



# Bethel News

AUGUST 2016

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Church Cleaning Days! August 12-13**
- **Third Family Festival will be August 19. Let the office know if you are interest in being part of the planning team for August!**
- **Nursery Worker's Appreciation Breakfast- August 28 at 9 AM**
- **MOPS Kickoff is August 31!**
- **Make a gift bag for the staff at Mickelson Middle School! Bags are due August 21.**

## Faith Story - Camille Ysbrand



My name is Camille Ysbrand and I am 17 years old. I will be a senior at Brookings High

School this year. This summer I have been working as a lifeguard at the Hillcrest Aquatic Center. I also have been volunteering at an organic garden/farm a few times a week.

This summer I had the opportunity to return to Lake Ann Camp in Michigan. My first experience at the camp was four years ago in 2012. I've stayed

in touch with two girls I met there and we planned to go the same week. When I first arrived at camp and saw the other girls in my cabin and the boys in my brother cabin I was disappointed. My first judgements were that I wouldn't get along with the majority of the group. The team ended up being not athletic which was difficult for me because I am quite competitive. I started praying asking God to show me why he put me in this cabin/team. Two nights at camp we had "Quaker Fires" where people can share trials going on in

their life. The people on my team came from broken homes with many troubles. After hearing people's stories it was clear why God had put me on a team with these people. Sometimes I get frustrated and annoyed with my family, and God was showing me I need to be thankful for the family I was given.

Also at the first Quaker Fire I felt called to share a trial in my life. The past year I have struggled with an eating disorder and anxiety. The anxiety was driven by the eating disorder and my "fears" of becoming fat. I was put on

## Robertson's Ramblings— A Sent People

We are a sent people, therefore we need to be a sending church. In John 17:18 Jesus in his prayer for his disciples prayed this... "As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world." In the same way

that God the Father sent his son Jesus Christ into the world, the Son has sent us into the world. Christ was sent to make God known and to provide the way of salvation. We have been sent into the world as followers of Christ to make

God known and to proclaim the way of salvation.

A sending church sends its people out to go and make disciples. We do this in several ways. We do this through missions where we provide financial and prayer support to missionaries whom

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## Faith Story (continued from page 1)

medication to control the anxiety. I also began counseling for the eating disorder, and had several people praying for my recovery. With time, I was able to see the sin of self worship in my life. The idols in my life replacing God were control, perfection, and beauty. The first step in stopping my sin was

realizing my actions/ thoughts were sins. I began to battle the lies the voice of the eating disorder told me with God's truth. Recovery from an eating disorder is an on going process, but I have come far! I've gained close to 15 pounds since my lowest weight in March. In June I also quit the

anxiety medication cold turkey which is not recommended by doctors. I experienced few side effects from stopping the medication which is a blessing. I am thankful for God's hand in healing me, and excited for the future because of God's plan for my life!

## Ministry Highlight— College Meals

30-40 hungry college students are hoping that YOU will sign up to host a meal after church this coming school year! They would love to get to know you and are not choosy about what you would like to serve. Meals are served in the CAFÉ following each Sunday service. The first date this year is September 18.

Usually, 2 or 3 families or individuals team up to serve a home cooked meal. Some individuals may contribute to the cost of the meal but are not involved in serving. There is a \$75 stipend to help defray some of the costs if you wish to turn in

your grocery receipts.

The CAFÉ kitchen is set up to serve from, rather than cook from, and therefore has limited equipment. It is stocked with paper plates, bowls, and plastic silverware & glasses. If you wish to prepare and cook in the event center kitchen and bring it over that is fine or you may bake in the Café ovens or in your own crock pots. You are welcome to grab any serving utensil or bowl from the event center & just return. Everyone does it a little different depending on their meal choice.

Some examples of meals served this last year include tacos, roast pork & cheesy potatoes, chili, egg bake & muffins,

BBQ's, pulled pork sandwiches, chicken spaghetti, lasagna, chicken pot pie, baked potato bar, brats & baked beans. The students really enjoy a little dessert also....bars and ice cream are served a lot!

There are a lot of families who have hosted before that would gladly welcome you as part of their group so that you would not have to do all the planning the first time.

If you are interested but unsure of who to serve with or some of the other details in hosting a meal, please contact Susie Keenaghan, 690-7142 or [keenaghan@mchsi.com](mailto:keenaghan@mchsi.com). Otherwise, follow the Sign Up Genius link to choose your date.

