

Here's What We're Talking About

West Clinton Mennonite Church

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Structure Work Continues

02/23/11

Your Structure Task Group (STG) has been at work addressing the questions we heard from the congregational reps on January 30th. We have been reworking summaries and updating the model drawings to make them easier to read and connect with each other along with our best efforts to make the overall structure better suited for our work here at West Clinton.

Our hope is to pull the rep group together again some week night during the month of March to present our updates and to try and understand if this is the model we want to present to the congregation for discernment and decision. As always we appreciate your continued prayers and other support you have shown throughout this process!

Thank you from STG,
Naomi Engle
John Waidelich
Wes Graber



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

70 + Years Young

Lawrence Miller ~ 84

Doris Klopfenstein ~ 87

Doris Liechty ~ 86

Lois Miller ~ 77

Carol King ~ 78

Dave Sauder ~ 75

Joanne Rivera ~ 80

ANNIVERSARIES

Merle & Evelyn Frey ~ 54

Dale & Florence Schrock ~ 55

FISH is in need of volunteers.

“In these tough economic times it's not unusual for folks to suddenly find themselves in financial tight spots. Did you know there is a way you can help?

Most people know that FISH in Archbold operates a food pantry and makes food available to anyone in need. Did you also know that we have emergency funds available to help with utility payments, rent, clothing, prescriptions and many other emergency needs?

This community has been very generous. Fish has emergency funds. What we need and must have are enough volunteers to screen the requests for those funds.

If you are looking for a way to give back to your community, check us out. If you are willing to walk with your neighbors through tough times, check us out. If you are simply looking for a worthwhile way to spend a few hours on a regular basis, check us out. Call FISH at 419-445-0366 to leave a message requesting more information.”

Planning for your funeral

The office has planning guides that include information for the obituary, funeral preparation and funeral/ memorial service. We encourage everyone to fill one out and keep on file at the church and or personal records. Please see Joyclyn for the

P RAYER REQUESTS

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- Family struggling with addiction
- Healing
- Jess & Naomi
- Leadership
- MYF
- Nick in YES
- Quiz
- Relationships
- Sarah Chile
- Stacy Nofziger
- Structure

We have had a lot of donations to the library. Here is a list of new books in the library and those coming soon.

New books in the library:

- Fool's Gold ~ Melody Carlson
- Trevor's Song ~ T.A Beam
- Elsie's Endless Wait ~ Martha Finley
- Elsie's Impossible Choice ~ Martha Finley
- Elsie's New Life ~ Martha Finley
- Elsie's Stolen Heart ~ Martha Finley
- The Seeker ~ Ann Gabhart
- Wisdom of The Plain Folk ~ Donna Leahy
- Yes, Your Marriage can be Saved ~ Joe & Michelle Williams

Coming Soon:

- A Wish for Christmas ~ Thomas Kinkade & Katherine Spencer
- Total Money Makeover ~ Dave Ramsey
- Season of Grace Series ~ Beverly Lewis

Check out the new videos also!!

I want to start this update thanking you for your prayers. I feel them daily and see the fruit of the prayers every day as well. I will start off with praises. One specific praise we have is the girls home. When I started there, I was very discouraged and frustrated because I could do nothing to control their actions or fighting. Now, six or so visits later, I can say that this is my favorite part of the ministry we do here. I look forward to going and am so encouraged by the girls there. We head out and pray as we go. When we get there, we get a hug and a kiss from each of the girls. We normally put in a short Christian themed movie, then do a craft with them. Last week we made caterpillars and butterflies, and made Valentines Day cards. This week, each time we went, the girls were not there. Here in Chile, communication is not always the clearest, even if you do speak Spanish fluently (which I don't). But apparently the girls went on a few outings while we were scheduled to come. I sincerely miss them! They are starting to respect and listen to us more and I am able to show more and more love to them. Some of the Girls are even softening up and not fighting as much.

Another specific praise is concerning the two young men who were working with us on Tenglo Island with the kids music camp. They both want to get baptized! We were ecstatic when we found out. Although one of them is now in the Marines, hopefully when he comes back for his break in March we will have a baptism. The other is at our host family's house more than he is at his own house, so it is good that we are able to continue to build relationships with them.

Since the music camp finished on Tenglo Island, we prayed and discerned and decided on working with the teenage girls that live there. They all have pretty incredible stories and have experienced very hard lives. When we meet with them, we do a Bible study over a small meal. The themes so far have been our identity in Christ as a new creation and as daughters of the King of Kings. The Bible studies are a lot of work to put together and translate, but the girls have been very interested and participate regularly. We gave them each a notebook and pen to write their thoughts. After our Bible study, we do a craft or activity with them. I am especially looking forward to the next meeting because I am teaching them to make bead earrings. The next studies will focus on dating.

We continue to teach English as well as participate in the rowing Bible study weekly. We each are also finding places where we can individually serve. I personally have a free afternoon on Thursdays. Today I made a few sack lunches downtown and took them to the homeless beggars. I plan to continue that every Thursday.

Next week, we are heading up to Llico, the town struck with poverty from the earthquake and Tsunami. We will be working with kids while Dustin distributes building supplies, as well as just bringing hope and joy into a town full of depression and poverty.

Personally I am starting to feel like I am finding my place here. I am enjoying it beyond words. Not to say I don't have rough days, but I love our schedule of ministry as well as our unscheduled times of ministry. I am learning more and more to trust God with every facet of my life. I am also learning more and more of the importance and power of prayer as my prayer time in the mornings get longer and come more naturally. As a speaker in training, Mike Holland said, "When you believe that prayer is the most important thing in your life, that is when you will become a woman/man of prayer."

Some prayer requests:

- that the Spirit continues to be our guide
- that we can be an encouragement to the earthquake victims in Llico next week
- that my Spanish comprehension continues to improve
- that we make the most of all of our time here.
- for wisdom as we plan for the remaining months in Chile

Sarah Aeschliman