

Crossroads

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Green Bay

September 2010

Where God's Dream is Alive

Discernment Sunday, September 12, 10:00 am –3:00 pm

The whole church family is invited to a very important day as we journey toward becoming a missional church together. Discernment Day on September 12th will be a time of worship, learning, discussion and inspiration to discover ways to discern our own personal call. The day will begin during worship with Rev. Vicky Curtiss and Dr. David Henderson leading, followed by learning and discussion. Lunch will be served. Child care will be available for young children and a special curriculum will be used for youth in K-8th grade. Vicky and David have asked us to prepare our hearts and minds for this day by completing a few short devotions at home before September 12th. Both of these “pre-work” devotionals are available in this newsletter (page 5), on the website, and paper copies will be handed out in Worship two weeks prior to the event. We look forward to growing together as a congregation during this wonderful time of spiritual discernment!

Schedule

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Worship

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

What Is Call?

We will name marks of a call to help us recognize a call from God, mostly by reflecting on examples of people in the Scriptures and drawing on the experience of others.

12:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Lunch (provided)

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Barriers to Responding to Call

We will name various blocks that keep us from being true to our call, and identify which ones trap us.

1:30 - 2:20 p.m.

How We Discern Call

We will explore and practice ways to pay attention to God guiding us and speaking to us. This includes a time for journaling on specific questions for reflection and sharing in small groups.

2:20 - 3:00 p.m.

Embodying Call in Community

We will learn how others engage in their calls through the structure of mission groups, and the importance of community to support and implement call. We will close with a brief time for singing and praying together.



World Hunger Concert featuring Ken Medema

Ken Medema, the blind improvisational musician will be here on **Saturday, September 25 at 7:00 pm**. Tickets for this limited seating event are only **\$10!** Purchase tickets after worship on Sunday or call the church office at **437-8121**. The World Hunger concert will bring awareness for those in need and give thanks to those who are actively participating. Food donations for the pantry will also be taken that day

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A Note from Pastor Randy

I have been challenging everyone in the congregation to undertake a personal mission in 2010.

How do you discover what your personal mission is?

By engaging in a process of discernment.

What is discernment?

It is seeing with your “spiritual eyes” what God is calling you to do.

It would have been wonderful if we could have all packed our bags at some point over the summer and headed out to a spiritual retreat center in another part of the country. Once there, we could have learned the discernment process from recognized leaders. It would have been wonderful—but very expensive and impractical! So instead, our Session has agreed to bring the spiritual leaders to Green Bay to offer a congregational retreat on discerning your personal call to mission.

You can read about the pre-work that we have all been assigned (yes, we have to prepare!), and the schedule for the day, elsewhere in this newsletter (and on our web site). As your pastor, I want to stress that this day, Sept. 12, represents the high point of my ministry among you. Rev. Vicky Curtiss and Dr. David Henderson are gifted teachers, who



have profound spiritual insight and experience, and who will mentor us on some basic truths about discernment. You will look at yourself and your gifts and your role in the mission of our church in a new light after this day.

My prayer for you is that Discernment Day, Sept. 12, will set you on a course of self-discovery. May each of you search honestly and deeply within, and find a renewed commitment to be part of God’s mission in the world. This is a day for you. It is shaping up to be a great day!

Peace to you,
Pastor Randy

Mission Statement

To fulfill God’s plan

To know, love, and **serve** God
To **welcome**, spiritually **enrich**,
and love one another.

Vision Statement

We extend a warm and friendly spiritual environment that encourages and empowers people to **worship and serve God**. We live and *change with contemporary issues* while *maintaining traditional values, ethics, and Presbyterian practices*.

We are guided and sustained by God as we follow a flexible strategic plan that addresses growth, simplifies and prioritizes our objectives, and facilitates a vibrant ministry.

Through our ministry we:

- ◆ Serve, lead, and live a lifestyle of Christian discipleship.
- ◆ Engage in local, national, and global mission & social concerns.
- ◆ Offer Christian education and fellowship opportunities where *all* feel a sense of belonging.
- ◆ Provide a sanctuary to rest, be restored, and be nourished during these busy and turbulent times.

We are a **community of faith** where *diversity* is celebrated, individual *spirituality* is strengthened, *cooperation* is the common good, and *understanding* and *love* of one another is paramount.

