

May 2018



 Omega 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

Eight Baptized, a Great Connect Event, and Other Signs of Life

On Resurrection Sunday we had eight people who professed their faith in Jesus and were baptized. It was a very appropriate time for them to go public with their trust in Jesus, identifying with him in his death, burial and resurrection. Those baptized included two adults, three high school students and three younger boys. It is a joy to be part of a congregation that has been sharing the good news of Jesus for over 135 years and is still seeing people choosing to trust Christ.

Another positive event occurred recently with a very good connect event. In spite of the persistent snow we had to endure, people were able to make it to the most recent family night event hosted at the church. The report of the event noted that, “... we had approximately 45 people at our last family basketball night at church. It was a great night of visiting and getting to know many people. Around 10 different families!” The purpose of our connect events is to provide an opportunity for you to invite others to an event that helps us to connect with them in meaningful ways. We are looking to develop opportunities to share the good news with people we care about and connect events help cultivate those opportunities.

Other signs of life are the thriving ministries that happen on Wednesday nights at church. Attendance remains strong even in spite of the yucky weather. New people continue to come and I am so thankful for all the people who work together to provide those ministries.

New people continue to check us out on Sunday mornings. They find us through a variety of ways, usually a combination of personal acquaintance and technology. A recent example was a guest who has been listening to some of the sermons online who then was invited by one of our regulars. I am so encouraged to hear of our folks saying things like, “You are welcome at our church. Come on Sunday and you can sit with me.”

Coming up in May we have some vital topics from the book of Luke. Also on Mother’s Day we will have a child dedication as part of the morning service. Please let me know if you want to dedicate your child or children.

In His Joy,
Rodney Price

MAY SERMON SCHEDULE

- 6 Luke 8:22-25**
“The Most Important Questions”
- 13 Luke 8:26-39**
“No Miracles Here, Please”
- 20 Luke 8:40-56**
“Power to the Powerless”
- 27 Luke 9:1-17**
“12 Baskets for 12 Disciples”



YOUTH MINISTRY



So I was thinking...

Have you ever been afraid to pray something? Growing up there was this series on cassette tape called "Patch the Pirate." One of my favorite songs was one that had the words, "Here am I, Lord. Send me." I can't actually remember all of it but I loved the sound of the song and was actually a little afraid of the words. I didn't want to actually tell God, "Here am I, Lord. Send me" because I was afraid He would. And He might send me to a place that was uncomfortable, different, hard, unsafe, has weird or big bugs or worse yet, spiders. He might send me somewhere with no running water or electricity. He might...you fill in the blank and I probably thought it.

The weird thing is that I loved when missionaries came to visit my church. I loved to listen to their stories, to learn about the culture and the people they were serving, but I also picked up on how hard it was. How hard it was to go from church to church raising support. How hard it was to be away from family and friends. How hard it was to learn a new language and eat new food. How hard it was...period. I was grateful there were people willing to go, because I wasn't.

I'm not entirely sure what freed me to finally say, "Here am I, Lord. Send me." Maturity, conviction, practicing what you preach? I don't know, but when I finally said those words, I wasn't scared anymore. And then quite unexpectedly I went to Haiti. I went to the uncomfortable, different, hard, potentially unsafe place with no true running water or electricity and not only do they have strange bugs, but they have tarantulas!! And I loved it!!!!

While preparing a lesson for Spot 68, I watched an interesting video that said there are three ways to fulfill the Great Commission. One is to go, one is to send, and one is to disobey. I was starting to understand and work with options one and two and I knew for certain that I was not interested in option number three. So I dug into the verse that is called the Great Commission a little more. Jesus told his disciples in Matthew 28:19, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." So this verse and this video made me realize one thing. I don't have a choice to make...Jesus said go! So what does "going" look like? Yes, I'm going to Haiti. But not as an evangelist or missionary. I don't speak their language...yet. So if I am willing but still can't technically "go" the way Jesus commands, what is this verse telling me? What does "go" look like?

I researched the translation a little to see if it went with another video I found where it said that "go" in this particular verse means "while you are going." I didn't find that exact phrase but I did find that the Greek translation means "to traverse, travel, depart, journey, walk." Yes it says travel, but it also says traverse and walk. So what if we can fulfill the command to "go" as we "traverse" and "walk" through our daily life? After all, that IS what Jesus did. He met people as he walked from place to place. He didn't go in search of special people to share his message of love and forgiveness, he found people as he walked. Yeah, he traveled around, but he didn't raise support or learn another language. He simply focused on where God had put him and used his time on earth to tell those he met along the way the Good News.

I have a deep appreciation for those who are called to go to a foreign nation to live and work as missionaries. I've also recently realized the power of supporting the native people who live in the foreign nation who are fulfilling the command to make disciples. We can fulfill Jesus's command by helping those already on the ground. Like Pastor Ravi in India and like we are starting to do with Lemuel in Haiti. We can support financially, with prayer and words of encouragement, and we can visit them to build them up in their work for the Lord. We can also obey the command right here, in the place God has put us in our everyday life. All of this is fulfilling the Great Commission. So as we enter that time of year when our seniors graduate and we transition from school year to summer, I encourage you to check in with God. What does He want from you? And I pray you have the courage to say "Here am I, Lord. Send me."

