Christmas Eve Services
5:00 & 7:00 pm
Christmas Morning Service
10:00 am
Student Ministries Update! – November 2016

Fields of Faith Recap

We had a great turnout for Lexington’s Fields of Faith a few weeks ago. Over 300 students & adults came out and were challenged by several great speakers. A couple of our very own student even stepped up and spoke during part of the event. Hope Dowling shared about her faith and journey in growing closer to Christ. Ashtyn Flynn shared her about her experiences at Weekend of Champions the past two years and encouraged her fellow students to attend this year’s retreat.

Students Serving

This past week AWANA had their trunk or treat, and for the fourth straight year, our middle school students helped run the carnival games, and several of our high school small groups helped by decorating a trunk for the trunk or treat. It’s always exciting to see them taking steps in serving. However small it might seem, developing a lifestyle pattern of serving Jesus in his church in a huge part of anybody’s spiritual growth. We’re thankful AWANA lets them serve and play a part of what they do.

Dates
NO REFUGE – November 23rd (Thanksgiving)

As the winter weather season comes upon us we would like to inform you as to where you can check to see any closing information for Sunday mornings or Wednesday nights.

In Case of Closings due to weather check our website at www.parkviewfamily.com or KRVN Radio!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance Record</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YTD Small Group Average: 115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October Small Group Average: 175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Worship Average: 261</td>
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<tr>
<td>October Worship Average: 263</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parkview’s Financial Report (Figures as of 10/24/16)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YTD Ministry Fund Rec.: 422,661.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Min. Fund Needed: 475,703.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Average Needed: 10,977.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Average This Mo.: 9,647.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Ministry Fund Spent: 419,660.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Fund Balance: 1,041,943.64</td>
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</tbody>
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Congregational Meeting
December 4, 2016
Each year in December the Parkview family gathers to affirm the ministry budget for the next year. Every ministry team prays, evaluates and dreams about what they believe God wants for the next year of ministry. Those dreams are prioritized and submitted to the trustees who prayerfully compile them for presentation to the larger family. The final budget will represent both good stewardship and Christ-honoring faith. Copies will be available in the foyer the last of November.

At the same meeting the nominating team will present their recommendations for elected positions for the next year and new members will be affirmed.

All are welcome to attend. Only members however, may vote on recommendations put before the church family. If you are unsure of your membership status contact the church office.

Watch for time & details in the bulletin.

Refuge Food Pantry
In October, the food pantry served 101 families which means 181 bags of food were distributed. We enjoy spending time with our guest during our day. Each month, we see new faces as well as familiar ones. It is important for us to build relationships with each visitor. Our last guest this month was a first time visitor. He came to Lexington recently from El Salvador. Though he spoke very little English, he shared with us that his prior home was not safe, that there was no law enforced there and someone very close to him had been murdered. As he wept, we were able to pray for him. So many times our encounters with our guests are much more than a bag of food. Thank you for your support of this outreach ministry.

Relational Evangelism
Though there is great variety in how God has made us, we are united in our faith relationship with Him as Christians. We also share some core biblical values as his followers in the Parkview family. These values help us promote and pursue, unite with each other as we seek to impact others and follow Jesus together.

One of our core values is relational evangelism. We believe in sharing Jesus naturally in the normal flow of our relationships. In Mark 1:17 Jesus said, “Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men.” This is not optional. Those who really follow Jesus find that their hearts become like His. He noticed people. He cared about people. He connected with them because he cared. His desire was to invite others to enter the kingdom of God.

The ultimate dream is that we would become a spiritual family who cares so much about others that Jesus naturally flows out. In the end evangelism is not a program or an event. It is the flow of Christ from one person to another.

Ministry Update from Restoration Ministries
Roger & Brenda Daum
Cozad, NE.

