

SPENCER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in Central Wisconsin

B3942 State Hwy 13, P.O. Box 47, Spencer, WI 54479

SERVICES SCHEDULE: SUNDAY 9 a.m. Bible Classes; 10 a.m. Worship

WEDNESDAY 7 p.m. Bible Classes

WELCOME VISITORS!

We would like to offer you a free Bible correspondence course or any other tracts or literature you may see in the foyer. If we can help you or answer any questions you may have, please let us know!

OUR LEADERSHIP

ELDERS:

Duane Anderson 715-659-2327
 Russ Draeger 715-600-3983
 Gary Nieman 715-897-2248

DEACONS:

Dan Anderson 715-659-4530
 Mark Anderson 715-3053283
 Clint Nieman 715-650-7988
 Don Nieman 715-659-4574
 John Petras 715-897-5882

PRAYERS NEEDED:

- Bryce Minor-10 yr. old from Alabama - home and healing
 - June, Marsha's mom-health problems
 - Linda Nulph, Rhonda's mom-
 - Jeanine Weis from TX - lymphoma
 - Donovan Poppin -8 yr. old with cancer from TX
 - Those traveling - Collin and Morgan
 - Our shut-in's; our missionaries, our elders and deacons
- Please keep those with on-going health issues in your prayers: Jerry Weichelt, Yvonne Morrow, Jeri Oppermann, Morgan Gorst

PLEASE EMAIL PRAYER REQUESTS TO RHONDA

SERVING	TODAY	NEXT WEEK
SCRIPTURE	Clayton	Kyle
ANNOUNCE/PRAYER	Gary	Gary
SONG LEADER	Dan	Paul
PRESIDING	Mark R	Dan
SERVING	Jess	Rusty
SERVING	Don	Jim
SERVING	Kyle	Levi
CLOSING PRAYER	Duane	Clint
SPEAKING	Mason	Mason

LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTION



"The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple."

-Psalm 19:7

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED??

- Hear the Gospel
Romans 10:17
- Believe in Jesus
John 3:16
- Repent of your sins
Acts 2:38
- Confess Christ as Lord
Romans 10:9-10
- Be Baptized (Immersed)
1 Peter 3:21
- Remain faithful
Rev. 2:10

Thank you, Don & Kim, for hosting last night's devo! What a great fellowship time!! Our prayers are with Collin and Morgan as they travel back to Harding for their second semester!!

WHAT'S GOING ON.....

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

- FHU LECTURESHIP** February 3-See Gary if you are interested.
- SPRING BREAK CAMPAIGN/VBS - week of March 24**

WHY DO YOUNG ADULTS LEAVE THE CHURCH?

You love your child (or grandchild or neighbor or friend). You are committed to them. You want them to succeed. Yet, you are afraid. You are unsure what to do to help. You remind yourself of God's faithful words through Solomon in Proverbs 22:6 which says, "Train up a child in the way he should go and even when he is old he will not depart from it", yet you are still afraid that your child will leave the faith or ignore the faith when he or she becomes of age. It is vital to pause and ask a simple question: "What can you do to help?" By God's wisdom, he created each of us to be free moral agents—men and women with choice; therefore, a parent cannot coerce or force a child to obedience (spiritually). Nevertheless, a parent can influence a child to willfully obey the Gospel of Christ. The question "how?" remains unanswered.

In recent years, many have complained that our kids are leaving the faith. Interestingly, most parents attribute their children's "lost faith" to liberal teachers or college professors. Do you really think liberal college professors are that persuasive? It is possible, yet not probable. College professors seem to lack influence in encouraging young adults to attend class on time, to go to bed early, and to exercise daily, yet somehow we remain convinced that they are responsible for the mass exodus of young adults leaving the church. It is possible that some young adults leave the church because of liberal professors, yet it is unlikely that liberal professors are the root of the problem. The problem, the reasoning for the mass exodus of our beloved children, is simple—a weak home and/or an uncomprehending church.

Most of us have heard sermons regarding Timothy's youth. I find Paul's reminder to Timothy in 2 Timothy 1:5 interesting. Paul says, "For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that it is in you as well." Throughout the book, Paul commends Timothy's faith and encourages him in Godliness to be Godly. Paul commends Timothy and his family for the passing on of faith. Thus, how can we pass on faith from one generation to the next? Moreover, what causes some young adults to remain faithful while others abandon the faith altogether? Finally, what can we do as a congregation to stop this mass exodus?

By now, you have come to recognize an important point—if children, kids, or young adults do not develop their own faith, eventually, they will not have faith. Do you not believe that the church has more influence than a liberal college professor? I do. The church in Spencer has been blessed with a fantastic group of youth and young adults. Consider the following three principles the church can implement to blockade the mass exodus of those we love from Carey Nieuwhof's book, *Lasting Impact: 7 Powerful Conversations That will Help Your Church Grow*:

- 1) Form Intergenerational Relationships: Young adults thrive on relationships—with those of our same age and those who are wiser and more intelligent, the elderly. However, we do not want to be lectured; we want to serve alongside you. Partner with us. We beg you to think of new ways for us to serve and meet needs together.
- 2) Give and receive grace: Young adults love transparency; we want to know your struggles. We need to know that perfection is not required, but holiness through Jesus is. We beg you to share stories with us that highlight your imperfections and how you have been able to overcome.
- 3) Express doubt safely: Young adults love truth, yet not "blind" truth. We want to know the truth, yet we want to explore all of our options first. Our doubt is not toxic to our faith. We want to ask tough questions—not to trap you, but to strengthen our faith. We beg you to avoid suppressing our questions. If you do not know, it is okay. We prefer no answer over a simple answer to a complex, challenging question.

Wishful thinking will not ensure that our children and young adults remain faithful later on in life. Intentionality is critical—you can change the lives of the youth in Spencer, that is, if you choose to. We as young adults need you to do your part—form intergenerational relationships with us, give and receive grace, and let us express our doubt safely (that is without criticism).

We need you.