



January 7, 2012
Volume 57, Issue 1

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Pastoral Relations Committee

The purpose of a Pastoral Relations Committee is to act as channel of communication between the pastor and the congregation as a whole. Wakonda members are invited to share with this committee any concerns, questions or issues that you believe would be best addressed in this confidential format. Please feel free to contact any of the following persons presently serving on Tom Webster's Pastoral Relations Committee.

- Earl Bridgewater 285-5258
- Katie Gahman 238-0302
- Dave Hawkins 285-7229
- Larry Scott 681-2711
- Gary Thompson 287-4279

WAKONDA NEWS

Tom's Toolbox for Christians at Work

“Resolve, Renew, Rededicate”

I network and post regularly on Facebook. Over the New Year's weekend I read many posts about new beginnings people want to make in their lives. I also read many posts offering suggestions for others to change their lives.

The New Year offers the perfect time to make changes and new beginnings. Our church is making a new beginning as we have called our new Associate Minister, Tristan Orozco. I look forward to working with him starting January 4th.

Personally I am renewing my commitment to read the bible daily with God Sightings, resolving to blog God Sightings regularly, and rededicating my efforts in diet and exercise. I am also challenging myself to read at least one book a week, and spend more time in recreation with family and friends. None of these decisions are new, but this past year I have not placed enough value on them.

Sharing these personal commitments with you will help me make them real. Encouragement and accountability are key elements in successful change. I encourage everyone to consider what they would like their life to look like and what changes they need to make to get them there. Then if we share our choices with others they can help support us in our efforts.

The most important key to our success is in our spiritual life. God continually gives us a means to start life anew. God is a God of new beginnings. Paul tells us how. “What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!” (2 Corinthians 5:17 New Living Translation)

The youth have a spiritual retreat weekend called Chrysalis. One weekend a young man shared with me that when his father died so did his relationship with God. He began the weekend feeling empty, but by the second day his spirit was renewed and his life restored. The comfort of God's love filled the young man's heart and he made a new beginning.

When we feel dead to the joy of living, we too can receive new life through a renewed relationship with God. Christ recreates us and refreshes our souls. We can make a new beginning any time, but the first of the year seems to be one of those important transition times that help us start fresh.

Take a moment right now and open a bible to Psalm 51. Read and pray this Psalm and ask God to cleanse and renew our spirit. The best way to start a new year is to make a new beginning in our relationship with God.



I would also suggest attending a Walk to Emmaus, an adult version of Chrysalis, to help make that new beginning. The Walk to Emmaus offers today's disciples an opportunity to rediscover Christ's presence in their lives, gain fresh understanding of God's transforming grace, and to form friendships that foster faith and support spiritual maturity. Emmaus provides a pathway to the mountaintop of God's love.

On an Emmaus weekend we re-experience God's grace through rich worship services, stimulating talks and table discussion, and other expressions of God's love. One does not have to go on a Walk to Emmaus to make a new beginning, but how successful have we been making a fresh start on our own?

If you are interested contact me soon for more information. The next weekends are February 2nd – 5th for men and February 9th – 12 for women. Resolve, renew, and rededicate, and I will see you in church! Remember! God loves you more than you could ever imagine and so do I!

Tom

Note from Tristan...

Hello friends,
Let me be honest: I was totally, completely, unabashedly pumped to get Tom's phone call letting me know of your decision to call me to Wakonda! Ever since I stumbled upon WCC (and Tom) at a Prepare/Enrich training, you've been in my thoughts and prayers increasingly. I've heard more about your hopes and vision for what WCC can become, as well as your deep commitment to these people and that place as it is now. And as I've joined your conversations, the wheels have begun turning on my own thoughts, dreams, and planning for our (!) church. I am so very grateful to be using the first person plural out loud at last.

