



Editor: Donna Mathewson

The Berean News is published monthly by the Berean Bible Students Church, 535 East Maple Street, Lombard, Illinois, 60148. The purpose is to share ideas, thoughts, and news from the Lombard church along with praising the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Berean News will be mailed free of charge to anyone who makes a request in writing. Copies are available in the main lobby. Press deadline for the November issue is due by October 10, 2012; donna.mathewson@comcast.net

Perspective

A MESS

By Larry Urbaniak

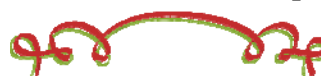
One Sunday morning a new person appeared in church. He said his name was Ted and he lived in the neighborhood. He seemed to like our church, stayed for both services, and even hung around afterwards and talked to several of us. He started to attend regularly and seemed to fit right in. Ted smiled a lot and talked to more and more of us. After about a month or two passed by, Ted came to our "continental breakfast/fellowship" before church and said how he really liked it here. Someone at the table asked him what it was that he liked about our church. Ted didn't hesitate. He explained that he was a lonely person and we were really a friendly church. He liked our fellowship and almost family atmosphere.

Later that week one of our regular church members who had been sitting at the table decided he would visit Ted. (Let's call the church member Gene.) Ted's doorbell rang and Gene stood there. Next to Gene was a rather shaggy, somewhat sloppy looking, and slightly muddy dog. Ted invited Gene right in to his liv-

ing room to talk. The dog jumped up on the couch and curled up and cuddled next to Gene. Ted and Gene had a friendly and fairly lengthy visit. Finally Gene got up to leave, shook hands with Ted, and started out the door. Ted asked, "Aren't you forgetting your dog?" Gene looked puzzled and replied, "He's not my dog. I thought he was yours."

Who was at fault? Who was wrong? Both Ted and Gene were trying to be friendly. Both had good intentions. Each, however, had also made a false assumption and jumped to his own conclusion. As a result they both found themselves in an awkward situation. And Ted had a messy couch to clean up. What happened next?

I don't know. That isn't the important question here. The real question is what would you do in a mess like this? How would you respond if you were Ted? What would you say and/or do if you were Gene? What do you do when you find yourself in an awkward situation or in a spiritual mess?





Church Chat

By Charmaine Thorfeldt

The college kids have gone back to school, there's a nip in the air, and our Decorations Committee has put up our Fall banners and flowers, so I guess our summer is over. **Evan Gelles** is off to law school and Grandpa **Ed Rutkowski** is going to miss his Taco Bell partner....**Gregg Mathewson** has had a busy summer. After CBC he stayed out east visiting family and friends before returning home and then he and **Donna** were off again fitting in camping trips with the **Slinn** family and **Faith** and **Hannah Schwebke, Chabot Family** and **Steve Knapp** Family....**Bob Schwebke** had his own adventure. He and a few buddies went out west to attend the Sturgis motorcycle rally in South Dakota. They had a beautiful trip with great weather but on their return, a hundred miles from home, Bob's cycle broke down and **Faith** had to come and get him, but they did enjoy seeing Mount Rushmore and the Crazy Horse monument....**Eric Honea** visited Romania again this summer and the orphanage our church supports. He reports the children are happy and well care for. He also toured the three feeding centers in poor villages which our church sponsors and has posted videos on his facebook. **Cecil Pagel** has requested help to buy school supplies for the children at the feeding centers so they can attend school. The cost is \$27 per child. Bread Of Life PO Box 569 Hamilton TX 76531....**Tracie** and **Sarah Elliott** had a great time at a Girl Scout camp. It really wasn't "roughing it" because of the nice cabins but they especially enjoyed the horseback riding....The **Lewis** and **LePitre** families, **Jim Dalesando** and his grandson, **Danny, Joe Horak** and his daughter, **Beth** and her 3 sons, **Aiden, Martin** and **Ryan Foertsch** all attended the Camp Blessing Adventure Camp. Canoeing was the highlight of the trip....**Mike Knapp, Chuck** and **Matt Forster**, and **David Slinn** are all busy training for the Chicago Marathon in October. I hear that the most important factor is the shoes they choose. David had a setback because of a gall bladder attack,

