



October 15, 2020

THE JOURNEY

The twice monthly news letter 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



We will observe the Lord's Supper this Sunday, October 18th. Individual cups containing a wafer and juice will be available on a table in the foyer. When you arrive, please pick up your cup for use during the service. After the service, on your way out, please put your empty cup in the waste basket that will be at the door.

Those who are viewing the service online may participate with those who are worshipping at the church building by using their own juice and bread.



REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE

This Regular Schedule will resume when the “Stay At Home”

Order is lifted by the Federal and State leaders

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 every day living.

At 10:30 on Sunday morning, following Bible Study, we join in lifting praises to God the Father as together we worship Him. “Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy”.

Wednesday evening at 6:45 our adults enjoy in-depth Bible study. We are currently looking at the book of Genesis.

COMING EVENTS

++During these days of quarantine the Wednesday night Bible Study, and Sunday morning Bible Study are both available on zoom. Sunday worship is available on Facebook Live. Watch your e-mail and facebook for sign-in information.

++Lord’s Supper will be shared on Sunday, October 18.

++ Our children are missing Bible study while we cannot have regular Sunday School. Is anyone interested in hosting a Zoom Sunday School lesson for children on Sunday mornings? These lessons can be fun as well as instructive. Please contact Pastor Larry for more information, or to volunteer.

PRESCHOOL EXTENDED SESSION

During these self-distancing days we are not able to provide nursery care. We would encourage you to read Bible stories to your children and pray with them at home each day. May God bless your ministries to your young children, grandchildren, and neighbor children.

When we are again able to enjoy corporate worship at the church building our children, 4 and under, will take part in the early portion of morning worship. After the children’s sermon they may, at their parent’s discretion, be taken to the nursery for further age related activities. This helps to give them an easier transition into regular worship services. This ministry is offered, as needed. A listing of weekly worker assignments will be shared when regular activities resume



FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART...



“The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.” -Isaiah 61:1-3 (NIV)

I love October in Wisconsin. The splendor of fall leaves takes my breath away...and I can only see 30% of the color spectrum due to severe dueten color-blindness! So, the splendor of fall must really be something to behold for those with normal vision. But even the splendor of fall is no match for the splendor God sees in you!

Jesus quoted Isaiah 61:1-2 as He announced the reason for His walk on this earth. He said, *“The Spirit of the Lord is on me to preach the good news to the poor, heal the brokenhearted, to set captives free, to open blind eyes, to open prison doors, and to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.”* Did you notice that Jesus didn’t quote the entire sentence from Isaiah 61? Focus on what Isaiah continues to say in these verses. God wants to make a holy exchange with you: His comfort for grief, His crown instead of ashes, His gladness for mourning, and His praise instead of despair. My favorite part of this passage is the last part of verse 3. *“They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.”* The weight of the entire passage falls on the words: *“for the display of his splendor.”*

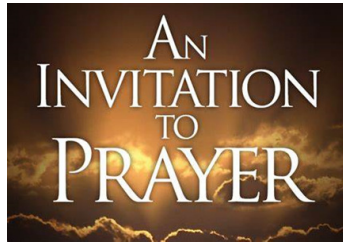
Jesus came to earth give you a new life, to heal your broken spirit, to set you free, and to restore you for a purpose—HIS PURPOSE. What is that purpose? That you will *display His splendor*. You live to show forth His glory; you are called to this. This defines you. God’s appointment in you is that people see, feel, and respond to the weight and strength of your life, as you live in the splendor, strength, and majesty of the glory of Jesus.

If you belong to Christ, this is the true meaning of your life. Jesus said to His Father in John 17:22, *“I have given them the glory that you gave me.”* The glory of Jesus is who you are. Your life is shining His light, the manifold wisdom of God in you. You are on a journey further into that identity, legitimacy, freedom, and confident hope. It is true of you now, and it is becoming truer of you each passing day.

