

Extensions of Grace



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Building a Beloved Community Through "Extensions of Grace"

Profiles in Grace

Carl Sherbeck: Missionary to Elder

by Lori Beske

On a beautiful, sunny afternoon, I was blessed with the opportunity to sit on the patio at Carl and Barb Sherbeck's house and conduct the latest in a series of elder interviews. Here's a glimpse of what we talked about while sipping coffee, enjoying the smell of lilacs in the background, and watching kids play.

Carl was born and raised near Clintonville, Wisconsin. He came to know Christ at a young age. He attended Moody Bible Institute, where he met Barb. They graduated from Moody in 1958 with a deeply shared commitment to foreign missions in the Muslim world. Carl then enrolled at Fort Wayne Bible College, now named Taylor University, and graduated in 1960.

Carl and Barb married just after their MBI graduation. This month they are celebrating 50 years together. They have raised 5 children and have 8 grandchildren. After college, they received a call to pastor a church near Richland Center, where they stayed for three years as a part of their preparation for serving on a foreign mission field.

They then proceeded to travel to churches in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois to raise the support needed to follow the next step God had for them. They initially felt God was calling them to

Pakistan, but when they were unable to obtain the needed visas they went to the United Arab



Carl & Barbara Sherbeck

Emirates on a temporary basis in 1966. Once they arrived there they sensed that this was where they were supposed to stay and found that God had prepared a spot for them there.

Throughout the many years they spent in the UAE, they had a significant role in establishing both Arabic and international churches. In two cases, their ministry work included helping to obtain land and build church facilities for the use of multiple evangelical congregations. Watching God work in the hearts of the people there was a high-

light of their time on the mission field.

In 1983, Carl and Barb became members of what we now know as High Point Church. During these several intervening years they have seen the church go through a number of transitional

times. This is Carl's third year as an elder, and he brings with him a great deal of experience in a number of different areas. Among them are planting evangelical churches, drafting constitutions for new churches and for their fellowship organization in the UAE called the Council of Evangelical Churches. Beside his pastoral duties, he served for several years as the Government Relations officer for the CEC, several years as Chairman of the TEAM workers in the UAE, and was also chairman of the board of Oasis Hospital there.

As an HPC Elder, Carl is involved in the Membership Committee and the Global Missions Team, which administers the church's support of missionaries and missions projects around the world. His theological training and his missionary experience both help to fit him for these tasks.

When asked about the senior pastor search, Carl mentioned that, for right now, it has been put on the back burner. The focus now, with our new Interim Pastor Bill Lerch, is on training our church leadership and getting the church moving in the direction God would have it go. Carl mentioned he has felt God bringing a sense of unity to the church and a renewed hope to become a faithful witness to Christ in the Madison community.

When asked about his vision for High Point Church, Carl's answer reflected his heart for people and reaching them with the Word of God. He has a heart, hope and vision for High Point Church to be focused on outreach both in the local community and on the global scene, to be a body of people seeking to serve the Lord by reaching out to others in His name.

While visiting with Carl and Barb, I could see their love for the Lord, compassion for people, and desire to see God's work flourishing in and through the body of High Point Church.

Extensions of Grace

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What does baptism mean?

by Pastor Bill Lerch blersch@highpointchurch.org

There has been and currently is much confusion in the Christian church over a multitude of issues surrounding baptism. Who should be baptized? When should they be baptized? How should they be baptized? Should they be baptized at all? Is baptism necessary for salvation? Perhaps a clear Biblical understanding of the question “What does baptism mean?” would clear up many of these questions.

Let’s start with the most important question of all: What does baptism mean?

The first passage to be considered is Romans 6:1-4.

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

Paul had just demonstrated that the Mosaic Law was wholly righteous in itself, but that the Law provoked our sinful nature to sin all the more. He ended chapter 5 by saying that “...the law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Paul’s point is that just because grace was given to cover and atone for our sin, we ought not mistakenly think that we should sin more to get more grace.

Paul’s argument is that because we have been united with Christ in his death (the forgiveness of sin through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross), we need to remember that we have also been united with Christ in his resurrection (newness of life in

the power of the Spirit). We have been moved from the kingdom of sin, death and darkness and have now been placed into the kingdom of righteousness, life and light!

