

April 2019

In the last couple of weeks Caroline and I have enjoyed walks around the neighborhood. We have frequently encountered mini streams of water flowing down the street, which often undercuts and erodes the snow and ice still piled up. Causing the little boy in me to jump on the ice so I could hear it crack under foot.

Water is such a wonderful sign of spring. It too is a sign of life ... for when plants are watered, they spring forth with life and they grow. The description of running water is woven into the teaching of the Bible.

Jesus encounters a woman at a well in the region of Samaria and says to her:

"Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." (John 7:38).

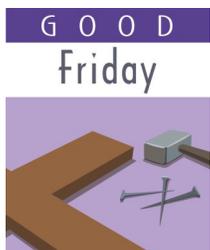
Water is a symbol of life. But it is not just the water of a stagnant pool, rather the living water of a running stream.

If we choose to turn to, learn from, and obey, the Lord, it will be like we have drunk deeply from Living Water. If not, then the words of Jeremiah 17:13 speak of us:

"Lord, you are the hope of Israel; all who forsake you will be put to shame. Those who turn away from you will be written in the dust because they have forsaken the Lord, the spring of living water."

What sounds better to you? Dust in your throat or fresh, life-giving water? Let spring remind you of that truth.

-Pastor Rob



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE Friday, April 19, 7pm

This service will include special music, time to reflect on the death, sacrifice and love of our Savior as He hung on the cross and a time of prayer.

RESURRECTION CELEBRATION Sunday, April 21

Sunrise Service—8am

A shorter, outdoor (weather permitting) service with Scripture reading, singing and prayer.

No Sunday School or Adult Bible Fellowship Classes

Worship Service—10:30am
(Nursery & Children's Church)



Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship

Classes meet each Sunday at 9:15am
(No classes on Easter Sunday, April 21)

Adult Bible Fellowship updates:

- **"Luke—New Hope, New Joy"** — We are studying the life of Christ using Luke's gospel as our guide. Jesus uses parables to remind his disciples of the dangers of over-indulgence, faithful stewardship, and the cost of discipleship. His teaching now is geared to his disciples as He continues to couch spiritual truth in the parables that He shares. Taught by Steve Wilcox [Fireside Room #204] Study guides are available from Steve for \$6.75 each.
- **Builders Class** — Last fall we began our study by focusing on parenting. Realizing godly parenting begins with our individual walk with our Lord we considered specific guardrails to implement in our lives and families. You are invited to join us as we move into a potpourri of gospel conversations on complex cultural issues affecting the family today, making intentional decisions to guide our families, along with how the gospel provides a foundation for ourselves and others. Bring your kids to Sunday School and then meet us in the library! Led by Caroline Olsen and Sue Persons.
- **Koinonia Class will be studying *Jesus the King – Exploring the Life and Death of the Son of God* (Gospel of Mark)**, led by various facilitators. Meets in Room #106.
- **Women's Class**—"Names of God" (led by Wendy Johnson in Room #139)
- **Men's Class**—Gospel of *John* (led by Malcolm Olson in Room #105)
- **"Coffee Connection"**—linking current events to appropriate scripture using *The Wired Word* (facilitated by Greg/Terri Mason in Room #110)

Youth and children classes

- **High School "Jesus Studies"**—Our class is designed to cut through the confusion of this world and the society students live in by teaching a Christ-centered look at the major issues they deal with in their daily lives. Meets in Room #136, taught by Pastor Kevin & Kim Wheeler.
- **Middle School—"The Thread: Discovering the Thread of the Gospel Through The Big-Picture Story of the Bible"**, helping students understand the narrative of the Bible and how God has woven the truth of the Gospel through all of Scripture—taught by Rick & Ann Olson in Room #137.
- **Grade 5: "Becoming a Young Man of God by Ken Rawson** — taught by Cory Walsh [Room #138]
- **Intermediate (grades 3-4): "Who Do You Say That I Am?"**—The life of Jesus and the Most Important Question, taught by Christine Olsen [Room #125].
- **Primary (grades 1 & 2)**—taught by Laura Slack [Room #123], using "Hands-On Bible" curriculum.
- **Beginners (Pre-K & K)**—teachers Lora Meisner & Diane Wilcox [Room #111], using *Answers in Genesis* "ABC Bible Curriculum".
- **Nursery Childcare / Toddlers (2- & 3-year-olds)**—teachers Dustin & Heidi Weege (Nursery area) using the *Gospel Light* curriculum series.

