

# HARVEST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

OCTOBER 2009

## *A Great Group of Hard Workers!*

A huge 'THANK YOU' goes out to everyone who helped out with our All-Church Work Day on October 4th!

As you'll see from the pictures, we were able to accomplish many jobs. These included cleaning and sanitizing tables, chairs, and classrooms; cleaning and reorganizing the kitchen; taking out a dead tree; cleaning the carpet in Fellowship Hall; continuing to improve the playground; and grooming the property.

What was especially impressive was the incredible amount of hard work our kids did, including scrubbing walls and picking up nails and metal debris by the bucketful—they were pretty amazing!

You'll also notice that we had men hard at work on the overhang of the main entryway. Recently the Facility Board (composed of Branson Hills and Harvest members) approved a project to tear down the existing entryway,

which was in very poor condition, and replace it with a higher, safer and more eye-appealing structure. Due to all the steel beams and related attachments, this will take some time and hard work, but please be patient through the process, as it will be well worth the effort.

Again, special thanks to all who were able to stay and help—we appreciate you!!



Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 4:32-5:2

## LOOKING AHEAD:

- 10/16-18:  
Men's Retreat
- 10/18:  
Vroman Family Visit, Youth Hiking, and Christmas Play Practice
- 10/24:  
Children's Harvest Party
- 10/25:  
Congregational Meeting and Youth Costume Party
- 10/27:  
Community Group Leaders Meeting
- 11/1:  
Souper Sunday and the Beginning of Advent
- 11/6-8:  
Ladies' Retreat
- 11/20-22:  
Youth Retreat

## Congregational Meeting

Sunday  
October 25th  
10:45 AM

Please join us as we review the year past and look forward to the year ahead!

We are in need of four adults to work in the Nursery and also a teacher for the 5-6 year olds class.

If you are able to help, please contact Jodi Stone.



**Congratulations to our Newlyweds...**

Evan & Paige (Dunn) Ray

George & Tiffany (Nalley) Stevens

Andrew & Emily (Crow) Whitley

May God richly bless your marriage!

We don't necessarily need more to be thankful for, but rather we need to be more thankful.



**Children's Ministry**

The 4th - 6th grade girls had a wonderful day of shopping, eating out and painting pottery with Lindsay Wisley and Jodi Stone last month. The girls created their own fashion show with beautiful dresses from J.C. Penney and spent a great deal of time laughing and enjoying their time together!



We are planning a **Fall Harvest Party** for the kids on Saturday, October 24th. The fun will begin at

6:30 PM...so feed them supper and then bring them to the church for a great evening of Fall Fun!!!



Our experience last year was so positive, that we are excitedly planning another **Children's Christmas Play**. The play is tentatively scheduled for December 13 @ 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in your children participating, please let Jodi know.



Parents: Please mark your calendars for these events:

- **October 18** - Christmas play practice 6:15 - 7:30
- **October 24** - Fall Harvest Party 6:30-8:30
- **November 15** - Christmas play practice 6:15 - 7:30
- **December 12** - Christmas play practice 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.
- **December 13** - Christmas play at 6:30

**God's Mission in Wakpala**

**A Summer of Communicating**

You may have missed him this summer. Our Youth Director, Bill Gebhart, spent the entire summer serving in Wakpala, South Dakota on the Standing Rock Reservation. In addition to leading our normal summer mission trip, Bill spent the summer helping Pastor King and Sioux Assembly in developing a vision for the ministry in Wakpala, as well as opening communications between the congregation, the community, and all involved in this mission.

Wednesday night congregational meetings took Sioux Assembly through the process of vision casting for the church and the ministry. Bill led them through many discussions about what the church is, why the church is there, what they are called to do, and how they are going to do it. The purpose and vision of the church is now proudly displayed in the church fellowship

hall. This newly-found vision led the congregation to clothing and school supplies give-a-ways and looking into opening the building for AA meetings.

Bill also helped Pastor King develop a monthly newsletter to be sent to all partners of Sioux Assembly to keep them informed of all the happenings in Wakpala. This newsletter is sent to about 50 partners and churches and was very well received. It contains community information, ministry information, and a special greeting from Pastor King.