but is still hoping to run, depending on when he will have surgery....**Karen LePitre's** dad, **Ken Topotski** had to have triple bypass surgery and after some complications is now doing well....**Brian Dunn's** mom, **Barbara**, is also doing well after spending a few days in the hospital, but is now home after getting her blood pressure under control....**Aaron Dunn** suffered a torn ligament but thankfully, his drum playing is not affected....Our recent visitors this month were **Dawn Kersula, David** and **Jenny Dobbs** with their two children, and **Ben Montanari** who came to town and spent some time with his sister-in-law, **Jeanne Nelson**....**Kent Urbaniak** was our visiting speaker this month and although he doesn't live too far away he still merits a pot-luck! We always like having Kent and his family visit because our attendance rises by 6!....**David Elliott** conducted a child dedication service. It's always such a blessing to see young



From left to right: Nora, Ray, Debbie & Ben Spano, Steve, Jen & Sayer Teunis, Kelly, Aislyn and Clint Reif.

parents promising to train their children in the ways of the Lord. Those dedicated were **Aislyn Sloan Reif, Benjamin Lee Spano**, and **Sayer Stephen Gerrit Teunis**....At our last business meeting we voted to rent our church to the Lombard Seventh Day Adventist (Korean) Church. They will be using our church on Saturdays so we will have to adjust some of our activities, but we feel this is a great opportunity to work with fellow Christians and share what the Lord has given us....The dates for next year's May Convention is back to the first weekend of May, the 4th and 5th....We are happy that **Aaron Dunn** and **Bob Cavanaugh** are officially members of our church.

Eric's Epiphanies



BREAD OF LIFE REVISITED

By Eric Honea

Last summer I visited Romania and met Cecil Pagel and his staff for the first time. I had come to see firsthand the work being done at the orphanage and the feeding centers through Bread Of Life. I had come to build relationships, make friends, and bring back a report to my church. This summer I went back to Romania to continue this relationship building. The first thing I noticed on both trips was how accommodating, patient, and giving Cecil and Alin were from the time they met me at the airport. Even though this year I was only meeting them for the second time I felt like I was reuniting with old friends. Accommodations in Bucharest, where staff live and visitors stay when they arrive, are basic even sparse by American standards and give no hint of luxury or waste. At the warehouse in Bucharest it was encouraging to see pallets of nutritious food ready for distribution.

We spent hours, even days, traveling across Romania touring feeding centers and meeting the children who were being fed. Most were set up and operated by a local church in a poor village. The children were happy and the meals simple but nourishing. Children sang Christian songs to us and many



Eric Honea with Brother Adrian, who with his wife run the Harsova Feeding Center in Romania.

of the tunes I recognized from popular songs sung in American churches. Donations to Bread Of Life which were designated specifically to set up a Feeding Center in these locations paid for the minimal kitchen equipment and dining furniture. Sometimes the funds were used to dig a well or bury a water line for the kitchen set up. Clearly much was being done with so little money. The children were always friendly and talkative and their enthusiastic singing was heartwarming. The children all ate the same food and there were no complaints.

Arriving at the orphanage this year felt like coming home. The children had grown and there were new faces but I was warmly received back into their family as if I never left. Romania can be a hard place to live and work, but the Bread of Life staff faces many difficulties and challenges with grace. Spending time with the children however was not hard at all. I call it *the candy* because the charm and beauty of the children draw you in. They are eager to include you in what they are doing or save you a place at the dinner table. Like the kids at the feeding centers they gladly receive their simple meals after bowing their heads in thanks. I have never felt so rich as when I sat and ate a bowl of soup with the children. A hundred times in the week I spent with the kids I would look across the room or the playground and my eyes would meet the eyes of one of the children and they would smile or wave as if to say without words " I like you, I'm happy you noticed me."