Church Life

Deepest Sympathy:

To Bobbie De Laurelle and the De Laurelle and Early families upon the death of **Wendell De Laurelle** on Saturday, August 21.

New Phone Number:

Bob and Billie Bloeser 491-1063

Eileen Warner 445-0088

New Address:

Alice Akerboom

Bornemann’s Nursing Home

226 Bornemann St. #57A

Green Bay, WI 54302

New Address:

Blossom Witt

Woodside Manor III

1051 Anderson Dr.

Apt. 611

Green Bay, WI 54304

494-8939

Dr. Patricia Sias

P.O. Box 8422,

Green Bay, WI 54308

Jennifer Christianson

1309 N Hickory Hills Road

Germantown Hills, IL 61548



Newsletter Deadline!

The deadline is **September 20!** Please submit your articles to Jodie Harmsen or place them in the newsletter mailbox in the workroom.

Contributors for this issue are Nancy and Dennis Siewert, David Wilson, Pastor Randy, Leah Mott, Linda Cigler, Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges, and special people who placed articles in the mailbox.

September Birthdays

Audrey Rasmussen
 Addison Kage
 Nancy Siewert
 Linda Michael
 Stephanie Kabacinski
 Ben Mc Cormick
 Patty Kabacinski
 Sara Kisela
 Marian Turk
 Connie Early
 Susan Padgett
 Grant Fernstrum
 Brooke Sibley
 Sarah Solper
 Bonita Kuchenbecker
 Lisa Olgren
 Tia Padgett
 Andrew Houle
 Lucas Houle
 Gabrielle Minor
 David Anderson
 Lisa Escott

Kevin Kabacinski
 Brad Jurens
 A.J. Walker
 Tammy Walker-Rockow
 Bryan Ryder
 Hendrick Akerboom
 Benjamin Anderson
 Matthew Clemens
 Paul Weckop
 Jon Tessier
 Scott Harmsen
 Jessica Kabacinski
 Wyatt Stenson
 Evan Reynolds
 Lacy Schimmel
 Donna Jansen
 Kristen Rietz
 Sara Bostedt
 Jody Minor
 Stacy Montalvo
 Thomas Clemens

Church Leadership Elders

Class of 2011
 Nancy Siewert, Lisa Olson,
 Kirke Ryder and Phil Mikulsky

Class of 2012
 John Early, Jay Rietz, Dawn Spang,
 and Tammy Escott

Class of 2013
 Brian Hulse, Kay Davis, Brian Kage,
 and Hollister Jansen

Clerk of Session:
 Tammy Escott

Deacons

Class of 2011
 Carol Mickelson, Lynne Shoher,
 And Connie Early

Class of 2012
 Ann Argall, Russ Christensen,
 Holly Gehri, and Sue Mikulsky

Class of 2013
 Susan Rietz, Deb Shoher, Judy Exl,
 Abby Jackson, and Amy Wittman

Staff

Pastor:
 The Reverend Dr. Randy Argall

Director of Christian Education:
 Megan Jurens

Tatting: To Begin Again in September

The tatting group has not met during the summer except for June 22 when they met at Bobbie's for a birthday party to celebrate two 90th birthday's. In December, God willing, we'll be able to celebrate one more 90th! What an AWESOME and TALENTED group of ladies! Our thanks to you for the use of the Fellowship Room, for Mary who sets up for us, Linda and Leah who come in to OH and AH and help any way they can! And to Megan who sometimes waits for us to leave!

Join us Tuesdays from 12:30 –3:00 p.m.!

Book Marks

Did you know that our denomination publishes awarding magazines? HORIZONS from Presbyterian Women, PRESBYTERIANS TODAY, MISSION CROSSROADS, and PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK. Each of these publications is found in our Library! Take a look, read an issue, and you might want to have your own copy. Subscription information is found in each magazine.



Deacons Prayer Chain:
 Judy Exl

Administrative. Assistant:
 Leah Mott

Financial Secretary:
 Linda Cigler

Music Ministries:
 Allan Russell (Choir Director)
 Don VerKuilen (Organist)
 Jenny Solper (Pianist)
 Mary Steeno (Children's Choir)

Custodian:
 Mary Belanger

Finance



Planning for the Future

When someone mentions estate planning, what is your first thought? If you said a will, you are not alone. For many people, a will is the cornerstone of a well-organized estate plan. But, in reality, there's much more to consider on the path to successful estate planning.

