



VILLAGE BIBLE CHURCH

October Ministry Update

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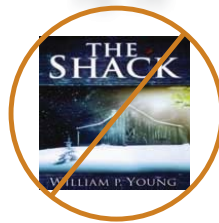
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ELDER UPDATE

Ministry Explained

September and October are busy and exciting times in the life of Village Bible Church. Much is happening – so much that the common question we have heard these past few weeks has been, “How do I choose?” While our ministry strategy continues to evolve, our current primary ministries give us the opportunity to:

Celebrate... Connect ... Care... and Cooperate!

Sunday Morning Worship – Celebrate: This is our opportunity to gather as a church family with the purpose of worshiping and adoring our God. What a privilege it is to have this special time each week to celebrate who God is (Hebrews 10:24-25; Acts 2:42).

Small Groups – Care: Small groups are the basic units for Christian community at VBC. We believe they are gifts of God given so that we might “exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin” (Hebrews 3:12-13). Small Groups are also a primary “delivery system” for pastoral care. Thus, we encourage every attendee to pursue Christ together in a Small Group.

Adult Bible Fellowship – Connect: Adult Bible Fellowships exist as a strategic link to help our church family move from worship towards a dynamic discipleship process of relationships, spiritual growth, and commitment to . . . Jesus. ABFs also provide a great first step into the community of VBC. This is a great place to invite a visitor you meet during the worship service. Visitors may not be ready to jump into a small group but may consider this an easy first step toward getting more connected.

Generations – Cooperate: In Deuteronomy 6 God tells us that we are to teach our children to love Him with all their heart, soul and strength. The goal of our Sunday evening Generations ministry is to equip and empower parents, grandparents and people who love children to do just that – together.

Your elder team,

*Al Gonnerman, Mario Arindaeng, Tim Badal, Scott Capp, Keith Duff,
Jon Pilkington & Ray Prigodich*



BARN BASH

Sunday, October 19th

3:00 - 5:30 Family Fun & Dinner

- Hay Rides • Horse Rides • Hiking Mt. Jericho • Outdoor games (bean bags, horseshoes, kids games & bouncing castle)
- Dinner - Served from 4:30 - 5:15.

5:30 - 6:30 Dessert, Worship & Vision

- Dessert, Worship & Vision Casting
- Kids: cookies & special activities

6:30 - 8:30 Family Fun

- Square dancing for the entire family
- Campfire and s'mores
- Hay rides in the dark



Directions:

Marvel Davis Farm • 47W066 Jericho Rd., Big Rock
(5 miles West of Rt. 47 on Jericho Rd. immediately past
Deer Valley Golf Course on the right)



SMALL GROUPS



Small Groups are the best place to connect if you want to grow in your relationship with Jesus. Our Small Groups are designed to help you develop significant relationships with others who can encourage and challenge you to consistently apply the truths of God's Word to each area of your life.

Small Groups are not "another thing" at Village; they are the main channel for discipleship & care for each person who is a part of our family.

Types of Groups:

- **Home Groups** - mixed gender groups for men and women (both married and single adults)
- **Women's Groups** - single and/or married women
- **Men's Groups** - single and/or married men
- **River Group** - young adult singles

Each Small Group meets once a week and is lead by a trained Small Group Leader. Group meetings are normally two hours and include time for Bible discussion, accountability, and prayer, as well as informal times to build relationships with others in the group.

God wants every follower of Jesus to be continually growing as we worship Christ, walk with Christ, and work for Christ. Each Village Small Group is committed to both Mutual Ministry and Multiplication.

Mutual Ministry means that each member of the group is looking for ways to minister to the other members of the group. All groups should also be prayerfully considering a way to extend the ministry of their Small Group through Multiplication. Multiplication means eventually forming two or more groups so that others who are not yet in Small Groups can continue to find places to connect with a Small Group.

