

# Milaca Free Church News

1100 North Central Avenue  
Milaca, MN 56353

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## FROM OUR PASTOR

### THE JOY OF THE LORD

In Paul's 13 New Testament letters one of his repeated themes was **joy**. He listed it as a fruit or product of submitting to the Holy Spirit. He prayed for it for the people he was writing to. And quite often, he expressed his **joy** in what God was doing in their lives.

For instance, in 1 Thessalonians 3:9 Paul writes.

"For what thanksgiving we can return to God for you, for all the **joy** we feel for your sake before our God."

As he was writing to this church Paul has been commending them for their submission and walk with God that resulted in their **joy** and contentment. Now he tells them that he experiences great **joy** as he sees God changing them.

As I read those words it reminded me of the delight I have, and we have, in seeing God change people. A man old enough to be my father expressed his delight in growing in his walk with God. A young man recognizes that his own life is being transformed and his family is being affected by God in an amazing way.

One of our people expressed this same sentiment as she told of God's transforming work in a woman she meets with regularly. A young man told of his **joy** in men he is working with, recognizing their growth over these past few years.

Paul's **joy** was not a selfish thing. He often connected his personal **joy** to the **joy** of those we were discipling.

Paul's **joy** often came from the simply **joy** of people who were rejoicing in their forgiveness by God. In Romans 4:7-8 (NLT) he writes:

"<sup>7</sup> Oh what **joy** for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sins are put out of sight. <sup>8</sup> Yes, what **joy** for those whose record the Lord has cleansed of sin."

We can be grateful to God that as we accomplish his purpose of making disciples, we can experience the **joy** that only God can give.

In the grip of his grace,

*Dan Clausen*



*FROM OUR COMMITTEES and CHURCH MINISTRIES*

## Let Everything Praise the Lord



### **Psalm 150**

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in his mighty heavens!

Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

3 Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!

4 Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!

5 Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!

6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

At Milaca Free Church this is what we strive to do every Sunday during our corporate worship service. When you walk into the sanctuary each Sunday are you; ready to give praise to the one and only God; recognize the depth of His love for you; thank Him for providing a way out of your sin and into a life of grace and the promise of life everlasting with Him? Have you noticed that we are providing scripture on our video screen before the service so that we can be prepared for our corporate worship?

Here are a few scripture passages and songs that you might want to use as you ready your heart to join together as a church family to offer praise to our God. When we are open to focus on the One who demands and deserves our true praise He lovingly makes Himself known to us.

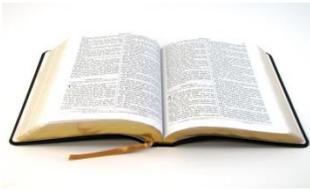
*Isaiah 6:1-8*    *Psalms 99*    *Hebrews 12:28-29*    *Psalms 29*    *Romans 12:1-2*

*"Holy, Holy, Holy"*  
*"Revelation Song"*

*"Here I Am to Worship"*  
*"Wonderful Merciful Savior"*

*"I Love You Lord"*  
*"Come To The Altar"*

## **See you next Sunday!**



## **ADULT MINISTRIES**

### **Adult Bible Communities**

Adult Bible Communities (ABCs) are communities of people at roughly the same stage of life. They meet from 9:45 to 10:45 each Sunday morning, between the two worship services. They present a place to connect with others and learn the Bible together. The names of our Church's five ABCs are:

Becomers, for young adult singles or newly married couples, taught by Mark Goldsmith in Pastor Dan's office

Bodybuilders, for people with children in their home, taught by Dave Manoleff in the South room

New Horizons, for empty nesters that are still working in their careers, taught by Randy Johnson in the Gym

Encore, for retired or semi-retired people, taught by Tim Hagquist in the Fellowship Hall

Livingstones, taught by Randy Sahlstrom in the Christian Education wing on the north end of the building.

Brent Jergens, Adult Ministry Coordinator



## **YOUTH**

The fall season of Koinonia has finally kicked off!! There have been many new and exciting things happening already this year! For one, we have gotten the chance to welcome many 7th graders into the Koinonia family several weeks ago, and have seen many of the older students step up and seek out these new faces to feel welcome. We just finished our fundraiser for the Mega Meet last Saturday, and this gave the opportunity for many students the ability to go to the events that we do throughout the year. Fall Fling is approaching quickly, and so are the spots that are available!! This has always been a great time for students to hear the Gospel in a simple format, and for students and leaders alike to be encouraged in their faith.

