

NORTONVILLE NEWS

Guess What Won't Change in 2023?

We live in a world of constant change. Our world is full of things that didn't exist just one generation ago: personal computers, email, cell phones, drones, space shuttles, Twitter tweets and TikTok videos. Someone pointed out the inevitability of change in life when they said, "The president of today is the postage stamp of tomorrow." They are right.

Our earthly bodies are changing too. We may call it "maturing", (which is a nice way to describe it), but this year may bring more unwanted changes to our bodies, such as more wrinkles and more aches and pains. The present earthly tent God gives us in this world is greatly affected by the effects of sin and death.

But though we are in this world of change, one of the great truths taught in the Bible is that God doesn't change! God is constant in His nature. Hebrews 13:8 says:

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

Since the nature of our Lord Jesus cannot change, we can be assured in 2023 that:

1. God's goodness towards us will not change.

James 1:17 reminds us that: *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."*

(Continued on page two)

Stay Connected

Sunday

9:30 am Sunday School

10:45 am Sunday morning

6:00 pm Sunday night

6:00 pm Sunday Youth Group

Tuesday

Small Groups at 6:30 pm

in Spring Lake and
Grand Haven

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting at 6:30 pm

Olympians at 6:30 pm

God is the Father of lights. This means that He is the Creator of the stars, planets, and all the heavenly bodies. Now the heavenly bodies do change in brightness from our perspective. Sometimes we can see certain planets and sometimes we cannot, depending on the time of year and the position of the earth and the sun.

But there will be no variation and no change in the goodness of God towards us. *"Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever"* (Psalm 23:6). We can rest on the fact that this new year will not affect God's goodness at all.

2. God's promises will not change.

Malachi 3:6 states: *"For I am the LORD, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob."* About four thousand years ago God made specific promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The sons of Jacob (also known as Israelites) often sinned against the LORD and could have been justly destroyed many times. But God, because He doesn't change, faithfully kept His promises to the patriarchs and their children, and Israel as a nation was not consumed.

We too can depend on the great promises that God has given to all who love the Lord Jesus Christ. We are accepted by God through faith in His beloved Son, and He has promised to never leave us or forsake us, no matter what may come into our lives. Because of His eternal nature, God cannot change. And *"He who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it until the day of Christ"* (Philippians 1:6). *"God will supply all our needs, according to His riches in glory, by Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4:19).

Our Lord and Savior has always been the same. The past, present, and future is in His eternal hands. He has taken care of His people in time past and He will take care of us in 2023. He is dependable. Glory be to God! Trust in Him and sing with confidence the great hymn:

"Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not.
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness.
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me."

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

Spotlight: Pastor Chuck Steiner



Some from Nortonville know the Steiners well, but some of us haven't had the opportunity to meet them. We hope this brief article will help you to get acquainted. They will be with us Sunday, January 15th, at 10:45 am, and again at 6:00 pm, so make sure you invite people to come and hear the good word of the Lord.

Chuck grew up in the Ann Arbor area. He joined the Navy in 1956 and became a submariner. He had some church background, but didn't know the Lord. He said, "I was as lost as a blind goose in a snowstorm."

Chuck came home on leave one weekend, and a cousin invited him to go on a blind date with a girl from Bad Axe named Mary Lu. He didn't know the date was with a born again Christian, and that he'd have to meet her at church. Mary Lu's brother shared the Roman's Road with him (the Roman's Road are Bible verses from the book of Romans that show the need for believing in Christ). Chuck wasn't interested in the gospel, he was just interested in Mary Lu. But, a seed had been planted. Not long after that, while underwater in a submarine, Chuck called on the Lord and was saved.

He and Mary Lu were married in 1958 and the Lord blessed them with three children and then twenty grandchildren. The great grandchildren are so numerous that they have trouble keeping track of them.

After his naval duty was finished, Chuck went to Grand Rapids Baptist Bible College and graduated in 1971. He had an insatiable desire for the word of God and devoured it. He also did a lot of "confrontational evangelism." He's not sure how many he turned away with this direct approach, but he did lead some to the Lord. His approach was to win them to the Lord, and then to teach them. His life ministry verse was II Corinthians 4:5, "For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake."

