

“More Than All We Ask or Imagine”

Associate Pastor of Ministry Advancement & Adult Ministries

Howard Lundeen

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” (Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV)

This past week I had the privilege of meeting with a group of EFCA pastors from around this area. One was a gentleman by the name of Tim Dahlin. Tim and his wife, Carolyn, were missionaries in Venezuela for about 15 years before returning to the United States in 2000. They now live near Fairmont and are very involved in the Spanish ministry in that area. Even though this demands a significant amount of Tim’s time, he continues to work with the church in Venezuela, predominantly through Latin American Training Network. This fall, Tim was able to return to Venezuela. As he returned, many questions ran through his mind regarding how he would find the church.

From first impressions upon arriving in Venezuela, Tim was greatly encouraged by the energy and love for God that was evident in the church. Later, he was invited to a Monday evening prayer meeting; there were about 400 people in attendance, passionately praying for the advancement of God’s kingdom among their people. Even though there is political turmoil under the leadership of Chavez, the local church was awash with enthusiasm as they boldly proclaimed the good news of Jesus Christ. Tim was delighted to hear about the salvation of several people whom they had been praying for over the years. The church he had left behind ten years ago was advancing against the gates of hell in ways greater than he could ask or imagine. A final comment Tim made was that through his return, he was reminded of how important it is to walk humbly with the Lord and to keep on stepping forward in faith – persevere! God is at work! He is faithful! As we labor for Him in our communities, under the leadership and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, trusting Him for the results, we will recognize God’s power at work within us and in his church in amazing ways!

As we experience the joy and blessing of the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, Paul’s prayer for the church at Ephesus becomes my prayer for each person at Christ Community Church: *“that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better...That the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and the incomparably great power for us who believe.” (Ephesians 1:17-19) “I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3:16-19)*

At our church prayer time last night, we talked briefly about what it may mean to be “filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” A couple things we were confident it would mean is that: First, we

Reminder!

END OF YEAR REMINDER

As we approach the end of the year, the Finance Commission would like to remind you that any contributions for which you would like to receive credit in 2010 must be received by the church no later than **Sunday, December 26th**. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Hanson, Commissioner of Financial Receipts at (507) 833-5849.

MISSIONS BUZZ 

***COMING SOON** - Be watching for information on the 2011 Faith Promise Missions Giving Campaign. New brochures will be available soon. Be prayerfully considering how you can support our missionaries during 2011.*

Continued from page 1

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would have a deeper love for God that would motivate us to be much bolder in telling others about Jesus Christ and his gospel. Second, we would exhibit the fruit of the Spirit more in our lives. By enjoying more time in God’s presence through prayer, and meditation upon his word, the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control would become more evident in our lives.

During this special season of the year, may our gracious, loving and merciful God grant to each of you the wonderful awareness of His presence and the immeasurable blessing of a Spirit filled life. Because this is my last Cornerstone article for 2010, I also want to take this opportunity to wish each of you a very merry Christmas and happy New Year.

Pastor Howard

H.T.C.
Heart Thoughts for Cornerstone

By: Pastor Zach Marino

"Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek." Hebrews 5:8-10.

Jesus, as God's Son, in order to be the perfect intercessor for us and to feel the exact pain of temptation/suffering that we feel from the weight of sin...had to suffer. He cried out to his Father for deliverance, yet God did not allow it...because He had a bigger picture in mind. He knew once the Son completed the beautiful gift of Salvation through a terrible experience of suffering, we would be given someone we could be in relationship with who we could draw close to, to cry to, to ask for help from, as we face the enemy.

This also however shows a picture of the reason for suffering. It drew Jesus into obedience and it draws us into obedience. Jesus' life plan was to live a perfect life, suffer at the hands of evil men, die the worst death a human being could possibly endure, and then come back to life and redeem all-mankind. Pretty common life-story, right? This is the point. Jesus didn't have a common life-story because He came to give hope to those living the common-life story. His pain, His suffering, the rejection He faced from His Father was the worst anybody had or would experience. He set the example for living with reason, to question the "problem of suffering." After Jesus having been publicly acknowledged by God the Father at His Baptism (Matthew 3:16-17), two-three years later He is hanging on a cross screaming out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me??" (Matthew 27:46).

The point of this journal entry hasn't come yet. It arrives when we look at verse nine of Hebrews 5 which says, "And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.."

My friends, what God did for me with this passage was simple: Reminded me that my suffering in life has a point. There is a purpose to our suffering. Scripture says the purpose is to learn obedience. I mean, why can't we just teach obedience by using the Ten Commandments and the two greatest commandments? Jesus taught on the commandments, yet learned through suffering. When the Sovereign and Almighty God shakes the man-made foundations of our lives, suffering is the result. We suffer loss of the material and earthly. We learn how incapable and unwilling we actually are to submit and surrender to His sovereign touch. Jesus felt the full weight of God's Sovereignty when He was denied Sonship status on the Cross. Yet His obedience paves the way for our ability to see the purpose in suffering, and obey. And the great news in all this, we have the opportunity to be in relationship with Jesus Christ forever. We can be eternally in the presence of the ONE who demonstrated the perfect obedience to His Father.

