

The Future of Proclaiming and Preparing: Building Campaign Banquet



The night was wet and snowy, but inside Five Points Washington on Feb. 21 the fellowship was warm. Our Building Campaign Banquet was well attended in spite of the snow, the food was delicious, and everyone had an enjoyable time.

Before the meal, we heard testimonies of what Bethany Community Church means to them from Jim and Barb Bayer and Steve Barton.

Following the meal, Pastor Daniel spoke on our attitude regarding our possessions, comparing the rich young ruler, who was unable to part with his wealth, and Zacchaeus, who gave without being asked. Dave Robinson spoke about how the Lord has blessed us thus far, the need

that we have of \$655,808 to purchase the remaining 75 acres of land, and ways we would be able to meet that need. Pastor Ritch from Bethany Baptist gave us some words of encouragement, and we closed the evening by singing praises to God.

If you were unable to attend the banquet, please plan to attend one of the small group meetings. A member of the leadership team and the pastoral staff will be there to answer any questions. Informational booklets and prayer magnets given out at the banquet are available at the Building Information Center in the hallway. See page 4 for specific small group meeting information.



Return service requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PEORIA, ILLINOIS
PERMIT NO 917

Bethany Community Church
27265 Dutch Lane
Washington, IL 61571



BETHANY COMMUNITY
CHURCH
Proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord

Proclaiming and Preparing

the newsletter of Bethany Community Church



Issue 3

March/April 2010

Of Modesty and Whale Oil by Pastor Daniel Bennett

Recently, I had the challenge of explaining “modest clothing” to my six-year-old son. We were watching a “family” show on T.V. and suddenly a woman wearing a revealing swimsuit appeared on the screen. We had talked before about how we should not look at people who are dressed inappropriately and he turned his head away as I quickly changed the channel.

As we talked about what had happened, he had questions regarding why what the woman was wearing was inappropriate. How do I explain to a six-year-old boy that the real problem in his future is not with *her* clothing but with *his* heart? How do I explain that in different cultures and families, what is appropriate changes, but the inner heart of human beings does not? How do I explain the angel of modesty to a person who is only vaguely aware of the demon of lust?

There is great joy in modesty and in turning from lust that someday my son and I will talk about. But for now, what I told him is that the problem that many of us have—men and women—is a desire to draw attention to ourselves. And, we are tempted to pay attention to those who want us to pay attention to them! To

want to pay attention to them more than pay attention to God.

In *Moby Dick*, the protagonist Ishmael is speaking of the benefits of whaling oil and notes that it is even used in the coronation of kings as it is poured on their hair. But, he observes, “in common life, we esteem but meanly and contemptibly a fellow who anoints his hair, and palpably smells of that anointing. In truth, a mature man who uses hair-oil, unless medicinally, that man has probably got a quoggy spot in him somewhere. As a general rule, he can’t amount to much in his totality.”

In other words, grown men who use hair products in their everyday life are a little bit on the dandy side in Ishmael’s mind.

I do not advocate that you abstain from the use of hair products. But I think that Ishmael helpfully reminds us of a time when the desire to draw attention to oneself was viewed negatively. Now it is assumed that we will want people to notice our white teeth, or beautiful hair,

(Continued on page 2)

Bethany Community's Purpose

Our church exists to glorify God. That is declared in our church's purpose statement: *Our church exists to glorify God as we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and prepare His people to worship Him forever.*

There are seven areas in which we are focusing on practically implementing God's purpose for our church:

- Equip lay people for ministry**
- Build fellowship**
- Reach the Lost**
- Disciple the flock**
- Commit to the Community**
- Become a church**
- Foster a regional ministry**

In this newsletter, I would like to encourage you to think about how you can participate in our third vision area: Reach the Lost.

Reaching the lost is not easy. It does not happen accidentally. It means more than simply knocking on someone's door and dropping off a tract (although that can be a good start). It also means wholeheartedly investing yourself in a relationship with another person.

In 1 Thessalonians 2, we see the deliberate and difficult work Paul and his companions engaged in to reach the lost:

For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness. Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us. For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers." (1 Thessalonians 2:5-10, ESV)

Do you have a love for others that compels you to invest in a real relationship with them? If we are going to truly reach the lost, this must be our heartbeat. May this understanding of evangelism penetrate our hearts and inform our actions.

(Continued from page 1)

or slim waists, or tan faces.

My son and I continued our discussion with the rest of the family and read 1 Peter 3:3-4 together: "Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— but let your adorning be the hidden person of

the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."

