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May Calendar

Church Events

News From Sunny Days

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Area News & Our Views

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 A.M. Sunday School

10:00 A.M. Coffee Fellowship

10:30 A.M. Worship

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

**6:45 P.M. Youth Groups
& Confirmation**

***Check calendar for
specific dates**

7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study

Pastor's Corner

This last week Kris and I along with Ron Hyvari attended the Northwest Conference Annual Meeting. The theme this year was on Children, Youth and Family Ministries.

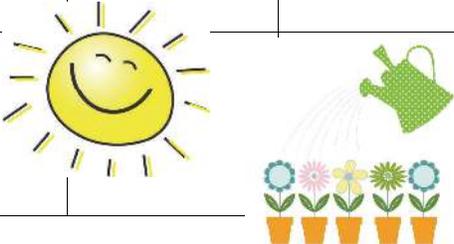
Children, youth and family concerns have always been at the heart of First Covenant Church. This last week saw our annual Sunny Days Sunday and it was a great joy to see all the families in attendance to support their kids.

This year is one of an every three year time for CHIC (Covenant High In Christ). This is a week long total youth immersion experience with nearly 4,000 other high school age Convenanters held at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. This year Andrew and Bryce Olsen, Katie O'Donnell and Kya Nickel will be attending.

We have two youth in Confirmation, Jake Brandner and Hailey Untiedt. Jake will be confirmed this year.

Our Sunday School for youth as well as our Wednesday evening activities, while not large in numbers are active in keeping the youth of our church engaged and, we pray, growing in their faith.

As the program year draws to a close we ask that you pray for our youth, as well as, pray for all our teachers. As we were reminded at the Northwest Conference Annual meeting, the youth are not just the church of tomorrow, they're the church of today, but if we don't invest in them today, they may not, in fact, be here tomorrow.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|-------------------------|
| MAY 2018 | | 1 7:00 Lead Team Adam Jans Emma Roos | 2 6:45 Youth Groups 7:00 Adult Bible Study | 3 National Day of Prayer | 4 | 5 Lam Yoa |
| 6 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 7:00 Immerse Small Groups | 7 | 8 | 9 6:30 #507 Youth Rally at Worthington Christian Church 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Adult Bible Study | 10 Sheila Bos Tim Mlddagh | 11 Frank Breuker Duane Fenske | 12 |
| 13 Mother's Day 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 7:00 Immerse Small Groups | 14 Merlyn Hodnefeld Jake Brandner | 15 | 16 6:45 Youth Groups 7:00 Adult Bible Study | 17 Dean Christopherson | 18 Bruce Martin | 19 |
| 20 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship with Confirmation & Graduation Sunday | 21 | 22 Quinn Bos Loretta Shows Alli Fellows | 23 7:00 Adult Bible Study | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Fellowship | 28 Memorial Day | 29 Kris Stewart | 30 7:00 Adult Bible Study | 31 |  | |

SERVING YOU IN MAY

SCRIPTURE READERS:

6 Kris Fischer
13 Deb Olsen
20 Dale Martin
27 Tom Ahlberg

GREETERS:

6 Duane & Molly Fenske
Chad & Katie Kremer
13 Dan & Kris Fischer
Kevin & Nancy Flynn
20 Tom Ahlberg
Dean & Carol Christopherson
27 Jude & Mavis Gravenhof
Brian & Michelle Ling

WORSHIP NURSERY:

6 Paul & Deb Olsen
13 Colin & Gretchen O'Donnell
20 Susan Collin & Kadence Hyvari
27 Robert & Robin Redman

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

6 Colin & Gretchen O'Donnell
13 John & Emily Buarapha
20 Paul & Deb Olsen
27 Richard & Bethani Fellows

SOUND SYSTEM:

6 Jeff Ling
13 Jerry L uinenburg
20 Tom Ahlberg
27 Dave Bos

COMMUNON SERVERS (May 6th):

Shirley Martin
Jeff Ling
Deb Olsen
Dale Martin

USHERS:

Frank Breuker & Ron Hyvari
Dale & Shirley Martin

**If you cannot serve on your assigned Sunday, please find a replacement or call the church office at 376-5109.*



AREA NEWS AND OUR VIEWS

MAY 2018

By Gene Foth

Way to go!

