

Victory newsletter

Summer 2019

Family Sunday

At Victory, the fifth Sunday of the month means Family Sunday, and our most recent one was in June. On Family Sunday, the POGO kids (kindergarten through 6th grade) join the adults in our morning Worship Service, and we usually have a fellowship in the evening.

The timing was perfect this month, because Family Sunday followed a week of VBS. (*More on VBS on page 2.*) A special treat was a couple of our



McKenna and Macy Martin

POGO kids, McKenna and Macy Martin, who sang a special with their mom, Amber, during our Worship Service! Our new Youth Pastor, Bro. Matthew Fleming, gave the sermon. The POGO kids were excited when he asked them to join him on the stage during his sermon about faith that moves mountains!

That evening, we came back to church for dinner, water games, and fun on the playground. The kids—and adults—had a lot of fun with the gaga ball pit Bro. Larry put up during VBS!

Everyone agreed this was the most fun Family Sunday so far, and we're all looking forward to the next one!



Who made it home with one of these?

Children's Ministry

WOW! We have been SO BUSY the past few months! Here are just some of the highlights.

Easter: We had a huge crowd join us for our annual Easter egg hunt, ranging from infants to 6th-graders. We gave a short message on the resurrection of Jesus, then let the kiddos loose! They scoured the church grounds, searching for special eggs marked “V” for “Victory!” If they found one of these eggs, they won a trip to our prize table! Thank you to all of the families who joined us for such a beautiful morning full of joy and excitement!



Hattie's eggs



VBS: This year our Vacation Bible School was called “Alien Kids!” We focused on 1 Peter 2:11, and encouraged our kids to live a life for Jesus that’s OUT OF THIS WORLD! We had over 50 children



join us for a week full of high energy worship, crazy characters, wild games, and spirited competition. The kids were broken up into three teams—the Purple People Eaters, the Lime Lightyears, and the Righteous Raspberry Raiders! They were awarded points for things like



participation, obedience, enthusiasm, and inviting their friends. At the end of the week the Lime Lightyears came out on top and got to cover Brother Josh in a flood of SLIME! But most importantly, dozens of children made decisions to dedicate their lives to Jesus! It was our most fun VBS

event EVER, and we’re already making plans for next year!

Summer of Fun: Each Summer we try to pack in as many activities for our kids as possible. Every Wednesday we have something new and exciting, all coming together in what we call “The Summer of FUN!” As of this writing, we’ve had game night, “Slime Night,” Giant Kickball, water wars, a trip to the Vortex Retro Arcade, and Kids Camp! Speaking of camp . . .



Our gang at Creek Week

Kids Camp: This year our kids attended Budd Creek Baptist Camp in Higden, Arkansas, for their “Creek Week!” The temperatures were high, but so were our spirits! It was an incredible week of fun packed with volleyball, zip lines, human foosball, water slides, basketball, mini-golf, and so much more! I had the humbling privilege of preaching alongside Matt Terry from East Union.

We preached on the importance of making big decisions for Jesus, and God stirred the hearts of our kids. Two of our boys rededicated their lives to Christ, and one boy, Brody, decided to make Jesus his Lord and Savior! It was a week full of rejoicing that we'll never forget!



I want to give a special thank you to the men and women of our children's ministry. You have worked so hard these past few weeks. You've given your own time to make our kids feel loved and like they belong.



Some of you took time off work, got home early, and stayed at the church late making sure not a single child felt left out. You gave hugs, high fives, prayers, and words of encouragement. We are blessed with an amazing team, and God is using all of you in a mighty way. Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!

If you're interested in keeping up with our children's department, check out the "Victory Kids!" Facebook page, or read more about it at www.victory1st.com!



Wow!!! The summer has flown by faster than I could have ever imagined! But you know what they say, "Time flies when you're having fun!" This summer has been a blast. I have enjoyed getting to know the teens and also the church as a whole. Our summer has been packed with all kinds of activities, such as worship and the study of God's Word, bowling, a pool party, camps, and much more. Let me just say a huge thank you to you, church, for your support in sending us to National Camp at Bogg Springs. We had an incredible week learning about faith, playing crazy games, getting to know one another, and to top it all, getting to witness our Hayden Austin trust in Jesus for salvation!!! Camp is hard, but 10 weeks of it would still be worth it if it meant seeing someone come to Christ!



As the summer comes to a close we are gearing up for the school year. A big part of that is the transformation and renovation of our youth room. Construction is underway to not only change the look of our space but to make it conducive to seating the number of students we pray God will bring in. Pray for our teens as we seek to grow in our relationships with each other, but most of all in our relationships with Christ!

WINGS: Women IN God's Service

As usual, it has been a busy time for WINGS!

