

January 2012

The Scroll

Beloit First Christian Church...

We are forgiven sinners set free to be followers of Jesus Christ, making disciples for him of lost sinners, and growing disciples together in obeying Jesus' commands to fully express love for God and all people.

Sunday Schedule

Sunday Worship Services
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School for all ages
9:30 a.m.

Staff

Senior Pastor

Cliff Heagy
534-0770 (home/cell)
cheagy@beloitfcc.org

Associate Pastor of Caring Ministries

Dave Mealiff
738-5159 (home)
738-0039 (cell)
dmealiff@beloitfcc.org

Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries

Arick Johanson
509-607-9620 (home/cell)
ajohanson@beloitfcc.org

Office Secretary

Elaine Botka
738-3071 (office)
ebotka@beloitfcc.org

Custodian

Marilyn Kruse



in this issue

“Vision Fund” announced P. 8

Proposed Amendment P. 8

Week of Prayer Guide Sheet P. 13-14

The Same Lord Doing a New Work



*Cliff Heagy
Senior Pastor*

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the

wasteland.” (Isaiah 43:18-19)

The Lord spoke these words through the prophet Isaiah to the Jewish exiles who remembered their ancestors exodus out of Egypt, but wondered if the Lord had forgotten about them. These words were to prepare the people for a “new exodus” that would bring them back to the land.

God continues to work in new ways, in new contexts, and with amazing power and effectiveness. It’s still the same Lord who is **“the same yesterday, today, and forever,”** but He graciously brings his constant

mercies and grace in a variety of ways. I can’t think of a better passage to begin the New Year than these verses which remind us to be ready and expectant for God’s new work.

To prepare our hearts and minds for God’s new work among us, I hope you will take up the challenge of the “Week of Prayer” that we’ve designated for January 15-21. We are asking the church as a whole to engage in intentional, disciplined prayer for our church and our community by signing-up for one or more hours of prayer during those seven days. A sign-up chart is located in Fellowship Hall to coordinate the commitments to pray. Participating doesn’t mean you have to pray in the church building, just that you’ll be praying, wherever you are, during your selected time. You can sign-up in person or call the church office (738-3071) to ask about open slots. We have a prayer guide sheet available (on

(Continued on page 15)

Associate pastor of Caring Ministries



Dave Mealiff
Associate Pastor
of Caring Ministries

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Luke 4:18-19 NIV

My family and I extend our appreciation and gratitude for the many expressions of kindness we experienced during the Christmas season. Thank you very much for your thoughtful words and deeds. God bless you.

As we look forward to a new year in 2012, I am excited about the possibilities of continuing personal spiritual transformation in the lives of many Christians. God wants for us to be different because of the life of Jesus in each of us. Jesus quoted the passage written above from Isaiah that is recording in Luke 4:18-19. He proclaimed freedom from oppression and recovery from afflictions. We still need similar spiritual deliverance and recovery today.

One of the truths of the Christian spiritual journey is that we all struggle with a variety of hurts, habits and hang-ups even after we trust Jesus for salvation. Spiritual transformation is a process and we really do need one another to help us grow in Christ.

One risk of church fellowship is that we may pretend to be “perfect” when we really are not perfect. Cliff has reminded us often that we are all forgiven sinners. Jesus invites us to come to him just as we are. He does not require that we get perfect on our own first before we can grow in our relationship

with him.

Small groups that make a difference in the lives of people are safe, supportive and accepting. Confidential is a key to create an environment of transparency and honesty. God’s word has valuable truth for every temptation. The pastoral staff and I feel that God is directing us to reach out to hurting people in new ways.

With this background, I am investigating creating more new small group opportunities that would welcome and help those folks who wrestle with alcoholism, divorce, sexual abuse, codependency, domestic violence, drug addiction, sexual addiction, food addiction and gambling addiction.

I ask for your prayers as our church considers these areas of concern. I welcome your comments and ideas. I need folks to let me know your interest in some of these areas. Would you consider helping to facilitate a group like this? Would you prayerfully consider participating in a group like this?

God bless you as you count your blessings and continue your spiritual journey!

Caringly in Jesus,

Dave Mealiff

“One risk of church fellowship is that we may pretend to be ‘perfect’ when we really are not perfect.”



A New Life In Jesus Christ



Arick Johanson
Associate Pastor
of Youth Ministries

What was the last big goal you set for yourself, and what did you do to strive for it or achieve it? It's a question most of us consider every December 31st as we look forward to the changing of another year, full of new opportunities and unique challenges. I'm reminded of the new life we are given in Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, ***"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation***

has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" One of the greatest truths about being a follower of Jesus is that you're never done growing. The singular goal in Christian life is to grow into His likeness. God wants to challenge us and help us grow for the rest of our lives.

However, this spiritual growth doesn't happen without some planning and practice on our part. John Piper notes that when it comes to our most basic needs, we all plan and "take steps to see that we have enough to eat and clothes to keep us warm." He then asks, "But do we take our spiritual needs that seriously? Do we apply the same earnestness in planning to maximize our ministry as we do in planning to make a living?"

Just as Jesus took time to slip away to pray and be in the presence the Father, we also must be intentional about our spiritual needs. Bible reading, prayer, and ministry service are important activities that help stimulate spiritual growth and dependence upon God. It's similar to being an athlete or musician or artist or writer—no matter how good you are, you can continue to grow and practice and learn. However, it can be difficult to sustain any kind of momentum or discipline unless each is planned

for and faithfully practiced.

