

FIRST CHRONICLES JULY 2018

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July 2018
Pastor Mike Hagan

In preparing for the summer series on John's letters, I read up on heresies that persist in the church and the many permutations of truth that have spread in various cults and "so-called -isms." The Spiritual Counterfeits Project out of Berkeley, California, lists over 6000 such entities.

The apostle John faced one developing enemy of his churches called Gnosticism. They claimed they had superior knowledge of God through a mystical experience. Their experience allowed them to ignore moral ethics. One of their leaders, Cerinthus (ca. 100), taught that Jesus was human. When he failed with his death, he became the divine spirit of Christ. As we read and explain the letters, we need to keep Gnosticism in mind.

Its heretical beliefs persist today under other guises in many cults found around the globe. If you look up articles with google, you will find lists explaining some of the groups under headings like – top 4 big heresies, top 10 cults, top 20 cults, scariest cults, etc.

What do these groups have in common?

1. They often possess a veneer of Christianity or claim to go beyond orthodox Christian teachings to superior beliefs (often ancient heresies actually).
 - Church of Latter Day Saints attempts to find their origin in Jesus. Recent attempts to fit in with other denominations have proven difficult since what they believe goes beyond what the Church believed before 1830.
 - Unification Church.
2. They find strength in an authoritarian leader or beliefs from a founding leader that still controls the group.
 - Joseph Smith, Sun Myung Moon.
 - Examples :Aryan Nations, KKK, Christian Identity Movement [Caucasian race only].
3. They often isolate their followers, especially seeking to control the children.
 - I.e., Branch Davidians, The Family (Children of God), the International Church of the Way.
4. They often aggressively attack any who speak out against them.
 - Scientology, founded by L. Ron Hubbard, legally sues or physically intimidates any who attack their membership or the church's beliefs.
5. They usually involve effort or work on a person's part to arrive at the spiritual goal.
 - Ephesians 2:8-9.

1 John 2:24 – Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you . . .

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



July

- 1 Julie Kramer
- 2 Caleb Kooiker
- 5 Jenn Stowell
- 7 Trenton Kaufman
- 8 B.J. Christians
- 11 Andrew Kaufman
- 14 Lee Bleeker
- 17 Maci Arends
Dawn Hayenga
- 20 Hank Arends
BilliJo Middendorp
BobbiJo Middendorp
Jason Stowell
- 21 Sara Gruis
- 25 Ryan Arends
- 26 Xander Doorenbos
- 27 Aaron Hayenga
- 29 Miriam Kooiman
- 30 Herman Christians

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



July

- 10 Ed & Gloria Kruse
- 18 Steve & Deb May
- 20 Kevin & Lynette Wagenaar
- 25 Keith & Terrilyn Arends
- 30 Doug & Donna DeBoer
- 31 Norman & Gwen Winter



SCHEDULES

GREETERS



Sunday, July 1

Roger and Janelle Kooiker

Sunday, July 8

Brandon and Katie DeBoer

Sunday, July 15

Bryan & Rachel Kramer

Sunday, July 22

Darren and Julie Kramer

Sunday, July 29

Daryl and Mary Kramer

NURSERY WORKERS



Sunday, July 1

Donna

Sunday, July 8

Amber

Sunday, July 15

Lynette

Sunday, July 22

Jolene, Terresa

Sunday, July 29

Donna



Congratulations to Josh & Kelsey Nolte on the birth of their baby boy. Buckley Ray Nolte was born on June 13th weighing 10 lbs 2 oz and was 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC ~ SUNDAY, JULY 8, 2018

Everyone is asked to bring chips, salad, and/or dessert.

Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided.

APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

Christian Education Committee

BUYING

Alyssa den Hoed

Donna De Boer

CHILDREN'S GAMES

Sharon De Boer

Lynette Wagenaar

Mary Kramer

BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT

Donna De Boer

SOFTBALL GAME COORDINATORS

Jason Christians

Daryl Kramer

Darren Kramer

LEMONADE

Paul and Sharilyn Reemtsma

Keith and Terrilyn Arends

GRILLING

Kevin Wagenaar

Alan Wagenaar

Greg De Boer

TABLE WAITERS AND WAITRESSES

Josh Doorenbos

Senior High Youth

Junior High Youth

ICECREAM DIPPERS

Sunday School Teachers

TABLE SET UP

Ushers

COLLECTING FOR RACES

Ross Kooiker

Gerald den Hoed

COLLECTING FOR THE BUYING COMMITTEE

Merlyn Winter

Nolan Kooiker

KITCHEN COMMITTEE (GROUP 5)

Jenn Stowell

Sandy Doeden

Jodi Schrick

Stacie De Boer

Sharilyn Reemtsma

Ashley Van Tubergen

Julie Kramer

Connie Christians

Gwen Winter

Donna De Boer

Glenda De Boer

Ronda Arends



Willie and Kathy Hunter have begun their 19th year with Gospelink. Gospelink has ministry in Africa, Eurasia and Southeast Asia. They are hoping to expand into South and Central America.

Willie and Kathy live in Kansas City, MO., and have recently moved to a new address. In the last few months, Willie spent time in the Dem. Republic of Congo where they saw 700 people receive Christ as well as 5 new churches started. In the months of April and May, they traveled throughout the mid-west with 6 students from the Ambassador Int'l University of Zambia. In July they will be traveling to Tanzania to host a conference of 200 Gospelink preachers.

Prayer requests are for their travels to Tanzania and for financial help for Kathy to go with Willie. Please pray for the family as well. Jonathan and Rachel have now graduated from college. Please pray for continued healing of Jonathan's illness.

Continue to read the letters from each of the missionaries on the bulletin board.

~Mission Board