We all enjoyed a bountiful Easter luncheon after services on April 21st. It was a great time of fellowship, and it was agreed that Victory is blessed with the best chefs!



Victory's new T-shirts are in and being worn proudly! Thanks to Debbie Pennington for heading up this project!

WINGS President, Annette Pennington, presented monogrammed aprons to past Men's Chili Cook-Off winners Steve George, Bob Hanks, and Larry



Bro. Larry, Bob, and Steve

Campbell. As was the custom, one apron was passed on to the next winner each year, but WINGS decided each winner should have their own. So . . . whose chili will earn an apron next year?

WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER was the theme for our women's mini-retreat held on Saturday, June 8. We were blessed with



Easter potluck



Carla McClafferty



several beautiful, moving testimonies and were thrilled to have Carla McClafferty as our keynote speaker. We enjoyed a time of worship, encouragement, lots of door prizes and giggles, and a fabulous lunch. Thank you to all who helped make this day a success! We have already been asked about having another next year!

Over 60 boxes of tall trash bags were donated by church members for the Little Rock Seminary and CABBI. These will be delivered in August to be distributed to the students of both seminaries. Thank you, Victory, for your generosity!

All ladies are invited to join us at the ABA Women's Conference on Friday and Saturday, September 13-14, at the Benton Event Center. The registration fee, \$35.00, is due by August 18. If you would like to join us, please sign up in the church office. Transportation will be provided!

Victory's WINGS are ladies who love being of service to others. We meet on the second Sunday of each month in Room 105 at 4:15 pm. Please come join us—you'll be glad you did!

CARE: Caring Actions, Real Experiences

CARE is Victory's organized outreach program for members of all ages to spend just one hour each month to stay in touch with fellow members and visitors. The typical schedule for CARE is the first (Coolest Team) and third (Most Awesome Team) Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm at Victory in Room 105. Both teams enjoy delicious food and sweet fellowship as they meet for these outreach efforts. CARE activities include cards, visits, calls, and other contacts through Facebook, text, etc. Names of members and guests who have specific needs are provided to the Team to help in outreach efforts and in knowing for whom to pray. When you come, you can choose who to contact and how you wish to contact them. We have a wide variety of cards to choose from to match the message you wish to send. Directories of Victory members' names and address, and CARE sheets are available so contact information is at your fingertips. If you don't feel comfortable writing or calling, we have support tasks to help the team. If you don't know your fellow members, just come and soon you will. Drop in and check it out!

Due to 4th of July holiday, the Coolest and Most Awesome CARE Teams met together on the 3rd Tuesday in July enjoying a good variety of summer salads with home-made ice cream and desserts. The August CARE Schedule will be as usual. In September, due to Labor Day holiday, the two teams will meet together again on the 3rd Tuesday (September 17th). Put it on your calendar!

The JOY Connection

The JOY Connection events welcome all Victory members and guests providing opportunities to fellowship together, share prayer requests and blessings.

JOY Breakfast meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 8 am at Cracker Barrel in North Little Rock. We meet in the back area each month where there is plenty of room for more folks. Please join us for a great time!

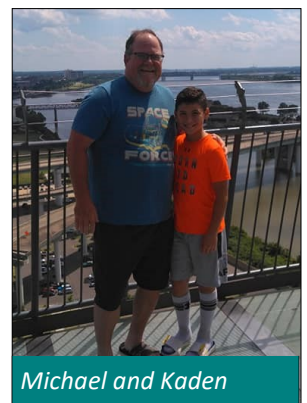
JOY Potluck Lunch: On the fourth Tuesday of each month, join us for JOY Potluck Lunch and devotional at noon at Victory. You will experience a sweet message and some of the best food Victory members can offer! Bring your favorite dish and your friends and neighbors. If you work nearby, just drop in. There will be plenty of food and fellowship for you. The JOY Potluck lunch plans to meet in August and September. Due to another event in October and the holidays, we will not meet in October, November, or December, but we will resume in 2020. So pay attention to your bulletins and don't miss it! Also, did you notice? **JOY** is now called **"The JOY Connection!"** Look for it!

ABA Messenger Assembly



Justin and Kaden and the RIM booth

The 93rd Annual ABA Messenger Assembly met in June in Knoxville, Tennessee. Our own Michael Driggers, Justin Austin, and Kaden Hepp were able to attend and host a booth with information about our missionary and mission work, Bro. Glen Knight and RIM. While there



Michael and Kaden

they saw many familiar faces, shared RIM's work with many people, and did a little sight-seeing. Thanks to these gentlemen for representing our church and mission work!