Remember, even though it's said "practice makes perfect," only Jesus can make us perfect. You can expect to experience some mistakes and failures along the way...and we can trust absolutely that Jesus' grace and mercy is greater than our failures. This allows us to move forward with boldness continually dependent upon His presence in our lives!

So as you plan your goals for this new year, remember God wants to give you a new life through Jesus, but He also wants you to continue growing as you travel the journey of faith with Jesus.

Arick Johanson
Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries

***"Spiritual growth
doesn't happen
without some
planning and
practice
on our part."***

Therefore, if anyone is in
CHRIST
a n y o n e
h e i s a n e w
CREATION
N E W
the old has gone, the new has
COME!
C h r i s t
2 C o r i n t h i a n s 5 : 1 7

Prayer List

The following are regular items on our prayer lists, each with a brief description. Use this list for your intercessory prayer.

Our Church Staff and Families:

- ◆ Cliff, Laura, Ben & Grace Krogh, Abby and Hannah Heagy
- ◆ Dave, Linda, Julie, Pamela, Sarah Jean, Daniel, Katie, Kimberly, Elsie and Heidi Mealiff
- ◆ Arick, Kacy and Mason Johanson
- ◆ Elaine, Ron, Carol Botka
- ◆ Marilyn, Pat, Kayla, Cole and Kalli Kruse.

Our Missionaries:

- ◆ Ron & Debbie Abram in Senegal, West Africa
- ◆ Russ & Etta Bauck in the Philippines
- ◆ Benjamin & Jody Baum in Guinea, West Africa
- ◆ Enrique & Blanca Colorado in Amealco, Mexico
- ◆ Harry & Robin Durgin in Colorado
- ◆ Don & Julie Flower in Paraguay
- ◆ Rich & Sara Musgrave in Amealco, Mexico
- ◆ Steve and Linda Walters in Nebraska
- ◆ Gary & Judy Woods in Kenya and Tanzania
- ◆ Disciple Heritage Fellowship
- ◆ Heart Choices/Heartbeat Pregnancy Center in Beloit

Church Family in the Nursing Home:

- ◆ Barbara Stewart
- ◆ Jeannie Baird
- ◆ Mary Ann Walker
- ◆ Thelma Slaven
- ◆ Opal Giddings

Pray for our Ministry Team Leaders:

- ◆ Vera Streit (Secretary)
- ◆ Mary Fugate (Treasurer)
- ◆ Karen Buser (Evangelism)
- ◆ Leann Wehrman (Children's Discipleship)
- ◆ Kay Simmons (Refreshment)
- ◆ Jeanette Luke (Adult Discipleship)
- ◆ Pat Adams (Hospitality)
- ◆ Carl Fugate (Missions)
- ◆ (Facility Maintenance)
- ◆ Jim Gates (Financial Stewardship)
- ◆ Renee Mason (Youth Discipleship)
- ◆ Doug Johnson (Worship)
- ◆ Gary Allen (Deacons Chairman)
- ◆ Jim Gates (Trustees)
- ◆ Kent Miller (Men's Ministries)
- ◆ Rhonda Koenig (Women's Ministries)
- ◆ Barbara Quakenbush (Historian)

“There was a man named Cornelius, a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God.”

—Acts 10:1, 2

Pray for Military Personnel:

- ◆ Casey Hackett
- ◆ Levi Porter
- ◆ Christopher Brummer
- ◆ Matt Hessenflow
- ◆ Anthony Harris
- ◆ Raul Riedel
- ◆ Evan Zilliox
- ◆ David Williams
- ◆ Christopher Coco
- ◆ Scott Williamson
- ◆ Taylor Marsh
- ◆ Paul Moncrieff
- ◆ David Goth

(Continued on page 5)

Prayer List

(Continued from page 4)

- ◆ Jason Robison
- ◆ Thomas Katsiyiannis
- ◆ Brandon Back
- ◆ Joshua Griffith
- ◆ Doug Clingman
- ◆ Weston Hlad
- ◆ Richard Shamburg
- ◆ Eric Kohler
- ◆ Altland Fraley
- ◆ Mike Haeffele
- ◆ Daniel Lee Reling
- ◆ Eric Allen
- ◆ Jesse Mudd
- ◆ William Lorenz

For the most recent and up-to-date prayer listings, please visit our web site: www.beloitfcc.org

12/18/2011

- Praise God for the advent season!
- Praise God for Brody Batchman's baptism at the 8:00 am worship service today.
- Praise God along with Scott and Angie Ahlvers as they are adopting a new baby girl, Allie
- Marie Ahlvers, born December 17, 2011.
- Praise God for the Church Sunday school Christmas program on December 11.
- Praise God for the many family gatherings planned for the Christmas holiday. Pray for safe travel for all involved in these gatherings.
- Praise God for the Next Step Mission trip to New Mexico in July, 2012.
- Pray for deliverance and victory for many who struggle with hurts, hang-ups and habits.
- Pray for Ron File and Thelma Slaven as they are

in Mitchell County Hospital.

- Pray with Janice Stouffer for Eldon Stouffer as he recovers from knee surgery at home.
- Pray for Phyllis Behrends as she recovers from knee replacement surgery at home.
- Pray for Vincent Gilmore as he anticipates possible ear surgery next week.
- Pray with Melva McGuin for Dakota McGuin as Dakota is scheduled for surgery on Tuesday, December 20.