All of this took place when we were baptized by the Holy Spirit into a new life in Christ. This took place because of God’s electing grace, determined in eternity past (Ephesians 1:3-5). It was accomplished in time and space through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, for

our sins (1Corinthians 15:3-8), and it was applied at just the right time in our lives by the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11).

Therefore, in Galatians 3:26-27 Paul rightly says: “*You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*”

So, the clear teaching of the Scriptures can be summed up in Paul’s most glorious declaration of Ephesians 2:8-9: “*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*”

We have been created for good works, not the kind that attempt to earn our favor with God, but the kind that are Spirit-led and Spirit-empowered. They are good works that flow from the mind of God to accomplish the great and eternal purposes of God and to glorify the person of God.

Why does Jesus say what he does in what is commonly called the Great Commission, found in Matthew 28:18-20?

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy

Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Jesus has commissioned his disciples to go. And, while they are going, they are to remember two very important facts and to engage themselves in two very important activities. First, they are to remember that Jesus Christ sits at the right hand of the Father and all authority has been given to him over all the heavens and the earth. He reigns supreme.

Second, they are to remember that wherever they go, He will be there with them, from that moment until the end of these “last days.” Recognizing the authority and presence of Christ, the disciples were commissioned to engage themselves in two activities: baptizing people and teaching people.

If the baptism that Jesus and Paul talk of is the baptism of the Spirit, what is this thing we call “water baptism?” In the description of the early church found in the Book of Acts, we find repetitive examples of groups and individuals engaging themselves in an outward demonstration of what had taken place inwardly.

The Greek word that has been translated into “baptize” means “to dip; to immerse.” What happens in the heart is that we have been lowered into the grave by our union with Christ, and we have been raised from the grave by that same union. What Christ commanded and what the early church embraced is the symbolic representation of what has happened in our hearts through the calling of the Father, the grace from the Son and the indwelling of the Spirit.

“Water” baptism is a visible sign of what has taken place in the heart of a believer. Therefore, we immerse a person under the water to represent his union with Christ in His death, and we raise a person from the water to represent his union with Christ in His resurrection. It is a visible and public display of our salvation and our desire to be a devoted follower of

Jesus Christ.

It was the pattern of the early church to see people come to saving faith in Christ, and then seek to be baptized almost simultaneously with their repentance and faith in Christ. Hence, this practice confused and made into one the understanding of faith in Christ and the baptism of a believer.

However, in Luke 23:40-43 we read of the conversation Jesus had with the repentant criminal that was crucified alongside of Jesus:

“But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.””

Therefore, the clear teaching of the New Testament affirms that salvation comes in no other name but in the name of Jesus Christ. It comes solely through the gift of regeneration, illuminating our need for forgiveness and offering the free gift of salvation in Christ Jesus and our acceptance of that gift through faith.

The clear practice of the New Testament was to proclaim new life in Christ through the visible expression of water baptism (Acts 2:41; 8:12-13; 8:36; 9:18; 10:47-48; 16:15, 33; 18:8; 19:5). So, the command of Jesus to go and baptize represents both the preaching

of the Gospel and the use of water baptism. Salvation does not require water baptism, but it visibly demonstrates the right attitude of a thankful and devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

Let us return to our initial list of questions and see how a proper understanding of baptism’s meaning will shed some light on our answers to those questions.

First, who should be baptized? It is clear from the above that baptism cannot precede salvation. Therefore, baptism is for anyone who has repented of sin, accepted

“Water” baptism is a visible sign of what has taken place in the heart of a believer.

HPC will be holding baptism services on July 27

MCF helped MOM clean up

Six MCF families collaborated with Middleton Outreach Ministry to help three homes of the elderly do some spring clean up in late May. To learn more about Married Couples Fellowship, contact Andy & Ellen Flottmeyer (aflottmeyer@charter.net) or Don & Beth Williams (don_bethw@hotmail.com).



MCF Upcoming Events

July 2: Concert on the Square
 August 23: Outdoor movie night at the Pinka's
 September: Middleton Outreach Ministry (MOM) Fall clean-up day

Baptism

continued from page 2

forgiveness through Christ's finished work on the cross and experienced the inner testimony of the Holy Spirit that they are a child of God.

Can this happen to an infant? No. Can this happen to a child? Yes, when they are old enough to understand and appreciate what it means to be a devoted follower of Christ.