There are principles for both men and women in these verses. May God allow us as both men and women to repent of our desire for attention. As others see us, may they see our Heavenly Father instead of us!

What God Has Been Doing at Bethany Community Church

Peoria Area Campus Ministries

Peoria Area Campus Ministries (PACM) is a unique partnership between the Bethany Fellowship of Churches and Campus Crusade for Christ (CruPeoria). The Peoria area has more than 26,000 college students on 9 campuses and our ministry desires to engage each of those students through winning, building and sending.

- Winning – Exposing students to the truth of the Gospel
- Building – Seeing students built up in their faith
- Sending – Sending students out of our ministry to serve in the local church and walk with God for a lifetime

We hope to accomplish the task through partnering with local churches. Primarily, these churches partner with our ministry by providing volunteers to serve in various aspects of our ministry. These volunteers provide for our students a model for life after college and create a natural connection to the local church during their college years.

For more information about this ministry go to www.crupeoria.com or email PACM director, Micaiah Wilmoth at micaiah.wilmoth@gmail.com. Also, you can contact Diane Geurin at the Bethany Community Church office to get signed up for the CruPeoria/PACM monthly prayer letter.

Local Missions Week

March 14-20

God continues to challenge us with our role in helping reach the nations and our neighbors for Christ.

Sunday, March 14

- ◆ Local missions fair
- ◆ Local missionaries will be speaking during Sunday School.

Tuesday, March 16

- ◆ Good News Club on March 16 at Central Grade School at 3 p.m.

Wednesday, March 17

- ◆ CruPeoria (PACM) weekly meeting on Bradley University's campus at 9 p.m.

Saturday, March 20

- ◆ Camp Good News Serve-a-thon informational meeting from 5—6:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 21

- ◆ Camp Good News Serve-a-thon informational meeting from 12:30—2 p.m.

Upcoming Summer Missions Trip:

Birch Island in Ontario, Canada to minister to the Native American White Fish People First Nation Reserve



Mission Trip

Ministry Dates: July 18-24

Ministry includes: VBS, Teen Ministry, Family Ministry, and Construction

Volunteers Needed: Open to anyone in the Bethany Fellowship of Churches; any age can participate; also an ideal family missions trip

Accommodations: Camping on the beach for 1 week with electricity at each camp site

Meetings: First meeting date is March 7 in Ballroom A following the morning service.

More Information: Contact the trip leader, Pastor Joe Bella at 633-0028 or joe@livinghopecentral.org or Ben Davidson at 508-1755 or Ben@BethanyCommunityChurch.org.

Children's Ministry



God continues to provide for our children's ministries at BCC. The scripture covered in Sunday School in March and April will

3/7	II Samuel 11 & 12	4/4	No Sunday School
3/14	Luke 22, 39-46	4/11	I Kings 8-9
3/21	Luke 22 -23	4/18	I Kings 11
3/28	Luke 23-24	4/25	II Kings 12,14

These lessons will continue during the Children's Church hour except for 1st through 3rd grade who are studying the attributes of God. The attributes they will be looking at include: Omniscient (3/7) Good (3/14), Never Tiring (3/21), Jealous (3/28), No Children's Church for 1st—3rd grade on 4/4 (Easter) Righteous (4/12), Wrath (4/19), and Patient (4/26).

Please contact the office at 508-1755 if you desire to be a part of this ministry.

As a reminder, on April 4, Easter Sunday, there will be no Sunday School or Children's Church for 1st—3rd graders. There will be a pot-luck Easter Breakfast during the Sunday School hour. Bring your favorite breakfast dish to share.



Adult Ministries

Bethany Biblical Counseling Ministries Seminar Series

Mondays, 6:15 p.m. at the Community Room

Bethany Biblical Counseling Ministries wants to invite you a series of seminars taking place at the Bethany Community Church Community Room on Mondays at 6:15 p.m. This series of messages are presented by men with hundreds of hours of biblical counseling experience. The focus of these seminars is to provide help, hope and training to help you care for your own soul and the souls of others.

Youth Ministry



God continues to add students to the Sunday and Wednesday groups!

- ◆ Several BCC students participated in ENGAGE, the youth apologetics and preaching competition. Lauren Martin and Mallory Martin received 1st place awards, and Gabbie Sloan received a 2nd place award.
- ◆ A group of 9 trekked to Dubuque, IA for a long night of skiing. Everyone had fun and no one was hurt, but the adults are still trying to catch up on sleep. Requests are coming in to make this an annual event.
- ◆ Excellent youth involvement in helping with child care during the Building Campaign Kick-off Dinner.
- ◆ The group has studied through 3 chapters of Daniel (Wednesdays), and 4 chapters of Galatians (Sundays).

