



# Cornerstone Connection

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 2018

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept 2 **SERVE** Fest
- Sept 3 **CBC** Offices Closed for Labor Day Holiday
- Sept 4 **MOPS**
- Sept 5 **SOLID** Kick Off
- Sept 6 Ladies Luncheon at Cabos in Eldridge
- Sept 8 Walk for Life
- Sept 8 Children's Volunteer Training
- Sept 9 Annual Outdoor Service & Picnic
- Sept 10 Annual **CBC** Blood Drive
- Sept 14 Family Leadership Conference in DesMoines
- Sept 14-16 Pine Lake Women's Retreat
- Sept 16 New Sunday School & **ABF** Classes Start
- Sept 22 Women's Conference at River Center in Davenport
- Sept 22 Young at Heart Bonfire
- Sept 29 **CONVERG** Service Project—Kids Against Hunger
- Sept 29 Mother/Daughter Movie Night
- Sept 30 Missions Service at Bethany Baptist Church in Moline

## Pastor Scott's Perspective - "A 40-year Journey - and Counting"

I became the pastor of Ely (MN) Baptist Church (now LedgeRock Community Church) in September of 1978. (By the way, it took three months after graduating seminary to receive my first candidating offer, and then that congregational vote was less than the required percentage to call me. It took a second vote by the Ely congregation to call me as their pastor. Glad to have a job, I stayed 13 years.) Doing the math, I have now been in full-time pastoral ministry for 40 years. What have I learned along the way? What advice might I give to a younger pastor or church leader? (Speaking from experience in smaller to mid-size churches, not megachurches).

church body and fruitfulness of a pastoral ministry depend on faithfully, consistently, effectively teaching the Word of God week by week, month by month, year by year.

them – while also allowing other pastors and ministry leaders to do congregational care.

I was 26 when I became the pastor in Ely – and I looked younger than that. Early in my ministry there, someone from the community came inside the church building, and the person looked at me and then said, "Is your dad around? – I'd like to meet the new pastor." Most of the church leaders were older and more mature than I was. As a seminary graduate, I might have known more about the Bible than most of them did, but they knew more about church life and life in general. I was young and maybe a bit of a know-it-all, but I knew better than to try to lead the church according to my own knowledge and leadership abilities. I surrounded myself with good leaders – and we led the church as a team. That has been my practice here at Cornerstone as well. I have surrounded myself with good leaders – better leaders than myself in many cases – and we lead the church as a team.

**"Practice spiritual disciplines as if your long term health, vitality and fruitfulness depend on it. They do."**

1) **Preach the Word, love the people, surround yourself with good leaders.** Most Baptists and conservative evangelicals will put up with some leadership mistakes or unwelcome changes if the pastor preaches the Gospel passionately and faithfully teaches the Word of God week after week. A clever, entertaining speaker with personal charisma and a few solid sermons in the file can keep a congregation engaged for a few weeks or months, but the long term edification of a

And then the people need to know that the pastor loves them. Love covers a multitude of errors. Especially in a smaller church such as in Ely, it was important that every member felt loved. One of the difficult adjustments of being a sr. pastor in a church the size of Cornerstone with a staff and two campuses and a multitude of ministries is that I am not able to cultivate a personal relationship with each member the way I was able to do in Ely. But I still need to look for opportunities to show people I care for

(continued on Page 2)

## A Word From Pastor Mark

What kind of church are we to be? There are three categories of churches. There is the all-grace model of churches. These churches preach grace- meaning they will accept anyone no matter what you believe or do. They preach love and tolerance. These kind of churches don't

preach much of God's Word. They usually stand against it as an outdated book that needs to be updated with progressive ideas about sin- which can become anything goes.

they will become restless because there is no truth to stand on. There is no truth to follow or obey.

People may be initially drawn to an all-grace church but in time

Another kind of church is the all-truth model of churches. This kind of church focuses strictly on (continued on Page 3)

## Pastor Scott's Perspective *(continued)*



### 2) **Be there for people in their big moments.**

Surgeries, hospitalizations, deaths in the family, funerals, weddings, baptisms, marriage & family crises, etc. If a pastor stays in a church long enough, he will have opportunity to minister to most families at one critical moment or another. If a pastor does that well, most people will be deeply appreciative of experiencing God's care for them when they really need it.

### 3) **Be diligent in sermon preparation and study.**

Establish a strong work – and study – ethic early in your ministry. Don't take short cuts. Work hard week after week and build a solid base of sermons with good spiritual–theological depth and biblical exegesis. Working hard at sermon preparation early in one's ministry will pay off later.

