

PLCS WELCOMES NEW TEACHER - Mrs. Heather Stearns



Mrs. Heather Stearns, pictured above, assists CJ Roesch with one of Heather's favorite subjects, math.

By Velma Vigar

Growing up in an energetic Christian home means spending a great deal of time at the church, especially if you are a Pastor's daughter. And so it was for Heather Stearns who grew up in her father's church, Bryant Avenue Baptist Church in Minneapolis. Heather heard

the gospel at a young age and at the age of seven, Heather accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior at her home.

Heather is our new senior high teacher along with Pastor Rusty Roesch. "I have known Pastor Rusty for a long time. He actually was my teacher at Bryant Avenue Christian School," says Heather. They are both teaching the Senior High Learning Center consisting of 9th - 12th graders.

Throughout her school years, Heather attended Bryant Avenue Christian School and graduated in 2001. After high school, she enrolled at Pillsbury Baptist Bible College and

graduated in 2005 with a bachelor degree in Secondary Education/Bible. Her teaching field was Science and Math. While attending Pillsbury, Heather was on the basketball team, played the piano for Pillsbury's *Singing His Praise* summer team, and played varsity volleyball.

After earning her bachelor degree in 2005, Heather began her teaching career at Owatonna Christian School. While there, she was also involved in coaching both JV and varsity volleyball and accompanying the choir on the piano.

Heather and her husband Rob currently reside in Bloomington. Rob is the youth pastor at Bryant Avenue Baptist Church and Heather teaches the high school girls' Sunday school class and is the church pianist.

"I am looking forward to a great school year and pray that God will bless our class," says Heather. ♦

PLCS Blessed by New Bus Purchase

By Lisa Nagel

The wheels on the bus go round and round, but this year for PLCS, those wheels are riding a bit smoother. The new bus arrived from Hogle Bus and Truck Co., much to the delight of the resident bus drivers, the Christian school students, and parents. The owner of Hogle is a good friend of Jim Busse and took a personal interest in selecting the 2001 Thomas bus. The students and staff praise God for the blessing of the new bus. ♦



Miss Leah Byrd's elementary class is excited to pose with the new bus, which will safely transport them on their fieldtrips throughout the school year. The new bus will also provide transportation for high school students to sporting events and the end of the year trip to Nationals held in Missouri.



Our Hope For All Times - God Reigns!



Pastor Ron Groschel

by Pastor Ron Groschel

We just witnessed a historic presidential election. It was more than a national event, it was a global event. For Christians, it is critical to know what God says about human government, both His role in human government and ours. God Himself brought into being human government (Genesis 9). He has much to say in Scripture about the institution He birthed.

God's Word instructs us saying, "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God"¹. "The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His

kingdom rules over all"². "To Him belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings"³. "He brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth meaningless"⁴. The Lord "makes peace in your borders; He fills you with the finest grain"⁵. "The king is not saved by his great army"⁶. Rather, "blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord"⁷. For it is "righteousness that exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people"⁸.

Therefore, the apostle Paul urges Christians that "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in authority, . . . this is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth"⁹.

God sovereignly directs the flow of history. "He declares the end from the

beginning . . . saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all My purpose'"¹⁰. Today, and every day, we can confidently boast in the Lord our God and exclaim, "Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigns"¹¹. This is the supreme *constant* in life for the child of God. It provides tranquility of mind and stability of life. "Be still," says the Lord, "and know that I am God"¹². Until the return of Jesus, our Blessed Hope, let us be thankful, prayerful, trusting and proclaiming God's "good news," the best news. ♦

- 1 – Romans 13:1
- 2 – Psalm 103:19
- 3 – Daniel 2:21,22
- 4 – Isaiah 40:23
- 5 – Psalm 147:14
- 6 – Psalm 33:16
- 7 – Psalm 33:12
- 8 – Proverb 14:34
- 9 – 1 Timothy 2:1-4
- 10 – Isaiah 46:10
- 11 – Revelation 19:6
- 12 – Psalm 46:10

The Youth Group Experiences Christian Service



Pastor Landon and Nicole Miller along with Pastor Rusty and Lorri Roesch, Bruce and Debi Peterson, and Lisa Nagel chaparoned 12 teens to Stillwater to assist Pastor Shad and Elisabeth Vork's ministry by performing maintenance tasks in their church.

