

# The Window

On a journey with the living Christ;  
connecting with God, others, and the world.



October 2017

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## Sabbatical by Deena Candler.

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I had the blessing of being away on Sabbatical during June, July and August of this year. West Hills Church generously provides for a Sabbatical for pastors after 7 years of ministry. The purpose of a sabbatical is a time for renewal, refreshment and revitalization as we reflect on our relationship with God and our individual journey with Him. Two months are allotted for sabbatical leave which can be combined with our normal four weeks of vacation. It had been 8 years since my last sabbatical. The most important part of a sabbatical is the time away from the normal responsibilities of ministry to be refreshed and renewed—because ministry is an odd beast in which pastors are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition to the time away, I received a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment for Clergy Renewal. The grant allowed me to fund experiences of renewal that would not have been possible with my own resources.

The theme for my sabbatical was Matthew 11:28-30: “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Rest and renewal for me come through spending time in God’s Word, travel, spending time in the beauty of creation, and time with family.

My specific goals were:

1. Renewal of relationship with God to receive from Him, and love Him with all my heart, strength, mind and soul.
2. To experience the fullness of God in His creation.
3. Renewal of relationship with family.
4. To regain healthy rhythms physically and spiritually that might result in ongoing practice of Sabbath rest.



My sabbatical was broken into three different portions:

June was spent at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute in Israel. Tantur is located outside of Jerusalem and within walking distance of Bethlehem. I was a part of a one month program with seventeen other people from all over the world and different Christian denominations. We gathered together every evening for worship before dinner and took turns leading that time. We typically had some lectures during the day on topics such as “Christians in Palestine” and “Biblical Geography.” Some days included field trips to places in Israel and Palestine. I have been to Israel and Palestine (the West Bank) in the past, but I was able to experience things I never have before. The location of Tantur allowed us to spend free time traveling into the Old City of Jerusalem and walking to Bethlehem. The separation wall was in view from where we stayed at Tantur. I came to a greater understanding of the situation with Jews and Palestinians (that is, Christians and Muslims) than I ever have before...and sadly, because of our proximity to the wall saw the regular abuse of Palestinians. Among other things, I experienced:

*continued on page 2*

- Friday worship in a synagogue
- Meeting with a Muslim family for “Fitr” dinner (the meal at the end of the day during the feast of Ramadan) at their residence in a refugee camp. They along with thousands of others have been in this camp since 1950.
- Driving along the border with Lebanon, Syria and Jordan, and hearing the blasts and gunfire from the war
- Being less than a mile from ISIS
- Hearing the stories of Christians and others who have experienced tear gas and beatings
- In the midst of all of this and so much more, seeing the commitment of the diminishing Christian community (now less than 1.5%) to reach out to people with the love of Christ.

July – the focus was renewal with family. Almost all of my family lives in Colorado. I was able to spend extended time with them, but also with the grant from the Lilly Endowment I was able to take my mother on a cruise on the Rhine River in Europe. We had the opportunity to experience places in the world we had never seen and the gift of time together. My mom is 83, and she did great!

August – The final month was an opportunity for synthesis and transition by spending a month near the beach on Anna Maria Island in Florida. Almost every morning I rose when it was still dark and walked for an hour and a half on the beach as I watched the sun rise. My soul was fed by nature, and God was so present in the nature of His creation there. Every morning there was something wonderful to see, a dolphin, a manatee, a rainbow—or baby sea turtles hatching! (Ask to see my videos!) I settled into a rhythm of devotions, prayer, journaling, reading and rest.

My desire and hope in all of this was to establish a rhythm that was not just a break from the norm, but that I might continue to practice long after my return by redeveloping healthy habits. And so my new goals begin now. They are:

- To practice Sabbath. For me, Sunday is a day of work (that I love). Friday is my day off. So that is my Sabbath. I will be serious about having it be a day of rest and renewal.
- To get enough sleep.
- To exercise regularly.