### 4) **Build a strong marriage and family.**

First of all, marry well, as I did. Beth struggled at first to be a pastor's wife. She also lacked confidence in being the mother of three young children. She was also out of her element in a place like Ely. So she depended on the Lord – and became an outstanding pastor's wife and mother. And we loved Ely. Beth and I have been married 44 years, and I have been her pastor for 40 of those years. If a pastor's ministry is to be effective in his own home, he needs to be the same person at home as in the pulpit. And his number one disciple needs to be his wife. *Beth has been a greater asset to my ministry than you could possibly imagine.* And our daughters lend credibility to whatever I might teach about parenting or family life.

### 5) **Be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to get angry.**

If there are drawbacks to

being a slow-witted introvert, perhaps this is an advantage (listening to others and thinking before speaking). Being a spiritual leader doesn't mean always being the first one to put forth your own opinion or insight. Listen to others. Learn from others. Affirm the good thoughts and ideas of others. Trust the wisdom of other leaders and of the body. Be patient with others. Bite your tongue as needed. Resist the temptation to correct every bad idea or wrong opinion. Give up your right to go around feeling offended. Don't become a grievance-collector. Keep your heart free of bitterness.

### 6) **Take the long view.**

Don't be in such a hurry to produce quick, visible results. In most cases, longevity and stability are good for pastors, their families, and churches alike. Frequent turnover is hard on churches and pastoral families alike. Build up the church for the long term. Look beyond the next annual report statistics. Check personal ambition. Guard against the temptation to lead the church in such a way that the pastor looks successful. Be patient with people as they grow and learn to serve and to lead. Be grateful for people who are patient with you as you learn to lead. (I am a pastor today in large part because of the patience of Ely church leaders 30-40 years ago in nurturing and encouraging a young, inexperienced and immature pastor.)

### 7) **Build some deeper relationships and friendships.**

Jesus had his 12, and his 3. He also had Lazarus, Mary and Martha. Beth and I are investing in some deeper relationships. Mentoring relationships. Discipleship relationships. Leadership development relationships. Personal friendships. Relationships that are both strategic and mutually enjoyable. Not

many people feel comfortable being good friends with a pastor or pastor's wife. We are grateful for good friendships we have had in Ely and at Cornerstone. Another advantage of longevity is the opportunity to go deeper with people.

### 8) **Practice good self-care and soul-care.**

A key to longevity. Take at least one day off a week. Religiously. Take vacations. Make regular date nights a priority. Get regular exercise. Take care of your body. Practice spiritual disciplines as if your long term health, vitality and fruitfulness depend on it. They do. Don't swallow the lie that the Kingdom of God will advance and the church will prosper only if you work a 7-day, 70+ hour work week 52 weeks a year. Neither be slothful. Spend time with God for the sake of your soul-health – not just for the sake of sermon prep.

### 9) **Stay young.**

The older you get, the more important this becomes. Be open to new ideas and to change. Stand firm on absolute truths but be flexible in nearly everything else. Stay active. Stretch outside your comfort zone. Try new experiences. Invest in activities that energize you. Spend time with younger people and younger families. Develop friendships with adults who are younger than you. Learn from an older adult who is aging well how to stay young and "green" and fruitful. Keep abiding in Christ and walking with God and accepting new assignments. Enjoy God's many good gifts. Enjoy the high calling of being a servant of the Gospel and of Christ's church.

Thank you for being part of this journey with me and Beth. It has been a joy to serve you. And the journey is not over yet. *The best is yet to come...*

## A Word From Pastor Mark *(continued)*

truth. They take the Bible literally in all aspects. Just this week there is a church in Tennessee whose Pastor was bitten by a poisonous snake and he had to be carried out of the church service and airlifted to a hospital. This group takes Mark 16:18 literally. "They will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." Sadly this Pastor is the son of the previous Pastor who died from being bitten from a poisonous snake.

All-truth churches do not have room for people who are sinners. In fact, these churches make it very difficult to be authentic and real because if you are honest about your struggles you will find out very quickly that you are not welcome- even though others in the church probably struggle with the same sins.

Jesus spoke very aggressively toward religious leaders who talked the talk but didn't walk the walk in Matt 23. These religious leaders were very legalistic and proud and didn't offer an ounce of grace.

The third category of churches is the grace and truth model. This church represents the true character of Jesus. John wrote, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14 ESV). Jesus didn't strike a balance between grace and truth. He didn't choose one side depending on the situation. He was full of grace and truth. He brought the full measure of both when interacting with every person.

