



TOWARD A CHRISTIAN VIEW OF ECONOMICS:

# THOU SHALT NOT COVET

BY PASTOR SCOTT BOERCKEL

*Perhaps nothing generates greater emotional reaction than a conversation about money and finances.*

The Bible says a LOT about money. It talks about how we ought not to love money or trust in money. It tells us to be generous and to share. It teaches us to save and invest. It teaches us how to give. It teaches us to put money at risk in our work. It tells us that getting rich can be a blessing from God, but that can also keep us far from God.

I detect something afoot in our culture that I'd like to examine in relation to the tenth commandment, "You shall not covet." There is an increasing animosity toward rich people simply because they are rich. The idea is that if

*(continued on page 2)*



## Happy Birthday

*Our church plant, Living Stone Communities, just celebrated its first birthday (page 4)*



## Summer Reading

*Hey parents! Check out our summer Bible reading program designed for 1st-6th graders (page 11)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

June 6

**Women's Ministry  
Bible Studies Begin**

June 8

**Costa Rica Barber Shop**

June 9 & 16

**Ministry & More Food Drive  
FCFI Shoe Drive**

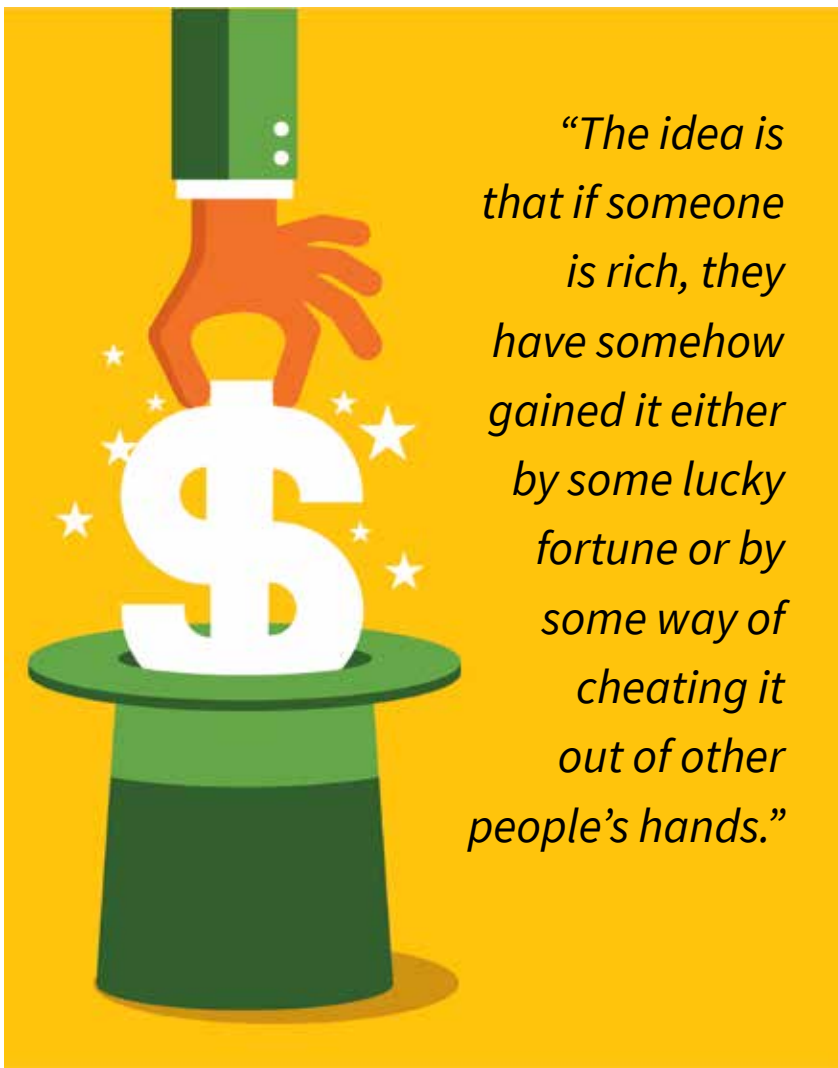
June 25

**Senior Saints Patriotic Event**

July 6

**Men's Sporting Clays Shoot**





*“The idea is that if someone is rich, they have somehow gained it either by some lucky fortune or by some way of cheating it out of other people’s hands.”*

