
"And my God will meet
all your needs
according to the riches of
his glory in Christ Jesus."
PHILIPPIANS 4:19
The Herald

Thoughts from a Pastor…

Here is an update on our journey of recruiting and affirming Elder candidates. We currently have two different committees working on this. One is the Steering Committee, made up of John Stam, Jack & Nicole Petersen, Mike Paul, Alisha Kolb, Lonnie Feddersen, Dennis Siebert, and me, which has been tasked with looking at the current structure of the leadership in our church. They will be making recommendations for possible BYLAW changes to the congregation in hopes of setting up the new Elders for success. They have been meeting 2x per month.

On Sunday, November 15th, they will be presenting their recommendations to the congregation at an Informational meeting after 2nd Service. This will be a great time for questions and answers before an official vote in December.

The Vetting Committee, made up of Lonnie Feddersen, Casey Richards, Tony & Elizabeth Denn, Don Enders, Lynn Edwards, Pete Kolb, and me, has been meeting every Friday at 7am. Some may be wondering why the process is taking so long. It is not as simple as sitting around a table and throwing out names of potential Elders and voting on them. They are having deep discussions about the role of Elders and what the Bible has to say about it. They have already read two books, “They Smell Like Sheep” and “Church Elders” in preparation for the meetings and are currently going through a third book, “God Meetings,” together as a group.

This committee has made incredible progress, which they will share at the Informational meeting in November. They have come up with a process for Elders to be pursued and have created multiple documents to be used as tools during the candidate process.

A lot of care and biblical discussion has taken place in both of these committees, and I am encouraged by the direction that these committees are taking to care for our church body. Thank you for your patience, trust, and encouragement as we take on this monumental task.

In Christ,

Pastor Ben Larsen

Bible Reading Plan
THE GOSPEL IN 45 DAYS

WEEK 1
Introduction and Early Ministry

- ❍ Day 1: Matthew 1-2 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 2: Luke 1-2 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 3: Matthew 3; Mark 1 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 4: John 1 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 5: Matthew 4; Luke 3 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 6: John 2-3 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 7: Matthew 5 Date:_____

WEEK 2
Jesus' Early Ministry Continues

- ❍ Day 8: Matthew 6 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 9: Matthew 7 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 10: John 4 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 11: Mark 2; Luke 4 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 12: John 5 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 13: Matthew 8; Mark 3 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 14: Luke 5 Date:_____

WEEK 3
Teachings and Miracles

- ❍ Day 15: Matthew 9; Mark 4 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 16: Luke 6 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 17: Matthew 10 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 18: Mark 5; Luke 7 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 19: Matthew 11; John 6 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 20: Matthew 12; Mark 6 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 21: Luke 8 Date:_____

WEEK 4
Further Teachings and Challenges

- ❍ Day 22: Matthew 13; John 7 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 23: Matthew 14; Mark 7 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 24: Luke 9; John 8 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 25: Matthew 15; Mark 8 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 26: John 9-10 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 27: Luke 10-11 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 28: Matthew 16; Mark 9 Date:_____

WEEK 5
Toward the Passion

- ❍ Day 29: Matthew 17; Luke 12 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 30: Matthew 18; John 11 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 31: Luke 13-14 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 32: Matthew 19; Mark 10 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 33: Luke 15 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 34: John 12; Matthew 20 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 35: Mark 11; Luke 16 Date:_____

WEEK 6
Path to the Cross

- ❍ Day 36: Luke 17-18; John 13 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 37: Matthew 21; Mark 12 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 38: Luke 19; John 14 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 39: Matthew 22; Mark 13 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 40: Luke 20; John 15-16 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 41: Matthew 23; Mark 14 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 42: Luke 21-22; John 17 Date:_____

WEEK 7
The Passion and Resurrection

- ❍ Day 43: Matthew 24-25; John 18 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 44: Matthew 26; Mark 15; John 19 Date:_____
- ❍ Day 45: Matthew 27-28; Mark 16; Luke 23-24; John 20-21 Date:_____

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Ministry Moment – Celebrate Recovery

"I'm Fine" and the Beatitudes

We all say it when someone asks us how we are doing. It's the polite, simple answer. We don't like to complain or 'dump' our stuff on others – especially at church! When we come to church, we put on our smile, our "Sunday best" clothes and attitudes. "Blessed are the strong, the beautiful, the rich and those who look the most put together." Right? We don't let people get too close to us, lest they see the mask we wear every Sunday. But if we were all really "fine", why are we "the most anxious, most lonely, most medicated, most addicted, most exhausted generation in history?" (Pastor Trevor Johnston).