New Members

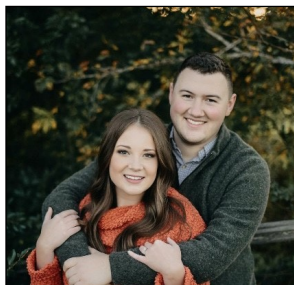
Welcome to our new members!

Our new Youth Pastor, Matthew Fleming, began in May this year, and he and his wife, Susie, have joined! We welcome Bro. Matthew, Susie, and their kiddos, Samuel, Josiah, and Eliana!



The Fleming family

Drake and Bethany Goodson have also joined! Drake and Bethany were recently married and have chosen to begin their life together as part of our church family.



Bethany and Drake



Hayden

Some of you may remember her as Bethany Thomas; she was a member here several years ago.

Hayden Austin has been to church camp at The Bogg every summer since he was seven or eight. This summer at camp he made the most important decision of his life and was saved!

CALL Mall: Children of Arkansas Loved for a Lifetime

The CALL Mall has continued to bless many foster families through all of the donations of clothing, toys, baby items, shoes, etc. Some donations are things brought back by foster parents when they no longer need them!

In the last newsletter, I spoke about a class from North View Baptist Church that donated gift cards. The foster parents who had their names drawn were pleasantly surprised at such a sweet gesture on the part of the class! We have a few more cards to give away that were donated to the CALL in Little Rock. We will again draw names.



On April 15, Victory Baptist Church hosted one of the monthly informational meetings for The CALL. Our very own Pastor Larry and wife Cindy took part in the informational meeting with the thought of sometime becoming foster parents! The Church not only provided the space for the meeting, but also provided a light meal and refreshments! Thank you to all who

signed up and contributed to the meal. The CALL appreciates all Victory does for the organization and God's calling Victory has for foster parents and children.



On May 5th, a team from Victory, "Warriors for Christ," participated in "The Walk For the Waiting," which is a yearly city-wide fundraiser. The money raised from donations to The Walk was divided between The CALL (trains Christian foster parents), Immerse (educates and orients foster children who are aging out of the system), and Project Zero (children who are up for adoption). Victory had a goal of collecting \$1,000 but surpassed that and collected over \$1,300! Thank you Victory for all of your support to the CALL and to the CALL Mall!!



Walk for the Waiting



Jennifer and Debbie

Upcoming Events and Dates

August 2	CALL Mall	October 1	Coolest CARE Team
August 3	CALL Mall	October 4	Men's Breakfast; CALL Mall
August 6	Coolest CARE Team	October 5	CALL Mall
August 9	Men's Breakfast; CALL Mall	October 8	JOY Breakfast
August 11	WINGS	October 11	CALL Mall
August 13	JOY Breakfast; Most schools begin	October 13	WINGS
August 14	Team Meeting	October 15	Awesome CARE Team
August 16	CALL Mall	October 16	Team Meeting
August 17	CALL Mall	October 18	Men's Breakfast; CALL Mall
August 20	Awesome CARE Team	October 19	CALL Mall
August 23	Men's Breakfast; CALL Mall	October 22	JOY Potluck
August 27	JOY Potluck	October 25	CALL Mall
August 30	CALL Mall	October 31	Halloween
September 2	Labor Day	November 1	Men's Breakfast; CALL Mall
September 6	Men's Breakfast; CALL Mall	November 2	CALL Mall
September 7	CALL Mall	November 3	Daylight Saving Time ends
September 8	WINGS	November 5	Coolest CARE Team
September 10	JOY Breakfast	November 8	CALL Mall
September 11	Team Meeting	November 10	WINGS
September 13	CALL Mall	November 11	Veterans Day
Sept. 13-14	ABA Women's Retreat	November 12	JOY Breakfast
September 17	Coolest & Awesome CARE Teams	November 13	Team Meeting
September 20	Men's Breakfast; CALL Mall	November 15	Men's Breakfast; CALL Mall
September 21	CALL Mall	November 16	CALL Mall
September 24	JOY Potluck	November 19	Awesome CARE Team
September 27	CALL Mall	November 22	CALL Mall
September 29	Fifth Sunday	November 28	Thanksgiving

Iron Men

Our Men's Ministry has had a great year so far! We have continued to pursue our goal of creating an atmosphere of Christ-centered fellowship for men and boys of all ages. A great time was had by all at the Arkansas Travelers game this past April. The home team might have lost, but the all-you-can-eat burgers, hot dogs, and sides were delicious. Be sure to join us next time if you missed out on this fun event!

