

A VIEW FROM THE RIDGE

DEAR FRIENDS,

I LOVE SUMMER! USUALLY IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO THE SUMMER SEASON AS WE MOVE INTO THE FALL SCHEDULE, BUT THIS YEAR SEEMS TO BE DIFFERENT.

MAYBE IT'S THE MANY OPPORTUNITIES THAT FILL THIS NEWSLETTER. PERHAPS IT COULD BE MY ANTICIPATION OF THE PHENOMENAL WORSHIP EXPERIENCES PLANNED FOR THE HOLIDAYS. OR IT COULD BE MY EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR CELEBRATION OF SOUTHRIDGE'S FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF MINISTRY IN 2012. WHATEVER THE REASON, THIS FALL IS GOING TO BE GREAT.

PLEASE READ THROUGH THE ENCLOSED INFORMATION AND PRAYERFULLY CHOOSE WHERE YOU ARE GOING TO INVEST YOURSELF TO OPEN YOUR LIFE TO GOD'S AMAZING PRESENCE THIS FALL.

YOUR FELLOW SERVANT IN CHRIST,



IN THIS ISSUE

Pastor Mark's Sermon Series

Pastor Becky's Fall Schedule

Oneeighty's - KJ-52 Coming to our town

FBIC - KJ-52 Concert

Amplify - "Under the Big Top"

Little Miracles Christian Learning Center - Preschool Ministry

Kid's Hope USA

September/October Sermon Series

Who is Southridge?

In a recent article Perry Noble (Pastor of New Spring church in South Carolina with a weekly attendance of 10,000) defined the five core values of a church in decline. One of these destructive values is a church that experiences a loss of focus. We begin our fall season with a sermon series that will inspire us to once more understand and commit to the core values of Southridge Church.

September 11

I. Our Vision

Luke 12:31, I Corinthians 7:23

Romans 12:11

See you at the picnic!

September 18

II. Seeking (Biblical)

Matthew 9:9

September 25

III. Sharing (Evangelical)

II. Corinthians 5:20

October 2

IV. Serving (Missional)

Matthew 20:28

We celebrate The Lord's Supper

Offering: Kid's Hope USA

Who Am I?

In their song "Who am I?" the musical group Casting Crowns answer this all important question by stating that our identity is found in a God who tells us who we really are. Our sermon series will give us honest insight into our true self.

October 9

I. The Best Pathway for Our Life

Luke 8:8

October 16

II. Minimizing Manipulation

I John 4:1

October 23

III. God's Vision for Our Life

Habakkuk 2:1-2

What Will Be Your Legacy?!

Tony Campolo reflects on a sociological study where fifty people over the age of ninety-five were asked one question: "If you could live your life over again, what would you do differently?" As you might imagine, a multiplicity of answers came from these eldest of senior citizens, but one answer constantly re-emerged and dominated the results of the study. The answer was that if they had to do it over again, they would do more things that would live on after their death. In others words it was the utmost desire of these wise seniors to leave a legacy.

You are invited to a "Special Gathering" that will give you significant information on

How You Can Leave a Legacy!

Financial advisors, Steve Ossewaarde and Todd Sanford, along with attorney, Shamra VanWagoner, have offered their expertise to talk with us regarding methods of gifting a legacy through planning techniques that can benefit you and Southridge. These professionally trained Southridge members will share important information on how you can make a powerful, lasting impact through your estate planning. There will be nothing sold or signed at these meetings, and there will be absolutely no pressure to act in any way. Those leading the meetings will receive no compensation for their services, other than the opportunity to serve you by answering your questions. Everyone is welcome to these brief meetings regardless of your age or financial situation.

All the believers were one in heart and mind . . . and God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all . . . for from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. (Acts 4:32-35).

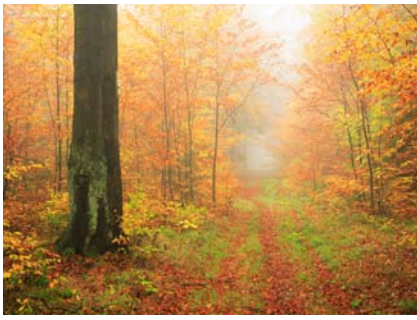
Is God's grace powerfully at work in you? Please prayerfully consider your attendance at one of the following meetings and sign up in the main lobby or call the church office to affirm your participation. Please allow us to assist you in leaving a meaningful, God honoring legacy.