When should a person be baptized? Ideally, in the footsteps of the Apostles, a believer should be baptized as soon after their salvation as possible.

How should a person be baptized? If baptism is symbolic, then the method ought to make visible what it signifies. Therefore, we believe that baptism by immersion is the preferred mode.

Should a person be baptized at all? If the Lord Jesus Christ has commanded it, who are we to debate it? The real issue is "Why not?" Can there be a positive attitude, flowing from a submission to our Lord Jesus Christ, that could possibly justify not getting baptized? It is not for me to judge, but is between you and Jesus.

Is baptism necessary for salvation? No.

We are going to have a celebration of the Ordinance of Baptism on Sunday, July 27. Depending on the number of people requesting baptism, we will have baptisms in both of our Worship Services.

Since baptism is a public declaration of our desire to follow Jesus, we encourage all who seek to be baptized to invite all their family, friends, coworkers, etc. to witness your baptism. We will require and schedule at least two instructional sessions prior to baptism. All in all, the only thing you have to provide is the desire to be baptized.

In every church and in every baptism that I have been involved in, Baptism has been a wonderful and God-glorifying event. If you desire to be baptized call the office or talk to Pastor Bill or any of our staff. We will follow up with you and get you started. What a wonderful thing it is to be loved by the God of all creation! Praise Him!

Welcome to new elders!

by Rebecca Schmitt rschmitt@highpointchurch.org

On May 18, 2008, the congregation of High Point Church elected five men to sit on the Elder Board. Jeff Farquhar, Jerry Hochhausen, Archie MacKinney, Jim Tanner and Rick Zynda each accepted the position, and the new board convened for the first time in June.

Three men also stepped off the Board in June: Bill Heifner, Ray Kent and Tim Keener. Thank you

to the men who have served us well over the past two years, and thank you to the men who have stepped up to fill those empty seats.

At the first meeting, officers were chosen by the Board. David Miller now serves as the Chair, Rick Zynda as the Vice Chair, Archie MacKinney as the Secretary, and Jeff Farquhar as the Treasurer.

Also starting in June, Pastor Bill Lerch is leading an Elder Training series. All current Elders, as well as any interested parties, are meeting for nine sessions to learn just what the Biblical role of an elder is, what it means to "lead and serve", and if a person feels called to the ministry of Elder. If interested, please contact Pastor Bill to learn more and obtain reading materials.

Women at the Well summer events

by Trisha Pinka t1p624@aol.com

Hey moms – looking for some fun activities to do with your kids this summer? Plus, have the chance to hang out with other moms?

The Women at the Well Bible

study would like to invite you to their summer activities.

July 10 – Pool party, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

July 31 – Ladies Dinner Out 6:00 p.m.

August 21 – Governor Nelson State Park 10:00 a.m.

Contact Trisha Pinka at t1p624@aol.com or Ellen Flottmeyer at aflottmeyer@charter.net



Library Corner

by Donna Fox

The library staff and volunteers hope that you are having a relaxing and refreshing summer. Be sure to come in and check out a good book to take with you to the beach or pool! Library hours are limited now that school is out but we hope to see you.

Summer Library Hours:
 Open Sunday mornings between services.

Wed. July 9,
 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 Wed. July 23,
 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 Wed. Aug. 6,
 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

TOWN HALL MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 14
 7:00 P.M.

Come to discuss a proposal to restructure our Sunday morning Adult, Children and Worship programming



High Point Christian School

Educate their minds, Touch their hearts, Impact their lives

HPCS enrollment update

by Alicia Lundal

alundal@highpointchristianschool.org

God continues to bless HPCS and our pre-school as we continue planning for the 2008-09 school year.

As of mid-June there were 192 students enrolled in grades K-8 for fall. The 3-4 year old classroom and the Pre-K programs are full.

Both pre-school classes, as well as the 2nd and 5th grades, have

waiting lists for the upcoming school year.

If you are interested or know someone who may like more information about the wonderful education students receive at HPCS, please contact Alicia Lundal at alundal@highpointchristianschool.org or by calling 836-7170 x 138.

Class of 2008 bids farewell to HPCS

Seventeen eighth grade students graduated from HPCS on June 4 in the sanctuary. Many students shared their testimonies, performed musical pieces and basked in the glow of their accomplishments amidst family and friends.

