

Advent 2015

Ecclesia

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY AND GOD'S WORK AT KENWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH



Advent Sermon Series

The Promised Savior: Isaiah's Prophecy Fulfilled

The season of Advent helps to prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ. The four weeks leading up to Christmas anticipate the arrival of our promised Savior who brings hope, love, joy, and peace to all who trust in Him. On Sunday mornings, we will follow God's saving purpose forward from Leviticus into the spiritual highlands of the prophet Isaiah. The end of Leviticus had predicted that God's people would one day end up in exile for their sinful disobedience. Yet, God would not reject them forever. He would act again. He would comfort those who mourn. He would provide for their forgiveness and restoration. His salvation would shine forth upon them and radiate unto all nations. These are the great themes of the prophet Isaiah. The central figure in Isaiah's prophetic vision is the Servant of the LORD whose coming is described in four beautiful poems (Isa. 42, 49, 50, 53). The hope that is kindled by Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled



"My eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles . . ."

in Jesus Christ. When the devout Simeon holds the infant Jesus in his arms, he quotes from Isaiah: "My eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel" (Luke 2:30-32; Isa. 42:6; 49:6). This is the meaning and mission of Christmas into which we are all invited to rejoice. 



Kenwood Kids Serve Operation Christmas Child

Thank you Kenwood and MOPS families for sharing Christ's love through packing OCC shoe boxes. In the hands of local churches around the world, every gift-filled shoe box is a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship—transforming the lives of children and their families around the world through the Good News of Jesus Christ!

After receiving shoe box gifts, boys and girls are invited to enroll in The Greatest

Journey, a 12-lesson discipleship program. They learn from trained local volunteers what it means to faithfully follow Christ and share their faith with others.

OCC grows congregations and plants new churches worldwide. Through the efforts of local believers on our National Leadership Teams, whole communities and areas without an existing church are being evangelized as shoe box gifts are delivered.

PRAYER MINISTRY REACHES MILESTONE 20 Years of Dedication

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”
Colossians 4:2



Praising God for Answered Prayer

Jerry Dreith

Twice in the last four years I have knocked on death's door. The first time I was told I had a short time to live due to liver and kidney failure. God answered the prayers of my wife, my doctors and my Kenwood brothers and sisters and I received a double transplant. In 2014 during heart surgery a nurse came out to tell my wife that she needed to call the family in. A dear Kenwood sister who was sitting with my wife immediately called the prayer family. I am alive today because God honored those prayers.

Myles Temple

For several years we prayed for healing to be in God's will for Myles. We held several prayer meetings to pray over him before and during his bone marrow transplant. After a challenging few years, The Lord answered, our prayers, but more importantly He never left us during our trials.

Bob Winhusen

On Thursday Aug 6, Bob suffered a massive stroke, with Doctors giving him a 10% chance to survive the first 24 hours. Our church community began praying, after two weeks in ICU and a month of rehab Bob is home and doing well physically. Each day sees improvement and evidence that God is our healer and that He graciously answers the prayers of His people.



Kenwood is blessed with members who unselfishly make prayer for others a priority. From Betty Lou Smith who started this important work, to Karen Naverra who continued and nurtured the Lord's healing presence through prayer at Kenwood, and now Sally Gailey who coordinates the prayer room and its many initiatives, 20 years of continuity and service do not happen without dedicated servants. Thank you prayer ministers!

Our rich history started when the original prayer room was dedicated on November 19, 1995, a year when tear-off prayer sheets appeared in bulletins and two Kenwood pastors published books on prayer. Members prayed openly for one another and Christians from far away would visit the only prayer room in the region. In 2012 our current prayer room was dedicated and E. M. Bounds' "Power of Prayer" were made available.

Our Work Continues

Praying for others and spending time in the Lord's presence through prayer is our calling. Everyone is encouraged to receive prayer and pray over others at Kenwood. Here are just a few opportunities:

- Sunday Mornings for pastor, services, all ministries, 9:00 to 9:20 am
- Noon Prayer, Wednesdays 11:35 to 12:35
- Women's Prayer, Wednesdays 5:15 to 5:45
- Sunday Morning Intercessors, encouraging everyone to come forward for prayer at the altar
- Prayer Wall: Add a prayer to the prayer wall for "Prayers Needed and Answered Prayers"
- Tear-off bulletins, Sunday school class prayer requests
- Join the urgent prayer phone chain and email list
- Visit the Prayer Garden
- First Saturday meeting 11:00 to 12:00 Pastor Alex Aronis facilitates prayer time in room 234 called "Deepening Intimacy with God: My Daily Prayer" using his book "Developing Intimacy with Prayer"
- Join "Prayer Support Team Training" coming soon
- Pray with Pastor Scott's Fall 40 Day Prayer Guide
- National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 5, 2016

July 15-21, 2016

Kenwood Answers Call to Mission in Mexico

IMPORTANT DATES JULY 15-21, 2016

1st Information Session: December 2, 7:00PM
Kenwood Chapel

EARLY REGISTRATION: December 13
Discount \$50 each

2nd Information Session: January 10, 7:00PM
Kenwood Chapel

FINAL REGISTRATION: January 24



We believe God is calling 30 people from our Kenwood family to joyfully serve with Back2Back ministries July 15-21 in Monterrey, Mexico. This is a wonderful way to serve together as families (parents with children), couples and singles (of any age) and youth. Consider yourself highly invited!