someone is rich, they have somehow gained it either by some lucky fortune or by some way of cheating it out of other people’s hands. This idea goes further by saying that as the rich have become richer, the poor have become poorer. Thus, the rich have stolen from the poor, and the best way to solve that problem is to take that money from the rich, who can easily afford it, and give it to the poor, who can easily make use of it. According to this thinking, the rich have all this wealth lying around doing nothing that they have taken from the hands of poor people. So, some power must exert the force necessary to pry that money that is “doing nothing” away from the rich and redistribute it to the poor. Generally, that power is identified today as government.

This idea, that rich people are rich only because they have been lucky or because they have been evil, is going to destroy our nation if we allow that idea to go unchallenged. Are there people who are rich because they had some chance fortune, like winning the lottery? Are there people who are rich because they did evil and gained from that evil? Of course, that is true. But it is not true of all or even most rich people. Now, figuring out what exactly is “rich” is inexact. Generally, it means anyone who is wealthier than I am! However, for our purposes, let’s just say that a rich person is one who has a net worth of over one million dollars. That person is not as “rich” as some may think. Their wealth may be tied up in a business venture or in farmland or in any number of very productive ways that bring much needed

goods and services to others. The average millionaire in America lives in a home of 2600 square feet; 62% of them earn less than \$100,000 annually.<sup>1</sup> 61 percent of people who earn \$250,000 or more drive Toyotas, Hondas and Fords, not luxury automobiles.<sup>2</sup> So, be careful about how “rich” you think so called rich people are. They are where they are for the most part because they worked hard, saved and invested passionately, spent carefully, and avoided debt.

This is contrary to prevailing opinion which says that wealth came either by luck or by inheritance or by evil. Only 21% of millionaires received any inheritance at all. Just 16% inherited more than \$100,000. Only 3% received an inheritance at or above \$1 million.<sup>3</sup> The vast majority of millionaires are hardworking people. The top five occupations are: engineer, accountant, teacher or professor, management, and lawyers. Eighteen percent of millionaires are self-employed.<sup>4</sup>

Our government-run lotteries bear much of the blame for creating the climate of coveting the rich and the demand for redistribution of wealth. They advertise that wealth comes by chance. They suggest that the way to wealth is by participation in the lottery. And people believe the advertisements. A study by the University of Buffalo revealed that those in the lowest fifth in terms of socioeconomic status had the “highest rate of lottery gambling (61%) and the highest mean level of days gambled in the past year (26.1 days).” The study also concluded that increased level of lottery play was linked with those who live in disadvantaged neighborhoods.<sup>5</sup>

Is it any wonder then, that there are vast numbers of people who feel “cheated” by their own poverty, who think that luck is the only way out of poverty, and who therefore conclude that rich people owe them their money? The government is actually promoting this idea, and people are believing the lie.

The Bible shouts a loud, “No!” to this lie. First, it tells us that the money that a person earns is his, not his neighbor’s. Some key texts on this are the warnings in the scriptures about not moving boundary stones. (See Deuteronomy 19:14; 27:17; Job 24:2; Proverbs 15:25; 22:28; 23:10; Hosea 5:10.) What belongs to your neighbor,

belongs to him, not you. Second, the Bible tells us that hard work and disciplined living bring prosperity. Proverbs 13:11, “Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow.” When I was a child just at the start of summer vacation from school, I enjoyed being lazy, getting up late, not doing my chores, and generally having a bad attitude of entitlement. My mother would always quote to me from Proverbs 6, “Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.”