Mrs. Margaret Hamilton addressed the graduates as they prepared to move beyond the halls of HPCS (Mrs. Hamilton is

the mother of one of the graduates, Jim, who attended HPCS since kindergarten).

Miss Terry Myers was also recognized for her 16 years of service as a teacher at HPCS. Miss Myers was the 8th grade homeroom teacher and retired at the conclusion of the school year. HPCS wishes Miss Myers and all our graduates many blessings and continued success.



The Obedient Renegade
For Queen Esther, submission meant
breaking the rules

Saturday, July 12

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 13

2:00 p.m.

Admission
Adults \$5
Children \$3



Faculty creates award-winning character education

"Caring for One Another for Smart People Like You" is a program created by some of our HPCS teachers.

The program was the basis of the grades K-4 weekly chapel this past year. In April the Wisconsin Character Education Partnership (WCEP) recognized the "Caring for One Another..." program as a Wisconsin Schools of Character Promising Practices Award recipient.

Our school's program will be considered a "best practice" for

other schools to review as they develop their own character education initiatives. WCEP also issued a press release announcing the winners. Seven schools in the entire state were selected and only two of them were private schools.

Our teachers have also been invited to contribute a visual presentation (Power Point) of their wonderful program. This is an amazing honor, as it is a secular organization that is recognizing the dedicated efforts and leadership of our amazing teachers.

Upcoming HPCS dates

Meet Your Teacher
August 20, 1-3 p.m.

Parent Orientation
August 25, 7 p.m.

First Day of School
August 27

Skating for our school



Students in grades K-8 participated in our annual Skate-a-thon in April. Through pledges collected by students (and some faculty!), thousands of dollars were raised. These funds, combined with other fund-raising efforts through our PSO parent group, will provide new computers in all our classrooms to be used by our teachers. There were class races, games, and fun had by all.

Thank you!

by Steven & Tammy Stump

To our church family at High Point Church,

We wanted to thank you for your kindness and care for us during Tammy's recovery from double bunion surgery.

We received many get well cards, emails and phone calls letting us know you were praying for us and inquiring how we were doing and if there was any way you could help. We were touched to realize how cared for we were. Thank you also for all of the delicious meals and tasty desserts

that helped to make this time of recovery easier on the whole family.

It was enough of a balancing act for Steven to continue working, be Mr. Mom, take care of Brianna with her broken toe, and take care of Tammy too! We appreciate you and your compassion more than words can express. We feel very blessed and loved by you and thank God for the brothers and sisters in Christ that He has given us in you.

with thanks,

Steven, Tammy, Tyler,
Brianna, and Jordan Stump

Get it on your calendar!



High Point's
All Church Picnic & Ministry Fair
Sunday, September 7

Vacation Bible School 2008: Power Lab Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power

by Sheila Eichorst

seichorst@highpointchurch.org

July 21-25

6:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

\$10 per child

**Family Discount: 2 for \$15
or 3 for \$20**

* Registration forms and volunteer forms are available in the Welcome Center or can be downloaded at www.highpointchurch.org.

* Completed registration forms and payment can be dropped off in the Reception area of the church office in the green VBS Power Lab bucket.

Parents, we've got the solution to summertime boredom...send your

kids to Power Lab, where they'll discover Jesus' miraculous power! This is a Vacation Bible School that is oozing with Bible Adventures.

Each day your children will take part in fun Bible learning they can see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible Point crafts, team-building games, lively Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the Power Lab activities that help faith flow into real life.

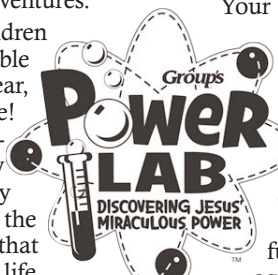
Every day, kids choose a Daily Challenge – an exciting way to live out what they've learned. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might

get a little messy. Be sure to send your child in play clothes and safe shoes.)

Your kids will also participate in a hands-on mission project called Operation Kid-to-Kid that involves nearly a million other children across North America!

Power Lab is great fun for children of all ages; even teenagers will enjoy signing up as a Crew leader who helps younger children.

