

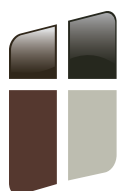
March 2010

THE LINK

letting our
LIGHT
shine



photo courtesy: itzrimeday/flickr



bettendorf
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

love God | love others

3487 Towne Pointe Drive
Bettendorf, Iowa
(563) 355-0124

www.BettendorfChristian.org

LETTER FROM PASTOR ALEX

Dearest brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Winter Olympics are taking place right now. Even without watching the opening ceremonies, it was almost impossible not to know that the torch-lighting ceremony was delayed and almost did not take place because of an equipment malfunction. The torch had traveled thousands of miles ... it had been held by the faithful and diligent hands of hundreds of people ... and yet it still almost did not complete its journey and its mission. The person responsible for the torch-lighting ceremony is the perfect candidate for the next Southwest Airlines, "Wanna get away?" commercial, don't you think?

In a very similar fashion, the torch of God's love and the message of His grace needs to be passed on to those who have yet to receive it ... who have yet to receive Him. And participating in the Kingdom of God is not a series of games; it is instead the most important endeavor open to us. This torch has been passed on for thousands and thousands of years by millions of hands. For each of us to whom that torch has been handed, it is now our responsibility to pass it on to others.

"What we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, His power, and the wonders He has done." Psalm 78:3-4

One of my favorite children's praise songs is "This Little Light Of Mine." Are you letting the light of God's love shine into the lives of others? Are you holding it up and holding it out for all to see ... or are you hiding that light? If you have received His love and accepted His salvation, then He has performed the greatest of wonders in your life and you have a story to tell ... and a light to shine.

May God bless us all as we seek to love Him and love others.

In His service and yours,

Alex Cobb

Worship & Leadership Minister

alex@BettendorfChristian.org

BCC Theme Verse

He answered: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Luke 10:27

Sometimes we look at the Bible and we are overwhelmed wondering how we could ever live out all that God’s Word teaches. At BCC, we ask our members to commit to living out one verse – Luke 10:27. By living out just this one verse, you will fulfill our church’s vision, you will become the disciple you want and need to be, and you will please your Heavenly Father. We encourage you to memorize this verse and to commit yourself to its call on a daily basis.

New Members

Joseph Belcher
Lisa Weston
Kim Knight
Austin Harms
Brianna Harms
Erik Harms
Mandi Harms
Devin Sullivan

Home Communion

Marty Hanson
(309) 781-7985

Opportunity Knocks

New neighbors! Whenever we see a moving truck in the neighborhood certain thoughts naturally come to mind: “I wonder what they are like?” “Do they have a kid my age?” “I hope they plan on keeping that dog fenced up.” Or “I wonder if they are Christians?” Living in close proximity to others means that we’ll almost certainly see them often, perhaps even form a casual friendship, or maybe a friendship that lasts the rest of our lives. There have been a lot of trucks in the BCC neighborhood lately; not moving trucks but trucks that are delivering concrete, lumber, and earth-moving machines. In case you hadn’t noticed there’s a big building project going on a few hundred yards to our west – and it’s going to bring us a lot of new neighbors!

Oxbow Development Corporation is creating a four-story, 270-bedroom apartment building intended to house students from Scott Community College. The building will be known as The Villas at Devils Glen and their plan is to have the complex ready for tenants in August. What kinds of challenges and opportunities will this present to our church? For one, there will be an opportunity for employment. The Villas will have eight to ten staff members, some of them full-time. Also, our current ministry to college students is one of the smallest demographics at BCC and could blossom when there is a building full of students within walking distance! Many of these may be international students who can carry the love of Christ back to their communities around the world when they return home. We’ve already taken a small step in building a relationship with the CASS program at Scott Community College when we loaned them our kitchen to prepare food for their fundraiser at school. At least one of those international students has come to our Sunday morning services since then.

How many of our new neighbors will be interested in our church? How many will experience God’s love through us? How many will ultimately connect with Jesus through our ministry and receive God’s Son? It will depend on how willing we are to show them that we love God and love others. Ephesians 3:20 tells us that God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. Can you imagine yourself involved in ministry to our new neighbors? Will you ask God to move in your heart and in the hearts of others to prepare now for this ministry opportunity? If you would like to discuss this and dream about this more, please contact Ted or Alex at the church office.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

If your March birthday or anniversary does not appear in this list, please contact the church office.

