

HARVEST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

AUGUST 2010

A Trip through Time to Egypt - 2010 VBS

Harvest's VBS, held July 12-15th, provided children with the opportunity to travel to Egypt! Over 50 children attended this year's VBS, where they experienced *Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace*.

The children ate "Egyptian" food, played cool games, made fun Egyptian crafts, met "Joseph," and sang praises at the top of their lungs! During this time together, they learned about abandonment, love, mercy and forgiveness.

It was an incredible week, with lots of excitement and growth. They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so check these out...



Thank you to all who helped by decorating, teaching, supplying food, praying, and sending their children!

Headed to Zaragoza

Mark Hubbard, Gary Hiebsch and Ponce Ortiz will be in Zaragoza, Mexico, July 31 through August 6.

During this time, they will be coordinating an agricultural project with the Divino Salvador Church and will provide the church with teaching on the family.

The church in Zaragoza has a tremendous heart for reaching out to those in need,

whether they be from their church body or the surrounding communities. Our special offering collected on July 25th will help them financially in their efforts to meet some of the health needs they encounter.

Please keep the team in your prayers for travel safety, health, and spiritual protection as they seek to minister to this community.



Divino Salvador Church
Zaragoza, Mexico

LOOKING AHEAD:

August 1:

- *Souper Sunday
- *Children's Grad Party at Water Chute—
Meet at church 9 AM
- *Youth Ultimate Frisbee at C of O— 6 PM

August 6-7:

Youth Float Trip

August 7:

- Baby Shower for Susan Flores-11 AM—Erica Marshall's Home

August 8:

Children move to new classes

August 17:

WTTH (Women's Gathering) —6:30 PM at Ann-Victoria's home

August 29:

5th Sunday Morning AND Evening Service (9 AM & 6 PM)

September 5:

Souper Sunday & Ministry Fair

September 12:

Lake Baptism & BBQ

EQUIPPING HOUR

Continuing through August, we will offer two adult classes at 10:45 AM.

Barnabas will focus on discussing the morning's sermon in further detail. This class meets downstairs.

Timothy will continue their study of apologetics and will meet in the upstairs office area. Classes are also provided for children and youth. Please join us!



YOUTH EVENTS

Jr. & Sr. High Students - Be sure to mark your calendar so you don't miss these great events:

August 1

Ultimate Frisbee
6 PM at C of O

August 6-7

Annual Float Trip
Leave from church at 5:30pm, return Saturday around 7 pm, cost is 35 dollars, need form in by Aug 1st

August 22

Back 2 School Bash
6PM at Church

August 29

Lake Day
11 AM—Moonshine

Also, don't forget Wednesday evening Discovery Study and alternating Thursday Guys' Night & Girls' Night!

Questions?

Contact Bill, Hillary, Brendon or Marcia

Year 7 in Wakpala

On Friday, June 4th, 22 of our youth and adults headed out to the Standing Rock Reservation for the seventh year in a row. Following a stop in Sioux Falls, where another member joined the group and everyone spent the night, the team arrived in Mobridge, South Dakota.

Although the plan was to conduct VBS in both Wakpala and McLaughlin, God had other plans in store, which the team discovered on Sunday when the McLaughlin group canceled their VBS plans. This change, however, ended up being very positive for our team, as Wakpala had about 25 kids attend the first day of VBS, and the numbers continued to climb daily.

Our "Super Olympics" theme for VBS was very well received!

Teams were formed, and the Harvest Youth made personally-designed t-shirts for each child in attendance. Through the "team" aspect, kids bonded with one another and their team leaders in a more personal way than they have in the past. Teams earned points for learning memory verses, bringing friends, winning crazy games, and answering questions about the lessons taught each day. The winning team's picture was taken and posted for display the next day—creating much excitement.

Each day, as VBS was finishing up, another 25 or so children (who

were attending summer school), would have the bus drop them off at the church, and they would spend the remainder of the afternoon with the Harvest team playing games and hanging out.

Meals are also a HUGE part of the ministry. Each day lunch would be

providing friendship and encouragement to the church's leadership.

