



ONE 'SOUPER' SUNDAY

The Burtman family served wild rice soup, tortilla soup, and hearty chowder to hungry church-goers at the 11th annual "Souper Sunday" on Feb. 13.

Dr. Bookman prepares Passion Week conference

What better time to study the events leading to Jesus' death and resurrection than during Passion Week?

Dr. Doug Bookman, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Pasadena, Calif., will lead a Passion Week Bible Conference March 20-23 at Prior Lake Baptist Church.

"The Passion Week of Jesus is at once the most awful and the most blessed week in all of human history," Dr. Bookman noted. "The week began with unspeakable excitement and hope: On Sunday, Jesus presented Himself to the nation of Israel in the most deliberate and dramatic way possible, and the reception He was given on that day seemed to indicate that His people

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Dr. Doug Bookman

were ready to accept His offer of Himself. ... But the week which began with such hope ended in the greatest tragedy the human soul can fathom.

"The awful death of the Son of Man

DR. BOOKMAN TO PAGE 5

'I would say Bob was one of the most faithful Christians in his service for the Lord that I have ever met.'

Pastor Ron Groschel



Bob and Dorothy Miller

Bob Miller was longtime member

Bob Miller, a longtime member of Prior Lake Baptist Church, passed away Jan. 24. He was 86.

"I would say Bob was one of the most faithful Christians in his service for the Lord that I have ever met," Pastor Ron Groschel said.

Bob and his wife, Dorothy, were baptized into the church in December 1976.

"To me, one of the joys I'll remember of pastoring will be visiting Bob at the care center," Pastor Groschel said. "Whenever I would come to see him, Dorothy would announce, 'Pastor's here,' and he would get the biggest smile and his eyes would light up and he would just grab me so vigorously. He enjoyed hearing the Word of God read to him. Bob leaves a tremendous legacy for his family and really for everyone that knew him."

Born April 4, 1918, Bob Miller served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was wounded and taken prisoner in Faid Pass in North Africa. After 27 months as a prisoner of war, Bob was released in May 1945.

BOB MILLER TO PAGE 5

Wholehearted service for Lord wise choice

By Pastor Ron Groschel

Our first missions conference is now history. But without a doubt its impact will be felt for a long time. From the many positive comments I received, it is evident that the spiritual effects on our church were massive. The missions committee, led by Daniel Lowe – soon to be Pastor Daniel, did an outstanding job of planning and organizing the entire conference. I know those on the committee are already anxiously looking forward to next year's conference and frankly, so am I.

There is no greater privilege in the world than being a child of the Living and True God, and no greater joy than serving Him with our lives. Many years ago I heard



Pastor Ron Groschel

a rhyme that has stuck with me through the years and has often challenged me in my service for the Lord Jesus Christ. Perhaps this will be familiar to you as well: *"Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last."* I am so glad that someone shared this little saying with me over 40 years ago. I can honestly say that it has significantly impacted my life and guided many, if not most, of my decisions. When we pause long enough to seriously think about it, wholehearted service for the Lord really is the wisest choice anyone can make.

I praise God that Prior Lake Baptist

Church abounds with people – young and old – who have an earnest desire to serve the Lord and to make an eternal difference for Jesus Christ. Yet there is so much more ministry that needs to be done and so much more ministry that can be done. If you are not actively involved in an area of ministry within the church, let me invite you, encourage you, yea, implore you to seek me out and discover the many ways in which you too can make an eternal difference for the cause of Jesus Christ. Truly you will find that there is "Joy in Serving Jesus."

Enjoy our second issue of The Word.

LERB: Love God, Exalt Christ, Revere God's Word and Build Christ's Church

LOOKING AHEAD

PLBC greets Easter with sunrise service

Easter events will kick off Palm Sunday, March 20 with the beginning of the Passion Week Bible Conference by Dr. Doug Bookman. He will present a lecture series on the final week of Jesus' life March 20-23. He will speak in a combined Sunday School class at 9 a.m., the 10:10 a.m. worship service and the 6 p.m. service on Sunday, March 20, and at 7 p.m. March 21-23.

