

FIRST CHRONICLES

OCTOBER 2018

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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October 2018
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The month of October brings changes in weather toward the cold that is coming and ends with Halloween after a long build up with stores sprouting orange and black stuff and houses decorating with pumpkins, spider webs, and witch stuff. Lots of stuff, including candy to be handed out on Halloween eve.

It also is a month of harvest for farmers. At least that is the hope as we experience more rain at the time of this writing. October may produce a muddy and wet harvest experience for farmers.

Both witches and rain are talked about in the Bible, though never together. The witches, mediums, and necromancers (those who seek the dead for guidance) were condemned in the Bible (Lev 19:31; 20:6, 27; Deut 18:10-12; compare 1 Sam 28). We don't take seriously the Halloween belief, but sometimes a fun children's activity turns dark for people. Keep it a children's blast and don't delve into the darker side.

In a country that is mostly desert, rain or lack of rain indicated the blessing or withdrawal of blessing from a people and a land. We have been blessed so much we are thinking the blessing is now a curse. When rain came after three years of drought in the days of Elijah, it came with a rush and a flood (1 Kings 18). Sometimes too much of a good thing becomes a bad thing. We don't have a context where the two subjects come together in the Bible. However, when people struggle with too little or too much, they turn to any options for help, including the dark side.

One of the stories in the Elisha cycle reveals that the Lord is sovereign over all creation. If we seek his face, he is able to bring victory, even flood waters when no rain falls (2 Kings 3:13-20). In fact, Elisha says it is a "light thing in the sight of the LORD" (v. 18).

The message of the Elijah and Elisha stories focuses on the reality that the LORD lives and is the only God we should look to for help. After all, he is the only God who lives and is active. All supposed "others" are false and do not exist. Thus they cannot help.

Whatever we face in October, remember that the Lord sees his ability to work on our behalf as a light thing. It is easy for him to work for us. Look to him. Let's have fun with a children's activity while acknowledging there is only one God and he is able to work in our lives if we look to him.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- October
- 1 Kasey deBoer
Doug DeBoer
 - 2 Ava deBoer
Viola Krull
 - 3 Jodi DeGroot
Thomas Doeden
Nicole Kooiker
Brooke May
 - 4 Lela DeNoble
 - 12 Aaron Reemtsma
 - 15 John Eben
 - 16 Kory Hayenga
 - 20 Isaac Kooiker
Dustin Reck
 - 22 Stacie DeBoer
 - 23 Austin Hayenga
 - 25 Tony Schneiderman
 - 26 Keith Koth
 - 27 Julie Baker
Arie Blik
 - 28 Rita Busse
Roger Jurrens
Autumn Long
 - 31 Daniel Kramer
Andrew Wagenaar



MISSION BANQUET

Special Speakers: Brandon and Marci Jones

Sunday, October 7

11:15 a.m.

SCHEDULES

GREETERS



Sunday, October 7

Greg and Sharon DeBoer

Sunday, October 14

Kelly and Stacie DeBoer

Sunday, October 21

Harlan and LeAnn Doeden

Sunday, October 28

Kelly and Sandy Doeden

NURSERY WORKERS



Sunday, October 7

Amber

Sunday, October 14

Barbie

Sunday, October 21

Donna

Sunday, October 28

Terresa

AWANA (6:30-8:00 P.M.)

Awana shirts need to be worn every club night!



Wednesday, October 3

Backwards Night

Wear your clothes backwards.

Wednesday, October 10

Pumpkin Night

Wear orange, say verses, and dot up your leader.

Wednesday, October 17

Football Night

Wear something to support your team.

Wednesday, October 24

Treat Someone Night

Hand out treats while trick or treating.

Wednesday, October 31

Hilarious Hat Night

...wear a fun hat.



Step By Step He'll Lead Us
The Middendorps
September 2018



Our family is starting to settle into the fall schedule. BilliJo and BobbiJo are in 7th Grade this year and Brandi is a Senior already. Brandi is half-day at the high school and half-day doing on-line college classes through a University. We are all still recovering from a very busy summer and also starting to look forward to the busyness of the Christmas season.

We are seeing a lot of people on our street outreach this fall. It seems like every week we are meeting new people that are just on the streets for various reasons. For example, one of our food pantry regulars, Mike, came in last week and asked to talk in private. Mike told Bill that he and his wife had Cook County deputies knock on his door yesterday with an eviction notice. They gave his wife and him 5 minutes to get anything they could and get out. They literally left with some important papers and a couple changes of clothes. Mike said he had no warning it was coming. Bill questioned this because ordinarily there is a lot of proceedings before eviction.