SMALL GROUPS: HOME GROUPS

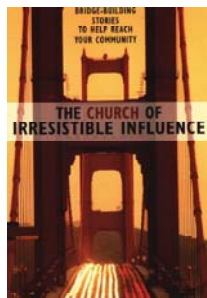
Night/Time/Location	Shepherd Leaders	Study
Mon • 7-9 pm Sugar Grove @ Shull's	Bill Shull, Ray Wilson & Roger Wormley	 
Tues 10/20 • 7-9 pm Sugar Grove @ VanDerVoorn's	Todd VanDerVoorn & Derek Eastman Childcare available.	
Tues • 7-9 pm Sugar Grove @ Nordell's	Bruce Weihrauch & Chuck Solberg	 
Wed • 7-9 pm Sugar Grove @ Rudd's	Al Gonnerman & Don Rudd	 
Thur • 7-9 pm Sugar Grove @ Stalcup's	To be determined	
Mon 10/13 • 7-9 pm Yorkville @ Sterkel's	Dave Mogle & Steve Sterkel	 
Wed • 7-9 pm Yorkville @ Free's	Dave Haas & Dennis DeMasie	
Wed • 7-9 pm Yorkville @ Wiewiora's	Ryan Aseptine	 
Wed • 7-9 pm Yorkville @ Scott's	Keith Duff	 

SMALL GROUPS: HOME GROUPS

Night/Time/Location	Shepherd Leaders	Study
Fri • 7-9 pm Yorkville @ Nelson's	John Buenz & Tom Nelson	  
Tues • 7-9 pm Montgomery @ Burkhart's	Sheldon Burkhart & Jeff Wayda	  
Tues • 7-9 pm Montgomery @ Miller's	Greg Oidtman & Nick Miller	  
Mon • 7-9 pm North Aurora @ O'Briens	David Abel & Aaron Wagner	  
Wed • 7-9 pm Sandwich @ Darge's	Harold Darge & Darin Malone	  
Thurs • 7-9 pm Oswego @ Arnold's	Gene Arnold & Ray Prigodich	  
Thurs • 7-9 pm Kaneville @ Bales	Tom Bales	 
Tues • 7-9 pm Hinckley @ Badal's	Tbd	

SMALL GROUPS: MEN'S GROUPS

What happens when we as men pause our lives for one and a half hours a week and come together to study the Bible, pray, and hold each other accountable? CHANGE!!! When men connect in life-changing ways, a powerful ripple effect touches families, workplaces, and the church. Deeper connections with God and with other men inspire participants to connect more meaningfully in all facets of their lives. They climb beyond the walls of isolation and aspire to a biblical viewpoint marked by integrity, boldness, and compassion.

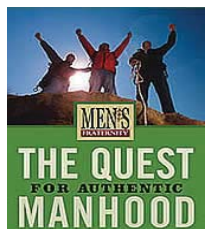


The Church of Irresistible Influence:

With compelling metaphors, Jesus described the church and its impact on the world. And indeed, filled with the Holy Spirit, the early church demonstrated a spiritual energy and depth that transformed the surrounding culture. Don't let our church settle for less! Using bridges as a metaphor for "irresistible influence," we will look at how our church can serve as a strong, well-traveled link between heaven and earth in our community.

Wednesdays, 6 am @ church • Fridays, 6am @ Yorkville Panera

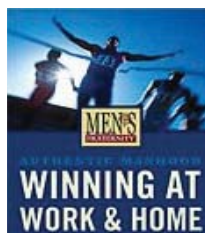
Men's Fraternity



The Quest for Authentic Manhood - Year 1:

This study focuses on our core identity as men. We will deal with various identity issues by looking back at past wounds and other things that may have distorted our idea of biblical masculinity. We will learn how to clearly define manhood and to give a succinct and passionate answer to the questions, "What is a man?" and "What am I living to be?"

Saturdays, 7:15 am - 9:15 am at church



Winning at Work and Home - Year 2:

This study focuses on the two areas that are central to our lives as men: career and family. We will begin to build the walls of manhood through study dealing with these chief responsibilities as we explore how we can enjoy and engage our work and relate to our wives in a whole new way.

Saturdays, 6:00 am - 7:30 am at church



The Great Adventure - Year 3:

In this study, we will explore our world beyond the everyday as we put the roof on the house of masculinity and create a vision for our future and destiny as men. We will rediscover the adventure in life through a greater understanding of who we are as men and will uncover the uniqueness we have as men and discover a satisfying life focus as we consider: "Who am I?", "What are my life dreams?" and "Do I have the courage to pursue those dreams?"