Prior Lake Christian School's Easter Break will begin Thursday, March 24, and run through Tuesday, March 29.

Easter morning, March 27, will dawn with a sunrise service at 8 a.m. Breakfast will follow. The Easter service will start at 10:10 a.m. There will be no Sunday School or evening service.

Homeschool families gather for potluck and gym time

A potluck night for homeschooling families and others who would like to attend will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 11 in the church gymnasium.

"It's an informal time for the homeschool kids to share something that they've prepared – a poem, a song, an instrumental [piece], maybe a little project," explained Toni Graham, who teaches her children at home. "It gives homeschool kids an opportunity to present something in front of a

group."

Families that would like to attend should contact Toni at (952) 492-2467 to find out what to bring for the potluck dinner.

In addition, homeschool families can meet at the church from 10 a.m. to noon on Monday, March 28 for gym time. They should bring a bag lunch.

Men's rally scheduled for Schaumburg in April

Men of the church can attend the Men for Christ Rally in Schaumburg, Ill., April 1-2.

For more information, contact Wade Waddell.

Ladies seminar focuses on depression April 9

A special Bible seminar for ladies will be held 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 9 at the church. Guest speaker Karen Himes will discuss how to handle discouragement and depression. Watch the church bulletin for more details.

Sign up for South Africa missions trip in June

Church members, college age and older, who would like to join a missions trip to South Africa this summer should contact Pastor Ron Groschel.

About 12 volunteers from Prior Lake Baptist Church will assist Kevin and Sarah Zakariasen with building projects and ministry opportunities from June 20 to July 2.

"A good number [of people] have signed up already," Pastor Groschel said.

The estimated cost for the trip is \$1,200 to \$1,500.

Church calendar full for year

Looking even farther ahead, some big events are planned for this year at Prior Lake Baptist Church.

Twelve members of the church will take a missions trip to help Kevin and Sarah Zakariasen in South Africa from June 20 to July 1.

In July, the church will celebrate "Missions Emphasis Month," and a missionary will be invited to speak each week.

Dr. Ralph Rice, founder of Good, Better, Best Ministries in Louisville, Texas, and his wife, Maryanna, will conduct a family life conference at the church July 23-24 and will cover topics like marriage and parenting. "That will really be great," Pastor Ron Groschel said. "He's such a good speaker. He's so dynamic."

Vacation Bible School will be held Aug. 7-12.

The Minnesota Baptist Association will hold its annual family camp Aug. 10-12 at Miracle Bible Camp on Woman Lake.

Evangelist Mike Duffy will speak at the church Oct. 2-5.

God's love proves real to young girl

When Wilma Vaught was a young girl growing up on her parents' dairy farm north of Jordan, she often wondered what Sunday School would be like because she had heard her peers at school talk about church. Her own family never attended church.

"We were hard-working farmers and Sunday was just like any day," said Wilma, who joined Prior Lake Baptist Church on Jan. 30.

While others milked the family's Guernsey cows, Wilma's job was to take care of the calves and feed them a milk replacement.

At age 9, Wilma was thrilled when a girl from her third-grade class invited her to Sunday School at Community Baptist Church in New Prague. Wilma remembers begging her parents for permission to go. Finally they relented.

"I loved going to church," Wilma said.

At a two-week Bible school that summer, Wilma trusted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior.

"I was raised in a family where we were just really hard-working people and there wasn't a lot of love in our family," Wilma recalled. "I think it was just the feeling that God loved me ... that hit me more than anything. I just wanted to know God and serve God because He loved me."

Looking back, Wilma realizes the sacrifice that her friend's family made to pick her up every Sunday. They lived on the west side of Jordan and had to drive north through town to her parents' farm and then back down through town and south to the church in New Prague.

