



# Bethel News

JULY 2016

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Second Family Festival** will be July 22. Let the office know if you are interest in being part of the planning team for July or August!
- **Quarterly Business Meeting** on July 24 at 9 AM in the Café!

## Faith Story - Brandon Berndt



I plan to attend DSU in Madison for Biology education. I want to be a science teacher in a high school.

My faith has grown as I am realizing that everything in life happens for a reason and God will help you through everything if you just trust in Him.

My life verse is Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future.”

## Robertson’s Ramblings— Seek the Welfare of the City!

“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare” Jeremiah 29:7

Don’t you find it

interesting that God commands the Israelites to seek, work for, and pray for the welfare of the city that they had been exiled to? The Israelites were exiled to a society and a culture that was opposed to the God of the Israelites,

where other gods were exalted above the true God of the Bible. Yet, in that society God calls the Israelites to seek, work for, and pray for the welfare of the city. The book of 1 Peter makes it clear that we are indeed exiles, strangers, and aliens in  
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## Summer Arts Festival Sand Art Booth

By helping at this year's Sand Art Booth, you will be helping plant churches through youth camps in Togo, Africa! All profit from the Sand Art Booth will go to supporting the ministry of JJ Alderman and his family in Togo. The money raised will be going to help support phase 1 in their building process of their permanent location. JJ Alderman, along with his wife and three kids, are converge missionaries in Togo. JJ grew up as a missionary kid in Togo and God has led him and his family back to

Togo. Growing up in Togo has given JJ a great understanding of the culture and the language in Togo which has proven to be very beneficial for his ongoing ministry.

JJ's vision is to plant churches via youth camps and other youth focused outreaches. They plant gospel-centered churches in an area dominated by voodoo worship. They are planting churches within a 20 mile radius of the Togo Palms property so that they are able to partner together for

future ministry endeavors.

In addition they are in the process of creating a permanent camp location as well as having an institute to train local pastors to plant gospel believing churches.

Have fun working at the Sand art booth and be excited about the ministry that you are supporting as you do it! Please contact Joyce Caldwell or the church office soon to get set up to serve at the Sand Art Booth at the Brookings Art Festival July 9th and 10th!

## Ministry Highlight - Prayer Oasis

*Prayer Oasis meets every Wednesday from 7-8 PM at the Burke's home. 1017 Hammond Ave.*



By Bob Burke

If you were on a desert journey of seemingly endless heat, sand, sun, wind, and fatigue, think how welcome the Oasis would be with its shade..., water...., and refreshing coolness. No, we are

not talking about Al's Oasis in Chamberlain or the free ice water of Wall Drug... What we are talking about is right here in

Brookings at 1017 Hammond Ave.

We are talking about the refreshing contrast to the busyness of everyday life. A quiet reflection of how great is our God, a time of prayer and praise, a time to give our burdens to Him, a

time to fellowship with other believers, a time of healing. A time to be refreshed..... a welcome contrast to the pace of life.

This summer we are meeting weekly on Wednesdays from 7 to 8 pm at the Burke home. All are welcome, all are encouraged to come. We will especially pray for the Bethel Families of the Week. However, for each of you, come to pray and be prayed for. To be refreshed.

# Elder Report



The elders are working to fill the roles on the Deacon

Board and recently decided to implement a computer-based labeling and scanning check in system for the nursery and children's church. We also welcome feedback from the congregation concerning the plausibility of adding an associate pastor in the near future. The elder board continues to focus primarily on developing a new church-wide Sunday School curriculum. At the elder meeting on June 28, the elders came to an agreement on the topics of study for the first ten weeks of curriculum for students of the Bible from pre-school age to adult.