The gift to a congregation from a pastor’s sabbatical is a pastor who returns with renewed energy and vision to serve—and I surely feel that way! I want to thank all of you—and especially Betty Manna, Caregiving Elder Marti Bloes, and all of the volunteers in Caregiving who picked up extra responsibilities to make this possible.

## The Adventures of the Church Picnic

Did you ever get a postcard or email from someone on vacation that said “wish you were here?” If you were not able to attend the church picnic on September 3, we REALLY wish you could have been HERE. Instead of the usual hamburger/hotdog picnic, the church decided to have a “bring your own dish” potluck picnic and IT-WAS-AMAZING.

The room was brightly decorated with paper chains and live sunflowers decorated the tables to make it feel festive, fun and welcoming. We had crockpot main dishes at three different stations and salads, potatoes, veggie dishes and desserts were lined up on another long table. About 150 people were able to sample so many delicious homemade food items that you wished you had more room in your stomach to keep eating.

A HUGE thank you to all who went to the trouble of preparing the food. We hope the church will do this again and even more people can attend. It was heartwarming to see so many people come together and enjoy each other’s food and be able to fellowship with their Christian family.



## Spiritual Correspondence by Jana Prescott



Who do I want to invite to my next get-together? Who do you want to invite? What is a get-together, anyway? A party? A meeting? An informal gathering? An after-the-party event?

What would you do at the get-together? Give someone thanks? What if, someone who is always there was Christ? He wants all of us doing our best to be a branch on His vine. We could be what we think of as perfect, or we could think we are suffering; either way, all we need is to attend His party, full of people abiding with Christ. Would you give Him the thanks He deserves?

# An Unchanging God by Patti Brownlee

One of the reasons why we Cornhuskers say we love living in Nebraska is because of the change in seasons we experience. As I write this newsletter article, I for one am looking forward to carving a pumpkin, lighting my vanilla pumpkin latte candle, and digging into a piece of pumpkin pie. Even though everything that accompanies a season change isn't always for the better (remember - gray skies, ice, mud, humidity), most of us embrace the changing of seasons. Why? Because we view them as part of God's glorious creation and count on them to occur. We accept changes in the season and move forward because we know God is in control and that the sun will shine again!

Most of us have varying degrees of difficulty, however, dealing with change in our own lives. Some changes are innately joyful and full of possibilities - the arrival of a new baby, a job promotion, an unexpected travel opportunity, but other changes elicit fear and sorrow - a cancer diagnosis, a divorce, a long distance move. When finding yourself in the midst of a changing situation, how often have you heard yourself inwardly shouting - "Why can't things just stay the same?" I'd like to suggest that perhaps we should approach personal life changes in the same way we approach the change in seasons. Accept that change will occur. Know God is in control and trust Him to help us move forward in seeking His "Sonshine."

God's Word is filled to overflowing with wisdom and promises that can guide and strengthen us in the midst of change. All of us need to be equipped with a reservoir of these verses that we can draw upon when the floodwaters of change try to overcome us. Begin by reading these well-known verses ( some of my favorites) with new ears - not as platitudes but as lifesavers you can rely upon in the midst of a personal storm and then find more verses that resonate especially with you. As you meditate upon these verses, your perspective will become clearer and you will tap into God's power as you face change.

- \* For God said, "I will never leave you, nor forsake you."  
(Hebrews 13:5)
- \* "I am the Lord, and I do not change."  
(Malachi 3:6)
- \* "For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven."  
(Ecclesiastes 3: 1)
- \* "And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."  
(Philippians 1:6)
- \* For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."  
(Jeremiah 29:11)

Scripture has grounded me as West Hills is in a season of change. I've been concerned by the changes, but really, should I have been taken so off-guard? Throughout history, the church has always been a body of believing, yet struggling, sinners. Just consider Paul's letters to churches dealing with a multitude of serious problems; and let's not forget the ongoing battle we rage against "evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world." (Ephesians 6:12) With that in mind, how are we to respond to these changes at West Hills?



