

The Ensign

Zarahemla Branch Newsletter

September 2016

502 SW 17th Street
Blue Springs, MO 64015
816-287-1960

Pastor Brad Gault
pastor@zarahemlabranch.org
www.zarahemlabranch.org

Send testimonies, news and other items
for publication to Tara Broadway
thessalyrose@gmail.com

Pastor's Corner

The Journey to the Kingdom

By High Priest Doug Trahern

As summer draws to a close, so does the opportunity for summer family vacations. When I was growing up, we were too poor to take expensive vacations. My childhood memories of trips were of trips to various houses of relatives where we were able to stay for free. Those trips were very enjoyable and I have fond memories of most of them.

When our kids were growing up, many of the conversations we would have with the kids would revolve around trips we would like to take as a family. Marla and the kids' ideal destinations usually had a beach nearby. My ideal spots tended to lean towards mountains, cabins, lakes and fishing boats. I was almost always out-voted.

After a destination was established, the planning process would begin. There were several factors to consider. How much was the trip going to cost? What do we need to pack? What was there to see along the way? What was the best route to take? How long was the journey going to take? Where were we going to stay?

Once we were on our way, we still had other item to consider like food, fuel, unexpected problems and detours and stopping for rest and bathroom breaks.

All road trips are the same for me whether they are short or long. There is a sense of joy and relief when you finally reach your destination.

September Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 5 Addison Davis | 17 Cara Frye |
| 6 Myles McKay | 19 Drew Henson |
| 12 Abigail Parkey | 21 Haiden Hayes |
| 13 Dwayne Martin | 22 Alyssa Adkins |
| | 23 Seth Simmons |
| 13 Irene Power | 26 Leah Prather |
| 14 Stephen Woll | 27 Peggy Gerber |
| 16 Parker McKay | 28 Chuck Perry |
| 16 Sam Simmons | 29 Jo Marie Bronson |
| 17 Maria DeBarthe | |

Our journey in life is very similar to what I have just described.

In life we must choose a destination. Will we chart a course for the Kingdom of God or will we be content to travel through Babylon?

Joshua said it well in Joshua 24:14-15.

“Choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

Whichever destination we choose has costs associated with it. Are we willing to make the sacrifices associated with the life of a follower of Christ, which is giving of ourselves for His cause, or would we rather pay the price for our eternal life? Mark 8:37-39 make this statement:

“For whosoever will save his life, shall lose it; or whosoever will save his life, shall be willing to lay it down for my sake; and if he is not willing to lay it down for my sake, he shall lose it. But whosoever shall be willing to lose his life for my sake, and the gospel, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

The items we pack for the vacations we take must be useful at our destination. I wouldn't need to take a winter coat when visiting my daughter in Florida. However, I would be in terrible shape if I forgot to bring sun screen.

What is your treasure on this journey through life? Is it things that have no value for the journey you are on, or have you placed in your life real treasures for the Kingdom?

I love taking road trips. Most of the time there is enjoyment to be had along

the way to our destination. Do we dread getting out of bed each morning and facing the day, or do we approach the day with thanksgiving for another day that the Lord has given us to live for Him? Every day has challenges. Each trial we face and come through, with the Lord's help, brings us one step closer to our perfection in Him.

I cannot image traveling in unfamiliar areas without a map or GPS. I would literally be lost. Sometimes it is easy to feel lost in this world or feel that your life has lost focus or purpose. We have been given God's word in the scriptures to light our pathway and to see us through the many toils and snares we must face every day.

Whenever the family was going someplace exciting, it was very hard to sleep the night before due to anticipation.

Our longing and our hope should always be in the Kingdom. Once we do this, it makes traveling through this life so much more enjoyable. And, we realize that one day spent in the service of our Lord, is one day closer to living in His Kingdom.

In closing I would like to leave you with quotes from two of my favorite pieces of literature.

“Two roads diverged in a wood, and I, I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference” (“The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost).

“In the hills there are two trails. One lies along the higher sunlit fields where those who journey see afar, and the light lingers even when the sun is down; and one leads to the lower ground, where those who travel, as they go, look always over their shoulders with the eyes of dread, and gloomy shadows gather long before the day is gone” (*The Shepherd of the Hills* by Harold Bell Wright).

GBHI Blue Cup Special Project



Early this year, the Zarahemla Women's Ministries decided to give some support to the orphanage in Malawi, Africa, that is supported by Give Back Hope International. The first thing was to donate \$100.00 for some immediate needs. Another way was needed to raise funds the orphanage support.

The children in the orphanage have lost their parents to sicknesses and civil wars. They need to know that someone cares what happens to them. That is our calling. So the GBHI Blue Cup Special project came about.