The first-ever youth group in Wakpala was also another focus of Bill's summer mission. Equipping and training Eugene Lafromboise to lead this group of teens proved to be an easy task. The group's numbers started at about 6 teens and ballooned to 31 by the end of the summer. A core group of 10 teens led the group through many fun meetings and events. Events for the youth group included: movie nights, lake

days, kickball games and activities at Impact Ministries. Bill also coordinated the addition of computers and internet service at the church for the youth. Eugene has since been running the youth group of about 17 teens in many activities and Bible Studies. He has recruited help from the high school seniors in the community as well. The youth group continues to provide a fun, safe place for teens to hang out in Wakpala.

The summer was tough for Bill being far from Harvest and his support system, but his involvement in the community of Wakpala has left a mark on the ministry there and has connected us even more to our family in South Dakota.

Please continue to pray for the people of Wakpala as well as the Sioux Assembly of God Church leadership and members.

**God's Mission Around the World**

**Zaragoza, Mexico:** A team of people from Harvest will be travelling to Zaragoza over Thanksgiving week. Details of this trip are still being finalized, but please be in prayer for the individuals who are going. Also, please pray for the people of Zaragoza and the church

there. Zaragoza Mission Trip participants are Mark & Patrick Hubbard, Ponce Ortiz, Bob & Alice Snyder and Elisha Stenzel. We will receive a special offering at the end of October to help fund the trip and to send some supplies down with them.



The Vroman family will be visiting Harvest on October 18th. They have been in the US since March and are returning overseas in January. Please welcome Mathew, Diane, Mattie, Betty, Anna and new baby Marie Sevim.

## God's Mission in Southwest Missouri

Manowc is an after-school program in Rockaway Beach designed to help youth who are interested in following Jesus Christ.

Harvest attendees Aaron and Carrie Clark are actively involved in this ministry. Currently ten students participate in the program.

Manowc includes a teaching time, where the students focus

on the characteristics of God in the biblical story. In addition, leaders and C of O students help the students with their homework.

Once a month, Manowc members participate in a service project, the first of which was picking up trash in the Rockaway Park.



As part of the program, dinner is served, provided by members of Harvest.

If you would like to be involved in this ministry in any way, please feel free to contact Aaron or Carrie.

## Men's & Women's Ministries

**\*\*LAST CALL, MEN\*\***

**Harvest Men's Retreat**  
**October 16-18**  
**Steel Creek Campground**  
**Arkansas**

The special guest speaker will be Chris Zervas, and delicious food will be provided by Chuckwagon Chef Joe Baker! The cost is only

\$30 for all this fun, so don't miss out, guys! See Steve Hamm or Rob Marshall to register... October 11<sup>th</sup> is the deadline.



**Ladies Fall Retreat**  
**November 6-8**

Beginning mid-October, registration forms will be available for the women's retreat being held at the Hamms' Ranch in Alpena, Arkansas. This is a great time of rest, relaxation, and renewal. Be sure to save the date!!!

## JUMP (Youth Grades 7-12)

### SEEKING SPONSORS

The Harvest Youth Group is looking for Youth Sponsors! What is a Youth Sponsor, you ask? A Youth Sponsor is someone who comes and hangs out with the wonderful Harvest Youth Group on a regular basis. We are looking for people to not only come and lend a helping hand during youth activities but who are also committed to the spiritual growth and development of Harvest Jr. High and High School age teens. If you are interested in getting involved but either don't know how or are concerned about the time commitment, then this is the perfect stepping stone and opportunity to be a part of this ministry. Youth Sponsors are not expected to come to every activity, so the amount of time spent at youth functions is entirely up to the individual. We would love to have you come and join us for fun, friendship and fellow-

ship. For more details please contact: Bill Gebhart, Hillary Bargman, Brendon Rapinchuk, or Marcia Emsheimer.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Oct 9-10: Thunderstorm Retreat

The Thunderstorm (youth leadership team) will be heading down to the Hamm's Ranch to kick off the year of training youth to be leaders. We will be discussing our new study and serving the Hamm's ranch by helping them out with various tasks that need to be done. We will leave from church at 5pm Friday and will return Saturday afternoon.