***“So Peter
was kept in prison,
but earnest prayer
for him
was made to God
by the church.”
—Acts 12:5***

- Pray for God's ongoing touch for health concerns for Matthew Mahin, Jim Sutton, Bev Kadel, Lisa Cordel, Doris Fowler and others.

- Pray for the families of Robert Guipre, Margaret Cunningham and Larry McClintock who passed away last week. .

- Pray for the family of Melva McGuin's brother, Loren Schultz,

who passed away, Sunday, December 18, 2011, in Smith Center, KS.

12/25/2011

- Praise God for the advent season!
- Praise God for Brody Batchman's baptism last Sunday, December 18.
- Praise God along with Scott and Angie Ahlvers as they are adopting a new baby girl, Allie
- Marie Ahlvers, born December 17, 2011.
- Praise God for the Russ and Etta Bauck family being here today. Pray that God will protect, guide and provide for them during this furlough time.
- Praise God with Renee Naasz that Jesse Mudd is home from overseas military service now for some time with the family before more military service.
- Praise God for the many family gatherings

(Continued on page 6)

Finance Report

November Total Expenses	\$ 40,036.80
November Giving	\$ 32,722.67
Year to Date Giving	\$ 350,704.82
Year to Date Budgeted Expenses	\$ 353,138.95
Year to Date Total Expenses	\$ 353,786.52
Year to Date Expected Budget Needs	
11/12 of Budget	\$ 366,025.00



“For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.”

(2 Corinthians 8:12)

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- 1/1 Don Burkhart
- 1/2 Dan Reling
- 1/4 Nicholas Reling
- 1/5 Barbara Walters
- 1/8 Rex Keister
- 1/11 Aspen Davis; Greg Geyer
- 1/13 Larry Girard; Gabe Rice
- 1/14 Lori Deneke; Ellen Meyer
- 1/15 Terry Mitchell
- 1/16 Barbara Quakenbush; Reid Behrends
- 1/18 Shirley Conley
- 1/19 Marty Hughes
- 1/22 Alex Katsiyiannis; LaDonna Snyder; Alexandria Williams
- 1/23 Jason Chancellor; Mason Johanson
- 1/24 Mildred Bohnert; Jacob English; Brady Luke; Dan Staley
- 1/26 Darrell Conley; Wil Hoestje; Daniel Mealiff
- 1/27 Dustin Williams
- 1/28 Arnold Fox; Melissa Riddle



- 1/29 Gary Pingel
- 1/29 Addison Budke
- 1/30 Todd Catlin; Harold Staley
- 1/31 Keith Williams

Anniversaries:

- 1/3 Curt & Judy Christians
- 1/5 Darrell & Shirley Conley
- 1/8 Bill & Jodi File
- 1/14 Robert & Lisa Cordel
- 1/14 Don & Vera Burkhart
- 1/27 Jim & Karol Kadel

Anniversaries to Celebrate



We list those birthdays and anniversaries of which the church office is aware. If you have additions or corrections please contact Elaine at: 738-3071 or ebotka@beloitfcc.org

Cook Book Correction

Ingredients for “The Perfect Chocolate Cake” **The Perfect Chocolate Frosting**, page 207, should be:

- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup half-and-half
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, cut into tablespoons
- 2 1/2 cup confectioners’ sugar, sifted



CHURCH
COOKBOOK
Correction

Financial Stewardship Announces “Vision Fund”

At the December 4th congregational meeting, Pastor Cliff announced that the church has purchased the house at 312 N. Mill. This is the house on the south side of the parking lot that is east of the church building. The purchase price was \$45,000.00. Because of its location and availability, the Elder Board felt we should not pass up the opportunity to make this purchase.

The ministry rationale for the purchase includes both future and current uses:

Future uses:

- Property/land must be purchased when it is available, not always at the exact time it is needed. If in the future we need additional parking space, or need to build/expand, this land will be invaluable because of its adjacent location to our current property.

Current uses:

- The house provides excellent small group meeting space in its living room/dining room area. This will become increasingly important as we seek to expand ministry to the hurting. Folks who are seeking to break free from abusive/addictive/compulsive struggles take first steps in coming out of anonymity by considering participation in a small, support group. It is much easier for these people to

meet in a home setting than it is to wander through a church building, asking total strangers where their support group is meeting.

- We are blessed to have missionaries who make personal visits to our church on a regular basis. This house will enable us to host missionaries when our current mission house on Bell Street is already being used.
- We need additional storage space, and this house and its garage provide that. The garage may prove especially useful for large storage since it is insulated.

A loan for about \$44,000.00 was taken out from the Guaranty State Bank to purchase this house. In the past we have had a fund called the “Expansion Fund.” We have renamed this fund the “Vision Fund.” If you would like to help pay for this house, make your check payable to “Beloit First Christian Church” and mark “Vision Fund” on the memo portion. Hopefully, over the next year we can work toward getting most, or all, of this loan paid. Thank you for your support and participation in both current and future vision of the church.

Jim Gates
Chairman, Ministry of Financial Stewardship

Annual Church Meal and Meeting on January 15th

Sunday, January 15th, we will have a free, fellowship meal following our 10:30 a.m. worship service (serving will begin at 11:30 a.m.). You do not need a reservation to attend and enjoy this great opportunity to be better connected in friendships with one another.

Following the meal, we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting. At this meeting the annual reports from all of our various ministry teams and pastors will be disbursed, and Pastor Cliff will share some important vision initiatives for the coming year.