The GBHI Blue Cup Special is special indeed. It collects pocket change. And the pocket change is changed into hope. Once a month, your GBHI Blue Cup Special is emptied into a GBHI Blue Bucket. On the last Sunday of August, September, and October, the GBHI Blue Bucket receives your pocket change for the sole purpose of changing your pocket change into HOPE.

Won't you join in the GBHI Blue Cup Special project to give back hope to children who have lost the most important people in a child's life? Jesus said to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, visit the widowed and fatherless. If we cannot go, we must send our love in a tangible way. Where does your pocket change go? Where is your heart? Where is your treasure?

Youth Activities

Promotion Sunday

Be sure to come for morning devotions on Sunday the 11th as we honor our youth who are graduating to a new Sunday School class.

Calling all Zion's Leaguers!

If you are in 6th - 12th grade, YOU qualify as a Zion's Leaguer! We would love to have you join us for our monthly activities. Please contact Scott or Shannon McMilian to let us know you'd like to be added to our list. Our e-mail is sskl.mcmilian@gmail.com. For our next activity, we will be meeting at church on September 17th at 10 AM to carpool to Burr Oak Woods for a hike. Hope you can join us!

Care Kits for Troops

The Zion's League would like to thank you for your generous donations that we used to make care kits for our troops! With your help, we were able to make 86 kits with eight items per bag. (They ask for 5-8 items per bag.) Thank you again for supporting our efforts!



September 2016

Sunday

4

Presiding Deacon:
K. Norman
8:00
Priesthood Prayer Service
9:15 Devotions:
Brad & Jeri
Piano: Jeri Gault
9:30 Sunday School

10:30
Communion Service
Presiding: Roger Gault
Preaching: Phil O'Camb
Piano: Jeri Gault

No Evening Service

11

Presiding Deacon:
R. Leutzinger
9:15 Devotions:
Patrick & Joy
Piano: Ashley Gault
9:30 Sunday School

10:30 Worship
Presiding: Dan Norman
Preaching: David Frye
Piano: Ashley Gault
Special Music: Barb Giertz

No Evening Service

18

Presiding Deacon:
L. Stilwell
9:15 Devotions:
McMilian family
Piano: Jill Moore
9:30 Sunday School

10:30 Worship
Presiding: David Bronson
Preaching: Gary Metzger
Piano: Jill Moore
Special Music:
Katrina Baker

6:00 Evening Service
Presiding: Bob Moore
The Restitution
Piano: Lindsay McMilian

Pot Luck after worship!

25

Presiding Deacon:
J. Gerber
9:15 Devotions:
Irene Powers
Piano: Kevin McMilian
9:30 Sunday School

10:30 Worship
Presiding: Carlin Talcott
Preaching: Joseph Smith
Piano: Kevin McMilian
Special Music:
Andrea Alaniz

6:00 Evening Service
Presiding: Brad Gault
Piano: Jeri Gault

Lindsay McMilian invites you to see her perform in Marching Band at Lee's Summit West home football games Sept. 2, 16, 23, and 30.

You are also invited to hear Lindsay sing in the school choir and play in the band at the Music Department Ice Cream Social in

the Lee's Summit West Courtyard at 6 PM on the 20th. Listening to the music is free, or contact Lindsay for tickets for dinner or dessert.

Ask Lindsay about the basketball schedule. Games will be played in Independence close to 40 Hwy. and 291 Hwy.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|---|--|
| 5 | 6 | 7 7:00 Prayer Service Presiding: Rex Curtis Assisting: Rudy Leutzinger | 8 | 9 7 pm Young Adults. Game night at the Clute home. Bring a snack to share. | 10 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 7:00 Prayer Service Presiding: Dan Norman Assisting: Duane Newman | 15 | 16 | 17 10am - 11:30am Zion's League. Meet at church to carpool to Burr Oaks Woods for hike. |
| 19 | 20 | 21 5:30-6:30 pm Lamplighters 7:00 Prayer Service Presiding: David Bronson Assisting: Phil O'Camb | 22 | 23 | 24 12:00-5:00 Family Outing Owl Hollow Farm. See below for details. |
| 26 | 27 | 28 7:00 Prayer Service Presiding: Richard Hensley Assisting: Wayne Simmons | 29 | 30 | 1 |

No **priesthood meeting** this month, due to Brad's travel schedule.

Lamplighters will meet at the church for kitchen experiments.

Family Outing at Owl Hollow Farm (ohfkids.com; 1090 S Hunt Rd., Lone Jack, MO 64070). OHF is a nonprofit offering equestrian therapy for kids with developmental challenges. Join us for food, pony rides, live music, kids' games and vendor booths. Attendance is free but activities may require you to buy a ticket. Contact Ruthanne Norman for more information.