LUCY O'DONNELL will be playing her Tuba in the Middle School Honor Band Festival.



PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING CORRECTION IN YOUR CHURCH DIRECTORY
NICKEL, BUD & PAULINE
COUNTRY VIEW MANOR
100 CEDAR LANE
SIBLEY IA 51249-1055

Phone 1-712-754-2568

TAD STEWART



Worthington High School Chapter of the National Honor Society is proud to induct **Tad Stewart**. He is a pillar in scholarship, leadership, service and good character. He shows enthusiasm in the classes he takes, has a positive influence on the school and community through leadership and service, and demonstrates the quality of honesty to everyone he meets. **National Honor Society** members must maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or above, attend monthly meetings, and participate in various service activities throughout the school year, all while upholding the 4 pillars of the society.

You are invited to join the ADULT BIBLE STUDY

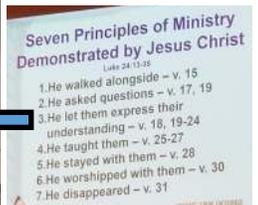


Do you ever ponder what heaven might be like?
 Will we have bodies?
 Will there be animals?

Will we just sit on clouds and play a harp all day long?
 Randy Alcorn is a highly sought after authority on "Heaven". This [new study](#) is starting every Wed night at 7 PM and it will encourage you to strive for Heaven while living on Earth.



Ron Hyvari, Pastors John & Kristine Stewart attended the Northwest Conference held in Buffalo MN May 26-28.



Introduction of New Church Fellowship Groups.....>
 Photos by Ron Hyvari

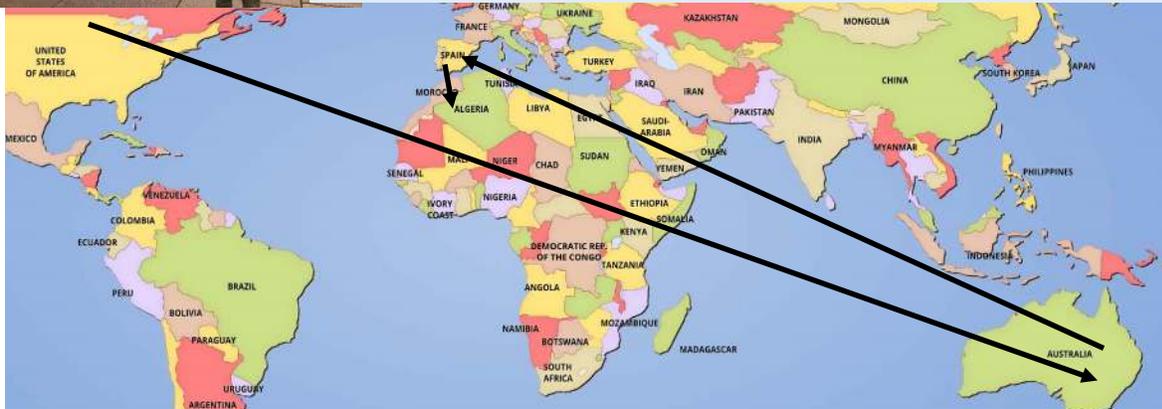


CHRISTIAN BOS

REPORTS ON HIS YWAM MISSIONARY TRIP

From Minnesota

to Australia to Spain to Africa



First and foremost, I would like to personally say thank you, to you my church family. Whether you are reading about my story for the first time, financially supported me, or prayerfully supported me, **THANK YOU.**

