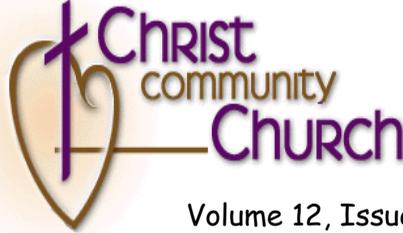


| October 2014 | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | 1 6:00 AWANA 6:00 Jr High 7:00 Sr High | 2 12:00 Men's Lunch 6:30 Worship Tm 7:00 Women's | 3 6:15am Men's Grp 8:00pm Club 180 | 4 |
| 5 8:00 Worship 9:30 S.S. 10:45 Worship 5:00 Prayer | 6 9:30 Women's Study 6:30 Precepts | 7 10:00 MAKS 4:30 Women's Ministries 7:00 Property 7:00 Cong Care | 8 6:00 AWANA 6:00 Jr High 7:00 Sr High | 9 12:00 Men's Lunch 6:30 Worship Tm 7:00 Women's | 10 6:15am Men's Grp 8:00pm Club 180 <i>Women's</i> | 11 6:00am Men's Ldrs 7:30 Next Man Up <i>Retreat</i> |
| 12 8:00 Worship 9:30 S.S. 10:45 Worship 2:00 <i>Baby Shower</i> 5:00 Prayer 6:30 Town Hall | 13 9:30 Women's Study 6:30 Precepts 6:30 Outreach | 14 6:30 Elder Board Meeting | 15 | 16 12:00 Men's Lunch 1:30 Quilting 6:30 Worship Tm 7:00 Women's | 17 6:15am Men's Grp 8:00pm Club 180 <i>Youth at Fall</i> | 18 9:00am Women's Breakfast & Bible Study <i>Fling thru Sun.</i> |
| 19 8:00 Worship 9:30 S.S. 10:45 Worship 5:00 Prayer 6:30 Cong. Mtg | 20 9:30 Women's Study 6:30 Precepts | 21 10:00 MAKS @ Home | 22 6:00 AWANA 6:00 Jr High 7:00 Sr High | 23 12:00 Men's Lunch 6:30 Worship Tm 7:00 Women's | 24 6:15am Men's Grp 8:00pm Club 180 | 25 |
| 26 8:00 Worship 9:30 S.S. 10:45 Worship 5:00 Prayer | 27 9:30 Women's Study 6:30 Precepts | 28 6:30 Adult Discipleship | 29 6:00 AWANA 6:00 Jr High 7:00 Sr High | 30 12:00 Men's Lunch 6:30 Worship Tm 7:00 Women's | 31 6:15am Men's Grp 8:00pm Club 180 | |



October, 2014

Cornerstone

A heart for God and you

Volume 12, Issue 10

I've Been Thinking about . . . Suffering

By Pastor Chris

Young parents lose their seven-year-old daughter to leukemia. A single mom struggles to stay afloat financially. An elderly man spends his days and nights in lonely aloneness, with no visitors, every day a limbo between yesterday's emptiness and tomorrow's void. A college student with bipolar disorder cries out to God, "Why did you make me this way?!"

Our common brokenness in a fallen world brings a measure of suffering to every life. Is a light of meaning cocooned in the darkness of affliction?

The human heart is easily wooed by the world's allures. Earth exerts its gravity not only on our bodies but also on our souls. We are so pulled by earth's shiny baubles before us that we forget God's bejeweled City awaiting us. This world's offerings are present and seen, and thus seized, while heaven's promises are future and unseen, and hence neglected. We are thereby seduced to set our hearts on the earth that is here rather than the heaven that is there. Our minds, taken captive by temporal pleasures now, become forgetful of eternal glories in the by-and-by. Were we to remain blissful and painless in this earthly estate, we would lapse into spiritual amnesia. We would forget God.