Sunday, September 25 - after both services
Saturday, October 1 - 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, October 4 - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 5 - Senior Moments

Your Fellow Servant in Christ,



leave a legacy that will make our community a better place, now and in the future...



Fall Adult Spiritual Growth Opportunities

September 2011

Bible Studies

Women's Monday night study begins on September 19 at 6:45 p.m. as we begin our six week study, "Faithful, Abundant and True." This is a brand new series that features teaching from the "Deeper Still Conference" featuring Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer and Kay Arthur. Cost for the study book is \$13.00 and books will be available the first night. To register, either sign up at the Welcome Center or e-mail Becky at rjr413@comcast.net. We'll be meeting in the Sanctuary this year, so let's see if we can fill it up!

Sunday morning adult Bible study begins October 9 at 10:30 a.m. Dr. Roach will be teaching an 8 week class on 1 & 2 Samuel.

Wednesday morning women's Bible study-Our Wednesday class has moved to the morning from 9:15-10:45 a.m. and will begin September 14 with Beth Moore's eleven week series "David-Seeking a Heart Like His." Cost for the study book is \$15.00 and you can register by e-mailing Linda Riley at lindarileycmc@gmail.com or by signing up at the Welcome Center.

Financial Peace University

Make this the year you attend Dave Ramsey's popular and powerful class on learning to manage your finances. Brad & Stacey Dayton will lead the 13 week class that begins on September 18 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. There will be an informational meeting following the church picnic on September 11, but to sign up now or to get more information, you can contact Brad & Stacey at 823-2267.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Are you a mom of a child age birth-kindergarten? If so, you don't want to miss being a part of our MOPS group here at Southridge. MOPS is a place where you'll find the friendship and support of other moms, and your children will also have a chance to come and be well cared for while you spend a couple of hours enjoying learning and growing! MOPS meets on the first and third Wednesday morning of each month from 9:00-11:15 a.m. Our fall season will begin with a park play date on September 14 and our first official meeting is September 21. For registration details and more information, contact Melissa Shripka, at 353-3743.

Marriage Ministry

Our Marriage Ministry coordinators, Mark & Ann Drake are busy planning for fall. A couple's Bible study will begin on Wednesday evening, October 12. Stay tuned for details!

Plans are also being made for a couple's fun night this fall and we'll look forward to an evening of fellowship and fun! Watch the bulletin and newsletter for more info.

Adult Workcamp

Our adult team will return to Annville, Kentucky to serve at Jackson Co. Ministries April 15-20, 2012.

We always have such a great time as we serve together in an area that so needs to know the love of Christ. If you're interested in joining our team that is going, please contact Becky at rjr413@comcast.net. Watch for more details later this fall.



To stay up to date on all of our Spiritual Growth offerings and activities, be sure to check the Southridge website regularly at www.southridgechurch.com and click on the Adult Ministries link.

Small Groups

We have a great opportunity for you to experience community and Spiritual growth in a small group setting. This is a great way for you to connect and enjoy fellowship with others as you grow and serve together. We have groups for men, women, couples and co-ed groups. To join a group or to learn more about the ministry, contact Abby Lininger at 271-1527.

Men's Ministry

Our first men's breakfast for the fall season will be held at the Moors Grille Room on October 8 from 8:00-9:30 a.m. Watch for further details and an opportunity to sign-up at the Welcome Center.

Our annual fall service day will be held on Saturday, November 12. What a great way to serve our congregation and community. Plan now to help!

1st Impressions

Are you looking for a place to serve and get to know others? We'd love to help you connect as part of our Greeter or Welcome Center teams. To sign-up or for more information, contact Carolyn Everts at 323-3506.

Ladies-Save the date! Our Women's retreat will be held February 24-25 at Gull Lake Ministries. Registration information will be coming soon. Plan now to attend and look forward to a great time of fun and fellowship!

2011-2012 school year... GO!