As you may (or may not) know, I started *officially* on January 4, but I have been floating in and out of the building a bit beforehand. I'm too excited not to, and frankly, the sooner we can get my office up and running, the quicker we can start the process of learning how to do church together. When you do see me, please give me the great gift of re-introducing yourselves! I very much look forward to grabbing a bite to eat or a cup of coffee with you, getting to know you, your stories, and your households. Until then, I'll be trying to figure out what a Lincoln Railsplitter is. I'm only half-kidding.

Ok, since my assignment was to "introduce" myself to you, here are the broad strokes: I've moved around a lot, but if pressed, I'd identify as being from Los Angeles. I graduated from Arizona State and the University of Chicago Divinity School (and my office will certainly have a lot of maroon in it as a result. I suspect that's ok for the Lincoln folks among you.). I live downtown in a loft that is twice as cool as I am, and I can throw a pretty mean spiral. How this will translate to this indoor volleyball league I signed up for, I can't say.

Oh, and for those of you on Facebook, you can track me down and "friend" me. I have 508 "friends" now, so I have at least one metric to quantify how friendly y'all turn out to be. Hah! Even typing up this 400 word essay is amping up my blood pressure. I cannot wait to get started!

Peace be with you,
Tristan

January Anniversaries

25 years: Kevin & Bonita Clark
1 year: Linda & Mason Shoemaker



Nine to Dine

The Nine to Dine program is an opportunity for the adult members of the Wakonda Christian Church to be partnered together for fellowship, food and fun. Groups of 9 are organized and the groups get together once a month in February, March, April and May for an activity of their choosing. Past activities have included pot lucks, card and board game night, going to a show or a play, picnics, sporting events or nature hikes.

Please complete the enrollment form including how many people you are enrolling for (self and spouse, friend, significant other). Enrollment will go through January 22nd. Please sign up today to be a part of this wonderful experience!

NAME(S) _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Brought to you by the *Membership Enrichment Committee*. If you have questions or want more information please feel free to contact Pam Barth or Jean Williams.

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year at Wakonda Preschool will be open to Wakonda Christian Church members from January 16-20, 2012. Registration will open to the General Public on Saturday, January 21st from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Preschool hallway. Our program is sponsored by the Wakonda Christian Church. Through exposure to developmentally appropriate learning situations and tools with which to learn, we attempt to provide an atmosphere that will help your child to grow socially, physically and intellectually. Our goal is to provide a Christian atmosphere of warmth, understanding, and caring: a place for your child to be that special, unique person that God so lovingly created, and a place where learning is fun as well as meaningful. A place where children can learn how to make a friend, and how to be one!

Wakonda Preschool offers classes for children ages two, three, four, and five years old. All three, four, and five year olds must be potty-trained. Below are the options to register for at each age level.

2 year olds		Wednesday a.m.
\$60 a month	(Must be 2 by June 1, 2012)	
3 year olds		Mon/Wed a.m.
\$105 a month	(Must be 3 by Sept. 15, 2012)	
3 year olds		Tues/Thurs a.m.
\$105 a month		
3 year olds		Mon/Tues/Wed p.m.
\$105 a month		
Pre-K I		Mon, Tues, Wed a.m.
\$120 a month	(Must be 4 by Sept. 15, 2012)	
Pre-K II		Mon. Tues, Wed, Thurs a.m.
\$160 a month		
Pre-K I		Mon, Tues, Wed p.m.
\$120 a month		
Pre-K II		Mon, Tues, Wed p.m.
\$120 a month		

All a.m. classes meet from 9:00 - 11:15 a.m.
All p.m. classes meet from 12:30 - 2:45 p.m.

