

June 2018



Ogema Baptist Church

A circle of believers with Christ at the center.

BEACON

“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

Two Big Events Coming Up

The time is approaching once again for one of our most effective events of the year, VBS!!! (also known as Vacation Bible School). The dates for this year are June 4-7. The times are 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM. Once again, Prentice students enrolled in summer school will be able to simply ride the bus from Prentice to Ogema and be dropped off right at the church.

The reason this has been so successful is the combination of great leadership provided by the ladies who put this together and a huge number of people who do their part. Here are some of the ways you can be involved, many of which are outside of the daily program time.

Preparation before the event is critical. The staff positions for the event need to be filled in advance. If you are available, consider how you might help and offer your assistance before you are even asked. Registrations ahead of time help the first day of the event go smoothly. Maybe you could help at the registration table one of the Sundays before the event. Promotion is very important. Take some of the invitation cards and invite kids you know. Pray for the staff and for those who will be attending.

Obviously, during the event you can be involved in a huge number of ways. You could provide transportation to kids who would not be able to attend otherwise. You could bring some of the snack items. You could talk with those who you know are attending and ask them about their experience. They may need someone like you to show an interest in them. And pray.

After the event you can help in several important ways. First, the program on the final night is a great opportunity to connect with some of the adults in the kids' lives, particularly those from outside the church. The last couple of years we have had an excellent turnout of adult guests for the program and well as

regulars like you to help them feel welcome. The follow up is another opportunity. Inviting people who attended VBS to Sunday School and worship is one huge way you can help. Offer some transportation if that is possible. Invite VBS people to the kids' club when it starts up again in September. And pray.

It is amazing how the seeds that are planted during VBS sprout. Some respond very quickly and some take decades. This is one of the best vehicles we have for sharing the Good News of Jesus. You can be a vital part.

The second big event coming up is the church picnic, Sunday, July 22. We will have our regularly scheduled worship at church. That morning will feature one of our awesome missionaries, Dr. Pat, bringing a report of some of the things happening through our partnership with her. Then at the Dan and Chris Blomberg place at 12:30 we will have some great lunch followed by other fun. Details to be announced. If you are willing to help in some way, please let me or one of the Deacons know. Thank you!

In His Joy, Rodney Price



JUNE SERMON SCHEDULE

- 3 Luke 9:18-36**
“What Kind of Messiah Is Jesus?”
- 10 Luke 9:37-56**
“Jesus and His Slow Disciples”
- 17 Luke 9:57-62**
“What Jesus Says about Some Offers to Follow Him”
- 24 To Be Announced**



YOUTH-MINISTRY



So I was thinking...

Have you ever thought of your faith as a world view? For some of you that might seem like a “duh” question, but I never put those two things together. I believe I did look at the world through a Christian filter, but I never saw the whole picture. It was in Sunday school with Arnie and Rick as they co-taught *The Faith* by Charles Colson, that I realized my world view wasn't big enough. My faith, while genuine and growing, was kind of like a little bubble around me. In the past few months, my little bubble has popped. (Or maybe it's just expanded to encompass the whole world. In either case, it's changed.)

For more than half my life, my faith was boring. It didn't start out that way, but because of decisions I made to ignore the Holy Spirit and to turn a blind eye to the glories of the Lord it became stagnant. It became something I did instead of something I am. Basically fear and pride kept me from stepping out into something more and I didn't really know what I was living for. Once I started figuring it out, the change was slow. It was slightly uncomfortable and often times confusing. It wasn't something that happened over night and I actually hope it's something that never ends, but finding the courage to live out my faith has changed everything. It's also made these little pieces of me that I didn't understand make sense. Like how I can find patience to work with the one student that every teacher in school has given up on or feel love for an entire country that I've only visited once. It's not me, it's what God is doing in me. Chuck Colson says, “we (people who live in Western civilizations) have become so self-absorbed, self-indulgent, and materialistic that we're blind to what makes life worth living.” While that's tough to hear and acknowledge, I can accept it because I've experienced it. The more we run towards things, money, status, acceptance, busyness, fame, the farther we get from peace, joy, and contentment and the farther we get from God. This is why depression rates are so high in our country and why people feel it's necessary to walk into a school and start shooting. They don't know what makes life worth living.