I met Dieter from Germany whose church team had just built a much needed play ground for the kids. I found we had much in common especially in our reaction to the kids and being at the orphanage. Clearly adults feel a natural compulsion to care for children but it is only when you meet a child who does not have parents to take care of them that you really feel

Eric's Epiphanies continued from page 3

this instinct pull on you. Just one of the children at the orphanage will steal your heart so imagine what it feels like to walk into a room filled with them. It changes you and you feel ashamed of any vain thing in your life that kept you from seeing a need so great

before now. You also feel proud of everyone back home who sacrificed to better the lives of children they have never met. It reminds me of what Jesus said, "blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."



Beside Still Waters...

Delightful Inheritance by Donna Mathewson

"Lord, You have assigned me my portion and my cup; You have made my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance."

Psalms 16:5, 6



Just as Jesus before us was secure in his Father and his lot, so we can also be. Jehovah is all that our souls need. He fills our cup in this life, allowing only what experiences will bring forth fruit and offers us a delightful inheritance both now and in the future. He promises to maintain our lot and it is more than secure in His hands. We do not have to fear what the future will bring. We know that as children of the King, our inheritance is secure because of our joint-heirship with his son, Jesus Christ. Yet we have a delightful present inheritance. We have been blessed with a Father's eternal love. His love is there for the taking any time of the day; what a delightful inheritance is ours! Our loving Father is our portion and He fills our cup.

He gives abundantly, knowing just what we need. Who would not be satisfied with such a portion? He gives to each of us a cup of blessing. Our earthly cups are cups of blessing, though we may taste the bitterness of sorrow at times. Only our Father knows what will bring forth fruit, only He brings beauty from ashes. Our portion is never given without His abounding love and grace. We are so blessed to have a Father who cares so for us! He walks with us now and forever in the future. Our present inheritance is a blessing we should never take for granted. This delightful inheritance is nothing compared with what awaits us. Our Father awaits our homecoming and in His hand is the cup of love, which will never be emptied. What joy is ours!

Father, how we thank you for your hand in our lives. We thank you for the sorrows as well as the joys, knowing they will make us more like your dear Son. Help us to realize the present inheritance that is ours. Let us never forget how grand is your love for us, we are so blessed! May we be faithful to you, our faithful Father. How we long for home and to drink of your cup of love forever! Amen

Bible Quiz



ANSWERS from Page 7

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Theophilus | 4. Gabriel | 7. Annas & Caiaphas |
| 2. Herod | 5. Cousins | 8. Herod |
| 3. Zachariah | 6. Caesar Augustus | 9. Simon's partners |
| | | 10. Levi |



A Daughter's Heart *God's Hand* By Karen LePitre

August 17 started out as a great day. I was taking Kenny downtown to watch the Air and Water show practice and have lunch with Auntie Kim too! As Kenny and I were watching practice, I called my dad to tell him where I was. He sounded funny, and told me he had to go. I asked him why and he said he had a doctor appointment. I was a little concerned and I asked him what was wrong, and he told me he was having chest pains. He said they were not bad, and Sandy (his girlfriend) asked him if he would check it out, so he made the appointment. After saying a quick prayer with Kenny, I went about the rest of my day. Dad called later and told me his EKG was fine, but his doctor said he "may have a cardiac problem" and he could go about his business today (Friday) and schedule a stress test on Monday. My dad (who plays in a band) decided it was OK for him to go to a band job, lift a heavy amplifier into the back of his truck (4 times!) and play music for 3 hours! He told us later that once he started to play, he felt better, but when he was lifting the equipment is when he was feeling bad! The next day (August 18) was my class reunion picnic. Having a blast at the picnic, I didn't even realize that my phone went dead! I figured it out when I went to check the phone when we were on our way home. I saw that I had two missed calls from Sandy, and that really scared me. The funny thing was that I had no battery left on the phone, but was still able to make that phone call to Sandy. She told me that Dad was being taken to hospital by ambulance. He was going to Christ Hospital.

I now realize how much the Lord had his hand in how I found out about Dad and that He certainly was behind the fact that I had a completely dead phone, but was still able to make the phone call. I also know that the Lord puts certain people in our lives, and one of them is my dad's next door neighbor, Don. It was Don who convinced my dad to go to the hospital and he called the ambulance himself. You see, Don had a ma-

rior heart attack about 8 years ago, and he recognized the signs and the symptoms that Dad was having. Dad had called Sandy earlier in the day, to tell her the pain was radiating to his left arm, and Sandy convinced him to go to the hospital, but later on, when the pain was subsiding a little, Dad decided he wasn't going to go! When Don saw him, he almost knew right away that he needed to go.

