

BELLEVILLE WESLEYAN CHURCH LAMPLIGHTER

JUNE 2025

Issue 25 - Number 12

Pastor Mark's Minute:

Have you ever tried traveling with kids? You love them but they have energy and they have needs that are sometimes difficult to deal with while traveling. One way to cut down on your interruptions and their frustration is to invite Right Now Media to travel with you. Right Now Media is a Christian based company that has thousands of videos appropriate for all ages. You can receive them on your phone, ipad or computer.

For example, last week we were in a large city restaurant with some of our grandkids. It took a while for the food to arrive and as you can imagine, the kids were being energetic and wanting to run around and play, as kids are want to do. Pam leans over and says, 'Pull up a RNM video on your phone.' I did, and the kids sat quietly, being positively entertained for the next few minutes until the food arrived. Then they needed to go to the bathroom and didn't want to finish their food and...RNM can't help with that...but they do have a video that will!

If you would like a subscription to Right Now Media, just send your email address to me, Pastor Mark @ markwesley@nckcn and I'll send you an invitation to the RNM network. Your church leadership has already paid the fee for unlimited memberships for our church. Sign up today, and enjoy your summer travels even more.

Remember, I love you and can't wait to see you this Sunday at church!

Welcome our New Church Officers:

*Board Secretary: Leslie Robison

*Church Treasurer: Nancy Millington

*At-Large Board Members: Gary Dahl, Deanna Derowitsch & Andrew Bates

*Head Trustee: Brian Piersee

Trustees: Kevin Derowitsch & Terry Gile

Nominating Committee: Linda Dahl, Dan Robison & Mabel Woodman

Delegate to the District Convention: Leon Ball

Alternate Delegate to the District Convention: Warren Sutton

Sunday School Secretary: Angela Piersee

Please encourage, support and be in prayer for our leaders!

NANCY MILLINGTON - Retirement Reception

After 45 years of faithful service, Nancy is finally retiring her spread sheet! Please join us to celebrate her many years of dedicated and faithful work on behalf of our community. Her 'Come and Go' Reception is scheduled for Friday, June 6th from 1:00pm-4:00pm at Astra Bank.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

If we do not have your special day in our records, or that of your loved one, please contact Pastor Mark ASAP with that information @ (785) 527-3510. Thank you!

RENOVATE BEFORE '28 - Partial PROJECT LIST

We have several important projects that will be accomplished over the next few months as we prepare for the 100th Anniversary of Belleville Wesleyan Church in 2027. Our first project is to reclaim the playground. Beginning on June 7th @ 9:00am we will replace the ground cover, rebuild the retaining wall and refurbish the play structures. The transformation will continue on June 14th as needed.

Please share your time and talents and sign up and then show up to Renovate before '28!

1. Playground Upgrade – the playground wall needs to be rebuilt + the base needs to be pulled up, cleaned and new ground cover installed - **this work begins Saturday, June 7th, @ 9:00am.**
2. Motion-activated light switches installed in the restrooms and basement
3. Basement Bathrooms: completely redone
4. Lobby: paint, purchase new furniture/fixtures/wall decorations, replace drinking fountains, new coffee/snack bar, more TV's

“From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, *as each part does its work.*” Ephesians 4:16

MISSIONARY 'Thank You' CARDS

“Dear Pastor Mark and everyone at Belleville Wesleyan,

Thank you so much for the encouraging time of being with you all this past Sunday! I'm so grateful for the work we share in Asia. So grateful also for a glimpse of how God is using you all in Kansas!!!” Peter Burgos & Family – East Asia

“Dear Belleville Wesleyan Family,

Thank you so much for your long-time and continued partnership in the Gospel! We appreciate your faithful prayers and generous giving. Thank you for faithfully sending us and others into the harvest fields. We are honored to serve as an extension of what God is doing in and through you.” Blessings, Casey & Kendra Culver – Austria

CHANGE FOR LIFE - Baby Bottle Project

The Baby Bottle Project is an easy way to support life. All you have to do is pick up a baby bottle at church. Take it home, drop your spare change in it, and then return the bottle to church on Father's Day. The money will be collected and sent to Heart Choices and/or Kansans for Life. Every cent will be used to help women and children in need and support our most precious commodity...life. “Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him.” Psalms 127:3

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

“Are you a Rewards Member?” asks the cashier when you’re buying that cool shirt. By signing up, you get discounts, coupons, and other spending incentives; and the store gets loyalty, which increases their bottom line. Nice relationship, huh?

Of course, there are those shoppers - one of which I tend to be - that would rather keep their personal information private than get a \$10 reward.

“Membership” is an interesting concept. People can become members of a club for running, reading, robotics, or roller skating. People can join communities, committees, cliques, causes, or churches. Church membership - now that can be a sensitive topic. For people who do go to church, some are members, while some prefer to slip in shortly before the service begins and scoot out as soon as it is done. If you’re reading this, you’re probably either not a church member or you care about someone who is not a member. You might be considering joining, or you might just want to remain anonymous. There are many reasons behind each decision, but here I’d like to look at some reasons to join BWC.

