

Pastor's Message

Wisdom is being applied when there is an “around the barn” view of a situation. What do I mean by this? If you are standing in front of a barn and somebody says to you “this is a barn”. Well, you then begin a stroll around that building and you look it over closely. You look at the base or foundation and you also allow your eyes and your fingers to stroll up and down all sides of that structure. You also check the fascia along the roof edge. You even scale up a ladder and check out the roof condition. And you crawl on all fours to check out the foundation and water drainage around the base. You proceed with this inspection around the entire distance of the building. Eventually you return to the person that said to you “this is a barn” and you say “yes, I agree, this is a barn”.

Now I’m not suggesting you never believe what someone tells you. However, what I am saying is that we need to be circumspect. That is how we grow in wisdom. It is wise when we use this type of process in the many situations we find ourselves encountering.

This whole process of being wise or being circumspect is truly a process. It’s how we live our lives. It’s something we grow in and learn to practice all the time. It doesn’t mean we will never make a mistake. But it does teach us how to minimize the mistakes. After all, who wants to be told something is a barn and then discover later that it isn’t a barn at all. No, instead it is a car or an elephant or a house. If you now are the proud owner of this structure you were told was a barn and it is not even close to what you expected, you chose not to use wisdom. You

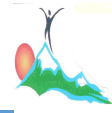
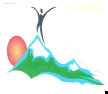
weren’t circumspect in that situation. You were foolish.

I say all of this to say that this practice of being circumspect, being wise, takes time and practice. Have you practiced this in your own life? Is it time to grow in this? And is it time to communicate and listen to and be in conversation and connection with others who can help you be growing and you can help others grow in this process. I believe it is time.

It’s funny, but I remember describing myself in this very way (the walking around the barn guy) many years ago. I did not think about it as being wise, but I thought about it as being my nature. I thought about it as being slow to accept someone’s perspective on things. But over the years I have learned how much this approach has assisted me in gaining wisdom.

Now some of you may have another approach to how you weigh things out before you decide on them. Whatever your process is, I hope that it includes other people and that it is walking all around a situation, before you decide one way or the other.

The reality is this. None of us ever have enough information. We never have enough perspective. We always are missing pieces of information and perspective that could help us. That is why we must continue to be teachable. We must never get so we think we are all-wise. James tells us (1:5) “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.”



James says further on (3:13-18) “13Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. 14But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 15This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. 17But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”

So it seems to me that we are living in times where we truly do need “wisdom from above”. Now that, in my estimation, needs to be applied in politics, in church work, in working in our community, and amongst our families and friends.

Ok I’m going to end this conversation about wisdom for now. However I can’t leave it without saying this about it. Hear the words of Solomon as God speaks to us through them (Proverbs 1:7) “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

My assumption is this – everyone who reads this is a person who wants to hear God. Therefore that means you want to know how hearing God begins. And you are getting a good start right here. Grow in the fear of the Lord God. This is not casual but it is truly serious and transformational. I do not believe any one of you desire to be a fool. So, do not despise these words. But begin to apply them to your life.

God loves you. Always has, always will.

Pastor Vern

Administrative Board

The Administrative Board met on September 4th. Treasurer’s report as of this date, reflects that we are maintaining the budget showing a liquid net worth of \$165,374.41. Ginny Moore will be honored on September 10th for her service. The Annual meeting will be held on September 17th. The 2018 budget was discussed and will be voted on at the annual meeting. Vern and Roxanne will be on vacation for the next three Sundays starting on September 24th. The guest speakers scheduled will be a representative from the Rescue Mission, Jim Kane and the last is to be announced. The Parish House will be used on Wednesdays for Brownie meetings. Discussion was held regarding the painting of the inside of the church building above the doors to the library and the choir room. Paint chips will be available for the congregation to see. Next meeting is scheduled for October 4th.

