

CONNECTIONS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11



7 Habits of a Highly Effective Steward

Much has been written about the habits it takes to be a highly effective person, or a highly effective family or a highly effective teen. This seven-part series will reflect on the habits of a highly effective steward.

Since stewardship is a part of discipleship, and discipleship is a journey for each of us, we hope that these habits will help us reflect on this area of our Christian life.

Habit 2: Trust God to Provide

Trust is a foundational concept for practicing stewardship. This may be one of the most difficult habits of all to develop. For many of us, it's easier to trust God for our eternal salvation than it is to trust him for our daily living. When it comes to practical things like putting food on our table or making the mortgage payment, we operate as if we are on our own. As a result we often worry and experience anxiety.

Fear is the result of our inability to trust God in all aspects of our lives. This actually causes some of us to stockpile assets beyond all reason. Others worry about every possibility of loss, including health issues, layoffs and economic collapse. There's a big difference between constructive planning – and destructive worry. There is no reason for us to be bound by fear. We need to put our trust in God and to commit both our faith and our finances to Him.

“Instruct those who are rich in this present world not. . .to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy” (I Timothy 6:17). Even though our culture tempts us to believe that accumulation brings happiness, as Christians we need to focus on trusting God. He has much to give us of far greater value than anything we can ever purchase or accumulate.

Trusting God to provide also means operating on His timetable and not our own. This is extremely difficult in many situations. We tend to want our needs met immediately. If this were always the case, there would be no opportunity for us to strengthen our faith – to believe and trust that our needs will be met according to God's plan. These opportunities help to teach us patience and reliance on God.

Trinity Reformed Church



The Essential 100 Bible Reading Program

January 2013

Key Verse

Complete Passage

The Judges

36. Israel's Disobedience	Judges 2:11-12	Judges 2:6-3:6
37. Deborah Leads Israel	Judges 4:4-5	Judges 4:1-5:31
38. Gideon Defeats the Midianites	Judges 7:7	Judges 6:1-7:25
39. Samson Defeats the Philistines	Judges 16:29-30	Judges 13:1-16:31
40. The Story of Ruth	Ruth 4:13-17	Ruth 1:1-4:22

The Rise of Israel

41. Samuel Listens to God	1 Samuel 3:10	1 Samuel 1:1-3:21
42. King Saul	1 Samuel 10:1	1 Samuel 8:1-10:27
43. David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17:10	1 Samuel 16:1-18:16
44. David and Saul	1 Samuel 24:10-11	1 Samuel 23:7-24:22
45. King David	2 Samuel 7:8-9	2 Samuel 5:1-7:29

The Fall of Israel

46. David and Bathsheba	2 Samuel 12:9-10	2 Samuel 11:1-12:25
47. King Solomon	1 Kings 3:27-28	1 Kings 2:1-3:28
48. Solomon's Temple	1 Kings 8:29-30	1 Kings 8:1-9:9
49. Elijah and the Prophets of Baal	1 Kings 18:20-21	1 Kings 16:29-19:18
50. The Fall of Jerusalem	2 Kings 25:10-11	2 Kings 25:1-30

February 2013

Psalms and Proverbs

51. The Lord is My Shepherd	Psalms 23:1	Psalms 23:1-6
52. Have Mercy on Me	Psalms 51:10-11	Psalms 51:1-19
53. Praise the Lord	Psalms 103:1	Psalms 103:1-22
54. Godly Wisdom	Proverbs 3:5-6	Proverbs 1:1-4:27
55. Proverbs of Solomon	Proverbs 16:8	Proverbs 16:1-18:24

The Prophets

56. The Suffering Servant	Isaiah 53:5	Isaiah 51:1-53:12
57. Jeremiah's Call and Message	Jeremiah 1:9-10	Jeremiah 1:1-3:5
58. Daniel in the Lion's Den	Daniel 6:21-22	Daniel 6:1-28
59. The Story of Jonah	Jonah 1:15-17	Jonah 1:1-4:11
60. The Day of Judgment	Malachi 3:5	Malachi 1:1-4:6

Youth Ministry Moments

My review of the book “Sticky Faith — Practical ideas to nurture long-term faith in Teenagers” By Jon Wolters

As I started to read the book Sticky Faith, the question that kept popping up in my mind is what is it? What is Sticky Faith? The answer came on page 20 and it was broken down into three characteristics. The first two are relevant for all ages and the last is more important for those students making the transition to college or careers. So here goes.

