

# THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

## Pastor Scott's Perspective —

### “Joyous Birth; Growing Pains” •

At the age of 57, Cornerstone Baptist Church has given birth to a daughter, CBC DeWitt, born October 20, 2013 @ 10:00 am in the Central High School media center, weighing in at an attendance of 151. **To God be the glory!**

We have played a role in starting churches in Moldova and Reynosa as well as the Vietnamese Church in Davenport. But this is the first time we have commissioned one of our pastors and several of our members to start a church with our DNA and vision in another community.

The Kingdom impact in the years and decades ahead could be greater than we could ever dream or imagine. To get an idea, think of the impact Cornerstone Baptist Church has had in so many lives since being started in 1956 in Ridgeview and moving to Eldridge in 1976. Would Cornerstone have made such a significant impact in the North Scott schools and community if the church had stayed in Ridgeview? Would you even be part of CBC if the church had remained in Ridgeview?

The most effective way to reach NS people and schools and families and community was by having a church body located in Eldridge. Little did the founding members of CBC Eldridge know at the time that Cornerstone would one day have such a significant impact in the NS area – not to mention sending home-grown missionaries and mission teams to Slovenia, Spain, Africa, Moldova, SE Asia, Reynosa, as well as several US cities and significant ministry impact locally at Mt. Joy and Davenport.

Similarly, the most effective way to reach DeWitt people and schools and families and community is by having a spiritually dynamic church body that proclaims Christ located in DeWitt. God will now be at work to make CBC DeWitt into a *spiritually dynamic body making a significant impact in vulnerable families*

*through our neighborhood schools – in DeWitt.* And one day there will be CBC DeWitt members spreading the Gospel among the nations.

Joining God in His work of giving birth to a new church is one of the most important and significant endeavors that we will ever devote ourselves to as individuals and as a church. CBC DeWitt will be making a significant impact for God's Kingdom and the Gospel of Jesus Christ well past

many of our lifetimes. How many other activities are you involved in that will bear lasting spiritual fruit well beyond your earthly days?

Major spiritual advances do not happen without major spiritual opposition and major costs and sacrifices. Prayer is foundational and essential because building a church is God's work and God works in answer to prayer. **Spiritual victories are won in prayer.**

What kind of spiritual attacks can we expect? As someone has said: *“Satan lives in hell and in sound technology.”* Pray spiritual protection for our sound and media teams and equipment and technology. We can expect relational attacks against the marriages and family relationships among key leaders of our DeWitt team. Pray for them. We can expect attacks against our church unity. Satan would love to distract us from God's Kingdom agenda in DeWitt by stirring up strife and grumbling and complaining about a whole host of less important matters that could nonetheless consume a lot of “fire-fighting” time of church leaders. Pray for unity, cooperation and a consistent focus on the “big picture” of what God is doing.

There will be faith challenges in the days ahead. Many of them. How do you respond when asked to “walk by faith, not by sight”? In the days leading up to the launch, were

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Upcoming Events

- Nov 2 10 am-Noon  
Re LEAF Fest in DeWitt – meet at DeWitt Community Center
- Nov 3 Daylight Time ends AM Communion
- Nov 3-9 “Be a Matthew” Billy Graham Campaign
- Nov 7 Noon Ladies Lunch at Famous Dave's, Davenport
- Nov 8-10 Breakaway (gr.8-12), Des Moines
- Nov 10 Nurse Office Open 6:00 pm Pursuing God
- Nov 13 11:30 am “Young at Heart” (50+) Pizza & Prayer in ROCK
- Nov 16 7:00 am Trustee Meeting  
9:00-11:30 am “Harvest of the Heart” Women's Brunch in ROCK
- Nov 17 4:00-7:30 pm CLASSES 201, 301, & 401
- Nov 24 Nurse Office Open 6:00 pm NS Clergy Thanksgiving Service at CBC Eldridge

you eagerly anticipating God to do great things – or fearing the worst? What have you learned about yourself –and about God – as we have seen God confirm His leading for our church body with the successful launch of CBC DeWitt? *How will you respond when we face the next faith challenge?*

Hard work is also required in church-planting. So is teamwork, faithfulness, generosity, perseverance, stamina, spiritual strength, love for one another, unity, courage, faith, endurance, boldness – and many other qualities characteristic of a spiritually dynamic church. Many people will be asked to stretch well beyond their comfort zones to meet the many needs of a daughter church (as with parents of a newborn). Those who give extra of themselves and their time will be blessed (already are). *It takes a spiritually dynamic church body to give birth and to nurture the growth of a daughter church.*

And it takes money. Eventually new churches make new disciples and produce new givers. But initially the costs typically outweigh the increased giving. Ours has been a very economical multisite church plant, costing far less than many similar start-ups. Parent churches are called to make a long-term investment in God’s Kingdom that will pay dividends for decades – and eternity. This is God’s doing – and we can expect God to continue to supply all that is needed for CBC DeWitt and for Cornerstone Baptist Church as a whole.