Afflictions in this world sever us from attachments to this world. Christ followers who endure the decline of advanced old age and the debilitation of dread disease fervently express a yearning for Home. Prosperity numbs us to forget God (Deut 8:10-18), while affliction impregnates our heart with longing for God (Ps 119:67, 71-72). Prosperity is harder than affliction. For prosperity attaches us to pleasures that one day will leave us, while affliction binds us to eternal joys.

So it is that "suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope" (Rom 5:3-4). The fruit of suffering is hope—hope in all God's promises of awaiting glories, eternal glories to which present sufferings are not worthy to be compared. Suffering begets hope.

Continued inside

Christ Community Church

2200 4th Street NE
Waseca, MN 56093

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.

Phone: (507) 835-2235
 Fax: (507) 833-8857
 E-Mail: ccc@cccefca.com
 Website: www.cccefca.com
 Prayer Requests:
prayer@cccefca.com

AWANA Club Corner

AWANA Special Dates

October 1st - Penny Wars starts

October 15th - No AWANA



Women's Ministries

Breakfast & Bible Study

Saturday, October 18
9-11:00am - CCC Fireside Room
True Women 101

"Home Sweet Home"

Women's Retreat at Camp Victory
October 10 & 11
*Guest Speakers: Our own Grace Galvin
& Molly Jentges from Mankato*

Continued from front

"I've Been Thinking about...Suffering"

Our own suffering escorts us into the care of others. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God" (2 Cor 1:3-4). A cancer survivor can best comfort a cancer patient. Who better to comfort grieving parents than other bereaved parents? The comforted who comfort others fulfill Christ's law of love (Rom 12:15b). Suffering paves avenues of love.

Yet hope and love seem insufficient to explain fully the meaning of suffering. There is yet a divine mystery to suffering, hidden in the inscrutable counsels of God, beyond the reach of human probing. So we must trust that the Man of Sorrows stewards our afflictions to fulfill a divine purpose unknown to us. And we must entrust that purpose to him. Suffering hurls us onto faith in Christ.

These, then, are the benedictions of suffering: hope, love, and faith.



Music Ministry Moments

The most important aspect of our music ministry takes place between the front pew and the back; from one outside aisle to the other. You, church, are the worship team.

The Apostle Paul clearly teaches in Colossians 3:16 and Ephesians 5:18-19 why and how we should sing when we get together; directions given, not to musicians, but the church.

Direction One is vertical ("to the Lord"). We sing to Him. When His Word is read and preached, He speaks and we listen. With our songs we respond to Him in confession, worship, thanksgiving, and even petition. Our corporate praise is the most important thing we do.

Direction Two is horizontal ("to yourselves"). We sing to build-up each other with the truths of His Word. I don't know about you, but I've been to church at times when I didn't have the strength to fake a smile or act as if I was doing fine. Life was a wilderness and God seemed miles away. I can't describe the impact of those around me who sang their "hymns and spiritual songs" to God - and to me - in such a way that I knew they believed what they were singing, and had experienced the reality of God's grace in their lives that week. The congregational singing of my brothers and sisters let me "borrow" their faith until my own returned.

So, worship team, you're not singing to fill service space. You're thanking God for - and reminding each other of - a Savior whose gospel is real, true, and life-changing.

Written by Pastor Warren - Grace Baptist Church - Muncie, Indiana

Missions - Faith Promise

Take Note!

Faith Promise is the process we use at Christ Community Church to provide financial support to our missionaries. Brochures describing who our missionaries are and what support needs they have will be available on October 12th. If you are already a supporter, the brochure will be placed in your mailbox. If you do not support missionaries through Faith Promise, the Missions Commission would like to invite you to take a bold step this year. Would you be willing to put your name on a Faith Promise form, and commit to contributing a small dollar amount each month? Even five or ten dollars each, given monthly by lots of people, can mean a big difference to our brothers and sisters who are spreading the gospel around the world. The completed pledge forms will be received at the single morning service on Sunday, November 9th.