We simply must rescue the beautiful truth that one man’s wealth does not mean that he has stripped it from another. Wealth can be created by hard work. According to the World Bank, world poverty has declined by 36% since 1990.<sup>6</sup> This is not because government has become more efficient and taking money from the rich and giving it to the poor. It is because the opportunities for work and wealth creation from that work have grown in powerful ways. We will destroy that engine if we believe the lie that rich people are lucky or evil and that human flourishing can be obtained if only we take rich people’s money and gave it to the poorest among us.

The believer in Jesus Christ is rich beyond measure. This is because although Jesus Christ was rich, for our sake he became poor that we through his poverty might become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). His coming to this world to die for our sins is a gift beyond measure. As a result, believers in Jesus are known for their generosity. We do not love money, even though many believers work hard and, as a result, prosper. We love to give from that prosperity for God’s glory (Acts 4:32-35; 2 Corinthians 9:7). And even if wrong ideas gain hold and there comes a day when authorities come to strip our wealth away from us, we will joyfully accept that confiscation. As was said of our brothers and sisters centuries ago, so it will be true of us, “You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.” (Hebrews 10:34)

But until that time, not for our sake, but for the sake of the flourishing of our world, let us pray against all forms of coveting, let us not covet ourselves, and let us pray that people will see that hard work, not luck or evil, are the means to material prosperity.

“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.” (1 John 2:15, 17)  
Pastor Scott

<sup>1</sup><https://affordanything.com/171-the-biggest-study-of-everyday-millionaires-in-25-years-with-chris-hogan/>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.forbes.com/sites/joannmuller/2011/12/30/what-the-rich-people-really-drive/#639ff5df4e04>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.chrishogan360.com/how-many-millionaires-actually-inherited-their-wealth/>

<sup>4</sup><https://affordanything.com/171-the-biggest-study-of-everyday-millionaires-in-25-years-with-chris-hogan/>

<sup>5</sup><https://journalistsresource.org/studies/economics/personal-finance/research-review-lotteries-demographics/>

<sup>6</sup><http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/overview>

## Welcome, Amy Masters!

NEW OFFICE MANAGER AT EAST WHITE OAK



In late April, Amy joined the church’s office staff as the new Office Manager. Amy’s involvement at The Oak includes serving on the Women’s Ministry Leadership Team, teaching a children’s summer Sunday School class, chaperoning a youth ministry trip, leading an AWANA handbook group, and coordinating the church’s Meet ‘n Eat program.

The Masters Family: Jeremy & Amy, Courtney, Jake, Audrey, Elise, and Grace

Amy and her husband Jeremy have five children ages 13– 21.

You can contact Amy in the church office at [amy@ewo.org](mailto:amy@ewo.org).



## Thank you

FOR SERVING US SO WELL

**Amy Masters fills the office manager position vacated by Monica Ball.**

Monica recently transitioned from serving on the church staff to caring for her new granddaughter, Alina. Monica faithfully served in the church’s office for eleven years. Thank you, Monica!







## It is hard to believe that Living Stone Communities is ONE YEAR OLD!

**We celebrated one year on Sunday, April 7.** So much has happened in the last year. Here are a few stats from the past year, for which we give all the glory to God. We averaged 61 in our Sunday gatherings. We've had four individuals make professions of faith, and two were baptized. We have three Gospel Communities that meet weekly in fourteen different homes. We are intentional about doing life on life, life in community, and life on mission. God has continued to give us increased favor at Irving Elementary School. We have the tremendous opportunity and privilege in the course of a week to be in the school or serving students and staff five to six times every week. That also includes EWO folks, as well.

Let me share with you some thoughts that I shared at our Celebration Service. I began by paraphrasing some verses from 1 Peter.

