

July 2016

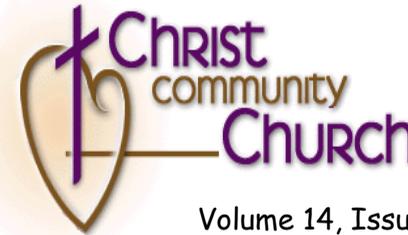
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:15am Men's Grp	2
3 8:30 Adult SS 9:30 Worship 11:00 College 5:00 Prayer	4 Holiday- Church Office closed 7:00 Pray N Go	5 9:00 M Garden 7:00 Property 7:00 Congrega- tional Care	6	7 9:00 M Garden 12:00 Men's Lunch 6:30 Worship Team 7:00 Elder Board	8 6:15am Men's Grp	9 6:00 am Journey Men Leaders
10 8:30 Adult SS 9:30 Worship 11:00 College 5:00 Prayer	11 6:30 Outreach 7:00 Pray N Go	12 9:00 M Garden	13	14 9:00 M Garden 12:00 Men's Lunch 6:30 Worship Team	15 6:15am Men's Grp	16 9:00 am VOM Advance Conference Bloomington
17 8:30 Adult SS 9:30 Worship 11:00 College 5:00 Prayer	18 7:00 Pray N Go	19 9:00 M Garden 5:00 Women's Ministry	20	21 12:00 Men's Lunch 6:30 Worship Team 7:00 Elder Board	22 6:15am Men's Grp 9:00 M Garden	23
24/31 8:30 Adult SS 9:30 Worship 11:00 College 5:00 Prayer	25 7:00 Pray N Go	26 9:00 M Garden 7:00 Adult Discipleship	27 7:00 Joint Commission	28 12:00 Men's Lunch 6:30 Worship Team	29 6:15am Men's Grp 9:00 M Garden	30

Christ Community Church Disciple-making Pathway

Developing people who live God's love by:

Loving God - Loving one another - Loving our neighbors

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July 2016

Cornerstone

A heart for God and you

Volume 14, Issue 07

"I've Been Thinking about . . . an Exceptional Sewant"

By Pastor Chris

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. . . .

—1 Peter 1:3-4



Nancy Taylor Johnson, my mom, received her heavenly inheritance on the Lord's Day of June 12.

Many people blame their victimhood of the past for their bad behavior in the present. Mom had that past, and with it came a choice: to sink into victimhood or to rise into victory. Mom chose to rise into victory.

She was reared in a dysfunctional home with an emotionally, verbally, physically abusive mother who was an alcoholic. Consequently, Mom assumed her family's homemaking responsibilities when she was only 14 years old.

When Mom was 18 and in nursing school, her twin sister Mollie had an accident that rendered her a paraplegic, so Mom dropped out of school to care for her. After Mollie stabilized, Mom returned to nursing school and graduated tied for first in her class.

While caring for children as a pediatric nurse at the University of Virginia hospital, she was pursued by a medical student who continued to pester her for a date until she finally relented. She was working the evening shift, so they met at the end of her shift, went to the university tulip gardens, and looked at the tulips using his flashlight—their first date.

Continued inside

“I’ve Been Thinking about . . . an Exceptional Servant” cont.....

Tulips were always Mom and Dad’s favorite flower after that. I sent Mom tulips for her final Mother’s Day last May.

Mom and Dad married in April 1955. I came along in March 1956, followed by Cathy, Stephen and Keith. Our home became neighborhood central. A family in our neighborhood had two boys who had lost their mother to cancer, and another neighborhood family had two boys who had lost their father to suicide. Mom gladly hosted these four boys in our home every afternoon after school while the remaining parent worked. So she cared for eight children, seven of them boys, every afternoon, for several years, with no financial compensation!

My paternal grandmother moved into our home after she became widowed. Grandmommy lived with us for six years, during which time she developed severe dementia. Mom cared for her in our home until her death.

While Grandmommy was still living with us, Mom’s father came to live with us as well. He developed emphysema from his addiction to nicotine. I remember him wheezing and coughing, cursing the cigarette as he lit it. Mom cared for his needs as he weakened from the emphysema, and he died in her arms.

Shortly after her father’s death, Mom’s nephew unexpectedly showed up at our doorstep. He remained in our home for twenty years, as his emotional condition rendered him unable to do life on his own. Living with my parents saved his life, both physically and spiritually.

About a year after Grandmommy’s death, Mom’s sister Mollie lost her job as a switchboard operator when that occupation became obsolete, and she came to live in our home for the remaining eighteen years of her life. I remember the kindness and love that Mom showed to Aunt Mollie: taking her out to lunch (which was very time consuming as Mollie walked with braces and crutches), reading to her (as Mollie had poor eyesight), and being “bossed around” by Mollie without a negative word in return.

Mom and Dad’s most painful time was the death of their son Keith at age 36 from heart disease related to a congenital anomaly. After that, Mom poured time into Keith’s widow Gen and their son Andrew. Since Andrew was only 3 years old when Keith died, it was important to Mom to keep Keith’s memory alive for Andrew; so although she was not a good gardener, she and Andrew planted a vegetable garden in her side yard each year because Keith had planted vegetable gardens.

“I’ve Been Thinking about . . . an Exceptional Servant” cont.....

Mom loved Dad, and he adored his “Doodlebug.” Every night after supper and before family devotions, Dad rose from his place at the table, walked to Mom’s place, and smothered her with hugs and kisses as he told her how much he loved her. Every night after devotions, as Dad prepared to return to work, Mom said to him, “If you knew how much I love you, you would jump seven times for joy.” Dad then jumped seven times. As a child watching all this, I learned that a Christian husband expresses affection to his wife. And I credit much of the strength of my 36-year marriage to the example of Mom and Dad’s 53-year marriage.

During their 40s, as our church was drifting further and further away from biblical truth, Dad began writing letters and papers in which he defended the inerrancy of God’s Word and the deity and resurrection of Christ. Although Mom had been a churchgoer all her life, it was through proofreading these letters and papers that she came to a clear understanding of the gospel and true faith in Christ. She showed her love for Christ over the decades after her conversion: teaching Sunday School, leading children in Bible Study Fellowship, writing letters and notes of encouragement to friends and family, praying fervently, studying Scripture vigorously.

Mom was Dad’s primary caregiver during the seven years of his final illness, until he went to be with Jesus in 2008. Caring for him had taken a toll on her, and her decline began shortly before he left us. But she would not have had it any other way.

Well done, good and faithful servant. . . . Enter into the joy of your Master.

Pray N’ Go

Pray for Waseca,
the US & the
world.

Monday’s,
7 to 7:15 pm

Goblirsch’s Home
819 3rd Ave NE
Waseca, MN

All Church Missionary Picnic



August 7th!!!!

Following the worship service on Sunday, August 7th you will have the opportunity to visit with some of our church missionaries at an All Church Picnic. We will grill on the church patio and enjoy some fellowship. A sign-up sheet will be at the Info Booth to indicate your family’s plans to attend & also to share either a salad or dessert.