



Minnesota Messenger CHURCHES OF GOD

A Note From The President

Greetings to all,

We have some really good things planned, as you will read. Starting with camp workdays, to camp improvements, to Spring Conference and Youth Camp!

This Years Spring Conference theme is:



I look forward to seeing many of you at Spring Conference and our 2 camp work-days, set for April 23rd and May 7th It promises to be a time that you can come and meet with the Lord and like-minded believers.

Our Fall Conference speaker will be Jake Ballard from the Pine Grove Bible Church in Brooklyn Park, MN. Plan to attend!!

We also have a new web site, we can update you on coming events and information for the camp and churches. We have a link to each church in MN as well, on this web site. Please let us know if you want anything listed or put on for information about your church and we will add it. For the churches that have their own web site – that is also linked to us.

MN Conference

Webpage: <http://www.mncogconference.org/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mnconference

Google+: +MncogconferenceOrgMNCOGConference

Twitter: [@MN_Churches_God](https://twitter.com/MN_Churches_God)

Faithfully,
Gaye Wood

Spring Conference 2016
June 10, 11, 12
Guest Speaker – Dan Cain



Dan and his wife, Rachel, were married in 2007 and they have three children: Maranatha, Azariah, and Elealeh.

Hey! My name's Dan and I began pastoring Troy View near the end of 2011 after serving as the Associate / Youth Pastor for 3 1/2 years at the Oregon Church of God in Illinois.

Simply put, I want to share how awesome and life changing God & Jesus are and to help others become the person God has created them to be. Wherever you are in life right now, know that you matter and have a purpose!

I'm also excited for the great and amazing things God is going to do in us and through us as a church as we seek him and use what he's given us to impact the lives around us!

JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING!

~Dan

Property Development

Spring 2016

Spring has arrived and we are gearing up for the coming season here at the campground. We have already received six reservations this year and are expecting several more before spring conference.

Last summer we installed new windows in the serving area of the kitchen and were able to complete that project before fall conference. This spring we are planning to replace the windows in the kitchen area, paint the ceiling and walls in the serving area and epoxy the remaining floor in the serving area to complete the kitchen remodel. The addition of the commercial dishwasher has allowed us to use regular plates instead of paper plates while spending less time in the dishwashing area. Another benefit is the reduction of the trash we were generating during our camps resulting in the need for extra trash pickups.

This spring we are also planning to create a patio area on the west side of the kitchen that will be a memorial to Carol and Ruby Bennett and Ivan and Vivian Mills. This has been in the planning stages for several years and will be a nice addition to the campground. Plans are to have it completed by spring conference.

Other projects include the removal of the fuel oil furnace and chimney and installing a new propane furnace, completion of the FRP around the extra hand sinks in the boy's bathroom and replacing windows in the girl's dorm. There will be extra work needed in the girl's bathroom when we replace those windows so we will hold off on those two windows until fall.

The floor in the new workshop on the mainland will be poured by conference and will be a welcome addition. I have talked to several people about having a woodworking class during camp for the campers. We have a carpenter that has expressed interest in leading that class during craft time.

The men from Pine Grove did an excellent job of trimming up trees and brush on

the island this last fall but we have had several trees and branches that have fallen down over the winter that will need attention at our work days of April 23rd and May 7th. The Fletcher family has rented the campground for the week preceding the marriage of Stephanie Blanchard to Joel Fletcher on May 21st. Please make sure your church's building is cleaned before they arrive on the 13th of May.

Jon Lapp

Minnesota State Youth Camp

Senior Camp: We are looking forward to an exciting two weeks of **Minnesota State Youth Camp**. Junior camp dates: June 19-24, Director Christy Wibel, work 402-571-2537. Senior camp dates: June 26-July 1, Director Jeff Moore, cell 218-639-1649.

Camp tuition:

\$165 for first child in a family

\$155 for second child in same family

\$145 each for third and additional children in same family.

Local churches are responsible for covering any necessary scholarships to send campers to Youth Camp. We are still struggling to find Minnesota staff for Senior Camp, if interested please contact Jeff Moore.

Although money is tight and everyone is busy, Youth Camp is an important opportunity for our youth to worship, study and fellowship with like-minded believers.

