

NORTONVILLE NEWS

"The Eyes Above The Hurricane"

Just a week ago, hurricane Ian entered the South West coast of Florida near Ft. Myers and traversed Eastward across the state before heading North to Georgia. As of Tuesday this week, the death toll for Florida is over 100 people, and the financial cost is projected to be well over 70 billion dollars. Many have lost their homes and possessions, businesses and schools.

I think it is wise to consider the question: why did the hurricane happen? Some might say that it is most related to climate change and global warming, but hurricanes were happening way before there were automobiles and coal plants and seven billion people living on earth. The best explanation of hurricane Ian is that living God allowed it and will use it for His own purposes.

Hurricanes have what is called an "eye" in their center. This is the calmest part of the storm as the heavy winds and lightning aren't found there. But hurricanes also have other eyes above them, which are the eyes of God. The Bible teaches us in Proverbs 15:3 that, **"The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good."** This means that the LORD doesn't miss one thing; not one storm, not one surge, not one hurricane, not one tear, and not one hair on one head.

(Continued on page 2)

Stay Connected

Sunday

9:30 am Sunday School

10:45 am Sunday morning

6:00 pm Sunday night

6:00 pm Sunday Youth Group

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting at 6:30 pm

Olympians at 6:30 pm

If you have internet and would like to watch our Sunday morning service, search for Nortonville Gospel Chapel on **Facebook** or **YouTube**. You can also see the video and discover more resources on our website:
www.nortonvillechapel.info
nortonvillechapel.org

No Internet? Simply call
616-846-7309 at 10:45 am
on Sunday and you can listen to the
whole morning service.

That is why we can be confident that hurricane Ian has been used for the purposes of God. In His wisdom, He allowed the devastation and destruction and loss. The LORD could have stilled the storm like He did for the disciples on the tempestuous sea of Galilee. Or, He could have stopped the waves like He did during Jonah's famous overboard experience.

Yet He didn't. He allowed it and oversaw it. And though we have heard the stories of loss, we haven't yet heard the accounts about a lot of other good things that happened through Ian, such as:

- How many people called out to the Lord during the hurricane and the destruction and were born again, perhaps just before death, like the thief on the cross?
- How many relationships were strengthened or mended by people who told others that they loved them and were concerned about them?
- How many churches and neighbors and Christian friends and ministries reached out with compassion to those who were nervous and scared?
- How much prayer was made to God for His protection and help in a time of need?
- How many homes and businesses were freely and generously opened for those in need of shelter and comfort?
- How many people worked together to solve transportation and safety problems and became best of friends?
- How many people had a good soul-searching as they experienced the loss of their home and possessions or the near-miss of their properties?
- How many Christians shared the good news of Christ because they knew that God had put them in the right place at the right time, for such a time as this?

I'm sure there are many more good results from the storm. And as Christians, aren't we are commanded to think about the good things of God and not just what we see on T.V.? Philippians 4:8 tells us, **"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things."**

If we only look at the loss that Hurricane Ian brought, and not thinking on the good things, we will be thinking just like those who don't know God. We would be thinking like pagans who don't realize who is really in control of storms and governments and elections and is working all things together for good to them who love Him.

Remember, there are eyes above the eye of the hurricane, and the storms that are happening in your life. There is a Father of all mercy and comfort and a Savior who knows His sheep. They have the whole wide world in their hands and they know what is happening in West Florida and West Michigan. They see all things, and They know exactly what they are doing. Let us trust in the Lord and think on the good things as He told us to.

Spotlight:

Pam Walker

One of the saints who have encouraged us this past year is sister Pam Walker. She is presently our church secretary and we thought you would be encouraged by learning more about her.

Pam grew up here at the Chapel. Her dad Richard and mom Vi brought her and her sister Cheryl here every Sunday. Richard knew the Bible well and was the Chapel's song-leader.

She was taught in Sunday School by Fran Vink who used flannel-graph. The stories of the Bible would come to life for Pam as she saw the pictures and heard the description of the characters, and how God does marvelous things for those who trust in Him. She recalls the wonderful potlucks following the services and the special times of fellowship. She also remembers Dale Vink as one of her good teachers as a teenager.

As a young girl, Pam said a salvation prayer, but it wasn't until later that she really got close to the Lord.

After graduating from high school in 1977, she married Tom French in 1979 and was blessed with three children. She and Tom attended Christian Life Church in Spring Lake. She sang in the choir, helped in the nursery, and with the coffee time. In order to help her family she did some part-time work at a bank, cleaned some houses, and assisted the family in building a few homes.



