

Food for Thought

- ❖ Christ's battle strategy is to do what is right and good and to say what is good and helpful.
~ David Powlison
- ❖ In my deepest wound, I saw Your glory, and it dazzled me!
~ Augustine
- ❖ If you search for good, you will find favor; if you search for evil, it will find you!
~ Proverbs 11:27
- ❖ Trusting God leads to quiet hope - not bitter resignation.
~ from NLT Commentary on Habakkuk
- ❖ The rhythm of your journey is simple: you speak, God listens; God speaks, you listen.
~ Edward T Welch
- ❖ The only way to survive prosperity is, by God's grace, to view money and possessions as gifts from His gracious hand, and to use them generously to help others.
~ Randy Alcorn
- ❖ You can fool yourself all of the time; you can fool others most of the time; you can fool God none of the time.
~ Author unknown



Faith Community Church
1110 E. Cass Street
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821



MARCH 2020

mission

The mission of our church is
to glorify Christ,
proclaim the Gospel,
reach the lost,
and train and instruct
Christians in the faith
for service and daily living.

The Voice of Faith newsletter is a publication of Faith Community Church (an Evangelical Free church). Editor is Sharon Meier. Sunday Worship is at 10:15 a.m. Website is www.faithchurchpdc.org Visitors are very much welcome!

The

VOICE of Faith

Speaking the truth in love

Faith Community Church
(an Evangelical Free church)

MARCH 2020

Volume 29 Number 3

Statement of Faith (part two)

by Pastor Paul Losik

(This is the second in a series of articles taken from Pastor Paul's "Statement of Faith" from his ordination in 1999.)

The church belongs to Christ. It is his bride. Its mission is to worship and glorify God and to carry out his commands of presenting the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people groups in culturally sensitive and relevant ways. This is the main focus of my ministry.

As an evangelist, I am a witness of who Jesus Christ is by my attitudes, actions, and words. It is my responsibility to present the gospel to those in my sphere of influence — and even beyond that. The mission of the church is also to make disciples or mature believers who totally live for and glorify God in their lives. As a teacher, an essential aspect of my ministry is to explain the Scriptures to people so that they are sanctified by the truth, and so that, in practical terms, they know how to live in fear of the Lord.

As freely conscious, redeemed believers, we have the privilege to honor and glorify God in all we think, say, and do (John 17:10). Paul the apostle commands us to do all things for the glory (*doxa*) of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). All facets of our lives can glorify God: our obedience to him in faith, our families, our work, our hobbies — everything.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

- I. The Doctrine of God:
 - A. Attributes of God

The essence or characteristics of God's being are his attributes. These constitute who he is and can tell us what he is like. There are two types of attributes — incommunicable and communicable. First of all, those which are unique to God are

called incommunicable attributes, for he does not share these with any other. They include self-existence, immutability, eternity, omnipresence, and omnipotence. His attributes especially reveal his incomparable glory and his uniqueness.

1. Self-existence

God is alive eternally and the only self-existent being (John 5:26). He is the source of all life (1 Timothy 6:13). His very name revealed to Moses intimates his eternal aliveness: "I AM." He needs nothing from anyone. Paul the apostle said, "And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else" (Acts 17:25).

2. Immutability

God also does not change his essential glorious nature or his purposes (Malachi 3:6; James 1:17; Psalm 33:11; Ephesians 1:4, 3:9; 1 Peter 1:20). The psalmist declared "...You remain the same, and your years will never end" (Psalms 102:27). But God does change his actions and feelings in relation to humanity, such as sparing Nineveh because of their repentance (Jonah 3:10), or the wicked repenting because of the warning of Ezekiel (3:21). So in relation to humanity, God responds differently to different situations.

3. Eternal

God is not affected by time (Jude 25; Revelation 1:8; Psalm 90:4). He has always existed and will always continue to do so in radiant glory. He had no beginning and will have no end. He is before all things. When blessing the tribes of Israel, Moses described God as eternal (Deuteronomy 33:27). Paul, too, ascribes this attribute to God (1 Timothy 1:17).