#### Oct 18: Hiking Trip

Put on your hiking boots or tennis shoes and join us for a fun afternoon!

#### Oct 25: Costume Party

We are having our annual costume party. Our theme this year is Old Time Hootenanny. We will be dressing up like peo-

ple well advanced in years and enjoy such games as the Broken Hip Hop. The event will be starting at 6PM at the church and will end at approximately 8:15.

#### **November 20-22:**

#### JUMP Youth Retreat

The theme for this year is "IN REAL LIFE." The goal of the weekend is to focus on what it means to be men and women of faith and character in real life. On Friday, the youth will be loading up and heading down to the Rockin' Z Ranch in Alpena, Arkansas for a weekend of fun, fellowship and faith. All youth in grades 7th through 12th are invited to attend. The cost will be \$55 per person and all forms will be due by the first Sunday in November. More information will be given during youth events throughout October. If you have comments or questions, please contact a D-team member.

## HARVEST TEACHING SCHEDULE

Oct 11: Jesus Tells Parables of the Kingdom: Wheat and Weeds  
 Matthew 13:24-43  
 Justin Carswell

Oct 18: Jesus Tells Other Parables of the Kingdom  
 Matthew 13:44-58  
 Eric Bolger

Oct 25: Herod Fears Jesus  
 Matthew 14:1-12  
 Gary Hiebsch

Nov 1: Jesus Feeds 5000  
 Matthew 14:13-21  
 Justin Carswell

*Please consider reading through these Scriptures each week and praying for the individual who will be sharing God's Word with our congregation.*

## Community Groups

Our community groups are off and running for the fall with many new participants. Community Groups provide a great opportunity to fellowship with one another in a smaller setting. The groups vary in age, interest, meeting date/time, etc., so check out one or two or more and see where you fit best! If you would like more info on available groups, call or e-mail the church office. Also, Community Group Leaders, please mark your calendars for a planning meal at the Rapinchuk Home on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM.

## HARVEST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

### Staff Members

Staff Elder	Eric Bolger
Worship	Allison Hamm <i>(Brandon Bliss currently on leave)</i>
Youth	Bill Gebhart
Children's Min.	Jodi Stone
Admin. Asst.	Julie Marine
Church Admin.	Dori Rapinchuk

We're on the web  
at:  
[www.harvestefc.org](http://www.harvestefc.org)

### *Annual Congregational Meeting/Board Nominees*

Please plan to join us on Sunday morning, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:45 AM, for our annual meeting. During this time, we will update you on what our boards have been doing over the past year, welcome new members, vote for new board members, approve a 2010 budget, share what's in store for the coming year, and answer any questions you may be pondering. Following is a list of proposed nominees for board positions. If you have any questions or concerns regarding any nominees, please contact Eric Bolger or Dori Rapinchuk.

**Elder Board nominees:** Tim Allen, Floyd Benda, Steve Hamm, Mark Rapinchuk

**Deacon Board nominees:** David Lingner, Wayne Newcome, Casey Chambers

**Mission Board nominees:** none

**Facility Board nominee:** Fran Forman

**Treasurer nominee:** Lance High

**Secretary nominee:** Hillary Bargman

### *Announcing: New Souper Sunday Teams*

We are excited to introduce you to our new team leaders, who will be heading up Souper Sundays! While Dori will still coordinate this ministry, the following couples will be forming teams that plan and serve the Souper Sunday meals. Each team will be responsible for only three (3) meals per year. The team leaders are:

\*Rod & Donna Hanley

\*Pat & Ed Cohan

\*Kate & Nick Fried

\*Zach & Ann-Victoria Kuenzle

If you are interested in serving on a Souper Sunday team, please contact one of these team leaders and let them know. It is a great way to be involved in the life of your church and a lot of fun, too!

If you have suggestions for the next newsletter, or if you have questions regarding any information contained in this newsletter, please contact Dori Rapinchuk at [drapinchuk@yahoo.com](mailto:drapinchuk@yahoo.com) or 417-598-0541.