Sticky Faith as defined in the book is:

1. Both internal and external: Sticky Faith is part of a student's inner thoughts and emotions, and is also externalized in choices and actions that reflect this faith commitment. These behaviors include regular attendance in a church or campus group, prayer and bible reading, service to others, and lower participation in risk behaviors, especially sex and alcohol. In other words, Sticky Faith involves whole-person life integration, at least to some degree.
2. Both personal and communal: Sticky Faith celebrates God's specific care for each person while always locating faith in the global and local community of the church.
3. Both mature and maturing: Sticky Faith shows marks of spiritual maturity but also in the process of growth. We don't assume a high school senior or college freshman (or youth worker, for that matter) will have a completely “mature” faith. We are all in process.

(the last three statements taken from Sticky Faith pages 20 & 21)

A few thoughts that I am personally taking from this chapter. 1) Sticky Faith in teenagers does not just happen and teenagers cannot have Sticky Faith by themselves. We as a church body need to be a part of their lives - this is a topic that will come up in future chapters. 2) Start these principles of Sticky Faith early, even elementary kids will benefit from the ideas in future chapters.

Above all the research done for this book the authors have expressed that they love God and believe in God more than any amount of research. Their top suggestion is this: “Trust the Lord with your kids and continue to ask—maybe at times beg—the Lord to build Sticky Faith.” (page 24 & 25)

Let me close with a story told by the author Kara Powell. This story really means something to me because I did exactly what her son did! She tells of a time when he received two sports pennants - one from each of his two favorite football teams, the San Diego Chargers and the New Orleans Saints. The first night after receiving the pennants he hung them up in his room with scotch tape. By the next morning they had fallen. The second night he hung them up with masking tape and they stayed up on the wall that night and into the next day, but by the time they got home from work and school the pennants had fallen yet again. They knew it was time to pull out the big guns so they grabbed some duct tape. The pennants stayed up on the wall that night and the next and they have remained on the wall for over three years now!!

The application for this story towards our kids is this: are we using scotch tape or masking tape to hold them up in their faith?

I think it is time to get out the Duct Tape!!!

It's time to build Sticky Faith!!!

Trinity Youth Update



Jon's Office Hours:
Monday: Off or working from home
Tuesday - Thursday : 9 - 4
Friday: 9 - ????

January 2013



Jr. High
Ministry



Theme Verse: Matthew 4:19

This year's theme is "Amazing Race"
Each week we look at a Detour, Road Block, Speed Bump, or U-Turn that someone in the Bible had to take. Our prayer is that as we study the past we can learn how to run our lives as an Amazing Race for God!!

Upcoming Events:

December 26: NO GO FISH (Christmas Break)

January 2: NO GO FISH (Christmas Break)

January 9: Regular Meeting @ Church (Road Block)

January 16: Regular Meeting @ Church (Road Block)

Future Notice:

February 1-3: Retreat @ Cran-Hill Ranch
This will be a retreat with just our group and any friends you choose to take along! Sign-up on the Youth Table by Wednesday, January 16. parents we will be looking for food donations as we are doing all our own meals.
Tab or Jon will be contacting you soon.



Sr. High
Ministry

Theme Verse:
1 Peter 2:11

This year's theme is "Who Dat?"
We are looking at life of Esther and James as told in the books of the bible the bear their names.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 23: NO AREA 51 (Christmas Break)

December 30: NO AREA 51 (Christmas Break)

January 6: Movie Night @ Church (Christmas Break)

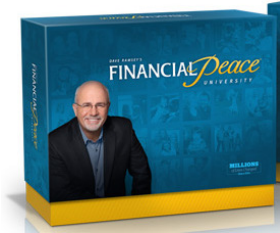
What movie do you want to watch??

FUTURE NOTICE:

February 3 super bowl Party
Do you want to have it at your house?

February 22-24: Winter Blast @ Grace Adventure
Sign-up on the Youth Table by February 10!!

DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY



The First Dave Ramsey Class was a big success. Each week for 9 weeks there was a video led by Dave Ramsey then a short time of discussion afterward. The class is a very eye opening and informative.