October 20, 2013 will go down as one of the most important dates in Cornerstone’s history. Thank you to all of you who have been part of making that history – and will continue to do so in the days ahead. *The best is yet to come.*

A lot of hard work is also yet to come. There will be days of great joy with tangible results that encourage everyone putting forth extra effort. Days of exceptionally dynamic worship. Days of people accepting Christ and making significant spiritual decisions. Days of many new visitors and new record

## My Hope with Billy Graham

“*My Hope America with Billy Graham* is a nationwide effort to reach people across the United States with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Following a simple biblical model, *My Hope America with Billy Graham* combines the impact of **video programs** with the power of personal relationships. Christians across America will open their homes this November (3-9) to share the Gospel message with friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors using one of several new evangelistic programs featuring life-changing testimonies & powerful messages from Billy Graham.

**Invite-** Invite your friends and neighbors who don’t know Jesus Christ to your home for a meal or dessert—or gather them at your church or favorite hangout.

**Watch-** Use a TV broadcast, DVD, laptop, or mobile device to show one of several new **evangelistic programs** featuring life-changing testimonies & powerful messages from Billy Graham.

attendance. Days when the presence of the Spirit is so powerful and energizing. *There will also be dark days of inclement weather, low attendance, tepid spiritual atmosphere, personal weariness, sound or video or technology problems, volunteers not showing up, personality conflicts, policy disagreements, days when the costs and sacrifices seem greater than the benefits and blessings – even days of questioning whether this was such a good idea or not.* Or there will be days when things are going great in DeWitt but the 8:15 service in Eldridge seems half-empty – or some parents of 2<sup>nd</sup> graders in Eldridge really miss Jr. Church. **Church-planting is costly and difficult.**

15 months ago, CBC had one worship service with one Jr. Church and one SS each Sunday morning. After adding a second service in Eldridge and with the birth of CBC DeWitt – we now have 3 worship services, 3 Jr. Church programs, 2 Sunday Schools, 2 youth groups – plus nursery both locations – plus we now need 2 worship teams and sound & media teams every Sunday morning. *All this expansion with essentially the same pool of volunteers to staff 2-3 times as many programs and services.* Not surprisingly, we are experiencing some Labor pains with the birthing of the DeWitt campus. *Even with many people rising to the occasion and working harder and serving in new ways and extra ways both in Eldridge and DeWitt – there will still be a few gaps and glitches and adjustments and inconveniences.*

As with a parent taking home a newborn – *the birth of the DeWitt campus was exciting and well worth the labor pains – but the real work lies ahead – and goes on and on for months and even years.*

**Please be faithful in praying for CBC DeWitt (and CBC Eldridge). We need God’s sustaining power to energize us for the laborious struggles ahead. Let us work hard – with all HIS energy. For the joy set before us.**

**Share-Next,** briefly share how Jesus gave you hope and tell what He is doing in your life today.

**Ask-Ask** your friends if they would like to make the same decision you did to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and pray with them.”

The videos are excellent and can be viewed at [www.myhopewithbillygraham.org](http://www.myhopewithbillygraham.org). There are several to choose from with well known people sharing their testimonies. Pastor Mark has 5 DVDs that can be used if you don’t want to use a computer or watch the broadcast on Thursday, Nov 7th on TBN @ 7 p.m. or Fox News @ 9 p.m.

Please contact Pastor Mark to get more info or to let him know you are willing to be a Matthew and have people into your home to hear the good news ([zev4cbc@gmail.com](mailto:zev4cbc@gmail.com) or 563.285.8080)

## A Word From Pastor Mark

Cornerstone DeWitt campus is up and running. It has been exciting to see how all the prayers, invites, hard work and team building is paying off. Oct 20th was our launch date. That day as I was finishing up teaching ABF I wondered how many people would show up. We finished ABFs a few minutes early so that we could be ready to meet and greet.

As I looked out the windows of the building I began to see unfamiliar faces walking toward the front doors of the school. And then more new faces entered the building until we had new people all over the place. Some were getting coffee and donuts, some were being introduced to the Welcome Table, some were registering their kids for Jr. Church and some were looking around the worship center.

