

November 2019



Imagem 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

A New Lens Brings Clarity

I was challenged recently to thoughtfully read a book titled, *Personhood*. It begins with the revealed truth from the first chapter of Genesis that human beings are created in the image of God. That fact has a wide variety of implications and applications that are relevant to our situation today and will be explored in future articles. Today I want to introduce you to the idea of and foundations of this term Personhood.

Daniel Becker, in the preface of *Personhood*, defines it this way: “Personhood is the right to have rights.” He goes on to give one of the foundations of such an idea. “This premise is firmly rooted in the biblical concept of *Imago Dei*, that is, every human being is made with great dignity in the image and likeness of God himself.”

That idea is under attack from many angles in our day. Becker again from the preface of *Personhood* says, “In the 21st century, we face an increasing array of issues that directly violate human life and human dignity...Our culture’s worldview has changed from post-Christian to increasingly anti-Christian...” It should come as no surprise to us that those who reject the revelation that humans are made in the likeness of God, with God given characteristics and God given responsibilities, do things that deny the value and dignity of human life. How are we to respond to such challenges? That will be the subject of future articles and also some messages on Sunday mornings.

On Sunday mornings in November we will continue our study of 2 Peter. This was written shortly before Peter’s execution by the Romans for his faith in Jesus. Peter and his fellow believers lived in a culture that was tremendously opposed to them because of their faith in Jesus. We know from the letter that Peter knew his time was short and he wanted to leave his fellow believers this letter so that we, “...will always be able to remember these things...” so that we can “...grow in the grace and knowledge (experience) of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter 3:18.

In His Grace,

Pastor Rodney



NOVEMBER SERMON SCHEDULE

- | | |
|----|---|
| 3 | 2 Peter 1:12-21
“Truths Worth Remembering” |
| 10 | 2 Peter 2:1-22
“Watch Out for False Prophets” |
| 17 | 2 Peter 3:1-9
“The Will of God for You (and Everyone)” |
| 24 | 2 Peter 3:10-13
“Global Warming Is Definitely Coming” |



YOUTH MINISTRY



So I was thinking...

about the article I wrote last month where I mentioned my frustration with today's culture. It got me wondering what other parents do to keep up with the ever changing world we live in. During our recent Spot 68 retreat, I asked the middle school students if they have a favorite influencer on YouTube. Almost every hand was raised, and one girl said she had at least 20! Are you still stuck on the sentence that says "favorite influencer on YouTube?" Are you wondering what that is? If so, don't feel bad. I'm sure you're not alone.

Believe it or not, "Influencer" is now a job title and a job goal for thousands of young people. It's a little more complicated than what I'm about to write, but this is the simplest way to explain it. An "influencer" is a person who posts lots of videos of themselves doing something on the Internet. They then amass thousands and even millions of "followers" who watch every video and hang onto every word. The influencer may talk about clothing or makeup lines, games they play, music they like, or any other number of things that they are into, thus influencing those that follow them. It used to be that this job was done by celebrity endorsers. That meant the product was endorsed by someone who was already famous for some unrelated reason. I'm a child of the 80's and 90's so Michael Jordan instantly comes to mind. But that's not how it works in today's world. Anyone with a social media presence can endorse ANYTHING, ALL THE TIME! Basically their life is a never ending advertisement. Somehow they actually earn money doing this and our kids are hooked.

When it comes to important topics like family, sex, dating, God, the Bible, it's scary to think that some stranger who has an opinion, especially an opinion that differs from mine, has access to my child. Not only do they have access, they have influence. And, let's face it, they are probably way cooler than me. So how do we keep up? How do we, as parents, stay ahead of an ever changing, social media heavy world? We find help. Earlier this summer I subscribed to two things that are helping me stay in the loop. One is Axis.org (<https://axis.org/>). Their mission is to help parents and youth workers keep up with the cultural changes in today's world. They offer a free newsletter called the "Cultural Translator." It's sent via email once a week. (There is one that you can subscribe to, which gives you more information, but the free one would still be a great place to start.) I started trying out my new knowledge, gleaned from the newsletters with Connor to see if he (as a freshman in high school) was hearing about the topics in the newsletter. It appears to be spot on!

The second resource I started using is a podcast from the Colson Center. I downloaded the Break Point App on my phone, but you can also listen to the podcast or even read the transcript online at their website. (<http://www.breakpoint.org/>) There is a new podcast almost every day of the work week. They are only 4-6 minutes long and they are always about something that is currently happening in our world. The plus side is that the Colson Center looks at the event through the lens of a Christian world-view. Recent topics were "Klopper's 'Garage of Horrors' What Abortion Looks Like" and "The Point: Hospitals Open Pediatric Gender Clinics," both extremely relevant topics from today's headlines.

Please know that I don't agree with or recommend everything on these resources, but it has helped me stay current on what's happening in our teen culture and in our world. Maybe one of these resources can help you if you feel lost or out of the "know." And please feel free to share with me any other resources or websites you have found that help you stay current on what your teen is doing. I'm always looking to learn more.

...until next time, Rebecca Anderson, Youth Director

Philippians 4: 8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Please join us for our annual

Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 27, 7:00 p.m.