It turns out that Mike and his wife were renting their mobile home from someone. They never missed a rent payment, however the home owner stopped paying the mobile home community his rent to have the home parked there. The community was evicting the actual home owner and Mike and his wife were caught in the middle with nowhere to go. They walked a quarter mile to the nearest hotel that night and Mike walked 3.5 miles the next day to our office for some food and advice on where to go from here. They are unable to get any more of their belongings from the house because their name is not on the eviction notice and the homeowner is not accepting any calls.

Mike was homeless a few years ago and knows how to survive on the streets and in the shelters, but he is very upset because his wife is disabled and isn't able to walk very far. He knows that PADS shelters open up in a couple weeks, but they will have to walk a couple miles sometimes in order to get to the nightly shelter, which is going to be incredibly hard for his wife. Also, they will be unable to stay together at night because men and ladies sleep in separate sections of the buildings. Bill has been dropping food off for them at their hotel and checking in on them.

On a different note, Deb has been busy visiting the homeowners of the homes that the summer mission teams worked on. The mission team members get to know many of the homeowners very well as they work on their homes, and we ask them to write some encouraging notes, cards, and/or coloring pages to be given to the homeowners. The homeowners are always surprised and delighted by these gifts (and by the visit from Deb of course)!

The mission continues after the mission teams go home! We are still working with Mary, one of the homeowners, that will be receiving a new furnace fundraised by one of the churches from NW Iowa. She is overjoyed that she and her grandkids will not have to endure another long winter in a mobile home heated with the gas stove top; like the last two winters.

Another homeowner, MaryLou, will be having hip replacement surgery on October 31. She is more upset about going to the dentist pre-surgery than the actual surgery itself. Please pray for her and her recovery!

We were touched deeply by the love and blessings during the time we hosted both mission teams. It is amazing to see God at work in EVERY aspect of preparing for the teams to come, while they are here, and the continuing impact they have after they leave!

Prayer and Praise:

~Praise God for His guidance and protection with the mission teams

~Praise God for all the ways he provides for our family to continue to do ministry in Chicagoland

~Please pray that Mike and his wife are able to find housing before the winter hits!

~Please pray for MaryLou's pre surgery visits and her hip replacement on October 31.

~Please pray for BilliJo as she has been dealing with daily pain in her knee for over 11 months with physical therapy, x-rays, and finally an MRI that showed she has a stress fracture in her tibia bone. She is now on crutches and no weight bearing.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the church for the pretty bouquet of flowers I received after my surgery. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers. Thank you Doug & Donna for the visit. This is greatly appreciated.
~Delores Jurrens

CHERISH CENTER

We will again be collecting baby bottles for the Cherish Center. Baby bottles will be available in the foyer soon. Baby bottles are due back by November 4th.
Thank you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM PRACTICES

Practices for the Christmas Eve Program will start October 28th during Sunday School for kids ages 3 years-8th Grade. Please let Abby Kramer or Rachel Kramer know if your child is going to be in the Program.

✝CHC needs White cross workers to help roll bandages and cut squares for our October meeting, October 9th at 7:00 PM. If you have any cotton/flannel material that is white or colored, it would also be appreciated. This is open to anyone. Please join us. Call Donna DeBoer with any questions, 712-348-4654.



Sunday, October 7th will be Mission Sunday and our special guests will be Brandon & Marci Jones who have accepted the call to work in Rio Grande do Sul in Porto Alegre, Brazil. They will be working in the Seminary along side of Lyndell Campbell-Requia and her husband Paulo. The seminary's mission begins with God and His Church. As he calls people to plant churches, pastor churches, and help lead churches all over the state of Rio Grande do Sul, they come to Porto Alegre to train.

Brandon and Marci are graduates of Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri where they met and were married. Marci grew up in Kenya where her parents were missionaries and where her passion for missions began. Brandon and Marci have been pasturing in Herreid, South Dakota with mission work on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. They looked forward each year to the Missouri Fest when they would invite a NAB Missionary to talk about their work in the field. While Brandon was praying for Mission Fest, Marci discovered an opportunity within the NAB for their family to train church leaders in Brazil.

We look forward to meeting them and have them share more of what they will be doing in Brazil. Please join us and pray for them and the children. One of their experiences will be learning Portuguese which is the language of Brazil and living in a foreign country.

~Mission Board