

Concord Presbyterian
Church
Presbyterian Church in America

338 Covington Drive
Waterloo, IL 62298

www.concordwaterloo.org

Pastors

Will Hesterberg

939-7116

Darren Smith

939-4890

Dawson Miller

281-6424

Projects & Applications Planner

Jenny Bullock 939-7116

Praise & Worship

Children's Choir

C-Grace Pfeiffer 939-8737

Children's Church

C-Lori Hesterberg 939-5069

C-Jenny Bullock 939-4539

NH-Sue Meppiel 939-5477

Choral Director

C-Christine Miller 939-7137

NH-Anola Henke 939-6230

Christian Education

Doug Doyle 939-5042

Greeters

C- Nel Saul 939-8927

NH - Sue Meppiel 939-5477

Music Director

Ron Jones 458-6489

Nursery

C-Alice West 939-6177

C-Debbie Ripplinger 473-9376

NH-Sue Meppiel 939-5477

Sound Coordinator

C-Ed Pfeiffer 939-8737

Sunday School

C-Joe Shaffer 920-0343

NH -

Concord Vine



VOLUME 5, ISSUE 10

DEC 2009/JAN 2010

Follow the Leader

By: Pastor Will Hesterberg

In 1947, University of Chicago professor, Dr. Sudrahmany Chandrasekhar, agreed to teach an advanced seminar in astrophysics. At the time, he was living in Wisconsin doing research at an observatory. He planned to commute to Chicago twice weekly to teach the class that winter. When only two students signed up, university officials assumed he would cancel the class. But he did not. Instead, he drove the 100 miles round trip through back country roads in dead winter for a semester. His two students must have benefited greatly from his instruction because, ten years later, they together won the Nobel Prize for physics. Dr. Chandrasekhar must have felt very gratified that his disciples did so well. Incidentally, he also won a Nobel Prize in 1983 for his work on white dwarf stars. Jesus went to even greater lengths for his disciples. How gratified is he with how well we have done nearly 2000 years later? In his final instructions to his disciples in Matthew 28: 16-20, Jesus reveals his heart to them, and to us.

He shows us that **if we desire to be disciples of Jesus, we must also be disciplinarians**. It is a package deal. We live in an instant society, short on lasting commitments and relationships, and long on moving around, big numbers, and quick results. That's hard on discipleship and disciplinarianism. Since being disciples and making disciples is the great need of God's kingdom, consider these five thoughts from this passage.

First, Jesus desired that we be disciplinarians. Those were his last words before he ascended to heaven. If each of us knew we would not see our loved ones again, what would we talk about? Wouldn't it be the greatest concern we had on our hearts? Disciplinarianism is Jesus' great desire.

Secondly, disciplinarianism is Jesus' design for his kingdom. This is how Jesus designed for the church to grow and impact the world. Great programs, dynamic speakers, big crusades, magnificent cathedrals, etc.

are not how Jesus planned to change the world. His design is small, one by one and one to one.

Thirdly, Jesus directs his disciples to make disciples, as he does in this passage. The Great Commission is not the "Great Suggestion". This is not an option. There are no conditions here: make disciples if we feel like it, if we have the time for it, if we have the gift for it. This carries the same weight as any of the ten commandments or the commands to love God and our neighbor.

Fourthly, Jesus demonstrated disciplinarianism. Vs. 16 says he was meeting with his disciples on the mountain. Jesus' work with them provides the pattern for each of us for knowing how to walk with the Lord and how to help others walk with him. Finally, if we are still feeling overwhelmed by the Great Commission -- and we should -- then let's draw encouragement from the fifth truth here:

Jesus dwells with us as we make disciples. He promised the disciples that he would be with them to the end of this age to help them and that promise comes down to us today also. He is there with us in these relationships.

As your pastor, I am here simply because several people disciplined me. The first was Bill Van Hal who helped me learn how to grow as a young Christian when I was in college. He came over in the mornings for a week to help me get started having daily time with God. He helped me learn how to memorize Scripture. We played tennis together and talked about Jesus. We went out together to talk with others about Jesus. And when I transferred to a different college, what I learned from Bill transferred with me. To this day, I thank God for Bill Van Hal. Who do you have to thank for disciplining you to walk with the Lord? Who might be thanking the Lord for you in helping discipline them? We follow Jesus, our leader, and others follow us. It's a package deal!