We're ready to rev-up the engine on the oneeighty train and get rolling to a school year. You will not be the same come June 2012! We have great things planned all year long (you will get your mailer soon), but for now, enjoy September! *Be looking for the oneeighty info packet soon!*

oneeighty

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Why do we do what we do at oneeighty?

To encourage you to:

- Turn to Jesus
- Turn to Each Other
- Turn to our World

Together we will learn that our best life possible

is found when we do a oneeighty and find our greatest pleasure in what God has for us!

September 18– Turn to Jesus

September 25– Turn to Each Other

October 2– Movie: Soul Surfer

October 9– Small Group Day

October 16th– Turn to Our World



Join us as we kick things off
Sunday, September 11

6:00-8:00

Here's what we have going on:

1. KJ-52 in concert

2. After Party 8:00-9:00

3. Ultimate Frisbee

4. Crazy Games

5. Cook-Out

It will be a great night you and your friends won't want to miss!

What is...

Bible Study: Starts Wednesday, Sept. 28

This is our weekly time to go deeper into God's word and to deepen our understanding of being a follower of Christ. This semester we will be studying *Purity*. Purity has more to do with than just sex, it is a word to describe what is in our hearts. If our heart is pure, then what comes from it, and what it allows us to do is pure. Join us as we learn about and grow together the pure life our heavenly Father desires us to live.

Serve Kalamazoo: This is our community service opportunity where we go out and serve with organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Ministry With Community, Bickford Cottage and more. We also meet several needs within our own church! Opportunities are monthly and there are sign-ups at ignite.



Ignite: This is our weekly worship gathering. We meet Sunday nights from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Fundraising: So we can have as many students possible join us in all our opportunities, we offer 3 opportunities to earn funds:

Cookie Dough– Sept. 25

Rummage Sale– Nov. 12

Wedel's Bloomin Bucks– March 25

Tee It Up!– May 2012

Upcoming Events:

Soul Surfer– Oct. 2

Small Group Day– Oct. 9

Barn Bash– Oct. 30

Passion 2012– January 2-5

Winter Retreat– TBD



Why do we do what we do at FBIC? To show us why it is important to and how we can become:

- Fellow Believers in Christ
- Fellow Believers in Each Other
- Fellow Believers in our World

This is our first series at XLR8, but we have other things planned on Friday nights as well, such as:

- Sept. 16- Welcome to FBIC Night
- Oct. 7- Lock-In (Featuring Pirates Island)
- Oct. 14- Small Group Night

Join us as we kick things off-Sunday, September 11th 6:00-8:00 p.m. Here's what we have going on:

1. KJ-52 in concert
2. Pre-Party from 4:30-5:30
3. Ultimate Frisbee
4. Crazy Games
5. Cook-Out

It will be a great night you and your friends won't want to miss!



WELCOME BACK!!



We're looking forward to a great beginning of the school year with all our students and adults who make up the FBIC family. We have so much planned and are excited to see how God will grow and live through each one of us!

The FBIC info packet will be coming soon. It will be available at the kick-off event and at XLR8!

Join us Tuesday nights, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for TUESDAY TURNAROUND! Hang out with your friends in our café and gym. We have pool, ping pong, air hockey and other things you want to have a good time. It's a great time to get out of the house, and believe me YOUR PARENTS

WILL APPROVE!

Tuesday Turnaround happens on **September 6 and 20.**



CORE Want to go deeper in your understanding of the Bible? Join us at **CORE**. Starting on Sunday, September 25 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 146, you will begin to learn about Jesus from His story in the book of Luke, and then learn what He is able to do in and through us by studying the books of Acts.

CORE is more than teaching, it's about a discussion and expressing your thoughts and questions with your friends.

CORE will meet every other Sunday and will be led by Matt & Robin Colwell, and Glen & Karen Marr.



This Fall... We're heading "Under the Big Top" to discover the three-ring-circus of some of the Bible's most interesting characters! We'll meet some amazing Biblical people and see how they used their gifts to serve God. Programming for kids in preschool-4th grade begins September 11.



Fifth graders at the 11AM service will participate in worship with all the children and then head out for a special small group called "Grapple!" This fall you'll be talking about your relationship with your family and with Jesus.