If you have questions or need information about Senior Youth Camp, please contact Pastor Jeff Moore at houslite@wcta.net or 218-639-1649. Questions about Junior Youth Camp can be directed to Christy Wibel, cjwibel@aol.com,

Jeff Moore

Junior Camp: The dates for **Junior Camp** are **June 19-24**. **Junior Camp** is for kids going into 4th grade through kids entering the 9th grade. Kids entering 9th grade may choose to go to Senior Camp instead. Anyone interested in being a counselor should contact

Christy at: cjwibel@aol.com, by April 25th. This includes Junior Counselors. Also, please say that we very much appreciate the support of each local church in providing scholarships to their campers who need financial assistance. Also, we desire & appreciate your prayers for both the planning of camp, and the actual week of camp -- prayers for both staff & kids! Thanks. Christy Ross

Eden Valley Church of God

We are at the one-year anniversary of the loss of our Pastor Tom. We miss him but are praising God that Pastor Tom's wife Anne has decided to stay with us and make Eden Valley her home and is ministering to us as Pastor Anne Fischhaber. She is a talented, loving and gracious person and is doing a magnificent job serving our Church. She has also travelled to the Litchfield Church to speak in the past couple of months. She does all this in addition to teaching at U of M St. Cloud and studying for her PHD!! One AWESOME lady!!!

We had a Community Family Fun night on Halloween with games and treats for everyone.

Lynn Piram organized and directed a Christmas program with the younger kids. Lynn has also started a class studying scriptures on Baptism and what and why we believe as we do. One gentleman has requested to be baptized and others are interested.

We held an early Easter Service with breakfast.

We have had a small group Bible study using the book "The Story".

Some of us have had a few health issues over the winter but most are recovering well.

We will celebrate a milestone birthday with one of our older members. Dena Rosenbohm will observe her 100th birthday on April 14.

Pastor Anne has conducted several funerals. Donald (Bud) Albright died on December 17. He was the father of Barry and Allen Albright. Anne has also held funerals for members of the Eden Valley community who had no church affiliation.

We are all enjoying the mild weather. Todd Donnay was very generous and cleaned up the garden area for Pastor Anne. Thank you for the hard work Todd. Have a happy, healthy summer!

Margaret Swanson, Reporter

Hutchinson Church of God

Christmas 2015 was our first year to participate in Operation Christmas Child.

Lisa McColley was the project leader and the packing party included some adults and our Berean youth. A personal letter to each child receiving a box was included.

Our ongoing diaper collection for Common Cup Ministries of Hutchinson continues as well as the Community Soup Dinner, which is always held on Super Bowl Sunday. This year was our 5th Annual Soup Dinner and we served approximately 40 guests!

Children's worship time has undergone a transformation. Under Amanda Forcier's direction our children are participating in "Route 66, A Trip Through the 66 Books of the Bible".

Each child has a folder with activity sheets for the bible book of the month and they use it during the sermon portion of our worship service. They are also working on memorizing bible verses and learning to find things in their bibles.

Vivian Paul Kirkpatrick has been sharing some very interesting devotions on Sunday mornings. One was called "Ready for Pie" in conjunction with National Pi Day, March 14, which is 3:14 the Pi mathematical term. He told how a teacher had told him Pi was in the bible and then made that connection. Another one was about the mythical unicorn. Or is it? There are several verses in the bible about unicorns!

The Online Bible Study Course is available at www.hutchinsoncog.org

Happy Spring! Enjoy the new life that our God is creating around us.

Linda Sandifer, reporter

Litchfield Church of God

We have spent the last several months trying to get used to and figuring out what the Litchfield church is doing with out having a pastor at this time. Pastor Dale left the beginning of July, and we have been having guest speakers (Monte Sandifer, Larry Johnson, Tom Housman) to name a few and playing U-Tube videos of Pastor Dale and Pastor Steve Taylor. Tracy Zhykhovich has been gracious enough to also come and speak many Sunday's. Thank you Tracy. Anne Fischhaber from the Eden Valley Church has also, been coming over to help us out. Eden Valley has service at 10:00 am and we have our service at 11:00 am. By the time we have our opening, Anne is able to get over to Litchfield and preach for us too, about

twice a month. Both Anne and Tracy have been a real blessing to our church.

A few of our members had a chance to travel and get away from our Minnesota weather. Larry & Kathy Johnson spent 3 months in Arizona, Gaye Wood spent a week in Arizona in January.

Last Spring Larry Johnson had health issues that lasted until December, he is doing well now, but this year Kathy came home from AZ. with health issues and will be having surgery. So please keep Kathy IN YOUR PRAYERS.

Frank and Babe Johnson celebrated their 72nd wedding anniversary in March; Frank celebrated his 95th Birthday on April 3rd. They are an amazing couple. God Bless you both.

Church Secretary,
Gaye Wood

KINGDOM MINISTRIES INC.

Kingdom Ministries Inc. continues to produce and broadcast “The Voice of Tomorrow” radio program on KLFD Radio in Litchfield, Minnesota. The Voice of Tomorrow now originates from Peculiar, Missouri and the program is then sent by email to the radio station in Litchfield. This change took place when Pastor Dale relocated to Missouri in July of 2015.