The grace and truth church is Jesus' kind of church. It will one day be what The Church will look like. For many years Cornerstone has tried to live by this core value called grace and truth. It reads, "Just as Jesus was full of both grace and truth, so also our church will seek to extend accepting grace to sinners while at the same time calling for repentance and submission to the truth of God's Word. We will not condone sin or compromise truth in the name of tolerance, nor will we side with the self-righteous in condemning sinners. Jesus was the embodiment of truth and holiness and the friend of sin-

ners. In our preaching, teaching and living, we will seek to reflect the light of Jesus' grace and truth to a sin-darkened world."

Each one of us needs the full measure of grace and truth. Anything less and we are missing out. May we never shrink back from speaking the truth in love- no matter how it looks to the outside world. And may we never become stingy with God's grace that He so willingly and lavishly hands out with no fear of the consequences.

That kind of a church will draw many people to it. And it will be in that kind of church that spiritual growth will increase in great measure. Let us each do our part to be full of grace and truth by being surrendered daily to the Holy Spirit.



### Passing on the Baton of Prayer, by Teresa Bivens

For quite some time now, I've been seeking the Lord about passing on the prayer ministry baton. After sensing that He was leading me to approach Bucky and Anna Marie Percuoco, I did, and as of September 1, they will be transitioning into this leadership role. As I prayed and looked around for God's answer (you could say that I was applying what was learned when we did Experiencing God the first time around back in the day), I kept noting how faithful these two are in prayer. God is at work in them and through them in prayer, and I know that they will lead this ministry well.

It has been an immense pleasure to serve in this ministry and I know that I have grown as a result of it, so it is with bittersweet joy that I move on to other passions. Please join me in praying that Bucky and Anna Marie will find pleasure in serving the Lord in this ministry and that God would grow our church in prayer as a result of their faithfulness!

### Kids Against Hunger

Our Quad Cities Area Converge churches are uniting for a special Converge Serve event at Cornerstone on Saturday, **September 29**. We will be hosting a **Kids Against Hunger** service project from 10:00 am – 12 noon. We will be packaging **64,000 meals** that day to feed hungry children (exact destination to be determined later).

Our share of the cost of those meals is \$2,000. Part of that money will come from the missions budget, but we also want to raise funds through voluntary donations. You may give via check payable to Cornerstone with Kids Against Hunger in the memo. Or you may give online through the Elexio app to the Kids Against Hunger line item.

We will also need to provide at least 40 volunteers for the event on Sept. 29. All ages can participate. There will be sign-up sheets available later. There will be two shifts: 10:00-11:00 am and 11:00-12 noon. A light lunch will be served after each shift (actually, a sample of the meals we are packaging and sending).

There will also be a special missions service Sunday, September 30 at 4:30 pm at Bethany church in Moline. The speaker will be Jeff Lowery of Converge.

**Please mark your calendars for those special events the weekend of September 29-30.**

## Pastor Drew's Webb of Worship

While doing my Bible reading the other day I came across one of my favorite passages in all of Scripture - Hebrews 4.14-16 **14** "Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. **15** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. **16** Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

I have no idea how many times I've read or meditated on this passage (probably hundreds of times!). The High Christology of verses 14 & 15 is so majestic as it declares to us who our Savior actually is. He is not someone that is so outside of our world and who can not relate to us, rather He is someone who can "sympathize" with all that we face. He understands our trials and yet He is still found to be without sin. This is what my mind is usually drawn to when I read these verses, but the special thing about Scripture and the Holy Spirit's working is that sometimes you see things you didn't see before. The Holy Spirit brings things to our attention to go with certain places and phases in life (1 Corinthians 2.12).

This time as I was reading through Hebrews 4 my attention was drawn more towards verse 16, rather than the High Christology presented in the previous two verses. As I was reading I felt compelled to reread verse 16 - "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." This verse struck me as I considered the context of this drawing near that the verse refers to. Of course, we are encouraged to draw near to Him so that we may receive

mercy and grace, but I was struck by the fact that when we most need mercy and grace we are less inclined to actually move closer to God. Consider for a moment what happens when a child is disobedient and knows that they have been caught.



I'm not sure about yours, but our children certainly don't want to press into us when they have been disobedient. Times of disobedience bring about times of solitude and removing themselves from everything else - especially the attention of their parents. What is it that causes this? Well, I think it's a couple things: 1. a knowledge that if I make my presence known to my parents I am likely to be punished and 2. Shame.

We all want to avoid discipline and punishment. As Pastor Scott has said many times "You are free to choose your actions, but you are not free to choose the consequences for your actions." Many people today want to hide behind the banner of free speech, declaring that they can say what they want and should not be punished for what they say. Yes, you can say what you want but you are not free from any consequences that may come because of your choice in words. Punishment is an important part of life and the Christian walk. When we are disciplined it shows that we are part of God's family as He disci-

plines those He loves (Proverbs 3.12 & Hebrews 12.6). While this discipline shows our family ties it also serves to help set us back on the right path as we learn from our sins and mistakes.