The Lord led Chuck to be pastor at the Ithaca Baptist Church, then the Oakfield Baptist Church (near Greenville), and then the Maplelawn Baptist Church in Grand Rapids. During his ministry he found out that many Christians had a desire to tithe, but were in debt from poor financial habits. So, Pastor Chuck learned from Crown Financial Ministries and became a certified financial planner. He has used this knowledge to help churches and colleges and seminaries in both Iowa and Michigan.

The Steiners have had many interim opportunities, assisting churches that were in-between pastors. The Lord sent them to Nortonville in 2005, and they were a great blessing to the people. By faithfully teaching the Word of God, much healing took place and many hearts were encouraged in the Lord. They faithfully served at Nortonville for two years and prepared the church for Pastor Dennis Snyder to come. (Continued on page 4)

Now in his mid-eighties, Pastor Chuck is still serving, like mighty Caleb and Joshua of old. He still has a passion for learning the Word of God and preaching. He is living out Acts 20:24, "But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."

January Birthdays



January 2
Ruth Nietering



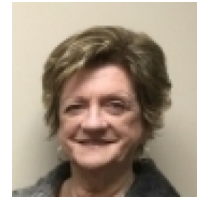
January 5
Collin Hildebrandt



January 6
Chris Dean



January 7
George Czinder



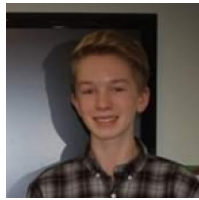
January 10
Linda Dalman



January 15
Harley Boeve



January 17
Ron Anderson



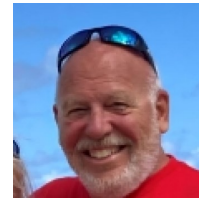
January 20
Benjamin Heinrich



January 21
Nancy Brondyke



January 25
Bev Jackson



January 26
Bob VanDyke



January 27
Tom Collins



January 27
Leonard Noell



January 28
Julie Zylstra



January 29
Lillian Johnson



January 29
Josh Vink



January 30
Sam Hammond

Upcoming Events

- | | | | |
|------|---------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|
| 1/5 | Ladies Bible Study Zoom 7:30 pm | 1/11 | Ladies Mission Circle 9:30 am |
| | Youth Outing 4:00 pm | | Prayer Meeting / Olympians 6:30 pm |
| 1/6 | Church Game Night 6:30 pm | 1/15 | Guest preacher Pastor Chuck Steiner |
| 1/10 | Board Meeting 5:30 pm | | at 10:45 am and 6:00 pm. |
| | | 1/17 | Small Groups resume 6:30 pm. |

PRAYER AND PRAISES January 4, 2023

Praises to the Lord:

We have been praying for high school and college students that Brian Harmon works with. This past month eight students responded to the gospel!

Prayer Requests:

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

Supreme Court Justices: (Roberts, Alito, Thomas, Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, Coney-Barret, Jackson Sotomayor, Kagan).

Student of the Week: Mason Byron

Board Member of the Week: Deacon – Randy Jobin

Shut in of the Week: Joan Thompson

Volunteer of the Week: Emily Ambrose

Missionary of the Week: ***Camp Ao-Wa-Kiya (Shelby MI):** See page 2 for updates.

Alice Shumake is in hospice care at American House.

Georgia Kamphorst's sister Brenda is still in Rehab.

Lettie Brandt has asked for prayer.

Jim McKeever, a friend of the O'Neill's, is now home. Please continue to pray for his health.

Dorothy Walker has been moved to Grand Pines for further rehabilitation.

Tom Collins is looking for a place to live.

Maureen Shermans brother-in-law Mark Dean has had a recent heart surgery. Maureen's friend Jim is close to death and is in need of prayer. Jim also needs prayer for his wife who is not doing well. Please continue to pray for Maureen, as she still has shoulder pain.