Parents, grandparents and friends are invited to join us each



night at 8:30 p.m., because that's when we'll be having Faith Fusion Finale – a daily celebration of Jesus' power you won't want to miss!

40 – 50 adult and teen volunteers are needed to make this years VBS an awesome power-packed adventure for over 100 preschool and grade school aged kids. Please fill out a volunteer form and contact Sheila Eichorst if you are interested in helping out.

Questions? Contact Professor Sheila Eichorst, Your Power Lab Director at seichorst@highpointchurch.org or 836-3236 x 129

Family worship: Are we raising children who walk with God?

by Sheila Eichorst

seichorst@highpointchurch.org

What is the role of the family vs. the role of the church in training and teaching children how to become devoted followers of Jesus Christ?

Statistics show that children raised in evangelical homes and who profess Christianity are walking away from their faith by the end of their freshman year in college. To be exact, according to the 2002 Report of the Southern Baptist Council on Family Life, 88% of the children in evangelical homes leave church at the age of 18. Is there something wrong with the way we are raising our children? Are we doing what it takes to raise sons and daughters who walk with God?

Over the course of this year, God has been showing me that many churches and publishing companies in America have fallen prey to a humanistic influence and philosophy about raising children. Our culture, combined with a strategic plan by God's enemy, Satan, has strung a web of deceit in parents' minds that is weakening the family and the role of parents as spiritual teachers of their children.

Many parents today believe that they are giving their kids the best possible childhood experiences by paying well-trained adults to teach their kids important life skills that range from how to be a better athlete, to how to cook, study, act, or get into the best college. Parents are willing to pay big bucks for camps, private lessons, and com-

petitive team sports.

Our culture has rewritten the definition of what it means to be a good parent. Good parents have their kids involved in as many activities as their schedule will allow. Good parents are no longer viewed as the primary teachers of life skills, because there is always someone who can do it better and faster.

Have churches and Christian parents fallen prey to this lie also? Can a children's ministry program do a better job at teaching kids about God than Christian parents?

Do kids see the difference between what they are taught at church and the reality of life at home? Do you think that Christian parents are losing out to school, sports, media and the culture for the time and attention of their kids? How important is church and spiritual training in our homes? What unspoken messages are we sending our kids about what is really important for them to know before they leave for college?

We all know that most kids in America know more about television characters, famous athletes, and pop stars than about Moses or Jesus. And most youth are well versed about the dangers of drunk driving, AIDS, and drugs, but many haven't a clue about their own faith and what they believe. Is one or two hours a week really

enough time for kids to grow the faith that we think they should have when they leave home? Remember, God is the Master designer of the family and His Word is full of the absolute truth about how it should function.

Deuteronomy 6 is full of timeless precepts and principles that encourage multi-generational faithfulness.



These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you. [Emphasis added]

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the

door frames of your houses and on your gates. [Emphasis added]

I believe that the primary responsibility of the church is to equip Christian parents to do what God has mandated from the beginning, i.e. family worship!

Family worship means that kids and adults once again sit together in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Kids experience worship with God's children of all ages.

Family worship means parents become the primary teachers and role models for their child's spiritual growth by volunteering to teach and assist in their Sunday school classrooms and youth group activities. Parents make it a priority to attend activities that are designed to encourage, equip and strengthen their family's faith.

Family worship means that parents are growing, learning and sharing with their kids all that God is doing in their lives, every day of the week, not just on Sunday mornings.

Family worship means that spiritual milestones are celebrated and documented more than academic or athletic achievements.

Family worship means kids are learning what it means to be a dedicated disciple of Jesus Christ by following their parents' example...the way kids learn the majority of the things that make up their worldview on God, man, truth, knowledge, and ethics.

Our kids are becoming more like us than we realize!

Are we doing what it takes to raise sons and daughters who walk with God?

Mysteries

by Steve Sherbeck

ssherbeck@highpointchurch.org

There is a story that I heard my mother tell some time ago. It comes from the tale of women from the ruling family of the United Arab Emirates taking their first trip abroad. Upon arriving in London and getting to the hotel lobby, their men piled into a small room.

The doors closed and a little while later the doors opened again, but the men were gone and the bell hop was beckoning the women to enter the room next. They were afraid to enter because they didn't know what happened to their men.