(to be continued next month)



One Way Schedule for March

| Date | Theme | Lesson | Verse |
|--------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Mar 4 | Bring a Friend (Store Night) | Jesus healed a woman & raised a girl | Review |
| Mar 11 | Patriotic Night | Jesus raised Lazarus | John 11:22 |
| Mar 18 | Crazy Feet | TBA | Review |
| Mar 25 | Inside Out | TBA | |

Faith Kids' BIRTHDAYS!



- 4 Wyatt Mullikin
- 8 Ben Haug
- 29 Mich Miller



Cares of the World

Feel a bit beaten down? Or maybe you think you have so much on your plate that you can't add...one more thing. Perhaps you are so busy in/with your life that you've forgotten or left behind other important things and people...and aren't involved or enjoying living? Familiar? So, what are you doing about the cares? What are you willing to do to move beyond your current malaise?

Scripture invites us to "Cast our cares on the Lord..." – which is stated in both the Old and New Testaments: Psalm 55:22 and 1 Peter 5:7. It's also phrased in different ways throughout scripture. The point being – we CAN cast our cares, primarily because He really does care for us. Why don't we? Myriad of reasons which does not negate the invitation. It has nothing to do with the care nor that we deserve relief. It is totally based in His love for us.

Have you ever asked yourself what holding on to the cares gets you? What entices you to hold on to them rather than casting them? And don't think that casting is simply getting you out of a difficult situation. I didn't read that the Lord was 'taking' them from you, but I do remember a verse, 1 Corinthians 10:13, that can be applied.

Cares come...fact of life. We have responsibilities... fact of life. We have One who is deeply concerned for/about/with us and everything associated with our lives. Never forget that He will always be our firm foundation to overcome. To cast the cares or not to cast....

Be encouraged!

Carolyn is excited to announce her new website (drcarolyncoon.com) and her new Facebook page ([Dr. Carolyn Coon](https://www.facebook.com/Dr.CarolynCoon)). Check them out!



I can't forgive myself

~ by Sharon Meier

Who hasn't struggled with this issue? Probably only the most narcissistic among us! Many, many in prison are tortured emotionally by a huge sense of guilt and remorse that just won't go away.

What does the Bible have to say about forgiving ourselves? Nothing! Really? Doesn't the Bible have something to say about everything? Well, no.

There is a valid argument regarding the meaning of silence - that sometimes silence speaks louder than words. I believe this is the case regarding forgiving ourselves.

Psalm 51 was written by David, second king of Israel, after he had been confronted by the prophet of God, Nathan, regarding the sin of adultery followed by the sin of murder, trying to cover up the first by resorting to the last. In this Psalm, he confesses, "Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight..." How could he say that?! Hadn't he sinned against Bathsheba? Hadn't he sinned against her husband Uriah?

The theological truth is that all sin is rebellion against God. He is the one who is offended and to whom we will give an account. He states that when we confess to Him, when we repent and turn from our wicked ways, He forgives. To not forgive ourselves is to say we have a higher standard than He does, that we are more just and fair than He is, that we should somehow pay a greater price for our sins than He did. We need to simply believe Him when He says He makes us clean, and then live in such love, gratitude and reverence that we never want to sin again.

When God declares such things as putting our sins behind His back, or casting them into the deepest sea, or flinging them as far away as the east is from the west...the best thing we can do is to gratefully and humbly choose to let Him do what He wants with them. He invites us; let's accept His invitation...and move on into the life He wants to use to bring glory to Himself forever. Our gratitude and reverence is what satisfies Him, and what satisfies Him is the best for us.



Biodegradable Disposable Diapers

Jesus said, "Look at the birds of the air... Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Matthew 6:26

Parents, wouldn't it be nice if you didn't have to deal with dirty diapers during the early years of your child's life? And think of the money you would save! Too bad your little angel isn't more like a little robin.

Some birds, including the familiar robin, have it all figured out. You see, just seconds after a young robin has eaten, he eliminates waste into what can best be described as a white disposable diaper. All the parents have to do is pick it up and fly off with it, leaving the nest neat and clean.