"I guess I'm just so thankful for the family that was willing to drive way out of



New members at PLBC: (Back row from left) Breanna (holding Dorrian), Nick, Cindy and Steve Kerzman; Wilma Vaught; Kyle, Sarah (holding Molly), Rick, Char, Dan and Anna Puelston; (seated from left) Trevor Jevne; Kristi Bierschbach; Debi (holding Ryan), Bruce (holding Lauren), Regan and Morgan Peterson.

their way," Wilma said. "This family was willing to make the sacrifice just for a child."

That family's sacrifice not only led to Wilma's salvation but also to the salvation of her brother, sister and grandparents.

"Whatever you do for God, nothing is too small if you're faithful and then you leave the rest up to God," Wilma said. "God has just been really faithful to me."

And the legacy of faith has continued. Both of her sons and their families "have a real heart for God," Wilma said. One is a pastor and the other is faithful in his church.

She cited Psalm 13:5-6 as a favorite Scripture passage: "But I have trusted in Thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation. I will sing unto the Lord, because He hath dealt bountifully with me."

"Throughout my life, God has gone way overboard in dealing bountifully with me," Wilma said.

20 new members join church ranks

Prior Lake Baptist Church has welcomed 20 new members in the past several months.

They include the following:

Rick and Char Puelston and four of their five children: Kyle, 23, Dan, 20, Sarah, 17, and Anna, 13. Their youngest daughter, Molly, is 6.

Trevor Jevne and Kristi Bierschbach Ernie and Andrea Sprecher Wilma Vaught and Natalie Smetak Steve and Cindy Kerzman and their two oldest children: Nick, 17, and Breanna, 15. Their son Dorrian is 2.

Bruce and Debi Peterson and their daughters, Regan, 13, and Morgan, 11. Their other children are Lauren, 8, and Ryan, 6.

City uses PLBC as polling place

Prior Lake Baptist Church will be used as a polling place for Precinct 3 in the city of Prior Lake.

Earlier this year, the Prior Lake City Council voted to shift Precinct 3 from the Prior Lake Fire Station to Prior Lake

Baptist Church. The change will take effect in September.

Precinct 3 is the second largest precinct in Prior Lake and has about 2,000 voters. Only Precinct 4, which meets at Friendship Church, is larger.

Make known His praises

Encourage your fellow believers by publishing testimonies of what God has done for you recently. E-mail Natalie at TheWord@priorlakebaptist.org or drop a note in her box at the church office.

IN THE KITCHEN WITH ERIN DE BRUYN

De Bruyn's pie a hit with South African friends

Erin de Bruyn is the daughter of Myron and Gwenn Will. She ministers in South Africa with her husband David.



Erin de Bruyn

Erin says: "The first time I tried this recipe, I was serving it to my in-laws ... and it was the day that I met them! I was a little uncertain about how it would taste, but with my husband and his family, it has had rave reviews and become a de Bruyn family favorite.

"This recipe is a hit with all the South Africans that I've served it to. The idea of chocolate and peanut butter together is a new taste for them. ... But after they've had this, they love the taste combination. It's very rich, and because of that, it's one of our favorites!"

ERIN DE BRUYN'S CHOCOLATE-PEANUT BUTTER PIE

2¼ cups heavy whipping cream
1 graham cracker crust
½ cup chocolate chips
4 tbsp. sugar, divided
1/3 cup crunchy peanut butter
2 Reese's Peanut Butter Cups

To make the chocolate layer: Heat ¾ cup heavy whipping cream until scalding but do not let it boil. Place chocolate chips in a medium-sized mixing bowl and pour heated cream over the chocolate chips. Let set one to two minutes until the chips and cream can be blended. Blend until no lumps appear and place in the refrigerator to cool. Once cooled, beat with an electric

mixer until stiff peaks appear.

