



Christ • Communion • Community

CASCADIAN WEEKLY

May 14, 2021

Week 62

A MESSAGE ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

Dear Cascade Christian Church,

In this letter you will find a message from Steve Dirksen, our Stewardship Campaign Chairperson. Steve spoke in church on Sunday, May 9, about the importance of stewardship and legacy, and his message was powerful. I hope you will read over Steve's meditation and the stewardship letter that was sent to you from the Church Board. We have been given such a legacy from those who went before us, and it is now our task to pass the faith we share in Jesus Christ to the next generation. When I think over my years here, I have been so blessed by the wisdom, vision, and kindness of others. It is a privilege and honor to follow in their footsteps and be guided by their example.

Please think about your legacy. What better thing could you do on this earth than share your faith in Christ with another? How many children will know Jesus because you gave to the church? You might be the doorway to eternity for someone else, you might be the only Bible they will ever read. Please pray about giving this year, and know as well that we recognize how challenging these times have been and continue to be for many of you.

Keep the faith, share the faith, and God bless you,

Jill

Good morning my name is Steve Dirksen. My wife, Audrey, and I have been deacons here, elders, I am on the board, and every now and again I am up in the booth there running the sound system. You received a letter from the board this week or will tomorrow. Please take a look! We have been going here since 1987 and a member since 1990. We have seen 6 pastors, raised 3 children here, and made countless friends. But have lost a few. And I want to chat about legacy.

Cascade Christian Church has been open for over 150 years since it was founded in 1864.

When Audrey and I started here in 87, we would attend the 8am chapel service so we could pack up and go to the beach on Sunday afternoon.

Many of those who were in the chapel then have gone on before us. Every now and again I ask people here about those folks. It's educational, inspiring, encouraging and gives me great hope for the future. BECAUSE... You and I and our families and friends, we ARE the future.

PEOPLE LIKE: *Bob Ross, Jim Hansen, Joann Ott, Bob Achterhof, Mary Lou Scott, Ron Mackey, Jim Van Veghel, Vi Mruphy*

They are just part of the legacy of yesterday. We are the legacy of tomorrow.

So how do we build that legacy? Stewardship sure.

And **I AM ASKING FOR YOU TO CONSIDER YOUR SUPPORT OF CASCADE CHRISTIAN TODAY.**

But I want to add some other things that make up our legacy:

Dare to be joyful.

Maximize your talent, strengths, and skills

Do what matters now. Today, tomorrow at work.

You can give in the trays set in the narthex. Give in the Church office. Give with cash, give with a check, give with a credit card. Give on-line, safely and securely at CascadeChristian.com.

The commitment cards are in the narthex, office, and in your mailbox, and we hope you will send them back by May 23.

Bless you all and thanks again.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>Sunday (5/16).</u>	Sunday School - 9:30 AM Worship - 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM
<u>Monday (5/17).</u>	
<u>Tuesday (5/18).</u>	Women's Bible Study "You'll Get Through This" - 9:00 AM (Centennial Hall)
<u>Wednesday (5/19).</u>	Middle/High School Wednesday Night - 6:30 PM (High School Room) Adult Bible Study "You'll Get Through This" - 6:30 PM (Zoom) Troop 334 Boy Scouts - 7:00 PM (Centennial Hall) Alcoholics Anonymous - 8:00 PM (Coffee House)
<u>Thursday (5/20).</u>	Griefshare - 10:30 AM (Zoom) Access 6 Board Meeting - 4:00 PM (Conference Room) Church Board Meeting - 7:00 PM (Zoom)
<u>Friday (5/21).</u>	Church Office Closed Crystal Work Weekend
<u>Saturday (5/22).</u>	Crystal Work Weekend

Financial giving
for the week
ending in
5/2/2021:
Budgeted: \$8,432
Given: \$4225

THE CHURCH OFFICE

You may have noticed last week and now this week the Cascadian is coming from a new email - that's because Keely is officially on maternity leave! Michael Dirksen and Adam Carlson will be filling in for her while she is on maternity leave, so if you have anything you want added to the newsletter, prayer requests, or general info regarding programming here at Cascade Christian Church -- **email your submission** to the church office (office@cascadechristian.com) no later than **Tuesday at 12:00 PM**.

