

BETHEL MATTERS

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THE ITCH

BROCK YOUNGREN

When the weather turns warm (or warmish) in the spring, I start getting the itch to play golf. I guess the reality is that I start getting the itch to play around the middle of January, but it really kicks into gear when the temps hit 50 for the first time. Then, once the courses open and I could actually get out and play, I have this burning desire to grab my clubs and hit the range or play the course.

I realize that not everyone has the same desire as I do to play golf, which makes me sad for all of the rest of you... Anyway, most people I know do have a similar feeling in their life about some

activity – fishing, baseball, skiing, hunting, gardening, or whatever else. The point is that something deep inside of us desires to do something, usually when the weather changes toward the needs for that activity. The desire to do these things is good, we can enjoy the activity and put huge amounts of effort toward it.

The question that we must both ask and answer as growing followers of Christ is this: do we have the same “itch” to either follow Christ or share the truth of Him with the people around us? If we recognize that without Him, we are destined for an eternity of death and

punishment, why don't we have the itch to make sure that the people around us hear and understand the truth? If we recognize what He has done for us, why do we not feel the itch to devote ourselves completely to Him in all areas of life? We devote ourselves to things that we love, things that mean a lot to us, usually to things that will only last for a portion of our life. I will lose the ability to play golf at some point, everyone does. At some point, you will lose the ability to do whatever it is that you love to do, everyone does. We invest ourselves deeply into things that are temporary - good things but temporary things.

But the impact of following Christ, of devoting ourselves to Him and sharing His offer of forgiveness & life with people will make an impact that is not temporary, for it will impact even after death. Yet, most of us who say that we follow Christ, who say that He is the most important thing in our lives, most of

us devote ourselves more to our golf game than we do to Jesus. We feel more desire to activities than to following Christ, which is simply wrong.

I'm not saying that I should just stop playing golf or that you should stop whatever it is that you love to do. What I am saying is this: find a way to use those things to show devotion to Jesus and tell others about Him. For me, I have found that I can build relationships with people during a round of golf, which means that I don't play alone very often. I can use golf to build relationships not just to play golf. We can have conversations centered around Jesus - pushing each other to know and follow Him more. We can pray for each other. We can certainly just spend time getting to know each other more.

In fact, if you'd like to play a round with me, call me at 515.890.7894 and we will set up a time. God bless!



*Sharing his offer of forgiveness &
life with people will make an
impact that is not temporary.*

GRADUATING SENIORS 2023

Congratulations to our 2023 High School Graduates! Graduation Sunday is June 4th.

Keiton Ansell	Marquette
Aiden Edge	Marquette
Isaac Johnson	Marquette
Sienna Lingle	Marquette
Emily Marker	Negaunee
Philip Nelson	Negaunee
Bodhi White	Marquette

GRADUATION PARTIES

Philip Nelson - Negaunee
May 28th, 4-7 PM
Bethel Baptist Church

Isaac Johnson - Marquette
June 3rd, 1-4 PM
Bethel Baptist Church

Keaton Ansell - Marquette
June 10th, 12-3 PM
104 Brewer Dr, Marquette



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 12-16 | 9AM-NOON

Huzzah! Grab your armor and your trusty steed and get ready for a merry time as we travel back to the time of castles and dragons! Kings, queens, knights, jesters—all are welcome to attend! At VBS, we'll fill your tummy with fine victuals as you learn how to put on the armor of God! Keepers of the Kingdom will be an adventure filled with excitement, so contact us today!





SATURDAY, JULY 1ST
12:00 - 10:00 PM

UP City Fest is back this year but with a mission to reach our NEIGHBORS! Do you know of a child or young adult aged 10-23 that is talented in VIDEOGAMING? Invite them to join the Super Smash Bros tournament! All ages will have a blast gathering in Lower Harbor to watch the action on big screens. In addition, our beloved Stunt Dudes are returning for thrilling motor sports tricks, live music, food, children's activities, and more. Start inviting your friends and neighbors to join in the exciting and hope filled event.

Interested in volunteering? In order to reach youth through this event, we need YOUTH. An evangelism training will be held at Bethel on June 4th 5:30p - 7:30p for both adults and a separate one for YOUTH interested in volunteering as a "Friend of the Festival" at UP City Fest. This training will include food and fellowship at 5:30-6:30p followed by simple evangelism training regarding how to talk with people at UP City Fest that express desire to learn more about faith in Christ. This training or a prior evangelism training is required in order to volunteer as a friend of the festival. Sign up for volunteering to serve in the different areas of the event is also needed.