Preview:

- ◆ Wednesday nights will be spent studying Daniel, with a particular emphasis on responding to life circumstances in God-honoring ways.
- ◆ Sunday mornings will be spent finishing the book of Galatians, with practical applications of rightly understanding salvation.
- ◆ Game night in March (TBA).
- ◆ Group Biking day in April (TBA).
- ◆ Evangelism training will soon be available for youths, their parents and youth leaders.

Topics and speakers are:

- 3/8 - What is My Primary Purpose in Life? – Kent Kloter
- 3/15 - Why Do I Do What I Do? – Ben Davidson
- 3/22 - How do I Change? – Kevin Martin
- 3/29 - Dealing with Disappointment and Loss – Kevin Sauder

Everyone is welcome to attend. If you have questions, contact Kent at kent@bethanycentral.org. Please rsvp for each seminar by noon the day of that seminar. RSVP's can be sent to Diane Geurin at Diane@BethanyCommunityChurch.org.



- 1 Ryan Alexander
Dennis Zeller
- 2 Michelle Smith
Audrey Jayne
- 3 Terry & Kathy Carlson
- 4 Parker Roth
- 5 Regan Roth
- 6 Christopher Frautschi
Raleigh King
- 7 Jesse Stone
Claire Cagle
West Cagle
- 9 Sara Beach
- 11 Lindsey Ciganek
- 12 Elizabeth Leman
Mike & Barb Joyner
- 13 Mark DeJarnatt
Dan Vogel
Allison Schellenberg
- 14 Nick Jenkins
- 16 Claudette Schrepfer
Michael Vroman
- 19 Anna Huniak
- 20 Barb Bayer
- 21 Pat Mather
Brian Reiner
Olivia Hank
Tom & Jeannie Thorp
Ron Shobert
- 22 Darrell Howard
- 24 Diane Conner
Bob Bloompott
- 25 Tate Westbrook
Jennifer Hodges
Cailey Tervo
Andy & Darcy Biedscheid
- 26 Penny Araujo
- 28 Paul Markas

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 29 Chuck Boysen
Charlotte Beck
Breck Biedscheid
Susan Feeney
Eli Ingold
- 30 Kailey Handy
- 31 Daniel Lott
Travis Maxwell
Mariah Hitz
- 13 Robert Morris
Jade Saad
- 14 Wesley Markas
Josie Sloan
- 15 Eric Heille
Jerelyn Gebhart
Sadie Davidson
Nelson & Jill Hostetler
Roger & Claudette Schrepfer
- 16 Jodi Lemkemann
Aaron Karch
Jacey Araujo
- 17 Jeannie Nabors
- 18 Callie Jayne
- 19 Dorothy Plummer
Barb Joyner
Emma Chambers
Glenn & Carol Harkins
- 20 Brent Widder
Quinn McDaniel
Tom & Carol Davis
- 21 Erin Schniers
Rod Roth
Addy Davidson
- 22 Julie Ahlgren
Gabriella Sloan
Zachary Teubel
Amelia Roth
- 23 Brenda Bahorik
Tony & Christine Carbaugh
- 24 Claire Holmes
- 26 Kate Opperman
- 27 Hannah Bennett
- 30 Ken Crank
Grant Hoerr
Bailey Roth
Rob & Robin Ciganek



- 1 Becky Boysen
Pat Savage
Emily Gerber
- 3 Diane Morris
Matthew Vroman
Caleb Schellenberg
- 4 Joshua Mervis
Kate Westbrook
- 5 Robin Ciganek
Morgan Cagle
Tate & Ruth Westbrook
Dan & Alyssa Hawkinson
- 6 Keith Martin
Linda DeJarnatt
Tamara Lee
Derek Martin
- 7 Christine Carbaugh
- 8 Sandra Van Beuning
Harry & Karen Placher
- 9 Heather Fitzgerald
Logan Makiney
- 10 Abigail Prosser
Joah Moser
- 11 Lily Beck
Keith & Linda Martin
- 12 Hannah Hostetler

Building Campaign Small Group Meetings

Join us to hear more about our building campaign and get your questions answered.