In 2011 Pam went through a terrible time and a divorce. It was through that difficulty that she pressed hard and got closer to the Lord. She shared some of her problems with her dad and he gave her good advice and encouragement by saying, "Tell God." Pam heeded the advice and learned for herself that the LORD is the great I Am. She found out that God was her true Father in heaven and that He's greater than whatever problem we have. Her favorite passages are Psalm 91 and 92, which speak of God's great protection.

In 2016 she had the opportunity to spend some time in Texas and Mexico doing mission work. She worked with some friends to help feed the people in the villages and then tell them the word of the Lord and encourage the believers. She came back to the U.S. in 2018.

In 2021 she started attending Nortonville Chapel again. She was glad to get straightforward teaching from the Word of God. This year she became a member and also started serving as our part-time church secretary. She is involved in singing and helping out wherever she can, and still holds a full-time job.

Pam says, "I find joy in serving people. I'm not fussy in that area, for I just love helping and blessing people whatever way I can."

Small Groups begin

October 25th in Spring Lake,
Norton Shores, and Grand Haven.
This is a great opportunity to grow
in fellowship with other
Christians!



Our church will be assisting
with Samaritan's Purse to give
shoeboxes of goods to children
in need this Christmas!

October Birthdays



October 3
Bruce Buckley



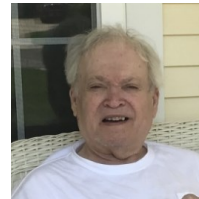
October 12
John Bar



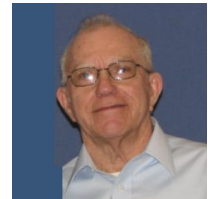
October 12
Joe Hawkey



October 13
Hannah Heinrich

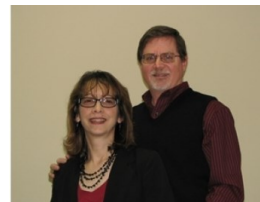


October 23
Phil Troyer



October 26
Earl Chittenden

October Anniversaries



October 5
Greg and Dianne Lunt



October 6
Scott and Dawn Vink



October 13
Jim and Tricia Barnes



October 19
Leonard and Lois Noell

Upcoming Events

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|-------|---------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 10/10 | 24/7 Prayer Opportunity | 10/25 | Widows and Widowers Luncheon |
| 10/11 | Board Meeting 5:30 pm | | At The Pellegroms 12:00 |
| 10/12 | Ladies Mission Circle 9:30 am | | Small Groups Begin 6:30 - 8:00 pm |
| 10/13 | Ladies Bible Study Zoom 7:00 pm | 10/27 | Ladies Bible Study Zoom 7:00 pm |
| 10/20 | Ladies Bible Study Zoom 7:00 pm | 10/31 | Elders Meeting 5:00 pm |
| 10/23 | Pastors Appreciation Day | | |

PRAYER AND PRAISES October 5, 2022

Praises...

We started our services today at Heartwood Lodge, and it went very well

Praise the Lord, 3,700 postcards went out to area homes for CBM Ministries Release Time Classes.

Our church and one other church in Grand Haven made this happen.

Missionary Anna Sytsma has started two new Good News Clubs, both starting this coming week.

The LORD is righteous in all His ways!

Pray for...

President Biden, World Leaders, President Putin, President Zelensky, Governor Whitmer.

Our Supreme Court Justices: (Roberts, Alito, Thomas, Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, Coney-Barrett, Jackson, Sotomayor, Keegan

Student of the Week: Charley Dalman

Board Member of the Week: Deacon-Jeff Nietering

Shut-in of the Week: Joan Thompson

Volunteer of the Week: Sandra VanEizenga

Missionary of the Week: *** Reed & Donna Condra (SWMI-Georgia):** See page 2 for updates.

Prayer Requests:

Shirley Hall – serious health issues.

Angel and Sophie's Family – Many problems

Janice Hoexum's nephew has passed. Please pray for the family as he has left a wife and two young children.

Continue to pray for Caleb, Bridgette Gazley's nephew who is recuperating from intestinal surgery.

Continue to pray for Vondra VanEizenga as she is recuperating from appendix surgery.

Continue to pray for a Worship Leader.

Pray for Home Groups starting October 25.

Our missionaries the Witters are seeking the Lord for a van to transport kids to Release Time Classes.

Joe Sherman asks for prayer for his cousin Ethel Stacy. She is still in the hospital-may not know Christ.

Tessa & Tori are in need of the Lord's help.

Georgia Kamphorst's sister, (whose name is Brenda), has failing health.

Michelle, daughter of Sue Brook's is looking for a job.

Tasha & Sophie are in need of prayer.