A registration fee of \$90.00 must accompany the registration form for new students. Of the \$90, \$50 is non-refundable and \$40 will be credited towards your first month's tuition. A registration fee of \$80.00 is required of those students who have been previously enrolled. Of the \$80, \$40 is non-refundable and \$40 will be credited towards your first month's tuition. **After May 16, 2012 the entire registration fee is non-refundable.**

Registration as listed above is on a first come, first serve opportunity. Please contact the Preschool office (285.8401) for a simple Registration form to fill out or go to www.wakondapreschool.com and download the form under the Registration tab. Your deposit is due at the time of Registration by check or online through our secure payment system on our website. You will receive a confirmation letter by January 23rd to inform you of which section your child has been enrolled in. If you have any questions, please call the Preschool office at 285-8401 or email me at jodyhufford@wakondapreschool.com.

Thank you for your interest in Wakonda Preschool for your child's early childhood education.

God Sightings Bible Reading Schedule from the One Year Bible

Week 2 January 8-14
Genesis 18:16-31:16
Matthew 6:25-10:23
Psalms 8-12
Proverbs 2:6-3:15

Week 3 January 15-21
Genesis 31:17-43:34
Matthew 31:17-43:34
Psalms 13:1-18:36
Proverbs 3:16:-4:10



Prayer Concerns

New Associate Minister – Tristan Orozco
Donna Drottz – (friend of Loretta Quinnett) health concerns
Melanie Friend – Jack & Peggy Copic’s daughter, heart valve replacement
Jeff Gowen – battle with diabetes
Bruce & Vickie Gowen’s Daughter Remy – health concerns during pregnancy
Vickie Gowen – cancer has returned but localized in one area
Harold & Melba Haberthur – (parents of Randy) health concerns
Robyn Hinders’ friend, Dustin & his family – 2-year old daughter starting 2.5 years of chemo for treatment of leukemia
Sandra Jones – (Tom Webster’s sister) health concerns
Susan Karimi – prayers for her and family (daughter of Carla Kennedy)
Gene & Nancy Koll’s friend’s 4-year old daughter, Camryn Storbek – In treatment for cancer
Jim LaFon – sister, Debbie – Receiving chemo and radiation treatment for stage 3 cancer
George Mickesh – Diagnosed with Alzheimers and as having had a series of small strokes
Mabel Mott’s niece, Corine Webb – cancer; Susie Marshall – needs a lung transplant;
Barb Munsell – health concerns
Dorothy Nehls – Jim Becker’s sister, surgery for breast cancer
Max Reckling – health concerns; dad, Milton – In treatment for mini-stroke and Alzheimer’s
Linda Shoemaker’s mother – health concerns
Ryan Rolly Steinhauser – health concerns from birth
Virginia Steinhauser – health concerns from giving birth to Ryan
Marilyn Strawn – friend of Pastor Tom, in hospice with cancer
Gary Thompson Sr. – health concerns
Virginia Thompson’s brother, Virgil Rice – recovery from surgery
Peg Violett’s son, Kipp – inoperable brain tumor, has been accepted at MD Anderson Cancer Clinic in TX and has 1st appt. 1/3 possibility chemo & radiation may work
Bob Wallace – heart condition
Marge Wallace – health concerns
Peggy Wise’s son – shoulder surgery
Churches in our Region – (changing weekly) First Christian Church, Creston, Iowa; First Christian Church, Mankato, Minnesota
Those who are unemployed, those with mental illness (i.e. depression) and/or addictions and related illnesses
Those who are serving in military service
Gloria Marshall’s SIL, Jeff Strong – deployed to Afghanistan

Address Changes

Thom & Brenda Powell
1651 Wetherby Dr. Iowa City IA 52240

Stronger Congregations Make a Stronger Region!

On January **ONE** a new year begins again. People make promises and set goals. Many fall by the wayside before February **ONE** but some do not and that is my emphasis in this short article. **SOME** do not! Even if only **ONE** new goal or promise is realized it will be an amazing year!

So I SAY...

