WHERE THERE’S NEITHER GREEK NOR JEW,
MALE NOR FEMALE,
DEAF NOR HEARING.

December 2012

WORSHIP PLACE AND TIME
We have a temporary home to worship and study until we find a permanent home. Our services are at Center of Grace on 520 S. Harrison in Olathe. Our Sunday services begin at 10am and children’s church is provided.

We have Children and Adult Bible Study classes on Wednesdays, 6:30pm to 7:30pm, except for the 2nd Wednesday of odd months (rooms are not available). On those nights we will go to Evergreen Nursing Home for a devotional, fellowship and food.

On Thursdays from 1:30pm to 2:30pm we have our Wisdom of the Ages Bible Study for those 55 years old and older. We meet at Evergreen Nursing Home at 11875 S. Sunset Drive, Suite 100 in Olathe.

PRAYER REQUESTS
Prayer requests may be sent to jarbuchholz@gmail.com. Please include your name, the person you are requesting the prayer for and what the prayer is for, examples: Marriage & Relationships, Finances & Employment, Grief, Health & Healing, Depression & Mental Health, Surgery (include date), Child/Youth, Spiritual Guidance, Hospice/End of Life, Cancer, Addiction & Recovery, Hospitalization, Unspoken or Other (please specify).
December 2012

Dear DICC Family,

This is the last newsletter for 2012…..it’s so hard to believe. Where did the time go? As most of you know, I have preached several sermons on the Sh’má and the two most important commandments that Jesus taught us in the book of Mark. The first one is to love God with all of your heart, soul, and strength and the second one is to love your neighbor as yourself. To love God is to love your neighbor and to love your neighbor is to love God. I do not think we can separate the two. Yet… I think we could do a better job as a Christian community in loving our neighbor as ourselves.

I think it is critical and helpful for us as Christians to remember two things……One, we are all sinners, we all make mistakes, we are all doing our best at the place we are at, and we all seek love, understanding, and acceptance. Two, if Christ our Messiah rejected sinners, criticized sinners, and distanced Himself from the people He thought to be “wrong”, we would not have salvation.

It is my heart’s desire that the Christian community seek to become Christ-like in the truest form. Loving our neighbor does not mean hatred, criticism, judgment, rejection, and separation no matter what you think they are doing “wrong”. It means showing unconditional love towards people and learning all you can about each other, supporting each other, affirming each other, listening to each other, showing apathy towards each other, and extending peace to each other.

May the year of 2013 be the year that we the Christians at DICC have a better and stronger understanding of how to “love our neighbor”.

May good will and peace towards people be extended from our Father to the world through DICC.

Pastor Debbie
December 2012

This past month, my sermons focused on different aspects of our lives for which we should be thankful. The first sermon entitled, “Making a Name for Yourself,” noted how there is a myth perpetuated in our culture that satisfaction and fulfillment in life are found only through going to a good school, getting a good job, falling in love, having children, and then seeing our own kids receive all the same blessings. However, life is never so nice and neat. Plans change, mistakes happen, accidents strike, and time vanishes quickly leaving us with a life that never matches the myth. However, it is a lie that a life that looks quite the opposite of the myth can’t be fulfilling and feel complete. Regardless of whether we are married or have kids or have a good job we can feel as if our life has purpose and direction.

One reason why the myth is false is that through our relationship with God, we become part of something bigger than ourselves; we become part of a larger of family of God’s creation. In this family, people who don’t have children become parents to the children in our community because we are all responsible for helping children become the best selves they can be. In this community all people, married or not, are called to demonstrate radical love to all others. In this community each person’s unique gifts are shared as people learn from one another. We can certainly be thankful that from God’s perspective we are able to consider our life fulfilling regardless of the unexpected twists and turns that life inevitably takes. The text of this sermon can be read at: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hT9ZFsVkYnGOTpFnGzLLrYwVZ9rDz7-O3dVzyshn2Rc/edit

The second sermon was entitled, “Being Thankful for Your Enemies.” Analyzing the text of 1 Timothy 2:1-7, the sermon called for us to remember that when we marginalize those on the outside of our own “in-groups” we are subjecting ourselves to the same treatment since we too are on the outside of other people’s “in-groups”. While it can be a healthy social practice to identify ourselves with large groups of people, i.e. as fans of our favorite sports team, or as being from a particular state, or as being of a particular race, the danger comes when we use those identifiers to neglect or display hatred towards those outside of our own groups. The passage in 1 Timothy calls us to not only be thankful for those on the outside of our social circles, but to actively pray for them. And that prayer should not be for others to conform to our own standards, but for those people to experience the same fulfillment and acceptance in their own lives that we are thankful for in ours.

