

The Creekside Connection

A publication of

**Creekside
Church of the Brethren**

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The Creekside Connection is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of church programs and to report news about the people of Creekside Church.



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• Rooted in God • Growing in Jesus • Bearing Fruit in the Spirit

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AUGUST 2009

Pastor's Ponderings #200 or So...

This is the 214th edition of the newsletter since becoming your pastor in May 1992. My ponderings didn't appear in *every* issue, but 200 times is a reasonable guess. Whether you read them or not, I'll never know. That's okay because you don't remember what you had for dinner ten years ago tomorrow, either, but you still got some nutrition from it. As I thought about what to say, many things came to mind. So, rather than pick one, I've decided to mention everything. I offer them as considerations, challenges, suggestions, pleadings, instructions and plain old advice, offered with the love of a pastor to his congregation. In no particular order, they are:

Love God with everything you've got. Read the Bible. Serve the Lord with gladness. Pray. Worship every Sunday (and go to Sunday school). Give *generously*. Don't worry. Tell your spouse and kids you love them—everyday! Come into his presence with thanksgiving. Have potlucks once a month. Remember—worship is about God, not our needs. Invite someone to church. Be open to mystery. The best theology is in a song—“*Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.*” Don't gripe when life doesn't adjust to your plans. Don't put off saying the things you want to the important people in your life—tomorrow may be too late. Pull weeds in the church flowerbeds. When you're stressed-out, sit in the prayer garden—listen to the water, the birds, frogs, and the silence of God. Fish is brain food. Rejoice in the Lord, always. Affirm, encourage and pray for the interim pastor. Color outside the lines. Memorize hymns and songs and don't rely on the screen. Attend the next Love Feast and Footwashing service. Refrain from speech for one day and listen for a change—you'll be surprised what you hear. Speak the truth in love. Lay hands on someone during anointing. Help pay down the church mortgage. Don't tell a person who has lost a loved one, “If there is anything I can do, please let me know.” Take the initiative and minister without having to be asked.

Before offering a criticism, mention three positives. Pray for your church leaders, then ask them what you can do to help the church. Volunteer to help Ted clean the restrooms.

Put a PB &J card in someone's mailbox each week. Thank the musicians who work hard to make worship a meaningful experience. Be quick to listen and slow to judge. Commit an

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entire Psalm to memory. NEVER leave an unsigned critical note in the pastor's (or anybody's) mailbox. ALWAYS say it with a smile. Choose ministry over meetings. Next year, have a Pancake, Fried Mush, Headcheese and Sausage Breakfast. Watch the sun set and/or rise. Give up whatever hinders you from serving God. Take the full amount of vacation days allotted to you. Don't apologize for spending the day doing nothing—God did, and everything turned out fine. The best sermon is the one you live. Don't be afraid to dance in worship. Eat more ice cream. Learn to appreciate hymns you don't like if for no other reason than knowing they are meaningful to someone else. Eat the bread and drink the cup of the Lord every chance you get. Eat green bean casserole in memory of me. Don't just say you love your church—do something for it. Pray for the Cubs. Remember that October is Pastor Appreciation month. Talk to at least one child every Sunday morning. Pray for Sue and me. Buy only what you need. Examine your motives: "Am I serving God from fear of what will happen if I don't?" or, "Am I serving because I believe God first loved me?" Choose contemplation over complexity. Floss. Don't let "hurry" run your life.

Give to anyone who asks. Help church kids with fundraisers. There is nothing you can do to make yourself acceptable to God, but by God's grace you have been accepted. Plan your own funeral. Know what to say if someone asks, "What do you believe?" Did I say, "Have potlucks once a month"? Come to worship with expectancy. Be still, and know that God is God. Invite a visitor to lunch after church. Chocolate is good for you. Mark July 3, 2010 on the calendar for the Creekside Fireworks Show. Be like Eileen Rohrer and do everything "with love and caring." Without telling them, pray for one person every day for an entire year and see what happens. Attend someone else's Sunday school class for a change. The joy of the Lord is your strength. Don't let anyone stand alone during fellowship time. Read the Gospels all the way through, then do it again. Recycle. When you see a visitor in church remember that Jesus said: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Don't take the easy path—it won't take you anywhere important. Take the road less traveled. Begin and end each day by telling God, "Thank you." Ask Joel to fold something for you, and if he does it with a dollar bill, give him a dollar back. Stroll through a cemetery and ask yourself, "If the people who knew me chose an epitaph for my gravestone, what would it say?" Patronize J. W. Chen's Chinese Restaurant in South Bend. Apply the same enthusiasm, commitment, and attention to detail toward fishing for people as you did to frying fish. Spend less time doing and more time being.

