



Dear PRC Family,

Earlier this summer I read a magazine article about comedian Kevin Hart. In his early struggling years Kevin left community college after a short stint. "I really have a passion for stand-up comedy," he told his mother. She agreed to pay his \$550 monthly rent as he pursued his dream. She said, "I'll help you out for a year," with only one string attached--that Kevin agree to read his Bible on a regular basis. Kevin agreed. Without his knowing, she tucked the monthly rent check in his Bible.

At one point Kevin was two months behind on rent. "Mom, I need the rent check." She said, "Have you been reading your Bible?" Kevin just keep lying, "Yes, Mom, but it's not about that right now." She said, "When you read your Bible, I'll know."

Not sure how many months went by before Kevin discovered the wealth that had been awaiting him all along.

This article stirred my realizing the value of time in the pages of God's Word. Not that we'll find a \$550 check tucked in these good pages. The summer message series on the Psalms reacquainted me a wealth of guidance and strength found in these hymns and prayers that cover the range of emotions. Similarly, good things await us as we launch into a new season. Keep your eyes open for a place to exercise your servant gifts in any of the various endeavors ahead. You'll hear about them most Sundays, or read of them in these pages.

One thing more: The source is uncertain, but at some point (possibly starting in England decades ago), this sign has appeared in countless church bulletins:

To all who are lonely and need friendship; to all who are discouraged and need good news; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are tempted and need help; to all who to all who are sinners and need forgiveness; to all who are complacent and need disturbing; to all who thirst for the water of life; to all who love Christ and would follow Christ, this Church opens wide its doors and bids you WELCOME!

Sounds like a church I would love...and I know of one striving to live in such a manner as to create community where all experience the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

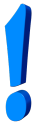
Serving Him with you,

Pastor Tom Bartha



September is Senior Summertime
By Elaine Peacock

September is definitely senior summertime. The kids are back in school, the crowds have thinned, the roads aren't bumper to bumper and best of all the hottest days of summer are behind us. This is when the seniors hit the road or take a bus tour to their favorite places. Just look at what the local senior clubs are doing- most of them have great trips planned for September and right on through the autumn season. How about a trip to the mountains or the Jersey shore? How about a trip closer to home a visit to some of the local farms for yummy locally grown fruits and vegetables? You have a fun day out bring back something from a local farm stand all on a tank of gas. Or how about some goodies from a bakery in a little town you have never visited or one of your favorite places you haven't visited in a while? Nothing beats a stroll past shop windows with an ice cream cone in your hand. OK seniors now it's your time to shine everyone else's vacation is over and yours is just getting started so get out there and enjoy GOD's beautiful world. Isn't it great to be retired? This is what you worked for the freedom to enjoy each new day on your time and terms. Make the most of the beautiful days of September and enjoy all the blessings that GOD will send your way each day.



ELDER AND DEACON NOMINATIONS

The offices of deacon and elder are vital for the church, and now is the time to give thought to those whom you feel have the appropriate gifts to serve for the next three year term. Deacons Jo-Ann Sisco and Vince Iraggi conclude their three-year terms at year's end, as do elders Joanie Warner and Pat Gordon.

The consistory has appointed Mary Bartha as the congregational representative, to receive nominations, which she will bring to the outgoing members. Submit your nominees in writing to Mary Bartha (in person or moonbeam4b@aol.com) anytime during September. All active members, including confirmands, are entitled to submit nominations, although the offices are open to those over age 21.

A paper describing spiritual gifts is available on the table across from the food pantry closet.



On September 20 our Church will be hosting a Community Picnic. The Picnic will begin at 11:30 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. with the grills shutting down at 2 p.m.. We will have hamburgers, hotdogs, and salads. The kids will enjoy popcorn and sno-cones as well as art activities, games, face painting, and music. The Church Family is being asked to bring Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, or Coleslaw. There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. We will need people to get there at about 7:00 a.m. to put up the tent and take out tables and chairs. We will need plenty of volunteers. If you are willing to volunteer please see Nancy Begin or Jackie Bush. Please spread the word about the picnic and invite your family and friends. Hope to see you all there!



Dear Scholarship Committee,
Thank you so much for awarding me with a scholarship this year. It means so much to me to know that I have the support of my church family in my future endeavors. God Bless,
Carly Struyk

Since the first day my parents brought me to Pompton Reformed Church it has always had a special place in my life. Growing up I remember every weekend getting up Sunday mornings to go to church and even over the summer attending Vacation Bible School. However my time in Pompton Lakes soon was cut short when I graduated Pompton Lakes High School and chose to live at Rutgers University for my undergraduate studies. Yet even after my first year away at school, every time I return to PRC I feel like I never left. I feel the positivity and warmth this church radiates whenever I have a free weekend to come home and attend. Despite having not seen me for months the congregation of PRC always welcome me back with questions of how I'm doing and congratulations on my accomplishments. No matter how long I am stuck away from PRC I know that I will always have a place there, and I plan on using all the great things this church has taught me to improve my life and those around me.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Hayes

Dear church family,
Thank you for the scholarship and your support. This gift will help as I continue my education.

