putting the new in newsletter

This is the first edition of the new format for our monthly newsletter. This new style should be more informative and useful for you in keeping up with the activities of the church. This is just one of the many ways we try to keep you informed concerning church activities. We also encourage you to use our website (whchfamily.com) and the weekly church bulletin. All of these sources of information are designed to help you keep abreast of the things going on in the church.

Families today live hectic, busy schedules and having information available to help keep calendars current is vitally important. We hope you will consider the church calendar as an important part of your family calendar.

dave’s thoughts

Our series on the book of Proverbs is drawing to a close and I trust you have been challenged by its words of wisdom and moved to put them into practice. As I read through Proverbs I wrote down some of the verses that stood apart from others at this point in my life. While I am still processing the verses, there is one set of verses that I would like to share with you at this time. This set of verses talks about how we should deal with our neighbors. To be honest, I have always gotten along with my neighbors. So I don’t understand why these are being revealed to me, but maybe you might gain some insight for me or yourself from these verses.

10:12 – “Hatred stirs up trouble, but love forgives all wrongs.”
11:12 – “It is foolish to belittle one’s neighbor; a sensible person keeps quiet.”
14:21 – “It is a sin to hate your neighbor, but being kind to the needy brings happiness.”
17:9 – “Whoever forgives someone’s sin makes a friend, but gossiping about the sin breaks up friendships.”
18:24 – “A brother who has been insulted is harder to win back than a walled city, and arguments separate people like barred gates of a palace.”
21:14 – “A secret gift will calm an angry person; a present given in secrecy will quiet great anger.”
25:17 – “Don’t go to your neighbor’s house too often; too much of you will make him hate you.”

As I read through this set of proverbs, I am reminded of the importance of friendships and how we need to keep nurturing them and protect them. As followers of Christ, the relationships we have with our neighbors is important in that they need to see reflecting Christ in the way we live out each day of our life.

Maybe you are dealing with a difficult situation with one of your neighbors. If you are, I hope these verses might help. Maybe you see something in these verses that I need to practice in my life, if so, please let me know.

The Proverbs are a great source of wisdom to help you navigate this journey called life. I sincerely hope you will revisit them on a regular basis. They will truly make a difference in the way you live your life.

missions spotlight

Close to twenty-five years ago, Bill and Karleen Crandall packed up their belongings in the Dominican Republic and moved to the bustling city of Guayaquil, Ecuador to help start some churches. Guayaquil is the largest city in Ecuador and is the commerce center for the nation. It spreads out along the Guayaquil River on the Bay of Guayaquil. The current population is around 2.5 million people with new people moving to the city on a daily basis.

Bill and Karleen are involved with five churches in the city. Over the years they have been a part of a team of missionaries, but for the past several years they have faithfully served by themselves in the city.

The Crandall’s main function is making disciples. They have a number of people in the various churches enrolled in an intense discipleship program. The total program is six years long and is done in three different phases. Each phase is more comprehensive than the previous. When a person graduates from the training, they are expected to begin teaching the classes in their own church. This training will help ensure the church will maintain faithfulness to the truth of the Bible and prepare ministers to meet the needs of the people.

Bill and Karleen like to say that they are trying to work themselves out of a job by raising up the people of the church to take over the leadership of the church. Each church has a native minister that preaches each Sunday and takes care of the pastoral duties of the church.

The Crandall’s have faithfully served the Lord in the beautiful country of Ecuador for many years and I pray that they have several more years left to serve Him. Please keep the Crandall’s in your prayers as they serve Him.

sermon series

Dave will begin a new sermon series on October 13 titled “A Life Without Regrets”. We will take an in depth look at Romans chapter 12 and see how we can live a life that is pleasing to God. To prepare for this series, we encourage you to read through Romans 12 a couple of times from a couple different translations.

The series will include five messages and will cover topics like giving God what he wants most from you, getting God’s best for your life, looking at the real you (this will be a tough one), living in authentic community, and overcoming the evil thrown your way.

Dave says, “I look forward to sharing this exciting passage from Scripture with you. I don’t know about you, but I want to live life victoriously instead of with regrets.”

To be honest, I haven’t always gotten along with my neighbors.
When handing out names for youth ministry events, “The Event” got the short end of the stick. Maybe it was last in line. We don’t know.