Thank God for the time we've been together and for all the blessings we have received, and, *Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just and pure, whatever is pleasing and commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things... and the God of peace will be with you* (Philippians 4:8-9).

In Christ's love always,

Pastor David

Memory Verse Games



Memorizing Bible verses is a great way to get God's Word into our hearts and minds.

Memory-Verse Memory Game

What you need:

- Index cards (two for each word in the Bible verse)
- Crayons and markers
- A Bible verse

What you do:

1. Choose a different color for each word in the verse. Write that word on two different cards. (Non-readers can draw pictures.)
2. Mix up the cards and spread them out (face down) on a table or floor.
3. Players take turns trying to uncover cards that match. For extra difficulty, try finding the word pairs in the order they appear in the verse.

The Vanishing Memory Verse

What you need:

- Dry-erase board, markers and eraser
- OR chalkboard, chalk and eraser
- OR large piece of construction paper, pen and self-stick notes
- A Bible verse

What you do:

1. Write down the verse and read it (alone or with a partner).
2. Take turns erasing (or covering with self-stick notes) one word at a time. Then read the verse, remembering what word went in each blank.
3. Eventually, the board will be blank, and you'll be able to recite the whole verse!



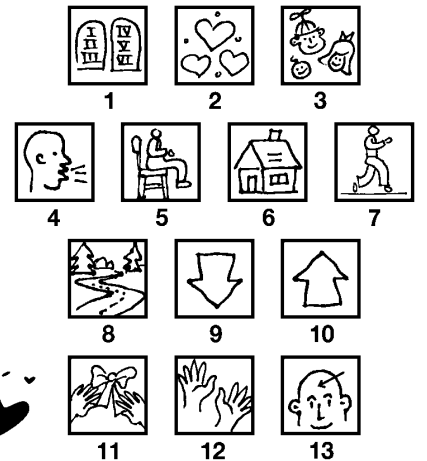
Upon your hearts

The Bible is the perfect guidebook for living God-pleasing lives. Deuteronomy 6:6-8 (NIV) tells us how to remember the Scriptures.

Use the picture clues and Word Bank below to finish the verses.

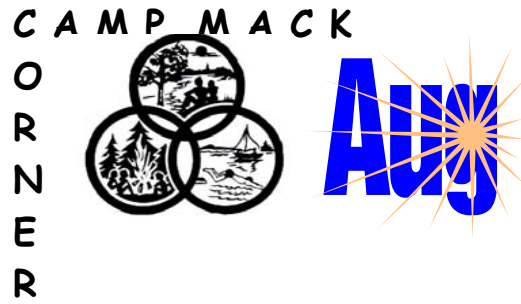
WORD BANK

children	road
commandments	sit
down	Talk
foreheads	Tie
hands	up
hearts	walk
home	



"These (1) _____ that I give you today are to be upon your (2) _____. Impress them on your (3) _____. (4) _____ about them when you (5) _____ at (6) _____ and when you (7) _____ along the (8) _____, when you lie (9) _____ and when you get (10) _____. (11) _____ them as symbols on your (12) _____ and bind them on your (13) _____."

