

The Path

Newsletter of Crowfoot Baptist Church

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Adventures of an Average High Schooler

By Elijah Zderad



I have lived in Lebanon my whole life with my parents and siblings and ever since I can remember Christ has been a significant part of our family. Dad used to always tell me how he prayed for me before I was born, that I would personify my namesake, that I would testify among the pagans and point them to the true God. And throughout

my school life I saw this start to come true.

I had a key conversation with one of my older cousins while we were visiting them and he challenged me to “make your parents’ faith yours,” and pursue a personal relationship with God for me, not just my family. I was challenged to do this more so in middle school when I started discovering things about myself and others around me. I started playing basketball and immediately fell in love with it, playing every year since.



Middle school is also when I discovered my love for Christian hip-hop as a way to connect a young audience to sound doctrine through music we enjoy. I also discovered that God had given me the gift of my words and speech to persuade and to communicate with others about Him. I was chosen to give the Eighth Grade Promotion speech at East Linn and as I stepped down from the stage I knew God was going to use my words to point others to Him, just like Dad had prayed for.

Numbering Our Days



Pastor Jason Bigelow

“So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.” Psalm 90:12 (ESV)

I was recently convicted that I was not managing my time well. So, at the council of a seasoned pastor, I began recording everything I did throughout the day. The goal was to gain honest insight into how I was currently managing my time, so that I could discover areas for potential growth.

As someone who takes pride in being productive, I was shocked to discover how much time in a day I was wasting. What felt like 5 minutes of “free time,” always turned into much more. I quickly discovered that I spent more time on the phone, or on the computer, or just mindlessly distracted than I ever realized.

How many moments have I missed with my family? How many moments in the presence of Jesus have I wasted? How many opportunities for service have I missed out on?

It has been said that the best way to discover one’s true values is to evaluate their calendar and their check book. As I keep track of my time, I become increasingly convicted that there are many areas of my life that I have not fully given over to Jesus, even though I thought I had.

As I evaluate my own time management, I see God answering the prayer quoted above. As a result of this new discipline, I have been able to meet other personal goals, such as reading through the bible in seven months. I have also become more aware of opportunities as they present themselves and more eager to make the best use of my time.

I have seen the benefit of “numbering my days,” and I encourage you to prayerfully consider doing the same. Perhaps we will discover that we have much more time to invest in worship, loving our families, and serving our communities than we think we do. Perhaps we have much more potential for bearing fruit to the glory of God than we realize.

“Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!” Psalm 90:17 (ESV)

Let's Pray!

1. Church unity in the midst of differing opinions on national matters
2. That we would not become distracted from the commission we still have to make disciples
3. That our joy and peace would be a testimony to a world in chaos

Adventures of an Average High Schooler

(continued from front page)



But the next challenge in my life was completely unexpected, towards the end of Eight Grade my parents told me that God had closed the door on East Linn and opened a door for the next chapter of my life, public high school. That summer after 8th Grade I attended Camp Elkanah with my two closest friends. I went into the trip just excited for a chance to hang out and have a good time, but God had other plans for me. He challenged me to lead an uncompromised, Christ driven life and showed me his love and mercy in a way I had never seen before. If I was to look back to a moment where I fully committed myself to Christ it would be that worship session as I cried out, *“God I’m yours.”* Coming back from the trip I knew this next chapter would not be easy, but I knew God’s strength would carry me through. High school brought new challenges but also new joy as I learned to rely on Christ with my new friendships and conflicts.

After Spring Break last year I was given the opportunity to go with a team from our church to the Philippines and God taught me many lessons I’m never going to forget. The day after we returned I was sitting in first period still recovering from jet lag and thought, *“I just helped share God’s message halfway across the world, why can’t I do it here?”*

This year my best friend Caleb and I started a Bible study at Lebanon High School calling it, “Mis-Fit” as we are misfits in a world of sin and we strive to bring others to know God. Prayer that Mis-Fit continues to grow, and that my and Caleb’s teaching will reach others would be much appreciated, along with prayer that I can hold fast to Jesus through the trials high school brings. I am continuing at Lebanon but am planning to pursue a program that allows me to complete college credits before I graduate. I am currently looking into law or business administration as the two areas I would like to pursue hoping God can use my words in an impactful way to lead others to Him, but am also ready for God to open new doors and new opportunities as I continue to learn to trust and rely on Him through everything I do.



Hygiene Drive

We distribute hygiene products without cost for families in need every Tuesday. We expect an increase in need for these supplies as the school year begins. You can help by donating supplies. The list of items needed are:

Adult or child toothpaste, Hand soap, Shampoo and conditioner, Deodorant, Feminine hygiene products, Hand sanitizer, Razors, Shaving cream, Dish soap, Laundry detergent, Bleach, Paper products, Tissues, Toilet paper, Garbage bags, and Baby wipes.

Contact the church office for detailed information at 541-258-3138.



Mission Focus

David and Catherine Love
World Venture



Greetings Folks!

It is amazing how so many things are on hold due to the pandemic and yet time seems to be flying by. Although our travel schedule has been thrown into chaos, we are keeping busy advancing a number of ministry initiatives.

For Catherine, however, this summer has been challenging due to sickness. Not COVID (she got the test) but a persistent and extremely painful infection that resulted in an ER visit a few weeks ago. After two weeks of multiple antibiotics she was doing better but this past week she had a reoccurrence of the infection and is back on the meds. Unfortunately, they are quite hard on her and make her feel sick even while feeling better from the infection.

Please pray that the antibiotics completely eradicate this infection. Otherwise, she may face a surgical procedure.

On the ministry front, after two+ years of preparation, the community center in Eastern France opened! We are delighted to look back and see how God provided the personnel we needed to recruit, and the funding that the French church and our colleagues raised to make this a reality. Opening day of the coffee shop/community center went well, so please pray for God to bless the ministry as they reach their community.



We appreciate your prayers and partnership in ministry and hope you are having a special, albeit unique, summer!

Blessings,
David and Catherine

Crowfoot Kids Ministries

We plan to restart our **SUNDAY MORNING KIDS MINISTRY** the first week of October. If you would like to return or begin as a volunteer, contact Mandy in the church office. She will get you plugged in.

Children are also invited to come along for a weekly adventure into global missions at **SUNDAY NIGHT KIDS**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. This resumed September 13th.



September

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

06...Don Flaming
09...Nancy Ross
10...Dana Kosmala
11...Greg Musil
12...Chad Linville
12...Pat Williams
13...Marilyn Denué
16...John Cornell
18...Emma Kosmala
20...Allie Andrews
22...Mary Ann Raschke
24...Patience Davis
25...Silas Marble
25...Shari McFee
26...Emily Straw
27...Layla Danielson
28...Vicki Presley
30...Bob Farrell
30...Aubrey Smith

Happy Anniversary

September 20
Trevor & Cassandra Denué

Do you have something you would like to share with the church family... perhaps a photo with a short story or description, a poem, an event that blessed your soul, etc.? If yes, please send your info to Mandy in the church office or give to Karen. We will do our best to include it in a future issue.

Editors:
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