To make the peanut butter layer: While the chocolate layer is cooling, beat another ¾ cup whipping cream until stiff peaks appear. Add 2 tbsp. sugar. Fold in peanut butter.

To make the cream layer: Beat the remaining ¾ cup of whipping cream until stiff peaks form. Add the remaining 2 tbsp. of sugar.

In the prepared pie crust, layer the chocolate cream first. Gently spread the peanut butter layer over the chocolate layer and top it off with the cream layer. Chop the Reese's Peanut Butter cups and use them to garnish.

Healed with Stripes

Your report, Isaiah, is somber
piercing my concept of passion.
Your image, Lord, was so hopelessly marred,
I could deny You with Peter,
yes, even forsake You with the Father
in Your hour of utter desipement.
Your sorrow does not encourage,
nor grief refresh.
You are plainly undesirable, God smitten.
Your silence incriminates,
Your bruises repulse,
Your scourging dismays,
unless I believe.

When I do that,
Your image is forever radically transformed.
Each lash reveals the stroke
of Your compassion.
Each silence under accusation
shows Your deep resolve to die for sin.
The suspended relationship with the Father
demonstrates Your complete assumption
of my iniquity.
Though Your shame is overpowering,
Your words are true.
What I see I cannot bear
but what I hear I cannot shut out.
With face turned aside,
still I can hear Your spirit echo,
"Your sorrow is the beginning of cleansing
and Your stripes heal."

*Based on
Isaiah 53:1-5*

*By
Larry Clark*

Business resource list

Because Christians often like to do business with fellow believers, John Shrewsbury is compiling a resource list of how church members are employed and what businesses they own. Anyone who would like to participate should submit current employment information using this questionnaire. The finished business resource list will be posted soon and will be updated on an as-needed basis. Simply fill in the information below and submit it to John Shrewsbury or Marilyn Groschel in the church office. For more information, contact John at (612) 221-7558.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Business name: _____

Title: _____

Self employed? Yes No

Job description: _____

Youth ministry: Who ministers to whom?

By Pastor Shad Vork, youth pastor of Prior Lake Baptist Church

I see great leadership potential in the teens that are in our youth group and have made it my goal to be a help to parents in nurturing spiritual maturity in their kids. The Bible instructs pastors to equip "the saints for the work of the ministry" (Ephesians 4:12). Therefore, my vision for the teens is that they will be well on their way to becoming spiritually mature Christians when they graduate from high school.

Some of the ways we encourage spiritual growth are through solid Bible teaching, Christian fellowship, service projects and fun activities with other Christians. Additionally, our church provides them many opportunities for ministry. As a result, the teens are involved in Children's



Pastor Shad Vork

Church, AWANA, nursery, choir, Vacation Bible School, and more.

Another great opportunity for ministry involvement and experience is through youth services, church services where the youth are highly involved.

While some church ministries tend to have separate worship services for teens, I believe there are huge and crucial benefits to keeping the various age groups together. In the Jan. 16 evening service, the youth sang as a choir, ushered, took care of the music leading and instrumental music, ran sound, read Scripture, gave testimonies, prayed, and performed a skit. Furthermore, three of the young men, Joe Graham, Jason Smith, and Mike Havlik, gave preaching challenges.

Our January missions conference was a huge blessing. Missions holds an important place in God's Word and in our church. This is true for the youth ministry as well. We take a short-term mission trip every one to two years. In 2002, we went to Mexico. Last summer we traveled to North Minneapolis and helped with the inner-city work of Family Baptist Church. This summer, from June 20 to July 2, we are heading out west for a work week at Red Cliff Bible Camp in Pinedale, WY. The trip will include cutting and stacking firewood for the coming camp year. We will also be involved in their family camp evening services.

Please pray that our youth will mature in the Lord and follow His life direction. Information about upcoming youth activities and regular ministries can be found at the church office or on the church Web site, www.priorlakebaptist.org.