Since July of 2015 I have made several trips back to Litchfield and have the opportunity to visit with some of the community people from Litchfield many who still listen and enjoy the Voice of Tomorrow. They’re happy that, although I am not physically present in Litchfield, they can still hear the radio program that was produced when I lived in Litchfield.

On the Voice of Tomorrow, the truths of scripture are never soft pedaled or compromised. Some of the topics shared have been: the Oneness of God, the Abrahamic and Davidic Covenant, the Second Coming of Jesus and the Hope of the Resurrection, the need for baptism and the importance of a Christ like, Spirit filled life lived on a daily basis. Through the radio program and personal ministry there is evidence of lives that have been changed over the years and part of that can be accredited to the Voice of Tomorrow, which if it were not for Kingdom Ministries, would not be taking place.

“The Voice of Tomorrow” radio program is aired on KLFD AM 1410 two times each Sunday. The program can be heard at 7:15 am and again at 9:00 pm. The Voice of Tomorrow can also be heard on COGCAST by going on the World Wide Web and type in: www.cogcast.org.

Kingdom Ministries is a non-profit corporation that is dedicated to teaching and preaching the message of God’s coming Kingdom in a simple, clear and positive way. If anyone reading this newsletter would like to personally support Kingdom Ministries Inc. I want to remind you that your contributions are tax deductible. On behalf of Kingdom Ministries Inc., I want to thank you for your continued support both prayerfully and financially. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to: Kingdom Ministries Inc. P.O. Box 132 Peculiar, MO. 64078.

In His Service,
Pastor Dale H. Swartz

MISSIONS –

We had a great mission's conference in March and look forward to an exciting year obeying the Great Commission! Please continue to pray and sacrifice to help meet our brother's and sister's needs in the booklet that was sent out.

Terri Moore did a fantastic job updating the MN Mission's Constitution. We really appreciated all the hard work she put into doing this. I am also happy to announce that not only is she serving as treasurer, but she also agreed to and was unanimously elected as secretary.

I was re-elected to President and am honored to serve you and the missions we are advancing and supporting around the world. Paula Kirkpatrick (vice-president), Terri and I are here to serve and would appreciate any others involvement in brainstorming and planning. If you know anyone, of any age passionate about missions or desiring to serve from home, we would love to have them on our mission society team. Please have them get in touch with one of us.

Please pray for our mission teams going to Malawi, Mozambique and Kenya in May and June and also for a team going to Peru in July/August.

We have a big need for Bibles in Russia. Pastor Maksim continues to serve in the hospital and children's home and now has a ministry to the Chinese community as well. He goes through about

\$100/month on Bibles. Maksim travels every weekend to visit brothers and sisters for Bible study and encouragement or is a Big Brother to Sergei, a boy from the local orphanage. We also still have about \$1500 that is needed to finish the translations so they can be uploaded onto the website. Maksim has an Internet group, like those in Facebook, and he has over 4000 people subscribed to his group. He answers messages and makes phone calls in the evenings. Please pray for Maksim, our brothers and sisters spread around Russia and the surrounding countries, and for the other entire ministry he does. Special prayers are requested for our new brother Vaymin. He is dying of liver cancer and is a lot of pain, but God continues to give him strength so he can invite other Chinese people he knows to come hear the Good News of Jesus and God's coming kingdom. It would be wonderful if he would see the fruits of his labor before he dies and to know that his faith will go forth to his Chinese brothers. Maksim is always thrilled to get an email from his brothers and sisters. unitarian_christian@ro.ru

Thank you to all who supported the Mission's Conference and for your prayers and financial support. Please continue to lift up our brothers and sisters around the world and the evangelism work going out into many countries.

To God be the glory and may He bless you richly!

For His kingdom,
Tracy Zhykhovich
(MN Mission's Society President)

Camp Calendar 2016

January 31.....Board Meeting

February 12-14.....Youth Retreat... Verndale,MN

March 20.....Annual Mission Meeting 2:30 Pine Grove

April 23Work Day 9AM

May 6.....Work Day 9AM

May 13-20.....Fletcher Family

June 3-5.....

June 10-12.....Spring Conference -1:30
Congregational Meeting Sunday

June 19-24.....Jr Camp

June 26-July1.....Sr Camp

July 2- Sogge Family Reunion

July Baptism Eden Valley

July 15-17.....

July 21-24..... Torberg Family Reunion

July 29-31..... Wortz Family Reunion

August 5-7.....Ruhland Family Reunion

August 12-14.....Curly Family Reunion

August 19-21.....

August 26-28.....

September 2-4.....

Sept 9-11.....Fall Conference1:30 Board Mtg-Sat.

Sept 16-18.....

November 13.....State Board Mtg 1:30 Eden Valley

January 15...State Board Mtg 1:30 Hutchinson