Year 7 was a great trip! Harvest Youth stepped up and did a fantastic job throughout every aspect of the long, busy days. We have a FANTASTIC array of servant-leaders in our Youth Group!



2010 Wakpala Team Members

served prior to VBS, and supper was served daily to about 75-80 children and adults. You would not believe the amount of food these kids can consume!! Sometimes they are just hungry from a busy day, but often the kids are unsure when their next meal might be, so they tend to "stock up" whenever they can.

In addition to VBS and meals, our ministry to the Sioux Assembly of God Church this year also included installing a security video monitoring system to hopefully reduce vandalism, repainting the sanctuary, constructing additional storage facilities, teaching in the Sunday service, and

We thank God for safety, provision, and the opportunity to minister to the community of Wakpala. Special thanks also go out to all who supported this trip through food, finances and prayer—we couldn't have done it without you!

Please continue to keep the Wakpala community and Sioux Assembly of God Church leaders in your prayers. Also, begin praying how God may use you in the coming years to invest in the lives of the young people in Wakpala.

Catechesis

Coming this fall...Catechesis! Catechesis is the church's historic ministry of grounding believers in their faith. At Harvest, we are committing to regular and purposeful opportunities for learning and practicing together the essential truths of the Christian faith.

Our "catechesis" will focus on discipleship of all ages (children through adults) and across all spectrums, as we seek to tie together what is taught in the worship service with our Equipping Hour, Community Groups, and other growing opportunities.

We will be kicking off our catechesis emphasis on September 5th, and we encourage you to prayerfully consider making a commitment to check out the many opportunities that will be available to become better grounded in your faith.



OPTIONS BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

Please join us in supporting Options Pregnancy Center by picking up a baby bottle from the table in the lobby, filling it with loose change, and returning it to church by Sunday, August 29th.

JUMP IN—Harvest Ministry Fair—September 5th

They say, “it takes a village to raise a child.” Well, in a similar vein, *it takes a congregation to build a strong church.*

As you are likely aware, Harvest does not have full-time staff members to “do all the work;” we rely instead on the volunteer efforts of our congregation, in partnership with our part-time staff, to build and strengthen the Harvest body.

We are excited to offer a great opportunity—Harvest’s Ministry Fair—where you can see the many areas and aspects of service in which our congregation is currently involved. The fair will highlight not only current activities, but will share information that allows you to have a better understanding of our church and an opportunity to consider how you might best use the gifts and talents God has

You're invited to... **JUMP IN!!**

Harvest Ministry Fair
Sunday, September 5th

No matter your age, size, shape or interests, check out the many opportunities to “JUMP IN” and get involved:

- ◆ Community Groups
- ◆ Equipping Hour
- ◆ Service

Watch for more details to follow!

given you to further build our body and reach out to our community and world.

The ministry fair will be offered in conjunction with Souper Sunday on September 5th – so plan to **JUMP IN!**

Community Groups

As we approach the beginning of yet another school year, here at Harvest we also start thinking about gearing up for another year of fellowship in Community Groups. Being involved regularly with other believers is an important – and fulfilling – part of our spiritual formation.

Please prayerfully consider your involvement in a Community Group for this year – we have many groups waiting to welcome you into their fellowship, and we will also create new groups as needed.

Some more thoughts to ponder . . . an excerpt from “Small Groups as Community” by Sandra Van Opstal in the Small Group Leader’s Handbook, copyright 2009 by InterVarsity Press. www.ivpress.org

“A Christian I know recently told me that he doesn’t need to go to church to live out his faith in Jesus. He reads Scripture, prays, sees a spiritual mentor, and actively engages in mission, but he does not

need to be involved regularly with other believers. I was sad for him because he was missing out on a meaningful group experience, but I also needed to correct him: Jesus does not only call us to himself; he calls us to be a part of a community.

Community has become popular in this faith generation. I think there is an unspoken rule that it has to be in every organization’s mission statement. But it’s not at all clear from organization to organization, from person to person, what we expect to see when that mission is accomplished. What exactly do we mean by community? Why Do We Get Together?

The word community has its roots in Latin and means “common, public, shared by all or many.” A community is a unified group of people who share common circumstances, beliefs and values, and who look for ways to embrace (or work through) their differences.