As a group we:

- ◆ Cut up 10 credit cards
- ◆ Reduced our debt by \$8,200
- ◆ Increase our saving accounts by \$2400

We would like to start another class soon. If you are interested, contact Ed or Beth Borgman and let us know possible times that would work for you. If you have any questions on the class feel free to talk with the recent graduates of Financial Peace University: John and Penny Houting, Martin and Pat Trevino & Steve and Amanda Schurman.

Also a special thanks goes out to the anonymous donor that help support the class.

Ed and Beth Borgman

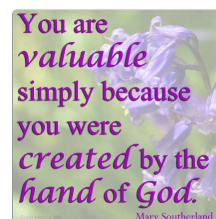
OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

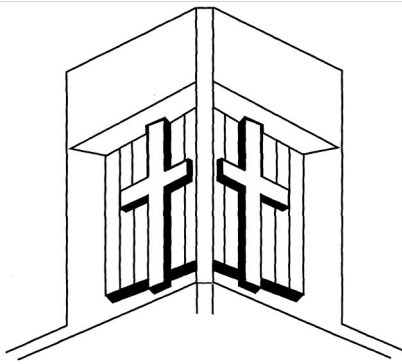
- **Provide Cookies for Sunday Morning Connection Café - immediate need!!**
- Nursery Attendants (Infant and Toddler)
- Monday Morning Work Group
- Wednesday Night Dinner Helpers and Cookie Providers
- Community Kitchen at Western Seminary (1st Thursday@11am)
- Tutor, Provide Supper, Receptionist at ROCK Youth Ministries (Tues-Thurs, 4-6pm)
- Holland Public Schools LSPC "Books", Buses and Breakfast Program
- Trinity Care Closet (Every Wednesday 4:30-6pm)
- Snacks & Beverage for Wavecrest Basketball Team
- Provide Gatorade for Tuesday Night Basketball
- Worship Leader / Praise Team
- Sound Room (training provided)
- KIDS.COM (Kids Choir) Helpers (teens/adults)
- Start a Small Group Based on Your Favorite Hobby

For these and other opportunities, please contact the church office (396-6526).