I've more recently heard a similar story on local radio of a hill-billy and his family taking their first trip into the big city. The man left his wife in the truck while he and his son went into

the hotel to check things out. They saw an old woman hobble into a small room that had no other exit and the doors closed behind her. A little while later the doors opened and a beautiful young woman emerged. The man turned to his son and told him to quickly go and get his mother.

Both of these stories illustrate the problem of trying to explain what an elevator is to people that have never seen one and have very little to no exposure to modern inventions. But, how about trying to explain what a satellite phone is to a member of an unreached tribe in the Amazon. Or to show him a movie on a TV and try to explain how there aren't actually people inside that little box. People who don't have

the required prerequisite knowledge and frame of reference to grasp complex ideas would have a difficult time understanding them. There are many such ideas that we take for granted.

Why is it that people so often feel like they can't believe the truth of the Bible because they can't fully understand every bit of it? How could we understand it all when we do not have the required prerequisite knowledge and frame of reference to grasp complex ideas that are not bound by the world's constraints of physics? Through the various attempts are made to explain heavenly concepts to earthly people using earthly vocabulary and analogies.

We need to accept that earthly vocabulary and analogies cannot

fully explain every heavenly detail. We cannot know fully until we have the frame of reference to know fully. The Bible has many mysteries that we will not know the answer to until the fullness of time. *"For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known"* I Corinthians 13:12 [NASB].

Unlike a mystery book, we do not have the last page available to us until we are with the Lord. I look forward to the day when I can sit at Jesus' feet and I can learn the truth to some of these mysteries and discover that they are not nearly as important as I once thought they were.



A brief interlude

by Craig Fonzen

crfonzen@tds.net

It's about 10:15 a.m. the sermon is done, and the benediction has been given. What do you do next?

Pickup your kids from Sunday school, look for familiar faces in the narthex. Some of us race back home to the Sunday paper, sports, the internet, brunch, lawn chores; the list of choices seems almost endless.

Let me suggest a brief, one-half hour interlude: the Hospitality Café.

Every Sunday morning Micah E is transformed into the Hospitality Café. Coffee, tea, lemonade and lots of goodies await everyone looking for good fellowship, new friendship, or a needed word of encouragement or prayer. Again, the choices are almost endless.

Now you may be wondering, "Which HPC staff member is responsible for provisioning the Café from week-to-week?" Well the good news is: none are. *We* are the Café! Part of "HPC body life" is to meet new folks from across the sanctuary.

The Hospitality Café has operated under the gracious leadership of Howard and Yvonne Young for the last couple of years.

However, as the seasons of our lives inevitably change, so has the season changed for Howard Young. A vibrant, active 73 years old, Howard is currently being treated for multiple myeloma and obviously cannot (nor can Yvonne) devote the time that they have in the past, to keep the Café running smoothly.

A great opportunity exists for those of us who have the gift of serving or hospitality. Either bake or shop to provide a couple dozen cookies, a coffeecake, or a bag of cut veggies or fruit. It just needs to be labeled "for the Café." (Items do need to be in Micah E by 9:00 a.m.)

Please pray for Howard's healing as well as strength and endurance for Yvonne. Perhaps the Lord may be calling you to a new service opportunity at the HPC Hospitality Café!

Now, many of us haven't stopped by and visited in the Hospitality Café for a variety of reasons. May I suggest a solution made popular by a shoe company: **Just do it!**

What have you got to lose (30 minutes) or gain (friends in the Lord for a lifetime)?

Worship

by John Georgeson

jgeorgeson@highpointchurch.org

For Christians to worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23) we must know who God is from a biblical perspective. Throughout this summer we will be focusing our corporate worship time on ten selected attributes of God as revealed in Scripture. This list is by no means exhaustive – merely a starting point for those who hunger to know God more deeply.

No one attribute offers us a complete picture of God. To say God is holy is only a part of the story – He is infinitely holy, perfectly holy and eternally holy. We will never run out of reasons to worship Him!