"Welcome to the Living Stone (JESUS), the source of life. The workmen took one look (at the Living Stone, that is Jesus) and threw it out (crucified Him); God set (HIM) in the place of honor. (As a result, we are to) present ourselves

as building stones for the construction of a sanctuary vibrant with life, in which we'll serve as holy priests offering Christ-approved lives up to God."

"Let me remind you that you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do His work and speak out for Him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference He made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted."

"Family, this world is not your home, so don't make yourselves cozy in it. Don't indulge your ego at the expense of your soul. Live an exemplary life in the neighborhood so that our actions will refute their prejudices. Then they'll be won over to God's side and be there to join in the celebration when He arrives."

THIS is the WHY of LSC, and we praise and thank God for His faithfulness, especially over this last year, as we've served together. This one year has been so full of surprises and blessings, who knows the ways God will display His greatness in the future!! We celebrate and we joyfully move ahead together for His glory.



LSC ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

## Why did God send Jesus? Why did The Oak send us? What is our primary purpose in west Bloomington?

It is for the fame of His name,  
NOT to share the teachings of Jesus,  
NOT to bring social justice,  
NOT to improve economics of west Bloomington,  
NOT to adopt a local elementary school,  
NOT to elevate our understanding of a godly morality,  
NOT for community development.  
TO SEEK and TO SAVE the LOST!!!!

We are emboldened and encouraged by God's vision to Paul while he was in Corinth. "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are My people. And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them" (Acts 18:9-11).

So, what is our prayer, dream for LSC? There is a song from the Greatest Showman entitled "A Million Dreams," that I have rewritten.

"We close our eyes,  
And we can see a world of a loving community  
That is all Your own.  
Build Your church, make us one, all on mission for  
Your Son, our Living Stone.

They can say, they can say it all sounds crazy.  
They can say, they can say we've lost our minds.

We don't care, we don't care, if they call us crazy.  
We long to serve in a world that You design,  
'Cause every night I lie in bed; the brightness of Your power fills my head.  
A million thanks are keeping me awake.  
I think of what the world could be,  
A glimpse in what we already see.  
A million thanks for the world You're gonna make.  
A glorious dream of the world You're gonna make.

There's a house that You will build with souls You've chosen, saved,  
and filled with Your Spirit and Your grace.  
The precious souls that You unite to live as family in Your sight  
and serve in every place!

However big, however small, let us be part of it all.  
Work Your plan in us.  
You're always right, You're never wrong,  
But say that You'll bring us along  
To the world You see,  
To the world I close my eyes to see, I close my eyes to see.

'Cause every night I lie in bed; the brightness of Your power fills my head.  
A million thanks are keeping me awake.  
I think of what the world could be,  
A glimpse in what we already see.  
A million thanks for the world You're gonna make.  
A glorious dream of the world You're gonna make."

I have only, we only have, ONE DREAM, hope, prayer, desire—that keeps  
me/us awake.

That God will raise up a family of servant missionary learners, disciples  
who make disciples. Who were not a people, but now are the PEOPLE of  
GOD saved by faith alone, by grace alone, and through Christ alone. Who  
were once a bunch of nobodies, rejected, but now are doing life together,  
in community, and on mission for the Glory of God and the good of this  
community. Thank you, EWO, for your partnership in the Gospel.







# SMALL GROUPS

Get Connected at The Oak!



*Hi! I'm Pastor Justin. I will be overseeing Small Groups moving forward and I am here to help! You can ask me questions about recruitment, training, creation, and management of all things Small Groups.*

If you want to join or know more about a small group email me at [justin@ewo.org](mailto:justin@ewo.org)!

## WHAT IS A CELL/SMALL GROUP?

Well, it has been said that churches do lots of things. As our elders worked through the question “How does a person decide which things are best suited for maturing in Christ?” we found that some folks decide it by individual preference; others by what gets announced or highlighted; some are by what friends are doing; some even happen by accident.

Our elders have given a lot of thought to this. We want to continually provide to you the three clearest, most consistent pathways to maturity in Christ that we have here at The Oak. Conveniently, we labeled them all with a word that begins with “C” so that they are easy to remember.