1. The Church is a refuge - Life can be hard; we all need a nice place to rest and recharge.

When you become invested in the lives of a group of people and allow them to see the real you, comfort, love, and friendship will follow. The Church is a spiritual family. From the time we crave connectedness; in fact, it is the only way to thrive. Even when a family of origin is filled with turmoil, the inner desire to be connected never goes away. God calls us His Family; and He teaches us how to love one another. It still gets messy sometimes, but we are all here because we care and want to grow in love.

2. The Church strengthens people - Nobody is a solo Christian. Jesus told a parable of a lost sheep and a good shepherd who went looking until he found it. Because the rest of his flock were together, he could leave knowing they would care for one another. God likens us to sheep. Left alone, a sheep is vulnerable to all kinds of dangers. Saying you are following God when there is no willingness to be with His people is like a single sheep traveling alone thinking they’re following the shepherd. God, in His love, will not stop pursuing you until you have been rejoined with the flock.

3. The Church is where you can live out your purpose - God calls us the Body of Christ where, like the human body, each part functions differently but together. In the field of music, a symphony is achieved when each of the musicians plays their instruments uniquely and in one accord. Together we can achieve more than we can alone. God has given you special talents, that fill a purpose and can create beauty when you use them in harmony with other believers. Taking a spiritual gifts survey offered in the membership meeting can help you discover how you are equipped to bless and benefit the Body.

4. The Church is where you can make an eternal difference - We are on a mission together - to lead others to Jesus so they may receive forgiveness, restoration, and reconciliation.

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When Jesus sent out the twelve disciples to spread the Gospel, and later seventy-two more, He sent them in pairs, because two are better than one. Seeing someone receive Christ as Savior and Lord, is one of the greatest joys we can experience.

Take the next step Although there is no perfect church, we can know that since the Church is God's design, the rewards of membership far outweigh the costs. And even better, we are assured that God turns any "cost" we perceive into a benefit.

If you attend Belleville Wesleyan and haven't gotten around to signing up or are nervous about becoming a member, I want to encourage you to attend our Membership Class. In this pressureless environment, you can learn more about your church family, the part you play, and our shared commitments before making a decision about membership.

On **June 8th @ 12:30pm** we will enjoy some pizza, pop and learn more about BWC. Sign up by calling or texting Pastor Mark @ (785) 527-3510 today!

MEN'S GROUP

Our men meet each Sunday evening @ 6:30pm to study God's Word and encourage one another. All men are welcome to join us in the upstairs classroom.

YOUTH GROUP

CHURCH CAMP: Twelve of our Youth as well as Pastor Pam will be heading to Bible Camp on Sunday, June 1st @ Lakeview Christian Camp, Stockton, KS. Lift them up in prayer throughout the week for safe travels coming and going, for the Spirit of God to touch their hearts and for them to return with the desire and ability to make a Christ-like difference in their families and circle of friends.

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY: 11th & 12th Grade Bible Study

Beginning Sunday night, June 8th @ 6:30pm @ McGregor's House They will be studying God's Word and the book, Not a Fan, by Kyle Idleman. If you are a Junior or Senior, join us.

CONCESSIONS STANDS: The Youth will be running the concession stands at the ball fields during the month of June and early July. Be sure to stop by, enjoy some popcorn, and support our youth!

FATHER'S DAY

Father's Day is Sunday, **June 15th**. Bring your Father to church and we'll celebrate his special day and honor him.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

We have the pleasure of delivering meals to our local shut-ins the week of June 16th – 20th. Please sign up for this valuable ministry on the clip-board in the church lobby.

COMMUNION

We will honor Jesus and all He has done for us on June 22nd.

NURSING HOME SERVICES

We will be visiting the three local nursing homes and sharing some time, love and encouragement on Sunday, June 22nd. We are at Country Place Senior Living @ 2:00pm, Belleville Health Care Center @ 2:30pm and Long-Term Care @ 3:00pm. Join us!

CONGRATULATIONS!

2025 Graduates:

Sarah Stradley - Kansas University

Alden Knedler - Fort Hays State University

Sam Sly & Riley Smith (Knedler) - Kansas State University

Lauren Gleason (soon to be Knedler) - Bethany College

Zydan Robison - North Central Kansas Technical College

Kirsten Ball, Kierra Bates, Caitlynn Lamore, Jose Torres & Owen Weatherhead - RepCo High

Polaris Swagerty - Pike Valley High

Michael Moravek - Salina South High

Travis Davis, China Davis, Lakyn Gieber & Ryan Weatherhead - Republic County Junior High

Bentley Melby, Trinity Sugars & Emberlyn Simon - Pike Valley Junior High

Emmalee Opprieht (Boman) - Derby Middle School

Logan Dahl is headed to Anaheim, CA to compete in the Future Business Leaders of America Nationals on June 28th. He will compete in Introduction to Financial Math. We are so proud of Logan and his accomplishments. Please pray for his safety and opportunity to do his very best!

Julian Swank represented Republic County High School at the National Forensic Competition in Chicago. He competed in the category: Humorous Dramatic Performance. Well done, Julian! Julian is an active member of our Youth Group and sings on our Worship Team.

If you, or someone you know has a special event or accomplishment, please share the information with Pastor Mark so we can celebrate with them.

BELLEVILLE WESLEYAN CHURCH

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‘Because we care...about you!’