CHAPEL UPDATE

We look forward to welcoming the traditional service back to the chapel during the month of May. The equipment has been ordered, and we will install things soon so we can live stream our chapel services. It will be so wonderful to be back in the chapel, and we will let you know the re-opening date very soon.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

DAY CAMP AT CRYSTAL CONFERENCE CENTER

If you're unsure about camp this summer, this is an option to consider. Day Camp will have a morning program, lunch, and a swim time on Tuesday-Friday, July 6-9. Those attending can stay off site from camp or stay in one of the camp cabins and have their meals in the dining hall. This is a GREAT opportunity to introduce a child or your family to camp, or to go to camp with your grandchildren. We have scholarships to help pay the way. Call Michael or Jill at the church office at 949.1360 or email jforton@cascadechristian.com for more information.

INTERESTED IN BEING A COUNSELOR?

Are you or someone you know interested in being a counselor or counselor in training for Camp Crystal this summer? We are looking for counselors! If you are interested in counseling for Elementary Camp please email Jill at jforton@cascadechristian.com. If you are interested in counseling for Middle School or High School camp, please email Michael mdirksen@cascadechristian.com.

ELEMENTARY CAMP

We are so pleased that many children have signed up for Camp Crystal this summer. Our camp site director, Eric Strommer, is leading our camp deans in best practices to keep campers safe with Crystal's COVID-19 protocols. Due to the need to keep social distancing in cabins, we need to limit the number of campers attending this year. If you have not yet registered, we urge you to do so soon as elementary camp is filling up fast! If you would like to volunteer as a camp counselor, we need 2 more women (over age 18) to accommodate the girl campers who plan to attend. Call Michael or Jill at the church office at 949.1360 or email jforton@cascadechristian.com for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

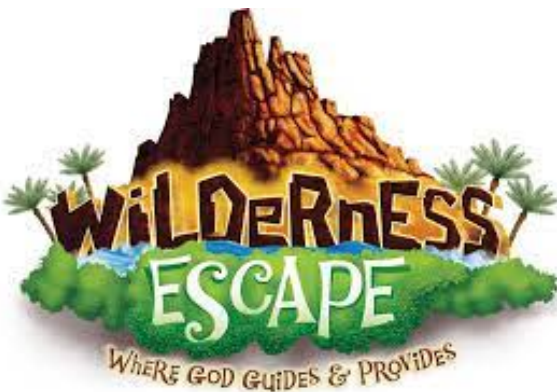
Every week at the **9:30 service** we have in-person Sunday School for children ages 4 on up. The children begin the morning in the sanctuary with their families and then are dismissed to go to class. Students will be brought back down to church after the service. For elementary school, we are also offering a virtual Sunday School, which is mailed out with the Cascadian each week. If you would like your child added to this list, please call Adam or Michael in the church office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS BACK!

Mark your calendars as we look forward to a full Vacation Bible School over July 26-30 from 9:00AM-11:30AM. We'll be studying the life of Moses and the Exodus with "Wilderness Escape - Where God Guides and Provides" - a fun packed curriculum from Group Publishing.

CRIB ROOM REOPENED

Our crib room has reopened for infants and toddlers through age 3 at the 9:30 service. Parents must make a reservation for this kind of childcare. Call the church office by Wednesday to make your reservation.



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

IF YOU WOULD STILL LIKE TO GO TO MACKINAC OR CAMP -- THERE IS STILL MORE TIME! SIGN UP TODAY!

MISSION TRIP & MACKINAC



CAMP SCHOLARSHIP



VOLUNTEER SIGN UP



SUMMER AT CCC

As we approach summer, I just wanted to give you all an update on what our plans are for the summer with youth group. Wednesday night programming will stop for the months of June, July, and August, but we will still be doing a special event every other week or so with the middle and high school youth. We will also be taking them to Camp Crystal (a few times!), Mackinac Island, on a Mission Trip, and hopefully, at the end of the summer, to Michigan's Adventure! If you know anyone who would like to be involved in a youth group, we welcome any and all middle school and high school students to join us for any or all of these events! We hope to see you there!

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Graduation Sunday will take place on May 23rd. While preparations are underway, if you have a graduate who would like to participate, please let us know! It is not too late to sign up and we would love to celebrate all of your accomplishments!