LEFT: Youth group with Pastor Shad (back right)
BOTTOM ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: Teens discussing their tasks over a snack break. Tim Larson braving the job of wiring a light fixture. Bruce Peterson completing the instillation of a light fixture as Dan Stange looks on. Pastor Rusty Roesch getting a hand laying tile from Justin Vork.



AWANA Begins Season of Change

Beginning the AWANA year in great anticipation, leaders and clubbers alike look forward to the changes being instituted this club year, which include: team competitions, theme nights, and leaders that travel with them throughout the different

club activities. We are also excited to welcome Pastor Landon as our new Game Time Leader. ♦

TOP LEFT CLOCKWISE: Sparkies gathered for storytime. A clubber receiving a high-five from a club leader. Sparkies in club opening. Cubbies enjoying storytime.



RIGHT: It may have been raining but that did not stop the fellowship of Prior Lake Baptist Church from enjoying their annual pork chops on a stick. Braving the rain Jim Busse, Al Kraus, Myron Will, and Gwenn Will made sure there would be an adequate supply of chops to feed the hungry group. As seen pictured right, God's children of all ages savor the flavor of the pork chop on a stick.

Fall Bible Conference with Dr. Grisanti

By Velma Vigar

Biblical events from the book of Deuteronomy were discussed during our annual Bible Conference at the end of October. Dr. Michael Grisanti, Professor of Old Testament at The Master's Seminary, Sun Valley, California, was our special guest.

Dr. Grisanti was born and raised in western New York by born-again parents who took him to church faithfully. At the tender age of five, he trusted Christ to be his Savior. Later in life, he felt the Lord was leading him

into full-time ministry. Dr. Grisanti and his wife Martha Ann celebrated their twenty-seventh wedding anniversary this past July. Dr. and Mrs. Grisanti have eight children, six boys and two girls.

Dr. Grisanti is a graduate of Pillsbury Baptist Bible College (B.A.), Central Baptist Theological Seminary (M. Div, Th. M) and Dallas Theological Seminary (Ph.D) Along with many journal and periodical articles, Dr. Grisanti has authored a commentary on the book of Deuteronomy for an updated version of the Expositor's

Bible Commentary.

The weekend began with seventeen adults attending the Saturday sessions geared toward our Adult Bible Fellowship teachers. However, they were not the only ones in attendance.

Dr. Grisanti focused on the book of Deuteronomy during the four-day conference. The book of Deuteronomy is a book of remembrances. The challenge brought to the church was how we need to remember the past, but look at the present day and how we can serve our Lord and Savior and glorify Him each day. ♦



LEFT: Leading the school with 50 laps, Marnath Janguol is pictured here at the head of a group of boys which includes Michael Johnston, (far left) Dan Stange, and Adam Holstead (far right).



Among the parents helping to make the walk-a-thon successful are ABOVE: Diane Stange and BELOW: Angela Scheunemann.



LEFT: Mrs. Dellinger bundled up to ensure comfort as she walks the course laid out for walk-a-thon.

BELOW: Aidan Schreiner shows some enthusiasm as he rounds the track enjoying his rope licorice.



Prior Lake Christian School Walk-a-Thon

by Lisa Nagel

With the footwork of collecting signatures from sponsors behind them, students from PLCS converged on the Ponds for the second annual Walk-A-Thon. On October 15, students from first to twelfth grade lapped the quarter mile track in hopes of raising funds for their school. During the month of September, students had solicited the help of friends, family members, and local businesses to either pledge a dollar amount per lap or give a one-time donation.

Cool weather motivated the students to keep moving. With his long legs, Marnath (pronounced Manah) easily completed the most laps, a total of fifty. Just behind Marnath were fellow senior

high students Tim Larson and Kathleen Howell, both of whom had totals in the forties. The walkers were welcome to take a break at any time during their forty-minute trek. Hot dogs and hamburgers were provided, and these tasty temptations lured many students away, briefly, from the challenge. In true Babe Ruth-style, some were able to eat and walk at the same time.

“There were a lot of parents so it was good to see so much support,” says Kathleen Howell. The Walk-A-Thon raised over \$7,000 in pledges this year. A portion will go to pay off the new bus and some for projects in the Fireside Room. This enterprise, spearheaded by Pastor Rusty, is one that parents can get behind: a fun but effective fundraiser that is completed in one day. ♦



ABOVE: Despite being confined to crutches, CJ Roesch was among the students participating in the walk-a-thon.