I looked at my watch and realized it was 9:59 a.m. so I encouraged people to come into the worship center. We started with announcements, and as is the custom of Cornerstone Eldridge, people kept walking in late and sat down. The ushers scrambled to get more chairs set up. Soon we were worshipping and I was smiling with joy at God blessing that day. Jesus Christ is worthy to be praised and here were 151 children, youth and adults present to sing (or be introduced to worship) and to hear the gospel presented. This past Sunday there were 102 people present. We are excited to see that several families came back.

Not only has the worship service started but youth group in DeWitt as well. Pastor Hideyo and Jewel are leading this

group at the DeWitt Community Center. We are excited to see this group take off.

As I was listening to a Pastor preach the gospel message at a funeral recently I wondered if any there mourning were unbelievers. Was he preaching a gospel message to an audience of only believers?

I then began to think about my death. Would there be many unbelievers there because of my relationship with them? Or would there only be Christians at my funeral? I expect there to be some Christians that became believers as a result of God's work in my life. But would there only be believers?

In order for there to be believers and unbelievers it will mean that I had surrounded myself around people that are far from God. And it will mean that I kept that focus for my life- not just for a short time.

As I was pondering this, Matt Schabilion came to my mind. Matt reached out and made an impact in a lot of people. He saw people come to Christ but also had many friends, family and acquaintances that had yet to bow the knee. As a result there were many believers and a huge crowd of people who had not accepted Jesus Christ yet at his memorial service.

That is how I want my funeral to be (God willing). I want that Pastor to reinforce what I had shared and lived out in my life so perhaps new life will result at my death. How 'bout you?

## Christian Life & Service Seminars – November 17th 4:00-7:30 pm

### C.L.A.S.S. 201– Blueprint for Maturity

This is the second class of Cornerstone's four basic life classes. Since these classes build on each other, it is required that you first attend C.L.A.S.S. 101 (unless you are already a member of CBC). We will be discussing three basic truths about spiritual growth. First, spiritual growth is not **automatic**. Our spiritual development does not grow with age. Spiritual growth comes when we commit to grow.

Second, spiritual growth is a **process**. It is not some mystical or magical formula. But rather it is a gradual process and any Christian can grow. CLASS 201 gives **you** the tools to progress in spiritual growth.

Third, spiritual maturity takes **discipline**. Ultimately God is doing the work, but He uses the effort and time we put into our growth. And unlike physical exercise that is only good in this life, spiritual exercise (through the disciplines) is good in this life and the life to come. The spiritual disciplines or habits we will be looking at are the habits of spending time with God, prayer, fellowship and giving. We also look at renewing the mind, which will help you to fight against Satan's accusations.

If you have been a believer in Christ, CLASS 201 will remind you of the need for practicing spiritual disciplines and will encourage you to develop them more fully in your life. CLASS 201 will help each of you to progress in the Christian life. No

matter what stage of life you are in, this class will be helpful. CLASS 201 is a prerequisite for CLASS 301- Blueprint for Ministry.

### C.L.A.S.S. 301– Blueprint for Ministry

This is the third class in Cornerstone's four basic life classes. This class focuses on helping you to discover your S.H.A.P.E. Your effectiveness in ministry increases when you can discover your S.H.A.P.E.– your spiritual gift(s), heart, abilities, personality and experiences. These ingredients will help you to know where you should be ministering. After the class there will be counselors that can help you discover your S.H.A.P.E. and help you to find the right ministry to be a part of.

### C.L.A.S.S. 401– Blueprint for Missions

This class is the fourth class in Cornerstone's four basic life classes. This class focuses on extending your ministry out to others.

We give you two tools to share the gospel, help you craft an effective testimony, and to see to world through Christ's eyes. This class will help you to be world class Christians. As you reach the inward circle we send you out to bring in the uncommitted and move them through the bases too.

**Please let Pastor Mark know if you are attending.**

## Hideyo's Hopes & Hyperbolizes

"Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12 ESV)

Again, let me first say, "Jewel & I are so very happy to be here at Cornerstone," and I must extend my thanks to all of you for the wonderful & warm welcome we have felt from this beautiful church body. It has been our deep pleasure to plunge right in and start attending our youth's extracurricular games and events, because in many cases kids spell love "T-I-M-E." Thus we have been there to witness the unique giftedness and blessing God has given this community's youth and Cornerstone Baptist Church.