Answers: (1) commandments; (2) hearts; (3) children; (4) Talk; (5) sit; (6) home; (7) walk; (8) road; (9) down; (10) up; (11) Tie; (12) hands; (13) foreheads



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280-FOOT BOARD WALK SECTION COM-PLETED: From the vantage point of a board walk, campers are exploring three water-focused eco-systems: wetlands prairie, a recharge area for Lake Waubee and a flowing stream. The board walk was made possible by a \$6,500 grant from the Kosciusko County Community Foundation, donor support and volunteer labor. If funds become available the board walk will be extended with a bridge over the channel connecting it to one of camp's main trails.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SUPPORT CAMP'S ANNUAL GOLF FUN(D)-RAISER on Saturday, August 9, 2008 at McCormick Creek Golf Course at Napanee. Be a player (\$65.00 each for golf, prizes and the evening meal) a sponsor (from \$100 - \$1,000), and/or a prize donor. **Help provide camper scholarships and carpeting for Becker Lodge!**

FAMILY CAMPS: Colony Camp, August 15-17, and Labor Day Family Camp, August 29-September 1, are wonderful times to experience the love of God, the beauty of camp and the joy of family togetherness! Why not check today for openings?

SCARECROW CONTEST: Youth and other church groups are invited to create scarecrows for the 10th Anniversary celebration of the Camp Mack Festival on October 4th! Scarecrows may be sitting, standing or doing some action! Each scarecrow will have a quarter (25 cent) tube near it. The winning scarecrow will be the one receiving the most quarters. Scarecrows may be kept by their creators or donated to the CMF auction.

FESTIVAL AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED: It is time to develop the sale bill for the CMF auctions! Quality auction items are needed! Please call Camp by August 15 to let Mike or Lana Kauffman know what you can donate.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Camp leaders, campers returning home, and Family Camps.

Quote: "What a beautiful day! I'm taking home some oak leaves from the labyrinth – representing the gifts that fell in my path today." -A Quiet Place retreatant.



AUGUST Birthdays

- Aug 1 Erwin Telgenhoff
- Aug 4 Deana Markley
- Aug 6 Susie Loth
- Aug 7 Nikki White
- Aug 8 Imogene Rothermel
- Aug 9 Amber Rodgers
- Aug 9 Joel McFadden
- Aug 12 Alysa Marcin
- Aug 17 Tamara Toops
- Aug 18 Tim McFadden
- Aug 18 Eric Houser
- Aug 20 Saebrina Hoke
- Aug 23 Roger Stutsman
- Aug 26 Trisha Hoke
- Aug 30 Garnett Heeter



AUGUST Anniversaries

- Aug 2 Larry & Vicki Ehret
- Aug 9 Roger & Bonnie Neal
- Aug 9 Ted & Sue Noffsinger
- Aug 20 Tim & Rosanna McFadden
- Aug 23 Steve & Judy De Pue
- Aug 27 Jim & Kristen Vance
- Aug 29 John & Betty Yoder
- Aug 29 Kurt & Lisa Vardaman

Forbidden fruit may create many jams!

ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

DATE	Worship	Sunday School
7/5	87	50
7/12	100	56
7/19	95	55
7/26		



Apparently when Scott Harney's phone number was changed while updating the directory, I put his phone number for my cell phone number.

Scott's number is correct, but please change my cell phone number to 612-3206.

Thanks, Cindy



FREE PAINT

New Life Class has nearly one gallon of deep green and one gallon of dark red interior semi-gloss paint left over from painting their classroom this summer. It is available to any Sunday School class or individual who might have use for it. If you're interested please see Ted Noffsinger or Rosanna McFadden.

Greetings from the Church Board.

The Church board met July 21 for regular board meeting at that time the board has agreed on a interim pastor for our church. We are not releasing the name at this time, since we still need to negotiate with our selection. By the time you get this note you will probably know the person we have selected. The board feels very good about the choice we have made and feel this person can be a big help in our transition to a new pastor.

The board would also like the congregation to know that Kathy Royer has accepted the position of Asst. Board Chair for the remainder of the year. We thank Kathy for taking on this important position in our church.

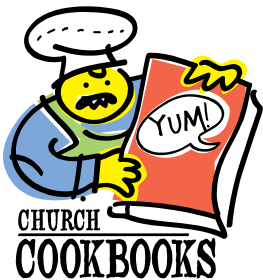


Driver Needed

I am looking for someone who is planning on attending Lois Thompson's 100th birthday party on August 2 who would be willing to drive a dear friend of Grandma's to Timbercrest. Alice Holtz needs a ride. She lives on Riverside Drive near Strong Avenue in Elkhart. Please call or email me if you are able to do this.