To check your child in to our programs on Sunday mornings, you and your child will need to come to the KICK Check In Table in the Family Life Center lobby. When you sign your child in to the appropriate program you will be given a laminated card. We are taking responsibility of making sure your child is where he is supposed to be, supervised, and safe.

If you checked your child in for Sunday School, you don’t need to check them in for Kids Own Worship. We will escort them there after class.

Kids Own Worship dismisses at noon. To pick up your child after the programs, come to the KICK Check In Table with the card we gave you. We’ll trade you your child for the card and transfer the responsibility for their safety back to you.

Please be sure to check your child out by 1210pm.

**KICK Check In Procedures**

We know that the safety and welfare of your child is one of your highest priorities. It’s one of ours too! In order to ensure our kids are well cared for, we need your help.

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**Christmas Play:** Don’t forget, play practice starts promptly at 430pm on Sundays. We need every child to be on time so that we can make the most of each practice. If you have a conflict, please contact Katelyn (580.704.8975).

**WHYministry**

Facebook is a pretty neat tool. It allows us to connect with people in a unique way, share our thoughts with a wide variety of people, and develop a deeper sense of community. There are two WHYministry groups of facebook.

The **WHYministry group** is just for teens and Guides. It is private so that we can open up to each other without prying eyes. Teens can express themselves, share cool stuff, ask questions, and encourage each other, even when they’re apart.

The **WHYministry Parents and Friends** group is just for adults. In it, we share information directly with parents, and parents can share ideas, ask questions, and connect with other parents.

When handing out names for youth ministry events, “The Event” got the short end of the stick. Maybe it was last in line. We don’t know.

But we do know that it is a weekend filled with worship, great teaching, and fun all designed specifically for high schoolers.

The Event is Friday - Saturday, November 1-2 on the campus of Ozark Christian College in Joplin, MO. The cost is only $5, but the deadline to sign up is Sunday, October 13.

Because of the schedule of the weekend, we’ll need to meet at the wchc building at noon on Friday, so teens will have to be checked out from school. Arrangements can be made if students need rides from school to the church building. Everybody will need money for lunch and dinner on Friday and dinner on Saturday.

To sign up, go to whccfamily.com/youth/upcoming-events. As always, if money is an issue, be sure to talk to Dave McInnis. Scholarships are available.

**secret service**

Our special event on Saturday, October 5 (6pm to 11pm) isn’t just for adults! We’re going to have a program specifically designed to help our children get to know the Holy Spirit.

Our lessons will be interactive and full of good stuff. Our key verse for the night will be Romans 8.10, “the Spirit gives you life.”

We will learn that the Holy Spirit is God and works in us, helps us follow and be more like Jesus, that we can rely on him for help, and that he gives us gifts that we can use to serve others.

We will also show a movie towards the end of the evening, so we encourage you to bring any pillows and blankets for your kids to use. (Be sure to feed your children before they arrive.)

This is going to be a great evening of fun and learning for all ages, so please make plans to attend.

**verse to know**

Please help your child learn this verse:

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3.16

Colossians 3.1-2 says, “Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”

And that is exactly what we strive to do.

We want to exalt God in worship that is sincere, personal, passionate, and unhindered. We want to elevate our thought-lives, learning how to fill our minds with things that honor God. We want to see things from a higher vantage point, developing a Bible-based worldview. We want to lift our eyes off of ourselves to see the sacrificial life to which God has called us.

We want a revolution against the same-old-same-old style of ministry. We want to rebel against worldliness in our ministry and in our lives. We want an insurrection against the petty tyrant called “self.”
a sign of things to come
With the new Lawton Marketplace open across the street from our building, 82nd has lots more traffic! And with all that traffic, there are many more people driving by and reading our sign. We have the opportunity to draw lots of attention to the great things going on at Western Hills.

The leadership is excited to announce plans to purchase a new roadside sign that will replace the existing sign. The new sign will have an updated look, feature our new logo, and the tag line “coming together to come to God”. But the most exciting feature will be the LED display.

This electronic sign will be able to advertise multiple events and ministries including full color graphics and information. Rather than having one static message, we will be able to rotate through multiple slides and advertise various events and programs.

Of course a sign like this comes at a cost. So please pray about what your family could contribute to making this tool for reaching the community a reality. We’ll have more details as they unfold.