Then when I think about shame I can't help but think about how much it makes you want to run and hide. Shame makes you want to shut everybody out, to not be real with those in your life. It makes you want to pretend everything is perfect and keep conversations at the surface level. Shame works against you and it helps to keep the chains on you.

When I feel any sense of shame my human fleshly response is to run away from God. He's Holy, completely pure in a sense that you and I can't imagine. He certainly must not want to be close to someone as dirty as myself. Yet in Hebrews 4.16 we discover that Christ's being who He is actually compels us to go to Him. The fact He is the Great High Priest, the fact He can sympathize with us, the fact He has been tempted. These facts point us back to Jesus Christ and cause us to go deeper into that relationship, rather than running away from Him.

We can confidently approach Him and know that there, at His throne of grace, we receive that which we desperately need - His mercy and grace. As these wash over us they wash our pains and fears away, and serve to help us get through all we are facing. Mercy and grace erode away the shame and help set us back in a right relationship with our God.

What a beautiful thing for the Christian to think about finding all we need in Christ. These are not just words we throw around, but they have significant ramifications in our lives, enabling us to draw closer to Him, even when it seems unlikely for us to do so.

### September Food Pantry Items

"Canned fruit, canned meals, & pasta"

Please place donated items on the cart outside the nursery.

Thank you!



### Life. Worth Defending.

Pregnancy Resources invites you to WALK4LIFE on **Saturday, September 8th**. If you are interested in participating, please go online at [www.qcpregnancypartners.org](http://www.qcpregnancypartners.org).

**walk BIG**

Pregnancy Resources  
**Saturday, September 8, 2018**  
[qcpregnancypartners.org](http://qcpregnancypartners.org)

Sponsored by:

## Pastor Steffan's Reckless Obedience

It is, perhaps, the most difficult part of experiencing God.

In my most recent sermon, I spoke on reality six – making adjustments, and used several stories and anecdotes as illustrations. One such illustration concerned my transition from my old job to my current job. And although the story was entirely accurate, it was incomplete, as it lacked what proved to be my crisis of belief in the process.

It all began at a deacon retreat approximately seven years ago. During the retreat, I shared that I was certain that God was calling me from the FBI, but to what I did not know. I felt that God had something new in store for my life. As I had been serving with FCA and the high school basketball team for years, perhaps a parachurch ministry was in my future. I knew that my FBI career had a limited shelf life, as retirement is mandatory at 57, and I was now in my late 40s; I wanted to know what was next.

I asked for prayer from my closest brothers-in-Christ, requesting they intercede on my behalf, asking God to show me what was next...for God to prepare me for what is next. They all prayed.

And then nothing happened.

And my life simply went on.

My FBI career continued. And although I truly enjoyed what I was doing, I was no longer drawn to it. It was no longer part of my identity. My assignment in the Bureau changed. I transitioned out of active investigations and into a leadership and training role that involved a great deal of teaching and public speaking. Instead of developing arrest plans, I was now developing programs.

My work life was good, but I was not hearing from God. God was not answering my prayers. God was not preparing me.

I continued to attend church regularly. I taught Sunday School. I taught Children's Church. Over the course of several years, I ended up teaching every age group in the church, from pre-k through adult, and in that, came to know every child and young adult in the church. As Sandy's duties as the Director of Children's Ministries kept her at church all morning, every Sunday morning, I began attending and greeting at both services, and in doing so, got to know every adult in the church.

My faith life was good, but I was still not hearing from God. God was not answering my prayers. God was not preparing me.

I continued to serve on the deacon board, but not as I had before. In a highly questionable move by the board, after only one year on the board, I was selected to serve as the deacon chair. As the chairman, I had to work closely with Pastor Scott, getting to know him, growing to love him, and appreciating his leadership, even more than I had before. With fellow deacon Jeff Pepping, I delivered a sermon one ServeFest Sunday.

Yes, my faith life was good, very good, but I was still not hearing from God. God was not answering my prayers. God was not preparing me.

As an FBI agent, I was invited into the high school as a guest speaker on terrorism. What began as a one-time presentation grew into an annual event which has introduced me to, and offered regular access to, every student at North Scott over the last five years. My role and influence with the basketball team grew. My influence in

the school and community grew. My service within the community was good, but I was still not hearing from God. God was not answering my prayers. God was not preparing me.

Where was God? Why was he not doing anything? Why was he not showing me where to go or what to do? Why was he not preparing me? I was frustrated. Why was he taking so long?