Promotional materials and volunteer sign up are available at the Connect Center. Use volunteer QR code to sign up to help with set up, children's area, and more. Tournament sign up handouts for your kids to invite their friends are also available in the youth Sunday School rooms.

Care Clinic

Pregnancy Help and Educational Resources for Families

Walking with Families

June 17, 2023

Marquette Care Clinic

1213 N. Third St.

Registration begins 10:00

Ceremony/Walk begins 10:30



VBS VOLUNTEER TRAINING

JUNE 4 | 12:30 PM

All VBS volunteers are asked to attend the VBS Workers training. Lunch will be provided in the gym.



PRIMETIMERS TRIP

JUNE 6 | 8:30 AM

Join the Primetimers on a trip to Tahquamenon Falls and Oswald's Bear Ranch. Payment deadline is May 28th. Find out more on our website or by contacting Dave Thomas!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 12-16 | 8:30 AM

Learn how to put on the armor of God at VBS 2023! Invite your friends, and get ready for some fun! Volunteer and child sign-up on our website.



MEMBERSHIP CLASS

JUNE 17 | 10 AM

Interested in becoming a member or want to learn more about Bethel? Come to the membership class! Contact Lynn Miller for more info.



INFORMATIONAL MEETING

JUNE 19 | 7 PM

What is the purpose of church membership? Let Brock explain!



PRIMETIMERS PICNIC

JUNE 20 | 5 PM

Join the Primetimers for a picnic at Lambros Park!



QUARTERLY MEETING

JUNE 25 | 11:30 AM

The second quarterly meeting of the year will be held after ABF on June 25th.



CONDOLENCES TO:

Dave & Sandra Paul on the passing of Sandra's mother, Linda King Rose, on May 1st.

MAY ATTENDANCE

May 7	First	190
	ABF	133
	Second	127
	Total	317

May 14	First	194
	ABF	162
	Second	133
	Total	327

May 21	First	136
	ABF	49
	Second	130
	Total	266

May 28	First	150
	ABF	157
	Second	160
	Total	310

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Kurt & Shelley Janofski on the birth of their grandson, Channing Neil Janofski, born to Kevin & Aerial Janofski on April 18th.

Eyn Nye for being nominated an outstanding graduating senior in the College of Technology & Occupational Sciences at Northern Michigan University.

Siena Lingle for receiving All-Conference Honorable Mention in basketball.

FINANCIAL

Giving for April 2023
General Fund - \$42,161
Building Fund - \$915
Monthly need - \$52,117

EVENTS

VBS Volunteer Training
June 4 | 12:30 PM

Primetimers' Trip
June 6 | 8:30 AM

Prayer Gathering
June 11 | 7 PM

VBS
June 12-16 | 9 AM

Membership Class
June 17 | 10 AM

Informational Meeting
June 19 | 7 PM

Primetimers' Picnic
June 22 | 5 PM

Quarterly Meeting
June 25 | 11:30 AM

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Ray Hedberg
- 2 Don VanRyn
- 3 Jim Timmons
- 4 Eric Jentoft, Adelyn Pell
- 5 Grace Korpela, Teddy Korpela, Lynn & Irmgard Miller A
- 8 Harmony Dahlstrom, Caleb Linna
- 9 Eleanor Maier
- 10 Julie Motta
- 11 Don & Susie VanRyn A
- 12 Sarah Holsinger, Ethan Lingle, Cori Steede, Dave & Alma Thomas A
- 14 Irena Janofski
- 15 Natalie Martin
- 16 Jackson Oberg
- 17 Don Wernholm, Peter Wyckoff
- 18 Marj Brown, Ayla Pell, Eason Pell
- 20 Luke & Heather Pell A, Ann Steede
- 21 Simon Mosher
- 22 Paul Callanan, Aden Dahlstrom, Bill & Sarah Johnson A, Matthew Tlreman
- 23 Sue Parsons
- 25 James Glover
- 26 Dennis & Judy Caldwell A
- 27 Ed & Carolyn Deyo A
- 28 Chloe Freeborn, Hank & Ann Steede A
- 29 Jim & Gwen Timmons A
- 30 John Hamel, Chris Mauser, Charlotte Saberniak

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