Preparing for the Advent Season

By: Pastor Darren Smith

How fast does time fly during the holidays? Every year, the month of December seems to be a blur as we rush off to different Christmas related events and parties. Before you know it, Christmas Day has arrived and we find ourselves rushing to prepare ourselves for worship on this day. Our hope this year is to help you to prepare in advance for the day that we celebrate the birth of our Savior. As we move into the end of November and through the first few weeks of December, our sermons will be focused on preparing your eyes and your hearts to see the wonderful realities that center around the incarnation of Christ. Our upcoming series will focus on the gospel that is seen through the eyes of Isaiah over 600 years before the birth of Christ. Isaiah prepares our hearts, through his prophecies, to understand the importance of the birth of Christ and the role that he will play as the Savior of the world. Below are the highlights of our coming preaching series:

November 29th- Isaiah 7:1-17 - the sign of the Savior to come reveals to us that God's plan of salvation is being worked out in the midst of our own stories. His plan of salvation encompasses our stories, as he



reveals to us that His plan is bigger than we could possibly imagine.

December 6th- Isaiah 9:1-7 - Out of the small things comes our salvation. A small little child is born into this world to be its Savior. God in His sovereignty will use this child as the means of bringing salvation to His people.

December 13th- Isaiah 11:1-11 - This child, Jesus, will restore all that has been broken from the effects of sin. He makes it possible to imagine that one day sin will only be a memory and perfection will be the constant.

December 20th- Isaiah 42:1-9 - It is this child, Jesus, whom God has chosen to serve the nations by bringing forth justice into the world.

December 27th- Isaiah 52:13-53:12 - He was not the present we were expecting. Nothing of who He was and what He did for our salvation was something that we expected. Instead, we see that through the unexpected, Christ does more than we could ever imagine.

Concord Worship Service Attendance :

-
- Oct 18 - 144
- Oct 25 - 160
- Nov 1 - 152
- Nov 8 - 148
- Nov 15 - 166

New Harmony Worship Service Attendance :

-
- Oct 18 - 27
- Oct 25 - 33
- Nov 1 - 30
- Nov 8 - 29
- Nov 15 - 34



**Join Us on Christmas Eve,
Thursday, December 24.
We'll have an impromptu
carol sing at 6:30 p.m.,
followed by a worship service
at 7:00 p.m.**



The Latest New Harmony News

By: Pastor Dawson Miller

It is easy to see the life of Paul and Peter, who make a big splash in their presentation of the Gospel in the cities to which God leads them. But sometimes we fail to see men and women, like Epenetus or Tryphena, who quietly served the Lord by their words and work. The church grew as much through the believers of which we have no record as it did by the big-named leaders. What was true in Acts is true today.

So how are things going at New Harmony? That's a question I hear from just about everyone who does not attend the Columbia site of Concord. I am glad you asked—I invite you to come and see for yourself. We are learning to take advantage of opportunities God gives us to make an impact in the day-to-day lives of others. This has brought a few visitors to worship with us, and we praise the Lord.

The initial recommendations from the Evaluation Committee have begun to be enacted. An Outreach Team is being assembled to identify and visit new

residents in our community. We are encouraging those who serve in community organizations to represent Christ well in their participation.

As a member of the YMCA Board of Directors, I lead the devotional before each meeting. For some time, I have pursued an opportunity, and the Lord has recently opened the door, to begin the approval process by the Columbia City Council to serve as a Chaplain for the Police Department. Attendance at the open Council meetings twice a month has helped me to be recognized and provides updated information. We plan to take part in this year's Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 5, by serving coffee and hot chocolate to the spectators.

Nothing extravagant, but in day-to-day details, our goal is to show the Gospel of our Lord, to grow and serve Christ, for His glory by His grace. Please pray with us that He would guide our desires to pursue His will so in everything we may see His hand and readily share the good news of the Gospel.



EVENING
WORSHIP
SERVICE

Combined Worship

By: Pastor Dawson Miller

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" (Psalm 122:1). Do you resonate with David's words? Do you enjoy the time with your extended family? In many ways, these two things are related. The people of the church are the family of God, and it should be natural for us to want to be together doing the very thing that unites us -- worship and thanking our Lord. As two separate congregations of one single church, it is good for us to look beyond our own setting and to hear from each other what our Savior is doing in our lives, and then to have the privilege to pray for one another.