While change can challenge our commitment, Christ unconditionally loves His Bride, the Church—so much that He died for her. We are called to love Her too. Even though West Hills is not a perfect place, it's God's place, and there's a place for you here to love and serve.

Amidst change, we are often disappointed or hurt by people. In processing that, Colossians 3:13 offers wisdom for moving forward: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against some. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

I Corinthians 12:27 reminds us that we all play an important role in living out the work of the Church: "All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it." One of the reasons we are members of West Hills is because this is where God has called us to use the gifts He has given us. How can we submit to God and use our gifts to further His plans for the church, in general, and specifically, at West Hills?

Amidst changing seasons—in nature, in life, in Christian community—one truth never changes: God is in control and can be trusted. Even when we don't understand the season we're in or clearly see the path forward, He does. Through prayer, scripture study and meeting together, let's walk forward by faith for His Kingdom. He still shines here!

## Congregational Relations Committee (CRC)

Your committee consists of:

- + Tom Backer
- + Louie Harrison
- + Dan O'Reilly
- + Kathy Padilla
- + Linda Schuchmann
- + Laressa Tromler

Contact the committee by email:  
[crc@whcomaha.org](mailto:crc@whcomaha.org)





### Esther Miller

Apple Topped Pork Loin from Taste of home 2011

#### INGREDIENTS

2 Tablespoons all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon caraway seeds (I did not use)  
1 teaspoon ground mustard  
¼ teaspoon salt  
½ teaspoon sugar  
¼ teaspoon rubbed sage (I didn't use)  
¼ teaspoon pepper  
1 boneless pork loin roast (4-5 pounds)  
2 tablespoons olive oil

#### APPLE TOPPING

1 ½ cups finely chopped peeled tart apples  
½ cup packed brown sugar  
¼ teaspoon salt  
¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon  
⅛ to ¼ teaspoon ground mace (I didn't use)

#### DIRECTIONS

In a small bowl, combine the first seven ingredients; rub over roast.  
In a large skillet, heat oil; brown roast on all sides.  
Place on a rack in a shallow baking pan.  
Bake uncovered, at 325° for 40 minutes.  
Combine the topping ingredients; spread over top of roast.  
Bake 40-45 minutes longer or until a thermometer reads 145°.  
Let stand for 10 minutes before slicing.  
Yield: 12-15 servings.

My modifications: I didn't use the ingredients because I did not have them. After browning the roast, I rubbed the top with the first seven ingredients. I placed the roast into the crock pot and cooked on low for about 30 minutes until the juices had moistened the rub. Then I poured the apple mixture over the top and continued to cook on low for 4 hours.

#### Have a Recipe to Share?

With both parents working these days it's difficult to come up with a healthy dinner after work.

Do you have a recipe for an easy-to-prepare meal?

Please send your recipes to Maralee Gifford:

[giffordgr@msn.com](mailto:giffordgr@msn.com)

In the subject line please put "Recipe for Newsletter" (she will know it is a safe to open.)

This is our family's favorite recipe. We've been making it just about every week for years and we never tire of it. It's so simple, quick, and adaptable that it's the meal we most often serve guests.

**Christina Pyle**

#### TACO SOUP

##### INGREDIENTS:

4-6 garlic cloves  
2-3 T. cooking oil (we use organic virgin coconut oil)  
1 packet taco seasoning (we make our own \*see recipe)  
3 cans cooked beans drained and rinsed (we usually use kidney, black bean, and pinto)  
3 cups water  
1 can green chiles (optional, we don't usually have these on hand)

##### DIRECTIONS:

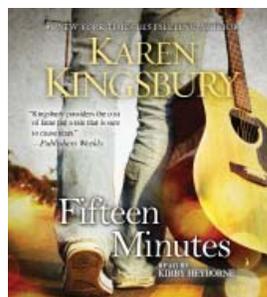
Heat up a large pot over med-low. Add 2-3 T. oil to the pot. Mince or press garlic and saute' in oil until it darkens just a little, but try not to burn it. Add one packet of taco seasoning and saute' the spices for just a minute. I think this gives them a nicer flavor.

