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November 8, 2017

Dear WCN Family,

Oaklyn Saige Selph was brought into the world at 8:20pm on Halloween night. She weighed 7 lbs, 3 oz and was 20 inches long at birth. Oaklyn is healthy and she looks just like her beautiful big sister, McKinley. Her birth went viral and received national attention from several news sources because the OB doctor was dressed as the Joker for Halloween. People seem to think that the Joker was the star. I think Oaklyn is the star. Her parents are Justin and Brittany Selph. Her big sister is McKinley and her big brother is Brenden. Her grandparents are Chris and Sheri Selph. Her uncles are Chase Crockarell and Bradley Selph. Her aunts are Katie Crockarell and BriAnn Selph. Her cousins are Gavin, Paisley, Reece, and Madelyn. Oaklyn was born into lots of love.

WCN's annual Homecoming Celebration was everything a Homecoming Celebration should be. Dr. Moody Gunter preached a powerful message 60 years after he came to Waverly to preach as a college student. Dr. Nina Gunter addressed the church and thanked us for being the Gunter's *launching pad*. The music was moving. The meal was epic. The weather cooperated. More people than I expected returned to WCN for Homecoming. The day exceeded my expectations. Thanks to Cindy Frazier for the Homecoming/Autumn décor. And thanks to Lisa Oakley for organizing the massive meal. I vote we do it again next year.

On the last Sunday of October, Church Board Secretary Brenda Palk, on behalf of the church board and the church, presented pastors and families with baskets of cards and gifts for Pastor Appreciation. Brenda led the church in prayer for our pastors and families. She encouraged all of us to pray for our pastors and families by name daily. Thank you for the demonstration of appreciation. We are grateful for the cards, hugs, gifts, and prayers. On behalf of your pastors and our families, we thank you. The feelings of appreciation are mutual.

This Saturday evening is our Sending Celebration for Pastors Daniel and Dani & Amelia Hawks. We will gather at 5pm in the D-Zone. Bring dishes. Come ready to eat with, love on, and pray for the Hawks'. This Sunday will be their last Sunday morning with us. They load the truck on Friday, November 17th at 3pm. They could use some good hands and strong backs to load the truck. Let's send them with our love.

In the spring of 2017 we began planning our next mission trip to Oaxaca, Mexico in June of 2018. We had one of a series of informational meetings under our belt when Mexico was pummeled with many repeated earthquakes. We temporarily ceased meetings while missionaries in Mexico dealt with the aftermath and regrouped. We are at the point where we are ready to meet again. Sunday, November 19th at 4:30pm is our next meeting. With the delay, your attendance at this meeting is more important than usual. Whether you are already committed to the mission trip, or you are still considering the trip, I strongly encourage you to be at this meeting.

Our annual Hanging of the Greens service will take place Sunday, November 26th at 5:30pm. The Hanging of the Greens is a simple service in which we transform our worship space for the season of Advent. It is a highly participatory, sensory service. We will share readings and prayers as we hang banners, place the nativity, and set wreaths in place. This service is for all ages. Afterward we will move to the D-Zone for a manger build. The cost is \$10. To order the wood for your manger, sign up on the website. This is for families, couples, and singles. Your manger will be an advent symbol for your home. In addition, we will hand out advent scripture reading guides. I look forward to beginning the season with you!

We are well into our third decade of our annual Group Home Christmas Party. It is the longest running special event at WCN. It is a Christmas bash for our friends with disabilities who live in area Group Homes. This year's Group Home Christmas Party will be Sunday, December 3rd at 2pm in the D-Zone. Beginning this Sunday, Kay McGranahan will be in the lobby before and after services. See her to draw a name. Each name will come with clothes sizes, needs, and wants. You may then purchase a gift or gifts of approximately \$30-\$40 for the resident you select. At the Group Home Party we will serve our guests a meal, spend time with them, sing Christmas songs with them, and act a little too silly. If I could choose one event for someone to see what our church is about, I would make sure they come to the Group Home Party. I dare you to participate and not be moved.

While we were worshipping this Sunday morning, another gunman opened fire on another community of faith. This time in rural Texas. My thoughts are the same as yours. It was senseless. Church buildings in general are not the safe spaces we once assumed they were. Our hearts go out to the families affected and the small community where this happened. Let's keep praying for peace and healing.

On a related note, we have been working on a comprehensive safety plan for several weeks. I intended to inform you of this plan once we got further down the road. After Sunday's event, I feel the need to inform you now. This is a comprehensive safety plan that includes fire, medical, natural disaster, active shooter situations, etc. The plan includes proactive procedures and "in the event of" measures. There are parts of the plan that will be made public for everyone's safety. And there are parts of the plan that will not be made public for everyone's safety. The plan includes professional training and cooperation with local law enforcement. I have asked Trent Riley to lead the strategy team for the safety plan. If you have any questions or concerns, you may direct them to Trent at triley63@gmail.com. Be assured that WCN is doing everything in our power to make our campus a safe space for all people who gather here.

Lord, help us be your light in the darkness.

-Pastor Daron

COMING SOON:

- Nov 11: Sending Celebration for the Hawks', 5pm
- Nov 12: Bible Quiz, 2pm at WCN, no evening activities
- Nov 13: Men's Prayer Group, 5-6am
- Nov 19: Mission: Mexico meeting, 4:30pm
- Nov 19: Community Thanksgiving Service a Compassion Church, 6pm
- Nov 21: Prayer Meeting, 4:30am
- Nov 22-24: Church Office Closed
- Nov 26: Hanging of the Greens service & Manger build, 5:30

If you have a prayer need please email prayer@wcntn.com

Worship: 8:45 & 11am
S/School: 10am
Sun Nt: 6pm
Wed Nt: 6:30pm

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