As our country celebrates Thanksgiving, remembering the freedoms God has given to us and then the Advent season where we recall how those freedoms were secured, it is good for us to plan and have

time together.

Sunday, November 29, is the weekend following Thanksgiving as well as the first Sunday of Advent and the last fifth Sunday of the year. What better time to join with brothers and sisters in Christ, to sing favorite hymns and choruses, to share joys and prayer requests, and to be gathered in a fellowship of love to reflect on God's grace and mercy?

Please include this service of praise and worship in your schedule, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Concord. And, as we move from Thanksgiving to Advent, please add our Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. to your calendar, as we conclude this year's Advent Season and look forward to the coming year. May the Lord increase His church, build His kingdom and strengthen you, a child of the King.

Fellowship & Ministry

Building & Grounds
C-Konrad Kloos 939-3156

Custodians
C- Karen Gleich
286-3892
C-Debbie Ripplinger
473-9376
NH - Abigail Miller
281-6788

Deacons
Charlie Myers 939-3614

Fellowship Refreshments
NH-Nancy Nobbe
939-8058

Flowers (Sunday)
Marge Hansen 939-8543

Meals Coordinator
Rita Wetzel 939-3475

Missions
Ken Cooper 282-7781

New Harmony Ladies
Dayna Miller 281-6788

Nursing Home Services
David Wetzel 939-3475

Set-Up Coordinator
NH-Clyde Limestall
939-8164

Supper Club
Grace Hoffmann 939-6784

VBS Director
Kimberlee Doyle 939-5042

WIC

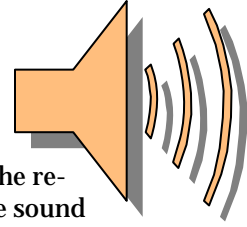


A Sound Idea

By: Pastor Will Hesterberg

At the annual congregational meeting in July, we talked about the need to improve the acoustics in the sanctuary. We established a Sanctuary Sound Fund in order to begin the process of solving our sound problem. Richard Stumpf, Konrad Kloos, and Ed Pfeiffer met with several companies and then made recommendations to the deacons, who had been assigned the task by the elders.

The deacons considered their findings and chose Engineering Dynamics International in St. Louis, as the best company to do the testing. The Session concurred and technicians from EDI conducted tests this summer. They suggested the installation of sound panels strategically



and aesthetically located to reduce the reverberation. These sound panels are produced and installed by Golterman and Sabo, the same firm that installed our sanctuary shades. The officers considered their findings and drawings and gave the okay, contingent upon there being enough money in the fund.

The congregation has responded very generously within a short time so that we have given the go ahead to the installation. The work will be done December 8 through December 11. Praise the Lord, and listen and enjoy.

How Can I Help?

Several weeks ago, a questionnaire entitled "How Can I Help?" was introduced to the congregation. We want to thank those who have already completed and returned the questionnaire. Your responses greatly help us in knowing who to contact with volunteer opportunities.

Each of us has gifts and talents in specific areas, while other tasks may be outside of our comfort zones or areas of expertise. For this reason, we have asked you to indicate different areas of interest so that we have a better idea of who to contact

when a need arises. Likewise, the more volunteers that we may have in a specific area, the better we can distribute the jobs more evenly, so as not to overburden a few volunteers with the majority of tasks.

If you have not yet had a chance to complete the questionnaire, we ask that you fill it out and return it within the next couple of weeks. Thank you!




Operation Christmas Child
We collected 197 shoe boxes, exceeding last year's amount by 38 boxes!
Thank you for your help!



