

NORTONVILLE NEWS

"Diligence for the Lord"

"For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end" (Hebrews 6:10-11).

We are blessed at the Chapel to have so many individuals who volunteer their time and energy to keep things running. From teaching Children's church and helping in the nursery, to performing vital maintenance and upkeep on the building, and everything in between! There is much more going on behind the scenes every day than what you see on any given Sunday. And while we are appreciative of our volunteers, and try to voice our appreciation however we can, there are times when our service for the Lord goes unnoticed by others. Other times, we may be discouraged when our work for the Lord doesn't go the way we thought it would or should. Why should we bother when it seems to make no difference one way or the other?

"For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister."

You may pour your heart and soul into some grand effort, but that does not always bring recognition from others. While you may be discouraged when your efforts go unnoticed by people you are trying to reach, we can be encouraged by remembering who we are serving through those efforts! If we are doing this labor for the Lord, we are assured that God will not forget that labor. (Continued on page 2)

Stay Connected

Sunday

10:00 am Sunday morning

6:00 pm Sunday night

6:00 pm Sunday Youth Group

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting 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.

“And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,”

Not only that, but God has also made us promises about works done for Him. Matthew 5:12 says to “Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” We know by the promises of God that one day we will be rewarded for those efforts. All believers should be eagerly waiting for the day when our master tells us “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

“that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

Patience is something that is unnatural to most people. When our own timing preferences do not match up to the Lord’s timing, we often become impatient. One way to build up your faith and patience is to look in the scriptures, and see examples of the promises of God being fulfilled. This passage goes on to give the example of Abraham. God had promised to make Abraham a father, not just of one or two, but to become the father of an entire nation. He left his homeland to go to a place he had never heard of before, and lived in the wilderness in tents. But God was true to his promise, and Abraham would become the father of the Jews.

Just as God was true to the promises He made to Abraham, God will be true to His promise to us today. So don’t become sluggish when the world rejects or ignores your service to the Lord. Don’t let a lack of recognition become a stumbling block in your service for the Lord. Serve the Lord with diligence, and look forward to the reward we are promised in heaven.

Upcoming Events

- 8/7 Communion Sunday
Good Sam Offering
Deacon’s Meeting 5:00 pm
- 8/8 24/7 Prayer Opportunity
Choose a time to pray!
- 8/9 Board Meeting 5:30 pm
- 8/10 Olympians Meeting 5:30 pm
- 8/27 Church Picnic at Phil and Char
Petersons’ 4:00 pm - Sign up
to bring a dish in the back of
the church

Teen Evangelism Camp

August 16-20 at Camp Kaskitowa (near Allegan, MI). Learn how to share Christ with practical experience! For teens 16-19. See Pastor Josh for more information.

Annual Meeting
September 20, 7:00 pm

Spotlight: Sue Brooks

Our spotlight this month recognizes sister Sue Brooks. Many of you already know her, but we are hoping that this short article will help you to know her better.

Sue was born in Grand Rapids and raised in Standale. Her parents didn't have much money, but she recalls having a happy childhood. Her family ate lots of cornmeal and mush and didn't have nice clothes, but also lived on a lake where there was swimming and boating in the summer and ice skating and hockey in the winter. Along with her four brothers and sisters they were creative with the cardboard boxes and other things that dad would bring home for them to help keep them occupied.

Her parents didn't go to church but mom did read the Bible and pray with them at home. Sue also learned about the things of God by going to multiple vacation Bible schools and Sunday Schools. At one VBS, she was told that if she learned 3 verses a day and was able to say them all on Friday, she would get a real white Bible. Sue worked hard and memorized all 15 verses, but when Friday came, instead of receiving a real Bible, she only received a cardboard bookmark of a Bible and not a Bible. This was a great disappointment. But Sue learned a lesson: you should not lie like that to a child. She determined in her heart that she would keep her promises to kids.

About the age of 12 she went to a "holy roller church" and trusted in Christ as her Savior. The pastor who was with her when she believed gave her Matthew 28:20, where Jesus said, "And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." This has been Sue's favorite verse. She was baptized as a believer and continued to go to church with her friends.



At age 20 she married a plumber who was also a farmer. They attended Berlin Baptist Church and raised four kids. One day the pastor asked her to be the director/commander of Awana, and she said "no." The wise minister told her not to say yes or no, but to start praying about it. He told her that God would tell her what to do. Sue didn't feel qualified to serve in such a role, but after prayer, she sensed from the Lord that she should take that responsibility. She held that position for over twelve years.

Sue also enjoyed playing softball and was involved in 5 leagues a week! She pitched, played shortstop, center field, and left field. She would take her children with her as softball allowed them all to get out of the home, where she was experiencing much ungodly conflict. She divorced for biblical reasons.

Sue worked delivering papers for the Grand Rapids Press for a couple years and then at Irwin Seating for 18 years. At Irwin she did "piece-work," and then moved to the parts department in the office. (Continued on page 4)

For years she was of the opinion that all men were nothing but trouble, but in 1994, Jerry Brooks changed her perception. Jerry was a kind, gentle man. They married in 1996 and enjoyed serving the Lord together, especially with children. In 2008 they became members here at Nortonville, where they served in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Wednesday night children's ministries and wherever they could be a blessing. Sue still serves faithfully in our Wednesday Olympian program and helps with children's church and with prayer.