Wednesdays, 9:30 am - 11:00 am at church

SMALL GROUPS: WOMEN'S GROUPS

Entrusted with a Child's Heart



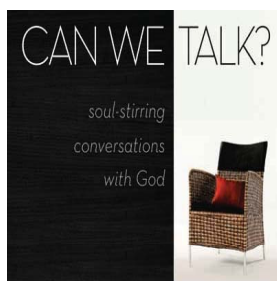
*Entrusted with a
Child's Heart*

Tuesdays, 9:15 am to 11:15 am:

Entrusted With a Child's Heart is a biblical study in parenting that will be offered on Tuesday mornings this fall! This study will cover a wide range of topics, appropriate for moms of all ages, as they raise their children. As a mom, every day counts with our children and this study unfolds the scriptural principles for establishing God-honoring family life. This study will be led by Sara Wagner (mom of young children) and Karen Wilson (empty-nest mother).

Childcare is available.

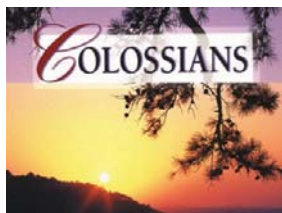
Can We Talk?



Wednesdays, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm:

How would you rate the quality of your ongoing conversation with God? Could it use an infusion of passion and purpose? This study will focus on your dialog with God and has the potential to transform your relationships, your marriage, your priorities, your passion and even your purpose! Can a simple conversation change your life? IT CAN. Join Joanne Buenz as we converse with the Lord, study His Word, and transform our lives together.

Colossians



Thursdays, 9:00 am - 11:00 am:

We all long for more--more wisdom, more maturity, more power, more faith. To satisfy our longings we attend seminars, go to concerts, listen to celebrity speakers and read popular books. Yet often we come away from these experiences feeling empty. The New Testament

books of Colossians and Philemon were written to meet our deepest needs. As you dig into their depths of wisdom you'll discover how to find lasting fulfillment in Christ. This study is led by Vera Arnold and Nina Prigodich.

Childcare is available.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



“Circle of Laughs”

Ladies Comedy and Bonfire Night

Friday, November 07, 2008 • 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm

ATTENTION ALL LADIES

Get ready to laugh hard, eat well and enjoy the company of other women. Join us for our *“Circle of Laughs”* comedy and bonfire night. Feel free to bring a friend - this will be a great time to extend the love of Christ to others who already know Him and to those who do not!

Location:

Home of Joanne Buenz

RSVP at www.villagebible.org or by calling the church.

SUPPER CLUB

Thursday, October 16, 2008

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Join a group of 6-9 other women for a supper club this month. This is a fun way to get to know some other women in the church. Consider joining us!

This month, our theme is **“Mugs and Spuds.”** Bring your favorite mug to have tea, coffee or hot chocolate - and the main course will be baked potatoes.

One of the supper clubs will take place in Sugar Grove and another in Yorkville.

RSVP at www.villagebible.org or by calling the church.

GENERATIONS



Generations

Growing Disciples of Every Generation

*Family fellowship
and
equipping for all
generations.*

Sunday evenings, 5-8 pm

Generations Fellowship Dinner

5-6 pm: All Ages - Fellowship Dinner

We'll kick each night off by sharing a meal together. Nothing fancy - pizza, tacos, burgers, etc - the point is to kick back a bit, relax and enjoy spending time with our nuclear family and our church family!

*\$5 suggested donation for those 13 and up,
\$3 for children 12 and under.*



6-8 pm: Ages 3-6th Grade and their parents - Awana

6-8 pm: Junior High - Awana Leaders in Training (LIT)

Awana is our Sunday evening Bible-centered program for children *age 3 years through 6th grade* that focuses on learning and memorizing God's Word in a fun atmosphere. Awana supports parents in providing consistent, positive teaching and training that stresses strong moral and spiritual values.



GENERATIONS

Equipping-U classes are part of our Sunday evening Generations ministry and meet from 6-8 pm.



The Truth Project

A recent major study revealed a stunning statistic that continues to reverberate throughout the evangelical world - only nine percent of professing Christians have a biblical worldview. Because of this, today's believers live very similarly to non-believers. We spend our money and time on things that fail to satisfy, and we begin to wonder what life's ultimate purpose really is. We are, in short, losing our bearings as a people and a nation. This study is designed to counter this downward slide within the body of Christ. Are you up for the challenge? Join Kevin O'Brien as we seek to find God in a world of chaos.