There will also be a congregational vote on a

proposed amendment to the church constitution. The proposed amendment is to change Article V, Section B, sub-point #4 of the constitution from: “Nine (9) voting members of the Elder Board shall constitute a quorum.” to “Nine (9) voting members of the Elder Board shall constitute a quorum, except in years when the Elder Board has fewer than 13 elected Elders serving. In such cases 70% of the total number of elected Elders shall constitute a quorum.”

If you have questions about this amendment, we encourage you to speak with any of the pastors or Elders.

December Elder Board Minutes

These minutes have not yet been formally approved, but are offered here for your information

Beloit First Christian Church Elder Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date December 18, 2011

Members Present: Aaron Adams; Bill Angell, Todd Catlin, Randy Doggett, Carl Fugate, Jim Gates, Greg Harrison, Doug Johnson, Lindy Lindblad, Tom Maxwell, Keith Portenier, Dan Reling, **Pastors**

Present Cliff Heagy, Arick Johansen, Dave Mealiff

Opening Prayer offered by Keith Portenier

Review and Approval of Elder Board Meeting

Minutes Motion by Todd Catlin to approve the minutes of the November Board meeting as written. Keith Portenier seconded the motion. Motion Passed. Motion by Jim Gates to accept the minutes of the December Congregational meeting as written. Bill Angell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Review and Approval of Treasurer's Report Jim gates clarified that budgeted money had be used to purchase computers. Motion by Randy Doggett to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Dan Reling seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Review of Ministry Team Reports

Evangelism	No Report	Todd Catlin
Missions	No Report	Carl Fugate
Worship	No Report	Doug Johnson
Hospitality	No Report	Pat Adams
Refreshment	No Report	Janet Johnson
Adult Discipleship	No Report	Jeanette Luke
Youth Discipleship	No Report	Connie Hager
Children's Discipleship	No Report	Amy Williams
Facility Maintenance	No Report	Ron Zentz
Financial Stewardship	No Report	Jim Gates
Women's Ministries	No Report	Chris Miller
Men's Ministries	No Report	Kent Miller
Deacons	No Report	Gary Allen
Trustees	No Report	Jim Gates

Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries

As we wind down toward the end of 2011, I can't tell you enough how blessed I have been to minister here at BFCC this last year. Our family has benefitted from your love and compassion as a church in more ways than I could ever explain! It's

been an exciting year as I've watched the vision of our church take shape in the hearts and lives of our people as they follow Jesus. My prayer is that we will continue to see more of this kind of growth in our church as we follow the Holy Spirit's leading. It won't ever be easy, but we will rejoice as God continues to carry and strengthen us as we depend on Him.

At FUSION on Wednesday nights, we are continuing to see God at work in the lives of our young people. I truly believe this is happening because we have made opening and reading God's word together our top priority. Our time together is an opportunity for us to hear God speak into our lives. As much fun as we have hanging out and talking with our friends, ultimately, hearing God's voice and our relationship to Him is what matters most. I see a great hunger in our students to put their faith into action, and we will continue to schedule events (like our Faith In Action Work Day, or the Numana event in Belleville) that give them opportunity to love and serve others in the name of Jesus. There is a great deal of excitement as well for the mission trip this summer to work with the Navajo people in New Mexico!

I've been very thankful for the leaders and volunteers that I've been able to work with this year. Ministry is so much easier and more enjoyable for everyone when done within the context of shared responsibility and fellowship. Continuing to intentionally develop both adult and student ministry leaders will be a big priority for me in ministry this coming year. I would also like to spend more time developing relationships with the parents of our students. I feel we need to provide support and encouragement to our parents if we want to have a positive influence in the home life of the families we are trying to minister to. I look forward to sharing with you the concrete ways in which we'll attempt to accomplish these goals in the coming months. For now, continue to pray for our ministry! Find ways in which you can engage our students in conversation and encourage them as they continue to seek God's leading in their lives! **Arick Johanson**

December Elder Board Minutes (cont.)

(Continued from page 9)

Associate Pastor of Caring

As we hold our last elder board meeting of 2011, I am mindful of the many volunteers who have helped our wide diversity of church programs to continue. I appreciate the church elder board empowering these volunteers to serve our church family and the community. Our church ministry is greatly enhanced by the many volunteers who have dedicated time, talent and resources to care, share and give. I send my special blessing to the elders, deacons and ministry team leaders who have completed their recent year of service and also to those who will be seeking new and different opportunities for serving in other areas in the future. God bless you.

I affirm the 2012 church leaders who were elected at the December 4, 2011 annual meeting. My prayers continue for each person who will be serving in the new year. I am looking forward to working with the new church leaders 2012!

Our church family has been blessing by having many small group options available. Several new groups have started in 2011 including two new Sunday school groups, "Evangelism the OZ Way" and "Dream", that just started this fall. We want to enhance the future choices of small groups to include more special needs programs. I am in the process of investigating new small groups options for 2012 especially as they relate to those who are struggling with hurts, hang-ups and habits. The needs being explored include alcoholism, divorce, sexual abuse, codependency, domestic violence, drug addiction, sexual addiction, food addictions gambling addiction and others. I appreciate your prayers for this outreach to touch more hearts both inside the church family and outside in the community. Please let me know if you feel prompted to be involved with or to assist in this ministry. You will be under no obligation to get more information on these considerations.

Thank you to the elders for the opportunity to serve this church family. Your support and expressions of caring are very much appreciated.