Matt Cluraghty

## MISSIONS MINISTRY

Our Mission Team's goal of fulfilling the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations by mobilizing MEFC to be active in praying, going and giving so that the Gospel will be clearly proclaimed, new believers will be disciplined and churches will be established in every tribe, tongue, people and nation. The Mission Team enables MEFC to care for our current missionaries around the world and seeks to mobilize our members to be actively involved in missionary prayer and encouragement. We also seek to provide opportunities for cross-cultural exposure, short-term mission trips, and disciple members to understand God's heart for mission and be more effective in cross-cultural outreach.

### October Service Needs & Opportunities

- **Prayer Partners-** Commitment to pray regularly for **Myers**, and other team members going to Texas for Disaster Relief. Pray for individuals going on **Haiti Sewing Trip** in February.
- **Service** – Join a Disaster Relief Team going to Texas for at least one week, this fall. Tasks will be to remove debris so people can rebuild their homes and lives, serve food to teams, pray with hurting people who have lost so much, and much more. Sign up in Fellowship Hall. The exact dates will be determined by the team members.

### On-going service needs and opportunities

- **Prayer Champions** – Commitment to pray regularly for one of our missionary units and let them know you are praying for them.
- **Missions Prayer Warriors** – Commitment to pray for God to expand our vision of mission to His heart for the world in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the rest of the world.
- **Give** – Contribute toward an individual going on a short-term trip.

**Contact:** Gloria Hagquist

## Women's Ministry



MARK YOUR CALENDARS- The theme for February 9-11-2018 Women's Retreat is THRIVE. We are really looking forward to staying in Oak Hollow this year. The team is busy planning and excited to see what God has in store for us! Please pray for us as we consider Scripture, topics and speakers.

As always, please don't be shy about letting us know how we can serve you.

Serving Him together,  
Becky Asher, Gloria Hagquist, Nikki Van Der Zwaag,  
Susan Voigtlander, Stacy Yatckoske

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES



The Sam Sahlstrom Family  
At Milaca Evangelical Free Church  
Oct. 8th @ 6:00 p.m.

The Sahlstrom Family resides in SW Minnesota on a hobby farm where they milk a few cows and enjoy gardening, fishing, entertaining, and ministering to whomever God puts in their path.

Music has been a way for this family to reach out to their communities with the good news of the gospel to encourage young and old alike in their walk of faith. They have 11 children and 4 grandchildren currently, and are enjoying all the life around them. Come and celebrate God in music with the Sahlstrom Family and enjoy treats after the concert.

Sam and Missy will be our guest,  
Their kids & they sing with the best,  
Sahlstrom is their well known name,  
Their heritage has lots of fame.

So if you come and hear them sing,  
The greatest concert they will bring,  
October 8<sup>th</sup> will be the date,  
At 6:00 p.m., so don't be late.

Milaca Free is where we meet,  
And afterwards you'll get a treat,  
So bring a friend or two along,  
And join with others in the throng.

Please come!!  
Pastor Don Matheson



## BIRTHDAYS

10/01	Gayle Ash	10/17	Tony Hoeck
	Jerri Gilbert	10/18	Kathy Johnson
10/03	Grace Krusch		Ivy Nelson
	Anne Pearson	10/19	Abby Larsen
10/04	Peter Sahlstrom		Calvin Veurink
10/07	Jerry Swalboski	10/20	Jonathan Berg
10/08	Cyrus Merchant		Marilyn Helfinstine
	Megan Oleen		Vada Sams
10/09	Randy Johnson	10/21	John Johnson
10/10	Verlin Johnson	10/25	Autumn Ziebart
	Mona Robinson	10/26	Joanne Hasser
10/13	Carl Nelson	10/27	Dale Clifton
	Randy Sahlstrom		Cindy Hockert
10/14	Donna Sahlstrom	10/28	Becky Asher
10/15	Emily Carlson		Sarah Johnson
	Judy Meleen		Daniel Linden
10/16	Dan Hollenkamp		Joshua Paulson
	Ethan Szucs		Susan Voigtlander
		10/29	Janet Vetsch
		10/30	Tom Krauel
		10/31	Eli Pederson

## ANNIVERSARIES

10/02	Dray and BryAnna Thomas-Ferry
10/03	Justin and Stacy Yatckoske
10/04	Joel and Cara Sahlstrom
10/05	David and Patty Berg
10/07	Bryan and Shelley Pearson
10/19	Troy and Rachel Weidner
10/20	Paul and Carol Sahlstrom
10/23	Robert and Erma Bergstrom
10/30	Irvin and Mona Robinson

## PAID STAFF OF MILACA EFC

### Senior Pastor

Dan Clausen  
294-5883  
email: [pastordan@milacafreechurch.com](mailto:pastordan@milacafreechurch.com)