Coming Events

Thanksgiving Service

Our Annual Thanksgiving service will take place again this year the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving. We are looking forward to giving the Lord the glory for the blessings He has bestowed on our lives this past year. Sand Creek Baptist Church will be with us for this enjoyable evening. Plan on joining us on November 26th at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room.

Pastor's Open House

Pastor and Vicki will be hosting their annual open house on two Fridays, December 5th and December 12th. This is a great time to fellowship with others from the congregation and enjoy many gourmet hors d'oeuvres and desserts. The open houses will begin at 6:00 pm each night. Watch for a sign-up sheet at the church.

Christmas Cantata

The choir will be performing the cantata "Born to Die" by Ron Hamilton. It is a reader's theater along the lines of the Prodigal Son. A young man, Chip, leaves home with his college savings because he thinks his friend, who has no rules in his life, has it better. He finds out that his friend's lifestyle is not so good after all, and that his new friends only last

as long as his money. He comes to himself and wants to go home, but has spent all his savings.

Along with this interesting story line, the narration includes a clear salvation message, and the Christmas message of why Jesus came: He was "Born to Die" and provide us His wonderful salvation.

Join us Sunday, December 14th, at 6:00 pm to see how God works in Chip's life, and if he gets to go home.

Christmas Services

Celebrate the birth of our Savior during our Christmas worship service on Sunday morning December 21st and also our Christmas Eve services on December 24th. The children will have a short program during the morning worship service. Our Christmas Eve services will be at 5:00 pm and 11:00 pm. We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper during the 11:00 pm candlelight service. Don't get so busy during the holiday season that you forget to celebrate the true reason for Christmas!

New Year's Eve Service

Our New Year's Eve Watchnight service will begin at 7:00 pm. The schedule for the evening will include a film, songs, testimonies, the Lord's Supper and light refreshments. Plan to join us!

News in the Pews

New Baby

Congratulations to Bob and Liz Reeise on the birth of their first child, Ryan Pierre. Born September 11th, Ryan weighed 6 lbs. 2 ozs. and was 19" long.

Ryan Pierre Reeise, appearing a little camera shy, is pictured here with his proud parents, Bob and Liz.



Rich and Barb VanCurler are pleased to announce the birth of their new granddaughter, Paige Morgan, born on November 2nd. Paige weighed 8 lbs. 13 ozs. Congratulations on your little miracle!

Wedding

Steve and Joy Havlik are pleased to announce the marriage of two of their children:

Josh Havlik and Bethany Steed were married October 25th in Divide, CO. They are currently residing in Prior Lake.

Jordan Tharp and Grace Havlik were united in marriage on November 8th in Stillwater, MN. Jordan and Grace are living in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

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UNSUNG HERO: Myron Will



Myron Will, pictured above, is a man of many talents and he has shared them all in service to the Lord and PLBC.

the driveway and mowing the grass for Prior Lake Baptist Church after he enrolled his boys, Quentin and Justin, in the Christian School.

“Gwenn and I were working with the youth at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Fish Lake, and during one of our youth retreats, I accepted the Lord as my personal Savior,” says Myron Will.

In the early 1980’s, Myron began volunteering his time of plowing

In the late 1980’s, Myron and Gwenn began feeling the Lord was leading them out of their current church, and they spoke with Pastor Seddon, the Senior Pastor of PLBC. He told them to take their time in looking for a church.

“Thank you Myron for your selfless acts of ministry over the last 20 years here at Prior Lake Baptist Church.” Pastor Ron Groschel

“Gwenn would teach her Sunday School class at Emmanuel, and then we would leave and drive to PLBC to attend their morning worship service,” says Myron. “I know this sounds pretty unusual.” PLBC made them feel so at home, they immediately felt like they were part of the family. Lawrence Schmitt made a big impact on their family’s lives as

he would greet them on Sunday mornings with his smile. They became members in May of 1989, and a few months later, Myron’s mother, Marian Radamacher, also became a member.

Myron spends countless hours shoveling snow in the winter, mowing grass in the summer, working the sound system during church services, serving on the deacon board, and other duties as assigned or taken upon himself. There are also those unexpected jobs, like when the sewer backed up on a Sunday morning a few months ago. Myron and his wife, Gwenn, stayed at the church to clean the bathrooms and the carpet before the evening service. ♦

Myron’s daughter and son-in-law, Erin and David DeBruyn, are serving the Lord as our home/sent missionaries in South Africa.

Contact Prior Lake Baptist Church at 952-447-2824 or visit our website at priorlakebaptist.org

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