**Celebration / Worship Services**  
**Community / Adult Bible Fellowship**  
**Cell / Small Groups**

In Cell/Small Groups, we are the body of Christ in a small group sized setting - Exodus 18:21-23; Mark 3:14 (Jesus’ small group); Acts 5:42 (the first church at Jerusalem was organized into small groups); 1 Corinthians 16:19; Romans 16:5; Colossians 4:15 for examples throughout the 1st century church.

The struggles of life cannot be overcome alone. The mission to make disciples cannot be accomplished alone. The small group is a wonderful ministry to the believer.

Cell/Small Groups means the mission is to make disciples. This means that small groups are not static. There will be a life span to a small group. Small groups invite others to join them until they need to divide into two small groups. And they are a training ground for creating new leadership.

Knowing, being known, and being on mission for God happens in small groups like no where else!

## AS THE PASTOR OVERSEEING SMALL GROUPS, I AM HERE FOR YOU!

1. I am committed to be praying for you personally and for your groups. Please let me know how I can be praying.
2. I am committed to hearing your advice and feedback so we can foster healthy relationships within the groups and encourage them to love and follow after Christ.
3. I am committed to getting to know you and your families more, and I am prioritizing my time to pour into your lives as you also learn with us what it means to love and follow after Christ.

# GOSPEL RESOURCES

Tracts / Bibles / Literature

## Summer Themed Gospel Resources Now Available!

*As a part of the church's outreach to the community, our Gospel Resources table is having a huge impact on the life of those in and outside of our church!*

Read as I paraphrase some of the ways Paula Moore has used our Gospel Resources:

"When I was ill, I went to OSF rehab and on the last day, I gave each rehab classmate and each nurse a Jesus DVD and a bag of popcorn. I told them they could go home and enjoy a movie and popcorn and they loved it."

"When I have garage sales, I keep about ten movies next to where I collect money for items purchased. When people purchase items, I ask buyers if they would like a free movie and many say yes!"

"I have a group of about five to six high school friends who meet for a Christmas lunch. I give each friend a Christian book and a Jesus DVD along with a gift I purchase. In each situation I tell the people receiving the books and DVD's where they came from and I tell them about East White Oak."

"I love giving The Oak mugs and merchandise out! One teenager received a mug and he loved it. When he showed it to his parents he said,

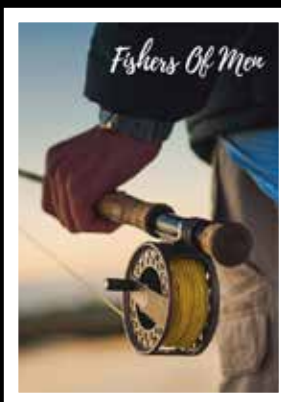
'Wow! It's really a nice mug!' I think it will help him remember his visit to The Oak.

Paula writes, "When you give people a free gift, they are closer to understanding the 'free gift' of salvation. People appreciate gifts. I like to think items from the Gospel Resource table help bring people a little closer to Jesus." She goes on to note that items from the table are supported by and are included as a part of your regular giving as your planned tithes and offerings keep ministries like this flourishing!

Here at The Oak, we seek to build and maintain a Gospel Resource display with themed resources to make your personal outreach ministry more effective. Look on the table for upcoming Father's Day, Independence Day and summer themed resources.

Please take advantage of these free Gospel Resources and join us in reaching out to your community! "Take what you need" is what the sign says! Don't see your favorite resource? Email [justin@ewo.org](mailto:justin@ewo.org) for a copy.

Please pick up these materials and share them with your family, friends and neighbors!—Pastor Justin Waples



*Find these resources at the Gospel Resource Table in the long hallway.*



# Missions Team Report

**HEY EVERYONE!** Look at the amazing things you and your church have been able to do all over the world these past few months!