December 2009



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| <p>6 Communion 2nd Sunday in Advent Deacons' Sunday Deep Roots 4:30 pm Care Groups</p> | <p>7 Ladies' Bible Study at Joni's 6:30 pm</p> | <p>1 Ladies' Bible Study 12:30 pm NH Ladies 7pm Scrapbooking 7pm</p> | <p>2 Ladies Bible Study - Brkfst at Mokka 9am Good News Club 3pm Deacons 6:30pm Choir - 7 pm Men's CG 7:30 pm</p> | <p>3 Red Bud Bible Study 7pm</p> | <p>4 Ladies' Bible Study at Cov. Bridge 8:30 am</p> | <p>5 Children's Christmas VBS 8:30 am NH Steering Com. 10:30 am</p> |
| <p>6 Communion 2nd Sunday in Advent Deacons' Sunday Deep Roots 4:30 pm Care Groups</p> | <p>7 Ladies' Bible Study at Joni's 6:30 pm</p> | <p>8 Ladies' Bible Study 12:30 pm NH Ladies 7pm</p> | <p>9 Ladies Bible Study - NH Min. Ctr 9am Good News Club 3pm Prayer Mtg-NH Ctr 7pm Men's Care Group 7pm Choir - 7 pm</p> | <p>10 Care for the Caregivers Seminar 7pm Red Bud Bible Study 7pm</p> | <p>11 Ladies' Bible Study at Cov. Bridge 8:30 am</p> | <p>12 NHL - Ambrtarian 8am Music Team 8:30 am Ladies' Christmas Luncheon 12 pm</p> |
| <p>13 3rd Sunday in Advent Garden Place 2pm Care Groups Youth 6pm</p> | <p>14 Ladies' Bible Study at Joni's 6:30 pm</p> | <p>15 Ladies' Bible Study 12:30 pm NH Ladies 7pm</p> | <p>16 Ladies Bible Study -NH Min. Ctr 9am Congregational Meeting 7pm</p> | <p>17 Red Bud Bible Study 7pm</p> | <p>18 Ladies' Bible Study at Cov. Bridge 8:30 am</p> | <p>19 Mens' Breakfast 7:30am Music Team 8:30 am</p> |
| <p>20 4th Sunday in Advent Can Food Drive Fellowship Meal Deep Roots 4:30 pm Care Groups</p> | <p>21 Ladies' Bible Study at Joni's 6:30 pm</p> | <p>22 Ladies' Bible Study 12:30 pm NH Ladies 7pm</p> | <p>23 Choir - 7 pm</p> | <p>24 Christmas Eve Service 7 pm</p> | <p>25 </p> | <p>26 Music Team 8:30 am</p> |
| <p>27 Oak Hill 2pm Col. Conv Ctr 3:30pm Care Groups Youth 6pm</p> | <p>28 Ladies' Bible Study at Joni's 6:30 pm Session 7pm</p> | <p>29 Ladies' Bible Study 12:30 pm NH Ladies 7pm</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>31</p> | <p>Sundays: Concord Sun. School: 9 am Worship: 9:55 am</p> <p>New Harmony Worship: 8:45 am Sun. School:</p> | |

Collecting Stamps for Veterans

By: Grace Hoffmann

We are beginning a stamp collecting project at Concord for veterans. You will find a marked box in the lobby of our church where you can place your canceled stamps.

Your donated stamps are used by veterans to make cards, magnets, and other craft items that are sometimes sold by the facility to raise money for special veteran projects. The use of canceled stamps for crafts enhances the eye-hand coordination and fine motor skills

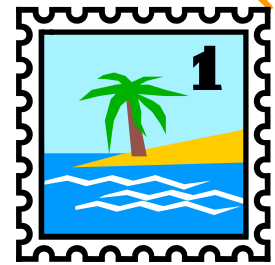


of disabled veterans, as well as enhancing a veteran's self esteem when a creative project is produced. Many veterans are also avid stamp

collectors.

General instructions:

- Do not deposit stamps that are heavily cancelled, ripped or torn.
- Do not take the stamp off the envelope or package. Cut around it.
- Deposit only commemorative stamps or value added stamps such as a 50 cent or one dollar stamp. (No flag or bell stamps)



The collection of stamps will be given to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Whiteside Chapter of Monroe County who will mail the stamps to the veteran facilities.



Scenes from the Fall Festival

Saturday, October 24



Scenes from the Columbia Daze Parade

Saturday, August 15



Care for the Care Givers

By: Pastor Will Hesterberg

“It was the hardest thing I have ever done.” “I never realized what was involved in caring for my loved one.” “I’m glad that I did take care of my loved one.” “I wish I had been more prepared for some of the issues we encountered.” I have heard these and many other responses from people who have had to take care of an elderly loved one. Having personally experienced the challenges, the sense of helplessness, the gambit of emotions, and the sense of unpreparedness as we cared for my mother, I want others to be better prepared and more supported.