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PLACE Spiritual Gifts Study

Today, people have more choices than at any other time in history as to how to know give their time. They are asking, "Where do I fit in?", "Why am I here?" and "What can I do to make a lasting difference in my life and the lives of others?" PLACE is an intentional process for connecting church members with purpose driven ministry, including self-discovery, individualized ministry coaching, and tracking from workshop to ministry placement. Through the PLACE process, people discover that God has created and gifted them with a unique capacity to serve others. On Sunday nights, Darin Malone and Scott Capp will co-lead this study.

effective parenting Effective Parenting in a Defective World



Our kids are growing up in a culture that promises them fulfillment in a dizzying number of ways. There are so many opportunities-and so many dangers-that confront our kids every day. Some may look pretty good to you-school, sports, music lessons. Others, like the latest dangerous thrill-seeking fad, may keep you up at night. So what are you to do? Sign your kids up for every activity and hope something sticks? Anxiously guard them from the dangers outside your door? How can a parent make the right choice? How do you raise effective kids in a defective world? This study delivers a positive solution without shying away from tough topics along with thought-provoking principles and specific exercises to help you understand how to develop your child's full potential. There is HOPE for your family - even if you feel it is in crisis. You'll learn how you can draw closer to your kids even as the world tries to pull you apart. You'll also learn proven methods to teach your kids critical values like responsibility and perseverance that will help them rise above the norm. Along the way, you'll discover biblical principles and practical advice that can help you raise kids who stand out from the crowd. Join Tim and Amanda Badal as we unpack God's Word and become the parents that we are called to be.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, October 18, 2008

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Scott Capp: 3 Ultimate Questions in a Man's Life

Location: Village Bible Church

Suggested Donation: \$5.00

Once a month we call the men of the church together to be part of our Men's Breakfast. You are invited to join us for a great breakfast, fellowship and a time to grow in Christ with the men of VBC. Along with breakfast being served, we will also enjoy a time of worship and prayer for one another and our families.

Upcoming Men's Breakfasts



November 15: Men's Breakfast will take place at the Men's Retreat in Cedar Lake, IN.



December 13: Mark Elfstrand,
Guest Speaker

10 Passions of a Man's Soul

What drives a man? What God-given passions are built into his soul, equipping him to be all that God has intended? In his book, *10 Passions of a Man's Soul*, Mark offers insight into some of the spiritual foundation of topics such as power, adventure, purpose, pleasure, and wealth. He will touch on some of these key topics while he is with us.

MEN'S MINISTRY

“Well Done... good and faithful servant”

It is that time of year when our thoughts turn towards the Cedar Lake **Men's Retreat!** Do you need the retreat... that fellowship?

This year's retreat theme is **“Well Done.”** It is a great theme on multiple levels. When we hear well done, we think of two things... grilled meat (which we are seriously addicted to) and Christ's parable of the servants.

We have heard our Men's Retreat referred to as the MEAT Retreat. And appropriately so, as there is a large amount of meat eaten from Friday supper to Sunday dinner. Bring it on!

On a deeper level, **“Well Done”** refers to the scripture in Matthew 25:21 where Jesus is talking about faithful servants and unfaithful servants. Servant is not a word we use a lot today because it is so closely associated with slave, and it isn't always an easy word to hear. As men, we are called to serve... like Christ served...to lay down our

lives for our wives and families. The parable says if we are faithful with what God gives us, we will hear **“Well done, good and faithful servant!”**

This year, amidst charcoal and hickory smoke, let us continue to fan this flame. Let us continue the encouragement, the eating, and the serving.

