

Victory newsletter

Spring 2016



Victory News

Work continues at 10 Grand! Several things are going on around the building right now: the teens have a new stage in their area; the old baptistry is being removed to make room for the new one coming soon; the kitchen remodel continues. Some projects, such as the Worship Room, are still in the planning stage. These plans include a new sound and projection system, a remodeled stage, and new lighting. Bob Raymer has been busy with several projects taking longer than expected, which, as anyone who has done remodeling knows, *is* expected! We'll press forward knowing that God is ultimately in control and will bless our efforts!

CARE: Caring Actions, Real Experiences

Each Tuesday church members reach out to others in need and appreciation and to welcome new members and visitors. Folks can send cards, call, text, or visit, whatever is your preference and comfort level. We especially need more folks on the second and fourth Tuesday nights. Please consider making a one-hour commitment to CARE each month!



CARE teams meet the first, second, and fourth Tuesday nights of each month at 6:30 to 7:30 pm. We meet in Room 105. This outreach is a very special way to be involved and fellowship with different members while providing a sweet service. Food is often available so you don't have to cook that night. Choose one Tuesday a month to come, and you

choose the activity. Join us and be blessed while blessing others!

JOY: Just Older Youth

The JOY Breakfast is at Cracker Barrel on the first Tuesday of each month at 8:00 am. On the third Tuesday of each month, we meet for lunch. On April 19, we will meet at 11:30 at The Hook in Jacksonville.

Kids Department

LEARNING On January 20th our kindergarten through sixth grade students began a study titled “Never Too Young.” Each Wednesday night they’ve been **learning** all about young heroes of the Bible, like Esther and Timothy, who demonstrated they weren’t too young to do big things for God. Once we finish this study, we will begin a six-week study in the book of Galatians. We often **learn** best by asking questions, and the name of this study is “3 Questions.” We will be exploring these questions: 1) who am I trying to please, 2) whose power am I depending on; and 3) what is a true friend? The kids are also **learning** to love the extra space they’ve been given in the Worship Room to run and play before and after class time! Providing opportunities to fellowship through large group play helps them **learn** how to problem-solve, take turns, as well as many other important social skills.



Connie

LOVING Teaching our kids to **love** others is one of our core values. The week before Valentine’s Day, our kiddos created beautiful cards and put together treat bags for some of our elderly church members and nursing home residents. These were received with great appreciation and enthusiasm! A trip to visit Robinson Nursing Home is coming soon; our friends there will **love** to spend time with Victory kids!



Margaret

LIVING God has been sending several new **lives** to our children’s ministry on Wednesday nights! We’d like

to share with you about a special little boy named Landon Glover who has been coming faithfully for the past seven weeks. Landon **lives** on the same street as Brian and Steffany Hale, and while Steffany was out walking her dogs a few months ago, she met Landon and his grandmother. With grandmother’s permission, Steffany has been bringing Landon week after week, and he even made his first Sunday appearance on Easter! Landon has found a home at Victory, and asks Steffany when she comes to pick him up, “Is it time to go to *our* church now?” Several weeks ago as we sat knee to knee in the Worship Room for our prayer time, Landon asked if he could pray. His honest prayer touched the hearts of every adult in the circle, and after he said, “The end,” he asked, “Was that a good job?” How precious to hear from the mouth of a child who is learning for the first time about the love of Jesus and all the amazing truths in God’s Word! Thank you Brian and Steffany for pouring into the **life** of this little boy! We’ve also enjoyed getting to know Abram McGinty’s friend, Britton Lynch, who has been coming with the McGinty family for several weeks. Praise God for the adults who take time to notice the spiritual needs of children and who are **living** their faith in front of them!

WINGS: Women IN God’s Service

What is WINGS doing right now? We send \$50.00 each month to Janice Williams and Angellah Lambert. These ladies are missionary wives in Texas and Africa. We also send \$10.00 to each child at the Texarkana Children’s Home on their birthday.

We are working on some other projects, so stay tuned for updates and ways you can help!

WINGS will meet on the second Sunday at 6:00 pm each month in Room 105 until further notice. All ladies are welcome to join us!

Teens

Our students of ONE ministry most recently experienced Arkansas Youth Conference (AYC). AYC was a top-shelf conference which



Getting ready for AYC

spoke specifically to teenagers. David Nasser, Vice President of Liberty University, spoke truth from God's word to us. He pointed to Jesus as the way, truth and life and challenged us to be Christians who

are Christ-like and believers who are believable. Through his sermons and our experience we have seen some great questions asked from our students. They are wrestling with true-truths. I said that right. In a world bent on redefining everything, it's as urgent as ever that you and I as Christians are grounded in the truth(s) of God. Pray for our students that they would grow in their relationship with Jesus and that they own it. None of us can give them ownership of their faith, we can only give them the demonstration of our own.



