

# THE WINDOW

On a journey with the living Christ; connecting with God, others, and the world.

August 2021

by Carolyn Grice, Temporary Associate Pastor

The Presbytery of Missouri River Valley (southeast NE and southwest IA) is part of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. The synod encompasses MN, IA, NE, ND, WI, and SD. The Synod has just wrapped up Synod School. It is a week-long event held at Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, IA. This year it was a hybrid being available virtually and in-person. I want to share an article about the first night.

## **Synod School preacher: God chose us through Christ before laying the foundation of the world**

by Mike Ferguson | *Presbyterian News Service*

LOUISVILLE — Growing up in the City of New York, the Rev. Samuel Son, Presbyterian Mission Agency's manager for Diversity and Reconciliation, said he remembers pretending that he didn't care how early in the process he was selected to play in a pickup baseball game. "We would stand there, trying to look like we didn't care," Son recalled during evening worship Monday at the [Synod of Lakes and Prairies' Synod School](#). "But at the same time, we tried to stand out. We definitely didn't want to be the last kid [selected]."

Contrast that, [the Presbyterian Mission Agency's manager for Diversity and Reconciliation](#) told the 450 people or so gathered in person or online for Synod School this week, with how God selects the elect according to Ephesians 1:3-10: God "chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before [God] in love."

At his crucifixion, "the Chosen One experiences rejection so that we can experience being the elected of the Chosen One," Son said. "It's an amazing love story. Before the foundation of the world, before any expansion of space and time, God had us in God's mind. It seems too good to be true."

Son likened that view to how he and his wife prepared for the arrival of their first child. "Before our first son was born, my wife and I were thinking about him and imagining our life together. We were planning. What should we name him? We even

prepared a room. We wrote, 'Welcome home,' even though he didn't know how to read."

Election "is not about who goes to heaven and who doesn't," Son said. "It's about the God who saves us and knows us even before our first breath, even before the first atoms" came into being.

Notice the language in that part of Ephesians, Son said. Paul's word choices include "joy," "pleasure," "lavish" and "freely."

"This is what being chosen by God is," Son said. "God didn't create us because God needed people to work the garden. God chose us because God desired us."

Son urged his hearers to stop referring to Presbyterians as "God's frozen chosen."

"We've got to get rid of that term. There's no such thing as being frozen when you're chosen," Son said. "Emotion is a full-body experience. ... To be chosen, loved and desired by God — to be in Christ selected before the foundation of the world — you can't help but jump for joy and do mission work out of the lavishness of the love of God, which is flowing."

But many of our life experiences "say that we are not chosen. We have experienced so many hurts," Son said. "But Paul is so sure that he's saying to us, 'You were chosen before the foundation of the world.' What happens in the world doesn't change that fact."

Inviting worshipers to close their eyes for a moment, Son asked those gathered "to come before Jesus and just listen. He has been waiting to say this over and over, so hear what he's saying to you: 'Before you were born, child, I chose you. You are mine.'"

"Receive that," Son said. "My child, I have chosen you before the foundation of the world. You are mine."

Worshipers concluded the service by singing "[Jesus Loves Me](#)."

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). (2021). *Synod School preacher: God chose us through Christ before laying the foundation of the world*.  
<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/an-amazing-love-story/>

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## MAINTAINING EXCELLENCE by Peggy Kelley, Elder of Nominating

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In 1988, Mike and I were searching for a new church. The church that we loved and had attended for twelve years had split. Painful though it was, we knew that the Lord was telling us that it was time for us to move on. So began our search for a new church.

We wanted our children, Drew (age 12) and Alicia (age 7), to be part of the decision-making process. The plan was that we would visit area churches, not limiting ourselves to our previous denomination. We would make it a family affair. It would be an adventure!

Unfortunately, an adventure, it was not! Our church visits were awkward. Nothing “felt” right. After several weeks of searching, I was miserable. More importantly, **our family needed a church home!**

We had decided not to go to West Hills! We had heard wonderful things about this church for years, but several of our friends had landed there following the church split. We were determined not to go there just because we had dear friends that were attending there. One Saturday evening, I announced to Mike that we were going to West Hills the following morning. Mike gave me a puzzled look. He actually had plans to attend another church. But, being a wise and faithful husband, he agreed. Come the next morning, we were all on our way to West Hills.

