



NEWS

UP FRONT

An Invitation to Invite

A couple weeks ago, I walked Ellie and Judson to the park on a Friday afternoon and, as usually happens, the request came to dig for fossils in the sand box. My response usually is impacted by where we are in relation to bath night and on this particular day it was a go. They went to playing and I just sat back and observed. There were about five other kids playing in the sand too and they were all doing their own thing and enjoying themselves. Just seven little people hanging out in the same area minding their own business. I remember thinking that it was surprisingly peaceful.

That all changed with an extended arm and a plastic sand shovel. One little girl came to the sand box prepared, she saw the fossil search going on and invited a stranger to take her tool and put it to work. That invitation led to a quick playground friendship, which led to giggling, which led to more kids joining in on the fun, which led to a quiet sandbox with seven strangers evolving into a rambunctious search party of paleontologists and pirates racing each other to find fossil treasure. A simple invitation swept everyone out of their own little worlds and into a new place full of community and joy!

I may be guilty of over philosophizing here but I was struck by the beauty of the moment and it made me think of how much space there is in our lives and in the life of our church to invite people in to something beautiful that we miss out on because we fail to extend the invitation. I'd love for my life and our church to be marked by an invitational culture because I believe the God we worship longs to see his beauty flow through us and into our community and the world God so dearly loves. The end of summer and the movement toward the beginnings of a new school year and a new season is a great time to challenge yourself to extend an invitation to someone around you. The invitation could be to coffee, a meal, a walk, church, anything - you name it! You have beauty to offer the world, follow God's lead and share it!

Your Partner in Mission,

Josh

COMING UP

- 8/4 & 18 Men's Breakfast
- 8/5 Spfld Youth Group
- 8/12 NB Youth Event
- 8/13 Leadership Coord. Team
- 8/17 Children's House Graduation
- 8/19 Spfld Youth Group
- 8/26 NB Youth Group

WHAT'S HAPPENING

August 2018

KUMLER & LOAMI FOOD PANTRIES

For the month of August we are asking for peanut butter and cereal. Please place your donations in the Serve the World Centers at either campus and we will take them to help feed the hungry in surrounding areas. Pick up an extra jar or box when next you shop and you will pass on a blessing. All non perishable food is welcome.

GRAHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Do you have an hour or two during the week to spare to help out Graham Elementary Library? Several members of Central Baptist and some friends get together on Thursdays and Fridays during the school year to help children use the library during their class time. On Thursdays volunteers check in books and shelve the ones returned and then prepare the library for check out day on Friday. On check out day, we see 14 classes for 15 minutes apiece. Please call Ann at the church office (523-3639) or email me at ann@cbcchurchfamily.org for information or to sign up. Thank you!

THE FELLOWSHIP FUND

The Fellowship Fund helps those with personal financial issues or with various emergency needs. Consider helping replenish this fund on a regular basis. Thank you for your generosity.

8/4 - AB Men's Breakfast meets at 8:00 a.m. in Merriam Hall on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays for breakfast and fellowship. See Larry Aldag for more information.

8/5 - Springfield Youth Group meets after worship.

8/12 - New Berlin Youth Summer event meets from 5-7 pm.

8/13 - The Leadership Coordinating Team meets in Weber Lounge at 6:30 pm.

8/17 - Children's House Graduation is at 6:00 pm in Merriam Hall

8/18 - Men's Breakfast meets at 8:00 a.m. in Merriam Hall.

8/19 - Springfield Youth Group resumes for the school year.

8/26 - New Berlin Youth Group resumes for the school year.

8/27 - Full Staff meeting in Weber lounge at 2:00 pm.