Add 3 cups water and bring to boil on high. Rinse beans in a strainer and add to pot. Add green chiles, if using. Once boiling, turn to low and simmer with lid on until heated through.

Optional: If I have any frozen shredded zucchini on hand, I like to add a cup of it while the water is heating up. The kids don't seem to notice it.

Serve as a soup topped with tortilla chips and your favorite taco fixings (tomatoes, avocado, guacamole, cheese, hot sauce, sour cream, salsa, etc.)

OR strain beans and use to make "haystacks" on top of crushed tortilla chips, topped with taco fixings.



#### **Fifteen Minutes** by Karen Kingsbury

Is a novel based on the cost of fame by those who achieve it. Main character Zack Dylan, finds himself the nation's most popular country singer, on a reality based television show. He made a promise to his college sweetheart before he left Kentucky, that he would let nothing change him or his faith in God. However, again and again he is asked to compromise his beliefs in order

to get ahead in "the business." Now a former, "Fifteen Minutes" winner, who has suffered her own losses and setbacks, sets out to warn Zack about the price of the career and fame he so desperately wants. Will Zack give up everything, or risk it all for his "Fifteen Minutes" of fame? Karen Kingsbury has more than twenty million of her inspirational books in print. In addition, she has more than twelve novels that have been number one on national lists. **Fifteen Minutes** is available for check on in the Soul Café.

# Pine Ridge Mission Trip

Did you ever want to travel to a 3rd world country and not only bring the Word of God to the inhabitants, but also assist in any way you could to help those living in such extreme poverty? Mary Christensen and Nancy Chesire, two members of West Hills had those goals in mind as they read about a “third world country” approximately 8 hours north of Omaha at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, located in So. Dakota. The two women had met with Jerome and Theresa High Horse, who are affiliated with “Families Working Together,” during the couple’s mission fair at a Lutheran church in Omaha. They met with them again at their home in Pine Ridge, and made several trips to the reservation where Tribal records show 38,000 members of the Oglala-Lakota nation live in 11 different communities. These residents live in the richest nation in the world, but reside in 3rd world poverty: many with no electricity, running water, furnaces; an unemployment rate at 80-90%, and teen suicide rates 4 times higher than the national average. Mary and Nancy, after determining where they were needed the most and which community would be able to accommodate the mission group, decided that the Wanblee community “had the most need and offered the use of their aging community center, which did not have air conditioning,” Nancy said. The goals of the mission trip to Pine Ridge were varied: Bible-related activities for the Wanblee children; bring sewing machines and materials for the women to make blankets, hats, winter scarves, etc.; Teach the teen girls how to knit; and the men and older boys assist in working on Wanblee’s



were very supportive and generous! The 45 volunteers, twenty five of whom were under eighteen, found that no matter what had been planned for the week at Pine Ridge God was in control. The first day the mission volunteers learned that the government truck delivering food to the reservation had broken down. The majority of the food was frozen, so the food would be distributed to “whoever came to pick it up.” The temperature had reached 107 degrees so the mission team “jumped into action” and since so much of the food was thawed or thawing the team began to sort, box and carry the food to waiting cars “ASAP”. They cleaned up the mess of empty pallet boxes, etc., including “scrubbing up the sticky mess of thawed ice cream and other food!” Their “reward” was being able to eat as much ice cream as they could before it turned to cream. The daily Bible-related activities for the children was a wonderful success, “serving children from three on up” and the number attending increased every day. The children also brought family members, as well as other friends, so the center was a busy drone of activity with women sewing, and becoming very dedicated and determined with their sewing projects. As the hands and minds were busy, conversations became easier and friendships began to develop. Since no men or boys from the community came to assist with the construction needs, the mission teams’ men and boys worked daily on the new Community Center where they hung drywall, tiled a floor, painted the kitchen and worked on other projects in the community, as needed. Sadly, the High Horse family had lost 6 family members