## Bethel Baptist Church – Sunday School Curriculum – 1<sup>st</sup> Ten Weeks

### The Word of God

1. General Revelation vs. Specific Revelation
2. The Old Testament Canon – an overview of the story of the Old Testament
3. The New Testament Canon – an overview of the story of the New Testament

### The Characteristics (Attributes) of Scripture

4. The Literary Genres of Scripture
5. Authority of Scripture – to disbelieve or disobey God's Word is to disbelieve

in or disobey God

6. Inerrancy of Scripture – Scripture in the original manuscripts does not affirm anything that is contrary to fact
7. Clarity of Scripture – Scripture is able to be understood
8. Necessity of Scripture – necessary for knowing the Gospel, knowing God, etc.
9. Sufficiency of Scripture – we've got everything we need, that is, everything God wanted us to have
10. How to Study the Bible – Context, Observation, Meaning, Application

Chad Caldwell, Elder Chair

*“At the elder meeting on June 28, the elders came to an agreement on the topics of study for the first nine weeks of curriculum.”*

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

this world. This is not our permanent home and we, too, should seek, work for, and pray for the welfare of the city of Brookings. So how do we do that?

First of all-

Pray! Do you pray for our community, for our schools, for our elected officials, for our businesses, for your neighborhood, for your work place? We should be!

Secondly, seek and work for the good of our community. As a

church we should be planning and doing things that make Brookings a better place to live! That is why we are doing the Family Festivals and why we did the sports camps for pre-school aged kids. That is why we did the gift bags for Brookings high school staff last year and why we will be doing that again for another one of our schools this year. That is why we encourage you to host a block party and why we will encourage you to do that again this year! We

also seek and work for the good of our community individually through the way we live, the way we parent, the way we neighbor, the way we go about the daily work that God has called each of us to.

Lastly, we seek the welfare of the city with our eyes firmly fixed on the Gospel! The Gospel is what people in our community most need. They need to know what Jesus has accomplished for them and that is what we

are called to do. We seek the welfare of our city through actions, fun events, random acts of kindness, in order to give us a platform by which we can proclaim the Gospel to our community. As individuals, and as a church family, we are called to seek the welfare of Brookings!



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**Exalting His Name...**

**Equipping His People...**

**Evangelizing His World...**

## Upcoming Events

**7/3 Old Fashioned Hymn Sing**

**7/9 Men's Breakfast**

**7/9-7/10 Summer Arts Festival**

**7/22 Family Festival at Bethel**

**7/24 Quarterly Business Meeting**

**8/19 Family Festival at Bethel**

## Missions Focus - Tim & Amy Moline



Tim and Amy Moline serve in Ndu, Cameroon with Converge Worldwide. Tim teaches at Cameroon Baptist Theological Seminary strengthening churches by training leaders to be pastors, missionaries, Bible translators, chaplains, and children's ministers. Amy does outreach to women.

They are praising God for the completion of another victorious school year. Amy hosted a successful

women's ministry event. It was a time of prayer and encouragement and, of course, fellowship. Tim has finished all of his grading. It was a solid semester although a faculty member and her husband left for health reasons.

The summer holiday is an opportunity for student pastors to get practical ministry experience.

This missionary couple would also like to ask for prayers for Amy's health. Unexpectedly, they learned of a medical issue which requires further care. They took advantage of a trip to Banso to consult a medical doctor at Banso Baptist hospital for what they thought was a minor problem. The doctor advised them

that they'd need more testing. During the course of the tests, it became clear that surgery would be necessary to perform a biopsy to rule out cancer. In consultation with Converge leadership and their support team, it seemed best to go to the US for the biopsy. Their mission has granted them medical leave for June and July.

It was a difficult decision to seek treatment in the US. Some of the considerations were: Amy has two risk factors that increase risks in surgery. There is not really a clean blood supply. Finally they wanted to be as sure as possible of the results of the biopsy. The skill of the doctors in Cameroon were not in question, it was more the technology they could access. In light of these factors, it seemed

wise to go to the US. They left Ndu June 8<sup>th</sup> and are ultimately trusting in the Lord.

During their time in Minnesota, Tim will be continuing to prepare for the next academic year. Summer is a time for rest, reading and pondering the future. Pray that Tim will be refreshed and renewed academically, spiritually and ministerially. Praise: Amy and Tim had safe travels arriving in Minneapolis on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please pray for:

\*Timely follow-up care for Amy.  
\*Amy to recover quickly from the biopsy. And peace for whatever diagnosis comes.

\*CBTS - pray for the faculty to be refreshed. Pray for the students to gain valuable ministry experience over the summer months.