DR. BOOKMAN FROM PAGE 1

had been shown to be the full and final payment for sin, and by means of the resurrection Jesus had demonstrated beyond all challenge that He was everything He claimed to be and that He had accomplished all that He had come to do."

Dr. Bookman will speak in a combined Sunday School class at 9 a.m., the 10:10 a.m. worship service and at 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 20. He will speak at 7 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 21-23.

"The Passion Week Bible Conference will be a deliberate, detailed and devotional study of those last days of Jesus' mortal life," Dr. Bookman said. "Extensive notes will be provided, and the events of that week will be carefully traced. Theological considerations central to the narrative will

be discussed, with special attention to what the Scriptures have to say concerning the Person of Jesus Christ."

Tom Pawlowski audited a course on the life of Christ with Dr. Bookman two years ago at Central Theological Seminary and he plans to attend the Bible conference. "He goes into such detail about the different things that were occurring [during Passion Week]. I wouldn't miss it for anything. I was on the edge of my chair every day," Tom said.

A graduate of Pillsbury Baptist Bible College and Central Theological Seminary, Dr. Bookman taught at Pillsbury for 11 years, earned a doctorate in Bible exposition in Dallas, Texas, and served at The Master's College in California for 11 years. Dr. Bookman and his wife Diane were

national ministries representatives for the Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry for five years. In July 2003, his family was led to the pastorate at Trinity Baptist Church.

"It is my persuasion and observation that it is a tremendous help to believers to come to grips with the life Jesus lived on this earth on their behalf. Given the mystery which is intrinsic to the Person of Jesus and given the reality and importance of His deity, it is altogether too easy to under-appreciate His humanity. My prayer is that, as we consider the biblical narrative of His life and more specifically the events of His passion, we will be impressed anew with the reality that we have been bought with a price and that thus it is our obligation and opportunity to glorify Him in all that we do," Dr. Bookman said.

BOB MILLER FROM PAGE 1

Just two months later on July 4, he met Dorothy on a street corner in Hutchinson; she was headed to the post office. They were married less than two weeks later on July 16 and would have been married 60 years this July.

"I love him," Dorothy said simply.

"When you actually just look at him and Mrs. Miller, they both just loved each other so much. Nowadays it's so hard to find that," noted 16-year-old Joe Graham, who knows the Millers through church.

Ironically, Dorothy's brother had already met Bob – when the two men were prisoners in the same war camp. Bob was known as "Tiny" in the POW camp, according to Dorothy.

He also served in the Navy and Air Force reserves, and he worked for 33 years at Continental Machines, where he was nicknamed "Shorty."

"He worked until he was 67," Dorothy said, adding that Bob loved to fish and roller skate.

Bob's role in World War II gave him a passion for telling students about his experience as a POW. "He never got too deep into it because that was not an easy subject to talk about," Dorothy said.

Bob encouraged students to enter an essay contest through the American Ex-Prisoners of War. The 13th annual essay contest, "Behind Barbed Wire," is open to students in seventh through 12th grades. The contest deadline is April 1. To obtain contest materials, call Ken Hanson at (952) 888-2703.

Elementary students give spring program

Elementary students at Prior Lake Christian School will present their spring program at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

Alina Burtman's kindergartners will present a program that highlights what they've learned during the year, including the alphabet and Bible verses.

Leah Byrd will direct first-graders through sixth-graders in the spring musical, "It Happened at Camp Willomocky." At

this on-stage adventure Bible camp, campers learn to follow Big Chief Willomocky's guidebook to succeed in competitions. Ultimately, they learn that Big Chief Willomocky, who represents God, loves them all and is watching out for them.

"Past fourth grade they have to audition for [the musical]," Leah Byrd said. "They have to bring their script and their song and audition for it. It's a big thing."

Elementary students at Prior Lake Christian School will present their spring program at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.



Young Sophia Anderson helps herself to sour cream for her tortilla soup at Souper Sunday on Feb. 13.

Prior Lake Baptist Church and School
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