new Community Center. The mission trip volunteers, when they left Omaha on July 16, numbered 45, ages 7 to 78, 10 who were from Familia de Dios, the Spanish church which meets at WHC at 2 p.m. every Sunday. From private donations to several fund raisers, the mission trip was self-funded and supported the costs of renting four 15-passenger vans, gas included. They also had two trailers packed with donated sewing machines, fabric, batting for blankets, “lots of yarn and knitting and sewing supplies,” as well as painting supplies and “other necessary equipment.” West Hills church members





three weeks before the mission team arrived, in a tragic automobile accident. The mission team hosted a memorial service for the six family members, which was attended by friends and family, and the mission team joined in with the mourners. When asked if the two organizers of this first mission trip to Pine Ridge accomplished their previously stated goals, Mary and Nancy remarked: "Yes, in more ways than we ever thought possible. We did form a closer relationship with our Pine Ridge friends and it was an eye opener for our youth, as they realized that there are definitely those who are less fortunate, don't have Game Boys, cable, or cell phones. It was an eye opener for some of our adults as well, to see the desolate landscape of rock and dirt. You can't even plant a decent garden. Our kids were very attentive during morning devotions, and how that applied to what our mission was and why we were there. Evening prayer was a glimpse into what the kids had experienced during that day and what they were looking forward to the next day. The great thing that took place was our kids and the nine kids from Familia de Dios became fast friends and continued with that friendship after returning. By the time the week was over, many of the children joined the Familia kids in their evening worship led by Eylin Zetino, pastor Osmar's wife. Many nights our worship leader, Louie Harrison, prayed in English, Eylin would then pray in Spanish, and on the morning we left, Jerome High Horse joined in the prayers and prayed in Lakota." A grandfather stopped Ted Killham upon leaving the school where some of the boys were playing ball. He told Ted that his grandchildren had been attending the Bible School program every day and were having such a good time, that it had become "very special to them." He wanted to thank the group for coming to Pine Ridge. "It felt great to hear that," Nancy said. The beauty of this first Mission Trip to Pine Ridge cannot be ignored. We have the opportunity to reach and teach in a "third world" country which is only 441 miles from West Hills Church! We don't need to spend hundreds of dollars on travel costs that could go directly to a greater cause in an area that is so in need of God's Word and our assistance. How very fortunate for WHC that God has guided these two special women to open a door for an opportunity in following God's words from Mark 16:15: "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." How lucky we have the support of WHC members and "the world" is only a few hours away. What better way than to teach God's love and His word than through action, as this mission team had provided to the residents of Pine Ridge. Thanks to Mary and Nancy we now have this opportunity to continue to build on the groundwork that 45 volunteers have initiated.

## Solar Eclipse/Personal Eclipse...What do they have in common? by Donna Peterson



Webster says a solar eclipse is the partial or total apparent darkening of the sun when the moon comes between it and the earth. Webster also says an eclipse is a temporary obscurity or dulling as of fame or glory.

In August we were inundated with information about the "Once in a life time" solar eclipse that Nebraskans could experience. It was long anticipated, a complete black out for those in the "totality path." Where were you during the eclipse? Do you remember how you felt whether you were in total darkness or in the "twilight zone"? Some have said it was unsettling. Others say it was awesome and breath taking. Some worried what the solar eclipse would do to power grids or to human eyes if the proper glasses weren't used or what wild life would do. There were probably a lot of "what ifs" running through people's minds. We knew the sun would come back in a few minutes. We had faith. Our faith was confirmed. The sun came back in all of its glory.

Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands."