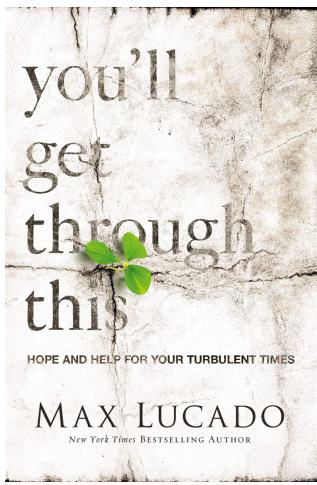
FUNDRAISING

We have a few fundraising opportunities which will involve some yard work. If you are interested in helping with some yard work and helping pay for some summer events, please let Michael know.

END OF THE YEAR PARTY!

Please join us after Graduation Sunday for an end of the year celebration in the High School Youth Room. We will be having pizza, playing games, and more fun as we kick off our summer programming here with the High School and Middle School Youth Groups.





ADULT MINISTRIES

GRIEF SHARE

Grief Share will continue through the summer on Thursday mornings at 10:30. Call Jill for more information or for the Zoom link. All people suffering from grief, sorrow, and loss are encouraged to join us.

"YOU'LL GET THROUGH THIS" BIBLE STUDY

Our adult Bible studies on Tuesday mornings in Centennial Hall and Wednesday nights are winding up with just a few more sessions to go. Join us if you like, email Jill for the Zoom link or more information.

MEMORIAL DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

On May 30 we will have one worship service at 10:30 in the sanctuary. We will light a candle in memory of those who have passed from this life the last year, and will honor our veterans and those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for God and country. We would love to show a photo of the soldiers and veterans in your family, no matter when they served. Photos can be emailed or bring in a copy to be scanned. All pictures will be returned safely. We also have a list of veterans published each year, and would like to add any church family members we have missed. Please call the church office with updates and additions.

CAMP CRYSTAL WORK WEEKEND

Youth and families are registering for camp! The camp is being booked for the summer! That means that we need a crew of people to come help open the camp. We need volunteers May 21-22 (or just for a day if that's what you can do!) to help us open the camp. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided on Saturday. Overnight lodging is available. Email Eric Strommer to sign up at estrommer@uccr.org. When you email Eric, let him know approximately when you will be arriving and how many people are coming up to work with you.



Crystal Camp Clean Up Weekend May 21-22

- Help for the day or stay for the weekend
- Meals provided
- Limited housing
- Contact Eric Strommer or the church office for more information



OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOW HIRING - CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Child Development Center is looking for applications for new staff members! If you know of anyone who needs a job or who might be interested in working at the Child Development Center, please let them know we are looking! They can apply by contacting the Church office or the Child Development Center directly!

DAYS FOR GIRLS WORKSHOP

There will be a Days for Girls Workshop in Centennial hall on Saturday, May 15 from 1-4pm. Volunteers Needed, no prior experience required. We will be making menstrual kits that involve both sewing and non-sewing abilities. Middle school and high school students welcome. Please contact Diane Phelps by email; dianephelps2010@gmail.com to RSVP



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The young adult group is starting to form! We are going to launch a weekly study that will begin sometime over the summer where we will discuss faith and action. Please let the young adults in your life know about this study and pray for the study as well as we launch this new and exciting part of the ministry at Cascade Christian Church.

VOLUNTEERING WITH YOUTH

As we begin to look at ministry here after COVID, we are really hoping to have an amazing VBS this summer, distinct middle school and high school youth groups, and differentiated learning at Sunday School in the fall. In order to do all of that, we are in **need** of some parent volunteers to help us out. If this is an area where you may have an interest in helping, please send an email to Michael Dirksen at midirksen@cascadechristian.com. No need to have kids in the program! All volunteers need to be screened before they are able to help.



5.9.2021 SERMON: YOUR CISTERN

Have you ever felt like life was in the pits? I dearly loved the show "Parks and Recreation" set in the made up town of Pawnee, Indiana, and the ongoing saga of "Lot 48" or simply "the pit,". The pit was originally dug by a developer, but after going bankrupt in the middle of the construction, the project was abandoned and left behind this giant hole, which became a plot line in many episodes of this show: people fall in the pit, tent in the pit, garden in the pit. Eventually, many seasons later, the pit is filled in and made into a lovely community park. One of the characters, Andy Dwyer, writes a song about the pit after he fell in and broke both legs. The lyrics to the song are memorable:

The pit. I fell in the pit. You fell in the pit. We all fell in the pit. The pit. If you didn't know that song, you might recall this one from the show Hee Haw: Doom, despair and agony on me, deep dark depression, excessive misery. If it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all.