*Sign up to serve a college meal this school year!*

In this past quarter, the elders have been focusing on the following key areas: curriculum, deacon board development, child safety, staffing for our Ministry Assistant Position, next steps in ministry internships, Prayer, Fall program startup, and a future additional Pastoral position.

- First, we are creating a three-year curriculum for the whole church, and we've approved a curriculum theme and Scripture for the first ministry quarter starting in the fall.
- Next, the elders have also been focusing on the development of a deacon board, with the goal that prospective deacons and deaconesses might hold

their first formative meeting in August.

- Thirdly, we're continuing to make child safety and security a priority. We recently approved the purchase of a computer software-based check-in system for children in the Nursery and Children's Church.
- In the ministry staffing area, we are coming to the end of the current one year of our Ministry Internship Agreement and are working to find leadership for Worship and Youth ministries for the fall. We are updating position descriptions, seeking individuals, and praying for direction about these important areas.

- In an effort to build on Pastor Josh's messages on prayer, we are giving added emphasis to Prayer Oasis and seeing some growth in attendance and prayer results that are encouraging.
- Fall start-up discussions and planning have also included Life Group Ministry, College Ministry, publicity through community publications, and start up dates.
- Finally, we continue to pray over the question of when we might consider hiring an associate pastor. We desire conversation and prayer across the congregation about this need.

*"We're continuing to make child safety and security a priority."*

## Robertson's Ramblings (continued from page 1)

God has sent out to specific places to make His name known. We do this through supporting the Converge Heartland district that currently is focused heavily on church planting and church revitalization. The third way we do this is through seeing all of us at Bethel as a sent people. Every Sunday morning around 11:45 when we begin to disperse from the church building we are a sent people. We are being sent to our homes, to our neighbor-

hoods, to our schools, to our workplaces, we are being sent to all the places where we have been given influence over the lives of others. We all, as followers of Jesus, are a sent people.

In the next couple of months look for the following opportunities as we live out the reality that we are a sent people. In August/September we will be encouraging you to host a block party in your neighborhood. In August we will be putting together gift

bags for all staff at Mickelson Middle school. Starting September 11th we will be looking at how we are sent to our work as we start a four week sermon series looking at how our faith impacts our day to day work that God has called us to.

We are sent. You, me, the missionaries we support, we are all sent. We are sent into our spheres of influence (home, neighborhood, community, work-places, schools, etc) to Exalt

God's Name, Equip God's People, and Evangelize God's World.



EXALTING · EQUIPPING · EVANGELIZING

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**Exalting His Name...**

**Equipping His People...**

**Evangelizing His World...**

## Upcoming Events

**8/6 Men's Breakfast**

**8/12-8/13 Church Cleaning Days**

**8/19 Family Festival at Bethel**

**8/28 Nursery Volunteer Breakfast**

**Burke Anniversary Open House**

**8/31 MOPS Kickoff**

## Missions Focus - Matt Auch



Matt Auch, an SDSU graduate who attended Bethel, is currently serving in the Middle East with the Navigators in the Edge Corp program. He began serving in the fall of 2015 and is working on his masters.

Matt recently finished finals for his spring 2016 courses. In a recent update he was encouraged because of a good response from his professor who even extended an offer to do research with him in the future. This was one thing Matt had been praying for this first semester, to

work in such a way that he could be a testimony and gain favor, as Daniel did, through God's gift of learning and skill (Dan 1:9, 19-20). Also, he is praising God that he was accepted into a master's program (last semester he was accepted as a visiting student) and has a clear path to staying at AUB and in the country for the duration of his studies.

Matt's summer Arabic class has been going pretty well. It's good to take the time to focus on learning language, but even with class every day it's hard for him to feel like things are clicking. Sometimes it seems impossible for him to

comprehend what someone is saying in conversation. Matt asks for prayer for his Arabic partner as he reaches out to him.

Matt reported that what's most encouraging to him is that he's started studying the Bible with H. He's a young believer from a Muslim background who found the Lord during a semester studying in the UK. Over the past couple months, they've gotten to meet more regularly, and have had real fellowship together. As H said, "We sharpen each other." Pray that God would do a similar work in other friends' lives and be drawing them to himself.