Curtis Fry, a man who has been to prison and back, all while loving and serving the Lord, reminded me of something I have been trying to teach the youth and I believe we all need to hear some times. God can take the "ugly" things or "bad" memories of this "broken world" and "redeem" them to accomplish "His beautiful will." Romans 8:28

Here's Hideyo's Happenings (3 more lovely "H" words):

DeWitt Campus: Our DeWitt campus Sunday morning launch has come and gone, as Pastor Mark has detailed in his report, well so has our DeWitt campus' Sunday night 7-8:30pm youth program. Our inaugural DeWitt Sunday night youth meeting has also begun. At our 1<sup>st</sup> DeWitt youth meeting we had 15 youth attend, plus Jewel & I, and 4 were brand new visitors. Fun seemed to be had by all, and the Word of God was proclaimed. We are doing the same Jacob Sermon Series as to foster and enable discussion and community across both youth campuses. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting this past Sunday had numbers down a little, but a more intimate and conversational Bible study was had. Due to God's holy handy work and our new DeWitt Cornerstone campus's inevitable excitement permeating through our DeWitt youth members, we've had 2 new youth join The Kingdom of God from DeWitt's Central High School, and begun their new eternal relationship with Jesus Christ!

Wednesday Nights: Wednesday night worship in Eldridge is as strong as ever. We are averaging around 60+ youth each Wednesday night. I set up 70+ chairs each Wed., and every chair is regularly filled, with more needed for our large and fantastic number of our adult volunteers. **(If I haven't thanked you in a while, THANK YOU for all your sacrificial service to God and our youth!)**... After rotating the youth room 90 degrees, we have now broken up our Wed. night cell groups into 6 groups instead of our past 4 groups: = 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys vs. girls, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade

## Church Financial Report

Giving to the General Fund (church budget) during October averaged \$13,515. This was slightly below budget of \$13,916 but above year-ago giving (\$11,143). Giving is still well below budget for the fiscal year. \$100 was given to the Capital Improvements fund in Oct.

Worship attendance for October averaged 382 per Sunday (compared to 350 year-ago). Attendance in DeWitt for the first two Sundays of public worship has averaged 126. The 8:15 service in Eldridge is feeling some impact of giving up several families to DeWitt. *Please make your worship attendance a matter of priority in these weeks of starting a new campus in DeWitt so that we will have three spiritually dynamic worship services.*

boys vs. girls, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade boys vs. girls, with at least 1 parent/adult leader per group.

Youth Extras: These are voluntary youth programs your youth can elect to participate in if they desire a deeper level of Christian discipleship and service to the "vulnerable families" of our church mission statement.

B.O.D. (Backing-up Our Discipleship) Squad = youth service team, which seeks to back-up our claim to be "followers" of Jesus, by "keeping [Jesus'] commandments," particularly the "greatest commandment," "to love your neighbor as yourself", by being the "body of Christ." We have had a B.O.D. Squad each week, and this is what God has done:

Our inaugural B.O.D. Squad activity = assisting a vulnerable family in need of help by providing the young backs and labor to move them into a new apartment, Second, we participated in supporting Mt. Joy & SonShine Ministries' "Bowlathon," On Sat. Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm our youth B.O.D. Squad helped out with the Harvest Party's "Trunk or Treat" by running the festival's game booths as well as providing an evangelistic skit to present the Gospel to all who attended, AND I have not stopped hearing Praises of God and for the BOD Squads sacrificial and loving service.

NEXT: BOD Squad will do "Re-LEAF Fest" Sat. Nov. 2nd 10am-12 noon. Come "RAKE" in the love, and serve along with us! Meet at CBC Eldridge at 9:30 am to carpool.

Carnivores = Is Based on King James Version of Hebrews 5:11-14. This smaller more intimate body of youth believers seeks to move from the "milk" of God's word/teaching to the "meat/solid food" of God's word/teaching. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at the Hayworth's residence, see CBC's online directory (BUT Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> we will not meet to assist in CBC's desire to participate in Billy Graham's "My Hope for America" Evangelism Campaign)

Major Upcoming Events:

Breakaway = Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 2013 = Sports, Performing Arts, and Extracurricular Activities Evangelism weekend. We have 26 CBC youth & their friends signed up for this evangelistic conference on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 2013, in Des Moines, IA. Breakaway Cost = \$80. BUT scholarships are available to those who CBC recognizes as in need of assistance. Interested? : MUST CONTACT PASTOR HIDEYO ASAP for forms, since reservations are already due and have been made!

## Quarterly Reports

There will be no Quarterly Business Meeting this month — reports are available in the foyer. Please take one per family.