### Youth Pastor

Spencer Sommerlot  
Cell # 651-357-0329  
email:  
[pastorspencer@milacafreechurch.com](mailto:pastorspencer@milacafreechurch.com)

### Interns

Matt Cluraghty  
982-3217  
email: [matt@milacafreechurch.com](mailto:matt@milacafreechurch.com)

Jon Greener  
982-3217  
email: [jon@milacafreechurch.com](mailto:jon@milacafreechurch.com)

### Faith Community Nurse

Alison Jergens  
982-3217  
email:  
[nurse@milacafreechurch.com](mailto:nurse@milacafreechurch.com)

### Web Site Coordinator

Tracy Larsen  
email: [tlarsen@citlink.net](mailto:tlarsen@citlink.net)

### Custodian

Heather Johnson  
612-963-8329

### Tables & Chairs Set-Up

David Goldsmith  
320-266-7340

## MEALS ON WHEELS

Volunteers are needed during the month of November to take hot meals to others in our community.

If you could deliver meals,

- one day in the week
- a whole week
- whatever fits your schedule
- if you can deliver meals or have questions:

Contact: Jan Vetsch: 320-983-5803



## FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

### Safety Training Re-cap

Thank you to everyone who came to our required safety training on September 17<sup>th</sup>. It was great to see many of you there and see your interest in being prepared to serve and to respond to an emergency. I just want to do a little re-cap of what we talked about during that day as a reminder for those who were there and for those of you who were not able to be there too.

Kitchen: Don't forget to wash your hands in the hand washing sink, wash them well, and wash them often to help prevent the spread of germs. When you use the kitchen, clean up after yourself, wash your dishes appropriately and if there is any leftover food from an event, divide the food up among the serving committee members, and don't leave it in the kitchen.

CPR/AED: The October 16<sup>th</sup> CPR class is full, but talk to me if you are interested in taking a class. Certification is good for 2 years. Do you know where our AED is? How about our Emergency Bag for the Emergency Response Team? Go take a look in the coat room and familiarize yourself with the location of these things.

Mandatory Reporting: You can now find an information sheet about how and when to report in the forms section of our church mailboxes, remember your report can save a life!

Emergency Response Team/Emergency Policy and Procedure: Take time to familiarize yourself with the people who are on the Emergency Response Team, you will find their pictures in the coat room near the AED and also in the red folders near the doors of the Sunday School classrooms. Also, look at the Emergency diagram (posted near the doors) which outlines what to do in case of different emergencies and shows the location of the fire extinguishers. The Medical Emergency Policy and Procedure is available in the red folders for your reference.

Sickness: If you have been sick or have been caring for someone with fever, vomiting, or diarrhea in the last 24 hours, please stay home, get well and then join us again. If you have a sickness that you think may be contagious such as a cold, please greet others without touching (handshaking etc) to help prevent the spread of sickness.

Thanks for doing your part to keep our church family healthy and safe!

Alison Jergens, Faith Community Nurse



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**Sunday School:** *Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the Children's Education Wing (N end of the church) for ages newborn through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.*

- Thanks to all of the volunteers for stepping up to teach the fall Sunday school classes! Fall Sunday School kicked off on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The Christmas program will be "Building Christmas". "Building Christmas" is a Lego based evangelical program that will include traditional Christmas songs. Plan on inviting members of the community as there will be a strong salvation message along with the program. Program practice will begin on October 8<sup>th</sup>.
- A new computerized check-in service will be available soon. Pay attention for more details on this exciting new technology that will assist in keeping our kids safe.

**Elevate:** *Elevate is currently the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. For ages 3 years old (potty trained only please) through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.*

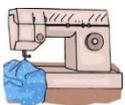
**Nursery:** *staffed with volunteers during the Sunday School hour and during second service. The nursery is open, but not staffed during first service. There is a separate rooms with the same hours for 2-3 year olds.*

**Opportunities for you to Serve:** *background checks are required for any Children's Ministry Volunteer. For questions about joining Children's Ministry, contact any Children's Ministry Board Member listed. Board members: Abby Johnson, Emily Carlson, Marilee Paulson, Mike Krauel, Patty Berg, and Shannon Sailor.*

- **Hall Monitor**-responsible for walking the halls in the Children's Wing of the church during the Sunday School hour and assisting with student check-in/check-out
- **Nursery**-volunteers are needed during the Sunday School hour and during the second service for both the infant nursery and the 2-3 year old room.

Mike Krauel for the Committee

## WHITE CROSS



MEFC White Cross met on Thursday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. We had a great time of food, fellowship and work. A "Tub for Tandala" was packed and sent. Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. We welcome you. Come and join us.

Stella Kiel for White Cross