Andy and the cast of Hee Haw are right - there are times when we all feel like we have fallen into a pit, tumbled down a well, ended up at the bottom of a cistern. Today we are beginning a sermon series from the book of Genesis on the life of Joseph, the favored son of Jacob and Rachel. It may seem like an odd choice for Mother's Day. But motherhood is both glorious and hard. When you've had a child, you've given away part of your heart, and it is hard when your child is in the pit, your heart is right there with them. There are a lot of lessons for all kinds of moms, dads, sons, and daughters from Joseph's family of one dad, 4 mothers, and 12 brothers. This story is full of family dysfunction and parental favoritism, but it is also a really good story of faith, trust, and integrity. Joseph's story teaches us about the ever present goodness of God, and how God can create something beautiful out of the messes in our lives.

A number of us are reading the Max Lucado book - "You'll get through this" a book that offers hope and help for our own turbulent times, and Max uses Joseph's story to show how God will help us and our loved ones out of troubled times. I have yet to meet a person whose life hasn't bottomed out at some point. It can be hard to see the way out of trouble, or to hold on to hope, when you're at the bottom of a cistern. In every chapter of Joseph's story, Max Lucado refers to this statement, which we will refer to every week in this sermon. I invite you to read aloud with me: **With God's help, I'll get through this. It won't be painless. It won't be quick. But God will use this mess for good. In the meantime I won't be foolish or naïve. But I won't despair either. With God's help I will get through this.**

Every person who has ever lived has had some "this" to get through. This is not the first pandemic that humanity has dealt with. This is not the first time we've seen prices rise and or lived with political division. What we are going through is not unique. And here's the thing, none of this is a surprise to God. God knows what pit you feel stuck in, God knows how trapped you might feel, God knows how overwhelmed you are. You might feel trapped in family troubles, and you'll see that the story of Joseph could be the story of any of our families. Has it ever seemed to you that some families are perfect, they have it all together, and fortune always shines on them? Every family has seasons of struggles and joys, good days and tough times, every family has issues and victories.

Joseph's family had all of the troubles you could think of - and yet God saw something in this family of one dad, 4 mothers, and 12 sons, God saw something in their pettiness, their rivalry, their brokenness, and looked at them and said - yes! God still looks at broken people, messed up families, and see something of hope, and says yes to people like you and me. Let's dive in - let's see what Genesis says about this family, beginning Jacob, who is given the name Israel by God, he is the son of Isaac, the grandson of Abraham, he's a man with a big family:

37 Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan. 2 This is the account of Jacob's family line.

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.

3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate[a] robe for him. 4 When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

5 Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. 6 He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: 7 We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it."

5.9.2021 SERMON: YOUR CISTERN

8 His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

9 Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me."

10 When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?" 11 His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

12 Now his brothers had gone to graze their father's flocks near Shechem, 13 and Israel said to Joseph, "As you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them."

"Very well," he replied.

So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan. 18 But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him.

19 "Here comes that dreamer!" they said to each other. 20 "Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams."

21 When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. "Let's not take his life," he said. 22 "Don't shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the wilderness, but don't lay a hand on him." Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father.

23 So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe—the ornate robe he was wearing— 24 and they took him and threw him into the cistern. The cistern was empty; there was no water in it.

Like Joseph, we all have the bright colored chapters in our lives. As a pastor I feel very humbled and honored to celebrate life with you. You invite me to preside at your weddings, to come to your gradation open house, to go to your baby shower. You've asked me to do a house blessing as you move into your new home, you invite me to your retirement celebration. Thank - you, it is a privileged to do life with you on those high and holy days, those days of many colors when God is in his heaven and all is right with the world. I pray that everyone one of you is headed into more bright and brilliant days and seasons.

And then there are those other days and seasons, when you're at your lowest, and you ask me to come to the hospital room, and we pray for healing and hope. You call and quietly ask for help- to get counseling for a family situation, to help pay a bill, to find out when the support group meets next. Then there are those calls when you need to talk out your anger, at the loss of the job, at an injustice done to you, or to work through a betrayal. And then there are the calls - day or night - asking me to come and meet with you, someone you love has just died, and you do not know what to do. And then the aftershocks of grief, loss, sadness. We've all been there - the great days of living, and those days or seasons when we are at the bottom of the well, in our cistern. Being in the cistern hurts no matter what - you've fallen, you're in a low space, at a low time in your life. It is harder still if you were tossed in against your will and didn't see this coming. And it is the hardest when the person who shoved you in is a family member or a friend.