Be sure to keep informed of all the exciting events that are happening at Cornerstone!!



**Please set your clocks  
BACK this Saturday,  
Nov. 2nd!!  
Daylight Time ends**

## Pastor Drew's Webb of Worship

What a wonderful time we had this past Sunday evening!

If you weren't there you missed a great time of worship in singing. As you are likely aware of - especially if you read this newsletter every month - we had a hymn-sing this past Sunday. Many people submitted their hymn requests to me...some more than others! All told I received requests for about 70 different hymns. It was interesting to peruse the list and see which ones were requested, and especially to see which ones were most requested. I'll admit I was a little surprised at the ones that were most requested, as well as some hymns that weren't requested at all.

It became apparent as I was looking over the list that many people have different backgrounds in hymnody. Not all sects of the church from history sang the same hymns. Some focus more on the "gospel" genre of hymns from the early part of the 20th century; others on the more classic (for lack of a better word) hymns by the Wesley brothers and Isaac Watts. There are varying genres of hymns and it was great to see all genres represented in the long list of hymns that I received. I knew the vast majority of them but there was the occasional hymn that I had never heard of, let alone sung. This was partly why I chose to do the hymn-sing by petitioning prior requests rather than on the spot requests!

Throughout all my preparations for this event my prayer was that 1. people would come and 2. that God would be honored. Both of those were answered in the affirmative. PEOPLE CAME!!! Truthfully I would have been happy with 50 people in attendance, instead we had 112 in attendance lending their voices to the wonderful sounds of praise rising up to our God. Also in my prayers was the idea that this wouldn't simply be an event for the older generations, but that all generations would be represented in this worship service. This was definitely the case as all generations gathered to worship. Interestingly, when I first asked for requests it was the younger generations that responded

## "Making a significant impact in vulnerable families through Moldovan neighborhood school..."

As I wrap up the final details of the Fall '13 Moldova trip, I want to take this time to thank everyone at Cornerstone for the great support and prayers. We had some interesting experiences, but since space is limited I'll reduce my sharing to the best one. :)

Every year, the general budget gives money for a "special project" in Moldova, so I had taken along the cash and was praying for God to show me which project it was for. Of course, there are always going to be needs that this money could benefit, but I trusted that God had a specific plan...so I kept my eyes and ears open.

When approached by one of our 22 village missionaries after church on Sunday, I knew right away that his request was "the one." He asked if our team could help purchase a stove for the unsaved *school* principal in the village where he ministers because hers was broken and she needed one to feed the *vulnerable* children. That was all I needed to hear (think "vision"). Before responding, I made sure the team was in agreement and then we purchased a stove and delivered it two days later - on the deadline they had been asking God for and on the day that we were scheduled to host our 4<sup>th</sup> medical clinic in their school gym. Both were unbeknownst to us. Coincidence? No!

Here is a letter that the principal sends to Cornerstone:

*The administration of Bolohan Middle School together with its pupils bring sincere thanks related to the donation of the stove. We would like to mention that we truly*

needed the stove that we couldn't buy due to the lack of finances. (And, I might add, no other organization would respond to their grant applications.)

*Therefore, we admire your generosity and support, the love you show those who require your help. These qualities give us the assurance to believe that we will have your support when needed. You're those people who bring hope on children's faces who go through hardships. We desire and we are certain to collaborate in order to support needy children. We desire and we look forward to continue our relationships. In the same time we will let you know that we are glad to have your support any time.*

We were verbally thanked by the whole student body that day, and what a touching experience that was! To have young people so thankful for something so basic (to us) as a stove. Think of all those school meals we throw away in the States. :( I assured them that God did hear their prayers and that this was HIS gift to them, not ours. I assured them that He always hears their prayers for help.

What a blessing it was to be the deliverers of this gift. Thank you for making it possible!

## "Making a significant impact in vulnerable families through Moldovan neighborhood school..."

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Teresa Bivens, Betty Carter, Jacob Connor, and Lucy Schmidt

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

The first week of October we discontinued Junior Church for 2<sup>nd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> grades at CBC-Eldridge. In my October newsletter article I discussed some of the ways God has been shaping my thoughts in regard to Junior Church, including the value of families worshipping together and the responsibility that we, as parents, have before God to raise our children in the knowledge of the Lord. What I didn't clearly explain were the practical aspects that were part of the decision.

The reality is that we're short of volunteers. We simply don't have enough people to cover all the needs in Sunday morning children's ministries. In just over a year, Cornerstone has grown from one worship service to three, at two locations, praise God! Sunday morning Children's Ministry has grown from coverage of one nursery to three, one Junior Church to three, and one Sunday School to two. The number of volunteers needed each week has increased considerably, but our pool of volunteers has largely remained the same.