**Friday, November 14,
4:00 pm - Sunday,
November 16, 12:00 pm**

Location:
Cedar Lake Retreat Center
13701 Lauerman Street
Cedar Lake, IN 46303

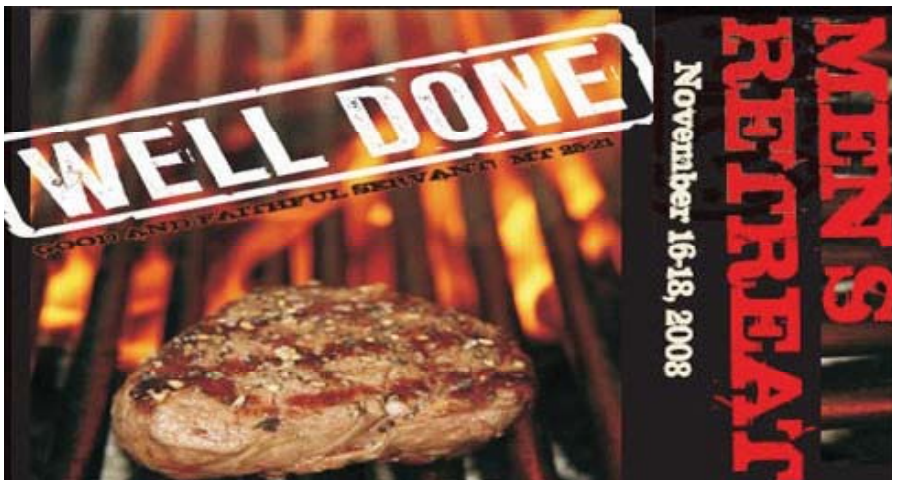
Cost: \$141.00

Sign up

www.villagebible.org

or by calling

the church office.



SPORTS MINISTRIES

Sports ministries are a lot of fun and provide a great opportunity to build friendships with men and women within the church family . . . but especially when we start inviting our un-churched friends and use it as an outreach opportunity! It's time to take our sports ministry to a new level!!

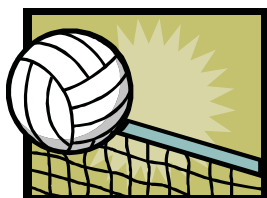


Men's Basketball

Lace up those high top sneakers and bring your game!!! Men's basketball begins this month on Saturday mornings.

Saturdays: 9:30 am – 11:30 am

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Bump! Set! Spike!

Co-ed competitive volleyball open gyms will be available on Tuesday evenings. These games are open to both men and women 18 and up.

Tuesdays: 7 pm – 10 pm

.....

Get In Shape



On Wednesday mornings, a women's aerobics class meets in our Family Life Center. This is more than just a time of physical exercise; each class also consists of prayer concerns and prayer time as well as short devotions.

Wednesdays: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
from 10/08 to 10/29

Childcare is available

Suggested donation for aerobics class:
\$5 per class

OUTREACH

Prison Ministry

"As You've Done It to the Least of These..."

- Matthew 25:40

Get in on the ground floor of this new ministry team that is focusing on a weekly ministry into the Kane County Jail. If you are interested in finding out more about this ministry and how you can get involved contact Dave Haidle.

Dave Haidle • Phone: 630-365-2124

Email: prison@villagebible.org



REFUGEE
CARE



Refugee Ministry

Welcoming the Stranger

In partnership with World Relief, our refugee ministry welcomes newcomers to the country, easing their transition and developing new support networks to replace those left behind.

Mary, a Sudanese refugee, says, "When I got off the plane, I was afraid. I did not know anyone. But then I saw many people holding balloons and banners. World Relief workers introduced themselves to me. I was startled by the kind people who greeted me. I knew at that moment that my Christian brothers and sisters would help me start again."



Every year, World Relief and their network of church-based volunteers help up to 10,000 refugees fleeing persecution and war in their homelands. Together, we help refugees make the transition to American life, so that one day they will call America home. Since 1979, World Relief has embraced over 200,000 refugees, welcoming them at the airport, helping them find jobs, and extending the hands of friendship.

Questions? Call Laura Wood: 630-466-4218

Please check VBC website for **full list of items** for these families' needs.

Kitchen Items

1 Set Mixing Bowls
1 Set Baking Pans
1 Set Pots and Pans
1 Set Cooking Utensils
1 Set Sharp Knives

Cleaning Items

1 Bottle cleaning spray

1 Can Scouring Powder
1 Toilet brush

Miscellaneous Items

1 plastic laundry basket
1 pad of paper
1 box envelopes

Bedroom Items

Queen-sized Blanket
3 Twin-sized Blanket
4 Pillows

Bathrooms Items

4 towel Sets
Shower curtain & hooks

2 bottles shampoo
4 bars soap

Standard Food Items

5 lbs. Sugar
10 lbs. Flour
5 lbs. Onions

OUTREACH



Pregnancy Information Center

To find out that you are pregnant when you don't want to be can be overwhelming and even frightening. You may feel as if abortion is your only choice. But you do have a real choice. And the **Pregnancy Information Center** is here to help women in any way that they can. At **PIC** they provide pregnancy tests, material assistance, parenting classes, and community resources. They also provide peer counseling for those who need advice on pregnancy, abortion, STD's and related issues. The need for **PIC** has become more apparent since the opening of the Planned Parenthood Clinic in Aurora.