I have had an awakening in the past 6 months. If I may, I have had “soul surgery.” This soul surgery I speak of was learning about the simple gospel, Fear (reverence) of the Lord, God’s love for me, the importance of repenting, and the authority I have as a child of God. The most impactful verse for me through this experience was, and still is, **John 14:12.**

My DTS (Discipleship Training School) YWAM (Youth With A Mission) experience began on October 9th, 2017 in the Minneapolis airport. When I arrived in Sydney I hopped off the plane and hopped on a train, to Mayfield, Australia. YWAM Newcastle, which is in Mayfield, is one of the 1,100 YWAM campuses in the world. Our lecture phase was set up with 12 topics, with each week having a new topic and speaker. Some topics that absolutely humbled me were “Character and Nature of God”, “Lordship”, “Identity”, and “Spiritual Authority”. Within weeks our DTS was becoming like sisters and brothers. We were all going through our own “soul surgery”. Following our twelve weeks of being discipled, were our Outreach locations. Our DTS had 3 outreach teams and I had the privilege to be on the Spafrika team. Spafrika, “code name”, was our locations. As a team of 5 students and 2 leaders, we went to Newtown and Wollongong in Australia. We then traveled to southern Spain and northern Morocco. Each location we learned more about culture, ourselves, and most importantly how to relate to people with the gospel.

In Newtown our team had accommodations in a Salvation Army church. Our “mission” there was to work alongside a local Christian café called Erskine Villa. The café is where our “Base” was, but the majority of what we did was prayer walking and straight up good old street evangelizing. Many people have a broken view of the church/Christians and that was our job, to heal that which was broken. I had heaps to learn about Christian lifestyle, that is what I now call prayer and evangelizing. We also worked alongside an Anglican Church, which is called “Church in the Graveyard”. One of the main events we assisted with was a movie in the Graveyard where about 40 non Christ knowers came. After spending two weeks in Newtown we took off, in our rented mini van, to Wollongong.

Continued on next page

CHRISTIAN BOS YWAM MISSIONARY TOUR PAGE 2

In Wollongong our accommodations were at the YWAM campus. This campus is very Christ led and focused into going to the "10/40 Window". For the readers that are unfamiliar with this term, it is otherwise known as "The Resistant Belt". This mostly makes up the worlds Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists. At YWAM Wollongong we had the opportunity to have training on Muslims and their way of life. The man that taught us about Islam has been to the Middle East and has gone to unreached people groups prior to us being there. We also had the opportunity to visit a Muslim family. This family wanted to know more about Christians and their way of life. During our visit times we prayed that their curiosity would have them continue to seek, because if they continue to seek they will find truth. We also got to visit a house church, and is called "Raw Faith" which is very fitting for its members. We later went to a Buddhist Temple, which is named "Nan Tien Temple" in Wollongong. The direct translation of "Nan Tien" is "Southern Heaven", and is the largest Buddhist temple in the southern hemisphere. There we prayer walked and claimed Jesus is Lord over the grounds. Our team contributed our time, physical labor, and voices to the cities of Newtown and Wollongong.



Following our four weeks of outreach in Australia, our team traveled to our next location. Once in Malaga airport, our contact picked us up and drove over to the YWAM campus in Torremolinos, Spain. In Spain our ministry mostly consisted of us teaching and tutoring young children/adolescents. There is a large population of Moroccan immigrants in Torremolinos, many of whom are learning Spanish and English. English is becoming a dominant language across the globe; many countries such as Spain are pushing English in their curriculum. One of the couples in YWAM Malaga have started this "Learning Center" as a way to help people in the community and to relate the simple gospel to children, and their parents. This particular couple has worked with Muslims in the past and poured out their knowledge to us as we were headed to a Muslim nation. When we were not working at the "Learning Center" we were mostly out and about striving to spike conversation with strangers. I have been learning more and more about if I truly believe what the Bible says who God is, then I should have God in every conversation. If God says who He says He is, then who am I not to tell people about Him and His ways?

