

# NEW COVENANT PRESS

NEW COVENANT CHURCH "NEWSLETTER" Georgette Snook, Editor Issue # 7 October 2018

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: DINNERS

Now that Fall has arrived, the schedule includes Wednesday Night Dinners again. We hope that all who intended to come will make it so that the dinners can continue profitably. The cost is \$6.00 for adults, and \$4.00 for children up to age 10. Please come out and join us from 5:15 to 6:00 and enjoy the great fellowship along with the food. For further information, see Robin.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: AWANA

On Wednesday nights from 6:15 to 7:45 is Awana Clubs. We offer ages 2 through 6th grade. Currently we have Kristi Bradanni as Head Secretary, Marlin Balsiger as the Commander; (While he is gone, he will be replaced by Scott Browning. Dean Walker and Marlin lead TnT (3rd - 6th grades); Donna Walker leads Cubbies (ages 3 - 4) and Sparks (K - 2nd.) We currently need another helper for our youngest group, Puggles (2 - 3 year olds). Kristi says that Mindy Chapman is her right hand woman, helping her in areas wherever needed. Jacqueline Lange is a helper in games for Awana. NOW---what is Awana? The name is made up of initials for "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed". Kristi says that Awana is a world-wide nonprofit ministry focused on providing Bible-based evangelism and discipleship solutions for ages 2 - 18. As the global leader in child and youth discipleship, Awana gives children the opportunity to know, love and serve Jesus, no matter their background. For over six decades, the Lord has used the ministry of Awana to reach kids, equip leaders, and change the world. The unchanging truth of the gospel drives the same vision we've held all these years to reach children in every corner of the globe as we walk boldly into the future and continue to be used by God to help change the world.

So come out Wednesday nights and be a part of what's happening with Awana and the dinner!

## THE HIDDEN GOSPEL

There are so many unsaved people out there who are blinded by satan so that they do not understand or believe the Gospel. It is hidden from their eyes. II Corinthians 4:3 tells us, "...and even if our Gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing." (NIV). KJV says "to them who are lost", and the Living Bible says, "If the Good News we preach be hidden to anyone, it is hidden from the one who is on the road to eternal death." This describes many folks we know, doesn't it? The reason they are not saved might just be that they have not really heard the Gospel with understanding to begin with. And many will not listen when someone tries to tell them about Jesus and His salvation. So let's make the Gospel plain to them through not only our words, but by our actions. They are looking at us.

Our church has been encouraging us to go out and bring our friends and neighbors to church with us. And this is a wonderful place to bring the unsaved ones into contact with Christianity so that they will understand what it is like. Here they will find an unveiled Gospel. Here they will see what they have been missing as the Holy Spirit opens their eyes. Let's pray that they will come to Jesus and be saved; invite them to come to church where they belong on Sundays! Let's let the fellowship and the Biblical preaching and worship service make the Gospel plain to one and all---let it be hidden no more.

## BO AND JANA E

For the last four and one half years, Bo and Janae Blandford have been leading us in worship, but now they are leaving us! Bo is a man of many talents; he plays many musical instruments: multiple guitars, bass guitar, bass, mandolin, ukulele, violin, piano, piccolo, trombone and drums. (Thanks, Carol.) He has led us in singing, along with his wife Janae. They have acquainted us with much of the newer Christian music. For all this, many thanks to them. We thank the Lord for their faithful service and pray that God will bless them and little Ronan as they depart from us and transition into the next stage of their lives. We will miss seeing their smiling faces with us Sunday mornings.

## OF LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Is there someone you don't like? Someone who has offended you? Someone who has harmed you? You just can't stand him; indeed, you actually hate her. But God does not hate them. Not at all; He loves them. He loves them so much, in fact, that He sent His only begotten Son to die on the cross to save them from their sins. And Jesus even asked His Father to forgive His enemies for what they were doing to Him. If He wanted God's forgiveness for them while He was still suffering on the cross (Luke 23:34), what's the matter with us if we can't forgive those who have made us angry for some reason?

Could it be that we do not love them? Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12), and "...be ye kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." (Ephesians 4:32) He even told us to "Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you." (Luke 6:27) And in verse 28, He tells us to bless and pray for them. How much plainer could He have put it?

In Luke 17:3 & 4, Jesus said, "...rebuke him, and if he repent, forgive, even if he does it seven times in a day." (Have we attempted to clear up the problem? How about having a discussion to straighten it up?) Yet His enemies had not repented at the time He said that. What an example Jesus set in both the area of love and of forgiveness!

In the familiar words of Matthew 6:12, we are to ask our heavenly Father to "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." He said, "...forgive, if you have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses." (Mark 11: 25 & 26), and "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: but if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. (Matthew 6: 14 & 15) So where does that leave us if we don't love or forgive those who have trespassed against us in some way? 'Nuff said. G.S.

## PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Two! Four! Six! Eight! Who do we appreciate? Pastor Randy! We do appreciate him and Robin all year long, but we need to think about them more than usual in October, as do other churches who celebrate their pastors. Are there some good reasons to do so? How about these?

1. His preaching is interesting, and even humorous at times, as well as Biblical.
2. He has a great singing voice we'd like to hear more often.
3. He plays several musical instruments too.
4. He visits people in the hospital.
5. He is missionary-minded, even going on several missionary trips himself each year.
6. He challenges us and invites us to the altar if the Lord has spoken to us to come. And there are more than just two more to make up the eight reasons. So what else is on your list for which to give thanks for our Pastor and show your appreciation for him?