outside myself, and thus arrive at my destination unchanged? Or do I, like Jimmy, humbly submit to his direction, trusting in where He is taking me, and arrive a different person than who I was when I left. Changed.

Perhaps, at times, it is about the journey, not the destination.

Holiday Missions Offering, by Jake Salowitz

We are excited to announce the holiday mission offering. This year, we will be supporting The Timothy Initiative, Converge Syrian Refugee Aid, and our home grown missionaries. Below is a little information about the Timothy Project and Syrian Refugee Aid. Please watch your bulletins for additional information.

- The Timothy Initiative (TTI)
 - TTI is a ministry partnering with Converge to reach the unreached people groups with the Word. They do so by training and equipping local people, called "Timothys," to be church planters.
 - They work throughout Asia, Africa, and the Americas.
 - It takes \$333.00 to plant one church, our goal is to plant 30 churches this year!
- Converge Syrian Refugee Aid
 - The Syrian war forced nearly 11 million people to leave their homes. Of those 11 million, over 1 million have become refugees in Lebanon.
 - Nearly 1 in 4 people living in Lebanon are refugees from Syria.
 - Converge is working in partnership with the local Lebanese Church to provide medical, food, winter preparations and Christ's love to the refugees.

We have a dollar to dollar match this year up to \$10,000. Please give generously to support these projects! If you'd like to give, please put in the memo of your check "Holiday Mission's Offering." Thank you for supporting these projects!

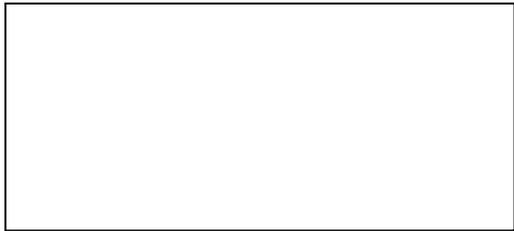




775 E. LeClaire Rd.
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Eldridge, IA 52748

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Eldridge, IA
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November 8th
9:00 am
Pancake Breakfast
at CBC Eldridge



November 6th - Door Changes

For security reason, the ROCK doors will no longer be open on Sunday mornings starting November 6th. Everyone will be required to enter through the main lobby doors at the front of the building. For questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Steffan at steffannass1@gmail.com or 563-285-8080.

November 10th - DeWitt Building Dedication

Come join us on November 10th at 7:00 pm for the dedication service of the new DeWitt Church building at 320 2nd Street. See what changes have occurred & what God is doing in DeWitt.

"We are to introduce our people into the life of the Church... that they may grasp its meaning, its contents and purpose, to taste & see how good the Lord is."
Author Middleton

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 Services	8:15 & 10:45 am	10:00 am