In his book, Chuck invites us to go back to the roots of the early Church, to grab onto the teachings and excitement of a Gospel with the power to transform lives and cultures. He urges us to embrace the earth shaking power and authority that wrote on stone tablets, parted the Red Sea, and made the lame walk again. The Bible challenges us to not only live out our faith in the small day to day living but in big and bold ways.

For me, it took a conversation, some videos, and a book to help make me see that my faith encompasses everything! It's not just my job, my belief system, my religion. It's my world! This was all starting to happen, thanks to the students and adults I work with, reading through the Bible in 90 days, and time spent in other places, but this time it was a light bulb moment. A “duh” moment where I realized that I can look at people, my children, my life, the environment, the government, the President and, while everything is marred by sin, I can be an optimist because God has the power to fix it!

I believe that God has an exciting life for us to live. We just have to get out of our own way. We have to stop worrying about what it looks like to others, stop following someone else's plan and get on board with what the Bible says. It's actually really exciting!!! There's a story Chuck uses in his book. He says it's “probably a legendary story” and it goes like this:

“St. Francis was weeding his garden when a visitor asked, ‘What would you do if you knew the world would end tomorrow?’ St. Francis replied, ‘I would be weeding the garden.’” You see, St. Francis knew that he was already doing what God called him to do. He was already living an exciting and unencumbered life for Christ. Wouldn't it be something if we all could live with that same confidence? Knowing that everything we should be doing for God's glory is being done and that we can just keep weeding our garden?

...until next time, Rebecca Anderson

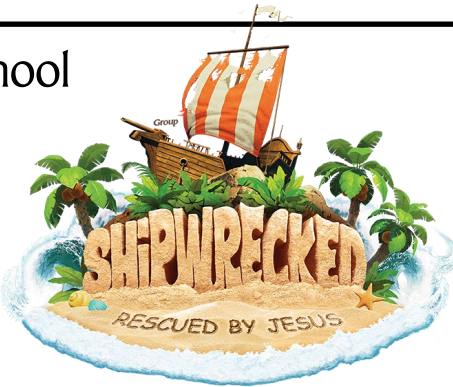


Vacation Bible School

June 4-7

12:30-3:30 p.m.

SHIPWRECKED - Rescued by Jesus!



You are invited to *Shipwrecked*, the VBS where kids
- 5 years old through entering 6th Grade -
learn that **JESUS rescues!**

When you are LONELY, WORRY, STRUGGLE,
DO WRONG and are POWERLESS ... Jesus Rescues!

If your child is attending summer school in Prentice in the mornings,
he/she may ride the bus to Ogema and get off at the church.

You will not want to miss this exciting adventure!

Questions or wish to volunteer? Call Kati 715-428-2282 or Brenda 715-767-5646



The excitement continues ...

Please join us for the VBS
Shipwrecked Evening Program
Thursday, June 7th, 7:00 p.m.



Titus 2

Women of all ages, please join us for evenings
of encouragement and testimonies this summer!

We will meet twice each month, on the second and fourth Tuesdays.

5:30 pm at Pattie Swan's (W3054 Ring School Rd.)
for extra time to visit and share life

6:30 pm at Janet Blomberg's (W2990 Ring School Rd.)
for our featured testimony, followed by visiting & refreshments



Sharing their stories this month:
June 12th - Tamra Swan
June 26th - Dolly Hadden



**"Declare God's glory among the nations,
His marvelous deeds among all peoples.
For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise."**

Psalm 96:3-4a



Coming next month ... **Sunday, July 22**



Church Picnic

9:00am Sunday School at church

10:15am Worship at church with Dr. Pat

12:30pm Picnic Lunch at Dan & Chris Blomberg's

Followed by Outdoor Activities



"Let the PEACE of CHRIST
RULE in your HEARTS,
since as members of one body you were
called to peace.

And be THANKFUL.

