



May 15, 2018

THE JOURNEY

The twice monthly newsletter from Brown Deer Baptist Church, Brown Deer, WI.
"Building people through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ"

As a deer longs for streams of water, so I long for You, God. Psalm 42:1

"Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. Psalm 98:1



2—Church News

3—From the Pastor's Heart

4— Spring Cleaning, Special Speaker, graduates



5— Love Your Pastor and His Wife

6—Extended Session Giving Day

Ponder On This:

God loves to hear the voices of His children.

Happy Mother's Day!

To celebrate the ladies in our church, the men will prepare breakfast this Sunday, May 13. Serving begins at 9:15 AM. The pastor will make pancakes for all who want them. Men, bring some breakfast dishes (such as egg, sausage, bacon), juice, fruit, etc.

HAPPENINGS AT BDBC:

Every Sunday morning at 9:15 we offer age appropriate **Bible Study** for everyone, birth through senior adults. Our goals include learning what God said to us, and how to apply His teachings to our everyday living.

At 10:30 on Sunday morning, following Bible Study, we join our hearts together to **praise God and worship Him** from Whom all blessings flow.

Wednesday evening at 6:45 our adults enjoy in-depth Bible study. We are currently studying the Epistle to the Hebrews.

While the adults are delving into the Scriptures, our youth and children are learning about missionaries and what they do. They also learn how they can share the Good News with their friends.

If you miss a Sunday, you can still hear God's message as shared by Pastor Larry. Each week Gary Holt makes the morning message available on our church website.

Link to Sermons: <http://www.browndeerbaptist.com/sermons.html>



Dear BDBC Family,

Thank you so much for the love and care shown to me during and after my recent surgery. I am so appreciative for the meals that were brought, cards sent, calls and visits made. Most of all I want to thank you for the prayers. I definitely felt the prayer cover during my most challenging times!

Love you all!

Peggy Kressin

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

Heed the words of 2 Kings 4:1-7 (NASB95):



"Now a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD; and the creditor has come to take my two children to be his slaves." Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" And she said, "Your maidservant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil." Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels at large for yourself from all your neighbors, even empty vessels; do not get a few. And you shall go in and shut the door behind you and your sons, and pour out into all these vessels, and you shall set aside what is full." So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons; they were bringing the vessels to her and she poured. When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not one vessel more." And the oil stopped. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debt, and you and your sons can live on the rest."

Are you at the place where you have nothing at all? In your desperation, look and see the "little oil" that you have, not what you don't have. It may be financial need, or the grace to handle a difficult person, or the courage to try something new. Your identity may even be at stake--in the Old Testament world when a woman's husband died, she lost her identity and standing in the community. Do not major on your inadequacy or lack. Don't bind yourself with vows like "I can't..." "It's impossible..." "I'll never be able to..."

Listen for God's voice and follow His instruction. Whatever He says, do it quickly and thoroughly. Gather "empty jars," as many as He says. Behind closed doors, in your prayer closet, present the vessels to Him in the secret place. The widow poured oil into each one until it was full. Keep doing whatever God says. The oil flowed until all the vessels were filled, as many as the widow presented to God. Today be blessed to know that whatever "jars" of your emptiness you present, God will fill them full with provision for today and for the future.

Keep close guard over this process of obedience to Him. The widow did not tell the neighbors what she was doing. Some people cannot understand your journey. Everyone does not see what you see, or have the relationship with God that you have. You are uniquely in process with Him. Others may try to talk you out of your faith, or discourage you, or make you feel inadequate and unworthy. Listen to God and protect His communication with you by knowing when to speak and when to be silent.

Be confident that your Father takes good care of His own. Sparrows find nesting places, and panting deer find water. You are more valuable than all of these (Matt 6:26). He numbers the hairs on your head, and He knows your needs (Matt 6:32). He promises to feed you with the finest wheat and satisfy you with honey from the rock (Ps 81:16). He Himself is your provision. Be blessed in His daily blessings, answered prayers, and undeserved favors. Be blessed in the name of the Eternal God, whose everlasting arms uphold you (Deut 33:27).