But we breathe the air of individualism. Modern society values independence above almost any-

thing else. When I was a corporate trainer at a Fortune 500 company, I actually taught associates in the company to think in terms of WIIFM (What’s in it for me?). In doing so, I contributed to this idea that life is for each individual, in opposition to being for one another. Community becomes a means to an end—more about what we can gain from one another than what we contribute to our collective experience. Such a distorted perspective demands a more compelling vision of true community. A Christian community is a community because it is unified, though not primarily by circumstance or even by values or beliefs. A Christian community, as the apostle Paul suggests, is unified by our common life in Christ.

You are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built

HARVEST TEACHING SCHEDULE

August 1

Matt. 26:36-75
Jesus’ Passion: Pt II
Mark Rapinchuk

August 8

Matt. 27:1-66
Jesus’ Passion: Pt III
Eric Bolger

August 15

Matt. 28:1-15
Jesus is Resurrected
Eric Bolger

August 22

Prayer Service
Eric Bolger

August 29

Matt. 28:16-20
Jesus Commissions His Disciples
Gary Hiebsch

DID YOU KNOW?

If you miss a Sunday, you can listen to the sermon online by visiting www.harvestefc.org.

together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:19-22)

Paul uses collective language, giving the Ephesian church a picture of a beautiful building with Christ as the cornerstone—the most important weight-bearing stone in the building. This vision is vivid and exciting: we can imagine what we are becoming. We are together being built together as a people in which God’s Spirit can dwell. ”

More specific information about Community Groups will be available at our Harvest Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 5th, or you may contact Amy Wescott at amywescott@tri-lakes.net or 339-2064 for more information.

HARVEST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

Staff Members

Staff Elder	Eric Bolger
Worship	Allison Hamm
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

CONGRATULATIONS



to
Elisha Stenzel
and
Brendon Rapinchuk
who were recently
engaged!
A December wedding is
being planned.

Women's Ministries Opportunities

Looking for an opportunity to build some friendships and have a little time away from your normal routine? If so, check out these opportunities to enjoy the company of Harvest women (and feel free to bring along a friend or two as well):

- ◆ The Third Tuesday of each month is "**WTTH**" (Women's Third Tuesday Hangout – 6:30 PM) at the home of Ann-Victoria Kuenzle. This is a very relaxed environment in which you can just sit a visit over a little dessert and a cup of coffee or coke. "Come as you can; leave when you must" is the motto of this event. Call A-V at 230-9495 for more info or directions to her home.
- ◆ September 20, 6:30 PM – **Ladies Night Out** at the Olive Garden – Join us for dinner, a coke, or dessert – whatever your budget allows – for an evening of fun and fellowship.
- ◆ November 5-7 – **Ladies Fall Retreat** – Mark your calendar and save your pennies. This will be a great weekend away that you won't want to miss! Ladies of all ages are invited! More details will follow!



5th Sunday—August 29th

This past year we experimented by holding an "evening only" service during those months in which we had a "5th" Sunday. After personally surveying a number of members and discussing the matter in several board meetings, we have decided to *try something a little different*. On August 29th, we will hold a **morning service and an evening service**. The evening service will begin at **6 PM** followed by a "coffee bar" time of fellowship. We encourage you to "check it out" and let us know what you think! Your input is valuable to us as we seek to provide opportunities for our congregation to worship and provide avenues for inviting friends and acquaintances to join with you.

Lake Baptism & BBQ

On September 12th, we will gather at Moonshine Beach for our **annual Lake Baptism**. At 6 PM, we will meet in the pavilion for a potluck supper and then head down to the lake for baptism. Plan to bring your own meat to grill, as well as a side dish to share (chips, dessert, salad). Drinks, paper products, utensils and a hot grill will be provided! There is a \$4 per car charge...so grab a few friends, pile in a big vehicle, and come join us! If you are interested in being baptized, please see Eric Bolger or one of the Elders. If you have questions about the BBQ, please contact Dori.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A BABY SHOWER



Erica Marshall is hosting a baby shower at her home for Susan Flores on Saturday, August 7th, at 11 AM.

To RSVP and/or get directions,
please contact Erica at 417-429-7580.

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:26-28