Thanks,
Laurie Mastic

LADIES & GENTLEMEN:



Monday, August 10 at 9:00 a.m. has been scheduled to proof all the typed recipes that people have submitted for the cook-book that will be published in the next couple of months. We need your help! We have 6 categories to go through. If we have more than 12 people to help with the proofreading, it will make the work go faster and allow us to finish by 12:00 Noon.

Please let Maryann Zerbe know if you can help.

Followers of Faith

TIME TO PRAY

A pastor asked a little boy if he said his prayers every night.

'Yes, sir,' the boy replied.

'And, do you always say them in the morning, too?' the pastor asked.

'No sir,' the boy replied. 'I ain't *scared* in the daytime.'

MEN'S RETREAT

"GREASE" FOR PEACE

We get along okay, but...

Sometimes I don't understand where
you're coming from.

Saturday, October 17, 2009

900 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Beginning with a light breakfast and including lunch

Located at Creekside in the gathering area

Men of all ages welcome

Leadership provided by Norm and Carol Waggy



The Sermon I think this Mom will never forget.... this particular Sunday sermon...'Dear Lord,' the minister began, with arms extended toward heaven and a rapturous look on his upturned face. 'Without you, we are but dust...' He would have continued but at that moment my very obedient daughter who was listening leaned over to me and asked quite audibly in her shrill little four year old girl voice, 'Mom, what is butt dust?'

YOU'RE INVITED...



City / Area

DR. W. D. Fletcher, an oncologist with Elkhart Clinic, says new cancer treatments have doubled the rate of patients who defeat the disease since 1930. (Truth photo by Paul Huffman)

Yes, it is time to celebrate a special birthday for **Dr. William Fletcher.**

You are invited to greet Bill in person on Saturday August 29 from 1 - 3 pm at Creekside Church of the Brethren on CR 113.



If you are unable to attend, please send a card to his home: 350 Hiawatha Dr. Elkhart, IN 46517.

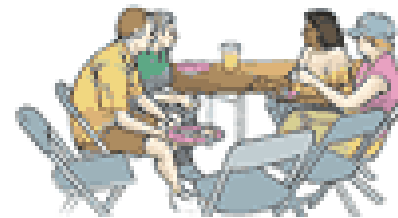
Please share your special stories in a card to preserve memories of the past for future generations

MAP

For any questions, you can call Rosemary at: (574) 294.1881



- September—Golf Outing
- 9/2—9:00 a.m.—Volunteer Fellowship
- 9/6—Labor Day Brunch
- 9/7—OFFICE CLOSED
- 9/9—7:00 p.m.—Fellowship Team Meeting
- 9/15—6:30 p.m.—Church Board
- 9/18 & 9/19—North Indiana District Conference
- 9/19—Ladies Tea
- 9/27—Stewardship Sunday
- 10/3—Camp Mack Festival
- 10/7—9:00 a.m.—Volunteer Fellowship
- 10/17—Men's Retreat
- 10/18—Children's Sunday
- 10/20—6:30 p.m.—Church Board



Summer  Candlelight
Labyrinth Walk

There will be a carry in meal on Sunday, August 2, in honor of Pastor David & Sue's last Sunday after Sunday school.

There will still be the fellowship time between worship and Sunday school, as well.

Please bring a dish to share for the carry in and your own table service. No meat will be provided, so take this into account when you plan what you are bringing.

"The Candlelight Labyrinth Walk is changed from Aug. 9 to Aug. 2, 8:30-10:00. Please consider coming to this worshipful and beautiful service. Don't forget to bring your lawn chair. So far we've had balmy weather and minimal mosquitoes. If it rains, the walk is cancelled.





2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School Candlelight Labyrinth Walk	3	4	5 7:00 p.m.—Fellowship Team Mtg.	6	7	8
9 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Church Picnic at Oxbow	17	18 6:30 p.m.—Church Board	19	20	21	22 Kid's Cookout
23 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School	24	25	26 <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER </div>	27	28	29
30 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School	31					