While the solar eclipse was anticipated and looked forward to, a personal eclipse is usually unexpected and unwanted. It is not broadcast far and wide, so not many (if any) others are aware of it. Sometimes it is a total eclipse and sometimes it is partial. No special glasses help one view a personal eclipse. So what is a personal eclipse? It can take on many forms: the death of a loved one, an illness that was just diagnosed, anything that disrupts you or the life of your family or any form of depression. Any of these things can temporarily obscure or dull the shining fame and glory of the only true Light of the World, JESUS CHRIST.

Psalm 27:1 - "The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear?"

Both a solar eclipse and a personal eclipse frighten us humans if we do not have faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We have faith that the sun will come out from behind the moon and again deliver it's solar power to run the planet in so many ways. It is our faith in Jesus Christ that will bring us out of the darkness of our personal eclipse. It is He who walks with us through whatever upheaval we may have in our life and points us in the right direction to others who can help us to again see the glory of Jesus.

Our West Hills family has gone through a personal eclipse but Jesus is front and center in this strong West Hills family. Keep your eyes focused on the one true light of the world.

Romans 15:4 - "Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us: so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

Both the solar eclipse and personal eclipse have one strong common bond.....GOD OUR FATHER IS IN CHARGE!

We can all sing like Little Orphan Annie ... "The sun and the SON will come out tomorrow."

# Tiny Prayer of Jabez and the Blue Chair by Wendi Meyer



My joy has been to be one of the four women from West Hills Church who teach Bible Study every Monday morning at Westgate Assisted Living. Our series over the past few weeks has been focusing on the book and video *The Prayer of Jabez*, which can be found in 1Chronicles 4:10, "Oh, that You would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let Your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain."

The series has been written by Bruce Wilkinson and follows the book he wrote in the late 70's on this little prayer. It was, at that time, on the best sellers list of several newspapers and articles had been written both pro and con on it. In this series Bruce Wilkinson challenges us to read this prayer every morning, something he has done for the past 30 years! He shared with us how God's blessings have been abundant to him "beyond belief".

Since I was introducing the series to our Bible Study group I decided to take the challenge for at least 30 days, which Wilkinson suggested as a "starting place." To be honest, I was somewhat skeptical but I began to pray specifically, pray intentionally, and to pray for those blessings that I desired from God. To start with: "enlarge my territory". I concentrated on my one bedroom apartment. Looking at a very gigantic blue leather reclining chair that I had inherited I always felt it was truly overwhelming for my living space and needed to be replaced with a much smaller chair. That became one of my specific requests in my daily Jabez prayer.

I took the initiative and began contacting hauling sites, but found their charges were astronomical compared to my budget and felt I was going to be stuck with this chair that was really crowding my personal "territory." Soon after I started repeating the Jabez prayer every morning I saw two young men delivering furniture to one of my neighbors in my apartment building. I asked them if they ever hauled away unwanted furniture, and was told "yes." I found they were brothers who worked together in their furniture moving business, and when I asked what they would charge to remove my large blue leather recliner they said, "ten dollars." I was amazed, to say the least, and felt a strong desire to share my feelings about the prayer and their being there when I needed them. As I started to repeat the prayer the older brother recited it perfectly and even included where you could find it in the Bible! The moment seemed completely orchestrated by God. Before they left I asked the brothers, these two very special men, if we might join hands and pray, ending with Jabez's prayer? They agreed, and upon opening my eyes I saw silent tears falling on the cheek of one of the young men. He said, "I needed this prayer so much today, ma'am. Thank you and God bless." Then they were gone.

This, however, is not the end of the story since God had more in mind. A week later a woman I had worked with some 40 years

ago, and had never talked to in that length of time, connected with me on Facebook and we met for coffee in her home. I shared my Jabez story with her, and she said, "Wendi, I have an almost new chair that sounds perfect for your living room, put your coffee down and come take a look." It was perfect and now looks so good in my living room, almost as though it was made for the space it occupies.

