



Pass It On

February, 2012

Dawson Covenant Church

2756 130th St.

Dawson, Minnesota 56232-0370

Phone: 320-769-2255

www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org

1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. 2 Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; 3 but anyone who loves God is known by him. 4 Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." 5 Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth-- as in fact there are many gods and many lords-- 6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. 7 It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 8 "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. 9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. 10 For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? 11 So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. 12 But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

We have been given great knowledge in Jesus Christ. We have been given insight into the origin of our existence and future destiny of the world. We are not held hostage by superstitious fears about other gods. We understand our purpose is to live our lives in love to God and our neighbors. This understanding gives us freedom to live not by Law of Moses, but by the law of love we have received in Christ.

In Paul's day there was much anxiety over whether or not to eat food sacrificed to idols. Paul clearly states that the knowledge we have in Christ tells us that these idols are non-existent. Therefore, there is no harm or benefit to eating this food. Yet, Paul understands that exercising this freedom is not always the loving thing to do. Not all brothers and sisters were at that same level of understanding. Evidently Paul's indulgence in this freedom may cause another brother or sister to stumble. When Paul speaks of causing brothers and sisters to stumble, he is actually referring to falling away from the faith. He does not speak of this in the sense of a momentary lapse in judgment, but envisions his indulgence as destructive for others.

This is why Paul writes that knowledge can puff up, yet love builds up. In this case, to exercise your freedom to the peril of a weaker brother or sister is arrogant and dangerous even if you are "technically" free in this area. The truth that Paul reveals is that our freedom in Christ is tempered by love. The knowledge we have acquired through our Christian walk is only good so long as it is not just knowledge, but applied to love.

It is difficult to make an exact analogy for us today to eating food sacrificed to idols in the first century. However, I think we can all relate to the fact that from time to time we may experience brothers or sisters whose faith is young, perhaps fragile. In those cases we must remember that loving and protecting that individual from falling away is greater than exercising all the freedoms we may feel we have.

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:45 a.m. Sunday School

We offer Sunday School classes for all ages, including 2 adult classes to choose from. Please join us!

Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Erik's scheduled office hours are as follows:

Monday Off

Tuesday 8:30-2:30

Wednesday 8:30-2:30

Thursday 8:30-2:30

Friday 8:30-2:30

Other times he is available by appointment, and may be reached at church at 769-2255 or on his cell phone at 320-305-9304.

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES



Lowell & Thelma Denelsbeck
Kevin & Sylvia Rosendahl
Byron & Sue Bruckner
Tim & Andrea Johnson
Randy & Cheryl Bevis
KICY Radio Station
Covenant World Missions

Lenten Services Begin

Once again Dawson Covenant Church and Providence Valley Lutheran Church will hold joint Lenten services beginning with the Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 22. The Ash Wednesday service will be held at Dawson Covenant Church at 7:00 p.m. Providence Valley will host the next service on Wednesday, February 29 at 7:00 p.m.



Music & Worship

The Music & Worship Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We will meet to plan Lent and Easter Services. Please come! All are welcome!

CHOIR

Choir rehearsals will be held at 8:30 a.m. on February 5, 19 & 26. Please join us if you wish to participate in this aspect of ministry at Dawson Covenant Church!

Lost & Found

Missing something? There are several small lost and found items hanging on the "Community" Bulletin board.



www.lbbc.com

Parents, if you are planning to send one or more of your kids to Lake Beauty Bible Camp this summer please note that there is now a new online registration system. In the coming weeks we will be receiving a registration code for our church. You will use this code when you register. We will plan to have a computer available in the fellowship hall after church some time in March for this registration. Please start thinking now about what camps you'd like your kids to go to. Also, please remember that this is a great opportunity for our kids to invite their friends who may not know the Lord! For more information on the camps go to www.lbbc.com or take a brochure from the table in the church entry.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast will start up again this **February 11th**, and will meet each Saturday at 8:00 a.m. through March 3rd. Continental breakfast will be served. This breakfast is open to any men in the community and you are encouraged to invite friends and co-workers. We always have great fellowship, and a short devotional message is shared by Pastor Erik to spark conversation.

DCC on TV & the Web

Dawson Covenant Church worship services are shown on local cable t.v. channels in Dawson at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, in Madison at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, and in Canby at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Find us on Facebook — "like" the Dawson Covenant Church page. Find us on the web at www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org.

ADOPTION NEWS

Alex and AnaLisa Gerbig are in the process of adopting two little boys from Uganda, Africa. They have not yet been matched with the little ones that God has chosen for them, but we are praying that it will be soon. AnaLisa and her mom, Kathy, are traveling to Kampala, Uganda, January 31-February 18 on an "Inquiry Trip" to visit the orphanage and adoption agencies to facilitate the process.

We ask for your prayers for safe travel and a productive visit. We also ask for prayers for Grandma Sue as she becomes Andrew's (Age 4) caregiver and chauffer while AnaLisa is gone.