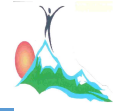
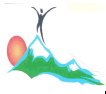
Submitted by,

Shelley Schneeberger (in Bonnie Ziegler’s absent)

Christian Education

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School class meets at the home of Dave Ball on Sunday morning. The study this quarter is “Covenants with God”. Everyone is welcome to join in this study of God’s word.



M and M's

We will be looking at Ephesians 1, the "Spiritual Blessings" we have in Christ Jesus. Be sure you bring your sheet with your Journey on it. All ladies are invited to join us on October 4th at 10 am at Joan Ball's home.

Christian Books

There are many excellent books in our church library for anyone to borrow. Did you also know that the DeRuyter Public Library has a section of Christian books too?

Youth Sunday School

Sunday School is off and running.

We continue to have the PK-6th grade at the Parish House with Janet Furlough, Kris Sauter, Tom Springer and myself. Ed Sauter continues to bless us with music and Pastor Vern joins us for the opening.

Also this year Denise Whalen is joining us some Sundays and leading us in Craft Projects. Thank you Denise.

PK-6th grade has some new kids this year. We started from the beginning studying Genesis – "God's Creation".

We will continue sponsoring DeCarlos Rios the 11 year old boy from Bolivia and the "Greatest Journey" which disciples 12 children every year.

We hope to continue the "Christmas Shoe Boxes" and do some new projects this year. We will keep you posted.

Linda Springer with the help of Jon Brown continues to teach the 7th to 12th grade. They are finishing the curriculum "Believe", living the story of the Bible to become more like Jesus.

Our annual Harvest Party is Tuesday, October 31st from 5 to 7 at the Parish House. ALL ARE WELCOME!

If you would like to donate individually wrapped candy, it would be greatly appreciated.

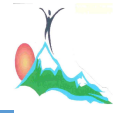
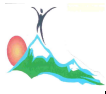
Please keep our children and the teachers in your prayers.

In His Service,

Maurine

Mission Report

Benitez Update- Carlos, Caryn and Rachelle were here for a visit Father's Day weekend in June and were in the states visiting family and churches on the East Coast for two months. Since their visit with us they experienced some difficult times. Two of their cars in the U.S. were totaled in a period of two months, driven by their son, but neither being his fault. Their return flight from Charlotte to NY was cancelled two days in a row bringing added stress as their Visas were about to expire and they needed to complete additional paperwork to renew it before their return overseas which got delayed. When they did return to Southeast Asia their home was not ready for them, their belongings were in storage and the previous owner sold their rental house changing the locks. They now had a new landlord and a new contract to sign. On the plus side, they were able to stay with good friends for a week until



new contracts were signed and they could move in their new house and unpack. They have been serving in Southeast Asia for three years now and feeling much more at home there. Rachelle is in her 1st year of H.S. at her Asian school, RJ is a senior at Liberty University in the US, Carlos has some teaching responsibilities, but mainly focusing on his PhD dissertation, and Caryn is extremely busy with multiple administrative jobs. Caryn says even with their recent trials, God has been watching over them. Their Visas were completed, no one was hurt when their cars were totaled, their house is now settled and they are all back at work.

Chiesa Update- Summer news and things to pray for: 1. Rick has budget roadblocks to convert three language project proposals. 2. Betsy's workload continues to be challenging. 3. Please pray for Betsy's 91 year old mother who had a recent pacemaker implanted and is recovering in a Rehab facility.

Reed Update- Summer 2017- Bob is serving at the Teen Challenge Super Thrift Store sharing devotions and working in the warehouse getting items ready for the store. He is preparing to teach a Living Free Class as a community outreach, leads devotions at Life Care Nursing Home and ministering to residents while visiting and singing. Bob is also connected with Kairos Lay Prison Ministry and meets with leaders there on a weekly basis for fellowship and prayer. They have found a new church there in Florida with a young serious pastor, but it was hard to leave their former church family in Missouri.