To that end, we have designed this nine-part series, “Care for the Caregivers”, which began in September. On Thursday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m., we will continue with Mary Buettner, a local attorney who specializes in the law issues surrounding the elderly. Many of these issues and questions must be addressed long before there appears to be any need for discussion. Issues such as wills, trust funds, power of attorney, health care directives, and many others, will be addressed by Mary.

Then, on Thursday, January 14, at 7:00 p.m., we will offer a panel discussion on making short-term and long-term care decisions. The panel will include Greg Badger, Registered Nurse and Director of Admissions at Oak Hill; Beverly Richards, retired Activity Directory at Oak Hill; Paula Stumpf, Registered Nurse; and Pastor Will Hesterberg, Senior Pastor, Concord PCA. The panel will address such questions as:

- What care options are available?
- How can we discuss the options with loved ones?
- How do I recognize the time for different options?
- Are there signals that I can watch for?

If you are currently facing some of the questions that go with getting older, are caring for an elderly loved one, or know of someone else who is or will soon be responsible for the care of an elderly loved one, you don’t want to miss these presentations. We encourage you to invite others to join you as we find ways to provide “care for the care givers”.



We Have Spirit

By: Grace Hoffmann

Do you have the spirit to help American Indian Schools buy equipment for their schools? If the answer is “yes”, then let’s work together to promote their schools and support them.

The Box Tops for Education and the Labels for Education (found on cereal boxes, etc.) are one way you can be of help. What we collectively send makes a big



difference. It does add up. The points earned from the box tops and labels are used to buy school equipment, such as computers.



You will find a box marked Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education in the lobby of our church. The collection will be given to the Daughters of the American Revolution, Monroe Country Chapter, who will forward them to an American Indian School.

Foundations of Women's Ministry

By: Pastor Will Hesterberg

Psalm 11:3 says, "When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?" The foundational understanding of womanhood has certainly been under attack, over the last fifty years, through feminism. Feminism promotes anything but what is feminine. Today, equality of the sexes usually means women must be like men and do whatever men do. Where is the uniqueness in that? No wonder then that women, especially Christian women, struggle to find their identity (as men are also struggling to understand their identity). Identity is certainly a foundational issue. Identity also impacts women as they try to understand their role in God's kingdom and Christ's church.

So, what do we do when the foundations are being destroyed? We go back to rebuilding the



Women's Bible Study

foundation. For Christians, that always means going back to God's Word. Beginning on Sunday, December 6, during the winter quarter, we will offer a class for women, "Foundations of Women's Ministry". In the class, we'll explore what God says about the unique role, giftedness, and ministry that He gives to women.

Pastor Will will teach the first fifteen minutes of each class, giving foundational principles. Then, for the remaining thirty minutes, women leaders will lead groups of women in discussing the implications and applications of those principles to daily life, church ministry, and relationships with other women. All women of Concord are invited to join this Sunday school class, December through February, at 9:00 a.m.

Church Office Hours

The following are the office hours for the staff at Concord and New Harmony. Additionally, the pastors are also available by appointment.

Pastor Will Hesterberg:

(at Concord)

Mon. — Wed. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Pastor Darren Smith:

(at Concord)

Mon. — Thurs. 8:00 am— 12:00 pm

Pastor Dawson Miller:

(at New Harmony Ministry Center)

Wednesday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Jenny Bullock:

(at Concord)

Mon. and Tues. 8:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m.

Wed. and Fri.: 8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.



The Journey

Our Quest for Faith and Meaning by Os Guinness

Reviewed by C.E. & P. Staffer, Dean Conkel

Wow! If you are looking for a book on purpose in life, this is it. *The Journey* has been prepared for two kinds of people. One, those who do not view themselves as committed believers, but are serious about the big questions on the journey of life and are open to the possibility of those questions being answered. Two, those who are already followers of Christ at some stage on the journey of faith who wish to reflect seriously on why they believe what they believe. Guinness does an outstanding job, both in his writing and research. There are gems of knowledge, wisdom, and information on practically every page.