Church is the one place we should be able to be not ok – not "fine". Matthew 5:3 says "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The poor in spirit will say that they are the worst sinner they know. They will say, "I need help." When asked how they are doing, they will be honest and say, "I'm struggling and I really need some prayer". How would you react to that if someone answered you that way when you asked how they were doing? Most of us would take their hand or put our arm around their shoulders and invite them to sit down and talk and pray. That doesn't just bless the person struggling, it also blesses the person offering the ear to listen, the shoulder to cry on and it blesses God! Shouldn't that be what Church is all about?

We don't need to be afraid to be honest and vulnerable – especially at church. Where else can we be so? We don't need to be afraid of being sad and heartbroken when bad things happen. Life is hard at times! For everyone! So instead of saying "I'm fine" when you are not, be honest. Admit to God and to a person you trust that you are struggling and watch the blessings flow. Honesty and vulnerability build strong relationships and isn't that one of the things our church family should be about? Church should be our safe space. A place where we can be honest and ask for the help we need….a hospital for the hurting, anxious and broken.

If the church is the hospital, Celebrate Recovery is the ER! The 8 Principles of CR are based on the Beatitudes. Through the 12 Steps and 8 Principles we learn how to be honest, how God can help us heal and how to then carry that message to others. Recovery is not just for the chemically addicted! That is a misnomer that keeps so many who struggle with life's hurts, habits and hang-ups from getting help!

Ministry Moment – Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery meets every Tuesday night here at the Little White Church. We have a meal together at 5:45 and our large group meeting starts at 6:30. We break into small gender specific groups at 7:30 to share a little deeper and we always start off the night with praise and worship. The church is a place for us to be real and Celebrate Recovery can help us dig a little deeper so we can heal and help others. CR is for everyone. We hope you will join us! Our Celebrate Recovery TEAM would like to thank you all for your continued support, encouragement and prayers.

-Steve and Angela McDonnell, Jeff and Jan Sunkten, Lynn Edwards and Joelle Flick



Missions Moment – Operation Christmas Child

Christmas is next month! Oh my. Once again during November the Little White Church and our KidzAlive program are sponsoring a Christmas shoebox drive on behalf of Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse with the mission to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching children with the Good News of Jesus Christ. They ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S.



For many years the Little White Church has sponsored a shoe box drive and the last six or so years have been close to or even gone over the 100 mark. The first three Sundays of November we will watch short videos of God's work through the shoebox ministry and learn of ways each of us can be involved. We will have boxes, donation envelopes and other items at our display table in the Fellowship Hall.

The KidzAlive program will pack boxes on a Wednesday afternoon November 11. For the Little White Church, we ask for complete boxes and a donation of $10/box for shipping; however, KidzAlive is receiving individual items to pack in their boxes. If you wish to donate single items for KidzLife, there is a container in the Fellowship Hall for these

Collection will take place the week of November 16-23. Bring your filled box(s) and your $10 donation for shipping and handling to the church during that week. I will take all the boxes down to the Rapid City drop-off site on Sunday, November 22 after our service. If you miss the 22nd, you can always run yours down to Real Life Church on Sheridan RD on Monday, November 23.

Thanks for your participation and in helping bring the love of Jesus to lots of kids.

John Stam

Are You Grateful?

"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the Most High. It is good to proclaim your unfailing love in the morning, your faithfulness in the evening." Psalm 92:1,2 NLT

Our hearts become glad when we offer continual thanksgiving. Five minutes of thanksgiving and praise has the power to change the direction of each day. It has the power to stir our hearts and make us open to and aware of God's will for us in every situation. It fills us with an atmosphere of joy and of the Spirit. And it can greatly assist us in choosing the life of communion with the Father over the pursuits of the world as temptations and situations arise. May you be empowered and filled with transcendent joy as you engage in continual thanksgiving. *(Taken from a Thanksgiving devotion on First15.org)*

Here are the some lyrics of a fun song by Forrest Frank titled *"OKAY"* that reminds us to wake up each day with a grateful heart.

Lord, I'm just grateful that I woke up today
You take my worries and hurries and fade 'em to grey
You have good plans for me, that's what You say
That's how I know everything is gonna be OKAY.

I stayed up late, scrollin' on my phone
'Cause I said I needed space to be alone
But now I'm stressed out and overstimulated
Trying hard to lose my patience.

'Cause my kids are makin' murals on the wall
And I'm supposed to take another business call
Somewhere in the mess, I look to You
And a new song starts to break through.