Melissa Dalman and family

Unspoken request

Pray for our next generation that Pastor Josh and our young people will be dedicated to Christ, and for spiritual growth. Ben; Aven; Mason; Madison; Robert; Mackenzie; Olivia; Clayton; Collin. Russell; Adelina; Charley; Anna; Margaret; Josh; Colton, Nathan

Pray for victory over alcohol, drugs, and other addictions: Craig, Larry, Tim, Brad, Darren, John, Carol, Brianna, Jeff

Those needing help & healing with health issues: Barb Kilbry, Elaine O'Neill, Marilee Stroebe, Vicky Snyder, Carla Bartow, Melissa Dalman, Paul Snyder, Bridget Gazlay, Hammond's daughter Dana, Miranda Lunt, Sam and Lynne Hammond, Laurie Snyder, Chuck and Cindy Johnson, Mike Feistel, Pat Dawes, Linda Dood, Kurt French, (Pam Walker's son has Dystonia), Lillian Johnson, Sue Brooks, Nancy Brondyke, Joan Thompson.

Those with cancer: Tom Peters (Classmate of Pam Walker), Tarah, Belinda Klein (Linda Vink's friend), Norm Kaufman, Marge (Dianne Lunt), Kelly Vipond, Bob & Diane Brondyke, (Ken Brondyke and Cheri Young's cousins), and Bob Lunt (Greg's brother, needs Christ), Walt Curtis, Sam Gnuck,

In need of the Lord: Collette, Kevin O'Neill (has cancer), Gary (Sue Brooks' nephew), Rod and Jaqueline (Dorothy Walker), Justin White, John and Carol Marrano, David and Catherine, Nina, David, Joe Moran and Ben, Brian and Leanna McMahon (friends/relatives of the O'Neill's), Bonnie Schultz 3 sons, Al Gazlay, Brad Coon, Jerry Pellegrom, Renan, First, Jim, Mike & Amy (Anna's Dad & Stepmom), Sawyer (Robbie Snider), Mark Dean (Maureen Sherman), Rob Marshal Jr., Ann (Georgia Kamphorst's sister-in-law), Maria, Abigail, Erin, Kevin, Mary, Jody, (Karen Huggin's sister), Becky, John (Charlene Easey), Pam & Jean (Dottie), Ashley, Justin, Dale (Bev Jackson's son).

PRAYER AND PRAISES October 5, 2022

Caleb & Emily Arnold: (Ethnos 360): We have been looking at a piece of property near where the Tepehuan settle when they move here from the mountains. It could be a great launching point for The Tepehuan Church Plant.

***Rev. Dave & Delores Bauer (BRM-Illinois):** Thank you for your prayers and faithful financial support. We pray for you too: that your needs would be met as God see fit. We care for you....”as workers together with him...2 Cor. 6:1”.

Camp Ao-Wa-Kiya (Shelby MI): We are having a bunch of fun and exciting retreats and events for fall, Winter, and Spring seasons. There is information in regard to this on the Church Bulletin Board in the Foyer.

Nicole Condra (SWMI-Georgia): Our church has grown in number these past few months as Christians continue to flee the war in Ukraine.

***Reed & Donna Condra (SWMI-Georgia):** We continue regardless of the challenges. From all areas of our ministry in 2022 there have been **75 salvation decisions** reported. We thank God for his faithfulness.

John & Dee Cook (IM-Colorado): I wanted to share with you a new area of ministry in Egypt we have moved into in 2022-ministering to Christian refugees fleeing the unending conflicts in Sudan.

***Daniel & Karen DeVerna - (BMW-Japan):** There will be a camp service and a youth meeting coming up in October. Please pray for good weather, good fellowship, and that people would think about where they stand with the Lord.

Love in Action (Tri-Cities): Recently the number of our neighbors contacting Love in Action has again spiked—a 30% increase in May alone. Even small amounts of giving are crucial as every bit counts.

Joe & Ursula Morell (BMW-Sweden): Joe is enjoying his sabbatical. Please pray for church planting.

Mario Audai Shaba (IM Supported Child: Iraq): Mario fled with his family from the Islamic State in 2014 and are still refugees in North Iraq. He lives with his parents a is Arabic and he struggles with English classes.

Andy & Michelle Shinabery (East-West Ministries International): Andy is home now and will be sharing his recent trip with us soon.

Tim & Karol Svoboda (YWAM-San Francisco): One very fruitful ministry, is the Sunday morning popup church at our doorstep on Ellis Street. It is two years strong and is meeting spiritual needs of people who do not feel welcomed in a regular church service.

***Anna Sytsma (CEF-Kent & Ottawa Counties):** Pray as we make preparations to participate in some Trunk or Treat and harvest festivals this season. Pray as we are in need of candy.

Norman & Karen Tober (GEM-Germany): We were able to meet in person for GEM’s annual conference for the first time in three years and it was such a blessing for us to see old friends and to make some new connections.

Todd and Carla Witters - CBM-(Children’s Bible Ministries): Still looking for bussing options. Classes are starting.