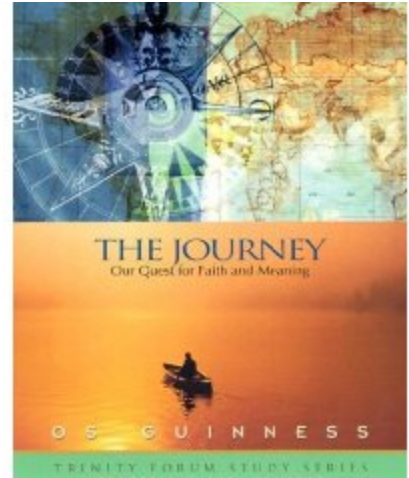
This book and others in the Trinity Forum Study Series differ from many other books on Christian themes because not all of the readings reflect a Christian worldview. Each reading reflects the viewpoint of the author concerning questions, answers, and commitments to that writer's purpose in life. Some are distinctly non-Christian and cause readers to think through an issue presented from another angle or to glean truth from the "common grace" given to the author. Others represent the best Christian thinkers, and some are

straight from Holy Scripture.

The book is organized in four parts: a time for questions, a time for answers, a time for evidences, and a time for commitment. Each section is helpful in its own way.

Guinness has included thought provoking quotes in the sidebars throughout the book.

The Journey will encourage Christians in their walk with Christ as it challenges them to think through why they believe what they believe. It is also a great book for non-Christians who are willing to consider their ultimate purpose and meaning.



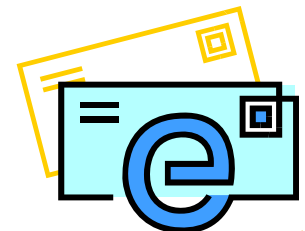
Staff Contact Information

Senior Pastor Will Hesterberg:
(618) 939-7116
Concordpres@gmail.com

Associate Pastor Darren Smith:
(618) 939-4890
dsmith@htc.net

Associate Pastor Dawson Miller:
(618) 281-6424
pastor@newharmonycolumbia.com

**Projects and Applications Planner
Jenny Bullock:**
(618) 939-7116
bullockjl@gmail.com



Concord/New Harmony October Financials

General Fund Receipts: **\$22,783**

(Concord: \$18,728 New Harmony: \$4,055)

Weekly Average: **\$5,705**

Expenditures: **\$22,986**

Receipts needed wkly for 09/10 Budget: **\$5,917**

YTD Receipts (General Fund): **\$96,215**

YTD Expenses (General Fund): **\$93,155**

2009/2010 Budget (ending 6/30) : **\$307,678**

Designated Fund Totals: (as of October 31, 2009)

Mission Trip \$418
 Micro Business (Belize) \$2,000
 Martinez (missionary) \$1,237
 Concord Building Extension Fund \$553
 Sanctuary Sound Improvement \$7,965
 Community Outreach - Carnival \$935
 Intern \$240
 Virginia Johnson Memorial-Music \$1,176
 Flowers \$117
 Oak Hill Social \$235

New Harmony Building Fund \$11,755
 Multi-Site Fund \$3,111
 Multi-Track Recorder \$70
 Counseling Fund \$245
 Educational Resources \$667
 Stephen Ministry \$200
 Weston Memorial \$403
 New Harmony Cash \$1
 New Harmony Choir \$10



Our Two Locations

Please worship with us at one of our two locations:

Waterloo - Concord

338 Covington Drive, Waterloo

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Columbia - New Harmony

Sunday Worship at the Monroe County YMCA
 (Located on Rt. 3 between Waterloo & Columbia)
 Worship: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School: 10:20 a.m.

Our New Harmony Ministry Center is located at:
 207 North Main Street, Suite 106, Columbia



What is 'Success' in Parenting Teens?

An interview with Dr. Paul Tripp (Part 2)

Administration & Communication

Bulletin Mailing

C-Lorraine McConkey
281-4882

Clerk of Session

Ron Schewe 939-6072

Newsletter Team

Dennis & Jenny Bullock

939-4539

Donna Maguire 939-8022

Alice West 939-6857

Prayer Communication

Grace Hoffmann 939-6784

Treasurers

Margie Hansen 939-8543

Cleon West 939-6177

Web Site

C- Dennis & Jenny Bullock

939-4539

Weekly

Announcements

C-Erin Stumpf 281-4364

NH-Steve Glynn 281-5246

Why do parents usually find the teenage years of their children the most demanding and threatening of all? I would like to be able to say, as the father of four children, that the only time I got angry was when one of them broke God's law. However, what is in fact true, is that often I wasn't angry because they had sinned, but because their sin had gotten in the way of something that I wanted. And what often gets in the way of parenting teenagers is the idolatry of their mother and father.