Don't-Eat-Alone Lunch Bunch meets for those who want to eat with others on Sunday, April 7 at Café Pawz following the worship service (meets on the first Sunday of every month).

Join others in prayer in the Fireside Room on Wednesdays at 7pm. Facilitated by Marilyn Wallberg. Contact her with any questions.

Becker Adult Fellowship (age 55+) — Our next event will be April 26 at 6:30pm in Room #106. Join us on a trek deep into the Amazon Rainforest and see primitive cultures, incredible wildlife and all that happens along the Amazon River via a PowerPoint slide presentation by Alice North and daughter Tammy Johnson. Desserts and beverages will be served.

Becker Baptist Friends ministry at Woodbriar Senior Apartments meets typically on the fourth Monday of each month (this month's ministry opportunity is April 22nd at 2:30pm). We have fellowship time with the residents which includes music, stories, devotions, prayer time, crafts, & refreshments. If you'd like to share God's love with them, please contact Deb Tischner, or tischner4@windstream.net or 762.662.2074.

Widows, join us for "Anna's Tea" on April 11 at 3pm. Come along with Eloise on an exciting travelogue through India, both industrial and cultural. Please RSVP by calling Terri at 763.261.4202 by April 9.



"And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light." ~ Colossians 1:9-12

Grace Women's Ministry is hosting a collection drive for Terebinth Refuge in Waite Park. *Terebinth* is a Christ-centered nonprofit shelter and transitional for sex trafficked and sexually exploited women, transitioning them from bondage to a life of health, stability and independence. To help support these women, we are collecting items needed regularly at the shelter now through April 28. If you would like to participate, please drop off these items at our *Grace* table in the church foyer: laundry supplies (detergent, spot remover, dryer sheets), paper towels, napkins, Kwik Trip \$20 cards, snack packs and chips packs. Contact Terri Mason in the Church Office with any questions.

The snow is melting, birds are singing and Jan is posting about the Twins! Spring is a-comin'! Grace is planning **"IF: Tables"** (ifgathering.com/host-if-table/) for April and May. If you are interested in hosting, providing food, or both please let one of us know! - Sue Persons, Diane Wilcox, Ann Olson

Join the women of Elim Church for a refreshing time in the Word, **"Going Beyond" with Priscilla Shirer via simulcast** on April 6, 9am-4:30pm at Elim Church (Northeast Minneapolis). Cost is \$35. Refreshments and lunch provided. Heather says, *"It would be absolutely amazing to see my dear friends from Becker!"* If you are interested in attending, e-mail Heather at info@elimchurch.com and she will add you to the sign-up sheet (pay the day of the event).

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study invite all women to their Annual Spring Brunch on Tuesday, April 23 at 9am. Marilyn Wallberg will speak on "If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat!"

Our first Alexandria Mini Retreat is in the plans! Our very own Connie Osowski is preparing a wonderful craft! Those attending will be making a beautiful piece of jewelry along with a Bible study and honest conversation! The date is set for May 3-4. Price is \$45 and includes food, craft and housing. We can house 5-8, maybe a couple more if you're willing to share a bed or sleep on the couch! Be on the lookout for more information!!