Estate planning is the process of managing accumulated assets for the present and the future and can protect, preserve and distribute your investments throughout your lifetime and upon your death. It can help you prepare for possible future needs, such as health problems, accidents and unforeseen financial challenges and may even reduce the tax consequences on your current assets and future estate taxes.

How does faith play a role in estate planning? Actually, it is an ideal

opportunity to make a statement of your faith that lives on long after you're gone.

Charitable bequests, for example can be written into your will. You can choose a particular dollar amount or a percentage of your estate, such as a tithe of 10% to your church. Another option is to make a charitable bequest of the residual of your estate that is determined after other specific bequests have been made to your heirs.

You may also want to consider establishing a charitable remainder trusts or charitable gift annuity during your lifetime or in your will. Both plans will pay you, or a designated beneficiary, a lifetime income. The remainder of the gift may establish a permanent endowment fund for the benefit of your chosen beneficiary. These options may be appealing if you would like to provide for a loved one at

your death, or if you need the income now and would benefit from a charitable tax deduction.

The distribution of your assets is just one part of estate planning. The decisions you make regarding guardianship of dependents and establishing power of attorney for your finances are also important aspects. You may want to create a living will directive and designate a health care surrogate who, if necessary, would be responsible for making health care decisions on your behalf.

These are just a few of the choices to be considered. To find out more about charitable estate planning or about other gift options open to you, contact your Personal Financial Planner or Estate Attorney.

Committee Meeting Notes - August 9, 2010

The Committee reviewed the Financial Reports for June and July 2010. Our Church is also feeling the current world economic financial situation. We are reviewing and updating the Endowment Charter. Pertinent issues of The Financial Audit governance letter have been completed.

We are currently reviewing, discussing and receiving quotes on the Church's insurance coverage.



2010 - Ministry Budget Year to Date: July 31, 2010 – Status

Budgeted Giving To Date	\$ 131,318.25
Received Amount	112,139.00
Special Gifts	10,000.00
Budgeted Expenses To Date	\$ 171,901.03
Actual Expenses To Date	160,463.85
Endowment Funds Budgeted	\$ 14,000.00
Amount Used To Date	5,800.00

Bequest income Budgeted	\$ 12,000.00
Amount Used To Date	2,000.00
2010 Other Income Budgeted	32,329.00
Amount Received To Date	21,891.52

2010 Ministry Budget Special Note

Approved Budget has a deficit of \$11,241.00

Special Giving Opportunities

2010 Capital Budget for Special Projects \$10,200.00

- Computers 2,000.
- Securing Office 1,500.
- Yard Equipment 1,200.
- Carpet Cleaning 1,000.
- Sidewalk Repairs 500.
- Parking Lot Repairs 3,500.



Ministry Cash Flow July, 2010

Beginning Balance	\$2,329.54
Receipts from Offering	\$13,792.66
Receipts from Bequest	\$5,000.00
Receipts from Perpetual 3%	\$2,300.00
Expenses	(\$21,246.70)
Payroll tax and transfer timing differences	(\$509.95)
Ending Balance	\$1,665.55

Pre-Work for Discernment Day

Part 1: Acculturation, the True Self, and Call By Rev. David Hendersen



Parker Palmer, in writing in a wonderful little book entitled, *“Let Your Life Speak,”* talks about the impact of our culture and the acculturation process on each of us as we move through our lives.

He writes, “We arrive in this world with birthright gifts—then we spend the first half our lives abandoning them or letting others disabuse us of them. As young people, we are surrounded by expectations that may have little to do with who we really are, expectations held by people who are not trying to discern our selfhood but to fit us into slots.”*

Palmer is talking about a process that affects us all, that of the slow and unconscious learning that takes place day in and day out, about how to function and live, getting along in a world that is at best broken and dysfunctional, a world that even with its

moments of joy and selflessness, required the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ to bring some form of comfort and salvation to the struggling humanity living in it.

The process of acculturation that Palmer speaks about is ordinary and universal. It’s about how we learn to get along where we live. Acculturation teaches us not only our native language; it teaches us values, food preferences, concepts of beauty and how we perceive time....it impacts our concept of successful living and how we define and describe a life well lived.