The Food Pantry has had a very busy summer with at least 60 families per month visiting. We

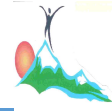
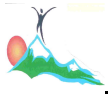
did not receive our mini produce grant this summer, however, because of our many donations and supporters, we have been able to provide weekly, large amounts of fresh vegetables purchased or donated from local farmers and farm stands. Thank you to everyone for your constant support. Our DeRuyter Fair laundry challenge during the parade brought in 225 bottles of detergent!!

Jean Whalen

A Special Thank You

There is among us today (and most every Sunday) a very special person who we would like to honor. Here are a few details and trivia which many of you may or may not know:

She (first clue) has a giving & thoughtful heart...many of us have received cards and remembrances over the years. She had a love for Morgan Horses....attending many Morgan Horse shows....and even owning one! She had several very special dogs including a cocker spaniel named Corky and a Golden retriever named Brandy. She was a member of the Sheds Church before joining our Church body for worship on Sunday mornings. She drove school bus (a station wagon...which went to places the larger buses couldn't go). She worked at HW Cooks before going to work for Agway in DeWitt (known by many as the Ivory tower). She was and is family loyal...dedicated to her two daughters, grandchildren, and especially her sister-in-law Tootie (who most of us know as Lil Leete). If she happens to find out there is a special item you enjoy....you



probably will end up being treated. An example: Chocolate Cream pie, Right, Calvin? She keeps track of our birthdays and anniversaries...giving the list to Vern weekly... And she is the one who, faithfully organized (reminding us, calling us for items) our church's good newsletter monthly for a good number of years.

AND for this reason we want to thank and honor you, Ginny Moore, today.

Calendar of Events

Each Tues. @ 7 am – Prayer in Pastor Vern's office

Each Tues. volunteer to help with the after school program taught by the Rhodas from the Cortland Bible Club Camp until 4 pm

Each Wed. @ 6:30 pm – Book study & Prayer @ Parish House

2nd & 4th Sat. of month (14th & 28th) Men's Group – 8 AM @ PH

October 2nd– 7 pm Admin. Bd.

October 5th– 7 pm Spiritual Bd.

Oct 22- Newsletter information needed

Oct 28 - Pork Dinner @ 4:30 til gone

Oct 31-Halloween Party at Parish House 5 to 7

Events to watch for

11/18 Women's Fellowship Meeting

11/25 Decorating the Church for the Holiday

12/2 Christmas Breakfast at Parish House

12/13 Christmas Baskets-assemble

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Oct 2~Pat Winters

Oct 6~ Sharon Wightman

Oct 9~Mike Harris Sr

Oct 9 Robert (Buster) Lewis

*Oct 10~~Steve & Amy Best

Oct 12~~Sam Fuller

Oct 18~~Mark Furlough

Oct 20~~Kristine Sautter

Oct 20~~Virginia Baker

Oct 21~~Jan Wedge

*Oct 22~~Tom & Linda Springer

Oct 22~~Tom Sevier

Oct 22~~Kyle Harris

Oct 23~~Shelley Schneeberger

Oct 27~~Barbara McClure

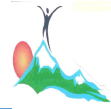
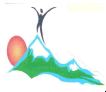
Oct27~~Tim Clendenning

Oct 28~~Art Gast

Where is God Leading

..."Would our community experience a void if the church closed - would that void be easily filled or felt intensely? We should be making a difference in our community, do people still **come to us** in time of need (other than when they experience a death?) Should we be worrying more about church preservation or community transformation? "

This is not a criticism of anyone, just a question for each and everyone of us to pray about and listen to God if **He** is telling us to reach out and do more in our community. We have a wonderful bereavement committee and we are great at helping the food pantry and community closet, let's pray and see what God would have us do.



Pastor Vern's Challenge

Pastor Vern gave the church a challenge to find ways to reach out to the community by using the phrase UP-IN-OUT. The theme for the month is:

Christ Driven



Up 1Corinthians 10:13



In Proverbs 4:15



Out Galations 5:22-23