Lord, I'm just grateful that I woke up today
You take my worries and hurries and fade 'em to grey
You have good plans for me, that's what You say
That's how I know everything is gonna be OKAY

Between the BookENDS

During this season of Thanksgiving let's be challenged to keep giving thanks to the Lord, proclaiming his unfailing love in the morning and his faithfulness in the evening.

Come check out some good books that teach your children about the history of Thanksgiving in our country and giving thanks to God daily.

Let's Celebrate God's Blessings on Thanksgiving by Greg Holder
My Book of Thanks by B.G.Hennessy
Thanksgiving – What Makes it Special by Harold Myra
Thanksgiving – A Harvest of Celebration by Julie Stiegemeyer
Squanto and the Miracle of Thanksgiving by Eric Metaxes
Sarah Morton's Day – A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl by Kate Waters
Off to Plymouth Rock by Dandi Daley Mackall



A feast of praise

Throughout the Bible, God's people give thanks and praise for his goodness.



Directions: *Draw lines to match the scriptures (all NIV) with the correct speaker.*

"I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3	Hannah
"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46-47	David
"He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2	Mary
"My heart rejoices in the LORD." 1 Samuel 2:1	Paul
"I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30	Moses

Answers: Philippians 1:3, Paul; Luke 1:46-47, Mary; Exodus 15:2, Moses; 1 Samuel 2:1, Hannah; Psalm 69:30, David

STICK AROUND: GOD'S JUST GETTING STARTED!!!

When my sons were growing up, their dad and I were committed to being responsible parents. We had each seen --- in our first marriages --- the emotional damage verbal abuse can cause young children. We were determined not to put the boys through that.

So, when we ***did*** have strong disagreements, we went off by ourselves to hash it out. For all the years we had together, "*don't fight in front of the kids*" was a firm rule. Sounds like a wise idea, doesn't it? Like an admirable way to protect your kids from emotional harm? Yup! It ***sounds*** good . . .

But, there is a down side to it that never occurred to us. A side I didn't even see until many years after their dad's death. By never letting our sons see us ***fight***, we neglected to teach them how to ***resolve*** conflict. All they saw was, when something was wrong, we "*ran away*". . . returning ***only*** when everything was okay again. They never heard the kind of dialogue that helped us get ***back*** to that point.

Consequently, my boys spent many years of their adult lives struggling to create healthy relationships. They had no "*fair fight*" model to draw from. Unfortunately, any help ***I've*** been able to offer them has been "*after the fact*". Usually, it feels like a watered-down explanation that pales in comparison to a first-hand, eye-witness account. Sadly, in this vital arena, we failed them.

Today, each of them is in a quality marriage in which they're learning effective, loving ways to express differing opinions. They have done their best to pass on what they have learned to their kids. One son recently told me how he and his second wife changed the rule when ***his*** kids were growing up . . .

"We did it differently," Michael said. "If they heard the fight start, they had to stick around to see how we resolved it. They weren't allowed to run away because it got uncomfortable."

I was impressed at the wisdom of their idea. It was certainly healthier than the rule their dad and I had. Reflecting on this, I realized how easy it is for an unhealthy conflict-resolution model to infiltrate a ***church*** family. It can happen so subtly, we don't even realize what's happened until it's too late. Recent occurrences here, at the Little White Church, give us an example...

Decisions made by our congregation during this year's annual meeting had a major impact on our church leadership. Many people, hurt by those decisions, chose to step away from this church after that meeting. Some have not yet returned.

By doing so, they know ONLY how hurt they were by the decisions of July 26th. Because they were not IN church on August 2nd, they did not get to hear about the miracle that helped us to begin our healing process . . .

When I found myself reeling with emotion after that meeting, I reached out to Michael and his wife, for prayers. Michael is the head of men's ministry at his church, and the leader of the Rapid City Kingdom Men group. When Michael heard the ***reason*** behind my request, he made a stunning offer.

"Maybe I need to bring a group up to Hill City, to pray for the Little White Church!" he said. I loved the idea and invited him to look into it.

He said he'd let me know when they could come, and asked me to check with Pastor Ben, to make sure this idea was alright with ***him***. When I called Ben, his response was, "Bonnie, I ***never*** turn down prayer!" So, I told Michael they were clear to proceed.

But, Ben didn't stop at giving approval. He reached out to the prayer teams, suggesting that some of them be present for this event. Prayer Team leader Lynda Pringle reached out to those teams.

Keeping the Family Strong By: BJ Reese

And so it was that, on Friday, July 31, there were 24 members of the LWC prayer teams on site to greet them when ***eight*** men from Kingdom Men arrived at LWC. Seated in a circle at the back of the sanctuary, the LWC group welcomed Michael's team warmly, and thanked them for coming. This group would remain in the sanctuary, singing and praying, while the Kingdom Men did what they came for.