Because acculturation is so pervasive and so ordinary...we are mostly unaware of it and consequently we don’t think about it, except in those moments when we notice that at Thanksgiving, we are still serving green beans with cream of

mushroom soup.... because we’ve always done it.

Palmer goes on, saying, “We are disabused of original giftedness in the first half of our lives. Then—if we are awake, aware, and able to admit our loss—we spend the second half trying to recover and reclaim the gift we once possessed.”*

The key words are, “awake, aware, and admit our loss,” for without awareness, wakefulness and courage, our lives are on track to be little more than cultural artifacts rather than lives that reflect our true selves, the selves God intended us and calls us to be.

-David Henderson

*Palmer, Parker, *Let Your Life Speak*, Copyright 2000, Jossey-Bass Inc., San Francisco, CA., p.12.

Reflection

1. When you think about your life, thus far, can you identify who or what had the greatest influence on where you are now in your vocation? In your values? Family life?
2. Knowing what you now know about your life, thus far, describe the things that you would do differently, would not do, or would do, that would bring your life trajectory closer to what you believe God intended for you?
3. In the quote above, Parker Palmer speaks of being “awake, aware.” What do you do, on a regular basis, to maintain self- awareness in the face of the subtle yet powerful process of acculturation?



Part 2: Reflecting on Call in the Scriptures By Rev. Vicky Curiss



The Call to Moses: Exodus 3, 4:1-23

Read as much as you can of the story of Moses in Exodus, with a view to understanding the role of pain in his life. How did pain teach him?

The Call to Samuel: 1 Samuel 3:1-18

The Call to Jeremiah: Jeremiah 1:4-19

The Call of Jesus: Luke 4:1-21

The Call to Paul: Acts 9:1-30

The Call to Mary & Elizabeth: Luke 1:26-45

With each of these passages, reflect and journal on the following questions:

1. In what circumstances did call happen?
2. To whom did it come?
3. How did the person know it was a call?

4. What did it feel like?
5. What did it involve?
6. What kinds of reactions were evoked when the called person tried to implement the call?
7. What does this passage say to you about call?

Watch for a particular point of need to which Christ may be calling you.

Get in touch with your deepest longings and write about them.

If an idea or piece of work comes, carry it around with you, brood over it, ask what it wants, what it requires of you.

Encounter your fears and places of resistance and lift them to God in prayer.

Christian Education /Groups / Special Interests

Sunday School Kick Off

Sunday, September 12th will begin the new Sunday school year. Children's Choir and Adult Study will begin at 8:45 am. At 9:00 am the children will be dismissed to Banner Hall with their parents for a special kick off before going to their normal classrooms.

We welcome 2 new teachers and 7 previous teachers this year. The following teachers will be leading the way!

Pre K-K:	Jody Minor Bobbi Schimmel
1st - 2nd	Kathleen Ford Tracie Varner
3rd - 5th	Amy Wittman Jill Stenson
6th - 9th	Loni Mc Cormick Jodie Harmsen
Adult	Brian Hulse
9th -12th	help in lower grades

Ungabunga Tribe

Youth Group resumes on September 15 from 6:15 p.m. until 7:45 p.m. All grades 6th through 12th are encouraged to participate on Wednesday nights. Join Loni McCormick, Matt Gehri, and Bobbi Schimmel as they lead you through a fun and exciting year!

You won't want to miss all the traditional events like skiing, Christmas Gift Wrap/Lock in, the Souper Bowl of Caring, and newer events like the 30 Hour Famine. You'll have to join us to see what will be new this year!

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Loni Mc Cormick will be leading a Tuesday morning Bible study from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Memorial Room (behind the balcony). The book this year will be *Cast of Characters: Common People in the Hands of Uncommon God* by Max Lucado. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Stephen Ministry

On Sunday, September 19 our Stephen Ministers will be updating you about our ministry and encouraging you to enter into the training program which will begin on September 23.

The Stephen Ministry training program meets for 20 sessions over the next six months. The focus of this training is to enrich your understanding of how to come along side of one in need and walk with them during a difficult time in their life. At the end of this training you are given a chance to join with us as commissioned ministers to serve for a two year term.

It is a privilege that we enjoy to serve the Lord in this excellent ministry. One of our church members has already chosen to join in this years training session, won't you?