David Nasser

CALL Mall: Children of Arkansas Loved for a Lifetime

The CALL Mall has come a long way from January when we moved to our new home at 10000 Brockington Road. We have more space, new clothing racks, and new volunteers!! God has



CALL volunteers with a young client

richly blessed the Mall. We have had several new foster families visit the Mall. Along with the CALL Mall in our church, Paula Penn will be our church representative for the CALL. The Mall has had several teens from our church come on Saturdays to work and earn volunteer hours. We even had a young girl from Little Rock come and work for an hour. They are such sweet blessings! Come in and tour our new home. We are very appreciative of the help we've been given by the church! Thank You!



Sydney on Pinnacle

Pinnacle Mountain

The parks of Arkansas are rich and beautiful this time of year. A Sunday School class had an outing on Pinnacle mountain on March 19. It was a stunning day to see the majestic masterpiece of creation! The adults were winded, but the young people were merely warmed up as Frisbee in the field followed the hike up the trail. God's people are benefitted when they take time to observe the grandeur of God's handiwork!

Financial News

Budget Year to Date

Average weekly Offerings required to meet Annual Budget 8,258.37

Average weekly Offerings through March 27, 2016 7,931.70

Average Weekly Offerings over/(under) Budget (326.66)

Budgeted Offerings to Date - 30 weeks 247,750.96

Actual Offerings to Date - Through March 27, 2016 237,951.03

Total Offerings over/(under) Budget (9,799.93)

March Budget

March 2016 Offerings (through 3/27/16 - 4 Sundays) 32,907.61

March Average Weekly Offerings 8,226.90

Music

Wow, how time is slipping so slyly through the hour (year) glass! Easter has come and gone and without a chocolate Easter egg left to pilfer from the children's stash. It was thrilling to see such a crowd in the sanctuary, and even more so seeing so many willing to lift their voices to songs like "I Will Rise." What an amazing experience when a multitude praises the Savior! Of course, this can be accomplished every Lord's Day. The moral of this line of thinking, sing and shout every Sunday with all your heart, soul, and spirit! Well, I could go on and on, but you get the picture. Help Michael and I set a worshipful tone such that the Word of God can sail into our hearts uninhibited!

With the move we have acquired a new area to rehearse in which, with some fine tuning, will be a great asset. Thanks to Jeff Lemaire and Susan Caldwell!

The choir will be gaining a full time member since our Bro. Matt has changed jobs which will allow him to attend every Sunday. Hallelujah!



Our new choir room

Always pray for those who lead in worship for they have the same issues to deal with as everyone else. God has given all of us talents we may not be aware of because we've been afraid to step out on faith. My last thought: show the devil who you belong to by lifting your voice (and heart) to Jesus on Sunday!

New Members!

We have had several people join our church recently! When you meet them, be sure to give them a warm Victory welcome!

By letter:

Neil and Susan Ladd

Donna Crook

Chad and Leslie Foreman

(Lyric and Harper)

Mary Beasley

Cynthia Phillips

Debbie Pennington

By Baptism:

Ryan Petz

The baptistry is one of the projects currently underway, so we have not had the baptism. The new one has been ordered and will be put in place as soon as possible. Soon we will be able to baptize along with our teaching and preaching!

Bible Study

The church is an assembly of born-again, baptized people who gather together in one location to carry out the Great Commission given by the Lord Jesus Christ. A facet of the Great Commission is to teach His followers everything Jesus commanded. In order to do this, the church holds Bible studies as part of its regular operation. Wednesday night is one of these exact times for learning and growing in the Truth. At 6:30 pm in Room 105 at Victory, the adults of the church are welcome to gather for a time of challenging discussion. A wide range of issues and topics are brought up for the edification and knowledge of the followers of Christ at Victory.



Getting ready for Bible Study

If you are not participating in Bible Study, please remember that God's Word points out the need to be well equipped. It says in 2 Timothy 2:15 (NASB) "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth." Everyone is invited to attend and participate!

Fishing

Jesus called a few of His disciples by saying, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." How can young people who have never been fishing understand what this means if they don't get a chance to try it out? On April 9, Faith Sunday School class met on the bank of the Arkansas River to have a day of fishing. Parents brought their teens and children to learn about the use of different rods, baits, and other



Dan in the sand

tackle. They were able to try fishing in both ponds and the river. They learned about the use of a cast net which is referred to many times in Scripture as well. Most importantly, they were able to push their boundaries in patience. The teens who came had their own adventure with a small boat and learned some valuable lessons about teamwork and fellowship (two fellows in a ship). There were no keepers to bring home that day, but the experiences will help to sharpen understanding of the Bible. Dan Penn is pictured buried in the sand on the river bank where he dug a hole for fun.