As a father, I, too, live for comfort, appreciation, success, respect and control. Now none of those things, in and of themselves, is wrong. But if they rule my heart, then in a moment of teen trouble, I will be likely to personalize what is not personal and be adversarial in my approach to you. I'll turn a moment of God-given ministry opportunity into a moment of anger, rather than going after your heart.

That's why the key to being used by God with your children is to start with your own heart. You hear parents confess their idolatry in roundabout ways all the time: "I do all this for you and this is the thanks I get?" or "How dare you do this to me!" as if the child has plotted against him. I guess it feels personal to a parent because the child has prevented him from serving the idol that's ruling his life. The teenage years are a time of unprecedented opportunity. I've found that the most important thing I can do to help parents is to get them to begin the search for idolatry in their lives.

If parents do not deal with their personal idolatry first, then all the strategies I give you are not going to help. In fact, goal setting won't help either. Why? Because, you always end up serving what rules your heart. I love reformed theology because it gets to the heart of the problem through its view of human nature. Reformed theology declares that worship isn't first an activity for human beings; worship is first an identity. We are worshippers; you can't *not* worship. We are always in the service of something. And if I'm not serving God in the life of my teenager, then I'm serving other things. It's just an inescapable principle.

What are the most important opportunities in which parents play a strategic role in their teenage children's lives? Let me begin by saying that I am always struck by how transcultural and transgenerational the Bible really is. We tend to divide human beings into all these subcultures, believing that we are very different from one another. In some ways we might be, but I should add that the Bible is able to cast its net in a way that catches everyone.

This means that the Bible speaks to the typical struggles of young people in every culture. It spans generations. It's not hard to look at Scripture and realize that the Bible is right when it defines the typical struggles of a young person. Those struggles are the opportunity for discerning parents.

For instance, the book of Proverbs is very clear in reminding us that teenagers don't usually hunger for wisdom and correction. I've never had one of my kids say to me, 'Dad, I realize that when you correct me you are showing me your love. Would you like to correct me some more?' As a parent I realize that wisdom is crucial to pleasing God, and yet it's not the thing for which my teenager tends to hunger. In each area of teenage struggle there's wonderful parental opportunity.

Another characteristic of teenagers is that they tend to be very legalistic. They don't particularly love God's law, they frequently debate the boundaries and they're very boundary oriented. Now you don't solve the problem of teenage legalism by debating where the boundary is. Why? Because a child who is pressing his face against the boundary is believing a very significant lie. The lie is that the good stuff is out there and God is keeping him from it.

What I need to do is turn his body to the inside of the yard and show him the glory of what God has called us to. Can you imagine living in a town where everybody was gentle and kind, no one ever stole, there was no such things as envy, murder or adultery, no one coveted? That's God's world! So in each one of those areas of teen struggle there are wonderful opportunities for parents.

Portions of Dr. Tripp's interview will be printed in the next few issues of the *Concord Vine*.

Milestones

Congratulations to Darren and Gretchen Smith, who became the adoptive parents of Jolee Elizabeth Smith. Jolee was born Friday, October 23rd, and weighed 6 lbs, 11 oz. Jolee joins big sisters Catalina and Eliana.



Congratulations to Larry McGrady and Laura Merleau, who were married Saturday, October 24th, at Concord Presbyterian Church.



December & January Schedules

Children's Church - Concord

- Dec 6 -Jenny & Ethan Bullock, Jessica Wilson
- Dec 13 - Dawn, Kylie, & Reid Sweatt
- Dec 20 - Dana Kiphart, Abby Hopkins, Griffin Sweatt
- Dec 27 - Lori Hesterberg, Miriam Badger, Zach Byrd
- Jan 3 - Betty Dietz & Emma Eustis
- Jan 10 - Ginny & Ben Bennett
- Jan 17 - Cindy Franke & Ben Stumpf
- Jan 24 - Jill Boxdorfer, Daniel Bicklein, Griffin Sweatt
- Jan 31 - Sue Jones & Zach Byrd

