

“Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” Isalah 43:19

ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP

SEPTEMBER 2018

ISSUE #55

*Worship
With Us*

SUNDAY

8:00-9:00 - Coffee & Fellowship

8:30-9:00- Prayer Walk & Morning Prayer

9:00-9:45-Adult & Children's
Sunday Bible Lesson

WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00 - 11:30

Children's Church

2nd Sunday: Communion

11:30-12:30 **Finger Foods**

POTLUCK

September 9th

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

WEDNESDAY

Prayer @ 9:45am

Brown Bag Bible Study

“Revelation” @ Noon

Worship Dance Class

4:00pm Call Trish @ 935.4899

Prayer & Praise Service

September 12th @ 6:30pm

SATURDAY

Men's Breakfast

September 1st @ 8am

Priority One Volley Ball

Starts Saturday, October 20th

Secret Sister Tea
Saturday, Sept
15th at 1pm



Come and have some fun visiting in the ALF Fellowship Hall; This is NOT the REVEAL!

Bring your favorite “finger food” and enjoy a time of tea and fellowship.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Ezekiel 38:7

Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them.

Monthly meetings are starting back up. The first meeting will be Thursday Sept. 13th at 3pm in the church basement.

Questions? Call Lisa at 935-6249



The ladies will be gathering at “The Barn” (2639 Quarry/Brown's Lk. Rd.) for salad potluck lunch, (come early to visit) with biblical encouragement from Lisa and prayer following.

Contact Lisa Wallner at 935-6249 or Barb McGee at 1-775-5059 with questions.



Small Group studies will be starting back up in October. Consider attending one!

If you would like to lead a group, or open your home for a study, please call the office at 935-8029.

**Brown Bag
Bible
Study
Noon**

All are Welcome!

This “Summer” study of Revelation is moving into the Fall! Come join us in the ALF Fellowship Hall.

This is a no frills, bring your own lunch kind of study. Spend your lunch hour drawing closer to our Lord and Savior through His Word.



Priority One is starting again in October! Lisa will be taking pizza and God's Word into the high school to give testimony during the Lunchtime.

Consider being a part of this incredible outreach! Call Lisa at 935-6249 for details.

Note that Priority One Volleyball is starting back up too!



This past month was certainly noteworthy in a couple of ways. On the down side there was the smoke. Nuff said. On the plus side the highlight for our church had to be the Vacation Bible School. This was a wonder on many levels. First, we had not

done one on our own for a long time so had no experience base to build on, yet it all came together. Secondly, we do not have many kids in our church so did not know how many kids would come. Nearly thirty ultimately registered with most of them being with us all five days. Praise God. Also, the decorations were out of the park great, though we started with nothing. Volunteers workers stepped up at all levels, numbering 30 or so, with most working all five days. Many of the volunteers had to do hours of preparation for their roles. Finally, 5 or 6 kids either prayed to ask Jesus into their lives or renewed their commitments to him.

As a result of the VBS several new families have visited the church and shown real interest in us. Also, there is high enthusiasm for next year already. Praise God for this amazing work in our church and community.



Verse of the Month

Mark 2:13

“He (Jesus) went out again beside the sea, and all the crowd was coming to Him, and He was teaching them.”

As I write this, many school districts are starting their new school year. The advertising emphasis we see over and over again in the media is stressing “back to school.” The students are going back to school to learn. Our church year resembles the school year insofar as many of our learning opportunities took the Summer off and will resume in or near September. These include our Care groups and a more robust Children’s Church. Our Summer Wednesday Bible study will likely keep going as well.

Learning is fundamental to being a Christian. The very core of the word “disciple” is being a learner. Much of the ministry of Jesus was teaching. He taught because people needed to learn what he had to say. Our leadership at Abundant Life takes learning seriously. For example, Pastor Brenda recently finished another seminar degree. I have several personal learning disciplines built into my life, including much Bible reading and attending learning opportunities, such as a conference I will

attend next month and my trip to Israel last year.

In this back to school time, I encourage all of our church family to consider participating in learning venues at our church, if you are not already doing so.