Helping Out

Over the past months since the last newsletter there have been numerous opportunities when our church family pitched in with time, money, and prayer to help out one another. Tim Corran had two heart valves replaced and no family in the state who could help him during recovery. His Sunday School class took the lead to make sure he had home-cooked meals, companionship, and assistance in medical requirements and appointments. One church member even allowed him to stay in an apartment they have close to their home until he recovered! Another help was for the family of John Turpening. While he was out of the state and unable to work, many people pitched in to make sure his family had what they needed, including transportation. John Jr. is pictured on one of the outings to help out. He was such a good boy and loved his time with his church family. Our God is so good and kind to his people. Most often His help comes to His people from His people.



John Jr.

Friday Night Lights



When Victory teams polled in Sherwood, well over 90% of those who responded said churches should do more to help teens. It should satisfy the membership to know that many efforts are being made to pull these young adults together to form bonds that last a lifetime. One of these specific works is the Friday night gatherings. Church families are making their homes available to let the youth group get together and spend time in a safe, wholesome atmosphere. They play group games, sing, laugh, eat, and, of course....look at their phones.

Part of the development of a teen is to figure out who they are. It is better they learn and shape their identity within their families and their church family than in an ungodly situation. A sampling of the teens is pictured around a warm fire pit on a moderate, moonlit evening on April 8 after a delicious meal of fried, fresh Crappie. There have been very good numbers at these events, and we hope they continue to grow in strength, number, and grace.

Upcoming Events and Dates

May 4	Kolt Mackrill, Missionary to Romania
May 8	Mother's Day
May 11	Team Meeting
May 30	Memorial Day
June 15	Team Meeting
June 19	Father's Day

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June 20-23	ABA Conference, Tulsa, OK
June 29- July 3	Serve Week (6th-12th)
July 4	Independence Day
July 18-22	Teen Camp (6th-12th)
August 3-6	Kidz Kamp (2nd-5th)

RIM: Remote Island Ministries, Philippines

Medical Mission Trip, April 2016

The most up-to-date news on Victory's own Glen Knight is a mission trip to Gigantes Island in the Visayan Sea in the heart of the Philippines. Two villages were ministered to on this voyage: Lantangan and Gabi. This was a medical mission trip headed up by "Cross Bearing Missions" and its founder Joseph Stacks. Dr. Hugo Mallozzi was on board to administer surgeries, and a team of American trained EMT's, paramedics, policemen and nurses oversaw

the medical assessment and treatments. These are seaside fishing villages wherein poverty is a way of life. According to Bro. Knight, "All sorts of problems were extant among them: colds, asthma, wounds and infections, rashes, fevers and sore tummies." Many of these were easily treated with bandages, antibiotics, and fluids. Food was also made available to many malnourished people. Dr Hugo Mallozzi lost count of the number of surgeries he performed, but an overall count of treated individuals was an estimated 1,200 people. Praise the Lord for what He is doing for the lost through Victory!



Dr. Hugo



Results of starvation



Treatment



Witnessing!

One of the best features of the trip was how these uninformed villagers were presented with the good news message of Jesus Christ. Approximately 900 people prayed to receive Jesus into their hearts! 500 Bibles were given out to them in their own language as well! It appears that God has sent a stirring of His Spirit among them, and one day soon a church will be established to bring a cultural revival to this hurting and dark place! Please pray for these new Christians, for we know that the Devil will not rest in his efforts

to discourage and sift them.

Bro. Knight will be back stateside with his new wife Summer and their family on June 1 if all VISAs and flights work out as planned. We look forward to seeing our dear brother soon. For further information on Glen Knight, please follow him on Facebook or email glenknight.ph@outlook.com to sign up to have his newsletter mailed to you.



Rainbow

On March 13th after an evening worship service at the church, a keen eye caught sight of a rainbow over the church property and took a photo. The rainbow is God's promise to mankind that He will never flood the entire earth again. Today the rainbow gets a negative connotation because of its use by unflattering organizations. However, the child of God knows its true significance and always finds assurance and hope when they see it. The framing of this picture pairs a symbol of the promise of God with the symbol of our



nation. Combining the two into one shot visually communicates that our Lord and His promises are unwavering and He is Sovereign even over America. Praise God! And may God bless America!

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