My personal family and feel blessed to share life with you. I pray that the true meaning of Christmas in Jesus will ring even more clearly in each of your hearts. Amen.

Caringly in Jesus,

Dave Mealiff

Senior Pastor's Report

Laura and I want to thank the entire church for another year of ministry with you. You have generously blessed us in so many ways that reveal the loving character God is working in your lives. We pray you are blessed in return, and we long to be faithful in our calling to you.

With Christmas and New Year's falling on Sundays this year, we'll be adjusting our worship schedule a bit. On Saturday, December 24th, we'll have our regular candlelight Christmas Eve service at 5:00 p.m. Then, on Sunday, December 25th we will have one service at 10:00 a.m. (no Sunday School that day), and on Sunday, January 1st, we will have one worship service at 10:00 a.m. (no Sunday School that day). On Sunday, January 8th, we'll be back to our regular schedule of worship (8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.) and Sunday School for all ages (9:30 a.m.). Please pass the word to others regarding these adjustments.

The Fellowship Hall Renovation Task Force has completed its initial phase of gathering information and planning. If the Elders and Trustees agree to move forward on this project, I want to (again) remind us of the ministry reasons behind this that are driven by our mission and purpose as a church:

Our church's mission statement is *to make disciples for Jesus Christ, and grow disciples in obeying all of Jesus' commands to fully express love for God and people*. In our context, to effectively make and grow disciples, we must address three critical components: 1) servant-leaders who lead by example; 2) a congregation that is spiritually alive and growing in response to the love of God; and 3) a physical environment that serves as a helpful resource for integrating people into relationship with Christ and his Body. The first two components are always more important than the third one, but

(Continued on page 11)

December Elder Board Minutes (cont.)

(Continued from page 10)

the physical environment can equip and encourage both servant-leaders and the congregation, while also reflecting something about the value we place on our mission/purpose. Ideally, the environment should account for the different stages of personal relationships (from stranger, to visitor to deep connective friendship), and the progressive steps of spiritual growth (from uninformed, to skepticism and unbelief, to marginal belief, to lovingly obedient disciple).

The goal of the Fellowship Hall Task Force was focused on three elements:

- Consider the physical environment of Fellowship Hall, our primary entry point, and how it helps or hinders our goal of moving people through the stages of personal relationships and spiritual growth.
- Consider how the overall condition, functionality, and decorative style of Fellowship Hall communicate something to everyone who enters it, and be intentional about making that message consistent with the value, beauty and truth of the Gospel.

Develop plans to renovate our Fellowship Hall area so that it serves as a more helpful resource in the process of making and growing disciples of all people, by helping visitors and spiritually interested people take next steps of connection and growth; and by motivating members to remain consistently focused on serving the needs of others through intentional outreach. Present these plans to the Elder Board for their response.

The task force recommends a plan to re-model our primary entry and fellowship area to make it a more attractive, visitor-friendly, usable, informative, and connecting space by creating a Welcome Center, a Refreshment Center, wall panels to replace the existing dividing curtains, recessed lighting, new furniture and wall treatments, digital signage, etc.

- Create a Welcome Center—crucial for visitors, the Welcome Center provides a recognizable and

immediate place of personal connection with a Welcome Center ministry volunteer, physical orientation for finding their way in our facility, an accessible source of needed information, and a first impression that this is a church that has already been thinking about their needs long before they came through the doors. The Welcome Center will also reduce the cluttered feel and look of our Fellowship Hall by centralizing information and resources that we currently have on various carts and wall displays.

Create a Refreshment Center—this will help facilitate regular refreshment opportunities (i.e., coffee, tea, Doughnut Sundays) without blocking traffic patterns, while also making it easier for people to cluster together in conversation groups that are inherently more open to visitors. By placing the Refreshment center on the west wall, we make better use of that space, and incorporate attractive design elements for our primary welcoming and gathering space.

The Fellowship Hall Task Force now awaits the Elders and Trustees decision on this proposed project.

On Sunday, January 15th, we will have a congregational meal and our annual meeting to distribute the annual ministry reports. This particular Sunday will also serve as our “Vision Sunday,” and the first day in “The Week of Prayer” which we’ve done the last couple of years. I’m especially excited about this Vision Sunday as I will be detailing a number of ministry initiatives that I feel the Lord has been steadily revealing to us. I will share these things during the message time of our morning worship services, and we’ll have some discussion time during our meeting after the meal.

I feel the Week of Prayer is the perfect way to begin working with these initiatives, as we’ll absolutely need the leading of the Holy Spirit both for the wisdom to begin and the power to sustain new ways of fulfilling our mission to make and grow disciples. I challenge all our servant-leaders (elders, deacons, ministry chairpersons) to lead by example for our week of prayer by signing up on the board

(Continued on page 12)

December Elder Board Minutes (cont.)

(Continued from page 11)

that will soon be placed in Fellowship Hall. We will also make available a prayer guide to help us grow in this important relational exercise with our Lord. The intent of the sign-up sheet (which will be located in Fellowship Hall) is not to be an expression of pride, but to visibly encourage others to join in the blessing of planned, purposeful times of prayer. I hope your anticipation and expectation of God's powerful grace at work among us will grow towards this special week. **Pastor Cliff**

On Sunday January 8 the sermon will focus on Opportunities for Serving by identifying the various ministry teams of the church by exploring peripheral venues of service, by reviewing our goal to serve families, disconnected folks and the hurting and by remaining authentic and transparent while using our struggles to help others.