In May, the first ever Victory Golf Tournament was held at Pine Valley Golf Course. The tournament format was a four-person scramble. Some of the teams were co-ed with ladies joining in. There were players of all different skill levels and everyone had a blast. The winners were Joe, Garrett, and Bailey Morgan. Congrats guys! There will be another opportunity to play this fall for those who might have missed this great event. *(continued on next page)*



Joe Owen



Gary and Judy Whitaker



Evie, Julie, Isla, Amanda, and Gus

(continued from page 7)

Iron Men is a great atmosphere for men from all walks of life. Proverbs 27:17



states, "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." We continually look to do this through Iron Men. This is not only a fellowship for those currently involved at Victory Baptist Church, but it is also open to any men who would like to spend time connecting and encouraging one another in the Lord. The Fall Iron Men schedule will be released soon; there are some things you will not want to miss, so stay tuned! If anyone would like to find out more information, please contact one of our staff members and we'll get you plugged in with this awesome ministry!



Facilities

Does it Honor God? Is it making the best use of the Lord's money? Does it further the Kingdom of Christ?

1. The Renovation Group (Bro. Larry, Bro. Eric Farmer, Bro. Josh Thomas, Sis. Tasha Harper, Sis. Judy Whitaker, and myself) are making strides in getting renovations together to present to the church. Thanks to Bro. Eric and Sis. Judy for bringing architectural and interior design professionals to our gathering. Sis. Judy is doing a great job keeping us all on point and transforming our discussions into notes and drawings. Be ready for us to present something for church approval before too long.
2. If you can help out on the mow team and have some zero turn mower experience, let me know and we will get you up to speed on mowing this awesome property.
3. The company that is going to cut the trees down around the property has been delayed due mostly to weather and larger commitments. This gives us a bit more time to mark trees we want to keep. I have marked the ones I think, but am not opposed to getting input from others. As this project becomes reality, we will need burn pile tenders to watch the various fires we will have as we burn treetops and limbs. Watch for the trees to come down . . . *TIMBER!!!*
4. We are also looking into increasing our exterior lighting so that our folks will have better visibility after dark. Thanks to Bro. Eric Farmer in his efforts to find the right lighting at the best costs. Be on the lookout for brighter nights!
5. You guys and gals are doing a great job in helping us keep our utility costs low. We are well under our budgeted amount for the church year, and this is due largely to your efforts in turning off lights as you leave your classrooms. Keep up the great work!
6. I am looking for a volunteer (or volunteers) from our midst to agree to take on the responsibility of keeping our HVAC filters changed. We have 20 filters that need changing every three months, and it will take about two hours or less each time. I will have the ladder and filters on hand. A huge thank you to Bro. Donis Parsley, who has quietly gone about keeping these filters changed for many years in our church plants.

As always, thank you for all you do around our church. We know there are many of you involved in many aspects of work here at Victory Baptist Church. If you are looking to get plugged in to one of our teams, I can point you in the right direction. I love you all. -Michael Driggers

RIM: Remote Island Ministries

The first session of the Maritime School of Missions is in full swing! The interns have been an invaluable help as they learn the many different aspects of missionary work in the remote areas of the oceans.

Most of May was spent preparing for RIM's first trip to the Hatohobei Islands. They left on May 26 and were gone two weeks. They took supplies and gifts for the people there. Bro. Glen and Summer expressed their thanks to the many people who helped to provide a bicycle for each child on Tobi Island, along with gifts of hats, tutus, hula hoops, bubbles, etc. The islanders loved the jello Juli made for them—they enjoyed eating it and were amazed to watch it melt in their hands! Supplies for the school on Tobi Island were delivered, meals were prepared for the islanders, friends were made. To show their appreciation, the islanders gave RIM a gift—fresh coconuts from their island!

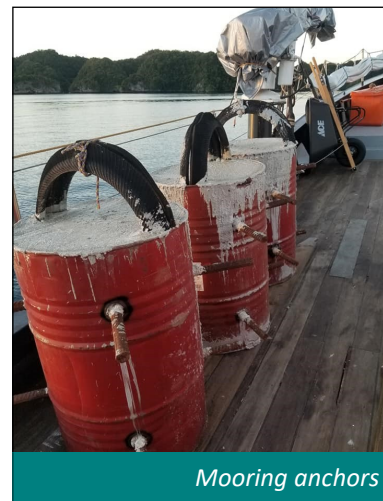


As soon as Bro. Glen returned, he began planning another trip to deliver more needed supplies. Their second voyage began on July 16, and they were gone another two weeks. This time they loaded the *Nativa* with Bibles, building materials, food, toys, books, clothing, and supplies to set a mooring off the tidal shelf of Tobi Island. The mooring will allow them to tie off instead of drifting around when visiting



Tobi Island, which will allow for a longer stay.

Bro. Glen Knight produces a newsletter about every two months. You can find them on our website, victory1st.com, under the "Missions" tab. You can also follow Glen Knight and Summer Knight on Facebook.



Mooring anchors



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Our Victory Family!