As joyful servants we will split our time between work projects and ministry time with the kids. Morning work projects consist of cleaning, painting, light construction to concrete work. In the afternoon, we'll do activities with the kids through "Play with Purpose". These games or activities help develop the kids either spiritually, physically, educationally, socially, or emotionally.

Once the final group is registered we will provide details on preparation and other helpful information. Total cost is approximately \$1500 per person. Scholarships are available and fund raisers will be discussed. Contact Liz Rising at Kenwood Baptist Church to sign up: 513-791-0355.

*"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."
John 14:18*



"... that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27

HOW HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED CHRIST LATELY?

Emotional Oath Ceremony Points to Greater Global Journey for Kenwood Family

October was a memorable month for the Mammen family. We were privileged to experience the oath ceremony at Cleves elementary school required to become a US citizen. It was an occasion nearly 10 years in the making. It was a moving experience as I stood shoulder to shoulder with folks from as far away as Afghanistan and Bhutan to former republic of Yugoslavia and Zambia. We felt a sense of camaraderie as we stood together to take the oath, hopeful and excited to be newly minted citizens of the United States.

At Kenwood Baptist Church, we have

the opportunity to experience a deeper unity as members of the body of Christ along with people from various different countries. We have been fortunate to meet families from my community in India as well from my adolescent home in Lagos, Nigeria, West Africa. It reminds us that we are one body of believers in Christ. As one body, we are called to care for each other both in the US and



Rajiv, Emily and their boys Eli and Simon.

abroad. We look forward to joining hands with Kenwood believers, to provide comfort to fellow believers experiencing hardship in other parts of the world.

You're Invited



Advent Sermon Series: The Promised Savior November 29-December 27

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| December 2 | Mission to Mexico
7PM Informational meeting
Learn about our July mission trip | <i>Chapel</i> |
| December 11, 12 | A Tapestry of Christmas
7PM Choral & Orchestral Concerts | <i>Sanctuary</i> |
| December 20 | Kids Christmas: The Miracle of Jesus
A Special Sunday Celebration
for the Children & Family Ministry | <i>Sanctuary</i> |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Service
7 & 9PM – Bring family and friends | <i>Sanctuary</i> |
| December 25 - January 3 | Happy Holidays! Office Closed | |
| January 6 | Perspectives A fifteen week course for growing
your perspective on the Biblical, Historical, Cultural
and Strategic way God is used and is using mission. | |
| January 10 | Quarterly Church Meeting
Follows second service in Fellowship Hall | <i>Fellowship Hall</i> |
| January 10 | Mission to Mexico
7PM, 2nd meeting July mission trip | <i>Chapel</i> |
| January 12 | Men's Bible Study
12-1PM Tuesdays, lunch | <i>Room 234</i> |
| January 13 | Wednesday Night Dinners & Classes
6PM Dinner in Fellowship Hall
6:45 – 8:00PM Childcare with reservation* | |
| January 21 | Women's Bible Study <i>Multipurpose Room & 234</i>
Two sections studying Jeremiah and Philipians.
Thursdays 9:15-11:00AM except MOPS weeks* | |

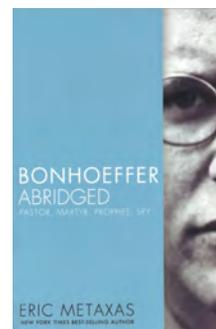
* Childcare provided for ages 3 and under with reservation required.
For more details go to www.kenwoodbaptist.org or call 513-791-0355.

January Sermon Series

Imitatio Christi

In **January**, we will devote our attention to a single verse and a single life. In Philippians 3:17, Paul instructs believers to “join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.” Elsewhere, Paul makes clear that he means: “imitate me as I imitate Christ” (1 Cor. 11:1).

Our January series will explore the imitation of Christ through the life of the German pastor-martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer who has been called “a church father for the post-modern world.” Bonhoeffer’s life reveals a compelling vision of the church in times of cultural opposition. I want to



invite us to read Eric Metaxas’ New York Times Bestselling Biography Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy. There is also an abridged version. Plan to invite friends to read the book and meet for discussion. Let others know that Eric Metaxas will be speaking at Kenwood Baptist Church. Learn more about Eric’s own conversion to Christianity and recent books by visiting www.ericmetaxas.com.

SAVE THE DATE!
March 16, 7PM

New York Times Best Selling Author Eric Metaxas to speak at Kenwood Baptist Church.