Ministry highlights so far this year: Worked with over 30 households from 7 states. 4 salvations, seeing marriages strengthened and restored through the power of Jesus Christ. Development of a new video series called “Tools for Your Relationship Toolbox”. A new monthly internet video conference for aftercare for couples. Thank you for partnering with us and being a vital part of what God is doing to repair broken hearts and restore and strengthen marriages and families.
Greetings from Next Generation Kids! It's hard to believe we've already entered the month of November and that means the Holidays are right around the corner! We are moving right along on Sunday mornings and have spent the past year journeying through the Old Testament. Despite the fact that we have yet to even arrive at the birth of Jesus in the pages of Scripture, we nonetheless talk about Jesus every week and how our lesson points to Him and the work He has done in securing our salvation. If you have a child who attends Next Gen on Sunday mornings you have undoubtedly noticed the laminated cards they bring home with them. On those cards are the main points of that week’s lesson and are excellent resources for kids and parents to use to discuss the spiritual implications contained therein. Hopefully you have already utilized these cards in talking to your kids and if not, they can be an easy way to go deeper into the Bible story, as well as establishing a pattern of discussing spiritual things. The leaders of Next Generation Kids are here to help you as parents teach your kids the truths of the Bible but also, to demonstrate the love of Christ in the context of the local church. If there is anything we can do to further invest in your children please let us know! We are blessed to serve the children of Parkview every Sunday morning during second service.
Here’s part of an article I read called “Why Attending Church Is So Important” that I thought you might like.

1. God Said So

God tells us in His Word to “not give up meeting together” (Hebrews 10:25). The Bible even goes so far as to call the church the “Bride of Christ.” If you love Jesus, you will love the things that He loves, and there is no one a good man loves more than His bride. The church is this important to God, so it should be ever-important to us. God didn’t call us to gather and worship to burden us, but to bless us. Church attendance can become one of the greatest blessings in you and your family’s life!

2. Worshipping Jesus Together Is Powerful

Jesus lives inside of us by His Spirit when we believe in Him — this is a profoundly incredible truth! But there is also something biblically powerful about gathering together with other believers to worship. Jesus said, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them” (Matthew 18:20). So He not only lives in us by His Spirit, but He is in the “midst” of us when we gather to worship Him.

3. We Need Christian Community

All of us long for community and connection with others. God has given us this gift in gathering together for church, and in smaller groups in each other’s homes. It fulfills something inside of us to do life with others, encourage each other and be authentically involved in each other’s lives. Christian TV, podcasts, books and conferences are wonderful additions to our spiritual lives, but nothing can take the place of consistent Christian community through the local church.

4. We Grow More Together Than Alone

It can be messy when we step into each other’s lives. We are all human, and no one is perfect. So it requires effort and intentionality and grace from God to do life together, even as believers. Gathering regularly with other believers becomes a refining process whereby we help each other, pray for each other and encourage each other to want to follow Christ more wholeheartedly. It is a truly beautiful thing. See you Sunday! Scott Sarnes

Caregivers are so important, to care and love one person at a time. A caregiver is one that can’t do everything, but still can do something. We can’t refuse to do the something that we can do. You may have chosen care giving as a profession or care giving has chosen you. Either way, this is a daily commitment and sacrifice. There will be unexpected blessings, from the glimmer of recognition to nurturing the soul of a loved one. Is it possible that there are four kinds of people in the world? Those who have given care, those that are currently care givers, those who will be care givers, and those that will need a care giver. I am sure that at some point in our lives someone of us will be in all four positions. Thank you to those that have donated calendars, magazines and unused cards. Also, to Peggy Ferguson’s class who made cards - they were well done! You made many elderly people happy. Thank you for thinking of tem. Thank you for praying for LIFE Ministry. It is making a difference.
SEVEN LAWS OF SOWING AND REAPING FOR RELATIONSHIPS
By Roger Daum – Restoration Ministries

Throughout our region farmers are harvesting (reaping) their crops. The type of crops they harvest (reap) will vary, but the results of the harvest will be directly tied to the seven laws of sowing and reaping. These 7 laws also apply to relationships. What are these laws and how do they apply to the words we speak?

In Galatians 6:7-9 we read “Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Paul says we can sow to please our sinful nature, or to please the Holy Spirit. This passage is often used to address the consequences of believers choosing to walk in the flesh. The 7 laws of sowing and reaping also apply in those situations and too many Christian marriages are suffering the consequences of one or both spouses sowing to their sinful nature (Gal. 5:17-21). However, these same laws apply in a positive way to believers who follow the Holy Spirit’s leading in marriage and family relationships.

What are these 7 laws and how can we experience the positive blessings of sowing to the Spirit in our marriage and family relationships?

One way is through the way we communicate and use our words. Prov. 18:21 says, “The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat it’s fruit.” Prov. 15:4 says, “The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life”. The tongue is likened to a tree that produces fruit (seed). The words that we sow in the lives of our spouse, children, family, etc. can be words of death, or life, encouragement, comfort, and healing. How do these 7 laws of sowing and reaping apply to the seed that we sow with our tongues as well as the harvest we will reap in our lives?

