



### **God Does Not Show Favoritism!**

The A.D. Series has certainly been good. It has sparked interest and I have had numerous members approach me with questions pertaining to the series. It really makes one have to think about some things. I have enjoyed the series simply from the perspective that it has placed into action the words that are printed on paper in the Book of Acts in the Bible. It has made them come alive visually for us to see.

As I reflect on the series, the persecution that the early church faced was real. However, it did not stop the spread of the message of Jesus Christ. While the disciples were concerned about the Jews initially, Peter had a vision in Acts chapter 10 that completely altered his thinking. Cornelius, a Roman centurion, had a vision where an angel told him to send men to Joppa and bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. While the men were on their way, Peter also had a vision where a sheet was let down from heaven that contained all kinds of animals, reptiles and birds. A voice told him to kill and eat. Peter, being a law abiding Jew, refused to do so on the bases that he had never eaten anything unclean. The voice told him not to call anything impure that God had made clean.

While Peter was contemplating what this meant, the men from Cornelius arrived. Peter went with the men to Cornelius' home. Peter was well aware that it was against Jewish law to associate with Gentile (non-Jewish) people. This, however, is where Peter realized the deeper meaning of his vision regarding the sheet and the animals. In Acts 10:34-35 Peter said, "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right."

How often are we caught in the trap of showing favoritism? Our lives are surrounded by circumstances where we show favoritism.

Whether it is at work or picking our little league baseball team. Whether it is picking our friends or visiting our neighbors. Whether it is inviting someone to church or even welcoming someone who visits our church we have a tendency to show favoritism. We need to remember that the good news of Jesus is for everyone. We need to look at people with the mission eyes of Jesus.

May we continue to be used by God with A Heart for Hamilton County and the World!

*Pastor Reich*

## JUNE

### Sunday Morning

- 8:30 Breakfast/Opening
- 9:00 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship

### Tuesday

- 9:00 Quilting

### Friday

Closed

### EVERY MONTH

- 1st Sunday– Nursing Home Devotions 1:30pm
- 2nd Week– Board Meetings
- 3rd Saturday--Men's Club 7:15am



**See Calendar for more Information!!**



# Mission Uganda News

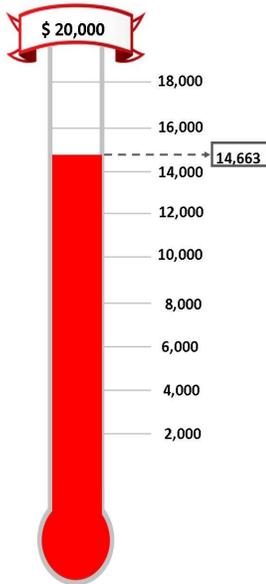
A BIG  
THANK  
YOU

We would like to thank everyone for their support in our fundraising efforts for our mission trip to Uganda. Whether it has been support through physically helping us with the various fundraising events, your monetary support or most

importantly, your prayer support, we are thankful and grateful for all that you have done and continue to do. We are also grateful for the Hamilton community who has been very support and encouraging of our Mission Trip.

St. John Mission  
Uganda Team

You are  
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amaZing



opportunity and the team and I believe that it is an opportunity that God has placed in our midst. I am very much aware that it is taking a lot of financial resources to go on this trip and the amount that is needed would go a long way here in the states or even in Hamilton. However, this is the mission opportunity that individual members felt led by God to pursue and in doing so are carrying out the mission the disciples were told before Jesus ascended into heaven, "you will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth". Acts 1:8 I will have to say this, the small group study that we are going through has been eye-opening. While we are doing this to prepare us for our trip to Uganda, every question that is asked and every conversation that we have pertaining to the study takes us to a discussion about how this information is relevant for the mission work we have right here in Hamilton. I am excited about what is happening because of this mission trip. It is beginning to open our eyes in the area of mission work and a lot things currently done do not really help a whole lot in the end. If anyone has other ideas on what we could be doing in Hamilton and you are feeling led by God to do something in this area, please let me know. Hamilton is our community and we are and we want to and should be doing mission work here as well. I look forward to experience and see the impact that this trip has on the mission work that St. John will continue to do here in Hamilton and across the world.

Pastor Reich

## Missions Small Group Study



I am very excited about the group that has been meeting on Sunday evenings. While it is geared right now to prepare us for the trip to Uganda, it will be a group that will continue to meet long after we return to focus on mission work in general – Hamilton and across the world. The mission trip to Uganda is an incredible oppor-



## What will we be doing?

There have been a lot of questions about what we will be doing when we get there. We have not been able to give very good answers to these questions because we're not sure. However, here is an email from Kari Segner that might help shed some light on what we will be involved with.



