

May 15, 2017



THE JOURNEY

The twice monthly newsletter from Brown Deer Baptist Church, Brown Deer, WI.

"Building people through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ"

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for You, O God." Psalm 42: 1

THIS MONTH

"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."
Luke 18:14

2. Church Notes

3. From the Pastor's Heart

4. Servant Workers Needed

5. May Calendar

6. Extended Session

Ponder on This:

We don't get closer to God by passing judgment on others

Moms, it's your turn to be served!



Prepared by the men

9:15 am

Sunday, May 14, 2017

CHURCH NOTES

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

BIBLE STUDY @ 9:15 am

WORSHIP @ 10:30 am



We will be looking for you on Sunday

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Join with others on Wednesday evening at 6:45pm for a time of spiritual refreshment.

Adults spend time in prayer and Bible study.

Youth, Children, and Preschoolers are involved in Bible and Missions studies.

MAY BIRTHDAYS:

- 16 – Elizabeth Mensah
 - 25 – Vickie Holt
 - 27 – Judith Sagen
 - 29 – Aaron Wycklendt
 - 31 – Lilly Pryor
-



MEN, if you have questions about the Mother's Day breakfast call Pastor Larry.

Family Movie Night Fellowship

Friday, May 19

6:30 PM



Potluck Supper(seafood/fish theme, but bring anything)

Supper will be followed by the movie

"Finding Dory"

CHURCH CLEANING



There are new calendars for church cleaning volunteers on the bulletin board.

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART...

"If you want good fruit, you must make the tree good. If your tree is not good, it will have bad fruit. A tree is known by the kind of fruit it produces."

--Matthew 12:33 (NCV)



I just planted another apple tree in my backyard. According to Ramona, the five existing trees were not enough. The new tree was planted because a tree we planted seven years ago rarely produces a crop of her favorite apples—the Sweet Sixteen variety. I admit that this variety is the best apple I have ever tasted. It has a sweet flavor with a hint of caramelized brown sugar and vanilla.

I took great care seven years ago when I planted our first Sweet Sixteen apple tree. I studied the amount of direct sunlight the location received and made sure the soil's moisture and composition would be suitable. A few years ago, we had a wonderful crop from this tree. The last three years, nothing. The tree did not even bloom. What happened? Why did it stop producing? Plenty of good soil. Plenty of water. The weather wasn't too cold or too hot. The tree stopped bearing fruit because of something I failed to account for when I planted it.

Our neighbors on the east side of our little apple orchard have a large silver maple tree. Those trees grow quickly! Their tree grew tall enough that our favorite apple tree spends too many hours in its shadow and not enough hours in the sun. As long as my neighbor's tree is blocking the sun, my Sweet Sixteen apple will not bear fruit. So, in the past couple of years we have planted two more of these trees in a different location in our yard where there is more sunshine. Now we must wait a few more years before we can again enjoy our favorite apple.

Jesus pointed out a basic truth in Matthew 12:33—if you want good fruit, you better have a good tree! Jesus wasn't giving a horticulture lesson when He spoke those words. He was speaking to us. Just as a tree that does not receive enough sun, nutrients, and water will not produce good fruit, we won't produce spiritual fruit if we fail to take in plenty of spiritual nourishment.

Let me share a statement I heard years ago: *"When your output exceeds your intake, your upkeep becomes your downfall."* I can't tell you how many people I have heard say that they used to be involved in church but the church wore them out asking them to do too many things. The result: they just don't go anymore. We tend to over-commit. We match this tendency with our inability to say "no" along with our inability to set boundaries. We have all said at one time or another, "I don't have anything left in my gas tank. I have given and given without getting anything back and I am flat worn out!" *Our output exceeded our intake.* Christians are especially bad about this. We feel like God's favor is earned by the amount of work we do for Him. This isn't just bad theology and a failure to understand God's grace. It is disastrous because other areas begin to suffer like family, health, quiet time with the Lord, and the list goes on.

You can be so committed to serving the Lord that you forget your family. You may win today's battle, but lose the war! Set boundaries and make sure you are spending quality time with your family, and your Lord. A balance of these things will be blessed more than anything else, in fact you are commanded to make your family and your relationship with Him your most important work of all. May your trees be full of apples as you make sure your output doesn't exceed your input!

Love,
Pastor Larry

Are you looking for a place to serve at Brown Deer Baptist?



EXTENDED SESSION TEACHERS

We have an ongoing need for persons to help with our children birth through four (4) years of age during worship services and occasionally for other special occasions. Men, Women, and Older Youth can serve in this capacity on a rotating basis. Talk with Delmy Geiger for more information.

CLEANING HELP NEEDED

We have a paid janitor who cleans our buildings every other week, but volunteers are needed to clean the other weeks. There is a sign up chart on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the worship center. The condition of our building and grounds is part of our witness to the community and is a form of worship. A family or friends working together can make the work go fast and offers a time of fellowship.

SPRING HOUSECLEANING

Watch for the date! It will soon be time for our annual spring housecleaning for the building and grounds of BDBC. Watch for more information regarding this special time of fellowship and service.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH

Each Sunday join with others in the pastor's study from 12:00 to 12:15 for prayer on behalf of our church. All are welcome to share in this time of concentrated prayer.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our nominating team will soon be working to be sure all ministries of BDBC are staffed for the new year that begins in September 2017. Be praying for this team now as they consider who God is calling to each position. If you are not serving anyplace now and want to serve next year, talk with any of the team members to explore possibilities. Team members are Mary Krome, Gary Holt, and Linda Hunter.

MAY 2017



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day Breakfast	15	16	17	18	19 6:30-potluck supper and movie	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

9:15 – Fellowship

9:30 – Bible Study

10:30- Morning Worship

1:30 – Grace Point Hmong Service

Wednesday

6:45 – Adult Prayer & Bible Study

6:45 – Mission Friends/GAs/RAs/

Acteens

7:45 – Praise Team Rehearsal

Our Little Ones Are Precious



Jesus said: “Bring the little ones to me, and do not turn them away.”

In addition to Sunday Bible Study and Wednesday Missions Study, **our Preschool Ministry provides for children from birth through 4 years of age** during Sunday morning worship. We will help your baby/young child learn that Jesus loves him/her and that church is a happy place to be, thus laying a solid foundation for future spiritual growth.

Committed and trained workers will help your child learn about Jesus. At the same time they are being kept safe and happy.

May 7	Doug Bachert	Claire Blanchard	Kwame Nsiah
May 14	Gaby Geiger	Rachel Krome	Kofi Oduro
May 21	Veronica De Ridder	Geri Klimowicz	Aubrey W.
May 28	Vickie Holt	Delmy Geiger	Nana Yaw O.

God forgives us, Can/should we do less for others?

**Grace is when
somebody **hurts**
you and you try to
understand their
situation instead
of trying to **hurt**
them back.**