Sunday Adult Study

Sunday morning starting at 8:45 a.m., Brian Hulse will be offering the adults of the congregation an opportunity to take a look into the book of Ephesians. The course will follow a six week program, interspersed with two weeks of special interest items chosen by the participants! No previous experience is necessary, everyone is welcome!



Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study will be meeting on September 11, at 8:00 AM in Banner Hall. We will begin a new study from the Bible. Please watch the Sunday Bulletin for the announcement of our study.



Women's Study

Presbyterian Women will begin the new Bible study year on Thursday Sept. 9 at 1pm. The study "Journeys Through Revelation- Apocalyptic Hope for Today" written by Barbara Rossing, looks at Revelations through the lens of the Reformed tradition. If you want to know how we as Presbyterians interpret this controversial book, this is a study for you. Each lesson will include an "eyewitness" news account by Dale Lindsay Morgan, artwork by Martha Kelly, maps, and much much more. Our study is open to anyone so please join us.

Pres Folk

We met together in August and created another fine set of ideas for this coming year. Watch the Sunday Bulletin for this months program notice. Our meeting will be on the 16th of September, 1:00 to 3:00 PM, in the Fellowship Room.

Please plan to join with us in Christian fellowship, fine conversation and a tasty treat.

Life Screening







According to the National Stroke Association, approximately 97% of Americans cannot recognize the signs of stroke. Every 45 seconds in America, someone suffers a stroke and every 3 minutes, someone dies from one. These tests are important and necessary. Most people don't realize that these tests are not typically offered during a regular physical, as they are not usually covered by insurance, so for most of you and the people you love, stroke prevention lies in your hands.

On **October 4**, Lifeline Screening will again be screening for stroke, vascular disease and heart rhythm. All four tests are \$149 and you can add an osteoporosis screening for an additional \$10. All five tests for \$159. If you sign up on the sheet in the hallway, you will receive a \$10 discount. These screenings will be held at First Presbyterian Church in Banner Hall. Look for the bulletin inserts next month or call 1-800-324-1851 to set up an appointment.



September

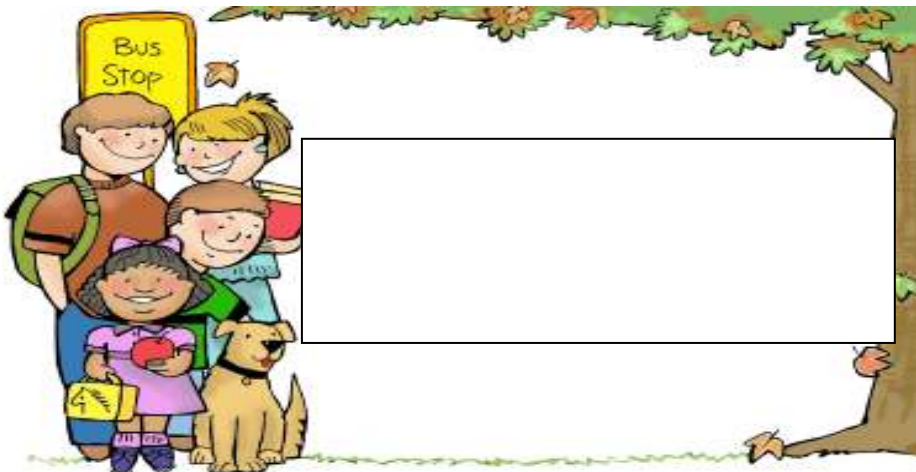
2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Always forgive your enemies. Nothing annoys them so much. -Oscar Wilde</p>			1	2 Stephen Ministers 6:00 – 7:30 pm Nativity Catholic Church	3 	
5 Worship 10:00 am Communion Communion for the homebound 1:15 –4:00 pm	6 Believing God Bible Study 4:00 –6:00 pm	7 Personnel and Administration 1:00 – 3:00 pm	8 PEO Chapter Meeting 6:00 – 10:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm	9 Worship Committee 7:00 – 9:00 pm Esther Circle 1:00 –3:00 pm		11 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00 am – 10:00 am
12 Children's Choir Adult Study 8:45 Sunday School Kick Off 9:00 –9:45 am Discernment Sunday Worship 10:00 am Communion Discernment Luncheon and Retreat 11:30 am – 3:00 pm	13 Staff Meeting 11:30 – 12:30 pm Mission and Social Concerns 5:00 – 7:00 pm Evangelism 5:30 – 6:30 pm Buildings & Grounds 6:30 – 8:00 pm Finance Committee 6:30 – 8:00 pm	14 Election Day 6:30 am – 9:00 pm Food Pantry 10 am – 12:00 pm Presbytery Meeting 10:00 am –3:00 pm The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm Christian Education 6:30 – 8:00 pm	15 Stewardship 5:15 - 7:00 pm Youth Group Resumes 6:15 – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm	16 Press Folk 1:00 – 3:00 pm Stephen Ministers 6:30 – 8:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church	17  18	
19 Children's Choir Adult Study 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 –9:45 am Worship 10:00 am Baptism of Kendall Batal Ordination and Installation of Deacons	20  Praise	21 The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm Church Chix Angelina's 6:00 – 8:00 pm	22 Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm	23 Deacons 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	24	25 Ken Medema World Hunger Concert 7:00 pm  WORLD HUNGER Concert
26 Children's Choir & Adult Study 8:45 am Sunday School 9:00 – 9:45 am Worship 10:00 am With Ken Medema	27	28 Food Pantry 10 am – 12:00 pm The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm Session 6 – 8 pm	29 History and Preservation 9:30 – 11:00 am 6:15 – 7:45 pm Youth Group Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm	30	October 1  CROPWALK	October 2 CROP WALK