The most stretching part of outreach was yet to come. Our next location was Tangier, Morocco. The law regarding religion in Morocco is that when one is born in the country he/she is recognized as being a Muslim, as an American is an American. Once a Moroccan always a Muslim; it is illegal to change who you follow. For us being there as lifestyle Christians it is illegal, but us being there as titled "Christians" it is legal because we were not born there. Our team worked alongside long-term "workers" there. There was a "culture shock" that hit me the first night: (1) Language barrier (2) We were to go 2 by 2, pick up a taxi, and speak to Moroccan Muslims (3) Sharing the gospel was illegal. The company that we were there with has invested in a "base" in Tangier. Our mornings consisted of spending time in the word, praising the Lord for what He has done and going to do, worshiping in our hearts, and the prayer of intercession. Our challenge for the afternoons can be found in **Luke 10:1-11**. We were to find people of peace, otherwise known as people wanting to listen to what we had to say. Yes, this was scary, fearful and, uncomfortable, yet I knew that He was worth it. After 3 weeks of going about each day like this, we returned to Mayfield Australia and had a "debrief week" with our DTS returning to the campus.

Matthew 28:18-20 tells us that Jesus is commanding you, He is commanding me, to go, make disciples, and baptize. I pray in Jesus name, that you would take something away from this letter and allow the Holy Spirit to work from your life. May you receive the grace and mercy of our Father. Amen. God Bless you.

Christian Bos

NICK MOSHIER

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEE



NICK MOSHIER has been working for the Minnesota Department of Transportation since December 2015. In Minnesota we say we have two seasons...Winter and road maintenance. Nick Moshier works in both of those seasons. During the winter months he will be found driving one of those orange colored snow plows, clearing the roads for the traffic. This past winter has seen more snowfall than average in our area, so he has been kept **VERY BUSY**. Nick



says he has been called out to the State Highway shop here in Worthington to take the snow plow out on the roads at all hours of the night and day! Nick said, "the best part of my job is plowing! It's a challenge in bad weather but always an adventure. The scariest experience so far was when it was really icy out, I was in the driving lane in my plow salting Interstate 90. A semi passed the plow in the left lane while at the same time another semi passed on the shoulder."

He went on to say "The hardest part of the job is when out plowing and I see an accident. I always hope that everybody is OK!". Nick had to have a CDL license before he could even apply for this job. Upon his hiring he went to Camp Ripley for two weeks snow plow training. He needed twenty hours of truck driving experience before plowing alone.



"Another thing I like to do," he said "is to run the Sno Go machine which we use to blow snow into the truck to clean up the streets."

In the summer months Nick runs the motor grader, blades gravel road shoulders, helps with culvert repairs and mowing. When he is out and about with the road crew they are patching potholes, blow-ups, applying mastics and wedge paving shown here.



Nick is married to Marci (Luinenburg) Moshier and lives in rural Brewster. Nick's favorite hobby is fishing and to go pheasant hunting!

Pictures courtesy of Nick Moshier.

A book review by Gene Foth.....

go + do

By Jay Milbrandt

Published by Tyndale House Publishers subtitled “Daring to change the world one story at a time”

I would recommend that all High School Seniors, College students and parents read this book!

In the book he shares his life-changing challenge. As a law school student, *Jay Milbrandt* found himself wandering in the middle of a desert -- a metaphorical wasteland, of course. He questioned what he was doing in law school, what he would do with a law degree once he achieved it and even his purpose in life. A quote from the Author says “We were raised to believe that each of us is special. From day one, we’re told that we’re all unique, that we all have a purpose. We are promised that there’s a college or job that is perfect for us. We can each follow our own course in life. We can live whatever we dream. Yet we often find ourselves at a crossroads where nothing seems to make sense anymore. That special, unique purpose doesn’t appear to exist, like we got on the wrong train and we can’t get back. You find yourself asking, ***What am I doing here?***”