The decision to discontinue 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Junior Church was not an easy one. While God has reshaped my thoughts regarding children's ministry, I knew there were others in authority over me who hadn't experienced the same. I respected that and trusted God to work where and when He needed to.

Over the course of the summer our situation began to change; people stepped out of children's ministries as they were called to other things. As the plans for the DeWitt campus came more clearly into focus and people responded to His leading there, more and more teaching vacancies in Eldridge began to occur. Increased efforts to recruit more volunteers produced few results.

I researched other ways of structuring Jr. Church, but was unable to determine something that would be viable for us: bigger churches with multiple services typically do things one way, smaller churches with one service another. Cornerstone is unique in offering two different children's programs multi-

### Pursuing God

The next *Pursuing God* session will be offered **Sunday, November 10 @ 6:00 pm** (until 7:30 or 8:00 pm) in Room 216 (upstairs ROCK).

Pastor Scott will provide some guidance and suggestions, but it will not primarily be a teaching time. It will be a time for you to enjoy the presence of God. One of the main spiritual tools we will practice will be "*Lectio Divina*" – a 4-step process of Scripture reading, meditation, prayer, contemplation and listening to God's voice. It is not primarily a Bible study or a structured prayer time. Rather, a simple format for connecting with God's presence. Most of the time will be spent in quiet time alone with God followed by some group sharing and prayer. The main attraction for this experience will be God Himself.

*These sessions are open to adults and mature children and youth interested in seeking and experiencing God's presence.*

ple times on Sunday mornings.

When kids moved up to their current grade levels in August, classes were combined where we were able to reduce the number of teachers needed. Splitting the K-1 Jr. Church class was also a consideration, moving half up and half down, leaving one less class to staff, but feedback from teachers indicated class sizes would be too large to teach effectively.

In September when the start date of the DeWitt campus was set, it was apparent that CBC-Eldridge couldn't continue to provide the Sunday morning children's programming we're accustomed to. I sent an email to the Children's Purpose Team members, the Sunday School teachers, and a couple of other Children's Ministry leaders. I asked them to pray about the decision to discontinue 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Junior Church, not simply to give me their opinion, but to truly seek the Lord in prayer. Those I heard back from supported the decision.

This change is not necessarily permanent, but is one that is currently necessary. If any permanent cuts are to be considered, and there aren't plans to do so at this time, an open discussion with parents will take place. I encourage you to pray for God's clear direction in this, for openness to His leading, and that we, as parents, will be faithful and intentional in raising our kids to know Him.

Thank you to those who brought your questions and concerns to me; I welcome them and any suggestions you have!

Of course, my newsletter article wouldn't be complete without letting you know we're still in need of volunteers in Children's Ministry; please contact me if you're willing! God bless!

Honored and blessed to be your Director of Children's Ministries,  
Sandy

### NS Community Thanksgiving Service

Cornerstone will be hosting this year's NS Community Thanksgiving Service **Sunday, November 24 @ 6:00 pm**. Pastor Drew and Cornerstone's worship team will be leading the worship service with a mix of contemporary worship choruses and one or two traditional Thanksgiving hymns. There will also be a time for congregational sharing, testimonies and giving thanks. The service will be held in the sanctuary and nursery will be provided.

There will also be a Thanksgiving offering of both food and money. The food will go to the North Scott Food Pantry. The money will go to the North Scott Clergy Group fund that is used to give money to CareLink for people in need.

Refreshments will be served in the ROCK Center following the service. *We strongly encourage Cornerstone people to attend this service that we are hosting and leading.*