BIRTHDAYS

March 1

Lincoln Arboleda
Merrill Davis
Leah Ryner
Patrick Treharne
Brandon Weber
Thomas West
John Westlund

March 2

Joe Belcher
Andrew Brown
Marimay Cervantes
Andrew Whigham

March 3

Dayne Chaon
Elaine Johnson
Richard Krambeck

March 4

Keith Wood

March 5

Brandon Tinman

March 6

Valerie Brown
Parker Hanson
Julie Scott
Michael Walls
Greg Wilson

March 7

Kathy France
Becky Riggs
Dallas Snyder

March 8

Samantha Crane
Robert Smith
Linda Wicks

March 9

Teresa Brown
Lily Dumas
Brady Glazebrook
Josh Hayes
Joy Sellers
Warren West

March 10

Tabitha Belcher
Haley Curren
Carol Gott
Michael Tonneson

March 11

Robin Beilstein
Marc Bonin
Kelly Markham
Mike Neighbor
Jacob Sellers
Cody Tebbitt
Nicole Thomsen

March 12

Spencer Aikman
Zach Childers
Rachel Lindbom
Joseph Seligman
Lori West

March 13

Quinton Cason
Eric Malloy
Brittany McKee
Starr Vogel
Beau Westlund

March 14

Dave Cline
Betty Hartwich
Karen Moeller
Kaylee Mowen
Devin Sullivan

March 15

Barbie Besanson
Vic Crome
Marilyn Hardy
Rick Linboom
Timothy Snyder
Isaac Yowell

March 16

Anthony Goldsberry
Brandon Schrodt

March 17

Bobbi Ford
Dennis Gamble
Steven Kane
Kim Knight

Jim Meyers

Emma Sunderman

March 18

Shari Froeschle
Leah Gillispie
Emily Goldsberry
Shelli Shaw

March 19

Kelly Svetich

March 21

Zander Glazebrook
Jack Hayes
Tom Wicks
Greg Yerington

March 22

Cathy Hamann
Kadin Kruse
Pam Nietzel

March 23

Mark Arrasmith
Taylor Earnest
Hanah Fuessel
Jolene Girsakis
Gary Krambeck
Mary Meehan
Bud Sturtzer

March 24

Martin Dekeyzer
Jack Dumas
Jean Hess
Wendy Peterson
Richard Smith

March 25

Richard Markham

March 26

Sharon Boyle
Bradley Levetzow

March 27

Joe Milano

March 28

Abigail Haessler
Stacey Ickes
Sue Whisler

March 29

Rita Cleveland
Mike Hawkes
JB Hennings
Bandi Sullivan

March 30

Sarah Landsteiner
Nathan Shaw

March 31

Marilyn Chambers
Nathan Long
Kristin Nading
Kyle Schick

ANNIVERSARIES

March 2

Mike & Mary Wernsman

March 3

John & Clare Ullrich

March 4

Marty & Roberta Hanson

March 11

Darrin & Jennifer Jansma

March 15

Brian & Alyssa Jacob
Nicolas & Elinda Xavier

March 17

Dale & Kristina Aikman

March 18

Aaron & Amy Mack

March 21

Matthew & Anne Kristof
Craig & Judy Tucker

March 23

Andrew & Stacey Zabel-Hudson

March 24

Claudiu & Diana Cimpean
Richard & Stacey Ward

March 29

Matt & Charis Seeley

MINISTRY NEWS

The Love Project is Almost Here!

Pray

- Opportunities open up (Jesus will use us where He wants us)
- Details get worked out (projects can be successfully coordinated at multiple sites)
- Good weather (some projects are outside, people driving to different locations)
- God will move in hearts (our efforts can touch people's lives)

Plan

- April 25, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
- Some Sunday projects may start sooner or later than that; some Saturday projects the day before may be planned for those with scheduling conflicts.

Participate

- Sign-ups begin March 27-28, 2010 (continues into April).
- First come, first serve on filling up the projects (so sign up early!)

Prepare

- Attend worship on the weekends of March 20-21, 26-27 (the preparation messages)
- Get the whole family excited (many projects will work well for children)
- Talk to your friends and kids' friends to join us (so you can sign them up too)

“Now That I’m A Member” Seminar Sundays March 7 and 14 – 10:30 a.m.

This two-session get-together is designed for new members as well as any member who wants to learn more about our church organization, leadership, and how to get involved. We'll answer questions like:

- How do I start learning how to read my Bible?
- Why do I need to be part of a Journey Group?
- What should I be doing based on my interests, talents, time?
- How does BCC distribute our offerings?
- What do the Elders do? How about the staff?
- What are our plans for building expansion?"