This disposable diaper is called the fecal sac. It is made of thick, strong mucus that the parent can pick up and dispose of without puncturing it with its sharp beak. Robins will usually drop the sac twenty to fifty yards away before returning to the nest with another meal for its chicks. Once the young robin has matured enough to leave its nest, it no longer produces the fecal sac. Instead, its droppings are disposed of most often on your car's windshield.

Now, just imagine what a robin's nest would look like if their Creator hadn't come up with this ingenious plan. Without this disposable diaper, the nest would quickly become unsuitable for life. So the next time you find an abandoned robin's nest, take a peek inside. The only reason it's so clean is because God provided the robin with a disposable diaper service!

taken from www.creationmoments.com

We haven't quite caught up with God!
Disposable - yes; biodegradable - not yet!



Daud Murmu, Dayalu Batak,
Christian Ashirwad, Roghu Mahapetro
serving with Gospel for Asia.
gfa.org

Compassion Sunday is March 1st

by Debbie Losik

Poverty Facts:

- 385 million children live in poverty
- 3.1 million children die each year due to poor nutrition (8,500 per day)
- 805 million people don't have enough to eat
- 2 million children die annually from preventable diseases like diarrhea and pneumonia
- 80% of the world's population lives on the equivalent of less than \$10 per day
- Almost half the world (over 3 billion people) live on less than \$2.50 per day

I don't like numbers. I never have. They're boring, confusing, abstract. The word 'statistics' is enough to make me bristle. Numbers are faceless. They are, after all, just numbers.

But let's stop a minute and think about those numbers above. Read them again, slowly, and let them sink in. 8,500 children die every day due to poor nutrition. Think of it like this: 8,500 is well over the population of Prairie du Chien. Therefore, that's like the population of Prairie du Chien being wiped out every day because people don't have enough to eat. That's sobering, distressing, and above all, tragic.

Yes, you say, but what can I do? What, indeed, can one person do? First, we remind ourselves of what God asks of us. In Hebrews 13:16, we are told, "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased". Scripture is clear that we are to care for the poor and to share generously with those in need. So we start with one child at a time. One child. One sponsor. Compassion International is about child sponsorship and you can find out more on Sunday, March 1st. You will hear about real children living in real poverty. Suddenly, the numbers have faces and become real human beings, loved by God.

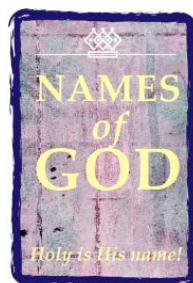
By choosing to sponsor a child you will be providing food supplements, educational support, medical care, vocational training, Christian care and guidance, and HOPE – knowing that he or she has worth and matters – to you and to God.

As a sponsor you will develop a special relationship with your child, receive personal letters from your child, plus up-to-date photos and information. You will also have the knowledge that you are making an eternal difference in the life your child.

Please consider sponsoring a child today. His/her life will be changed. Your life will be changed. Find out more on Compassion Sunday, March 1st. Questions meanwhile? See Debbie Losik (608) 293-3297.



DISCIPLESHIP 101 CLASSES
for teens and adults
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.



El Chuwl

"The God who Gave You Birth"

You deserted the Rock, who fathered you; you forgot the God who gave you birth.
Deuteronomy 32:18



The following people were voted into membership upon the recommendation of the Elders on Sunday, January 26:

- Gerry Downey
- Patricia Hyer
- Steven Hyer



We offer our sympathy

Please pray for Patricia Hyer and her family who have suffered the loss of her dear sister.

Please also pray for the Mark Oehler family in the loss of Mark's father who was also grandfather to Clarissa Russell and Nathaniel Oehler.

Have you considered this?

The present Heaven is normally invisible to those living on Earth. For those who have trouble accepting the reality of an unseen realm, consider the perspective of cutting-edge researchers who embrace String Theory. Scientists at Yale, Princeton, and Stanford, among others, postulate that there are ten unobservable dimensions and likely an infinite number of imperceptible universes.