"Sharing the Love of Christ"



Halleluiah, the month of September has come. It is the month of final preparation for the Hands Across Nations Annual Benefit Dinner/Auction where many people turn their hearts toward supporting the "Learning to Read to Read the Bible" literacy program in Uganda! It is a time of drawing together of over 100 hardworking people to update the HAN supporters in a powerful way, about what our Lord has been doing in the past year.

This year, our theme is "WE ARE NOW PEOPLE". The classes of Lepers and Disabled chose this theme for their graduation in April 2018. Prior to their joining classes and starting to learn to read, they felt they were nothing, just rubbish along the side of the road where most of them beg each day. People ignored them, stepped over them, and often mistreated them. At first, their teacher Isaac said that they were extremely hard to teach and he would need 3 class times to finish one lesson because most were elderly and had never had any schooling at all, and couldn't even hold a pencil. With withered or missing fingers, they struggled to learn to write. But they persevered until they were ready for their final exams. Then graduation day came, joining with 6 other classes who had been organized by a released prisoner, Josephine, from the Lira Women's Prison.



There were more than 160 graduates that day, who marched over a mile through the town of Lira, many of them with only partial feet left, some pushing their wheelchairs and some carried by trucks. There were banners and branches of leaves lifted high, waving, and celebrating something they never in their wildest imaginations ever thought possible. They could now read like REAL PEOPLE!

13 people from the Leper and disabled classes then attended a 4 day Teacher Training Workshop and became teachers. They have honed their skills by teaching the next classes of disabled who are mostly beggars from the streets. One teacher, Apollo Tom Richard, a man who rides his bicycle 5-6 miles each way to town with one functioning leg, has signed up 70 people from his home village! Just this week he came to the HAN office to purchase primers and to pick up the free blackboard and chalk HAN provides. God has done a great work in these REAL PEOPLE! This was not a planned out direction Keith and Carolyn had come up with. They started with taking care of the least of these Jesus's brothers and sisters, with medicines for their illnesses and in teaching them to read and write as Jesus said to do. From there, the Lord has given Keith visions of what to do next, and orchestrated circumstances to make them happen.

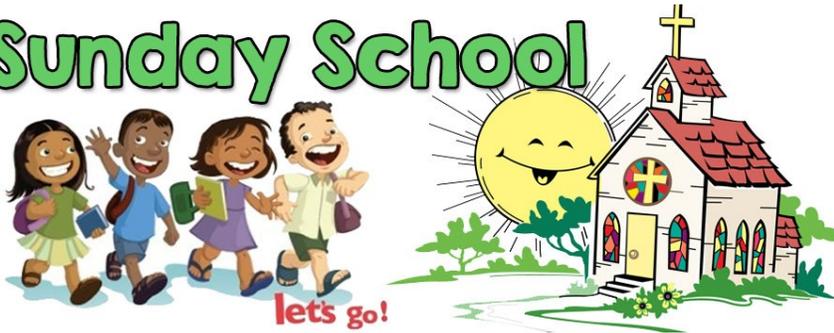


At the Benefit, which will be held in the Chewelah Civic Center, October 6th, 5pm to 7:30 pm, there will be new videos of the happenings of the last year with HAN. Don't miss it. There will be a superb dinner of Pot Roast and organic veggies, soup, salad and baguettes. To compliment the meal we are reaching out for volunteers to donate the finale of luscious desserts. If you would like to take part there are many "openings" for volunteer servers, kitchen help, set up people, clean-up workers, and especially people to sell tickets prior to the benefit.

If you would like to be a part of this special night, please contact Carolyn Jones at 509-979-7448, or Debbie Barbee at 935-6269. When you work for the Lord, He has the best repayment plan! Come Join Us!



Sunday School



Sunday School is from
9:00 - 9:45 for all ages.