24 hour prayer and fast
By now the secret is out and you are aware of our “Secret Service” on October 5th. Our guest speaker, Mark Scott, will be teaching on the Holy Spirit and we’re excited to hear what he has to say. This is a great opportunity for us to “come together to come to God” in a very real and powerful way.

To prepare our hearts, souls, minds & bodies for the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in and through this service, we invite you to join us in 24 hours of prayer and fasting from 6pm Thursday 10/3 through 6pm Friday 10/4.

There are many ways you can participate. We ask that everyone set aside a specific amount of time to pray; how long is up to you. At the Welcome Center there will be a schedule with the days broken down into half hour blocks. Sign up for as many or as few as you choose. You can also choose to fast for a full 24 hours, only 1 hour, or anytime amount of time in between.

You can pray anywhere that works for you. The church building will be open from 6pm-11pm on Thursday and again from 9am-6pm on Friday for those who wish to use the Prayer Chapel. But whether you come to the church, bow in your home, or just pause and pray wherever you are, we ask you to please commit to being a part of this important preparation time. Let’s lift our voices as one and pray with boldness, knowing he will hear us.

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.  I John 5:14

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**Communion**
- Larry Kindt, Kenneth Priest, Eli Ward, Destry Blancett, Jim Madden, Tobey Pruett, Robert Pruett, Ted Janosko, Taylor Pruett

**Sound**
- 6th: Kenny Radtke, 13th: Kenneth Priest, 20th: Kenny Radtke, 27th: Kenneth Priest

**Video**

**Nursery**

**Kids Own Worship**
- Preschool: Jessica Craft, Kindergarten - 5th: Krystal Brue, Abby Brue, Worship: Shawn Brue

**Welcome Center**
- Yvonne Smith, Nancy Lawson

**Host Team**
- Bill Sharpe, Pat Sharpe, Kay Kindt

**Connection Café**
- Isabel Gonzalez

**Monitor Team**
- Don Johnson

**Connectors**
- Cards: Pat Sharpe, Jean Goodman, Calls: Eddie Worthington, Teddy Worthington

**Feed The Hungry**
- Monday: Carol Hubbard, Kathy Pazourek, Joe Pazourek
- Tuesday: Larry Kindt, Ray Gil
- Wednesday: Dennis Jensen, Ingrid Jensen
- Thursday: Sally Jones, Jane Woodruff, GW Manning
- Friday: Louise Ratcliff, Barbara Johnson, Maria Hermann

**financial resources**
August 18 - September 15
Tithes and Offerings $42,355 Monthly Budget $29,751

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**Prayer Circle**

**Help Wanted**
The Feed the Hungry Ministry is looking for volunteers to cook and serve the first Tuesday of every month.

Feed The Hungry is a community outreach program which provides hot, nutritious meals for those who need them. The ministry operates out of St. John’s Baptist church and is supported by several local churches, including WHCC, which prepares and serves lunches the first week of the month.

If you would like to help, contact Carol Hubbard (385.6258).
Looking for a safe place to have some fun on Halloween? Join us in the Family Life Center, where you and your children can play midway-style games, win prizes, and, of course, get lots of candy!

Come dressed in your favorite costume, or just come as you are! We’ll have a special photo studio and everyone will get a free 4x6.

There will be hot dogs and nachos, plus a chili cook-off you can enter to win prizes. You can also decorate a pumpkin at home and enter it in our contest, where prizes will be awarded to the best pumpkin decorator in each age group.

Also, you can help! Contact Katelyn to volunteer or to learn more. We’ll also be collecting canned and dry goods for the Lawton Food Bank, so bring a donation.

On October 5th we will be quietly gathering together to learn about the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Dr. Mark Scott, the Exposition and Leadership Pastor at Mountainview Community Christian Church, will be here to lead the study. Mark spent over 20 years as a professor and academic dean at Ozark Christian College in Joplin, MO before moving to Colorado.

The event will begin at 6pm and finish around 11pm. The following sessions will be held:

Session 1—The Most Spirit-Filled Person I know
Session 2—A Robust or Pale View of the Holy Spirit
Session 3—The Holy Spirit as Doctor
Session 4—The Holy Spirit as Intercessor
Session 5—The Holy Spirit as Counselor

You should plan on coming and attending one or all of the sessions. I am sure you will learn a lot and be blessed by Dr. Scott.

Nursery will be provided and activities for the children will be going on during the sessions.

Remember, this is a secret, so tell all your friends.