Plan to attend the Trout Lake "Fall Refreshment" Women's Retreat on September 20-22. Registration opens Noon on Tuesday, May 1 at troutlakecamps.org/retreats/womens-retreat or pick up a flyer from the *Grace* table in the foyer. You may request to be roomed with "Becker Baptist". Cost is \$135-\$160 depending on lodging chosen. (\$10 coupon codes are available from the Church Office.) Connect with Caroline Olsen (651.216.5589) with questions about who's going and transportation!

~Grace Women's Ministry Team: Kristi Bucher, Shannon Holm, Terri Mason, Caroline Olsen, Ann Olson, Susan Persons, Diane Wilcox

Men's Ministry



"Arise with the Guys" (AWTG) is an annual men's-only event where professional and collegiate Christian athletes share their inspirational messages of faith, godly values, and legacy-building. Come with us to AWTG 2019 on Saturday, April 13, (9am-10:30am) at Grace Church in Eden Prairie. We have 15 tickets available for the main floor at \$20 each, available for purchase at the Welcome Center but you must pay in advance to secure your ticket—first-come, first-serve.

A Bible Study on 1 John continues through April 11 on Thursdays. Meet at either 6am at McDonald's in Becker led by Nate Bucher or 6:30pm at church led by Steve Kollman.

Our next men's monthly breakfast is Saturday, April 13 at 8am in the Fellowship Hall. Come spend time with us learning from God's Word while enjoying great fellowship and great food.



Join us at The HUB, APRIL 26th starting at 6pm
for SECRET CHURCH 19

Topic: PRAYER, FASTING, AND THE
PURSUIT OF GOD

Cost is \$10 per person, includes Study Guide

We were created to know and enjoy God, and to depend on Him for our every need. Sadly, though, we often look to the things of this world to satisfy us, and we are constantly tempted to rely on ourselves rather than on God's wisdom and power.

At Secret Church 19, we'll see that all of Scripture invites us to pursue God, and we'll see how crucial the role of prayer and fasting is in this pursuit. Beginning in Genesis and moving all the way through Revelation, David Platt shows us that God has designed prayer and fasting not only to meet our daily needs but more importantly so that we might find greater intimacy and satisfaction in Him. We'll also see the critical role of prayer and fasting in carrying out the mission Christ gave to His church—to make disciples of all nations.

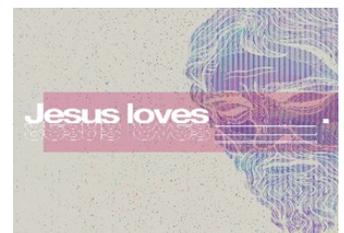
For more information contact Pastor Kevin.



During Easter we celebrate new life, specifically the new life that Jesus' resurrection demonstrates and makes possible. I hope that, this Easter and this Spring, you are experiencing life and renewal in powerful ways. I also hope that you find ways to help other people find joy and hope in their lives.

SUMMER MISSION TRIPS: A team of 14 High School students are going to Puerto Rico, **June 15-21**, to help with Hurricane Maria efforts. We will work alongside families that have been impacted by the devastation of the hurricane and without any help from FEMA, etc. We are just \$4,800 away from our team being fully funded! Please continue to pray for us as we prepare. Our next PR2019 team meeting will be held on **April 16 at 7:30 PM**. Also, student who will complete 6-12th grade this year, have an opportunity to go on a Mission Immersion weekend trip, **May 3-5**, in the Twin Cities. Cost: \$225. Register and sign up for Mission Immersion ASAP.

APRIL MOMENTUM SERIES: "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." If you grew up going to church, it's probably the first song about Jesus you can remember singing. "Jesus loves me" may seem like a pretty straightforward and foundational belief, but let's be honest . . . singing about Jesus' love is a lot easier than actually imitating it. In this new series, we'll challenge students to observe, imitate, and be transformed by the radical love of Jesus for all people, but specifically His love for **children**, for the **poor**, for the **stranger**, and for the **sinner**.



