

May 2019



 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

## Thinking about Reaching Lost People in Our Community

Every month the Deacons meet and one of the items we always check in on is the Deacons Special Event fund. I, along with the Deacons, have been thinking and praying about what to do with this fund since it was established a couple of years ago. Most months we report no new ideas or progress. On one hand it's frustrating because we don't have an idea that really excites all of us but on the other hand, the funds are still there. We haven't wasted them with an effort that was unproductive.

The fact that this comes up every month helps us to keep considering how best to reach the folks in our community that are not yet believers and that's good. I am sure we are not in total agreement at this point though. We have a possible idea for an event to target a specific segment of our community that has gotten some growing support. You may hear about it soon if we get it to the proposal stage for the congregation. I think it is an idea that may work and is worth trying.

As the need to reach our community is a frequent thought, I keep asking myself some questions. How have we reached people recently? Who are we not currently reaching? Why? How might we gain an opportunity to tell them the good news? As you will quickly experience if you think about specific people in our community who don't yet know the Lord, the answers are unique. This is not a one size fits all kind of situation.

With this in mind, I was reading a recent email from the Converge Great Lakes association that we are a part of that made me think some more. Here are a couple of paragraphs for your prayerful consideration:

*“What would happen if churches...decided to become loving communities radically committed to sharing the gospel and living in light of its effect on their lives moment by moment? That's the difference between an evangelism program and an evangelism culture...If our churches are to have a culture of evangelism, then everyone who has come face to face with Jesus and allowed Him to transform their lives can be powerful tools for the gospel as they live it out day to day - in their families, their workplaces and even in their free time. Evangelism is not just a program.*

*The church will only ever be as effective at evangelism as their people are. When the church is full of people who love the gospel, who fully understand what Christ has done in their life and are willing to see the gospel's effect on every aspect of their life, they begin to live differently. The world begins to notice. That's when we move from an evangelistic program to an evangelism culture. That's when the gospel has its greatest impact!”*

At the baptism service, I was struck again with the effectiveness of our people at sharing the good news with people they know and care about. Sometimes it is a family member and other times it is someone in one of our ministries who has the opportunity to help another person trust Christ. Am I saying that's the only way? No way! What I am saying is that at the same time we are looking for additional outreach opportunities, let's remember to acknowledge and be thankful for the good work that is already being done and the fruit of that work.

In His Joy,  
Pastor Rodney





# YOUTH-MINISTRY



So I was thinking...

One thing I love about my job is when kids really open up about something they are passionate or excited about. A few weeks ago, in our last session of Deeper, the entire group had something to say about a chapter in *Love Does*. And since it's May and time to start preparing our seniors for graduation, I thought maybe this is something they could benefit from reading. Our big discussion came in the second to last chapter of the book, Chapter 30 - Palms Up. Even before we started the discussion on that chapter some of us tried to talk about it. After discussing it at length, we decided we liked it so much we needed t-shirts. It's not a complicated or very long chapter. The tag line is, "I used to think clinched fists would help me fight better, but now I know they make me weaker." Bob Goff, the author, explains how he is a recovering lawyer and looks at his law career as "only" a day job so he won't confuse who he is with what he does. He explains that depositions are his favorite part of being a lawyer. I think he likes when he has to depose an opponent best, but when it's his client's turn he always gives them one piece of advice, "sit in the chair and answer the questions, but do it with your hands palms up the whole time."

You might think that sounds strange, but you should try it! Especially if you are in a situation where you know your emotions might take control. Just practice it. Sit there with your palms up and think about a situation? Now do it with closed fists? Did you feel a difference? The young people reading this book with me did. And they decided we should LIVE LIFE palms up!! Throughout the whole book, and over a course of two months, we talked extensively about how Jesus has flipped the rules. For example, if you want to be first you have to be last and if you want to receive you have to give. In this chapter, we discussed how the world says we have to fight for what we want or to just take it through force. The flip side (Jesus's way) seems to say we should live palms up. Living palms up means you have nothing to hide, nothing to lose and nothing to gain. Palms up means you are open, vulnerable even. It's hard to do when you have been wronged or when you feel that need to fight back welling up within you, but then that's probably another reason we should try it.

The goal of Deeper this year was to read *Love Does* and discover what Jesus can tell us through Bob's life. Then we wanted to discover how to infuse our own lives with more Jesus. I'm pretty sure we got something out of every chapter. We could have probably made 10 other shirts with things we liked or learned or just laughed about. Some of them would have been... "Come on, Blow up," "Just Say Yes," "Ask, Seek, Knock, Kick it Down," "Be Awesome" and "Leak Jesus." But for some reason it took Chapter 30, the second to last chapter in the book, to have us say as a group, we need a shirt that says this! During this discussion we talked about one verse and it had an impact on us. 1 Timothy 2:8 (KJV) says, "I **will** therefore that men pray everywhere, **lifting up holy hands**, without wrath and doubting." I'm not one to raise my hands in prayer or worship. I wasn't brought up that way so it feels weird, but that night all 12 of us went palms up as we prayed. It was a very vulnerable, humbling experience. It was also very special. So now if you see one of us wearing our "Live Palms Up" t-shirts, you'll know the story behind them!!