Fundraising: In order to defray the adoption and travel expenses, AnaLisa has launched the first of many fundraisers, through SCENTSY Candle Sales. 100% of the profits will go toward adoption expenses. If you are interested in helping raise adoption funds, please go to the following site:
<https://jennafriedman.scentsy.us/Buy?partyId=68726079>.

For more information, AnaLisa's blog is:
<http://whateverislovelyblog.blogspot.com/2012/01/how-many-scentsy-candle-sales-will-it.html>.

THANK YOU for your prayers and support!
Ralph & Sue Gerbig



Alex, AnaLisa and Andrew Gerbig

Annual Meeting Held on January 25

The Annual Meeting of the congregation was held on Wednesday evening, January 25. Several members were voted onto the Church Council for the positions that were open. The church council for the year 2012 is as follows:

Dean Pearson, Chairman
Courtney Ulstad & Lauren Carlson, Christian Education
Manley Peterson, Treasurer
Jerrad Perkins, Financial Secretary
Peter Haugen
Dale Miller
Luanne Fondell
Carla Lee
Andy Greiner
Pastor Erik Carlson

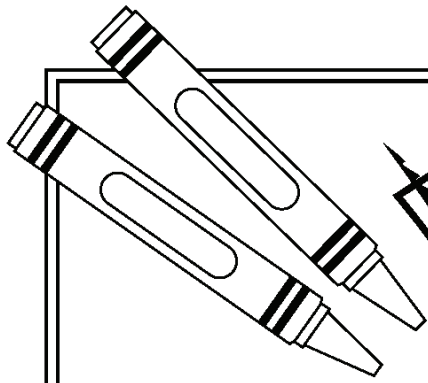
Auditors for 2012 are Myron Rosendahl & Dan Fondell

Notes from the church council meetings are posted on the bulletin board each month.



February 5th is recognized as Boy Scout Sunday. One of the 10 purposes of Cub Scouting is spiritual growth; and, duty to God is an important part of the Scout's Promise. The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God. Cub Scouts are encouraged to thank God for their blessings and to be faithful in their religious duties. The Boy Scouts of America designates Scout Sunday as the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting and to give young Scouts the opportunity to actively participate in their place of worship. We have 3 Scouts from the Dawson Covenant Church congregation. They are Cade Buer, Heath Buer, and John Kimmel. The Scouts will help with ushering and will also serve refreshments following the worship service on Boy Scout Sunday.





PUZZLE

FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

• • • • DIRECTIONS • • • •

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



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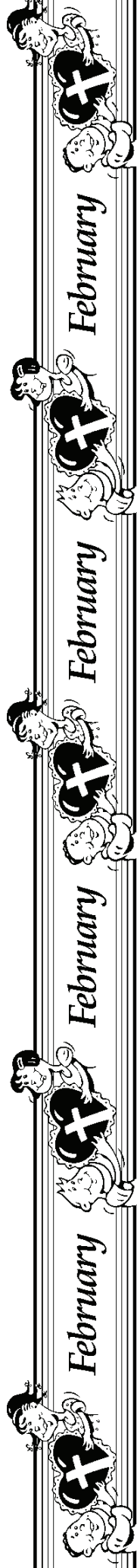
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COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13, NIV



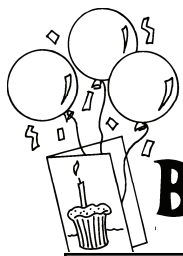
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School <i>Boy Scout Sunday</i>	6 7:00 Church Council Mtg. <i>Janitor: R & J Fjerkenstad</i>	7	8 2:00 Release Time Classes 7:00 Music & Worship Committee Mtg.	9	10	11 8:00 Men's Breakfast
12 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School	13 <i>Janitor: J Brinkman & P Haugen</i>	14	15 2:00 Release Time Classes	16	17	18 8:00 Men's Breakfast
19 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School	20 <i>Janitor: S & D Miller</i>	21	22—Ash Wednesday 2:00 Release Time Classes 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service at DCC	23	24	25 8:00 Men's Breakfast
26 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School	27 <i>Janitor: P & J Iverson</i>	28	29 2:00 Release Time Classes 7:00 Lenten Service at Providence Valley	29		



February BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Ashley Tensen
- 3 Dan Fondell
- 13 Thelma Denelsbeck
- 14 Dwight Gustafson
- 18 Gracie Harding
- 19 Jonas Carlson
- 20 Ardyce Thompson
- 22 Gilbert Bliss
- 26 Samuel Johnson

BIBLE QUIZ

During Jesus' time in the wilderness after his baptism, Satan tempted him to do three things. Which of the following was not one of the temptations?

- A. To change water into wine so wedding guests would know he was God's Son
- B. To throw himself down from the top of the temple, expecting angels to save him
- C. To turn stones into bread to satisfy his hunger
- D. To worship Satan in order to gain all the world's kingdoms



Answer: A (See Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13.)

PASS IT ON CONTACT INFORMATION

Deadline for the March *Pass It On* is Friday, February 17.
 Please give all information for the newsletter to the Secretary.
 Dawson Covenant Church, 2756 130th St., Dawson MN 56232
 Church Phone: 320-769-2255
 Web-Site: www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org
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