It is amazing how many things happened in our lives that we don't even realize at the time that it is the Lord's hand doing it all! Later we realize it when we sit back and reflect on it, "Hmmm, I see how He did that!"

I am so grateful to Al and Jeannie Week's prayer emails to get the word out and the prayers going! I can never thank all of the brethren enough that prayed and send cards. I always felt the overwhelming presence of God with me during the whole ordeal and I felt the power of those prayers and the calmness that the Lord put over me through each trial that we came to and conquered!

Dad is doing very well, even after the second round of surgeries he went through. He appreciates all the prayers and cards as well and wants me to thank each and everyone who said a prayer or sent a card.

I thank God everyday for the things that He does, and I learn from Him each day, and I am amazed at what an awesome God He truly is!





Ebenezers

Luke 20 by Jon Larson

The end of Luke 19 makes the point that “The wise guys” were now all out to get rid of their trouble-maker, Jesus. These religious leaders only saw Jesus through their own very narrow perspective, as they utterly missed the big picture. They could only see Jesus as a threat to themselves, and their precious way of life. Therefore, they felt compelled to engineer the elimination of this pesky young man, knowing it wouldn’t be easy because of his exceeding popularity. Oh yes, they were well aware of the need to handle their nefarious mission with great discretion, hence: chapter twenty.



Pondering upon their thought process, we find their first attempt as simply classic. Why? Because if you’ve got the peoples’ adulation, the official titles, elegant robes, fancy hats, and long gray beards, it follows that your first line of attack is to question the credentials of this impudent young whippersnapper. Confronted with the allegation, I believe Jesus was appalled by their sheer arrogance, as he proceeded to make mincemeat of these pompous fools. Jesus turned it around on them by simply asking, “Who gave John the Baptist his credentials?” They hemmed and hawed amongst themselves as they discussed possible answers to give, finally all they could say is, “We don’t know.” Jesus smiled and said, “If you don’t know, I’m not telling you!” Strike one!

Jesus then went on to give them a parable, of which they clearly perceived the meaning. It was about a man who planted a vineyard, and left it to certain tenants and went away. Basically, the tenants got very greedy as they treated the vineyard as their own. The tenants eventually went so far as to murder the rightful heir. The judgement of the tenants was then death. Jesus then concludes by quoting Psalms 118:22, “The stone which the builders rejected, has become the capstone. Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed.” Oh, they got the point, but instead of pondering the implications, their feelings got the better of them and they became even more infuriated. Still, these lily-livered cowards were afraid to immediately retaliate against this popular crowd pleaser.

Oh wow, those “wise guys” found Jesus a major pain to them and they wanted him dead as a doornail, the sooner the better. So this time they figured to play it smart, as they sent forth spies to scope out some vulnerability in Jesus which they would exploit. After much discussion, they thought they came up with a winner, but before asking their loaded question, these devious and creepy lawyers purposely laid on a very thick veneer of flattery. “Oh, you say and speak rightly, please share your wisdom with us!” before asking their question. Personally, I imagine Jesus rolling his eyes at their phony-baloney words. The Lord was well aware that they thought they had him stymied with their genius. Of course, they really had nothing, as Jesus merely requested a coin and just asked, “Whose picture is on the coin?” This is a teachable moment, because the more loaded a question is, the more we should reply in a simple manner as did our Lord. The logic he employed was impeccable, and all those guys could do was marvel and hold their peace, as they seethed with anger. Strike two!

Next up were the Sadducees, who simply denied any resurrection of the dead, which is frankly why they were so sad, you see? These

Ebenezers continued from page 6

deniers proceeded to give one of the most convoluted questions recorded in scripture, about a woman who had multiple husbands, no children, and asking which would her husband be in the resurrection. Consider: Jesus could have just made the point that there is no marriage in the resurrection and been done with it, but he didn't. No, Jesus goes on with these pearls of great price, "They which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world... Neither can they die any more: for they are equal with angels: and are the children of God... For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him." Indeed, food for the thoughtful, and strike three for them!