This is exactly what Jay asked himself as he was graduating from Pepperdine Law School. He was offered a \$120,000 job with a large prestigious law firm whose owner drove an exotic car, lived in a big house, owned his own private jet and yet, Jay saw how miserable he was. This did not fit Jay’s “*dare*” ...he was in a desert. Several months before he had heard a sermon about deserts in our lives. No matter the desert, Jay says, “ We often wander until something makes us feel alive again.” One day he skipped class to attend a program the college was sponsoring which featured lawyers who were going into the world’s most dangerous places to help those in the greatest need. Jay immediately arranged an internship with an organization combating human trafficking and booked a ticket to Thailand for the summer. There was no turning back now. *Dare* accepted. He spent the summer working with the Burma refugees in the Karin camp. (Talk to some of the Karin people who use our church on Sunday afternoon and they can tell you how hard life in the refuge camps can be.)

In the book Jay says, “ Exploring and dreaming share the same spirit. Exploring lets you venture to new places in this world; dreaming lets you venture to new places in your soul. Exploring allows you to see the world as it really is. Dreaming allows you to envision the world as it ought to be—as it’s meant to be restored. “ He tells of his adventure of climbing Kilimanjaro mountain with his dad, Kim, and their porters. After the decent they could see how poor the people were and thanked the porters generously for their labors.

We often have a tension between what I’m supposed to do for my life and God’s desire against what I dream of doing. He says it can be overwhelming Friends, family, professors, employers, loan officers, landlords, mobile phone companies, etc. They all desire something from your life. He says accept the *dare* and Go+Do. Many who go and do start to rethink the way they spend money. Jay said on one of his flights he sat beside an overweight person who took her seat plus half of his and a psycho. He told his parents he would never fly economy class again but after thinking it over he said the money he could save would pay for three children’s schooling in Thailand and that made him feel more alive!

When I dared myself to take a summer and dedicate it to “Go and Do” he says little did I know that I was entering God’s great exchange program and mutual rescue plan. His encouragement is to not find yourself in the desert of joylessness, deserts you can wander through for years. If this is you, he says, “I dare you to try go and do.”

A B O U T T H E A U T H O R
Jay Milbrandt is an attorney and past director of the Global Justice Program and associate director of the Nootbaar Institute on Law, Religion and Ethics at Pepperdine University of Law. Currently he is Adjunct Assistant Professor of Business and Economics at **Bethel University** in Minnesota. He has traveled throughout the world as a lawyer in Uganda, Africa, Thailand, etc. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife Lisa (Kremer, from Worthington...A contender for the U S Olympic Sailboard event and their daughter Lila Mae). They also own an acreage in the Lake Ocheda Wildlife Refuge. Is Bedford Industries attorney. He has authored “*Pilgrims Freedom, David Livingstone, Go+Do and many others*.” His parents are Kim & Sarah Milbrandt, Grandparents are Bob and Pat Ludlow.



The Lead Team will meet
 Tuesday, May 1st
 7:00 P.M.
 at the church

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE
 FOR MAY:**

Wednesday, May 2nd:
 6:45 P.M. Youth Group
 Kindergarten—12th grade
 7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, May 9th:
 6:00—8:30 P.M. Confirmation
 Supper provided
 #507 Youth Rally at Worthington
 Christian Church for 7th-12th grades
 Meet at the FCC at 6:15 P.M.
 We will back at 8:15 P.M.
 7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, May 16th:
 FINAL Youth Group
 Kindergarten—12th grade
 7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, May 23rd:
 7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, May 30th:
 7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study

The last day of Sunday School
 will be on Sunday, May 20th.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEUDLE

Beginning on Sunday, May 27th
 through
 Sunday, September 2nd

9:30 A.M.—Worship

10:30 A.M. Coffee Fellowship



GRADUATION SUNDAY

May 20th

Our graduates are
 Sam Martin,
 Ian O'Donnell and
 Andrew Olsen.