## FEBRUARY

- The missions team was able to encourage and fund the Oakdale Life Club run by Tonya Southwood to be able to use the school space and provide snacks for the children.
- The team was able to send Lucas and Jamie Orner and family to Moscow.

## MARCH

- The team was able to help fund two trips for our church including Cedine and Dennis and Janet Schlagel to New Zealand with FCFI.
- The team also met with Mike Pollard with Pioneers Church Partnerships to discuss missions at The Oak and next steps to implement the global vision for reaching the unreached through East White Oak.

## APRIL

- The team helped fund airline tickets and supplies for the Costa Rica short term trip which will occur June 22-29.
- Other funding opportunities in April:
  - > Spread Truth Nairobi outreach to Muslims
  - > 100 Bibles for Jabulani's Tonga Bible Project
  - > Support for EACC requested by Joel Simbitti
  - > Samaritan's Purse relief in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Nebraska
  - > Katrina Forseth's short term trip to Uganda

## MAY

- In May, the team approved some changes to the short term trip application and expectations. These can be found on the website under Serve > Missions at the Oak > Short Term Trips.
- Funding opportunities:
  - > Josh and Katie Yates for their upcoming sabbatical
  - > New vacuum for Salem 4 Youth
  - > Micah Ngussa's new prosthetic

## Women's Summer Bible Studies

8 Week Studies  
THURSDAYS, JUNE 6 – AUGUST 1

### Thursday Mornings, 9:30am-11:30am

Childcare provided (\$2/child/week)

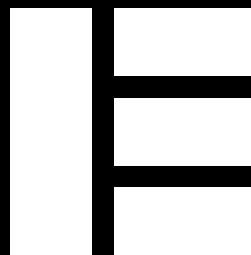
- Precept Upon Precept: Genesis Part 2
- Discover Together: Ecclesiastes
- The Book of Signs, Part 1, David Jeremiah

### Thursday Evenings, 6:30pm-8:30pm

No childcare

- Precept Upon Precept: Genesis Part 2
- Discover Together: Ecclesiastes

[ewo.org/connect/adults/women/](http://ewo.org/connect/adults/women/)



## E4 MEN'S MINISTRY

EQUIP, ENCOURAGE, ENGAGE, ENJOY

### SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT

Saturday, July 6

Oak Ridge Sportsmens Club, Mackinaw, Illinois. Registration begins at 8:00am, Shooting starts at 9:00am. Cost per shooter is \$40.00 and includes lunch. Online registration at ewo.org.

### CHALK TALK GRILLE MEN'S STEAK FRY

Tuesday, August 6

Plan to join us for a night of food, fun, and fellowship at our annual steak fry. Our speaker will be Jim Gruenwald, head wrestling coach for the Wheaton Thunder Wrestling.



pray



teach

What do we do in Tanzania?

love



support

share Christ  
counsel



east white oak  
youth ministries



## SUMMER YOUTH TRIPS

June 19  
**Junior High**  
Water Park Trip

June 22-30  
**Senior High**  
Colorado Discipleship  
Adventure Camp

July 9  
**Senior High**  
Water Park Trip

July 13-18  
**Junior High**  
Mission to Michigan

August 2-4  
**Senior High**  
End of Summer Retreat

## RETURN TO TANZANIA

2019 TANZANIA SHORT-TERM TRIP  
June 21 - July 7, 2019

This summer we have the privilege to serve alongside our Tanzanian ministry partners, Micah and Happiness Ngussa. This year's team will provide more teacher training and counseling for Tanzania Children's Rescue Center and Yordan English Medium Primary School. New projects are also in the works including sewing with students and mural painting on the newly constructed fence around TCRC. Additionally, teaching the children Bible lessons and having lots of loving interactions with them is most anticipated!