"The wise guys" went back to the dugout, as they had struck out three times. However, the game wasn't over and they still wanted Jesus dead. Eventually, these malcontents would score, if only for three days. Meanwhile, Jesus gave them a question. He asked these guys, "They say the Christ is the son of David, yet David says, 'the Lord said to my Lord, sit yourself on my right hand.' (Psalms 110:1) If David calls him Lord, how is he then his son?" As usual, they could come up with nothing to reply. So, in the audience of all the people, Jesus turned to his disciples and basically said to guard against copying the attitude of these wise guys, dressed to the nines, who love adulation, who always get the best seats and eat in the

swankiest restaurants. They're parasites who devour widows' houses, as they make a show with their long prayers. Their judgment will be grievous indeed, so you need to beware.

The twentieth chapter of Luke is filled with needful lessons which can be learned the easy way by reading and pondering, or the hard way by personal experience and sorrow. The choice is ours not to be "wise guys," but rather faithful disciples.



"Courage is not limited to the battlefield or the Indianapolis 500 or bravely catching a thief in your house. The real tests of courage are much quieter. They are the inner tests, like remaining faithful when nobody's looking, like enduring pain when the room is empty, like standing alone when you're misunderstood."

– Chuck Swindoll

Bible Quiz

From the Gospel of Luke

Answers on the bottom of Page 4

1. Who was it written to? 1:3
2. Who was the king of Judea? 1:5
3. Who was Elisabeth's husband? 1:5
4. Who was the angel sent to Elisabeth's husband? 1:19
5. How were Elisabeth and Mary related? 1:36
6. Who issued a decree to tax everyone in the Roman world? 2:1-2
7. Who were the high priests when John the Baptist preached repentance? 3:2
8. Who locked John in prison? 3:19-20
9. Who were the sons of Zebedee? 5:10
10. Who was the tax collector who made a great feast at home for Jesus? 5:27-29



Viewpoints

Shine Jesus Shine!

Gregg Mathewson

Lighthouses—structures of beauty. What are they for? Why did they come into existence? What do they mean to us?

The first lighthouse in the world was the Pharos Lighthouse of Alexandria, built by the Egyptians around 281 B.C. More recently, however, many of the lighthouses in the Great Lakes region were built in the mid 1800's because shipping products, such as lumber, by boat became popular. Increasing ship traffic on the Great Lakes resulted in more and more shipwrecks as boats hit sandbars, shores, and shallow water. To help minimize these costly wrecks, the U.S. government allotted money to build lighthouses where water travel was treacherous.

A lighthouse served two purposes: a warning of dangerous waters, and a physical location marker. If you've ever studied lighthouses, you will know that in an area they are unique—either by physical construction or by a uniquely painted pattern. This allowed a captain to confirm his location by referencing the unique pattern to his navigation chart (map). At night, when he could not see the markings, each lighthouse lamp had a different flash pattern that uniquely identified the location. Thus these lighthouses provided a measure of safety for the ships.

What do the Scriptures say about light-

houses? One well known verse is Matt 5:16, "... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." We are to be a beacon before men, letting Christ's character shine out to the world as we are transformed into his likeness (Rom 12:2). As members of His body, all unique like the patterns on lighthouses, we will each exhibit Christ's characteristics differently and will be noticed by different individuals depending on their course through life (Rom 12:4-8). We are His representative here on earth, providing light to guide those with a searching heart to His quiet waters.

How often have we heard one testify about an experience where a co-worker approached them because they needed prayer or direction? They were looking for a safe harbor of trust without criticism and judgment, and they saw our light. They found comfort in us, who radiate God's mercy to all around. That's letting our light shine! But don't become complacent. Just like the original lamp lens needed daily cleaning from the soot buildup from the oil lamp, we too must keep our light bright by renewing it daily with God's word.