...until next time,

Rebecca Anderson



A Big Thank you to all who donated food items or monetary donations for the Easter Breakfast on April 20th. Your generosity is appreciated and it will help us as we prepare to return to Lemuel in Haiti, June of 2020.

Everyone is invited to celebrate our 2019 Ground Zero Grad Night on May 5th at 6:00 p.m.

# Kingdom Quest Annual Derby

Wednesday, May 1, 6:15-8:00 p.m.



## Derby Car Races! Snacks! Awards!



Everyone is invited. Bring the whole family.

This is the last night of Kingdom Quest  
for this school year.



"You will be My witnesses in Jerusalem,  
and in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8b

## Missionary Update from Emilie Blomberg

During the month of May, Emilie and the 40 other members of her squad will be ministering throughout Nepal. She is grateful for all of your prayer support and encouragement!

You can follow her missionary journey through her blog, [emilieblomberg.theworldrace.org](http://emilieblomberg.theworldrace.org), to hear stories of what God is doing.

"God has no problems, only plans." ~ Corrie ten Boom

"The itch to *know* and to *have* and to *be* anything other than what **God** intends me to know, to have, and to be must go." ~ Elisabeth Elliot

"God can accomplish anything He purposes to do.  
If He asks you to do something,  
He Himself will enable you to do it." ~ Henry Blackaby

## Ogema Baptist Church Annual Business Meeting

Sunday, May 19, 7:00 p.m.

## Church Work Day



Saturday, May 11, 8:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

Please consider being part of our spring church work day.



There will be jobs for all ages and abilities.

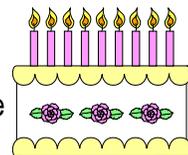


If you have any questions, talk to Matt, Jon, or Keven.

## 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, Zack 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, Dustin Ulrich, Zoe Mariette
- 31 Joren Lind



## Grad Night



Sunday, May 5, 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join us as we  
honor our Ground Zero graduating seniors!

Last Spot 68 & Ground Zero  
for this school year will be Wednesday, May 8.

5th graders are invited to join Spot 68 this night.

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@ogembaptistchurch.org](mailto:info@ogembaptistchurch.org)

# OGEMA BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 556, OGEMA, WI 54459 715-767-5157 [www.ogemabaptistchurch.org](http://www.ogemabaptistchurch.org)

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
OGEMA, WI  
54459  
PERMIT NO. 5



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!

"Let the morning bring me word  
of Your unfailing love,  
for I have put my trust in You.  
Show me the way I should go,  
for to You I lift up my soul."

Psalm 143:8

## Missionary Spotlight

*Paul & Ana Hill*

*Santiago del Estero, Northwest Argentina*



**Paul and Ana Hill serve with Converge Worldwide in Santiago del Estero, Argentina.**

"Santiago del Estero is located in Northwest Argentina, and its harsh geography, climate and limited development makes it one of the poorer areas of the country. An unreached middle-class and a poor marginal rural population are the driving forces in our ministry. Our ministry involves planting churches, leadership development and compassion ministries."

**Praises:** " ~ The arrival of Carlos and Cristina Albormoz has brought a new and fresh impact to Cabildo Church. ~ As we organized the new year, new leaders have stepped in and have brought new dreams and a new excitement. ~ There is a new enthusiasm in the seminary classes. The class has grown and one of our students is teaching a class to 16 adults in another church in a different part of town. ~ Once again the Lord touched the heart of the owner of the property as we renegotiated our contract and we continue to pay a very cheap rent. It is even more amazing when you take into consideration that all repairs, upkeep and remodeling are discounted from rent. ~ April 20th we baptized 12 people in Huinaj Atum."

**Prayer Requests:** " ~ Pray for direction as we search for Cabildo's future leaders. ~ Our aging parents. ~ Pray for the Lord's direction and for the spiritual well being of our children as they have grown into adults and leave the nest. ~ Pray for our support as we are about 5% under supported. ~ Pray for Argentina. This October we have presidential elections. There is rising civil unrest. ~ Cabildo Church would reach its two surrounding unreached neighborhoods, Cabildo and Belgrano. ~ Water catchment well ministry would open doors to a rural church planting movement."

**CHURCH PLANTING LEADERSHIP TRAINING COMPASSION**

Information taken from a missionary letter email to OBC, and from Hill's Converge prayer card. Contact the Hills at [sgohills@hotmail.com](mailto:sgohills@hotmail.com).