Would you consider supporting our team on this trip? First, we are asking for your prayers. The strength we receive from them is vital and such an encouragement. Second, the cost of the trip is \$3000/person. If you would like to make a financial contribution, please make your check payable to "East White Oak Bible Church." For IRS purposes please do not put any names on the check. Please give your envelope to a team member or place in Julie Horton's church mailbox. If you'd like to designate support for a specific team member, please attach a note with his/her name.

### Team Members

Carol Boerckel

Jen Gerber

Kelli Goodyear

Julie Horton

Matt Hughes

Emily Jenkins

Keith Studnicki

Kim Williamson

Owen Williamson

## Elder/Deacon Notes

Dave Osenga, Elder Chairman

1. We want to keep you thinking about the four affections that we talked about in the last issue: Growing in Christ, the Bible and Prayer, Obedience and Christian Living, and Mission and Outreach. These are areas that the elders and deacons are focusing on as we consider all of the things we do so that we all keep growing towards the goal of maturing in Christ.

2. How are you doing with the reading of the whole Bible in 2019? It's good to hear many people talking about what they've read and how it fits in with what is going on both at The Oak and in each of our lives. Keep going!!

3. We are so thankful for the completion of the first phase of the renovation. The work was done well, the workers have been ministered to, and now Phase 2. Thanks for your patience as this work is done.

4. Please be praying for the summer ministries that go on from the little ones up through overseas mission trips. Pray that God would be glorified, His kingdom will grow, and that our members stay safe and grow in their walks with God.



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The delightfully relaxed and fun-filled days of **summer** are here!

by Kris Seifert,  
Children's Ministry Director

For the boys and girls in ACORN Children's Ministries at The Oak, there will be some great opportunities to grow their relationship with God this summer. Over the past year or so, it has been intriguing to see God putting things together for this summer. How has He been doing this?

**School Year Focus:** For the past 9 months, the Children's Ministries Volunteers have been focusing on how to help children draw near to God in relationship. We've considered how we can help kids KNOW God in relationship, not just know facts about Him. Teachers are using Bible reading and study of the Scripture, prayer, journals, and service to help the kids get to know God and to better understand how God knows and loves them.

The children have also been invited to examine Scripture each month and consider how God is speaking into their lives by answering a question regarding the verse. This is called Bible Question of the Month! It has been encouraging to see the kids apply God's Word to their lives. The boys and girls are seeing God as relevant and trustworthy. A couple of examples:

**From a 2nd grader**

2 Corinthians 5:17 "So whoever is in Christ is a new creation; the old things have passed away. Behold new things have come."

*How does a person become a "new creation?"* "People become a new creation when they believe in Christ." *Name one NEW thing that believing in Jesus helps you do, think or say.* "Jesus helps when I have a fit."

**From a 3rd grader:**

Psalms 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God."

*Name 3 things that help you see God's wonderful goodness in the world.*

"1. I can see plants that make oxygen.

2. I can see love that people give.  
3. I can see me! I know God worked hard on me!"

**Summer Bible Reading:** Last summer, the idea of having the boys and girls do a Bible reading program similar to what is offered through the public libraries was tossed around. Plans began. As it just so happened, the whole church began a read through the Bible program in January!

This summer the boys and girls in 1st through 6th grades will be given the opportunity to read (or have read to them) the book of Matthew—one of the books the whole church will read in the same time period. They will be encouraged to engage in five readings per week over eight weeks. Study journals, a Bible dictionary, and much prayer will be available for helping them draw near to God as they dig into His Word.

Summer Sunday School

**1ST-6TH GRADERS**

Join us for an exciting summer of learning how to follow Jesus!



## HOW YOU CAN PRAY

There is a battle going on for the souls of our children. As we invite the children to go deeper into relationship with God, we need to pray.

- Pray that children and families make it a priority to read God's Word regularly.
- Pray for children to draw close to God, regarding Him as awesome and worthy of imitating.
- Pray that children KNOW God, not just facts about Him.
- Pray that God gifts children with faith in Jesus for salvation.
- Pray that lives are transformed!
- Pray that the LORD of the harvest would provide workers for building His Kingdom in Children's Ministries this summer.
- Seek God personally to see if He might be calling you to serve!