Michael explained their procedure to those gathered. Then, the LWC group encircled Michael's team and prayed for them and their plan. Afterward, Michael's people began by covering the sanctuary in cleansing prayers . . . anointing the space with oil as they went.

They then divided into groups of two each, and spread out throughout the church. Their goal was to cover and cleanse ***every*** space and to pray Satan ***out*** of the building in the process. The last place they covered --- with all of them together again --- was the front door, which they anointed and laid hands on as they prayed.

Before leaving, they shared their perceptions with the LWC group that was still praying in the sanctuary . . . "*This church has done battle before --- big time! But, they succeeded, and were victorious.*"

"*The areas where your children gather felt different from everywhere else. Those areas were filled with love*."

"*Remember: you don't need a special group to come and do this for you. As Christians, you have the authority to do it for yourselves. God has empowered you to do so, any time it needs done*."

Pastor Ben noted the date --- July 31st. We, as a church had embraced July as a month of prayer and fasting. The marvelous act of faith and service, given to us by Kingdom Men, brought a fitting close to the month of July.

With that, Michael's group said their good-byes, and left.

Keeping the Family Strong By: BJ Reese

Those who haven't been back since the annual meeting haven't seen what happened AFTER the "*fight*" of July 26th ended:

- The light and joyous feeling of hope and possibility that now fills this building.
- The lifting away of the cloud of darkness that had been covering our congregation.
- The return of open communication, as the steering committee and the vetting committee inform us of their progress, and
- The sense of peace and love which seems to be growing stronger and more widespread with each passing week.

My friends, it took several broken marriages for my sons, me, and our spouses to learn how to survive a fight with your spouse. Similarly, growth and change have cause some painful disagreements between some of the members of the Little White Church family. Through it all, one Truth remains.

We ARE family. ***God's*** family. He TOLD us we would have problems in this world (**John 16:33**). And, He TOLD us the way OUT (**John 14:6**). Through the things Jesus taught us in the Bible, we CAN emerge victorious over ANY troubles we may face . . . ***IF*** we see them through. ***IF*** we don't run away.

So, the next time things begin to grow uncomfortable, and you are tempted to walk away from it all, turn around. Stand up tall and straight, dig in your heels . . . and ***stand*** (**Ephesians 6:13**).

Stick around, to see what God is going to do with those difficulties. See how He brings glory to His Kingdom in the wake of it all. Because one thing is absolutely certain:

God is JUST getting started!

Echoes of God's Glory in Creation

Roseanne Hilton

Reflections from Psalms 97, 98, 99 [NLT, 1997]

These three psalms continue a theme from Psalm 96 [last month's article] that the whole earth can and should sing God's praises because, among other wonderful deeds, He is the coming King who is going to judge the world, the nations, with righteousness, truth, fairness and justice.

Unfairness is one of the first things children learn about life, but according to these poetic meditations, God's judgments will be entirely righteous.

God's judgments will be cause for universal rejoicing:

"The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice! Let the farthest islands be glad." (97:1)

"The heavens declare His righteousness; every nation sees His glory." (97:6)

"Let the sea and everything in it shout His praise. Let the earth and all living things join in. Let the rivers clap their hands in glee. Let the hills sing out their songs of joy before the LORD." (98:7,8)

"Let them praise Your great and awesome name." (99:3a)



God's Promises

One of life's few absolutes

"So speak encouraging words to one another.
Build up hope so you will all be together in this, no one left out,
no one left behind.
I know you are already doing this; just keep on doing it."
The Message: I Thessalonians 5:11

No one left out, no one left behind refers to the generations of people around you. The ones you speak to every week, the ones you have yet spoken to. The multi-generations of opportunities to build up hope,
Pick a different one each week.

A Reason to Give Thanks

After Eddie Rickenbacker and his companions were rescued after more than three weeks adrift in life rafts in the Pacific, he was asked what lesson he had learned from the ordeal.
He answered that anyone with plenty of fresh water to drink and enough food to eat should never complain.
His words still speak clearly today. Many blessings can become so familiar that we barely notice them. This Thanksgiving, pause to give thanks for clean water, nourishing food, a safe place to rest and the people God has placed in your life. Let gratitude continue long after the holiday table is cleared.



A Mission Field of Prayer: Missionary Cynthia Sundman shares the story of a woman in her 80s who is battling cancer and confined to bed.
Though she can no longer leave home, she keeps a list of missionaries around the world and prays for them each day.
Cynthia says, "This woman travels the globe every day serving the Lord. Her mission is to pray for all the missionaries on her list."
Her story reminds us that faithful service does not always require travel or public recognition. Sometimes ministry happens quietly, from a bedside, through prayers lifted to God.