Thank you again,
Alanna Sachse

Birthdays

Caroline Winter
Christin Warner
Michael Warner



In celebration of Mildred Wood's 99th birthday from Eleanor Finke

In memory of Henderika Mulder from Charlie Mulder designated Building Fund.

News from our members.....

Eleanor Haling sends regards to all at PRC and "thanks the Lord who continues to bless me, each and every day".

Congratulations to Michael Finke, son of Robert & Jean Finke of Hampton, New Jersey and proud grandma, Eleanor Finke, on receiving 6th grade Valedictorian Honors.



REFLECTIONS ON COSTA RICA

- Mark Warner

Although it is not in any way possible to do such a powerful experience justice through any written words or photos, allow me to share a few thoughts and impressions from our nine amazing days in this beautiful country.

Many thanks first of all to our PRC family for your support and prayers throughout the long planning process as well as the trip itself! Special thanks to Sherri Dunitz, who led the fundraising and planning efforts for well over a year. Traveling such a distance, it only made sense to squeeze in a little tourism prior to our work week and Sherri coordinated our first two days in San Carlos (about a 4-5 hour drive Northeast of San Jose on some pretty interesting roads) where we had an opportunity to tour the Arenal National Park and Volcano on Friday followed by a great evening at the Baldi hot springs resort. We then enjoyed the adventure of canyoning and waterfall rappelling on Saturday before heading back to San Jose and our work-week ahead.

We arrived in downtown San Jose Saturday evening and got settled into the Hotel Cacts. Lifetree Adventures is the missions group we partnered with and who coordinated all activities from this point forward. They “upgraded” our group of 11 and a group of 18 brothers and sisters from a Catholic church in Wisconsin who were to become dear friends over the next several days from a hostel to this hotel. For those reading who may be used to 5 star or 4 star or 3 star or 2 star hotels, this was not one of them☺ Some from our groups were grumbling just a bit about our accommodations, but this stopped immediately the minute we pulled into the “village” of Alajuelita that Sunday morning to join the beautiful members of Iglesia de Cristo in worship.

It’s been my privilege to really feel the power and presence of the Holy Spirit at various times and occasions in my life. Rarely if ever have I experienced it more deeply than in worship that morning, despite not understanding a word. The utter joy and abandon of their worship of our Savior brought many of us to tears!

Our group wasted no time that Sunday afternoon getting a jump-start on the weeks work ahead. July is Winter in Costa Rica and also the rainy season. It was not nearly as hot as some had expected (highs in the 80s and lows in the 70s). It was indeed very rainy at times and knowing this, the local leaders got everyone busy just in case the weather slowed us down later in the week. The footings and framework for the raised floor had been completed by local ministry volunteers and the future homeowners before our arrival. That afternoon myself and others laid down the flooring under the watchful eye of “Captain Manuel” while many others began assembling and painting the 4x8 foot panels that would make up the walls of the home.

It became apparent early on that the most difficult aspect of this project was the location of the home to be built. Every single piece of all materials and tools had to be hand carried from the church, which served as our base of operations, up a steep and narrow “roadway” for approx. 100 yards and then up a steeper and narrower stairway of about 50 yards before finally reaching the construction site. Many of us realized that we were not exactly in tip-top shape!

impactful part of this week for myself and I think others. Getting to know and come along side of these beautiful fellow Christians, ministry leaders, church and community members, as well as our 18 brothers and sisters from Wisconsin, was a life-changing experience. It amazes me how quickly you can become close friends in just a few short days with fellow Christians when you're rolling up your collective sleeves and doing the work of Jesus Christ! The total cost of materials for one of these Mercy Homes is approx. \$6,000. It obviously cost much more for 29 people to fly there from the U.S. and stay for a week. Some might question the wisdom of this. I do not, as the experience of being the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in Alajuelita was priceless and I'll be forever grateful for it! Mauriceo told me one day that if someone contacted the ministry and offered to send \$6,000 without coming to Costa Rica, that they would not accept it. I get that now, because this is so much more about the relationships and sharing the love of Christ than it is about building homes.

Many of us were particularly proud of the young folks (Tim, Spencer, Mike, Kate, Jess and Bethany) from our group and those from Wisconsin as they, along with all of us, fell in love with many of the beautiful and joy-filled neighborhood children. Even though they worked very hard, they also took the time to connect with the kids and to reflect the love of Christ to them. The pickup soccer games on the muddy neighborhood field were a particular favorite.

In all honesty, there was also a darker element in the neighborhood as well. There are drug cartels doing a brisk business in these shanty villages and the dear church folks were very protective of us and warned us not to venture too far from the church. We always operated in pairs and women never walked from the church to the work site alone. Teenage boys and young men from the neighborhood, having grown up in hopelessness, were often seen "hanging out" at the bottom of the hill.