And don't forget about **Fifth Grade Fellowship!** Our first hang out is **September 25, 4-5:30 p.m.** We will meet in the Oasis café/game room.

And some more fun stuff for the fall!

- **Christmas Musical** open house is September 28 at 6:30 p.m. Come find out more about the program, there will be treats too! If you love to sing, dance and act; then this is the place for you! (Participants need to be in kindergarten through fifth grade)
- **3rd Grade Bible Presentation** is October 16. Contact Stephanie if you would like your child to receive a Bible.
- **Fallapalooza is back!** On October 30, 3:30-5:30 p.m. we will have an amazing afternoon for families. Inflatables, hayride, games, trunk or treat and much more!

Little Miracles Christian Learning Center

A Preschool Ministry of
Southridge Church

Believing that children are an integral part of the Kingdom of God, our mission at Little Miracles Christian Learning Center is to provide a quality program that encourages the whole child – spiritual, social, emotional, intellectual, cognitive, physical and creative.

Little Miracles Preschool is a delightful place where three- and four-year-olds can grow, learn and play. Our activities are designed to help each child realize that he or she is unique and loved by God, as we promote child development and kindergarten readiness through a well-rounded program of activities.

Class offerings: 3 yr. olds – Tuesday & Thursday
9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

4 yr. olds – Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

For a list of activities and themes, tuition information and other interesting things, please visit our website at

www.southridgechurch.com/littlemiracles.htm



BALLET MAGNIFICATI!

presents

Deliver Us

Southridge Reformed Church

October 7 - 7:00 p.m.

\$10.00 (families of 4 or more \$7.00)

353-2700 for tickets

6726 Texas Dr

Kalamazoo

AMERICA'S PREMIER CHRISTIAN BALLET COMPANY



FINANCIAL REPORT

	July 2011	Jan. – July 2011
Total Cash Receipts	\$112,184	\$899,401
Total Expenses	\$109,924	\$873,138
Net Excess/(Deficit)	\$ 2,260	\$ 26,262

We have ended our first 7 months in 2011 with a modest surplus, which is wonderful for this time of year. It is worth noting that when comparing our General Giving Fund through July to support our operating budget over the past 7 years, this year's donations exceeded all of the past 7 years!

You donated all of this money during uncertain economic times! What a generous, loving family you belong to here at Southridge! And by being careful stewards of your generous donations, our revenues ended up exceeding our expenses by approximately \$26,262 for the first 7 months of 2011.

With all of the financial uncertainties that accompany our current state of the economy, it is more important than ever that you continue to trust in God, and remember your church's financial needs as we move through the year 2011. Many exciting plans have been made and goals have been set for 2011. But in order for these plans to be implemented, your financial support will continue to be needed.

Thank you for your generous giving!

Good News:

- Our Search Team for our new Middle School Director has been working diligently for many weeks, and has found several candidates for follow up interviews for the position.
- Our VBS for Autistic children was held August 8-10 and was well attended. A great time was had by all!
- Matt and Tori Walker, our Youth Worship Leaders, have been teaching free instrumental music lessons, and rehearsing and worshipping with over 35 middle and high school youth in our youth worship bands each week.
- The annual bike trip this year, from June 26 to July 1, had over 96 participating, with 60 kids and 36 adult volunteers attending.

KIDS HOPE NEWS



She's just one person away from believing in herself



I want to BE the one person who helps a child believe in herself.



You Could be the **One** to Love a Child

I would like more information about the following KIDS HOPE USA opportunities:

- MENTOR:** give my love to a child one hour per week at the school.
- PRAYER PARTNER:** be the person who upholds the child, the mentor and the relationship in life changing prayer.
- SUBSTITUTE MENTOR:** be available to stand in for a mentor who must miss a session.

KIDS HOPE USA church mentors are trained to use a weekly one hour meeting at the school to be that oneperson who helps a child believe in herself. www.kidshopeusa.org

Contact Marilyn Petzold
344-4126
michiganmap@gmail.com



“WSGL” (Women Spreading God’s Love) – Meeting Thursday, September 15—This is a great opportunity for women of all ages to gather together at the

Moors Grille Room at 12:30 p.m. for lunch and bonding time. Call Maureen at 544-1636 or Marcia at 323-0671 if you have any questions.