1. **We reap only what has been sown.** It takes effort and discipline for a farmer to prepare the soil and sow the seed. If he was lazy and didn’t sow seed in the spring, there will be no harvest in the fall. It takes spiritual discipline and effort for us to “please the Spirit” with our words. This involves weighing our words carefully and speaking Holy Spirit led words. Words to bless and build them up. In turn we will reap blessing (1 Pet. 3:9 -11)

2. **We reap the same kind as we sow.** The farmer who sows corn, soybeans or milo will reap what he sows. If we sow to the flesh and speak words of death, what will we reap? Paul says we will reap corruption or rottenness. However, if we sow to the Holy Spirit we will reap the blessings and benefits of eternal life, and of Jesus living in and through us. We will reap the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our life and marriage and relationships (Gal. 5:22-23).

3. **We reap later than we sow.** Farmer that sow in the spring, reap months later. They sow, continue to work, and wait for the harvest. There are times we sow God’s Word, and positive affirming words and wait to see the results in the life of our spouse, a child, or friend? In Gal. 6:9, God promises we will reap later than we sow. (Ps. 27:13-14, 37:7-11, 1 Cor. 15:58)

4. **We reap more than we sow.** The hope of increase and gain at a later time motivates the farmer. They plant a small number of seeds (bushels) in a field compared to the number of bushels they harvest. How would the sowing of words that bless others (our spouse) result in our being blessed? What would happen in your marriage if you decided to out bless each other (1 Pet. 3:9-12)

5. **We reap in proportion to what we sow** – Planting less than what is recommended will result in a lower yield per acre. When we sow abundantly to the Spirit (walking in the Spirit, surrendering daily to His control and bearing the fruit of the Spirit, we will reap abounds in spiritual blessings and results in our lives and relationships. Prov. 11:24-26 speaks of how those who are generous will reap the blessings of being generous. Likewise, believers who are kind and generous with their words of blessing will reap the benefits.

6. **We reap the full harvest of the good choices we make through persevering** – Gal. 6:9-10 Farmer can’t just plant their crop. They must persevere in weeding, watering, and fertilizing the crop after it’s sown or the yield is minimized or there is not a crop to harvest. To reap the blessings of the Lord and His life in our marriages and families we must persevere through those difficult times and continue to live in obedience. If there is failure, we must repent (1 John 1:9) and purpose to walk in the light of His Word.

7. **We can’t do anything about last year’s harvest (A Crop Failure of the Past) but we can care about and make preparations for next year’s harvest.** There are times when we fail in our personal lives and relationships. God is a merciful and gracious God who

(Continued on last page)
Pastor’s log November 2016

Serving as one of your pastors is among my greatest privileges and joys in life. This month I want to start the way I often close. I am deeply thankful for each one of you and how God has worked among us together as one local branch of His family tree.

Though the imperfections of our fallen flesh still create stumbles and stings, I have seen great love for Jesus, commitment to His Word and practical displays of grace among you repeatedly. When other churches fuss & fight, we pray, persevere and press on towards the mission of Christ.

You have been a lighthouse for the lost & broken in our community and an incubator for the infants. Many have found their spiritual legs as a result of your faithfulness. Your investment in encouraging and discipling others have literally touched the world. Most importantly, together we keep our eyes on Jesus no matter how certain or uncertain we are about the next step in the moment. May that continue for many years to come.

It is only right for me to say thank you to you for being an authentic, truth anchored, grace filled spiritual family. You have been patient with a rookie pastor and loving to my children and passionate about encouraging each other. As thanksgiving & Christmas approach, I just wanted to say how much I appreciate you as a church family. I am excited to see what Jesus has next for us in the years ahead. I sense even greater impact lies ahead. May we continue growing together in a deepening relationship with Jesus, His family & His Mission.

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers; constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father…” 1Thessalonians 1:2-3

John

SEVEN LAWS OF SOWING AND REAPING FOR RELATIONSHIPS
(Continued from page 6)

God who longs to restore and help us prepare for a future harvest of blessing. Focusing on past failures and defeats will keep us from positive sowing today. We must learn from the past but not let the past define us (Phil. 3:13-14).

We want to encourage you not to let another year pass without implementing these unchanging truths in your life and relationships, and then watch for the harvest from God’s hand of blessing.