I ask in closing that you please pray for these young men and for all of the people in Alajuelita and places like them around the world. It was VERY difficult for us pulling away from those beautiful kids at the end of each day and especially on our last day! What is it, I wondered all week, that will prevent these kids from being the ones hanging out smoking dope 10 year from now? We know the answer of course. A relationship with Jesus is the only way! To that end, please pray for Pastor Carlos and his family and church. They were called from a much more comfortable existence to serve here just a few years ago. Let us all pray for growth in this ministry and that this church at the bottom of the hill will become a vibrant community center and a magnet to draw people in and lead them to a life long relationship with our Lord!!

Thank you dear PRC friends!

To God be the glory!!

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."



Phillipians 4:13

Autumnfest Update.....

Autumnfest 2015 is only 41 days away! It takes place on October 17 from 10:00 a.m. until 4 p.m. There are still many opportunities to help! By now you may have received an email asking for home made baked goods such as pies, Banana Bread, Pumpkin Bread, or Zucchini Bread. Of course you can bake anything you would like. These items are very popular. We will also need sugar free items. The Bakery is our second highest money maker. The Luncheon is the highest money maker. I guess the answer to having a successful Autumnfest is to have a variety of delicious foods! Speaking of delicious food Vince Iraggi will once again be bringing Croughnuts to sell at the Farm Stand. A Croughnut is a combination of a Crueller and a doughnut. We sold out of them by 1:00 p.m. last year! They are absolutely delicious! Vince also brought his music last year which was enjoyed by all! Thank You Vince! This year we will have an Accessory Shop instead of a Holiday Shop. We are asking for donations of pocket books, change purses, wallets, scarves, belts, and jewelry all in good condition. Doreen Apgar is in charge and she explains it as anything that makes you feel beautiful! You may begin bringing these items in and storing them on the left side of Room 103. We can also use coat racks if you have one to loan us for the day. If you have any questions please see Doreen. We will need cans of soda both regular and diet as well as bottled water. You can store these items on the left side of Room 103.

We are looking for volunteers to help us with our Children's Games and Arts and Crafts. We will also need help from around 11:30-1:30 taking lunch to the Vendors and Crafters. We will need volunteers to give our own members who are working in certain areas a lunch break. On Thursday October 15 we will need volunteers to help decorate Fellowship

Hall as well as setting up the Accessory Shop. We will need a set up committee the morning of Autumnfest at 7:00 a.m. to set up the tent and bring out tables and chairs as well as helping some of the older Vendors and Crafters set up. We will also need volunteers to help clean up at 4:00 p.m. On October 16 you can bring in your baked goods from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. or the morning of the Autumnfest. If you are able to help out in any of these areas please contact Jo-Ann Sisco. Please pray that through this event people will see God's presence and the love he has for us all. And please pray that it is a bright sunny day so people can enjoy being outside and the kids will have a good time playing games and creating art projects outside in the playground instead of having to be inside. Thank You all in advance for your generosity and loyalty. God Bless You All!

CHRIST IN US

JESUS IN US AND WE IN HIM

JESUS IS REAL IN WHOM WE SHALL KNEEL

JESUS IS KING AND THAT IS A RING

CHRIST IS SO NICE THE SPICE OF LIFE

CHRIST IS OUR MIGHT AND LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

CHRIST IS THE WINE OF OUR OWN TIME

JESUS S THE FLOUR OF THE BREAD OF OUR LIVES

JESUS IS GOD'S SON THE ONE WHOM WE LOVE AS A DOVE FROM ABOVE

JESUS IS OUR UNION IN COMMUNION

CHRIST IS ALIVE IN WHOM WE MUST TRUST

CHRIST IS OUR EYES WHICH IS NO SURPRISE

CHRIST IS OUR EARS IN HIM WE SHALL NOT FEAR NEITHER A TEAR

CHRISTIANS UNITE IN ONE ACCORD OUR LORD OF THE DANCE SAID HE

CHRISTIANS LOVE ONE ANOHER AS SISTERS AND BROTHERS

CHRISTIANS SALVATION IS OUR ONE NATION WHERE THERE IS PEACE

CHRISTIANS RUN THE GREAT RACE FOR THE LOVE OF GOD'S FACE

CHRISTIANS PROCLAIM SO THAT THE LAME BE HEALED

CHRISTIANS BELIEVE AND RECEIVE THE GIFT THAT IS GOOD

CHRISTIANS RESPECT THEM THAT ARE NOT OF YET OF THE FOLD

CHRISTIANS WE SEE THE SEA OF OUR BAPTISM WHERE SIN IS NO MORE

JESUS CHRIST THE ONLY ONE WHOSE WAR IS OUR PEACE AND THAT IS SO

BE JESUS CHRIST TODAY AND FOEVER FOR THOSE HE LOVES

OUT OF OUR HEARTS WHERE THERE IS NO DOUBT

GREGORY WAYNE COCKEFAIR



*Please send submissions to
khuyzers@msn.com
or the office mailbox.*

*Last day to submit for the
October newsletter is Sept. 28.*