I do not believe that the Prayer of Jabez has magic powers that ensure "goodies from God", however I do believe, as Wilkinson has been teaching all of us, that God does want to bless us, we just don't ask. Jabez called upon God to accomplish the promises of God's blessings that awaited him. Wilkinson shared that he would hate to arrive in heaven and find a full basket marked with his name and God explaining to him that it is filled with blessings, but "you never asked."

Many of our wonderful Bible Study participants have been "taking the 30 day challenge". If you would like to join, you first begin by acknowledging who God truly is, acknowledging Him with a heart fully invested in having God bless you. You then ask God to increase your territory or boundaries, so that you can do more for Him through you. Next, you are asking God to be with you through any circumstances and/or trials that may come your way (since there are many Goliaths that would like to stop you from receiving God's blessings), and to keep you from harm and pain. May this simple and short prayer of Jabez, whose name means "pain," begin to bless your life and that you will share these blessings and experiences with others who will then began to learn and believe that all blessings come from God.



## **AUGUST** OPERATING FUND REPORT

### COMPARED TO PRIOR YEAR:

	<i>as of Aug. 31st</i> <b>2016 YTD</b> <b>Actual</b>	<i>as of Aug. 31st</i> <b>2017 YTD</b> <b>Actual</b>	<b>Chg from</b> <b>Prior Year</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	\$ 773,495	\$ 733,319	\$ (40,176)
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 902,161	\$ 891,740	\$ (10,421)
<b>surplus/(deficit)</b>	<u>\$ (128,666)</u>	<u>\$ (158,421)</u>	

### COMPARED TO BUDGET:

	<i>as of Aug. 31st</i> <b>2017 YTD</b> <b>Budget</b>	<i>as of Aug. 31st</i> <b>2017 YTD</b> <b>Actual</b>	<b>Chg from</b> <b>Budget</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	\$ 840,888	\$ 733,319	\$ (107,569)
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 962,073	\$ 891,740	\$ (70,333)
<b>surplus/(deficit)</b>	<u>\$ (121,185)</u>	<u>\$ (158,421)</u>	

Questions? Please contact Mike Alfieri @ (402) 391-8788 ext. 1008



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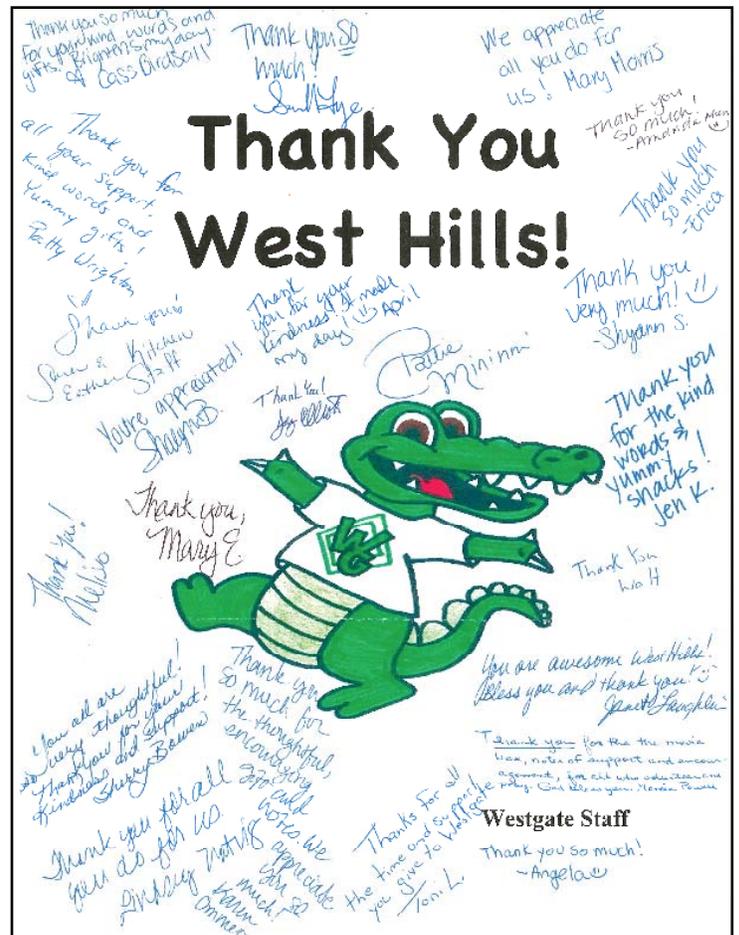
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Contact for all Elders [session@whcomaha.org](mailto:session@whcomaha.org)