Relationship is KEY to us. It has been since day one. If we don't have a relationship then we don't have trust. There is A LOT of damage that has been done here in Uganda from well meaning NGOs that have come in with grand ideas, but not the patience or knowledge to see what works. We definitely don't claim to have it all figured out or have complete knowledge, but we do have patience and are constantly striving to learn more and develop relationships that enable trust. Otherwise, why would anyone want to hear what we have to say? About Christ or malaria?

Our model has changed recently because we feel that we have a better opportunity to go deeper with our village ministry and wider with our malaria ministry. You will get a chance to see both aspects when you are here. With the malaria ministry, in order to reach more people with the education and help, we have started partnering with other organizations, using the trust and relationships that they have acquired to bring the education and prevention.

Christ is always known to any organization, as our reason for doing what we are doing. This is made known to the families that we help also, regardless of their religion, and we always leave each household asking if we can pray for their family. Malaria is a deadly disease, crippling families here. What is more crippling though is the absence of Christ and that is our true mission. Malaria is our foot in the door. I struggled for a bit in wanting to be able to go deep with every person that we encountered. I feel like God really spoke to me though that I was not entrusting His plan for the people here. That we can plant a seed and trust in His sovereignty for that person's life. It is SO very difficult not to say 'yes' to more here. To see suffering on such great levels and not do more. But if we try, we are making it about us and not about Him. It can sometimes be a daily struggle, especially in the midst of relationship, but we are not here to save the world of all that is wrong. We are here to purposefully, daily, seek His will and do what He calls.

When we go to an area, it is important for people to not view us as just the Mzungus (white people) who have something to hand out. We try our

best to empower moms to know how to help their families against this disease. To leave them with the tool of education and wisdom to fight it. In our children's ministry, the kids learned early on that the only thing we were there to offer them was Christ.

At first there was disappointment when we didn't have candy or money, etc. But to see the program grow and grow based on just worship and bible stories was amazing. We didn't need to buy their time, He was enough.

Our village ministry is taking a new look soon in the fact that we feel He has called us to move out of the city, to the village. It will be harder in some ways, but we have a huge peace about this and an excitement for what is to come. We won't have to find time to travel to the village for ministry, our daily lives can become ministry. We are excited to share more about this with your team.

Let me finish by saying we do not have it all figured out. We need Him daily and I am thankful for that. If I ever get to a place in thinking we have it all figured out I hope that I have surrounded myself with enough Godly people that will speak truth to me. We have failed with things and will continue to do so, I am certain. We have relationships that are still a struggle, years into them. Trust is hard to gain and hard to give. But we didn't move here because we thought it would be easy and the bible doesn't say that ministry will be easy. I am sure Keith has had plenty of witness to that even in the church. But through it all, I have never experienced such an amazing peace of feeling I am right where He wants us to be. My faith has been strengthened in such big ways and I am grateful for that. We are excited to have your team come, to have Christians that we can open up to. Our weaknesses and strengths, that we can trust to be a prayer force for us from the states. To speak truth as God leads them.

Kari

Healing Faith Uganda





### Sr. Youth Ministry

Thank you to the Men's Club for the generous support that you give to the Sr. Youth. We greatly appreciate your donation to us. We are planning to use part of the money to help with the school supply kits for Mission Uganda, and the other part will help purchase mobile storage cabinets for the Sr. Youth.

Thanks for your generosity!

#### Men's Club News

The Men's Club met Saturday June 20th with 6 men present. We enjoyed a hearty breakfast and good conversation. Our treasurer Forrest Jenson gave us a report on our Mother's Day Chicken BBQ proceeds. After our expenses our net profit was \$4332.54. It was then approved by the Men's Club to disburse some of the funds as follows: Senior Youth (\$1,000), Preschool (\$500), Ruth Guild (\$500), Mission Uganda (\$500), VBS (\$500). These donation amounted to \$3000.00. This leaves us some funds to use for our sponsoring Advent and our Lenten Fish Fry meals. We also make \$100.00 quarterly contribution to the Lutheran Hour.

We want our fellow church members to know how much we appreciate all who helped with the BBQ to make it so successful. With these funds we feel we can help with God's ministry here at St. John and in our community. May God Bless us all in the endeavor and if you feel compelled to join us know that you are more than welcome.



In His Service,  
The Men's Club

### The Star-Spangled Banner – Francis Scott Key 1814

*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Philippians 3:20*

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thru the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

O say, does that star spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep,  
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,  
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,

As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream:  
Tis the star-spangled banner: O, long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore  
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion  
A home and a country should leave us no more?  
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.