Unwilling to wait any longer, I began to head out on my own. I researched several church and para-church organizations. I contacted the International Justice Mission. But nothing. What had the years of prayer resulted in? Nothing. In my eyes, I was no more prepared to leave the FBI than I was five years before. I was now fifty-two. The clock was ticking...

What a fool I was. How little faith I had.

Of course, God had been at work the entire time, growing me, preparing me, and preparing the soil in which I was to sow my ministry. While serving as the associate pastor at Cornerstone had never been my plan, it had obviously always been his...I mean look back at the last six or seven years of my life. How could I have missed it? Why was I so impatient?

Why do I find it so easy to trust God's call, but so hard to trust his timing?

"Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD! - Psalm 27:14

## Church Financial Report

Giving to the General Fund (church budget) for the first three weeks of August has averaged \$15,887 per week (compared to budget of \$15,550). Worship attendance has also been up over year-ago levels.

Remember that you can now give online if you would like. See Tony Rupe or contact the church office for details.

Thank you and God bless you for your faithful support of the Lord's work at Cornerstone.

## Family News

Our deepest Sympathy goes out to the following families.

Dennis & Mickey Blake on the loss of Dennis' father, Henry.

Leilana Keeney of the loss of her brother, Ron Welchman. Also uncle to Gail Welchman.

Vern & Chris Christophersen on the loss of Chris' mother, Carol Peters.



2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</b>						
2 Carter Owens Kyle & Lindsey Colson Quinn & Kristi Smith	3	4 Peg Goltry	5 Ryan Senkble Danielle Wheeler	6	7 Pastor Hildeyo Hayworth Jerry Nigh Jason & Amanda Schwartzhoff	8 Richard Clark
9 Obadiah Hagedom Larry & Carolyn Blustrom	10 Catelyn Cook Emily Gehring Annalise Hojnacki Creighton & Christine Lease	11 Nathan McMurrin Lori Paulus	12 Harmony Hansel Mercie Hansel Tim & Kim Worthington	13 Kenzah Colson Marc Orcutt	14 Chelsey Blake Andrea Ideker Emerson Reid Rich & Renae Mohr	15 Dennis & Judy Dean
16 David & Judy Holt	17 Betsy Allen Teresa Bivens John & Alice Green	18 Maleah Paulus Scott & Leah Carlson Jerry & Lora Nigh Pastor Mark & Andrea Zevenbergen	19	20 Madison Hojnacki David & Susie Newsum	21 Tyler Gehring Bill Gerth Glory Hansel Shane & Mandy Monroe	22 Jacob Rupe
23 Dan Allison Andy Chapman Dylan Snyder	24 Chad Guge Brynleigh Waack	25 David & Paula Mess	26 Mike & Vicky Becraft	27 Bailey Boddicker Philip Graham Steve Scull	28 Jan Agan Connie Coy Dillan Randel	29 Peggy Grell Stephanie Stone
30 Isaac Stanley						



# Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 SERVE FEST 7:45-8:10 am Prayer (E) No SS & ABF 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30-11:30 am Serve Noon Luncheon in the ROCK	3 CBC Offices Closed 	4 8:45-10:30 am MOPS 6:30-8:30 pm Heart Shot	5 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00 pm AWANA 6:45 pm Bible Study & Prayer (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth Kick Off	6 9:00 am Women's Bible Study meet at Green Thumbers 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon at Cibus 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK 6:30-8:30 pm Heart Shot	7 Family Leadership Summit 2018 in Deathlines Pine Lake Women's Retreat (Sept 14-16)	8 7:30 am Men's Study, room 216 8 am -Noon Walk for Life 9:00-11:00 am CBC Children's Volunteer Training at Eldridge Campus
9 1:00 am Annual Outdoor Church Service & Picnic @ Grace Lutheran Camp in DeWitt—No SS or ABF's	10 12-7 pm CBC Annual Blood Drive	11 6:30-8:30 pm Heart Shot Young at Heart Creation Museum Trip (Sept. 11-13)	12 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00 pm AWANA (DVM) 6:45 pm Bible Study & Prayer (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth	13 9:00 am Women's Bible Study meet at Green Thumbers 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK 6:30-8:30 pm Heart Shot	14 Family Leadership Summit 2018 in Deathlines Pine Lake Women's Retreat (Sept 14-16)	15 7:00 am Men's Study - DWT 7:30 am Men's Study, room 216 7:30 am Trustee Meeting
16 New ABF & SS Classes Start 7:45-8:10 am Prayer (E) 8:45 am SS & ABF (DVM) 10:00 am Worship Service (DWT) 9:45-10:30 am SS & ABF's (E) 8:15 & 10:45 am Worship Service (E)	17	18 8:45-10:30 am MOPS 6:30-8:30 pm Heart Shot	19 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Prayer (DVM) 6:45 pm Bible Study & Prayer (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth	20 9:00 am Women's Bible Study meet at Green Thumbers 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK 6:30-8:30 pm Heart Shot	21 7:30 am Men's Study, room 216 Iron Sharpens Iron Women's Conference 4:30 pm Young @ Heart Bonfire	22 7:30 am Men's Study, room 216 Iron Sharpens Iron Women's Conference 4:30 pm Young @ Heart Bonfire
23 Nurse Office Open 7:45-8:10 am Prayer (E) 8:45 am SS & ABF (DVM) 10:00 am Worship Service (DWT) 9:45-10:30 am SS & ABF's (E) 8:15 & 10:45 am Worship Service (E)	24	25 6:30-8:30 pm Heart Shot	26 6:30 am Men meet @ Denny's NW Blvd., Dav. 6:00 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Prayer (DVM) 6:45 pm Bible Study & Prayer (E) 7:00 pm SOLID Youth	27 9:00 am Women's Bible Study meet at Green Thumbers 6:30 pm Coed Volleyball in ROCK 6:30-8:30 pm Heart Shot	28	29 7:30 am Men's Study, room 216 10:00 am—Noon Kid's Against Hunger Service Project at CBC Eldridge Campus 7:00-9:30 pm Mother/Daughter Movie Night at DeWitt Campus
30 7:45-8:10 am Prayer (E) 8:45 am SS & ABF (DVM) 10:00 am Worship Service (DWT) 9:45-10:30 am SS & ABF's (E) 8:15 & 10:45 am Worship Service (E) 4:30 pm Missions Service @ Bethany Church in Melroe						

# 2018

## Cornerstone Kids' Connection, by Sandy Nass, DBCM

### S.O.L.I.D. Youth Kick Off on Sept. 5th

Inviting all 7th – 12th grade students to join us for our annual SOLID Kick Off night.

Come find out who the new & current leaders are, what some of the upcoming events are, & how you can be involved!

Bring a friend, enjoy a fun time of fellowship, & end the night with some ice cream!

We will meet at our CBC Eldridge campus from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Hope to see you there!



Summer is winding down and I want to thank our summer Sunday School teachers: Andres and Darlene Arana, Tony and Elisabeth Rupe, Brandy Simmons, Tori Andrews, Suzy and Grace Gainer, Kelly Orcutt, Tim Doty, Kevin Hagedorn, Paula Mess, Tammy Bullock, and the apologetics teachers who taught Cornerstone's kids over the summer months. You are a HUGE blessing!

AWANA begins Wednesday, August 29th. For more information about AWANA and to register your kids (or yourself to volunteer), please go to Cornerstone's website: [cornerstone-eldridge.org/ministries/children](http://cornerstone-eldridge.org/ministries/children) Men, we need you. If our "Experiencing God" series has been speaking to you, could serving at AWANA be the place where God wants to work through you? 65% of the kids we currently have registered are boys, but only two of our

volunteers are men. If we want our boys to grow into men who love Jesus, and want our daughters to marry men who love Jesus, we must have godly men showing our boys how to do that. We have so many exceptional, godly men at Cornerstone; I'd love to see more involved in this outreach. Thank you!

All Cornerstone Kids volunteers, from nursery workers to AWANA volunteers, will need to be trained in our Child Protection Policies which will be implemented this fall. Please attend 'Put Me In, Coach!', our training event scheduled for Saturday, September 8, 9:00-11:00 am. There will be food and prizes...

'Move Up Sunday' is September 16. All kids will advance to their current grade level in Sunday School and Children's Church that day. Children's Church in Eldridge is for kids

up through 2nd grade and in DeWitt, up through 4th grade. We have Sunday School for kids of all ages.

As a reminder, please pick up your kids (babies - 2nd graders) from their classrooms immediately after the worship services and Sunday School. This is a sweet courtesy to our volunteers and shows them how much you respect and value them and all they're doing so you can have an uninterrupted time of worship and ABF. Thank you!

Lastly, please pray for Cornerstone's kids and for all of our teachers and workers.

Thank you for the privilege of leading this ministry and for your prayers as we endeavor to raise the coming generation to know Jesus. He is worthy!

## 2018 ABF Fall Class Electives: Starting Sept. 16th

Fall ABF (Adult Bible Fellowship) class electives will be starting on **September 16th**.

We encourage you join one of the class electives listed below. Let God grow you in the knowledge and wisdom of who He is and allow Him to draw you closer to Himself.

