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July 6, 2022

On July 1 in the WCN sanctuary, Pastor Janice officiated a special union in a simple and beautiful ceremony. Robert Hagewood and Francie (Trostle) Hagewood were married. Robert has been a part of our church for many years. Francie has joined us in the past year, and God is already using her in amazing ways through her work at Waverly Health Care. We celebrate with the Hagewoods and know that God will draw them closer to Jesus as they share life together.

Thank you for sending Harper Langford, Piper Haley, Kelly Wilkins, Syllas Tiffany, Cade Wright, Pastor Kelsey, and Hunter Elliott to Tween camp last week. Pastor Kelsey shared, "Our students praised God at the top of their lungs. They hit their knees at the altars. They prayed for each other. They welcomed people they didn't know...and of course had an absolute blast." We have one more group of students to send to camp. Our Early Elementary crew will be at camp as you read this newsletter. These are our youngest little ones. Pray for them to sense the Lord's presence in a brand-new way.

We welcomed a Work and Witness team from d1 Church of the Nazarene (Decatur, IL) from June 19th – 25th. Many of the members of the team have served on multiple work and witness trips. Their NMI President has been on 14 trips! They showed up with experience and a desire to serve. I drove them around our broken community and walked them around our own church property on their first night in town. They shed tears as they heard the stories. We gathered with them from a night of connection during our Wednesday night group time. Our people sat with their people. Laughter and hugs were shared. We have not seen the last of this team. They have promised to return. We are hopeful that we will be able to partner with them in mission work in the future. Our churches DNA is similar. We are sent communities. And We are thankful for their willingness to be sent to Waverly, TN.

Thank you for sending our pastors to PALCON. This pastors' conference is a regional leadership event that is scheduled to happen every four years. Due to COVID, this was our first gathering in seven years. Pastor Daron, Samuel Dellinger, Hunter Elliott, and I were challenged and renewed in our calls to ministry. Thank you for investing in the ongoing equipping of your pastors and pastors-in-training. We are thankful.

Immerse Groups for all ages will resume this Wednesday night. If you have been unable to join us, do not worry. Jump in! Pastor Janice's group will continue to study the book The Ragamuffin Gospel in the sanctuary. Samuel Dellinger will lead the teens. Mr. Nick and I will lead the kids. Groups start at 6:30. Show up early to connect in the church yard before groups.

Our incoming 8th-12th graders have the opportunity to attend NYC in Tampa Bay summer 2023! They will gather with thousands of other Nazarene teens for worship and service. If you would like to support our teens, you may choose an envelope from the sending tree downstairs and place it in the offering plate. The cost for each individual to attend is \$2,000. The students are participating in raising funds. They are working! They have served four different times at individual's homes. They will also host a car wash at Advance Auto Parts on Saturday, July 16th beginning at 8am. Plan to come and see them! Bring your dirty cars and support our teenagers!

Terry Langston continues to do a stellar job in leading our church through this building project. Terry is the connector between our contractor and our architect. He meets with them weekly. He makes sure that both teams are communicating with each other, and that we are moving as quickly as possible. Terry has surrounded himself with the right people to walk alongside of him as we continue to move forward. On June 23rd, the Waverly Planning Commission approved our site preparation plan and has granted permission for that work to begin. We are looking at a start date of around July 25th.

Our gap between what we have and what we need continues to decrease because of you! Thank you for continuing to give! If there is a special project that you would like to give to e.g., sanctuary chairs, a pastor's office furniture, paved parking lot, please see Terry or myself. We have an itemized list available for you to review. If you are passionate about a certain item, you can choose to give towards that item.

Our District Superintendent, District Advisory Board, and church board all voted unanimously to extend the church's debt capacity to UP TO \$2.75M. We are hopeful that we will be able to borrow less than this. At least \$1.2M of this will be an SBA loan (2% for 30 years). Members aged 15 and up voted on June 26th and 27th and approved the requested increase in debt with a vote of 81-1. Our building fund is up to \$1.685M. We have the opportunity to receive a FEMA mitigation buy-out of around \$500,000. Several of our leaders recently met with FirstBank's Market President. He asked for documents to see our church's growth, our budget, and our giving records over the past couple of years. The meeting could not have gone any better! Churches post-covid have struggled. Historical flooding that took away close to 50% of our gathering space should have hurt us. But WCN is still thriving! We are thriving with our attendance, giving, and missional activity. Thank you being the church despite the challenges that we have faced over the past two years! Our pastors know how blessed we are to be stuck in these situations with you. This church is healthy and good. God is making a way forward for our church!

Continue to pray for Pastor Daron, Katie, Kendall, Parker, and Macy. These past two years have been especially hard for our lead pastor because he loves you, this church, and our community. Pray for him to receive restorative rest and moments of extreme joy with his family. Thank you for surrounding our staff with love and support as we lead in these days.

-Pastor Mary

Upcoming...

- July 5-8: Early Elementary Camp
- July 15: Discovery Kids: Game Night, 5:30pm
- July 16: Carwash for NYC, Advance Auto, 8am
- Jul 31: Transition Sunday for kids/teens
- Aug 3: Back to School Prayer service, 6:30pm
- Aug 5: Portal Teens Back to School Lock- In, 10pm-6am.
- Aug 20-21: *Waverly Remembers:* One Year Flood Remembrance Event for Waverly, 6pm

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

Worship:

8:45 & 11am

Engage Groups:

10am

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