Old Business

The Mill Street House. The closing on the house at 312 N. Mill has taken place. Congregants wishing to contribute towards paying off the \$44,000 loan should mark Vision Fund on the memo line of their checks. Work is underway to get the house into a functioning shape for meeting areas. Appropriate names for the house to better identify it are being considered.

Task Force Carl Fugate moved to accept the report of the Fellowship Hall remodeling task force, allowing expenditures of up to \$60,000 for the remodeling, while also collecting further information/costs for the desired video-recording system that is not part of the current proposal. Bill Angell Seconded the motion. Next the motion will go to the Trustees for approval of the funding from Trustees monies. The Elders reaffirmed how this remodeling is consistent with BFCC's mission to make and grow disciples. The Task Force will continue to meet to work out the final, specific details, and will provide frequent/periodic reports to the leadership groups.

Name Tags Cliff explained the need for those in attendance to be able to identify who the Elders are and approach them with needs. Name tags will be purchased.

New Business

Quorum After much searching and praying by the nominating committee, only 11 men were willing to serve as Elders, instead of the normal minimum of 13. Our church constitution currently requires a specific number, not a percentage of Elders to be present for a quorum. With a minimum of 9 needed for a quorum, there is concern that we may not be able to regularly reach a quorum. After much discussion of the constitutional language and intent, Todd Catlin made a motion, seconded by Bill Angell, to amend Article V, Section B, sub-point #4 of the constitution from: "Nine (9) voting members of the Elder Board shall constitute a quorum." to "Nine (9) voting members of the Elder Board shall constitute a quorum, except in years when the Elder Board has fewer than 13 elected Elders serving. In such cases 70% of the total number of elected Elders shall constitute a quorum." The motion passed with Elders noting that this reflected the original intent of the prescribed number. The congregation will vote on this amendment at the January 15th annual meeting.

Chairman/Vice Jim Gates made a motion seconded by Dan Reling that Greg Harrison serve as Chairmen of the Elder Board and Keith Portenier serve as Vice Chairman for 2012. Motion passed

Recognition Lindy Lindblad and Tom Maxwell were recognized for their service as Elders. They have chosen to step down as Elders after many years of faithful servant-leadership.

Closing Prayer was offered by Randy Doggett

Respectfully Submitted,
Vera M. Streit
Elder Board Secretary

Prayer Guide for January 15-21 Week of Prayer

Thank you for committing yourself to pray at least one hour during the week of January 15-21. Our desire is to be unified in our fellowship by expressing our love for God and people through the spiritual discipline of prayer. This follows the pattern of the early church when ***“they all joined together constantly in prayer.” (Acts 1:14)***

For many, an hour may be the longest stretch of intentional, concentrated prayer you’ve yet experienced, so we want to offer these 7 helpful ideas to keep you focused in your time with the Lord.

1. Find a quiet place to pray. Find a place where you can be comfortable and not likely to be disturbed or interrupted. Let your spouse or children know when you’ve committed to pray so they can supportive and safeguard your time. Don’t be afraid to change your bodily position from time to time. Feel free to pray while sitting, walking, kneeling, etc. Have a Bible and notepad/pen handy so you can record thoughts and ideas the Spirit will bring you. ***“Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.” (Luke 5:16)***
2. Acknowledge God’s presence and speak to your Heavenly Father. Remember this is about a love relationship with the God who loves you. It’s not about a formula or method, so you can’t “do it wrong” if you will bring an honest heart, humble spirit, engaged mind, and genuine desire in seeking the Lord and knowing Him better. ***“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you... If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!” (Matthew 7:7, 11)***
3. Ask God to search your heart. We won’t be able to hear God speak clearly if we are trying to overlook or withhold our sins. Humble yourself before God. ***“Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.” (Psalm 139:23-24)*** Talk to the Lord about what He reveals, and confess any known sinful action or attitude that comes to mind. If need be, stop praying and go reconcile with someone you have offended, or with whom you are angry. ***“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.” (Matthew 5:23-24)***
4. Present your requests to God. ***“The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” (Philippians 4:5-6)*** For this week of prayer we are asking people to give extra consideration to three specific areas of ministry we feel the Lord is prompting us as a church to prioritize: ministry to families (how can we be more intentional about reaching with the Gospel and serving the needs of young families and their children?), ministry to the disconnected (how can we be more intentional about reaching with the Gospel and serving the needs of people who have had bad experiences with “church,” and who may have preconceived ideas of Christianity that are keeping them from experiencing the Gospel?), and ministry to the hurting (how can we be more intentional about reaching with the Gospel and serving the needs of those who are struggling to overcome compulsive and addictive behaviors, abusive pasts, and emotionally painful life circumstances?).
5. Ask God to speak to you. ***“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” (1 Samuel 3:9)*** Expect and believe that God is able and willing to speak to you through prayer in revealing His truth. ***“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.” (John 16:13)***

Prayer Guide for January 15-21 Week of Prayer (cont.)

(Continued from page 13)

6. Wait in silence. Prayer is a conversation with the Lord. Don't make it a one-sided monologue where you are constantly speaking and never listening. Allow for times of silent "listening prayer" so you will hear what God brings to your mind and heart. Be patient and relax in the knowledge that the power of prayer is not about you, but about God. ***"Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10) "In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly." (Psalm 5:3)***
7. Write down the thoughts and impressions the Lord brings to you. As you wait in silence, you may have words, phrases, visual images, or thoughts that come into your mind from the Holy Spirit. Write them down so you can then pray more about what is revealed to you. If you aren't sure if what you are thinking/hearing is from God, ask yourself, "Is this consistent with the truths of Scripture? Is this glorifying to God? Is this thought consistent with how God revealed himself in his Son, Jesus Christ? Does this idea give authentic expression for what it means to love God with all my heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love my neighbor as myself?" Later on, share what you've written with other followers of Christ and listen to their responses for further understanding and insight from the Holy Spirit.