Love, Pastor Larry

On Saturday, May 12, 2018 we will have opportunity to do a thorough spring cleaning of our building and grounds at Brown Deer Baptist Church. God has been very good to us and has provided a wonderful building for us to hold activities of worship, fellowship, service, and ministry. It is our responsibility to take care of this gift.



If the weather is nice we will work both inside and outside. If it is rainy there is lots to do inside.



On May 20th Pastor Larry and Ramona will be celebrating with Daniel as he receives his high school diploma. In Pastor's absence, we will have the privilege of hearing **John Draper** as he shares God's message with us. Brother John has worked with our Lakeland Baptist Assoc. for a number of years and is always enjoyed when he serves as our guest speaker.

Rejoice with and pray for our graduates.

On Sunday, May 20, two of our students will complete one phase of life and step into the next.



Daniel Griffith is graduating from Germantown High School and will go on to college.

Anthony (Tony) Geiger will graduate from UWM and begin a new career.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Love Your Pastor

“It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers” — Ephesians 4:11

Pastors have a tough job. They get more kicks than kisses. If a pastor is young he lacks experience; if he's grey-haired he's too old. If he has five kids he has too many; if he has none he's setting a bad example. If his wife sings in the choir she's being forward; if not, she's not dedicated enough. If he preaches from notes he's dry; if he's extemporaneous he's too shallow. If he spends too much time in his study he's neglecting his people; if he makes home visits he's not a good time manager. If he's attentive to the poor he's after public approval; if he attends to the wealthy he's ingratiating. If he suggests improvements he's a dictator; if he doesn't he has no vision. If he uses too many illustrations he neglects the Bible; if he doesn't use enough stories, he's unclear. If he speaks against wrong he's legalistic; if he doesn't he's a compromiser. If he preaches for an hour he's windy; less than that, he has nothing to say. If he preaches the truth he's offensive; if he doesn't he's wishy-washy. If he fails to please everybody he's hurting the church; if he tries to please everybody he has no convictions. If he preaches tithing he's a money-grabber; if not, he's failing to develop his people. If he receives a large salary he's mercenary; if he doesn't it proves he's not worth much. If he preaches on a regular basis, people get tired of hearing the same person; if he invites guest preachers he's shirking his responsibility. Wow! And you thought your pastor had an easy life! How'd you like to change places? Bottom line: love your pastor. Your pastor is who God called to serve you.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help me to lift up and support my pastor and see my pastor as someone who You have placed to serve those in the congregation. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Lets remember our pastor's wife too.

When he is out ministering to others she is left alone at home. While he is out helping others, she is caring for their children, cooking, cleaning, keeping the house running smoothly, and answering questions from people who want to know where the pastor is. Instead of spending a quiet evening at home with her husband, the pastors wife may well be trying to sooth hurt feelings or encourage a church member. Hopefully, they can squeeze in a date night now and then.





Preschoolers, ages birth through 4 years, will always find a warm welcome at Brown Deer Baptist. We have workers who love them and have a desire to help them grow to know and love Jesus. If you have a child in this age group, we urge you to bring them to Sunday morning Bible study at 9:15. After Bible study, they may remain in the same room for continued activities while Mom and Dad enjoy a time of worship with others.

May 6	Doug Bachert	Sandy Kruchell	Nana Yaw Oduro
May 13	La Tasha Hazelwood	Rachel Krome	Kwame Nsiah
May 20	Veronica De Ridder	Kathy Schulz	Aubrey Wycklendt
May 27	Nana Nsiah	Delmy Geiger	Nana Yaw Oduro



The Giving Day (rummage give away) will be in late August (date to be announced). See Annette Blanchard for details. We will soon announce a storage place for items you wish to donate to this community outreach project.