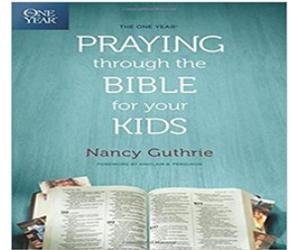
Could you be called to minister with our youth? Is God nudging you to connect with young people? Would you consider an opportunity to explore that? If so, let's talk! Contact me to discuss this possibility whether a one-time event or long-term commitment.

Because They Matter, Pastor Kevin



I love this time of year as Spring starts to show up and you get that feeling of Him making all things new and the promise of Easter and the resurrection. It's hard to fathom Jesus paying the price for our sins on the cross. But, everything in our lives hinges on this truth; doesn't it? This is the Good News that needs to be shared. On Easter Sunday, more people attend church than usual. If we are a people, who have been changed by Jesus, let's greet visitors with joyful hearts and smiling faces. May they see Jesus in us! I know I'm super excited to get to welcome children into our time of worship and hearing the resurrection story.

FAMILY RESOURCE FOR APRIL: *The One Year Praying Through the Bible for your Kids* – The book “The One Year Praying Through the Bible for your Kids” by Nancy Guthrie is a great resource to help you pray the Scriptures over your kids. It weaves together wisdom and insight from each day's reading in *The One Year Bible*, providing encouragement through the triumphs and turbulence of parenting. Day by day you'll find your dreams and desires for your children are becoming shaped more by Scripture than by the culture around you. Worry less, pray more, and help yourself to a daily dose of perspective, hope, and grace as you parent. A sample copy of the book is on the Parent Resource Wall for your review.



BBC KIDS CALENDAR

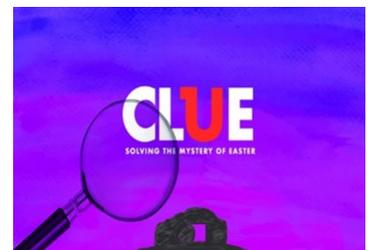
FAMILY FIRST SUNDAY – APRIL 7th: Children attend the adult service with their family on the 1st Sunday of each month. This is a wonderful opportunity to worship together as a family and to partake in Communion together.

FAMILY POTLUCK & RESURRECTION SCAVENGER HUNT – APRIL 7: Mark your calendars and plan to join us right after church for potluck and an awesome family Easter event that you won't want to miss! Families will have the opportunity to dive into the Easter story in a fun way!

AWANA NIGHTS: April 3 – Baseball Bonanza: Wear your favorite baseball hat! Go AWANA Team!; April 10 – SPARKS Game-O-Rama & T&T Bible Trivia Night; April 17 – Easter Story Night: Share in the Easter Story with the AWANA Theatre; and April 24 – Market Night

BBC KIDS MISSION PROJECT: CREOLE BIBLE PROJECT – We are learning to live out the Great Commission and have launched an initiative to raise funds to purchase 60 Jesus Storybook Bibles in Creole for the new kindergarten students at Grace Emmanuel School in Haiti. The cost (including shipping) for each box is approximately \$250. We need to send 4 boxes, so we have a hefty goal of \$1,000 to raise. Donations can be placed in the hallway in the lower level or you can see me to help our kids reach this goal and meet this need.

CURRENT SUNDAY MORNING QUEST/QUEST JR. SERIES: When we think of Easter, we may think of dying eggs, egg hunts, the Easter bunny, and dressing up in your Sunday best on Easter Sunday. But there's so much more to Easter than that. What really happened to Jesus over 2,000 years ago, and how does it affect us today? In this series, kids will become detectives to look for clues and discover the true meaning of Easter. Kids will learn about Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey, Jesus celebrating a special meal with His disciples, the crucifixion and resurrection, and Jesus ascending to heaven and giving His followers a special mission.



“Because He lives, I can face tomorrow...”

~ Amy Drehmel, Children & Family Ministry Director