**Follow Jesus Summer Sunday Morning Program:** Another "it just so happened" moment occurred when planning for summer programming got underway this past January. At The Oak, we rotate through 6 programs for our children during the summers. This summer, "Follow Jesus" was the program that was next in line. This set of 14 lessons focuses 1st through 6th graders on children growing their relationship with Jesus. The boys and girls will examine the life of Jesus while He was on the earth and explore how they can better know, love and follow Him. They will experience lessons entitled Learn from Jesus, Pray Like Jesus, Worship the Risen Lord, Rock Solid Obedience, and Selfless Servants, just to name a few.

As I've watched all these things come together, I'm wondering, "God what might you be doing in the lives of the children at the Oak? How might you meet them this summer as they read Your Word and examine the life of Jesus? How might you transform them and grow them in a relationship with You?" I don't know the answers to these questions but I'm on pins and needles waiting to find out!

**God IS at work in our children...don't miss out in joining Him in it!**

Contact Kris Seifert to find out more!  
[kseifert@ewo.org](mailto:kseifert@ewo.org)



## HEY PARENTS!

We want you to invite your children to come along for a journey through the book of Matthew this summer!

**Bible Reading Brochures, including a reading checklist, and Bible Reading Journals are available at a table in the long hallway.**





# RENOVATION UPDATE

The large wooden beam, which was signed by those here at The Oak, has been installed across the new Main Entrance.

This was done to allow our church body to be more a part of the renovation work. Special PERMANENT markers were used on the beam and we encouraged people to be part of the renovation by signing the beam, to share their favorite Bible verse or prayer, and to sign their family name here. Hundreds of people participated, from those just learning to write their names to our long time members!

*"Psalm 90:17—This our Prayer..."*

*"I love this Church!"*

*"Colossians 1:28—Maturity in Christ"*

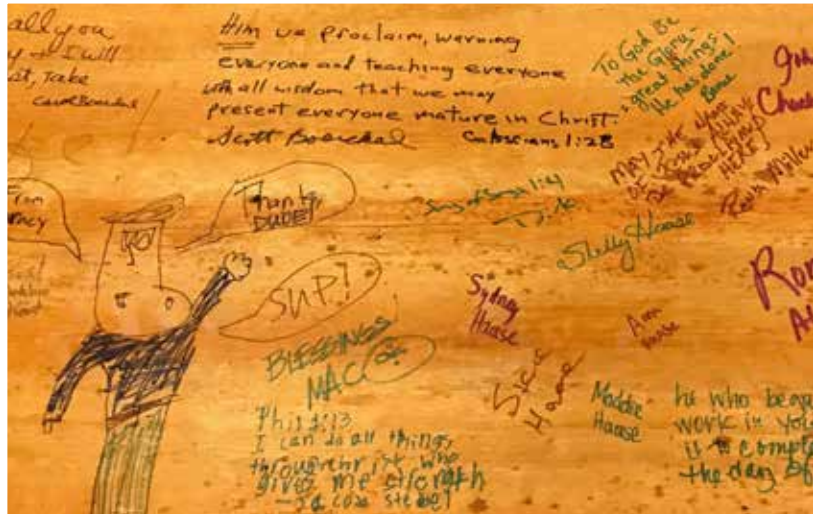
*"I can do all things through Christ  
who gives me strength"*

*"On this day—Gas @ 2.79/Gallon"*

#### Additional Updates:

- The library opened this past Sunday. Most resources will be accessible to you soon! Some additional shelving has been ordered for children's resources.
- Our church mailboxes are expected to be located on a wall in the hallway on the north side of the Worship Center.

Project completion is expected  
by mid-July!



## Signed Beam



**EXPERIENCE**  
the **WORD** together

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