Church Picnic

September

11

Immediately
following the
11:00 a.m. service
Time for fun, food and
community!

Admission is free
(Donations are encouraged)
Games for the whole family or
just relax in one of your lawn
chairs.
(Tables will be provided)



**Provided: Amish Chicken,
Salads, Drinks, Dessert,
Plates, Cups and Plastic
Ware**

OUR COMMUNITY

Prayers for
Janet & Craig Schreuder and fam-
ily at the loss of Janet's dad, Bill
Dykstra. Please send cards to 9317
Chapel Street, Portage, MI 49024.

David & Janelle Gage as they
mourn the loss of Dave's father.
Please send cards to 4803 Foxfire,
Portage, MI 49024.

Many thanks for the prayers, cards,
and "acts of kindness" during my
surgeries. A special thank you to
Pastor Becky for her prayers and
visits.

Jean Bylsma

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

When a need arises and you would like to request care, please con-
tact the church office first, and they will let the appropriate person
know of your need or request. The Southridge office phone number
is 353-2700.

Crisis care and counseling
Pastors Mark Vanderson & Becky Ringler

Pre-surgical prayer and hospital visits
Alice Heun

Post-hospital and home visits
Parish Nurse Linda Vroegindewey

Immediate and ongoing needs
Deacon Jen Hoffman

Prayer team concerns
Marilyn Petzold

Small Group Ministry Director
Betsy Loeks

*Being a member of a small group is one of the greatest ways to
receive care as needed.*

CHURCH LIBRARY

The Southridge Church Library has been sorted, updated and organized, and we invite you to come in to relax and browse through our books, DVD's, CD's and audio books. The library has a great collection of Christian books for all ages and interests: children's books, Christian fiction and non-fiction, devotionals, books about parenting and relationships, and books to enhance your spiritual growth.



Our books have come from a number of sources. We accept and appreciate your donations of "gently read" Christian books. If you have checked out books in the past and forgot to return them, please bring them in...no questions asked. If you shop for books at the Family Christian Store (South West-nedge and Kilgore), you can help us by collecting their book stamps (there is a container in the library for them) or by using your Ministry Perks Member-ship card (also available in the library). The church earns 5% of your total purchase in the form of mer- chandise vouchers. If you have a recommendation for a book you think would be a good addition to the library, please let us know. Also, if you would like to



donate a book in memory or in honor of someone special to you, we will place a sticker in your book stating that it was given in his or her name. With your help, we can keep our selection of books current and an excellent resource for your spiritual journey.

There is a volunteer on duty between services most Sundays to help you locate and check out books. If you would like to become a Library Assistant, please contact Carol Vail at cvail130@yahoo.com or Judy Storteboom at judystorteboom@yahoo.com. We would love to talk with you about it.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
9:00 Sunday Worship Service 11:00 Sunday Worship Service	5	6:00 Tuesday Turna- round 6:30 Deacon's Meeting 7:30 Consistory Meeting		7	9	10 6:00 Empty Nesters
9:00 Sunday Worship Service 11:00 Sunday Worship Service Church Picnic Kick-Off Amplify ages 3-4th grade 4:30 FBIC Kickoff 8:00 oneeighy Kick-Off	12	7:00 Oneeighy Leader's Mtg	9:15 Women's Bible Study	14	16 7:00 XLR8	17 7:30 a.m. Serve Kalamazoo
9:00 Sunday Worship Service 11:00 Sunday Worship Service Amplify ages 3-4th grade 3:00 Financial Peace 6:30 Ignite:oneeighy series	19	6:00 Tuesday Turna- round 7:00 FBIC Leader's Mtg	9:15 Women's Bible Study 9:00 MOPS	21	23 7:00 XLR8	24
9:00 Sunday Worship Service 11:00 Sunday Worship Service Amplify ages 3-4th grade 3:00 Financial Peace 6:30 Ignite:oneeighy series	26		9:15 Women's Bible Study 6:30 oneeighy Bible Study	28	30 7:00 XLR8	

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Faith Community Nurse
Linda Vroegindewey