If this is what some of the leading scientists believe, why should anyone feel self-conscious about believing in one unobservable dimension, a realm containing angels and Heaven...?

~ Randy Alcorn

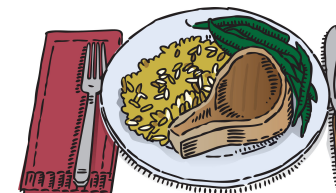


The recently revived Missions Committee is now prepared to receive new members! Meetings to discuss how our church can be more involved in local and global evangelism and discipleship will be held on the second Tuesday of each month. There's lots of work to be done and people to be reached for Jesus Christ! See **Carrie Lessard** or **Clarissa Russell** for more information... or just show up on **Tuesday, March 10, at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall!**

Officers for 2020

The following people covet your prayers as they serve as church officers this year:

- Lead Pastor and Elder Paul Losik
- Church Chairman & Elder George Schneider
- Elder John Goree
- Trustee Board Chairman Howard Slotman
- Trustee Board members Mike Mullikin, Rob Irish, Tyler Schmidt, and Cody Saylor
- Church Treasurer Cary Kann
- Financial Secretary Howard Slotman
- Recording Secretary Sharon Meier



Join us!

DINNER OUT FOR ADULTS
Friday, March 6, 6:00 p.m.

Old Rossville Store Restaurant
851 Volney Road, Rossville, IA
(Pay for your own meal.)

Sign up at the Information Center
or RSVP with Sandy Goree

www.facebook.com/TheOldRossvilleStore

March 2020

Faith Community Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---------------------------|---|---|----------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 Class 9:00 AM Pre-Service Prayer 10:15 AM Worship Service Compassion Sunday | 2 6:30 PM Prayer Time | 3 12:00 PM Elder Board meeting | 4 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth | 5 | 6 6:00 PM Old Rossville Store Dinner Out | 7 9:00 AM Set Clocks Ahead |
| 8 9:00 AM Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 Class 10:15 AM Worship Service | 9 6:30 PM Prayer Time | 10 6:30 PM Missions Committee meeting 6:30 PM Trustee Board Meeting | 11 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 9:00 AM Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 Class 10:15 AM Worship Service | 16 6:30 PM Prayer Time | 17 | 18 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 9:00 AM Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 Class 10:15 AM Worship Service | 23 6:30 PM Prayer Time | 24 | 25 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 9:00 AM Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 Class 10:15 AM Worship Service | 30 6:30 PM Prayer Time | 31 | <p style="text-align: center;">...HE ESTABLISHED THE FORCE OF THE WIND AND MEASURED OUT THE WATERS, WHEN HE MADE A DECREE FOR THE RAIN AND A PATH FOR THE THUNDERSTORM JOB 28:25, 26</p> | | | |

March Volunteers



| Date | Church Cleaning | Fellowship Time | Greeter | Ministry Highlight | Nursery | Trustee Duties | Ushers |
|------|--|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Part One: Brandt Part Two: Mansfield * | Kim Dewese | Bob & Sharon Meier | None | Doreen Fish Diane Slotman | Mike Mullikin | Bill Howard Mike Carlyn |
| 8 | Part One: Peak Part Two: Melgosa | Bob & Sharon Meier | Bob & Sharon Meier | Prison | Allison Miller Heather Saylor | Mike Mullikin | Bill Howard Mike Carlyn |
| 15 | Part One: Goree Part Two: Irish | Howard & Diane Slotman | Bob & Sharon Meier | Outreach | MaryAnn Haug Rachel Peak | Mike Mullikin | Bill Howard Mike Carlyn |
| 22 | Part One: Meier Part Two: Saylor | Donna Lorenz | Bob & Sharon Meier | Seniors | Sue Mathre Miah Miller | Mike Mullikin | Bill Howard Mike Carlyn |
| 29 | Part One: Mathre/Fish Part Two: Schneider | Jill Kleppe | Bob & Sharon Meier | Prayer | Merideth McClendon Liz Haug | Mike Mullikin | Bill Howard Mike Carlyn |