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Julie Anderson   | Youth               |
| Marti Bloes      | Caregiving          |
| Kathy Cordes     | Westgate            |
| Mark Hawkins     | Worship & Music     |
| Mike Kelley      | Stewardship         |
| John O'Donovan   | Personnel           |
| Brenton Pyle     | Support             |
| Mary Beth Seyler | Children            |
| Peg Shirley      | Mission             |
| Trink Traudt     | Spiritual Formation |
| Vacant           | Building            |
| Vacant           | Nominating          |

Congregational Relations Committee  
[crc@whcomaha.org](mailto:crc@whcomaha.org)





## Happy Birthday to ...

1-Kaitlyn Barnes	Cliff Hayes	David Richardson
Luke Freeman	Peggy Kelley	27-Roxie Frazier
Arlo Grafton	14-Shay Bailey	Sam Okrina
Kelsie Kathman	Helen Jacobsen	Kim Saitta
Kenneth Kopperud	Cameron Kriglstein	28-Emily Hammon
2-Briann Bailey	15-Chris Cook	Amy Koenig
Diana Dingman	Tom Davis	John McGuire
Maddix Foss	Shirley Johnson	Jen Northouse
Dan Freeman	16-Blake Anders	Les Stanley
Levi Hawkins	Lisa Clauff	29-Spencer Loibl
Sunny Lundgren	17-Ron Chapman	Joe Markus
Trish Mathia	18-Loren Loibl	Diane Turner Robson
Julie Muessel	Mariel Oftelie	30-Julie Anderson
Dale Obermiller	Ben Sedivy	Megan Bailey
3-Matthew Hawkins	19-Isaiah Cabrera Mejia	Isabella Bohnert
Bob Jirak	Darcie Dingman	Jessica Colegrove
Cameron Sorenson	Leisha Eiten	Tracey Kobjerowski
4-Noah Hawkins	Macy Morrison	30-Zen Pyle
Chris Olson	Aidan Schieuer	31-Brenda Sherman
Laura Olson	20-Tom Backer	Gaylen Vermilyea
Evan Topolski	Matt Davis	<b>NOVEMBER</b>
5-Brighton Brandt	Ariana Gray	1-Rod Hansen
6-Tyler Patterson	Jeff Northouse	Megan Merrill
Caspian Pyle	21-Bill Heise	MacKenzie Saitta
Bill Spiecker	Aaron Schaffer	Lynn Vana
7-Shelby Hook	22-Joel Anderson	2-Alex Bergman
8-Samantha Chesire	Emily Cota	Beckett Dunn
Kate Nelson	Shane Ellison	Nick Vanhessche
9-Gianni Anzalone	Melissa Lusk	3-Natalie Root
Mary Gross	Tim Muessel	4-Sonia Ditter
Kyle Rhodes	23-Ella Frisbie	Paul Nelson
Eric Simmons	Ella Frisbie	Vincent Nelson
10-Larry Wagner	Cole Mrsny	5-Mardel Bridgman
11-Lainey Anderson	Scott Sherman	Nicole Degand
12-Ginny Lakin	24-Anita Evans	Shirley Krysl
Tanner Roberts	25-Elliot McHugh	Claire Neil
John Sorensen	26-Joyce Bunjer	5-Nathanael O'Reilly
13-Rowan Hamm	Marilyn Grafton	



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