Nursery - Concord

- Dec 6 -Martin & Laura Berkerey, Katie Wilson
- Dec 13 - Tammy & Emma Eustis, Carol Kettler
- Dec 20 - Beth & Luke Bicklein, Carolyn Mueller
- Dec 27 - Dawn & Kylie Sweatt
- Jan 3 - Verna & Abby Hopkins
- Jan 10 - Nel Saul, Margie Hansen & Melissa Allen
- Jan 17 - Kent & Allison Nurnberger, Paula Stumpf
- Jan 24 - Ginny, Amy, & Andrew Bennett
- Jan 31 - Joe, Laura, & Carolyn Mueller

Refreshments - New Harmony

- Dec 6 - Anola Henke
- Dec 13 - Joan Canterbury
- Dec 20 - Nancy Nobbe
- Dec 27 - Sonja Meppiel
- Jan 3 - To Be Determined
- Jan 10 -Sue Meppiel
- Jan 17 - Nancy Nobbe
- Jan 24 - Sonja Meppiel
- Jan 31 - To be Determined



Greeters - Concord

- Dec 6 -Lorraine & Mark McConkey
- Dec 13 - Marcy Meyer & Margie Hansen
- Dec 20 - David & Rita Wetzell
- Dec 27 - Joy Schewe & Joe Ripplinger
- Jan 3 - Cleon & Alice West
- Jan 10 -Lewis & Anna Asselmeier
- Jan 17 - Lee & Grace Hoffmann
- Jan 24 - Jim & Beth Bicklein
- Jan 31 - Mark & Barbara Kurzen

Greeters - New Harmony

- Dec 6 - Cort and Becca Hubbard
- Dec 13 - Dayna and Abigail Miller
- Dec 20 - Clif Asselmeier and Nancy Nobbe
- Dec 27 - Jim and Sue Meppiel
- Jan 3 - Cort and Becca Hubbard
- Jan 10 - Dayna and Abigail Miller
- Jan 17 - Clif Asselmeier and Nancy Nobbe
- Jan 24 - Jim and Sue Meppiel
- Jan 31 - Cort and Becca Hubbard

Fellowship Meal Clean-up

- Dec 20 - Hansen and Jones fold groups
- Jan 17 - Glynn and Schewe fold groups

Deacon of the Month:

- December - Joe Ripplinger
- January - Lewis Asselmeier

Floor Waxing Team:

- December (downstairs) - Richard Stumpf & Paul Bigham
- January (upstairs) - TBD

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Where you can grow and serve for God's glory, by His grace.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

December Birthdays:

- 3 – Joni Cygan
- 4 – Dawn Ivers
- 5 – Lori Hesterberg, Donna Maguire
- 8 – Pam Morris
- 10 – John Vandenberg
- 12 – Amy Bennett
- 15 – Noah Meppiel, Cade Napier, Chase Napier
- 17 – Zach Byrd
- 20 – Emma Eustis, Dawson Miller, Dana Kiphart
- 22 – Noah Wetters
- 24 – Cindy Nugent
- 26 – Joe Ripplinger
- 29 – Tammy Eustis

December Anniversaries:

- 6 - Steve & Traci Napier
- 10 - Bud & Carol Kettler
- 17 - Paul & Denise Bigham
- 26 - Clyde & Ann Limestall
- 27 - Jeremy & Jill Boxdorfer
- 28 - Greg & Marcy Badger

January Birthdays:

- 1 – Grace Hoffmann
- 2 – Steve Napier
- 3 – Roy Henke
- 6 – Ella King
- 7 – Griffin Sweatt
- 9 – Mary Mueller
- 10 – Dayna Miller
- 11 – Clyde Limestall
- 12 – Parker Jones
- 13 – Ginny Bennett, Helen Meillier
- 14 – Jodi Allen, Beth Bicklein, Colleen Sliment
- 16 – Kimberlee Doyle
- 17 – Wanda Schaller
- 18 – Maura Overmann
- 20 – Marcy Badger
- 21 – Wayne Kohlmeier
- 22 – Mary Rehfeldt
- 24 – Dan Kurzen, Carole Harres
- 26 – Kylie Sweatt, Brody Williams
- 29 – Tim Bennett
- 31 – Konrad Kloos

January Anniversaries:

- 23 - John & Barbara Vandenberg
- 26 - Dale & Darlene Kostner