LOVE INC'S

HOPE & LOVE

ANNUAL BANQUET

MONDAY | NOV 23 2026 | **5:00–8:00 PM**

THE MONUMENT

444 MT. RUSHMORE ROAD | RAPID CITY, SD

For 25 years, we have witnessed the transformation that happens when local churches come together to love their neighbors In the Name of Christ. This year, we gather with gratitude for every life changed, need met, and story of hope restored in our community. The evening will include fun and meaningful ways to support the mission of Love INC of the Black Hills.

RESERVE YOUR SEATS

REGISTRATION OPENS IN OCTOBER

Ticket Prices

$50 through October 31

$60 November 1–10

$70 after November 10

SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT
LOVEINCONLINE.COM FOR TICKETS

Announcements

Monday Morning School Prayer Walk
Meet in front of the Boys and Girls Club at 7 am.

'Tis the season for Hallelujah toffee. The web site to order starting November 2nd is Hallejujahtoffee.org. Online orders only this year!

Memorial Service for Sherlee Renteria will be held Saturday, November 7th at 11 am.

Child Supervision Course will be held Sunday, Nov. 8th at 10:15 am in the library. This is required for all new volunteers that work with children.

Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, November 15th immediately after 2nd service. The steering committee will present some recommendations for by-law changes, to be voted upon in a congregational meeting in December.

All Church Thanksgiving Potluck will be held on Sunday, November 22nd at Noon. Ham and turkeys will be provided by the DD Board. Sign up to bring a side or dessert at the table in the foyer!

Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service will be held Wednesday, November 25th at 6:30 pm. Join us as we give thanks to the Lord!

Children's Christmas Program Signups NOW OPEN!
Spots are open to kids ages K-8th grade. Rehearsals held Dec. 14, 15 & 17 from 3:15-4:45 pm (kids walked from school). Larger roles may require additional rehearsals. Email Marci King.

🎄 **Help Make the Kids Christmas Program Happen!**
Volunteers needed to help with our **Kids Christmas Program that is happening Sunday, Dec. 20!** There are lots of ways to jump in, and **most volunteer needs are just during the week leading up to the program**.
Interested in helping? Contact Marci King

Foster Family Freezer Meals Needed! Please put meals in disposable containers and label with date prepared and cooking instructions.
Purchased freezer meals are great too!
Meals can be placed in mini freezer in the basement.

LWC TOY EXCHANGE

Saturday November 21st
11am-2pm

Bring a Toy. Take a Toy.
Share the Joy!

Gently used toys, books, activity equipment. Please no stuffed animals!

Toys can be dropped off ahead of the event or day of. (Day of drop off will begin at 10am.)

Contact Lauren Mill (816)786-1678 for drop off information.



YOU ARE INVITED TO HILL CITY'S

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS COFFEEHOUSE

SUNDAY

6TH

DECEMBER

AT 04:00 PM

FOOD MUSIC

WARM DRINKS

AND FUN



AT

THE LITTLE WHITE CHURCH

525 MAIN ST

HILL CITY

MUSIC PROVIDED BY

HILL CITY CHURCHES

The Sound in His Heart

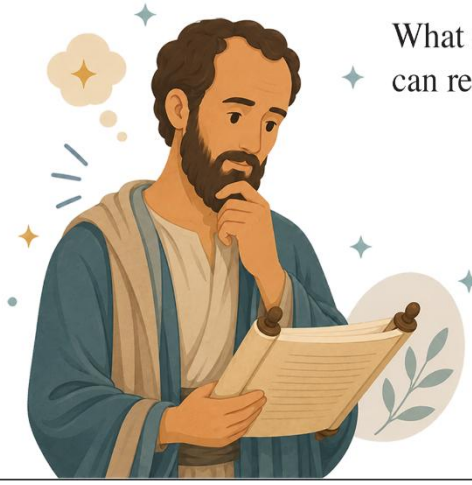
During an examination, a doctor thought a 4-year-old boy might enjoy hearing his own heartbeat. He placed the stethoscope in the boy's ears and held it over the boy's heart.



"What do you hear?" the doctor asked.

The little boy, who attended Sunday school regularly, listened carefully and replied, "Is that Jesus knocking?"

Bible Quiz



What did St. Paul teach about how people can recognize the existence of God?

A. They would have no understanding of God unless someone told them.
B. They could see evidence of God by observing creation.
C. God cannot be known in any way except through Jesus.

Answer: B (Romans 1:19-21)

LOVE GOD•WALK TOGETHER•CHANGE LIVES

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