First Presbyterian Church
200 S. Ashland Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54303

Phone: 920-437-8121
Fax: 920-437-0720

Visit us Online!
www.firstpresgreenbay.org



Ken Medema Concert
Saturday, September 25
7:00 p.m. \$10.00 each
Call 437-8121 Today!

TICKETS
NOW AVAILABLE

Sisseton, SD Mission Trip Observations and Experiences

By Aaron Mikulsky

Continued from the August issue.....

Tia, a heavier set girl around 10 years old, did not have a lot of friends. She had a badly scraped knee and leg from a fall on her bike and did not want to participate in many of the recreational activities. She said she lived with her 20 year old sister who did not have a job or a car and “wastes all of her money playing bingo.” During one of the craft making sessions, the kids made designs and lettering on a ship ornament, Tia wrote, “Best friend; God Loves You – Tia”. I asked her who was her best friend and her response put a lump in my throat; she said, “You”. She insisted on me having it.

We met a smart, articulate, cute, 10 year old girl, Jayla Hall, who just moved to Veblen, SD in June from OH. She lives with her father Teddy and step-mom Darcie. Her mom lives in OH with her step-father. Her mother dropped Jayla off in IN –exchanged with her father -

who brought her to SD to live with him (they did not tell Jayla they were doing this). She will be attending Westside Elementary in Sisseton, SD in the Fall 2010 (5th grade). Carrie helped her pick out tons of free clothes and a swim suit, and I gave her a few books including Dr. Seuss’s “Oh, The Places You’ll Go!” which I signed for her. Following bible study during the first day, she told me she wanted to learn more about the story of Saul/Paul, stating, “I want to learn more about Paul”. Jayla did not come back to VBS after the first day so I asked the boys from Veblen the morning of the third day where Jayla was, and they said they had beaten her up. I asked to accompany the van driver that night to drop off the kids from Veblen (which is about 40 minutes from Sisseton) and asked the boys where she lived. I wanted to see that she was ok and invite her back to VBS. Her yard was filthy with garbage, beat up vehicles and two large dogs. Both dogs appeared to fear me,

hanging their tails between their legs – telling me they were likely beaten and abused at one point. I knocked on the door and a dirty, tattooed boy maybe 20 answered. I introduced myself, told him why I was there, and asked to speak with Jayla. He screamed for her to come. When she saw me her big, beautiful eyes lit up. She just shouted my name. I asked if she was ok, invited her to VBS the next day, and ensured her that those boys would not pick on her around me. I asked if I could speak with an adult so Jayla went to get her aunt. I spoke briefly with her aunt who was very dirty and looked probably 15 years older than what she really was. The environment in which Jayla lived was horrifying to me. The next morning Olivia and I drove out to pick up the kids from Veblen and Jayla was there waiting for the van! I had asked Olivia if she would be Jayla’s friend and watch out for her; she graciously obliged and was awesome to her. They became instant friends.