Be blessed by the teaching, fellowship, and encouragement you will receive by engaging with other believers studying the Word of God!

### DeWitt Campus

- **Book of Matthew**

Study the story of Jesus: His life, His teachings through the different parables, & miracles He preformed. Led by a team of instructors.

### Eldridge Campus

- **The Timothy Initiative**

The fundamentals of becoming a disciple who, in turn, makes disciples who make disciples. Led by Pastor Scott in room 212.

- **College and Young Adults**

A course that is geared toward college age and young adults. This class will focus on topics that young adults are facing in today's world. Led by Suzy Gainer in room 213.

- **D6 Curriculum for Parents**

This course that will take parents through the same curriculum that their children are studying in Sunday School and equip them with the necessary tools to be able to lead deeper spiritual discussions at home with their children. Led by Pastor Drew in room 214.

- **New Testament Survey**

Continuation of an in-depth study of the New Testament. Led by Larry Brewer in room 216.

- **Old Testament Survey**

Continuation of an in-depth study of the Old Testament. Led by Stan Howell in room 215.

- **Mentoring**

Mentoring for those who are seeking answers to more in depth questions in a smaller/quieter setting, more one on one environment. Led by Bucky Percuoco in the Church Library.

- **The Good Book Study**

For new believers to life-long Christians, The Good Book will cover the major themes of the Bible – at the center of which is God Himself. Led by Pastor Steffan in the Church Office Conference Room.

Please contact Pastor Mark at [zev4cbc@gmail.com](mailto:zev4cbc@gmail.com) or Pastor Steffan at [steffannass1@gmail.com](mailto:steffannass1@gmail.com) if you have any questions concerning any of the class electives listed.

## Sonshine Community Ministries, by Jan Kloss

I wasn't sure if doing the "Experiencing God" Bible study was going to be beneficial since I had participated in the church wide Bible study years ago with Cornerstone. Didn't I already know everything I needed to know? LOL! God has shown me so much this time around and is making such a difference that I don't think I can put it all in words, but I will try.

First, let me say, the first time doing the "Experiencing God" Bible study was a life changing experience. That time around, God showed me I could go into ministry...that He would equip me. That is when Sonshine Community Ministries was born.

So, what would I learn this time around? Let's just go through the 7 Steps of 'Experiencing God.'

1. "God is always at work around you." Do you know there were people that had been praying for at least 3 years for a faith based after school program at Ed White Elementary? I didn't know that when I went to talk to the principal last spring about starting a program there. God had been there, holding the door open for me.
2. "God pursues a continuing love relationship with you that is real and personal." I have never felt so connected and loved by God as I do now. I feel myself growing and desiring a closer relationship with Him. There is so much "joy" in this connection.
3. "God invites you to become involved with Him in His work." God had prepared the way for a program at Ed White. I had thought about going to one of the North Scott elementary schools for some time, but I kept putting it off. I

suppose it was fear or intimidation that held me back. I knew it would be quite an undertaking and a lot of organizing. Those of you who know me, know I am the most disorganized person in the Quad-Cities, perhaps the WORLD. I also knew there would be two huge obstacles: First, getting permission from the principal. She said an enthusiastic "YES"! Then there was the problem of getting volunteers. Actually, I have had people come to me and want to volunteer. And, the whole disorganization thing: He gave me help in that department in the persons of Mary Scull, Anne Brockway, and Kim Worthington.

4. "God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways." Just when I was wondering if I had got the message wrong, because I had not heard from Ed White's principal and I literally had no volunteers, I got a message from Mary Scull. She said, "I heard you were starting a club at Ed White, can we help". And the very next morning I got a call from Ed White's principal asking to "get together" . There were more incidents that came in rapid succession that confirmed God's desire for an After School Program at Ed White.
5. "God's invitation for you to work with Him always leads you to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action." Yes, because of my weaknesses and my doubts, I really questioned the Ed White program and some other issues that I felt I was being led toward. But, ultimately, I came to the realization that if God was calling me to do something, He would equip me and provide a way. He did this years ago when He called me to ministry. I was the

least likely candidate for mission work, and yet, here I am. Not on my "steam" but only by the grace of God.

6. "You must make major adjustments in your life to join God in what He is doing." Years ago when God called me to ministry, I made many major adjustments. One was deciding to leave the security of a secular job and the other was living for MANY years without medical insurance. But, God is so good and He got me through circumstances and provided a way. If He calls you He will equip you. He is still asking me to make adjustments in my life and ministry. And, I am saying "yes".
7. "You come to know God by experience as you obey Him and He accomplishes His work through you." I am just starting this chapter, but I already feel I know God and His ways better than I ever have. I believe He is calling me to make changes in Sonshine Ministries and in my life and I just want to say: "Here I am Lord, send me".