Village People at PIC

- **Linda Todd** volunteers at **PIC** and is the liaison for **VBC** with the Pregnancy Information Center.
- **Janna Woodard** works at **PIC** as their staff nurse.
- **Melissa Golowacz** also serves at **PIC** as a volunteer.

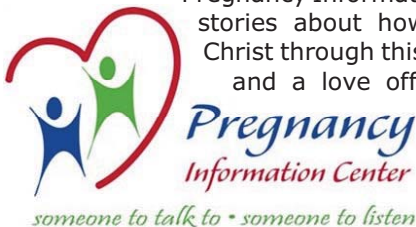
If you would like to use your gifts and would be interested in more information about PIC please talk with any of these people. They are more than happy to share with you.

Join us for the annual PIC Banquet

Thursday, October 09, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: Gaslite Manor, 2485 Church Road, Aurora

Join a group from our church family as we attend a banquet to support Pregnancy Information Center. Come and hear inspirational stories about how lives have been changed by Jesus Christ through this ministry. The dinner is complimentary and a love offering for the ministry of PIC will be taken.



Featured Speaker:

Gordon Douglas
Comedian with a Pro-Life Message

OUTREACH

Operation Christmas Child

Again this year, Village Bible Church is providing you with the unique opportunity to share Christ with a needy child using a simple shoe box.

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. Since 1993, more than 61 million shoe boxes have been packed, shipped, and delivered across the globe. People of all ages can be involved in this simple, hands-on missions project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas-Jesus Christ.

Contact

Patty Calhoun

(630-553-2690)

or

Patricia Butts

(630-389-3117)

with any
questions.



TOYS small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS

toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

OTHER Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

A PERSONAL NOTE

In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo

of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

DO NOT INCLUDE:

Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans

**Shoeboxes will be collected in the church
foyer from October 19 - November 16.**

MEDIA WARNING

Don't waste your time in *The Shack*



William P. Young's, *The Shack*, is a book that is currently well within the top-100 best-selling titles at Amazon. The book has become a hit and especially so among students and among those who are part of the Emergent Church.

It is clear to me that *The Shack* is a mix of good and bad. Young teaches much that is of value and he teaches it in a slick and effective way. Sadly, though, there is much bad mixed in with the good. His major

theological thrusts wander away from what God tells us in Scripture.

Despite the great amount of poor theology, my greatest concern is probably this one: the book has a quietly subversive quality to it. Young seems set on undermining orthodox Christianity. For example, at one point Mack states that, despite years of seminary and years of being a Christian, most of the things taught to him at the shack have never occurred to him before. Throughout the book there is this kind of subversive strain teaching that new and fresh revelation is much more relevant and important than the kind of knowledge we gain in sermons or seminaries or Scripture.

This story is meant to teach theology that Young really believes to be true. The story is a wrapper for the theology. In theory this is well and good; in practice the book is only as good as its theology. And in this case, the theology just is not good enough.

Because of the sheer volume of error and because of the importance of the doctrines reinvented by the author, I would encourage Christians, and especially young Christians, to **decline this invitation** to meet with God in *The Shack*. It is **not worth reading** for the **story** and certainly **not worth reading** for the **theology**.

Read more at www.villagebible.org

SACRED ARTS: RECOMMENDED

G.K. Chesterton On Stage

Friday, October 24, 2008
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Wheaton College - Billy Graham Center
500 College Avenue, Wheaton



Chuck Chalberg presents **G.K. Chesterton On Stage**.

This one-man dramatization of the literary figure whose vigorous words shaped the thought of many influential writers such as C.S. Lewis and Dorothy L. Sayers fills an evening with sparkling humor, bracing truths, and ever-surprising paradoxes. The performance will be held at 7:30 pm at Barrows Auditorium in the Billy Graham Center (on the south side of Wheaton College campus). Tickets are \$8 in advance (for sale at the Wade Center) or \$10 at the door.

For ticket information, call 630.752.5908

Cost: \$10.00

SACRED ARTS: RECOMMENDED



Make Plans to See *Fireproof* The Movie

The current condition of marriage in America is, at best, shaky. Divorce and dysfunction seem to have replaced commitment and harmony as the new norm. The makers of

Fireproof are hoping that it will, at the very least, provide hope that many struggling marriages can be strengthened.

Fireproof tells the story of a struggling marriage and addresses the issue of modern-day relationships head-on. The messages conveyed are clear. Marriage is anything but easy, relationships require patience, and there is hope for struggling marriages.