- ◆ Sunday, Feb. 28th at 12:15 p.m. - Hosted by Jill and Jonathan Sutter's Care Group. Bring your own lunch to the Community Room, 27265 Dutch Lane immediately following service.
- ◆ Sunday, Feb. 28th at 6 p.m. - Hosted by Tony & Christine Carbaugh's care group at the Carbaugh's, 112 Windsong Dr., Washington
- ◆ Saturday, Mar. 6th at 6 p.m. - Hosted by Daniel & Whitney Bennett at their home, 1901 Colt Dr., Washington
- ◆ Sunday, Mar. 7th at 1p.m. (after lunch) - Hosted by Daniel & Whitney Bennett at their home, 1901 Colt Dr., Washington
- ◆ Saturday, Mar. 13th at 6 p.m. - Hosted by the Ahlgren/DeJarnatt care group at the Dornon's, 200 Whistling Strait, Washington
- ◆ Sunday Mar. 14 at 1 p.m. - Hosted by Mark & Michelle Hahn's care group at the Hahn's, 26625 Liberty Lane, Washington
- ◆ Sunday, Mar. 14th at 6 p.m. - Hosted by Ben Davidson's care group at the Community Room, 27265 Dutch Lane, Washington
- ◆ Sunday, Mar. 21 at 6 p.m. - Hosted by Jim & Barb Bayer's care group, at Diane Geurin's, 1319 Lourdes Rd., Metamora

Please RSVP on-line, on the insert in your bulletin or by calling the office.

If you would like to talk to someone for advice on finances, budgeting, etc., please call the office at 508-1755.

Sunday Evening Service

Sun., March 7, 6 p.m. at
Camp Good News

This is another important meeting in the life of our church. As we become an independent church we will be installing elders and voting on a new church constitution. On this evening you will hear the testimonies of those who are potential elders and will have a chance to ask them any questions you may have. We will also be discussing suggested changes to the draft of the constitution and by-laws.

This is your chance to have input on these very important issues. Please bring any suggested changes with you, or send them to one of the staff ahead of time.

Baby Shower for Kendra Bachman

Sat., March 7, 2 p.m.
at the Community Room

All ladies are invited to come and celebrate with Joe and Kendra as they are expecting their first child. They are registered at Baby Depot and Walmart.

AWANA Grand Prix

Sat., March 27, 1 p.m.
at Camp Good News

Everyone is invited to come and join in the excitement as our AWANA clubbers race the Grand Prix cars they have made. Clubbers should have their cars inspected at either the AWANA meetings on March 17 or 24, or from 9 to 11a.m. on the 27th.

Special Congregational Meeting

April 25, 9 a.m.

During Sunday School we will have a special congregational meeting to vote on elders, officers, and to accept the Constitution and By-Laws. There will be a meeting at 8:15 for those who will be doing childcare during Sunday School that week. Everyone is encouraged to be in attendance for this very important meeting in the life of our church.

Installation Service

May 2, 10:15 a.m.

The new BCC elders will be installed during the morning service. The elders from Bethany Baptist will be here to pray over the new board and we will celebrate God's faithfulness together.

Easter Sunday

April 4, 9 a.m.



Meet in the banquet rooms at Five Points with your favorite breakfast dish. We will enjoy breakfast together before the morning worship service. There will be no Sunday School classes. Beverages, plates and silverware will be provided. If you need serving utensils for your dish, please bring them also.



Easter is a great time to invite those who don't attend a church to visit Bethany Community. Please invite your friends and neighbors. Pastor

Daniel will be preaching from I Corinthians 15 on "The Hope of the Resurrection."

Spring Electives

Following is a list of the elective courses offered this spring and where they will meet. These classes are a great opportunity to grow in your knowledge and application of God's Word. The dates for the classes are April 11, 18 and 25, and May 16, 23 and 30. They all meet at 6 p.m.

Pastor Ritch Boerckel, *Systematic Theology IV—Soteriology* meets at Living Hope Community Church
 Pastor Daniel, *Legacy of Faith II: The Reformation* meets at Camp Good News
 Pastor Matt Morgan, *Christian Ethics* meets at Bethany Baptist Church
 Minister Jerry Sanderson, *"Age of Opportunity"-Parenting Resources for Teens* meets at Bethany Baptist
 Kent Kloter, *Uprooting Anger—A Biblical and Practical Approach to Handling Anger* at Bethany Baptist
 Pastor Joel Smith, *Forgiveness* meets at Bethany Baptist
 Pastor Art Georges, Topic to be announced - will meet at Bethany Baptist.

If you would like to sign up for any of these classes, call the office at 508-1755 or register on-line beginning in April.