- Dream up **ONE** new ministry in your congregation and make it happen
- Invite at least **ONE** new person to come experience the Good News shared in worship each week.
- Discover **ONE** more gift in yourself that God has given you.
- Change **ONE** person’s life simply telling them that you believe in them.
- Find **ONE** (or more) person(s) in your congregation you don’t know and sit with them in worship.
- Seek out **ONE** (DOC) congregation nearby and do at least **ONE** thing together.
- Send **ONE** more camper to Church Camp this year.
- Encourage **ONE** individual to consider becoming a minister.
- Give **ONE** more dollar to a cause/ministry that you believe makes a difference.

And specifically I say...

- To all laity promise to discover **ONE** thing your minister does or has done and let them know how much you appreciate it.
- To all clergy promise to relook at every member of the congregation and lift up **ONE** gift they have to offer.
- May the **ONE** who made new promises to us around a table with hope that we would be **ONE**, bring you great encouragement this year!

Blessings – BSD
Bill Spangler-Dunning
Regional Minister & President



Whats Happening at Wakonda

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship 4:30 p.m. God Sightings	9 5:30 p.m. Aerobics 10:30 p.m. AA	10 5:30 p.m. Aerobics 6:30 p.m. Disciples Class 10:30 p.m. AA	11 6:00 p.m. W@W 6:30 p.m. Property Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. C.E. Meeting 10:30 p.m. AA	12 9:30 a.m. Silver Crowns Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. - Aerobics 6:00 p.m. - T.O.P.S. 6:30 p.m. Alpha Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Total Praise Rehearsal 8:00 p.m. Omega Rehearsal 10:30 p.m. - AA	13 12:00 p.m. Newsletter Deadline 10:30 p.m. - AA	14 9:30 a.m. Aerobics
15 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship 4:30 p.m. God Sightings	16 5:30 p.m. Aerobics 10:30 p.m. AA	17 5:30 p.m. Aerobics 6:30 p.m. Disciples Class 10:30 p.m. AA	18 6:00 p.m. W@W 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting 10:30 p.m. AA	19 9:30 a.m. Silver Crowns Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. - Aerobics 6:00 p.m. - T.O.P.S. 6:30 p.m. Alpha Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Total Praise Rehearsal 8:00 p.m. Omega Rehearsal 10:30 p.m. - AA	20 10:30 p.m. - AA	21 9:30 a.m. Aerobics
22 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship 4:30 p.m. God Sightings	23 5:30 p.m. Aerobics 10:30 p.m. AA	24 5:30 p.m. Aerobics 6:30 p.m. Disciples Class 10:30 p.m. AA	25 6:00 p.m. W@W 10:30 p.m. AA	26 9:30 a.m. Silver Crowns Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. - Aerobics 6:00 p.m. - T.O.P.S. 6:30 p.m. Alpha Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Total Praise Rehearsal 8:00 p.m. Omega Rehearsal 10:30 p.m. - AA	27 12:00 p.m. Newsletter Deadline 10:30 p.m. - AA	28 9:30 a.m. Aerobics
29 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship 4:30 p.m. God Sightings	30 5:30 p.m. Aerobics 10:30 p.m. AA	31 5:30 p.m. Aerobics 6:30 p.m. Disciples Class 10:30 p.m. AA	February 1 6:00 p.m. W@W 10:30 p.m. AA	2 9:30 a.m. Silver Crowns Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. - Aerobics 6:00 p.m. - T.O.P.S. 6:30 p.m. Alpha Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Total Praise Rehearsal 8:00 p.m. Omega Rehearsal 10:30 p.m. - AA	3 10:30 p.m. - AA	4 9:30 a.m. Aerobics



Wakonda Christian Church
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Des Moines, IA 50321-2121

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Treasurer: John Dowell, johndowell@wakondacc.com
Office Administrator: Kris Fitzgerald, krisfitzgerald@wakondacc.com
Interim Choir Director: Kira Thye, kirathye@wakondacc.com
Interim Choir Director: Glenda Kernen
Organist: Larry Conn
Phone Number: 285-8394