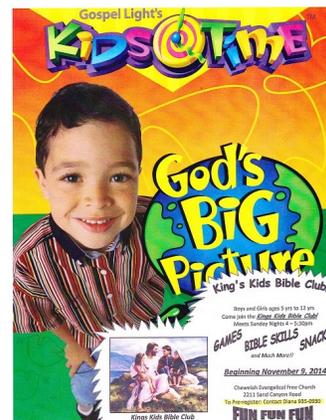
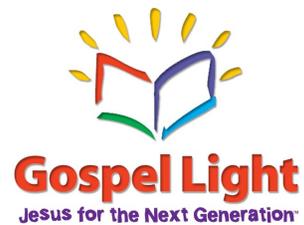
Director of
CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION
Val Messerall

On Sunday, September 9th we will celebrate Promotion Sunday. We will honor all the children and youth who participate in our Sunday School, and will give a special gift to those who will be promoted to the next Sunday School class. We will also take a moment to thank the children & youth Sunday School Teachers: Val Messerall (preschool through 1st grade), Kerry Burkey (5th through 8th grades) and Loretta Burkey (9th through 12th grades). You may notice there is a gap in the grades. We currently do not have a teacher for our 2nd through 4th graders. Until we have a new teacher, these students will be combined with Kerry Burkey's class.

After innumerable years as a Sunday School teacher—often as the ONLY Sunday School teacher for our children—Phyllis Fitzgerald is stepping down. Please take a moment next time you see her to thank Phyllis for all her years of hard work on behalf of our children.

Let's talk about that gap mentioned earlier. We are in need of five people to step up and volunteer to teach children and youth Sunday School. This would give us two teachers per class, who could arrange their schedules as they see fit to meet the needs of our Sunday School. Please pray with an open heart, and if you feel led, we would love to have you. And don't be surprised if you get a call from Val Messerall, asking for your help.

Our children's Church program is also in need of some more teachers. Whether it would be an offer to take one Sunday a month and focus on music or crafts or be available to team teach with Trish Miller and Lisa Wallner, we could really use your help. Again, please be in prayer that God will provide these teachers—and please be open for him to touch your heart and nudge you to help us out.



Our Children's Church program is back to its school-year schedule beginning this Sunday, September 2nd. They will be starting the new school year studying from Gospel Light's "God's Big Picture," with teacher Trish Miller. God's Big picture includes Bible stories including crafts, games, activities, discussion questions, Scripture memory verses, posters, music videos and music.



Everything in life revolves around relationships — everything. The most important relationship is a personal relationship with our heavenly Father through His Son Jesus Christ — a vertical relationship. But let us not be so heavenly high that we are of no earthly good. Horizontal relationships bring balance in this life. And the best horizontal relationships are covenant commitments to live with others, to become connected with others in a basic Christian community.

The Purpose of Small Groups

In Acts 20:20, Paul's vision was "to preach the message in public (large-group worship) and to teach the message from house to house (small-group community)"

In Acts 2:41-47, Early Christians were involved in nine basic activities. They: (1) believed in Jesus Christ, (2) were baptized, (3) were added to the group, (4) spent time in learning, (5) took part in the fellowship, (6) shared their possessions, (7) prayed together, (8) met regularly as a group to worship, and (9) regularly added new believers to the group.

The focus of small-group community is to discuss and make application of the teaching of that week's message and also to become connected (fellowship) with one another as we express our faith in Jesus Christ through edification and lifestyle evangelism. Fellowship and

It's hard to form "relationships" and come into "community" when people sit in rows, looking at the back of each other's heads on Sunday mornings.

expression of our faith in Jesus Christ is the focus of small-group community. Small groups of people meet throughout the community in the homes of others who are willing to open their hearts and homes to other's. In this setting people establish relationships of accountability and openness with one another.

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED PRAYER?

CALL THE PRAYER CHAIN:

**LOLITA LYON 935-8244
OR
MARY KNAPP 936-0319**

True fellowship means that we actively care for one another. In the expression of faith in Jesus Christ, the church reveals that it is reaching out to one another and also to unbelievers as edification and lifestyle evangelism spring up naturally. The experience of small-group community helps to fulfill the second part of the Great Commandment: "Thou shalt love your neighbor as thyself" (Matt. 22:39).

Abundant Life Fellowship

LOVE GOD.

LOVE PEOPLE.

MAKE DISCIPLES.



Pastor John Southwick: Office and Community Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Assoc. Pastor Brenda Nagunst: Hours vary

Business Office: Tues, Wed, Fri: 8am-noon

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