No refuge could save the hireling and slave  
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave:  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand,  
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!  
Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto: "In God is our Trust  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and home of the brave!"



Francis Scott Key, a Georgetown attorney heavily involved in national politics, an evangelical Christian, Francis taught Bible classes and witnessed boldly. He once told a friend in Congress, "Christ alone can save you from the sentence of condemnation."

He also wrote hymns like this one:

*Lord, with glowing heart I'd praise Thee, For  
the bliss Thy love bestows,*

*For the pardoning grace that saves me, And  
the peace that from it flows;*

*Help, O God, my weak endeavor; This dull  
soul to rapture raise;*

*Thou must light the flame, or never can my  
love be warmed to praise.*

But nothing prepared Francis for the hostage-recovery mission he undertook at the request of the President of the United States.

In 1814, about a week after the city of Washington had been badly burned, British troops moved up to the primary port at Baltimore Harbor in Maryland. Francis Scott Key visited the British fleet in the Harbor on September 13<sup>th</sup> to secure the release of Dr. William Beanes who had been captured during the Washington raid. The two were detained on the ship so as not to warn the Americans while the Royal Navy attempted to bombard Fort McHenry. At dawn on the 14<sup>th</sup>, Key noted that the huge American flag, which now hangs in the Smithsonian's American History Museum, was still waving and had not been removed in defeat. The sight inspired him to write a poem titled Defense of Fort McHenry. The poem was eventually set to music that

had originally been written by English composer John Stafford Smith for a song titled "The Anacreontic Song". The end result was the inspiring song now considered the national anthem of the United States of America. It was accepted as such by public demand for the next century or so, but became even more accepted as the national anthem during the World Series of Baseball in 1917 when it was sung in honor of the brave armed forces fighting in the Great War. The World Series performance moved everyone in attendance, and after that it was repeated for every game. Finally, on March 3, 1931, the American Congress proclaimed it as the national anthem, 116 years after it was first written.

*It is my hope that you have learned or at least refreshed your memory about our Nation Anthem. I believe this is the first time I personally have read the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> verses. Please pray with me that the Lord will bless the United States of America for it seems to me that we need his help more now than ever.*



*By: Gary Gromatzsky*



# July

## Birthdays

2nd Justin Squyres  
Brad Tomlinson  
4th Rachel Bottlinger  
Jenny Witzsche  
5th Glenda Schoen  
Robert Witzsche  
7th Colter Johnson  
9th Nick Cantara  
Colton Robertson  
10th Shirley Gromatzky  
11th Karen Tyson  
12th Caitlyn English  
15th Graham Bussey  
Jill Muxworthy  
17th Travis Moore  
Greg Niemann  
19th Jean Bottlinger  
22nd Rhonda Geter  
Stacey Reich  
23rd Shirley Gerald  
25th Dan Chorenziak  
29th Kayla Edwards  
Robert Hoermann

## Baptisms

1st Ben Chorenziak  
Mae Pietzsch  
4th Ryan Polster  
5th Louis Donahoo  
6th Martin Seider  
8th Doyle Roberts  
Kristi Wagner

11th Nic Bottlinger  
Kay Reed  
Monica Reed  
Justin Stanford  
12th John Tyson  
13th Kate McNeeley  
14th Jean Ranney  
15th Bret Bauman  
Cole Bauman  
Grant Bauman  
Jason Clark  
Jane Dodson  
Artie Peters  
Glenda Schoen  
Luther Smith  
Maxine Wenzel  
Jenny Witzsche  
17th Travis Moore

18th Kym Jeshke  
19th Chris Niemann  
Isaac Wenzel  
21st Mark DeLoach  
Shirley DeLoach  
22nd Gary Tyson  
23rd Gary Gromatzky  
Caleb Wagner  
25th Cody Whitt  
Julia Whitt  
27th Mildred Bottlinger  
Colton DeLaGarza  
Greg Niemann  
28th Cora Hurst  
Grace Hurst  
29th Paul Christensen  
Annie Deleon

## Anniversaries

4th Howard & Tracy Cox 4yrs  
5th Martin & Juanita Seider 46yrs  
6th Tim & Christina Rudolph 13yrs  
8th David & Mary Ellen Burton 20yrs  
11th James & Donna Smith 24yrs  
15th Raymond & Maxine Wenzel 65yrs  
17th Darrell & Kristi Wagner 22yrs  
Allen & Julie Watson 11yrs  
18th Steve & Bobbie Young 44yrs  
20th Calvin & Laurel Friedrich 52yrs  
21st Charlie & Mischelle Bottlinger 31ys  
27th Dennis & Glenda Schoen 13yrs  
29th Mike & Brenda Armstrong 20yrs  
30th Bob & Suzanne Jarvis 38yrs