Something else that we can be praying for in relation to our enemies relates to the discussion that our Wednesday night Bible Study had in our final class on the Prayers of Jesus. We read the final section of Jesus’ longest prayer in John 17, a prayer known as the high priestly prayer. In this part of the prayer, Jesus’ main emphasis is on unity. Of all the things that Jesus could pray for in his longest and almost last prayer recorded in Scripture, Jesus chose to pray for unity. Our class discussion led us to realize that a lot of the sin and trouble in our own lives is simply the result of a lack of unity: gossip, backstabbing, anger, jealousy, deceit, manipulation. Jesus knew what he was talking about when he prayed fervently that humanity might be united as possible in its ability to respect and cherish others, even those different from ourselves.

God Bless,

Pastor Jacob
Prayer Requests

Employment/Finances
Mael Simpson - Employment
Joni Wise - Employment

Health/Surgery/Hospice
Melody McIntosh (Drei McIntosh’s Mother) – Heart surgery
Lisa Simpson - Cancer
Robin Hilbert - Health
Kenneth Simpson (Mael Simpson’s Father) – In hospice
Barry Santens – Recovering from second surgery

Unspoken
Kristen Johnson and Family

Others

PRAYER REQUESTS MAY BE SENT TO PASTOR JACOB AT:
jarbuchholz@gmail.com

Please let the Pastor Jacob know if there any changes to your prayer request(s) or if you want your prayer request to be removed. We will leave prayer requests on for one month unless notified otherwise.
Sunday Snack Schedule

Below is the list of people who have signed up to bring snacks. Thank you for volunteering!

December 9th: Elmer Bader
December 16th: Al Buchholz
December 23rd: Cindy Vaughn
December 30th: Joni Wise

If you are not able to bring snacks during your assigned week, please contact someone else to switch dates.


Jr. Club 3:16 is for grades 3rd-5th and our youth group, Club 3:16, is for 6th grade-freshman in college. Our gatherings include Deaf and hard-of-hearing youth from all over the KC area and include games, pizza, and a discussion. We meet on the second and fourth Sundays from 6:30pm-8:30pm in the gym behind Center of Grace. We always need help with beverages, snacks, and paper products for our hungry youth. Please bring them to our morning services on the days they meet. Cash donations are accepted.

Remaining Dates for 2012-2013:

Dec. 9
Jan. 13 & 2
Feb. 10 & 24
March 10 & 24
April 14 & 28

December Birthdays

Rachel Wise, 1st
Joann Hampton, 6th
Clayton Marr, 6th
Joni Wise, 6th
Noah Fahncke, 10th
Drei McIntosh, 12th
Ferrill Salisbury, 15th
Heather Jones, 19th
Allen Buchholz, 19th
Johnny Wise, 21st
Tristan Morrison, 22nd
Sharon Arnold, 28th
Andy Arnold, 28th

Fellowship at Evergreen Community

Fellowship with the residents at Evergreen Community (Jo.Co. Nursing Home) is a big success, so we want to continue that fellowship with them on a regular basis. Too much time goes by in between holidays and they appreciate us coming to them. We will fellowship with them again on every second Wednesday of the odd months from 6:30-7:30pm. This means that the adult and children classes will meet at Evergreen to fellowship with the deaf residents there. Please bring snacks to share with everyone.

Remaining Dates for 2012:
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**December 2012**

- **December 2:** Worship Service: 10:00am-11:00am
- **December 3:** Deacon Board Meeting: 5:30pm-6:30pm
- **December 4:** Adult and Children’s Bible Study: 6:30pm-7:30pm
- **December 5:** Hope/Faith Service: 8:30am-1:30pm
- **December 6:** Wisdom of the Ages: 1:30pm-2:30pm
- **December 7:** Wisdom of the Ages: 1:30pm-2:30pm
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**Merry Christmas!**