You wonder - how do I get through this? The evil one will whisper to you - you won't. You won't make it. There is no going up or coming out of this. And you might start to believe that, and you may not even be able to rise and see that there is light above you. Joseph knew that feeling, he took a hard fall as he was thrown into the cistern, Was it his fault? Maybe. I would imagine life with 11 brothers and 4 Moms would be challenging. He was dad's favorite, but did he lord that over his 10 older brothers too much? Joseph saw himself as special, and his dreams reinforced that. The dreams were a glimpse of his destiny, of being in a very high place. But telling his brothers and father the dreams might have been a mistake. That they would bow to him was bad enough, but that the sun, moon, and stars would also bow was too much. This chapter of Joseph's story reminds us that we need to think before we speak - and maybe to ask ourselves - Does this need to be said? Does this need to be said by me? Does this need to be said now? Joseph spoke up when silence would have been a better path. In Genesis 37 we read his brothers hated him, hated him all the more, could not speak a kind word to him, were jealous of him, even his dad Jacob rebuked him -pretty much saying enough already. Joseph said things he shouldn't have, and he paid for it.

5.9.2021 SERMON: YOUR CISTERN

Sometimes we fall into the pit, sometimes we are thrown into the cistern, other times we have dug the hole ourselves, jumped in, and then wonder “how did I get here?”. Joseph’s words helped dig the hole he found himself in. In your cistern, when you’ve hit bottom and are bruised and scared, you have the chance to stop, and think. Maybe you feel guilt and shame because you know your fault in creating the hole you’re in. Maybe you’re angry with God or with someone you thought should have stopped you from falling in the pit. Maybe you’re wondering what you did that caused someone to throw you this curve ball and toss you into your cistern. That’s the thing with the cisterns in life – you don’t see them coming, you can’t prepare for them. You feel so abandoned and alone, and there is so much uncertainty when you’re at the bottom. But here is the good news, whatever your cistern, God is there, there with you at the depths of hurt, and there above you lighting the way out.

Joseph’s story is a warning that there are cisterns out there that can bring your happy life to a screeching halt. That is simply life on earth, no one has been able to avoid hurt and pain, and the massive suffering that humanity has experienced in the pandemic has stretched from Iceland to South Africa, from the West Indies to Eastern Europe. COVID has shown us human pain on a scale I could not have dreamt. We may have been strolling along, thinking life was easy, a breeze, and that is another of the evil one’s lies. Falling into false security, thinking you’re safe in your wealth and health is not what the Bible teaches. Scripture is full of the lives of people who suffered for their faith in God. Christ Himself is known as the Suffering Servant. The Bible tells of families who fight, people who lose all they own, or suffer with terrible diseases. There are stories of parents who suffer when their baby dies, wives and husbands who must deal with the death of their spouse, people who have nothing to eat or drink. Christians know that following Jesus doesn’t mean there are no cisterns out there.

When we are in the cistern, we are not alone. One of the amazing things that we will see each week in Joseph’s story, is that God was always with him, and Joseph was well aware of the presence of God. Even in the pit, he knew he was God’s, and that whatever happened God did not leave him, that God would use these circumstances he found himself in for God’s glory. Joseph trusts God, and every time Joseph falls, God helps him rise again. Later, in Genesis chapter 50, verse 19 – Joseph will tell his brothers that what they had done, intending to harm him, God intended for good. That is the way of God. Think about some of the cisterns you’ve found yourself in – what did you learn as you were in that pit? How did God use that experience to shape you, to grow you? Think about the person who maybe had a hand in putting you there. Did you forgive them? Can you see how what someone might have meant for evil in your life God can turn to good? God uses all things for good, as God is nothing but good. Romans 8:28 reminds us **And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.**

Think about your cistern, what good did God show you through that bad situation, in that terrible season of your life? God doesn’t cause bad things to happen to us, not ever, but God can take the evil in the world, the pain in our lives, and makes something beautiful. No matter how long you have been following God, you’re not finished growing in Christ. You can still be more than you are now, and God will take each downturn, each stumble, each fall, and shape you and further form you into the image of Jesus His Son. That doesn’t mean we welcome trouble or go hunting for pain, but when it comes, we can weather it, we can get through this, because God is with us, and will use this pain and sorrow for our good.