...until next time,

Rebecca Anderson



Church Work Day

Saturday, May 5, 8:00 a.m.—Noon

Spring Cleaning!
Jobs for all ages & abilities!

Some maintenance projects,
cleaning, and organizing of the
storage areas.



Ground Zero Grad Night

Sunday, May 6, 6:00 p.m.



Everyone is invited to
this special evening
where our high school
graduating seniors
are honored.



There will be a fellowship time with snacks
following the program.

Kingdom Quest Derby Night

Wednesday, May 2

6:30–8:00 p.m.



3rd Annual Pinewood Derby
& End of Year Party!

BRING YOUR WHOLE FAMILY!

Ground Zero & Spot 68

End of the Year Parties

May 9, 6:30 p.m.

(5th Graders are invited to join Spot 68)

May Birthdays



- 1 Kylee Scott
- 2 Jean Belan, Ellie Korwin-Kuczynski, Nolan Sarkkinen
- 3 Lee DeCleene
- 4 Bryan Blomberg, Leroy Gustafson
- 5 Jackson Isaacson, Iris Blomberg
- 6 Ann VanCamp
- 7 Roger Blomberg, Jordan Mann, Levi Runsick
- 8 Terry Belan, Frank Ulrich
- 9 Deane Bruner
- 10 Elena Blomberg, Ryan Page
- 11 Rebekah Price
- 13 Kathy Blomberg, Krista Blomberg
- 14 Kelly Stanford
- 15 Andrew Whitmire, Courtney Cook
- 16 Nathaniel Rhody
- 17 Tom Schaer, Christine Ziegler, Zoe Reissner
- 18 Bob Marschke, McKenna Isaacson
- 19 Denice Gustafson, Lloyd Hadden
- 20 Ellen Daniels
- 21 Cal Kraegenbrink, Jane Stelzer, Brian Pearson
- 22 Barb Brahmer
- 24 Loren Erickson, Garrett Novotny, Kinlee Wear
- 25 Nick Anderson, Esther Buzan, Craig Smith,
Zackary Swan
- 26 Heidi Mann, Jim Summers, Julie Swan,
Kassie Erickson
- 27 Zach Isaacson, Dorothy Barr, Kristin Belan,
Erica Sturm, Marti Leick, Lauren Mattson
- 28 Dean Gilge
- 29 Becca Jones, Hesston Meier
- 30 Lee Belan
- 31 Joren Lind



"Lord, tell me Your ways.
Show me how to live.
Guide me in Your truth, and teach me,
my God, my Savior.
I trust You all day long."

Psalm 25:4-5 NCV



Upper Room Worship - small group at OBC

Join us for songs of worship, testimony
and prayer in a small group setting.

~ May 5 & 19 ~

7:00 - 8:30 p.m., at Sam and Aimee's house



Ogema Baptist Church

Annual Business Meeting

Sunday, May 20, 5:30 p.m.

Vacation Bible School

Coming June 4–7, 12:30–3:30 p.m.

SHIPWRECKED

Rescued by Jesus!

For Kids 5 years old through entering 6th Grade

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



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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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



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

*"You have made known to me the path of life;
You will fill me with joy in Your presence,
with eternal pleasures at Your right hand."*

Psalm 16:11

Missionary Spotlight Ryan & Heather Reissner

Forest Springs - Westboro, WI



Ryan and Heather Reissner have been serving God at Forest Springs for about 10 years! They say they still feel so blessed to be a part of this ministry!

"High Ropes, Paintball, Climbing, Mountain Biking, and the Team Challenge Course is where you will find Ryan in the spring through the fall. In the winter, Ryan oversees the downhill ski instruction. Last year (2017) we had over 1170 guests on our ski hills, over 690 people on high ropes, and 500 people in paintball! This winter we have served over 7000 guests in the months of January and February. We are so thankful for this amazing winter season. We pray that God blesses the seeds that were planted by the speakers, that relationships have grown and strengthened, and that lives were changed for eternity!!"

"While you will find Ryan 50 feet in the air or doing jumps on the ski hill ... you will find me (Heather) solidly on the ground!! I truly enjoy managing our three stores at camp ... the Gift Shop, the Lodge Café, and most importantly ... the Coffee Shop! But those that know us well, know our heart is with the young adults that come through camp and are in our youth group. What a privilege it is for us to mentor and 'do life' alongside many of them. We are definitely blessed by our time together with them ... they certainly help to keep us young!"

"Thank you, Lord, that you allow us to be a part of this amazing ministry!"

Let's continue to keep Ryan and Heather and the ministry of Forest Springs in our prayers, as well as the Reissners' daughters Zoe, a sophomore in college, and Maia, a junior in high school. You may contact the Reissners by email reissner@forestsprings.us or hreissner@forestsprings.us.

(Information quoted from recent newsletters from the Reissners)