CONFIRMATION

Wednesday, May 9th
 6:00-8:30 P.M.
 Supper will be provided.



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Sunday, May 13th

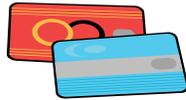
Our confirmand this year
 is Jake Brandner

#507 Youth Rally

Wednesday, May 9th
 at Worthington Christian Church
 for students 7th-12th grades
 meet at church at 6:15 P.M. for
 rides; we'll return to church by 8:15 P.M.

**FAREWAY & HY-VEE
GROCERY CARDS
AVAILABLE!!!**

Don't forget to pick yours up on Sunday mornings, contact Howard Rachuy or Dean Christopherson or stop in the office during the week.



CHURCH'S WEBSITE

Check out the website at www.firstcovenantworthington.org
You will find the bulletin, newsletter, Sunny Days calendars and much more there.

FACEBOOK

Did you know that First Covenant Church has a Facebook page?

Like us on Facebook and follow all the news!

FYI

Any money that is still being donated to the Building Fund will go toward building up the Contingency Fund.



DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

Copies of Covenant Home Altar are available.

Pick up a copy on the table in the narthex.



TRIP

(Tuition Reduced Incentive Program)
Support Sunny Days Preschool with your purchase of TRIP. Slips listing the participating businesses are available in the office or at Main Street Kids.

Soles4Souls

Village Northwest is collecting new and gently used shoes providing work opportunities for 180 people with a disability. Shoes will be shipped for distribution domestically and internationally to individuals that do not have proper footwear.

Bring your shoes and place them in the collection box in the narthex.



CURRENT NEEDS FOR LOVE INC

Watch the bulletin boards by the office and by the Jerusalem Room for their current needs.

"Pray Worthington"

Tuesdays at noon at the Love INC office



Check out the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall for posters with announcements of things that are happening around the area.



Check out the brochures on the table in the narthex about upcoming events.

Also check out their website at: www.lbbc.com



SUNNY DAYS PRESCHOOL NEWS

April shows bring May flowers. I wonder what so many snow showers bring? I'm glad we are done with snow. My feet are loving it now—I know why Jesus wore sandals!

Sunny Days Sunday was very rewarding for me and I hope it was for you as well.

Graduation will be on Thursday, May 24th at 10:00 A.M. Everyone is welcome to come join us.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to be able to work S for Sunny Days Preschool. We have had a wonderful year together.

Have a fantastic summer. I can't wait for the fall to teach again.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

In His Service,
Ms. Jen



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER



Local Events:

Noon Event

Thursday, May 3rd

12:00-1:00 P.M.

Led by Worthington Ministerial Association and Pray Worthington

Concert of Prayer

Thursday, May 3rd

6:30 P.M.

Grace Community Church

2011 Nobles Street

Led by the Worthington Ministerial Association and Pray
Worthington

The Achievement Center—Hope Haven is preparing for the 2018 May Sale to be held at the Worthington Hockey Arena. They are in need of volunteers to help with set-up beginning on approximately May 2nd, which includes individuals who are handy with a pipe wrench, pump cart and/or operating a skid-steer loader or forklift. Volunteers for sorting and hanging clothes are also greatly needed starting May 3rd and through the entire sale, May 11th through June 1st. Volunteer signups are appreciated but drop-ins are always welcome between 8:30 A.M.—6:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

To sign up as a volunteer or if you have any questions, please contact:

The Achievement Center

414 Industrial Lane

Worthington, MN

507-376-3168

Email: smiller@hopehaven.org

Please also consider donating items for the sale. Anything, with the exception of electronics (including but not limited to TV's, microwaves, computers, printer, humidifiers/dehumidifiers, etc) will be accepted beginning May 3rd at the arena.

First Covenant Church is offering the option of giving your offering online. If interested, go to firstcovenantworthington.org, click on the “ministries” tab and choose “giving” from the list of ministries.

If you have any questions, please contact John or Kris Stewart.