Join Ray McMillin, Lori Sturtzer, and Tim Scott for an informal conversation about how you fit into your BCC family. Contact Ray at (563) 355-0124 or ray@BettendorfChristian.org if you plan to participate.

The BCC Bridge – March 21 and 28

If you have friends or relatives you have brought to church who might be ready to learn about becoming Christians or considering church membership, why not invite them to come with you to the BCC Bridge? Led by Alex Cobb and Ray McMillin, this class is designed for guests and regular attendees.

We'll introduce folks to BCC, consider together why God has brought them here, and have a great time! We'll meet at 10:30 a.m. both Sunday mornings. The first session, March 21, includes lunch with the pastoral staff for entire families. Please encourage your friends at church who are not yet members to attend. You are welcome to come with them as an added encouragement!

Contact Ray McMillin at (563) 355-0124 or ray@BettendorfChristian.org for more info or to register for the class.

Thank You

MOPS TOO would like to thank all the players, helpers, and business sponsors of our Trivia Night Fundraiser. Your support means so much to young families here in our community!

love.
project
love God | love others

MINISTRY NEWS (CONT'D)

MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Fraternity Activities

Men need to be connected with other men. We need to surround ourselves with other Christian males—guys who can challenge us, share our struggles, help us up when we stumble, and cheer for our successes. Fraternities I & II are currently progressing, however Continued Growth welcomes all men at any time. A new Fraternity session will start March 6.

Raising a Modern Day Knight

How will your son learn what it means to be a man? This new video study will teach you how! We will meet every Saturday morning for six weeks from 7 to 8:30 from March 6 to April 10 in room B7b. All men are invited to participate.

Continued Growth

The Truth Project is now being presented with other related topics interspersed throughout the duration. Multiple weeks except holidays, held on Mondays 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Vic's home (4202 Forest Rd, Davenport).

Men's Conference Coming Up in April: Iron Sharpens Iron

"As Iron sharpens Iron, so one man sharpens another."
Proverbs 27:17

This men's conference is being held on Saturday, April 17 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Calvary Church of the QC, 4700 53rd St., Moline. If we have at least 10 sign up and pay by April 4, we receive a special cost of \$39 + \$8 for lunch. For sons ages 13–22 who are full-time students, the cost is \$29 + \$8 for lunch. To see the 18 seminars being offered, check out web site: www.ironsharpensiron.net and click on the Moline conference location. If you are interested, put this date on your calendar and look for sign-up information in our weekly announcements.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women of Faith Conference

October 1-2, 2010

Save this date!

Free Creation Presentation

"DNA" - How genetics is confirming the Creation account and discrediting evolution

Tuesday - March 9, 2010

6:45 - 8 p.m. at the Bettendorf Public Library
2900 18th Street in Bettendorf

You will see a very interesting and dynamic PowerPoint presentation on DNA including some recent findings, and how it relates to natural selection and mutations. This event is free of charge and open to the public.

Calling all Mom and Dads: Join us beginning March 7 for a parenting class: The Essentials of Discipline.

Looking for workable advice on how to raise your kids? Here it is! Through interviews and funny vignettes Dr. James Dobson and other experts tackle topics vital to 21st-century parents. You'll discover wise counsel on effective discipline, self-confidence, and safeguards for the world we live in. Learn how to grow and lead your sons and daughters – God's way. Kirk Sunderman will be facilitating this class at 10:30 a.m in room B5.

MISSIONS

Report from Carol and Merrill Davis in Budapest, Hungary

How do we conclude a work that we feel like we have just begun?

The best answer to that seems with smiles and tears. Merrill and I are sad to leave Budapest Christian Library when we feel like it is a good work and there is a lot left to do. It is apparent that God has other plans for us and so on March 23 we will be returning to the Quad Cities,



to see what else our heavenly Father has in store for us. Merrill's visual problems are quite severe and we will be pursuing treatment at the Cincinnati Eye Clinic with the hope of restoring vision to Merrill's eyes. The challenges of the library are figuring out how to pay the flat rent and utilities for the flat that is the library. That was a large part of what Merrill and I have been doing - paying the bills. Unfortunately, when we leave our money has to go with us. Rusty and Beth Ridgeway will continue to operate the library and are working at increasing their support so that they will be able to pay the flat rent. This is our urgent prayer request as we return, for God to reveal His plan for the library. In the meantime, we continue to greet our library members and enjoy finding the books and DVDs that they are looking for, as well as hosting two group meetings in the library each week.