Fireproof could provide a spark of hope for someone in a struggling marriage that with the Lord all things are indeed possible. Whatever the condition of your marriage, consider making/planning a date night and taking your spouse to see *Fireproof*. Encourage others to see it, too. –And see it soon because it will likely only last at the theater for a week or two.

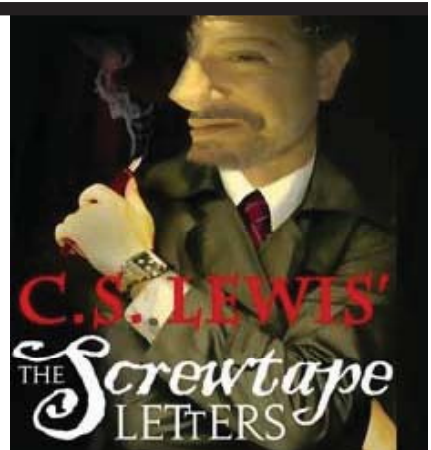
Showing at: AMC 30 (Warrenville)

Screwtape Letters On Stage

C. S. Lewis' brilliant novel explores the theme of spiritual warfare from a demon's point of view. Beloved by both audiences and critics alike, *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis offers a funny, frightening and provocative theatrical experience that will change the way you think about the influence of demons in your everyday life.

Set in a strikingly eerie, elegant and austere office in Hell, the play follows an urbane senior devil, Screwtape, who confidently dictates crackling good prose to his secretary, Toadpipe. The mission: To instruct a novice demon, Wormwood, on the fine art of tempting a young Christian away from "the Enemy" (Screwtape's name for God) and bring him safely down to the ravenous "our father below."

**Tickets are very limited.
Register/RSVP
via www.villagebible.org**



**Join us on
Thursday evening,
October 16,
as we attend this
performance.**

If you can't join us on 10/16, but would like to attend another time, the show is on stage **October 2 - November 9.**

For more details, see:
www.villagebible.org

SACRED ARTS

GOSPEL CHOIR TOURING SEASON

On **October 26**, we will welcome the **Moody Gospel Choir** as our guests. They will sing a handful of songs during our worship service and then during the Adult Bible Fellowship hour they will perform a full selection of gospel music. The choir is made up of people from all different backgrounds who love to worship the Lord through music! The choir has ministered throughout the midwest but the main focus of their ministry is the city of Chicago.

The heart of this choir is to come humbly before the Lord, leading others into a time of worship through song. Their theme verse for this year is Psalm 63:3-5 "Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you.



**Check VBC website for more info
on these upcoming community events:**

Moody's Handel's Messiah

Wheaton College Christmas Festival Concert

Moody Candlelight Carols

ADULT BIBLE FELLOWSHIPS

Believe... Belong... Become!



The ABF ministry exists as a strategic link to help our people move from worship towards a dynamic discipleship process of relationships, spiritual growth, and commitment to . . . Jesus.

Purpose: Adult Bible Fellowships are much more than Sunday School for adults! ABFs are where connections begin. The family of faith is meant to spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Meet new people... dig deeper into the Bible... and find a place to belong!

Breakouts: The ABF classes, which typically include between 20 and 60 adults, are designed to be primarily "generational." You don't need to feel limited by that designation, however. You're free to join whichever group you feel most drawn to.

When: ABF classes meet on Sundays after the worship service, from 11:15 am - 12:15 pm.

Celebrate... Connect ... Care... Cooperate!

The Journey: 1st & 2nd Samuel: Desolate moments drive us to find peace and hope in the stories and songs that move amid our memories. The books of 1 & 2 Samuel contain a collection of stories and a few songs from Israel's memory that fostered hope for fearful readers. Their significance is found in the context of when they were recalled, recorded, and retold. **Location: Gym**

Bereans: Hebrews: Hebrews is a book for disciples. It helps us see Jesus in a new way. Though Hebrews discusses at length Old Testament themes, ultimately it focuses all our attention on Jesus Christ -- who He is in both His humanity and divinity, and what He has done for us now and forever. Hebrews is both a challenge and a joy. Are you up to the journey? **Location: Upstairs**

Forerunners: 1 Corinthians: The Corinthian church destroys the myth of the early church as the model for us to imitate! Seduction by the surrounding pagan culture and a hyper-spirituality had led this church into a host of problems. As a result, 1 Corinthians is full of information about how a Christian lifestyle differs from that of the culture as a whole. **Location: room 101**

FINANCE LETTER

October Stewardship Focus: Monetary Giving

Most of us would agree that giving is a worthwhile practice. But rarely is it a priority, much less an urgent matter. We all have plenty of reasons for putting it off until later, or not doing it at all. This month, we will consider our fourth of five most commonly heard objections to Christian generosity, along with short responses using the Bible as our guide.