Let the WORD of CHRIST
DWELL in you RICHLY

as you teach and admonish one another
with all WISDOM,
and as you SING psalms, hymns
and spiritual songs

with GRATITUDE in your hearts to God.

And WHATEVER you do,

whether in word or deed,

do it ALL in the name of the LORD JESUS,

giving thanks to GOD the FATHER

through Him."

Colossians 3:15-17



June Birthdays



- 1 Joseph Pearson, Jill Smith, Deb Wherritt
- 2 Adam Blomberg
- 3 Dan Blomberg, Heidi Michaelis, Tonya VanCamp,
Ezekiel Stolhammer, Renee Zook
- 4 Jerry Blomberg
- 5 Jessica Andreae, Tammie Blomberg
- 6 Tina Hensley
- 7 Jordan Nelson, Ameris Grapa, Danielle Blomberg
- 8 Jeremy VanCamp
- 9 Laura Lord, Malcolm Monroe, Lucas Cook
- 11 June Larson, Tirah Meier
- 12 Bo Jones
- 13 Emilie Blomberg, Pam Wildberg, Kendrick Wear
- 15 Myrtle A. Blomberg, Nate Erickson, Diane Bulgrin
- 17 Kyle Belan, Macy Wildberg
- 18 Nick Erickson, Gene Haskins, Nancy Espinoza
- 19 Doug Erickson, Tom Schubring
- 20 Josh Jones, Preston Nelson, James Gustafson
- 21 Cody Gasser, Sarah Leick, Kailee Mann
- 22 Joel Esterholm
- 23 Garrett Blomberg, Marcia Carlson, Steve Swan
- 24 Andy Swan
- 25 Janet Blomberg, Rebecca Anderson, Ciara Scheithauer
- 26 Brandon Hallstrand, June Johnson
- 27 Vivian Rhody, Brooke Nelson
- 28 Anna Dielschneider
- 29 Kay Sue Belan, Nathan Karlik, Carol Heikkinen,
Renita Ulrich, Manny Espinoza Jr.
- 30 Heidi Esterholm, Donna Nelson, Ron Mattson



Please contact us if:

- You or someone in your family has an address change
- You no longer want to be on our Beacon mailing list
- You would rather receive your Beacon by email
Email: info@ogemabaptistchurch.org

OGEMA BAPTIST CHURCH

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Whatever your age or stage in life,
YOU are WELCOME here!

*"SHINE like STARS in the universe
as you hold out the WORD of LIFE."*

Philippians 2:15b-16a

Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am
Sunday Worship - 10:15 am
Wednesday Student & Ladies' Ministries - 6:30 pm
Wednesday Adult Prayer Meeting - 7:00 pm



Missionary Spotlight *Haiti, June 7-16* OBC Youth Missions Team



We are known as "The Ogema Team" by the founder (Manis), the missionary family (the Brunches) and the staff of OLAD. Referred to as Lemuel Ministries, OLAD is more than a church and destination for a short-term youth mission trip. It's a partnership. Their mission is to "help the destitute of Haiti escape the viscous cycle of poverty through education, community development, economic improvement and spiritual formation."

We depart for Haiti on June 7th and will be in Haiti from June 8th through June 16th. We are eager to experience and learn whatever God has in store for us. Our itinerary includes performing a concert for the community, fencing newly planted trees with a family who has invested in Lemuel, cleaning up a beach, and small jobs like working on screen doors. We will

also be going out into the community to sing for some of the elderly people in the area who are unable to attend the concert.

Specific prayer requests: Health and safety all around, but especially for traveling in Haiti and while working on projects. Knowledge and equipment to help fix vehicles that are currently broken down and needed by the ministry. For God's love and mercy to be exalted while we sing at the concert despite our language barrier. For our hearts to be open to God's leading and the stretching of our faith. For the ability to take what we learn and apply it here at home. For a time of comradery and patience for each other while living together in a different and hot environment.

The Ogema Team: Rebecca, Rick, Aidan & Connor Anderson, Kaarin, Nathan, Karl & Anja Lind, Justine & Josh Jast, Olivia Blomberg, Maia Reissner, Maddie Winter, Chase Swan, Taylor Meier, and Zoe Price.