

BODY BUILDERS MINISTRIES



November 2011

*Helping set in order
the things that are wanting*

www.bodybuildersministry.com

FAMILY UPDATE



This month continues to be busy. The kids are speeding through the school year. It's hard to believe that they are almost a third of the way through this year. Part of the fun of school this year for the girls is in their study of the Eastern Hemisphere. Countries are studied individually, and the girls' favorite part are the projects that accompany each country. So far this year we've enjoyed mimicking aboriginal painting from Australia, hosting a luau while studying the Pacific Islands, making egg rolls while studying China, and more. Also, we are praying through cities in the 10/40 window. Praying that the Gospel will reach these many cities in need of Christ. It's been an enlightening, profitable study so far. Some of the fun is knowing that we'll get to go through it all again in a couple of years when Davey gets into this material.

October is, of course, known for Halloween. This year we decided to take advantage of the holiday and hand out bags for the church. Ruth and the kids and another church member were able to give out 125 bags to trick or treaters in Munising. Each one contained candy, a tract and a flyer for Club 601 (Faith's Wednesday night kids' club). We had one child show up for Club 601 as a result of those bags. We are continuing to pray that the tracts will get read and that even more children will come out for Club 601.

Thank you again for your prayers and support! We know that God is using you in our ministry through them!

Ministry Update

Things are really happening at Faith! This past Sunday we held our annual business meeting. During that meeting the church voted on the recommended constitution. After many months of careful work, the church voted unanimously to approve the new constitution. Praise God for His guidance in that process! Though I didn't go into the church planning to revise the constitution, the process has been very helpful. The end product should make certain matters of polity more easily followed while also making the more difficult sections a little bit clearer. I am relieved to see this task brought to a successful conclusion.

Last month we invited a man up to preach so we could better consider the prospect of inviting him to candidate. The weekend was busy but very profitable. After much time talking with (and about) him, the pulpit committee has invited him back to the church to candidate for the pastorate. Ben Boeshaar and his family will be spending a week at the church, from November 27 to December 4. He'll be preaching at all our services, as well as visiting church members and getting to know the area. In early December the church will vote on whether to call him as pastor. It is exciting to see the Lord directing in this process. We covet your prayers as we take these momentous steps in our search for God's man for Faith Baptist Church.

Also this past month several ladies from the church went to a children's workers conference in Marquette. The conference had a theme of "One More." The challenge was made to consider what impact one more child would bring: one more child in your car to church, one more child to share the Gospel with, one more child to invite to Sunday School. If everyone would commit to reaching one more child in some way, the impact would be huge! Also, each person attending the conference attended various workshops designed to help equip each person in the challenge to reach one more. Workshops included teaching on how to incorporate the gospel into your lesson, how to teach children to worship, how to teach children to pray, and much more. It was an exciting and learning time to each of the ladies who attended.



Preparation for next summer's vacation Bible school program are well under way. Next year's VBS is entitled "Wonderful" and its theme is "Wonderfully Created by God." This year we will be learning about the marvelous design of the human body. Those design features will point to God's creation of man to worship Him, serve Him, depend on Him, believe Him and follow Him. In the Bible lessons, we will see these truths in action in the life of Paul.

I have added a VBS 2012 link to the website, and there you can find more information about the newest VBS. Over the next couple months we hope to be finishing up all the material so that each church will have everything needed in plenty of time. Just as we have done the last few years, our goal is to provide a total VBS package, including teachers' guides, games, clip art, and decoration ideas. Please begin praying now for folks to be saved as a result of this Wonderful VBS.

Spiritual Gifts

A couple weeks ago at church we got on the topic of spiritual gifts. This led to several different conversations about the spiritual gifts and their function in the church. Since that time I have been periodically pondering the topic further, chewing on some particular principles pointed out in the epistles. I would like to share some of what I've gleaned.

Spiritual gifts are given by God through the Holy Spirit to believers for the express purpose of helping other believers grow in Christ (Ephesians 4:16). Every believer is gifted by the Holy Spirit. No true believer can plead he has not been gifted (1 Corinthians 12:7). All believers are gifted so they can exercise those gifts within the body of Christ for the edification of the body. 1 Peter 4:11 reveals two categories of gifts, speaking gifts and serving gifts. Romans 12:6-8 lists several different kinds of gifts. The application of these gifts involves natural talents, learned skill and supernatural ability. For example, Dorcas apparently had the gifts of giving and mercy, that she exercised through her skill as a seamstress.

The thing that sets spiritual gifts apart from all human skills is the motivation. While many unsaved can administrate, be charitable or speak powerfully, none can do so for the express purpose of helping others increase in obedience to Christ. Only the believer, directed and submitted to the Holy Spirit, can serve for the purpose of genuine edification. Only the believer can serve seeking no lesser aim than helping another be a better imitator of Jesus. Spiritual gifts are those abilities given to the believer that enable the accomplishment of lifting up fellow Christians into a fuller Christlikeness. I know the gift is in you. Are you using it to edify Christ's church?