It would be natural to want revenge on the people who have thrown us into the cistern, but I have never seen anyone grow happier or healthier by holding on to judgement, resentment, anger, or bitterness. Jesus instead tells us to love our enemies and bless those who curse us. God tells us that vengeance belongs to Him and Him alone. The Apostle Paul tells us if our enemies are hungry, we should feed them, if our enemies are thirsty, we should give them something to drink. It is hard to remain at odds if you eat and drink with someone. Instead, conversation might begin, understanding might be gained, compassion could be offered, and forgiveness could come about.

I do not know what your “this” is – but I do know, no matter how deep your cistern, you can get out when you look above, trust God, and do what God tells you to do. You’ll get through this. It won’t be painless. It won’t be quick. But God will use this mess for good. In the meantime, don’t be foolish or naïve. But don’t despair either. With God’s help, you will get through this. Amen and amen.

OUR PRAYER LIST FOR THIS WEEK INCLUDES:

Prayer Concerns:

- **Holly Brandsma** will have knee surgery on May 13. Please pray for a complete healing and quick recovery.
- **Rebecca Warner** will have hip surgery on May 12. Please pray for her and her family as she recovers.
- **Joanne Crawford** – hospitalized Tuesday and undergoing tests.
- **Aleck**, Lois Slack's grandson, had an accident this week on his dirt bike. He had neck and ankle surgery this past week, and continues to be in recovery.
- Our prayers are with **Chuck and Heather Bacle** as Chuck has kidney cancer, and treatments are underway. Please keep all of the Bacles and Robertsons in your prayers.
- Please pray for **Barb Dykhuizen** as she had shoulder surgery and is still experiencing a lot of pain.
- **Barb Coger** has been hospitalized, and is now back at Porter Hills.
- **Joyce Kingsland** who has been ill with dehydration, and fluid in her lungs. If you would like to send her a card it can be sent to 1225 Spaulding Ave SE, Grand Rapids 49546.
- **Dr. Brian Lane**, a Spectrum doctor and friend of Scott Robertson, has terminal cancer. Please pray for Dr. Lane and his family for peace and comfort.
- **Marvin Potter**, Doris Burgess's dad – please pray for healing of his various health issues.
- **Punk Pollock** Debbie Jones nephew very much appreciates the prayers and asks that we continue to pray for strength in his legs.
- **Paul (stepson of Susan Mozley)** is battling pancreatic and stage 4 liver cancer. Please pray that the chemotherapy he is receiving works and for a lessening of his pain.
- **Those battling cancer: John Goodrich, Leslie, Bill Richardson, Linsey and Sandee (friends of Marsha and John Steensma), and Mike Forton.**
- **Virgil Westdale, Joann Crawford, George VanZwalenberg, and Lila Venneman** and all others who are in health care facilities.
- **And those in hospice care: Bev Ferwerda.**

Prayer Joys

- We welcome **Elliott Wendell Hoggerwerf** to the world, son of Allie and Colin Hoogerwerf, little brother of Micah Hoogerwerf, and welcomed grandson of Tim and Darcy Hartley.
- We rejoice with Shirley Folkertsma as she welcomes **Azalea Jones Bromley** to the world, her third great grandchild.
- We also rejoice that **Bert Crandell** has recovered from Bell's Palsy, and that **Jim Koessel** has worked so hard and is doing extremely well in recovering from a stroke, and that **Kelly Richardson** had a good report after her last cancer treatment.
- Many thanks to Master Gardener **Diane Phelps** and her crew have the grounds looking so wonderful, and to all who came to spread mulch last week.
- Many thanks to **John Steensma** and his team for replacing the stones around the church walk ways and making the entry to the church so much more attractive.
- Many thanks to **Dick Byerly** and **Mel Behm** as they cover the walk way posts in front of the office and coffee house. The results look wonderful!
- We rejoice with **Andrew** and **Megan Howe** in the dedication of their son **Quinton** on Saturday, May 8 in the church courtyard. **Tim and Pat Howe** and **Marylee** and **Jim Fuchs** are **Quinton's** proud grandparents.

Current military and National Guard members in your prayers: Rachel Carlson, Andy Sullivan, Connor Schwinkendorf, Jason Tiedemann, and Steven M. King.

If you are in need of prayer and would like to be added to our prayer list, please email office@cascadechristian.com, or call our church office at 949-1360.