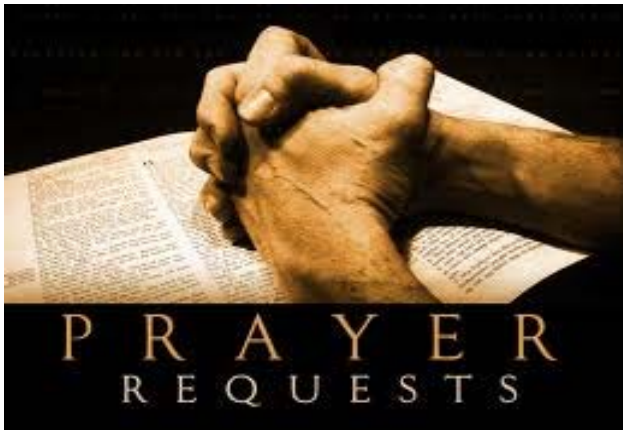
Let us continue to be a bright beacon for all to see, filled with the brilliance of God, and glorifying the world's Savior Christ Jesus.



2012 Camp Blessing Schedule

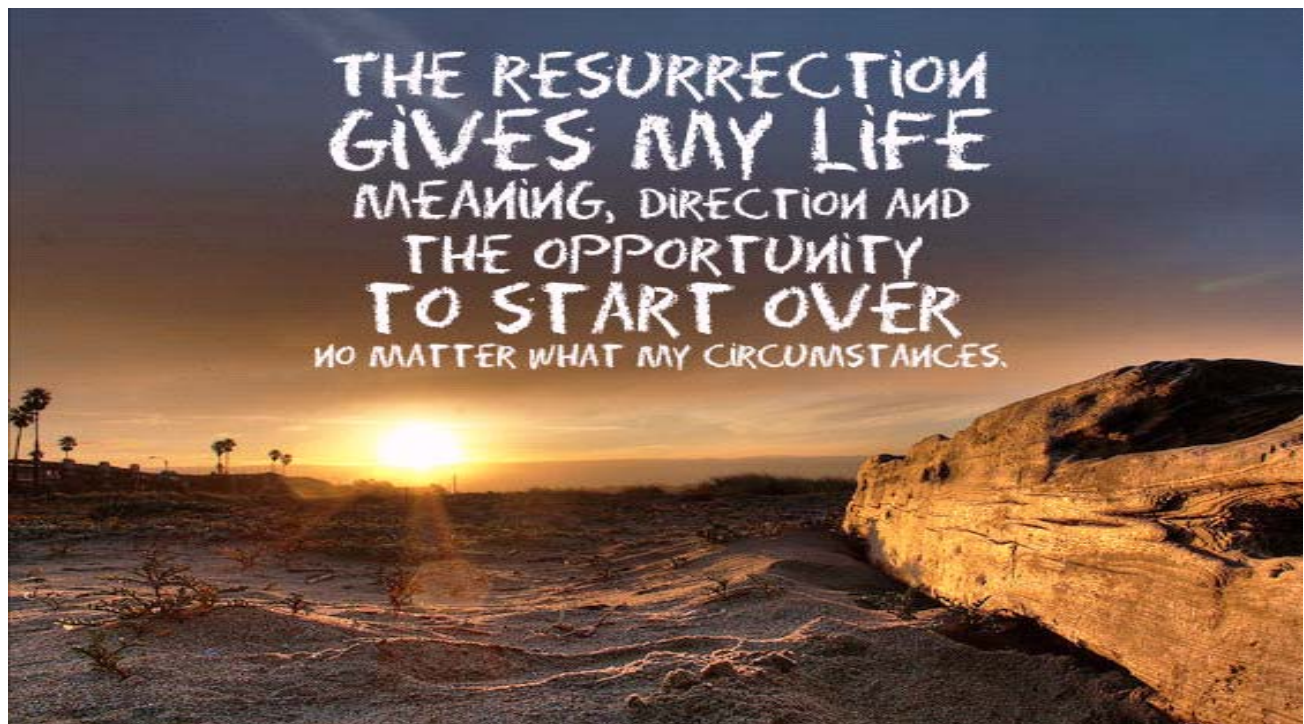
October 5-8, 2012 (Friday - Monday) -- Apple Valley, CA
General Retreat - Doug Famous

Congratulations to the following brethren who were added to the Camp board: Joyce Urbaniak, Sara Lenzner, Joe Horak & David Karavas.