Just eight months ago, Jerry went home to be with the Lord. Sue is thankful to the Lord for the strength that He supplies in this difficult time. She is also thankful for those who supported her so much during the past two years with cards, notes, kind words, and steadfast prayers. She tries to stay busy these days with yard work and projects. She even does some metal scrapping with her son-in-law Bill, but it is hard work and she doesn't know how much longer she can do it.

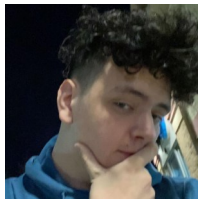
Sue says, "It is only by the grace of God that I keep going. Whatever we got, we got from God. He has promised that He would always be with us always, in the good and bad. He is always there for you."

Matthew 28:20 "And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

August Birthdays



August 14
Dave Nietering



August 17
Robert Castillo



August 25
Mary Jean Rose



August 27
Russell Hildebrandt



August 30
Vondra VanEizenga

August Anniversaries



August 22
George and Nancy Czinder

Prayer and Praises Aug 3, 2022

Praises...

Jacob Young had a safe trip.

Trusting God for our elected officials

Answered prayer for wisdom and guidance! Continued need for God's guidance. Little victories for all of us.

Pray for ...

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

Our Supreme Court Justices:

John Roberts, Clarence Thomas, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, Sonia Sotomayor, Elana Kagan,

Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, Amy Coney Barrett

Student of the Week: Ben Heinrich

Board Member of the Week: Pastor Joe O'Neill

Shut-in of the Week: Jackie Wilson

Volunteer of the Week: Rob Marshall

*Missionary of the Week: Andy & Michelle Shinabery (East-West Ministries International): See pg. 2 for update

Prayer Request:

Melissa Dalman and family

Jim Dufford's upcoming surgery

Please keep the following in prayer, as we are in need of:

Financial Secretary, Elders/Deacons for 2023, Sunday School Teachers, Small Group Hosts, Worship Leader.

Teen Evangelism Camp – for participants.

Missionaries Todd & Carla Witters for outreach this Saturday as they walk in the Coast Guard Parade! They are hoping

Pass out 5,000 flyers.

Marilee Stroebe has fallen and needs prayer.

Elaine O'Neill needs prayer for her foot.

Lillian Johnson needs prayer for her leg & dizziness. Also, for her daughters family.

Barb Kilbry is in rehab for five weeks.

Unspoken request

Lynne Hopkin's family is looking placement for Rehab. She needs insurance authorization specific to Brain injury.

Please pray for Scott Domont's Boardwalk Witnessing Ministry.

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..

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: Marilee Stroebe, Vicki Snyder, Carla Bartow, Melissa Dalman, Paul Snyder, Bridget Gazlay, Vicki Snyder, Hammond's daughter Dana, Miranda Lunt, Sam and Lynne Hammond, Laurie Snyder, Chuck and Cindy Johnson, Mike Feistel, Pat Dawes, Linda Dood, Kurt French.

Those with cancer: Jim Dufford, Jim Postema, (Friend of the Hoexum's), 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 Marshall 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).

***Caleb & Emily Arnold:** (Ethnos 360): It feels a bit like a roller coaster these past few months...We found out Emily has Typhus. The doctor put Emily on some antibiotics and we are hoping to see improvement soon. We appreciate prayers.

Rev. Dave & Delores Bauer ((BRM-Illinois): Praise God for the installation services of Pastors in our churches. (Can be seen on our Facebook page). Please pray for new pastors and their families.

Camp Ao-Wa-Kiya (Shelby MI): Thanks for all the prayers for Camp Aw-Wa-Kiya so far this summer. It has been great so far, and we still have a little ways to go.

Nicole Condra (SWMI-Georgia): The single woman who had left Ukraine because of the War has found an Apartment. The war and other circumstances have been very hard on the Ukrainian children and we feel for them. I am working toward a greater understanding of the Romanian language.

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. And for those who invest in SWM.

***John & Dee Cook** (IM-Colorado): \$40,000 Goal Reached! Wow! This year's fundraiser went a bit slower at first than last years BUT so many of you, our IMF family stepped in and donated generously to make our goal happen.

Daniel & Karen DeVerna (BMW-Japan): Please continue to pray for spiritual growth for the young man and young lady that were saved in the course of this last year. They are both planning to be baptized later this month.

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 and is Arabic and he struggles with English classes.

***Andy & Michelle Shinabery** (East-West Ministries International): The Lord opened up the door for a few of us from East West to go and see the work the Lord is doing. We are working on training and bringing on board more partners.

Tim & Karol Svoboda (YWAM-San Francisco): They have asked us to pray about financial help for their building.

***Anna Sytsma** (CEF-Kent & Ottawa Counties): Pray for workers for the upcoming Hudsonville Fair.

***Norman & Karen Tober** (GEM-Germany): We were able to go to Canada in June to visit family and supporters. Norman has continued to have many weekly counseling sessions on Zoom or Skype, even while traveling.

***Todd and Carla Witters** – CBN – (Children's Bible Ministries): Todd is serving at Camp Ao-Wa-Kiya this week. This Saturday is the Big Coast Guard Parade Outreach.