JANUARY 2013 CALENDAR

- ♦ Jan. 1 - *Happy New Year!!*
- ♦ Jan. 2 - Men's Bible Study *6:30am*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *6:45-8:15pm*
Praise Team Practice *8-9pm*
- ♦ Jan 3 - Community Kitchen @ Western Seminary *11am*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Beth Moore "Daniel" Bible Study *6:30pm*
- ♦ Jan 4 - Pastoral Care Office Hours with Nancy Smith *11am-1pm*
Girls Basketball Practice *6:30pm*
- ♦ Jan. 6 - Worship & Consistory Installation *9:30am*
Sunday School for All Ages *11am*
High School Youth Group Movie Night *6pm*
- ♦ Jan. 7 - Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Girls Basketball Practice *6:30pm*
- ♦ Jan. 8 - Prayer Group *10am*
Worship Planning Team *11am*
Adult Bible Study *2pm*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Basketball for Teens & Adults *7pm*
- ♦ Jan. 9 - Men's Bible Study *6:30am*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Care Closet *4:30-6pm*
Family Dinner *6pm*
Beth Moore "Fruit of the Spirit" Bible Study *6:30pm*
Middle School Youth Group *6:30-8pm*
KIDS.COM Choir *6:30-7pm*
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *6:45-8:15pm*
Traveler's Kids Class *7-8pm*
Praise Team Practice *8-9pm*
- ♦ Jan. 10 - Turning Pages Reading Group *noon*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Beth Moore "Daniel" Bible Study *6:30pm*
- ♦ Jan. 11 - Pastoral Care Office Hours with Nancy Smith *11am-1pm*
Girls Basketball Practice *6:30pm*
- ♦ Jan. 13 - Worship *9:30am*
Sunday School for All Ages *11am*
High School Youth Group *6pm*
- ♦ Jan. 14 - Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Spiritual Growth Team *7pm*
- ♦ Jan. 15 - Worship Planning Team *11am*
Adult Bible Study *2pm*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Basketball for Teens & Adults *7pm*
- ♦ Jan. 16 - Men's Bible Study *6:30am*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Care Closet *4:30-6pm*
Family Dinner *6pm*
Beth Moore "Fruit of the Spirit" Bible Study *6:30pm*
Middle School Youth Group *6:30-8pm*
KIDS.COM Choir *6:30-7pm*
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *6:45-8:15pm*
Traveler's Kids Class *7-8pm*
Praise Team Practice *8-9pm*
- ♦ Jan. 17 - Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Ladies Night Out *5:30pm*
Beth Moore "Daniel" Bible Study *6:30pm*
- ♦ Jan. 18 - Pastoral Care Office Hours with Nancy Smith *11am-1pm*
Girls Basketball Practice *6:30pm*
- ♦ Jan. 20 - Worship *9:30am*
Sunday School for All Ages *11am*
High School Youth Group *6pm*
- ♦ Jan. 21 - Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Executive Team *7pm*
- ♦ Jan. 22 - Prayer Group *10am*
Worship Planning Team *11am*
Adult Bible Study *2pm*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Basketball for Teens & Adults *7pm*
- ♦ Jan. 23 - Men's Bible Study *6:30am*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Care Closet *4:30-6pm*
Family Dinner *6pm*
Beth Moore "Fruit of the Spirit" Bible Study *6:30pm*
Middle School Youth Group *6:30-8pm*
KIDS.COM Choir *6:30-7pm*
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *6:45-8:15pm*
Traveler's Kids Class *7-8pm*
Praise Team Practice *8-9pm*
- ♦ Jan. 24 - Turning Pages Reading Group *noon*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Beth Moore "Daniel" Bible Study *6:30pm*
- ♦ Jan. 25 - Pastoral Care Office Hours with Nancy Smith *11am-1pm*
- ♦ Jan. 27 - Worship *9:30am*
Sunday School for All Ages *11am*
High School Youth Group to The Underground *6pm*
- ♦ Jan. 28 - Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
- ♦ Jan. 29 - Worship Planning Team *11am*
Adult Bible Study *2pm*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Basketball for Teens & Adults *7pm*
- ♦ Jan. 30 - Men's Bible Study *6:30am*
Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Care Closet *4:30-6pm*
Family Dinner *6pm*
Beth Moore "Fruit of the Spirit" Bible Study *6:30pm*
Middle School Youth Group *6:30-8pm*
KIDS.COM Choir *6:30-7pm*
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *6:45-8:15pm*
Traveler's Kids Class *7-8pm*
Praise Team Practice *8-9pm*
- ♦ Jan. 31 - Wavecrest Basketball Practice *3:30pm*
Beth Moore "Daniel" Bible Study *6:30pm*





Trinity Reformed Church

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Pastor: Chris DeGraaf Email chris@trinityrc.org

Director of Youth Ministry: Jon Wolters Email jon@trinityrc.org

Worship Coordinator: Becky Bierma Email becky@trinityrc.org

2013 TRINITY CONSISTORY

Elders

Jim Allen
Sandy Bedard
Carol DeBoer
Warren Kooyers
Dianne Moker
Doug Schurman
Bill Stehouwer

Deacons

Scott Baumgartner
Kevin Brower
Teresa Harrington
Ross Helmus
John Houting
Tom Lampen
Steve Schurman

MINISTRY TEAM CHAIR PERSONS

Steve Schurman - Building & Grounds
John Bedard - Finance
Teresa Harrington - Spiritual Growth
Roger Mulder - Mission
Bill VanAuken - Worship



Happy Birthday!!



Rick Dykstra	1/1	Pat Trevino	1/11	George Jacob	1/25
Kathy Helmus	1/2	Winnie Welton	1/12	Clif Reed	1/25
Kennedee Leisure	1/2	Elsie Kossen	1/14	Ruth Hoedema	1/27
Kyan Leisure	1/2	Larry Gezon	1/17	Hazel Jurries	1/27
Laura Fuglseth	1/4	Mildred Vandenberg	1/17	Carl Dykhuis	1/28
Ruth Klungle	1/4	Adam Smith	1/22	Marge Kleis	1/28
Jerry Kruithof	1/7	Joan Zuidema	1/23	Jack Oonk	1/31
John Klungle	1/11	Jim Simmons	1/24		

Happy Anniversary!!

Bob & Linda Koning 1/8
Ed & Marlene Plaggemars 1/21



Marv & Arlene VandenBosch 1/27