Peggy Allen – Alzheimer's
 Tim Allen – Glaucoma
 Erica Andrada – Tourettes Syndrome
 Steve Andrada, Jr. – serious health problems, needs a kidney transplant, pray for a Donor
 Delores Andrada – serious health issues
 Cheri Blake – health issues
 Scott Carpenter – MS
 Linda Catlin – sinus issues; improved
 Mary Dobbs – kidney cancer
 George Duhaime – Multiple Myeloma
 Kim Dunn – Hashimoto's disease
 Liz Fischer – MS
 Isabelle Fiorello – Leukemia
 Jean Forster – MS
 Tony Greico – Stroke

Johnny Hunter – Kidney issues
 Connor Johnson – great-nephew of Roberta & Mark, (age 6), cancer treatment
 Elva Lanowick – hip surgery
 John Maurelli – kidney problems
 Alain Yves Miller – Asthenia
 Mary Ellen Moore – Occipital Neuralgia
 Ralph Moore – Myasthenia Gravis, Bladder cancer, Loss of job
 Jon Muszynski – Diabetes & depression
 Pat Muszynski – Spinal Stenosis
 Muszynski Family – Loss of David (46) on 9/10
 Cecil Pagel – back pain & Romanian orphanage
 Jim Penton – Heart failing
 Polychronis Family – death of Art on 6/16
 Marcia Rajewski – Heart issues
 Ed Rutkowski – Leukemia
 Sue Knapp Siwak – Scleroderma
 David Slinn – recovery from gall bladder surgery
 Dan Schultz – recovery from double transplant of kidney and liver
 Ken Topolski – Karen LePitre's dad, recovering from quadruple bi-pass surgery
 Pat & Rich Tremblay – many health issues
 Michael Terrazas – Lupus
 Lucille Wasko – general health, in nursing home
 Judi Wineroth – Fibromyalgia





Of Interest...

	Attendance	Aug 12-119
		Aug 19-110
		Aug 26-107
		Sept 2-113
		Sept 9-103
		Sept 16-103

Upcoming Speakers & Studies

Oct 7
Food Pantry
 Worship with Communion: David Elliott
 Worship Series: Andy Weeks
 Your Heart of Worship: Andy Weeks

Oct 14
Catered Lunch
 Sermon: Wayne Urbaniak
 Study: Doug Famous

Oct 21
 Worship & Baptism: Mike Knapp
 Testimonies of Praise with Baptisms: Joe Funari
 11:35-Nominations

Oct 28
 Sermon: David Elliott
 Question Mtg: Joe Funari

Nov 4
 Sermon: Jon Larson
 Worship-A Holy State of Mind
 Part 1: Brian Dunn

Nov 11
Food Pantry
 Sermon: Larry Urbaniak
 Worship- A Holy State of Mind
 Part 2: Brian Dunn
 11:35 Elections

Nov 18
 Sermon: Mike Knapp
 Study Part 1: Mike Knapp

Nov 25
 Sermon: Tim Chabot
 Study Part 2: Mike Knapp

Mark your Calendars...

November 21 7PM Thanksgiving Worship
 December 2 Andrew Polychronis will serve us
 December 23 7PM Christmas Choir Presentation
 December 31 6:15PM New Year's Eve Dinner

Sunday Services

Prayer Meeting- 8:15AM
 Worship- 9:00AM
 Sermon- 9:30AM
 Second Service-10:30-11:30AM
 Sunday School-10:15AM



Mondays

1st Monday of the Month—Men's Meeting, 6:30PM

Tuesdays

Weekly—Church, 10:30AM
 Every Other Tuesday—Church, TBD, 7:00PM
 Every Other Tuesday—Women's Meeting—Church 12-2PM

Thursdays

Weekly—Women's Meeting—Church, Be Mature (James), 7:00PM
 Weekly—Joe Knapp's Home, 6:45PM

Fridays

Alternating Fridays Beginning September 21—Pioneer Club