BIRTHDAYS

8/3 Erika Palsen

8/3 Elaine Turkcan

8/3 Edna Walden

8/5 Larry Aldag

8/6 Brenda Thornburgh

8/7 Paul Stivers

8/10 Joe Hill

8/10 Jeff Sharp

8/14 Ross Hodel

8/14 Brett Miles

8/14 Sally Smith

8/17 Betsy Martin

8/17 Barbara McKean

8/17 Della Phillips

8/18 Virginia Heinzl

8/19 Rita Black

8/19 Faith Heikes

8/20 Paul Gibson

8/20 Taylor Kinkade

8/22 Marge Clinton

8/24 Jenna Reynolds

8/28 Aimee Southwell

8/28 Chloe Gilmore

8/28 Bill VanDusen

8/29 Rodney Gruber

Anniversaries

8/7 Lynn & Diane Martin

8/8 Ken & Esther Crotchett

8/17 Ray & Barb Reynolds

8/21 Paul & Judy Thompson

8/30 Doug & Linda Meyer

8/30 Jeff & Mary Sharp

8/31 John & Syl Grisham

NEWS AND NOTES

From Girl Scout Troop 6849

Thank you for the fabric donations and for your help making the pillow cases. Thanks so much, (signed) Corren Watson

From Contact Ministries

Thank you so much for bringing the lovely meal of chicken and sides on the 4th of July. It was such a blessing to not have to worry about this dinner. The families really enjoyed it as well! (signed) Chantell

One Great Hour of Sharing

During the month of July we have set a goal of \$5000 to aid Puerto Rico after the latest storms there. At the time of writing, we have received \$3,535. Thank you all for your generosity.

OFF THE SHELF

Guideposts Fiction

There are 155 books of fiction published by Guideposts in the Baum Library. There are 16 series with a range of 3 to 49 books in a series. Some of the series are complete but many are only partially complete. Many of the series have multiple authors which means the books are not necessarily together on the shelves.

To better coordinate these books they are being moved to the top of the shelving units in the middle of the Library. The books will be arranged by series and then by number in the series. The book number in the series will be shown on a label on the front cover of the book. A "Guideposts Fiction Guide" is being prepared so that you have a list of the books in the various series. The Guide can be used to keep track of the books that you have read. The Guide should be available by Early September.

Wonder (New on DVD)

Wonder follows the inspiring story of the Pullman family, whose youngest child, Auggie, is a boy born with facial differences. When Auggie enters mainstream elementary school for the first time, his extraordinary journey unites his family, his school, and his community, and proves that you can't blend in when you were born to stand out. Oscar winner Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, and Jacob Tremblay star in this heartwarming and uplifting film.

This DVD can be found in the Video Section. (113 minutes, PG, 4.8 out of 5 Amazon rating)



Jim Filler

On behalf of the Volunteer Library Team

A NOTE FROM CHILDREN'S HOUSE

August 2018

Children's House will soon be promoting students to new classrooms, as we begin our new school year on August 20. In September, Chapel will begin again for our preschool programs. Do you enjoy teaching young ones about God and his message? Do you have 10 minutes to give to others? Are you ready to make a difference in a child's knowledge about the Bible? If you said yes to any of these, then we have an experience for you!

We are currently looking for staff and church members to assist with chapel. Twice a month the preschool program meets in the sanctuary for a bible story/ lesson. Chapel only last 10-15 minutes but leaves a huge impact. The classrooms really enjoy connecting with church staff and members and area always eager to learn more about the Bible. Would like to help but don't know where to start?

In September Children's House will start a new Bible themed curriculum. We would be happy to help you connect your chapel lesson with our monthly unit. Please contact me if you are interested. Also feel free to join us for chapel to experience how it all works.

Judy Vlach, Director

A NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS

I recently read the book, "[*I'd Like You More if You Were More Like Me: Getting Real about Getting Close*](#)" by John Ortberg. Pastor Ortberg discusses how to build intimacy in all your relationships – those with your spouse, children, family, friends, and especially God. He uses humor, personal experience, research findings, and scripture to guide you in deepening your relationships. This book will help you learn how to recognize and turn toward bids for connection, how to overcome your fear of intimacy, how to avoid common relationship obstacles, and how to make God an active part of your everyday life. If you'd like to borrow my copy of the book, feel free to contact me in the counseling office.

All best,

Stephani Cave, LCPC

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