Excuse #4: I don't give financially; I give in other ways - my time and talents.

It is true that stewardship is a lot more than money, but it is never less than money. In fact, it would be fair to say that stewardship includes everything that we do in life. In this sense, all sin is poor stewardship, and the gospel restores us to good stewardship in all of life. So good stewardship includes things like church work and hospitality, but to withhold one's money (even while doing these other good things) is to rob God (Malachi 3:8). Money plays a unique role in Scripture as a diagnostic tool for the human heart – where you put your money, there your heart will go (Matthew 6:21). If a Christian gives his time and talents to the Lord, but keeps his money to himself, then his heart is not with the Lord. By all means, we should practice service and hospitality, but we should take care not to withhold our money from the Lord.

- Generous Giving



January–September Financial Stats

General Fund

Budget: \$546,000

Giving: \$494,036

Shortage \$ 51,964

Building Fund

Budget: \$234,000

Giving: \$118,406

Shortage: \$115,594

Consider making 2008 the year you sign up for automatic contributions. You won't have to remember to bring your check to church, and your systematic and consistent giving helps the church a great deal from a cash flow standpoint!

Pick up a "Tithes and Offerings" brochure at the Welcome Center for further details.

VBC CALENDAR

Oct 5: Generations Ministry begins @ church

Week of Oct 6: Small Groups begin in homes in your community

Oct 9: Pregnancy Information Center Banquet

Oct 10: MOPS begins @ church

Oct 10-11: Extraordinary Women Conference in Rockford

Oct 16: *Screwtape Letters* in Chicago

Oct 18: Men's Breakfast @ church

Oct 19: Barn Bash @ Marvel Davis Farm

Oct 26: Moody Gospel Choir @ church

Nov 7: Ladies Comedy & Bonfire night @ Joanne Buenz's

Nov 14-16: Men's Retreat @ Cedar Lake, Indiana

Dec 13: Men's Breakfast @ church

Dec 26-29: Winter Family Camp in Northern Wisconsin

June 6-12: Summer Family Camp in Northern Wisconsin

Tuesdays, 7-10pm: co-ed competitive **volleyball** @ church

Wednesdays, 9:30 – 10:30am: **women's fitness** class @ church

Saturdays, 9:30-11:30am: **men's basketball** @ church

Upcoming **Baptism Classes**: Oct 12 and Nov 9, 3 pm, room 100

Upcoming **Membership Classes**: Oct 12, 12:30 pm, room 101

Upcoming **New Attender Lunch**: Oct 12 and Nov 9, 11:30 am, room 100

 = **one time events**

 = **ministry kickoff dates**



THE AMAZING CHANGE

A Study of Paul's Conversion

Acts 9:1-31

It happened at a moment's notice. Saul was transformed. And it wasn't just a temporary or superficial change; it was deep, it was total, and it was forever. Paul no longer fought against Christ and His message; instead, he stood up for Christ and the gospel. He was no longer on the side of Satan and evil fighting the light; rather, on the side of the light, he fought Satan and evil. From the very day that Paul met Christ, the history of the world began to change. Paul is the pattern, and it all began on the road to Damascus, when he surrendered his will to Christ. He was broken, he was re-created as a new man, and his transformation began. And the change that Paul experienced is available to all who desire it. Through the work of the Holy Spirit we, too, can be transformed to become more like Jesus. Acts 9 gives us a pattern of change that Paul experienced which should be seen in all believers. During this series we will explore eight key aspects of the change that takes place in every believer when they come face to face with Jesus.

Our life change involves:

Message 1	A Flawed Standing	Acts 9:1-2
Message 2	Faith in the Savior	Acts 9:3-9
Message 3	Fervent Supplication	Acts 9:10-12
Message 4	Faithful Service	Acts 9:13-17
Message 5	Fellowship with the Saints	Acts 9:17-19
Message 6	The Filling of the Spirit	Acts 9:17
Message 7	Fervency in Speech	Acts 9:20-22
Message 8	Fearlessness in Suffering	Acts 9: 23-31