I would encourage you to read through Hebrews 5:1-10, see what God says to you through it.

Pastor Zach



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A heart for God and you

Sunday Worship Events



<u>First service:</u> 8:00 - 9:15am
<u>Fellowship:</u> 9:15 - 9:30am
<u>Sunday School:</u> 9:30 - 10:30am
<u>Second Service:</u> 10:45am - 12pm
<u>Prayer Meeting:</u> 5:00 - 6:00pm

New

Staffed Office Hours

	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
Monday:	9:30 am - Noon	Noon - 5:00 pm
Tuesday:	=====	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Wednesday:	9:30 am - Noon	Noon - 5:00 pm
Thursday:	=====	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday:	=====	9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Christ Community Church Mission Statement

As a local body of believers, we will seek to glorify God in worship, in evangelizing the unsaved and in teaching Christians to obey everything Christ commanded. To that end, prayer will be our foremost task, Scripture will be our authority, God's Holy Spirit will be our source of power and love will be our motivation.





**** Women's Ministries Upcoming Events ****

Cookie Exchange & Ladies Night Out



Friday, December 17th @ 7pm

All ladies are welcome, even if you choose not to exchange cookies

Sign up at Information Booth by Nov. 28th!

• Bible Studies Beginning in January •

Revival or Captivity

Precepts Bible study covering 2 Kings 15-20 & 2 Chronicles 26-32
Monday evenings for Men and Women

Revelations

By Beth Moore

DVD Bible study with light homework
Monday mornings & Thursday evenings

Registrations available at Information Booth

WOMEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY POLICY

There will be a registration deadline and set fee for each study.
After deadline there will be an additional fee to offset extra shipping charges.
Scholarships are available - contact Gina Schaus or Carol Lundeen.

Breakfast & Bible Study

Saturday, January 15th & Saturday, February 19th



MAKS

(Moms And Kids)

ALL MOMS WELCOME!!

FRIENDS, FUN & FELLOWSHIP!

Bring a friend!!



The busy holiday season is in full swing & MAKS is here to rescue you!
Whether you have come in the past or are new to MAKS, be sure to put us on your calendar and relax with a little, peaceful "mom time."

MAKS is a moms & kids group that meets the **first & third Tuesdays** of each month in the Fireside Room from **10am to noon**. There is no cost to attend. Meetings are geared toward mothers with small children at home; but all are welcomed and encouraged to attend. It is a blessed time to relax, unwind & enjoy spending time working and learning together as mothers. Then we have the benefit of a meal together while our children are well cared for & having fun.



December 7th

Make & Take Gift!

We'll be working on a craft to make and give as a gift or to enjoy yourself. This will be a fun craft and all moms are encouraged to come for a creative and fun day!



December 21st

Winter Wonderland Brunch

Bring a dish to pass and take pleasure in the warm atmosphere while enjoying the company of other mothers.

Come for a relaxing day!

Our leaders this year will be Stephanie Bartelt, Stacy Dufault, Shannon Kuball, Melissa Sexton, Lisa Cage, Jessica Mickelson & Aimee Miller. Please contact any one of us with any questions.

**Come prepared to relax,
laugh & meet other moms.**



DECEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> AWANA <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> Elevate (JrHi) <u>7:30-9:00pm</u> highRise	2 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	3 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	4 <u>6:00pm</u> <i>Celebrate the Gift</i> 
5 <u>8:00-9:15am</u> Worship Service <u>9:30-10:30am</u> 50th Anniversary <u>10:45-12:00</u> Worship Service <u>6:00pm</u> <i>Celebrate the Gift</i> 	6 <u>6:00pm</u> <i>Celebrate the Gift</i> 	7 <u>10:00am</u> MAKS <u>6:30pm</u> Women's Min. <u>7:00pm</u> Congreg. Care <u>7:00pm</u> Property Comm.	8 <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> AWANA <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> Elevate (JrHi) <u>7:30-9:00pm</u> highRise	9 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	10 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	11
12 <u>8:00-9:15am</u> Worship Service <u>9:30-10:30am</u> Sunday School <u>10:45-12:00</u> Worship Service <u>5:00pm</u> Prayer	13	14 <u>7:00pm</u> Children's Commission	15 <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> AWANA <u>7:30-9:00pm</u> Elevate & highRise Joint Christmas Party	16 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	17 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group <u>7:00pm</u> Cookie Exchange 	18
19 <u>8:00-9:15am</u> Worship Service <u>9:30-10:30am</u> S.S. Christmas Program <u>10:45-12:00</u> Worship Service <u>5:00pm</u> Prayer	20	21 <u>10:00am</u> MAKS <u>6:30pm</u> Elder Board Meeting	22 <u>NO Youth Activities</u> <u>6:30pm</u> Family Movie Night (Toy Story 3)	23 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	24 <u>6:30pm</u> Christmas Eve Service <i>The church office will be closed.</i>	25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i> 
26 <u>9:30am</u> Worship Service No Sunday School <u>5:00pm</u> Prayer	27	28	29 <u>NO Youth Activities</u>	30 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	31 <i>The church office will be closed.</i>	