Vacation Bible School is a ministry that reaches both the children who attend and the volunteers who give their week to spreading the love of Jesus. We had anywhere from 152-159 children in attendance each day

and over 82 helpers throughout the week. From donations, prayers, food, guides, helpers, leaders, registration and clean up, it takes all of us working together to make the week a possibility. We glorify God for bringing us together to celebrate His power to provide, comfort, heal, forgive and love everyone. We also thank the sponsors who traveled with us to Meridian State Park. Thank you to the Men's Club for helping sponsor this retreat facility. Thank you to all who helped; may God be glorified!

*Thank You* 

- |                         |                      |                   |                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Jerome & Alice Pietzsch | Boofy Mishnick       | Alina Eilers      | Linda Moore        |
| Bob & Dorothy Hoermann  | Angie Tawater        | Alyssa Bottlinger | Brenda Armstrong   |
| Mischelle Bottlinger    | Andrew Chorenziak    | Faith Massingill  | Tammy Wagner       |
| Mary Jeffers            | Kasidy Craig         | Lainey Haile      | Mason Code         |
| Pat Crouch              | Alice Jeschke        | Skylar Carr       | Brooke Tomlinson   |
| Deanna Melde            | Christina Carmichael | Erik Christensen  | Judy Knoll         |
| Karen Tyson             | Erica Massingill     | Jake Lovett       | Bill Knoll         |
| Kay Zschiesche          | Mattie Ondrusek      | Will Bridgewater  | Dare Lovett        |
| Pastor Reich            | Brianna Hill         | Tina Ellis        | Diane Graham       |
| Stacy Reich             | Hannah Harbin        | Cory Ellis        | Brandi Balzen      |
| Jayley Reich            | Camden Andrews       | Cynthia McElroy   | John Tyson         |
| Riley Reich             | Kate Killian         | Caitlyn Reilly    | Shirley Gerald     |
| Jonathon Reich          | Kirsten Niemann      | Grant Jeffers     | Taylor Haile       |
| David Burton            | Jenna Hinton         | Tarah Carpenter   | McKinley Crownover |
| Mary Ellen Burton       | Mitch Surley         | Brayden Armstrong | Mary Ellen Keily   |
| Emilegh Burton          | Grant Surley         | Ima Jean Roberts  | Bailey Armstrong   |
| Rena Sliger             | Kali Stroud          | Patricia Hopper   | Weston Nolan       |
| Doug Sliger             | Tyner Haile          | Dixie Gromatzky   | Jenna Parks        |
| Presley Sliger          | Brad Surly           | Angie Tawater     | Gabby Shaffer      |
| Ryan Polster            | Abbey Hale           | Jade Fisher       | Shawna McKandless  |
| Misti Polster           | John Polster         | Christian Rudolph | Kameron McKandless |
| Emma Polster            | Taylor Long          | Megan Allen       | Kade McKandless    |
| Elaine Polster          | Jaileigh McDonald    | Madison Hailey    |                    |
| John Polster            | Abby Killian         | Maggie Wenzel     |                    |
| Joseph Polster          | Taylor Hall          | Amber Tyson       |                    |
| Fabiola Olalde          | Cash Kneuper         | Sarah Bauman      |                    |
| Carlos Olalde           | Bailey McDonald      | Chrissy Kensing   |                    |
| Fernanda Olalde         | Mason Guinn          | Kolton Kensing    |                    |
| Daniel Olalde           | Emma Polster         | Josh Chorenziak   |                    |
| Erika Bussey            | Carlos Olalde        | Catherine Kinsey  |                    |
| Jack Bussey             | Hope Anthony         | Kayla Edwards     |                    |



**St. John Lutheran Church and Preschool**  
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**THE EAGLE**

Phone: (254) 386-3158

Fax: (254) 386-3159

Preschool: (254) 386-3332

E-mail: Pastor—pastorreich@gmail.com

Secretary—stjohnlutheranoffice@gmail.com

Preschool—stjohnlutheranpreschool@gmail.com

Website: [www.stjohnhamilton.org](http://www.stjohnhamilton.org)



*May we continue to be used by God as we live by and share the Gospel  
 with A Heart for Hamilton County and the World!!*



**St. John Lutheran Church & Preschool**

122 Cheyenne Mesa  
 Hamilton, TX 76531

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