Mission Trip Offering

For the past two years you have contributed to an offering for BCC's short-term missionaries. What a blessing that was! The team members could concentrate on trip preparation rather than having to plan and work various fundraisers. That is the way it ought to work - some will give and some will go and together we can have an impact on the world. During the month of March we will be asking you to again partner with our 2010 mission teams. You can mark your checks or envelopes "Mission Trip Fund" and place them in the offering. Thank you for your generous support of our mission teams.

Mission Trips Scheduled for 2010

International mission trip to be led by Joe Mowen:

Lifeline Christian Mission, Grand Goave, Haiti – July 8-17

Domestic mission trips to be led by Keith Wood:

Cookson Hill Christian Mission, Kansas, Oklahoma – May 2-8

Christian Campus House, Columbia, Missouri – June 13-18



MARCH PRAYER INITIATIVE

GOD'S AUTHORITY

God rules His creation. Nothing is outside His authority—not even the leaders of the nations and kingdoms of this world. No person is placed in a position of power outside of God's will. This can be a great comfort when we see leaders take over in various places, especially leaders with whom we do not agree.

So what does this mean for the cruel tyrants of the world? It means that they, too, are under God's authority. Satan may author their evil acts, but their wrongdoing can only occur within the boundaries God sets. Why those boundaries are where they are for some nations is a question only God can answer. But we can rest assured that no power is in authority outside of God's plan. God always accomplishes His will, even through the most wicked leaders. God is always the final authority.

Over the next month, take time to pray for the leaders of your country, as well as for leaders around the world.

adapted from [The One Year® Book of Proverbs](#) by Neil S. Wilson, Tyndale House Publishers (2002), entry for February 21



Father/Daughter Valentine's Banquet

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."

Job 1:21

This statement by Job could be made by anyone. We have only what the Lord has allowed us to have. We will have it only for the duration of our lives here on earth. If you believe that you are in full control of what you possess, just read Job.

While using conservative techniques to provide for your future is wise, why hoard your resources in excess? God provides for our needs. If this is true then, why not be open to giving. Look around you and find others less fortunate that you can help with your resources or service. By serving others and giving to others, you are giving back what God has given you. You will be richly blessed by ministering to others!

ELDER'S MEETING NOTES

These notes reflect meetings held from January 18 – February 1, 2010.

No meeting was held on February 8, 2010.

1. The elders were apprised of a variety of issues pertaining to the Haiti missions situation and approved minor changes to our mission trip procedures for future trips, including: wanting to keep passport and contact information on hand at the church office for the duration of foreign trips, changes to the application form for mission trips, etc.
2. The decision was made by the elders and staff to have the Urgent Prayer Network of BCC overseen by the staff rather than having this be a volunteer position.
3. The elder selection process was approved and initiated. Applications are available to the congregation and the deadline for application submission is February 28.
4. In the wake of the resignation of our facilities staff, temporary cleaning and maintenance services were secured. An ad hoc committee was created to plan out the future of this ministry. The proposal of this committee was to hire a single individual to care for the maintenance and cleaning of the facilities and our grounds. It was also recommended to form a buildings and grounds committee to serve as a liaison and resource to the new Buildings and Grounds Administrator. This proposal was accepted by the elders and the hiring process has been initiated.
5. The “Salvation” segment of the “BCC Leader’s Core Beliefs” was deliberated. This segment of our belief statements reads as follows: “The only foundation for justification before God, and therefore salvation, is the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection from the dead. This salvation is for all who believe and whoever accepts Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord is born of the Holy Spirit and thus becomes a child of God renewed in the image of Him. Salvation is through grace by faith, and a believer demonstrates that faith in repentance, confession of Christ, baptism, and faithfulness to God. It is not possible to lose one’s salvation, but it is possible for an individual to give up their salvation and commit apostasy.”
6. The elders had a lengthy discussion with the Capital Campaign team. The team believes that future building/remodeling intentions should be an integral part of the campaign. Toward that end, it was agreed that the elders will work to establish:
 - a. Building/remodeling phases we could project for the next ~10 years
 - b. Time line or benchmarks that would trigger movement to each phase
 - c. The debt ceiling we are willing to assume as we move through each phase

Given these considerations, the elders and the Capital Campaign team agreed to postpone the launch of the campaign until this fall.

The deadline for April’s “Link” is March 24.

Articles can be submitted to janet@BettendorfChristian.org