# November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>3</b> 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Daylight Savings Time Ends AM Communion 12:30 pm Sonshine SS & Lunch, Mt. Joy 7:00 pm CBC DeWitt Youth Group	<b>4</b> 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery 8:15 pm Women's Basketball in ROCK Nov. 3-9 "Be a Matthew" Billy Graham Campaign	<b>5</b> 3:30 pm Sonshine After School Program, Mt. Joy 6:30-9:00 pm Archery	<b>6</b> 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's/NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00-7:15 pm AWANA 6:50-8:30 pm Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting	<b>7</b> Noon — Ladies Lunch at Famous Dave's, Davenport 3:30 pm Sonshine After School Program, Mt. Joy 6:30-9:00 pm Archery 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 10 am-Noon Re LEAF Fest in DeWitt
<b>10</b> 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Nurse Office Open 12:30 pm Sonshine SS & Lunch, Mt. Joy 6:00 pm Pursuing God at CBC Eldridge 7:00 pm CBC DeWitt Youth Group	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery 7:00-8:30 pm Carnivore Christians @P. Hideyo's home 8:15 pm Women's Basketball in ROCK	<b>12</b> 3:30 pm Sonshine After School Program, Mt. Joy 6:30-9:00 pm Archery	<b>13</b> 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's/NW Blvd., Dav. 11:30 am Young at Heart Pizza & Prayer in ROCK 6:00-7:15 pm AWANA 6:50-8:30 pm Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting	<b>14</b> 3:30 pm Sonshine After School Program, Mt. Joy 6:30-9:00 pm Archery 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK 7:00 pm Missions Mtg.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 7:00 am Trustee Meeting 9:00-11:30 am "Harvest of the Heart" Women's Brunch in ROCK
<b>17</b> 7:45-8:10 am Prayer 12:30 pm Sonshine SS & Lunch, Mt. Joy 4:00-7:30 pm CLASSES 201, 301, 401 7:00 pm CBC DeWitt Youth Group	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery 7:00-8:30 pm Carnivore Christians @P. Hideyo's home 8:15 pm Women's Basketball in ROCK	<b>19</b> 10:00 am Sonshine Ladies Coffee, Mt. Joy 3:30 pm Sonshine After School Program, Mt. Joy 6:30-9:00 pm Archery	<b>20</b> 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's/NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00-7:15 pm AWANA 6:50-8:30 pm Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 8:30 pm Deacons	<b>21</b> 3:30 pm Sonshine After School Program, Mt. Joy 6:30-9:00 pm Archery 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 7:45-8:10 am Prayer Nurse Office Open 12:30 pm Sonshine SS & Lunch, Mt. Joy 6:00 pm NS Thanksgiving Service at CBC Eldridge 7:00 pm CBC DeWitt Youth Group	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery 8:15 pm Women's Basketball in ROCK	<b>26</b> 3:30 pm Sonshine After School Program, Mt. Joy 6:30-9:00 pm Archery	<b>27</b> 6:30 am Men meet at Denny's/NW Blvd., Dav. NO EVENING ACTIVITIES	<b>28</b> Thanksgiving Day	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

# November Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> Ryan Doty	<b>2</b> Mark Bader Evelynn Bradley Deac Ryan Jody & Marcia Boddicker
<b>3</b> Dennis & Mickey Blake	<b>4</b> Sarah Proctor	<b>5</b> Jacqueline Wilke	<b>6</b> Robert & Amy Schladezky	<b>7</b> Robert Brabant Ava Perfh	<b>8</b> Tresha Ambrosy Joshua Bender Alan Grimme Nick Hansel	<b>9</b> Leslie Skinner Lori Swanson Joe & Megan Roy
<b>10</b> Hannah Butler Adam Wilke Audrey Wilke Andy & Amanda Ranfeld	<b>11</b> Marvin Van Ee Dave & Donna Allbrook	<b>12</b> David Engle	<b>13</b> Howard Keeney	<b>14</b> Chuck Arnold Louise Collins Rick & Lori Swanson	<b>15</b> Susan Newsum Lynden Zevenbergen	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Judy Dean Mollie Hart Judi Hodggett	<b>19</b> Larry Brewer Richard Lindstrom	<b>20</b> Jordan Hageman Kim Hawley Todd & Michelle Connor	<b>21</b> James Simmons	<b>22</b> Tim & Kathy Doty	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Tom & Holly Olsen	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Marcie Bradley Alivia Roy Dennis & Kari Bender Ryan & Diana Senkibile	<b>28</b> Connor Nass	<b>29</b> Scott & Teresa Bivens	<b>30</b> Ingrid Gerth Ryan Reid



## Sonshine Community Ministries

I have had many opportunities while hunting to see the sunrise and a new day begin. I think that watching the sun come up over a duck blind or a deer stand is one of those moments that is just awesome. The sun chasing away the darkness, and the sounds of the new day coming to life is amazing. A strange thing that happens just before the sunrise, the temperature drops significantly. On a warm day it might not be very noticeable, but on a colder day like I am used to, it can be almost breathtaking literally. That morning cold is shocking to the system and has made me wish I would have stayed in bed on a few hunts.

It has been awhile since I have been hunting in the darkness of this world. And I have been feeling the cold before the sunrise while working in some of the situations we see at Sonshine. Sonshine brings light into the darkness, the gospel of Christ. But for those we work with, it is a very scary thing at first. Their normal lives are full of darkness that they don't even notice... they have lived in it so long.