Jack Ruster's stepdaughter, Katie is having heart issues and needs prayer.

Sue Brooks grandson Drake has a tumor and needs prayer for his upcoming surgery, which is February 6th.

Mary Jean Rose is requesting prayer for her friend who needs prayer for the recent loss of their baby, who was born prematurely. Also, continue to pray for her brother regarding the infection in his hand.

Angel & Sophie's Family – Many problems, continue to pray.

Continue to pray for a Worship Leader

Joe Sherman is asking for prayer for his cousin Ethel Stacy. She is in a nursing home and doing some better.

Tasha & Sophie are in need of prayer.

Melissa Dalman & family are in need of a used vehicle. Please pray for the 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, Layla, Adelina, Charley, Anna, Margaret, Josh, Colton, Nathan, Gabriel, Caue

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

Those with cancer: Tarah, Belinda Klein (Linda Vink's friend), Norm Kaufman, Marge (Dianne Lunt's sister), Kelly Vipond, Bob & Diane Brondyke, (Ken Brondyke and Cheri Young's cousins), and Bob Lunt (Greg's brother, needs Christ),

In need of the Lord: Collette, Kevin O'Neill, 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, Jerry Pellegrom, Renan, First, Jim, Mike & Amy (Anna's Dad & Stepmom), Sawyer (Robbie Snider), Mark & Kris Dean (Maureen Sherman), Rob Marshal Jr., Ann (Georgia Kamphorst's sister-in-law), Maria, Abigail, Erin, Kevin, Mary, Jody, (Karen Huggins sister), Becky, John (Charlene Easey's family), Ashley, Justin, Dale (Bev Jackson's son).

Caleb & Emily Arnold: (Ethnos 360): We were encouraged to find out where more Tepehuan people live in Chihuahua city, and we were also able to visit several families while my mom was here. Considering planting a church and building a home on the property of a Christian camp.

Rev. Dave & Delores Bauer (BRM-Illinois): 2022 has proved to be a busy, but productive year for our ongoing ministry. Many churches are without pastors, calling upon BRM for counsel with search committees & interim pastors, as well as developing salary packages.

***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): Nicole is glad to be home for a short furlough. (heading back to Romania in February 2023).

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): The Cooks are glad for open doors in Egypt and Iraq to proclaim the gospel through national missionaries. Please pray for the Lord's blessing on their year-end goal of 150,000.

Daniel & Karen DeVerna (BMW-Japan): Thank you so much for your prayers! May the Lord give you strength, joy, and opportunities to shine for Him this Christmas season!

Love in Action (Tri-Cities): Thank you for your continued support, you are a blessing to our community!

Joe & Ursula Morell (BMW-Sweden): We thank God for our local church, Calvary Stockholm. In the past year we have seen the joy of people coming to faith, and faith strengthened.

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

Andy & Michelle Shinabery (East-West Ministries International): Columbia has a populations of over 50 million. There are still over 60 unreached groups with less than 2% Evangelical Christian adherents. These are some of the spiritually darkest places in Columbia. Our goal is to reach them with the glorious Gospel of Jesus.

Tim & Karol Svoboda (YWAM-San Francisco): Pursuing Shalom has been our theme for the year. We are blessed to live in a neighborhood we love that offers countless opportunities to bring God's peace. The sole purpose of each service we offer is to build deeper relationships that open the door to Jesus. People come for haircuts, showers, games, conversation, prayer, and friendship.

Anna Sytsma (CEF-Kent & Ottawa Counties): Praise for two new kids enrolled at Quincy Elementary's Good News Club! 24 kids now enrolled there! Pray the kids keep learning.

Norman & Karen Tober (GEM-Germany): in early November, Norman was invited to a GEM leadership training in Prague., Czech Republic to do a session with attendees to help them understand their leadership strengths.

Todd & Carla Witters – (CBM- Children's Bible Ministries): Thank you for your gifts that have allowed us to share this hope with people everywhere. Your partnership has allowed us to see God work in the lives of so many children and adults. Please check out our website www.childrensbibleministries.net