Another study that I just recently finished was the TTI class led by Pastor Scott during our ABF time. This is a class on discipleship. Making disciples who make disciples who make disciples...and on and on. This class had a huge impact on me also. Between this class and the "Experiencing God" study I feel God is leading me to exciting changes . Because I have already taken up enough "space" in this newsletter, I will wait until next month to share with you my experience with the TTI class.

Lastly, I highly recommend both of these studies: The "Experiencing God" Bible study and taking the TTI class on discipleship. Both can be life changers.

## Annual Outdoor Church Service & Picnic

Our annual picnic will once again be combined with an outdoor worship service this year. The service will begin at **10:00 am** on **September 9th** at the Outdoor Chapel at Grace Lutheran Camp in DeWitt. There will be no Sunday School, ABF's, or Children's Church. The Outdoor Chapel has built-in benches but we encourage you to bring chairs or blankets to sit on should the benches be filled to capacity. Also, please allow time to get to the camp, park, and walk to the location. Close parking will be minimal.

After the service we will have a picnic. Please bring both a LARGE side dish and dessert to share, as well as TABLE SERVICE for YOUR FAMILY. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks will be provided.

*\*Please remember to bring your checkbooks to allow for normal monetary giving to our monthly budgeted expenses. In case of inclement weather all activities will be held at Cornerstone's Eldridge Campus.*



## Women's Ministry Event

CBC Women's Ministry team is having a "Mother/Daughter Movie Night" on Saturday, September 29th from 7:00-9:30 pm at our CBC DeWitt Campus.

This is a night designated for mothers and daughters to be able spend time together as well as the opportunity to fellowship with other sisters in Christ.

Let's get comfy! No need to dress up. Bring your pillows and blankets. And yes ladies, you can wear your PJ's or sweats. Drinks will be provide, however, we ask that you bring a snack to share.

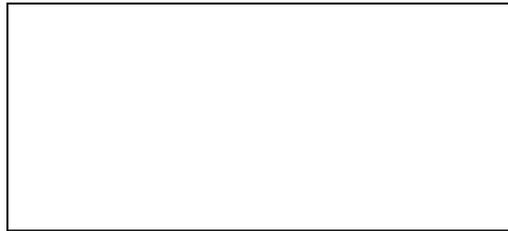
More information will be coming and sign up sheets will be available closer to the date.

Feel free to contact Tammy Bullock at [tammy.bullock@mchsi.com](mailto:tammy.bullock@mchsi.com) or Deana Trotter at [deanatrotter@mchsi.com](mailto:deanatrotter@mchsi.com).

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

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## Women's Retreat at Pine Lake

Women's Retreat is a time for ladies to be refreshed and rejuvenated in the presence of familiar friends and make some new friends. Enjoy all of this & more!

**Theme: The Adventure begins with Song of Songs 2:13B**

**When: September 14-16**

**Speaker: Lori Boruff, author, speaker, and life-plan coach. Co-director of Christian Communicator.**

### Highlights

Incredible worship and challenging messages are the cornerstone of the weekend. Saturday afternoon offers many choices. Sign up for a craft, a workshop or a turn on the rifle range!

You can also canoe, take a walk around the lake, bicycle, shop, head down the zip line, or visit the rifle range. The food is great plus you don't have to cook or clean up! For more information & registration, go online at [www.pinelakecamps.org](http://www.pinelakecamps.org)

### Come and join us on Sunday Mornings!

	CBC Eldridge 775 E Le Claire Rd	CBC DeWitt 320 2nd Street
Family Sunday		
School Opportunities	9:45 am	8:45 am
Worship Services	8:15 & 10:45 am	10:00 am

## A Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference

Is your marriage stuck in a rut and in need of refreshing? Or do you just want to grow deeper into a relationship with your spouse? Below are a couple of conferences that you can sign up for to get away and do just that. Reconnect, Refresh, Reenergize, Rekindle & Remember the love you share.

- Cedar Rapids: November 2-4
- St. Louis: December 7-9

For more information AND to receive a discount, contact Scott or Teresa Bivens at [bivstikk@netins.net](mailto:bivstikk@netins.net).

## SERVE Fest Schedule

Please join our CBC family as we serve our local communities together. We strongly encourage that you attend the worship service at the church campus of the town you will be serving in.

Schedule for Sunday, September 2nd:

- **8:30 - 9:15 a.m. — Worship services at both Eldridge & DeWitt campuses**
- **9:30 - 11:30 a.m. — Serve**
- **Noon — Meet back at CBC Eldridge Campus for lunch & a time of fellowship**