ALL ages are welcome to join us as we give thanks through song and testimony!

(There are no other programs this evening.)

"I will give thanks to You, LORD, with all my heart;
I will tell of all Your wonderful deeds."
Psalm 9:1

"Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
His love endures forever."
1 Chronicles 16:34

"Give praise to the LORD, proclaim His name;
make known among the nations what He has done,
and proclaim that His name is exalted."
Isaiah 12:4

"Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Nov. 9, "Go Big!" Child Discipleship Conference
for Teachers, Parents, Grandparents, and anyone interested
in being equipped and encouraged in discipling kids
at Appleton Alliance Church, 9:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.
For more info go to gobigwisconsin.org or see Julie Jast or Kay Marschke

New Adult Sunday School Class begins on November 10,
studying the book of Ruth with Tim Blomberg.
Please join us, Sunday Mornings at 9:00.

OBC Quarterly Business Meeting
Sunday, November 17, 7:00 p.m.



Community Ecumenical Choir presents
"American Songs"
Sunday, November 10, 3:00 p.m.

Enjoy a fellowship time with snacks following the concert.

*A free-will offering will be accepted to benefit:
Never Forgotten Honor Flight
Camp Hackett for wounded veterans*

Missionary Update from Emilie Blomberg

This is Emilie's final month on her 11-month missionary journey, and her squad is walking the Camino de Santiago (the way of St. James). The Camino refers to the routes leading to Santiago de Compostela, Spain. This city is known as the final resting place of James, disciple of Jesus. The Camino is a historical pilgrimage dating back over 1,000 years. Today, people from all over the world walk the Camino as a way to escape problems, figure out what is next in their life, or to find spiritual enlightenment. Over 300,000 pilgrims arrive in Santiago each year. Emilie will be walking about 150 miles from Porto, Portugal, to Santiago de Compostela. **She and her squad will be evangelizing to pilgrims of all ages, nationalities, and religious backgrounds each step of the way.**

You can follow Emilie's missionary journey through her blog, emilieblomberg.theworldrace.org, to hear stories of what God is doing. Emilie flies back to the USA on December 14. **Thank you for partnering with her in prayer!**



November Birthdays

- 1 Stef Jones, Michelle Ulrich
- 3 Craig Scheithauer
- 4 Heather Reissner
- 6 Bonnie Blomberg, Michaela Blomberg, James Rhody
- 8 Skip Ploof
- 9 Taylor Meier
- 10 Sharon Scott
- 11 Nathan Belan, Brian Johnson, Elsie Hawkins,
Sam Cattanach
- 12 Harmoni Jesunas, Statia Isaacson
- 13 Stan Carlson
- 15 Michael Mattson
- 16 Tim Zook
- 17 Julie Gedde, George Gedde
- 18 Jerold Nelson
- 19 Mark Belan
- 22 Christine Wetzel
- 23 Jon Blomberg, Jon Carlson
- 24 Mallory Nelson
- 25 Riley Blomberg
- 26 Dawn Erickson, Zach Ulrich, Brett Blomberg,
Finnley Blomberg
- 28 Cindy Erickson, Nataya Nussberger
- 29 Jordan Blomberg, Amy Deshotels, Kolson Wear,
Brett Hueckman, Ed Ulrich, Tessa Ulrich
- 30 Connie Kraegenbrink, Mallory Hueckman, Justine Jast,
Eddie Recob



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 Youth & Ladies' Ministries - 6:30 pm
Wednesday Adult Prayer Meeting - 7:00 pm



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

“And God is able to bless you abundantly,
so that in all things at all times,
having all that you need,
you will abound in every good work.”
2 Corinthians 9:8

Missionary Spotlight

*Randy and Bev VanDeLoo
Evangelical Hospital Chaplain*

Chaplain Randy Van De Loo is a missionary to the sick, hurting, and dying at the hospitals in Stanley and Marshfield, in north central WI. Here is an excerpt from a newsletter he sent to OBC earlier this year:



“It is my privilege as a hospital chaplain to spend time with people at the end of life. For the believer we journey ‘through the valley of the shadow of death,’ with Jesus by our side. What a comfort and assurance it is that our living Lord will never leave or forsake us. I often ask patients if they have made their peace with God. Recently I had the opportunity to lead 2 different individuals to the throne of grace praying with them to receive the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Continue to pray for me as God brings those opportunities on a weekly basis as people are given the Gospel so they can make their peace with God.

I would like to thank you for your prayers and financial support to keep this ministry going. God is good and provides for our needs as we yield to the prompting of the Holy Spirit. Proverbs 11:25 says, ‘The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself.’

Please remember to call, text, or email me if you have a loved one in the Marshfield hospital. It is my hope to minister to as many loved ones from your church as possible. Call or text (715) 650-0990, or send an email to me at vandeloo1@juno.com.

Thanks again for your part in keeping the Evangelical Hospital Chaplain afloat in these troubled times.”

**Let’s continue to keep Chaplain Randy and his wife Bev Van De Loo in our prayers,
for their ministry, family, and health, and that many would respond to the gospel!**