God is Holy

"Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his holy mountain, for the Lord our God is holy." Psalm 99:9

God is Sovereign

"The Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other...For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God." Deuteronomy 4:39; 10-17

God is All-Powerful

"Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong

and mighty." Psalm 24:7-8

God is Good

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." Psalm 106:1

God is Gracious

In love, God accepts us into his family because of his *"glorious grace, which he has freely given us."* through Christ. (Ephesians 1:6)

God is Loving

"One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, O God, are strong, and that you, O Lord, are loving." Psalm 62:11-12

God is Compassionate

"The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love." Psalm 103:8

God is Merciful

"The Lord is full of compassion and mercy." James 5:11

God is Wise

"To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are his." Job 12:13

God is Faithful

Our God *"is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations."* Deuteronomy 7:9

The Leadership Summit brings together many walks of life

by Kathleen Shrader kshrader@highpointchurch.org

High Point Church has been a satellite host site for the Willow Creek Leadership Summit since 2002. Since that time approximately 1,300 lay volunteers, pastoral staff, business, and community leaders have attended the annual Leadership Summit at High Point Church.

As a host church, our congregation receives a steep discount off of the registration rate. Our church members and attendees can register \$105 before August 1, a considerable savings off the regular rate of \$205.

In 2007, the range in age and life experience of attendees at the High Point Church site spanned from age 16 to the mid 70's. In this cross section we have doctors, nurses, attorneys, business owners, secretaries, professors, elementary school teachers, children's ministry directors, mothers, fathers, pastors, youth pastors, deacons, professional musicians, computer designers, law enforcement, fire fighters, elders, and the entire office from a janitorial supply company.

Only the Leadership Summit can draw, strengthen, equip, and encourage current and emerging leaders of such diverse life experiences. The practical how-to training each attendee gains will benefit not only themselves, but their families, churches, businesses, schools and communities.

In order to get the "High Point rate" please complete the form available in the Welcome Center and return to the Reception Desk. Checks should be made out to High Point Church. Please note, all major credit cards are accepted.

If you want to be involved prior to or during the Summit, please contact Rick and Casey Zynda, as there will be multiple tasks to complete the week of the Summit. They can be reached via email at satideas@msn.com.

Pre-registration and promotional inquiries should be directed to Kathleen Shrader via email at kshrader@highpointchurch.org.

For detailed information about the Leadership Summit, please visit www.willowcreek.com/summit.

Welcome to children dedicated on Father's Day



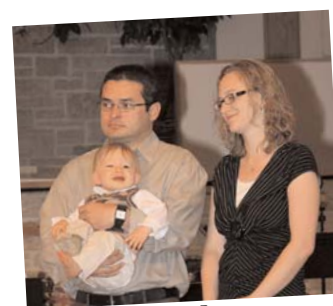
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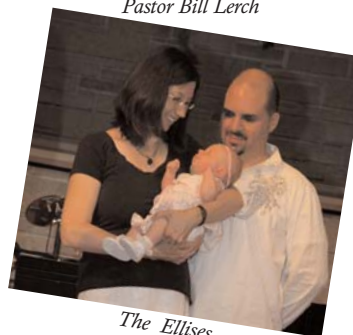
The Torreses



Pastor Bill Lerch



The DeLeons



The Ellises



The Hudsons

High Point Christian Studies Center An Extension Site for Trinity Evangelical Divinity School Making Quality Seminary Education Convenient and Affordable

by Brandon Ellis bellis@highpointchurch.org

Did you know that we have a seminary extension site right here at High Point Church? Through a partnership with Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, local Madison and south-central Wisconsin students work on a Master of Arts in Christian Studies degree from Trinity without leaving their jobs or ministry context.

Courses are offered in convenient evening and weekend formats and are taught by Trinity's own professors as well as well-qualified local adjuncts from the Madison area.

Courses are available for credit or for audit. Graduate-level tuition cost is a very reasonable \$305 per credit or \$200 per course to audit. Please see below for Fall

2008 course times and descriptions.

Whether you are currently working in professional ministry, sensing God's call to transition into vocational ministry, needing some additional training as a volunteer or simply want to study God's Word on a deeper level, courses through Trinity Extension - Madison may be for you.

For additional information, please check out the Fall 2008 Registration Guide and Course Catalog located in the Welcome Center at High Point Church. You may also contact the Madison Extension Coordinator, Brandon Ellis at 608-836-3236 x155 or bellis@highpointchurch.org.