God says in Psalm 8:5 that He crowned you with a glory (splendor), honor, and majesty that is unique to you. Shine your unique testimony to the greatness of God. Christ died to bring out the richness of your life as you reflect His radiance. 2 Corinthians 3:18 says, *“We, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”* The God who said, *“Let light shine out of darkness,”* made His light shine in you to give you the light of the glory of God in the face of Christ (2 Cor. 4:6).

As fall morphs into winter’s chill and the trees become bare, it may seem that your world starves for color and splendor. Rejoice that God in you is bigger than any assault to deaden your heart and your desire, to shut down the glory in your life, to keep you from affirming the splendor that is your inheritance. His splendor is seen in the small details of your life ... a hug, a smile, a card you write, a phone call, a kindness. God put you right where you are, in the family, in the marriage, in the valley of decision where you are. He placed you there to let His splendor be seen, to shine the light of His glory through you.

Love,
Pastor Larry



CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS;

Linda Hunter, Health issues being dealt with by Veronica DeRidder, Geri Klimowicz, Ralph Green, Travis Graf, Kathy Schulz, Raychel Schulz, Lentha Quinbar, Bob and Sandy Kruchell. Pastor Larry and his Family, our deacons and their families as they minister to our church members. Protection for all of us from the coronavirus and violent acts surrounding us. Spiritual empowerment and physical stamina for BDBC staff and members. We do not know of any members who have contracted covid-19. Let's continue to pray for God's protection from this devastating and contagious disease. As we pray let's each be conscientious about social distancing, good hygiene, and wearing a mask in public.

Pray for our young people who are in college this year: Aubrey Wycklendt, Nana-Yaw Oduro, Kofi Oduro. Ask God to protect them spiritually and physically, granting them wisdom in choosing friends and activities. Pray for their parents as they prayerfully support their kids and adjust to them being gone. Pray for elementary and high school students who are involved in both on site classes and virtual classes. Ask God to give them the ability to concentrate and respond to this change.

FRIENDS AND REGULAR ATTENDERS;

Church members and friends who work on the Covid-19 front line (Rob Krome, Shawn Wycklendt, Nana Nsiah), others who may be working in schools or hospitals. Also the people to whom they are ministering. Neighbors and friends who might need special help during this time. Friends who are seeking the Savior. Missionaries, Pastors, and others working in the States and around the world in these challenging days.

BEYOND OUR CHURCH BUILDING'S WALLS;

Pray for the many destructive situations around our nation. Pray that God's people will exemplify His love and mercy to all who are involved. Pray that we will move beyond the past, and look to the future, letting God rule our hearts and actions. Pray that we will once more demonstrate that we are a Christian nation, and that we are God's children. Ask God to be the true leader in our churches as we show His love and mercy to those around us. Pray for wisdom for our national, state, and local leaders. As Bible believing Christians we are faced with a crucial election this year. Study God's Word, and pray for God's wisdom and leadership. Rather than voting out of tradition, by race, or by media emphases, pray diligently for God's leadership in choosing the people He would want in local, state, and federal offices to promote His purposes and plans for our nation and world in these latter days.

If you have a special prayer need, please let Gary Holt know about it so he can share the need with the rest of the church.



UPDATE ON ANNUAL MEETING

The MWBC Executive Board met Saturday morning, September 19, wrestled with the current social realities of this season and decided to change the format for this year's annual meeting of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention.

Based on the current COVID-19 attendance of our churches and the withdrawal of most of our national partners and missionaries, it was decided that we instead hold a short Friday night virtual meeting with a Convention report brought by our Executive Director, Leo Endel, a convention sermon brought by our president, Chris Heng, and a time of prayer for our churches, our work, and for our nation.

Though this format certainly does not replace the fellowship and cooperative spirit of a normal Annual Meeting, we believe we will have more participants this year in a digital format than we would under the COVID-19 restrictions.

The Board will be requesting that the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Brooklyn Park, MN host the 2021 meeting (as they would have hosted this year's meeting), and is working toward the possibility of virtual participation and voting in the future.

THANK YOU
PASTOR LARRY AND RAMONA



October is Pastor Appreciation Month.
We love them both and include Ramona in this time of recognition.

Have you told them how much you
Love, Respect, and Appreciate them?