If you are looking for other approaches to prayer, you may find one or more of these ideas helpful:

- Pray through the mission statement of our church, stopping at each significant word or phrase to reflect on its meaning and what God is saying to you through it. The shorthand version of BFCC's purpose and mission is *"to make disciples and grow disciples in obeying all of Jesus' commands to fully express love for God and people."* The expanded version is: *"We are an ordinary group of forgiven sinners called to make disciples of lost sinners for Jesus Christ, and to grow disciples in obeying all of Jesus' commands to fully express love for God and people by: Celebrating Jesus' Presence through worship; Connecting in Jesus' Body through fellowship; Cultivating Jesus' Life through discipleship; Contributing in Jesus' Kingdom through service; and Communicating Jesus' Message through evangelism."* What is God saying to you about the mission and purpose he has given BFCC?
- Read and pray through Scripture. Read a few verses, or an entire chapter of Scripture, slowly and deliberately. Listen for prompts from the Holy Spirit regarding any phrases or verses. Consider and compare the original context of the passage in light of your context today.
- Pray for others, both here in North Central Kansas, and around the world: pray about the various ages of people and their unique needs in their season of life, from children to the elderly; pray about different places of employment and the challenges that people face in their jobs, both as employees and employers; pray for all our schools; pray for marriages and families; pray about all those you know who are not yet following Christ; pray for God to reveal how you can be used to impact folks in their daily routines of work and school and home life.
- Pray the Lord's Prayer, one phrase at a time, pausing to seek an awareness of the implications for you, our church, and our communities as we work to make and grow disciples for Jesus Christ: "Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins and we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."
- Write your prayer to God instead of thinking or speaking it. Try to break away from the routine phrases and words you might normally use—these aren't bad or wrong ways to pray, but sometimes it can be helpful to be more intentional about what we are saying. A good way to do this is to write out your prayer to God instead of thinking it silently in your head.

The Same Lord Doing a New Work (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

pages 13-14 of this edition of the Scroll), at the sign-up board, or you can download it from our website: www.beloitfcc.org.

The point of the "Week of Prayer" is to follow the pattern of the early church in the book of Acts. Before they took action and did anything, Jesus told them to "wait" for the Holy Spirit to move and descend upon them. This was not a passive waiting, but a time where they **"all joined together constantly in prayer."** (Acts 1:14) What a great way to begin the New Year...waiting in prayer together for the Holy Spirit to make clear what we should be doing, and giving us the power to do it.

The first day of the Week of Prayer is our annual "Vision Sunday" on Sunday, January 15th. This special day will include inspiring worship (at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.), a free meal for everyone beginning at 11:30 a.m., followed by a congregational meeting to receive our annual reports, vote on a proposed amendment to the constitution, and discuss some of the ministry initiatives that I will have shared as part of my worship messages. I have never been more excited for a Vision Sunday than this year because the Lord has been revealing specific points of emphasis that will point us toward fulfilling our mission: *to make disciples of lost sinners, and to grow*

(Continued on page 18)

BFCC Women's Ministry Council

BFCC Women's Ministry Council (Unapproved) Meeting Minutes by Cathy Rice November 30, 2011

BFCC Women's Ministry Council met November 30th, with Jodie Gantz, Jan Moeller, Chris Miller, Lisa Cordel, Connie Kopsa, Marla Catlin, Kay Prather, and Cathy Rice in attendance. The meeting opened in prayer.

Minutes of the last meeting were gone over and approved.

A thank you card was received from Heart Choices.

Jodie Gantz gave the treasurer's report. The accounts as of November 30th totaled \$15,997.59, with \$5,221.55 in cds, \$9,865.14 in checking, and \$910.90 in savings. The budget was approved.

Vice President, Jan Moeller, reported that 249 cookbooks have been sold, and there are many left to sell. She also reported that ballots had been sent out to women of the church to vote for officers for next year and changes in the by-laws.

Lisa Cordel, chairperson of enrichment, reported on the women's retreat and shared her evaluation team's thoughts about changes for next year. This was Lisa's last meeting as Kay Prather will be taking her place on next year's council.

In the area of service the Mom's Day Out childcare was cancelled as no one had signed up yet. Discussion was held about trying the event again in the future though.

For the ministry of finance Taste of Christmas will be held this week. Help is still needed for this event. Connie Kopsa, chairperson of food service, has a dinner scheduled for December 20th, and another in May. The cost per plate has been changed to \$12.00 due to rising food costs.

Under old business military packages will be readdressed next year with new ideas involving more of the community. The vote on the by-law changes passed. The new officers for next year are to be Rhonda Koenig, president, and Kay Prather, chairperson of enrichment. All other positions will stay the same. Thanks to Chris Miller and Lisa Cordel for their service in these roles.

In new business it was discussed if more women's small groups were needed, and if these small groups fall under women's ministry or adult discipleship. It is not desired to let anyone that is looking for a study fall through the cracks. The enrichment chairperson will look into this further.

The next meeting will be set for 2012 by our new president, Rhonda Koenig.