More information about Trinity Evangelical Divinity School may be found on the web at www.tiu.edu/divinity/

Fall 2008
EM 5000 - Educational Ministry in the Local Church
(3 cr.) - Roland Kuhl

Sept. 5-6; Oct. 3-4; Oct. 31-Nov. 1; Nov. 21-22

An introduction to educational processes of passing the Christian faith from one generation to the next within the faith community. Special attention will be given to leadership, Christian formation, ministry and human development and learning theory as they inform educational ministries in the context of age-group ministries.

ST 5102 - Theology II - Christ,



Man, Sin, Salvation
(3 cr.) - Bruce Fields
Sept. 12-13; Oct. 10-11; Nov. 7-8; Dec. 5-6

This course covers the study of the person and work of Christ. It treats the nature of man both as a creature and as a sinner, including original sin, imputation of sin, and the nature and consequences of individual acts of sin. Discussion focuses on both the atoning work of Christ and on the application of the work of Christ by the Holy Spirit that runs from election through conversion and justification all the way to glorification. Due to the subject-focused structure of Trinity's core theology courses, Theology I, II and III may be taken in any order.

Church calendar for July & August, 2008

If your event is not listed here, please contact the church office at 836-3236 or scheduler@highpointchurch.org.

Special Events

Corporate Prayer	Thursdays	7:00 p.m.
MCF Town Hall Meeting	July 9	6:30 p.m.
Congregational Town Hall Meeting	July 14	7:00 p.m.
The Obedient Renegade (Drama)	July 12 & 13	7:00 p.m.; 2:00 p.m.
Baptism Sunday	July 27	
VBS 2008: Power Lab	July 21-15	6:15 p.m.
Leadership Summit	August 7-8	

Student Ministries Steve Dale (843-0748)

Junior High Students – GIG	Thursdays (ends Aug. 7)	6:30 p.m.
Senior High Students – CEL	Wednesdays (ends Aug. 6)	6:30 p.m.
College Students – Exhale	check Facebook for details	
New Orleans Mission Trip	July 11-18	
St. Thomas Mission Trip	August 1-8	
Super Sloppy	August 28	

Children's Ministry Sheila Eichorst (836-3236 x129)

Infant & Toddler Nursery	Sundays	9:00 & 10:45 a.m. services
Early Childhood Sunday School (ages 2-5)	Sundays	9:00 & 10:45 a.m. services
Grade School Children's Sermon	Sundays (ends Aug. 31)	9:00 a.m. service
Revive – Special Needs Ministry	(resumes in September)	
VBS 2008: Power Lab	July 21-15	6:15 p.m.

Adult Ministries

Bible Study for All Ages	Sundays	10:45 a.m.
Men's Basketball	Tuesdays & Thursdays (not week of 7/21)	5:30 a.m.
Men's Fellowship	Wednesdays (not 7/23)	6:30 a.m.
BASIC Singles Group	Fridays	7:00 p.m.
Men's Monthly Breakfast	July 12, August 9	8:00 a.m.
BASIC Leaders Meeting	July 6, August 3	12:30 p.m.
First Place Weight Loss Ministry	July 7, August 11	7:00 p.m.

Care Ministries

Divorce Care	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m.
Men's Shelter Meal Prep	July 4, August 1	6:00 p.m.
Stephen Ministers Training	July 15, August 12	7:00 p.m.

Outreach Ministries

Hospitality Cafe	Sundays	10:15 a.m.
DR Team Meeting	July 6	10:30 a.m.
DR Sharing Luncheon	July 27	12:30 p.m.

Music & Worship Arts John Georgeson (836-3236 x119)

To learn more about Worship Team opportunities throughout the summer, contact John Georgeson.

Administrative Ministries

HPC Staff Meeting	Tuesdays	10:00 a.m.
Bulletin Stuffers	Fridays	8:30 a.m.
Deaconess Meeting	July 14, August 11	7:00 p.m.
Elders Meeting	July 10 & 24, August 14 & 28	7:00 p.m.
Finance Team Meeting	July 16, August 20	7:00 p.m.
Elder Training	July 19, August 2, 16, 23	7:30 a.m.

High Point Christian School 836-7170

HPCS School Committee Meeting	July 15, August 19	7:00 p.m.
HPCS Staff Orientation	August 18-22	
HPCS Parent Orientation	August 25	
HPCS Parent Coffee (1st day of school)	August 27	8:30 a.m.
HPCS Meet Your Teacher	August 27	12:00 p.m.