Imagine you're a young girl trying to sleep in a house full of strangers who are partying with all kinds of drugs and beer. Your mom's boyfriend, who is creepy normally, is throwing the party and your mom isn't home this week. She got in trouble and will be locked up for a while. The food money has been used for the non-stop party, and there isn't anything to eat. You can't go anywhere because it isn't safe. You can't sleep because again it isn't safe. And you really can't focus on your school work or anything else for that matter. And at school they want you to act like everything is fine. This has become the new normal, but things are not fine. At least at school you feel somewhat safe, but you are exhausted, and can't focus because all you can think about is how you are going to survive tonight.

## Ladies, please join us for.....



### "A Harvest of the Heart"

Saturday, November 16th  
9:00-11:30 am  
ROCK Center

Featured Speaker:  
Anna Marie Percuoco

Cost \$10 for catered brunch (due at sign up)

Free childcare available  
(children must be pre-registered)

Sign up in Narthex after church service-Eldridge

Sign up after church service at Welcome Table-DeWitt

Contact Deana Trotter 823-4638 or

Tammy Bullock 285-5293

## By Tony Phillips

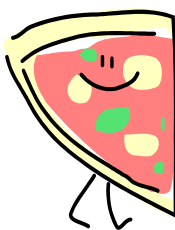
This past month I have been trying to get back into this world and help youth who are in situations like this. Biggest problem so far is that I am still an outsider, and for them that is scary. As scary as things are, they are somewhat used to that. What changes I may bring into their lives are unknown and even scarier than what they know. It is the Cold before the sunrise. I can feel it in the guardedness they show as I try to engage them. It will take some time.

This month we also had the fun of taking a good group of children to the Cinnamon Pumpkin Patch. They got to see how modern day dairy farms work. I was amazed by the automated milking machines. They got to hold bunnies and pet cows and feed goats. We had sack races and roasted marshmallows, of course, ate s-mores. They all hopped up on a hayrack to ride out to the pumpkin patch and chose a pumpkin to take home and decorate for the holidays. It takes a little patience, a lot of organizing, and enough love to make that day work. It was a wonderful afternoon investing in young lives, and I am always amazed as I watch our volunteers working with these little ones. They are great ministry partners.

Just around the corner coming soon is the Christmas Party. That means there is opportunity for you to help. Gift packages for the kids, and volunteer time to actually show God's love to some of these little sheep. In John 9 Jesus says, "We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." "Son" shine, get it? Help us shine His light.

## Are you "Young at Heart"?

**Young at Heart** is a ministry for retired adults, but anyone who wants to join us is welcome.



We will be having a Pizza & Prayer Meeting on **Wednesday, November 13th at 11:30 am** in the ROCK at Cornerstone Eldridge. Drinks will be provided and we all "chip in" for Pizza. We will be having a devotional and then breaking up in small groups for prayer.

**Friday, December 6th at 6:00 pm** we will be having our Christmas dinner. Cost \$5/singles; \$10/couple.

Good Food! Great Fun! Come join us!

Any questions, call McGimpseys, Idekers, Ryans, Allison or Marty Sickels.

## CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

775 E. LeClaire Rd.  
Box 54  
Eldridge, IA 52748

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We're on the web!  
[www.cornerstone-eldridge.org](http://www.cornerstone-eldridge.org)



## Family News

*Our deepest sympathy to:*

Bill Gerth and his family in the loss of his step-brother.

Theresa Phillips and her family in the loss of her mother.

Monica Sissel and her family in the loss of her aunt.

Dawnetta Van Ee and her family in the loss of her aunt.

*"The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge." Psalm 18:2*

## Friendship Ministry

*Sharing God's Love with people who have intellectual disabilities.*

We are excited to invite you to Friendship services at North Ridge Community Church (Sports Town), 1700 E. Blackhawk Trail Road, in Eldridge, Iowa.

Dates and times: Sunday evenings, November 24 and December 15, from 5:00-6:00 pm

Anyone is welcome to worship at Friendship services! The services are particularly geared to those who have intellectual disabilities, with opportunities for participation and one-on-one learning time with a mentor. All ages are welcome.

You can just show up, or you can preregister. For more information, call the church at 285-7819.



### Come and join us on Sunday Mornings:

**CBC Eldridge:**  
Sunday School Opportunities  
for the Family 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Services 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.

**CBC DeWitt:**  
Sunday Opportunities  
for the Family 8:45 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.