The meeting ended in prayer.

Regular Doses of Practical Love in Small Groups

“Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.” (2 Corinthians 13:11)

If you want to experience the love and peace of God you will find it when you surround yourself with people who will regularly encourage you. Small groups are a great way to discipline your routines to include this kind of practical love that moves us to

“strive for full restoration” in all aspects of our lives. The variety of topics and meeting times is meant to accommodate a wide range of schedules. Find one that fits you and contact the host(s) for more information. ***“And the God of love and peace will be with you.”***

MEN'S GROUPS	TIME	HOST	CONTACT #	CURRENT TOPIC
Sundays	9:30 AM	Kent Miller	738-3310	“Dream” by Kenny Luck
Wednesdays	6:00 AM	Doug Johnson	738-2573	“Hanging Out with God” by Pat Morley
Wednesdays	8:00 PM	Cliff Heagy	534-0770	Prayer Group
Thursdays	6:15 AM	Tim Mehl	738-3009	
Thursday	7:00 PM	G. Allen/K. Williams	738-4228	“One 2 Won Cross Training Discipleship”
WOMEN'S GROUPS				
Sundays	9:30 AM	Lynne Gates	738-5516	“Beloved Disciple”
Tuesdays	6:00 PM	Joni Adams	738-4161	“Made To Crave”
Thursdays	6:00 AM	Jeanette Luke	738-2135	“Radical—Taking back Your Faith”
Thursdays	4:00 PM	Connie Chapin	738-5265	Prayer Group
MIXED GROUPS (Men or Women)				
Sundays	9:30 AM	Cliff Heagy	534-0770	“The Gospel of Mark”
Sundays	9:30 AM	Dave & Linda Mealiff	738-5159	“Max on Life”
Sundays	9:30 AM	Todd & Everett	738-5351	“Evangelism the Oz Way”
Alt. Sundays	5:00 PM	Dave & Linda Mealiff	738-5159	“Fireproof Your Marriage”
1st Sunday of Month	6:30 PM	Kris & Melinda Kimple	738-4002	“The Good and Beautiful God”
Tuesdays	9:00 AM	Dave Mealiff	738-0039	Over 50 Bible study: Matthew
Tuesdays	12 Noon	Lloyd Fugate	738-3541	Spiritual Warfare
Wednesdays	6:30 PM	Dorothy Katsiyiannis	785-643-4824	“DivorceCare” (on break)
Wednesdays	6:30 PM	Derek Fobes	569-1007	“Single and Parenting” (on break)
Wednesdays	7:00 PM	Keith Williams	738-2936	Doctrines of the Bible
YOUTH SMALL GROUPS				
Sundays	6:30 PM	Mary Fugate	738-8264	High School Girls
Thursdays	7:30 PM	Arick Johanson	509-607-9620	High School Boys

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	2 Office Closed	3 9 a.m. Metallic Bible Study	4 6 p.m. Jr. Hi Fusion 7:30 p.m. Sr. Hi Fusion	5 5:30-7:00 p.m. Open Prayer in the Sanctuary	6	7
8 8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 7:30 p.m. Elder's Bible Study	9 7p.m. Boy Scouts	10 9 a.m. Metallic Bible Study	11 6 p.m. Jr. Hi Fusion 7:30 p.m. Sr. Hi Fusion	12 5:30-7:00 p.m. Open Prayer in the Sanctuary	13  <small>Psalm 37:5, NRSV</small>	14
15 8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11:30 a.m. Dinner & Annual Meeting 7:30 p.m. Elder's Board Meeting	16 7p.m. Boy Scouts	17 9 a.m. Metallic Bible Study	18 Jr. Hi Fusion 7:30 p.m. Sr. Hi Fusion	19 5:30-7:00 p.m. Open Prayer in the Sanctuary	20	21
22 8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School	23 7p.m. Boy Scouts	24 9 a.m. Metallic Bible Study	25 6 p.m. Jr. Hi Fusion 7:30 p.m. Sr. Hi Fusion	26	27	28
29 8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School	30 7p.m. Boy Scouts	31 9 a.m. Metallic Bible Study	 <h1>January 2012</h1>			

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The Same Lord Doing a New Work (cont.)

(Continued from page 15)

disciples as forgiven sinners in obeying all of Jesus' commands to fully express love for God and people.

You will not want to miss this big day together!

One last thing...as we begin a new year I hope you will already be praying for and with our 2012 ministry team chairpersons. These dedicated folks have responded to the call for servant-leadership and they will want and need your prayerful participation. I thank the Lord for each one:

- Ministry of Evangelism Chairperson: Karen Buser
- Ministry of Worship Chairperson: Doug Johnson
- Ministry of Hospitality Chairperson: Pat Adams
- Ministry of Facility Maintenance Chairperson: [currently open – Pastor Dave will chair this team until the Lord raises up a chairperson]

- Ministry of Refreshment Chairperson: Kay Simmons
- Ministry of Financial Stewardship Chairperson: Jim Gates
- Ministry of Adult Discipleship Chairperson: Jeanette Luke
- Ministry of Youth Discipleship Chairperson: Renee Mason
- Ministry of Children's Discipleship Chairperson: Leann Wehrman
- Ministry of Missions Chairperson: Carl Fugate
- Women's Ministries president: Rhonda Koenig
- Men's Ministries president: Kent Miller

I'm glad to be praying and serving with you in 2012. Let's see the wonders that God will perform!

Pastor Cliff