I remember walking into Geneva Lounge. We were greeted by hugs and smiles from a group of friends who spotted us immediately. I, of course, was in tears. We were determined, however, that our warm welcome would not be the deciding factor in our decision. We entered the sanctuary and were ushered to our seats. The service began. Pastor Meyer began his sermon. I had never before experienced the presence of the Lord like I did that morning. I don't remember ever hearing the scripture preached like that before. I do remember turning to Mike and saying, “You are not getting me out of this pew!”

And here we are, 33 years later...still in the pews of West Hills Church! This is where we raised our children, where Mike and I have grown on our spiritual journeys, and, as Mike would say, “... where our faith no longer was that of our parents but became our own.”

Many of us have similar stories as to how we first found West Hills and how the Lord has changed us through this body of Christ. This church has long opened its doors to countless folks who sought to know Christ in a more personal and profound way, individuals who came in their brokenness and longed to be healed.

Throughout our history, West Hills has had a very dedicated group of pastors and staff that have faithfully served our church. The congregation has provided lay leaders and dedicated volunteers who have engaged in ministry within the church walls, our community, and around the world. We have been a Christ-focused church that has sought to answer God's call.

Although we have witnessed unimaginable changes in our world since our family first entered her doors, West Hills remains focused on the Mission Statement and Core Values that have guided us throughout our history. We continue to set high standards for our ministry and mission. Your Session is committed to faithfully seek the Lord's guidance as we prepare to meet the challenges of our changing world.

Our journey together will require strong leadership that will faithfully listen and boldly respond to the Lord's leading. The Nominating Team has begun its preparations for slating of the next class of church leaders. Please pray for the individuals that God is calling to these positions. Please pray for YOUR place in the ministry of West Hills Church as we seek to build upon our 60+ years of ministry and boldly enter the next chapter of our journey together with the living Christ!

No one can deny the challenges and pain of recent years, but I believe that the Lord has used our past to refine us for the future. We have weathered the storm and are better prepared to face the challenges of the future. I look forward with great anticipation to where the Lord will lead!

*So that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter: 1:7 (ESV)*

## August At A Glance

At West Hills our mission statement . . . On a journey with the living Christ; connecting with God, others and the world, provides us with the framework for how we live our lives. Here are notable dates this month in the life of our church.

**Sundays in August - Livestreaming and in-person worship service @ 10 a.m. Post service fellowship outside in the garden area following worship.** For those who won't be joining in-person, you can watch the service at: [whcomaha.org/live](http://whcomaha.org/live)

### **Discipleship Opportunities Sunday Mornings @ 9:00 a.m.:**

- \* Kids Connect Small Groups meeting in-person and outside
- \* Youth 406 Journey Groups meeting in-person and outside
- \* Serendipity Bible study on the book of Acts meeting in-person in the chapel

**YOUTH MONDAY FUNDAYS** meet 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. (various locations/activities). Contact Luke Burns for info: [luke@whcomaha.org](mailto:luke@whcomaha.org)

**Wednesdays - Women's Bible study** meet at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel. Studying Psalms- Prayers of the Heart by Eugene Peterson

**Wednesdays - 406 Youth Group** meets at 6:30 p.m. in-person

**August 13 - InterVarsity/WHC Young Adults Outdoor Game Night @ 6:30 p.m.**

**August 15 - Crossroads Connection - A ministry of assisting prison inmates in transitioning to life outside of prison.** Worship service at 6 p.m. with meal to follow.

**August 19 - Sloppy Joe Ministry Drop Off** at the church. Come between 10-3 to the north circle drive and drop your cooked sloppy joe meat and buns in the bins located outside. The food will be taken to the Stephen Center to be enjoyed by many!

**August 29 - For His Children Virtual Event @ 11:30 a.m.** in the chapel

*These events are just around the corner, you'll want to add them to your calendar now.*

**September 18 - Skinner East Picnic @ Abide Lighthouse 12 p.m.**

**September 26 - West Hills Fall Fun Fest! 11:30 p.m.**

# THANK YOU ERIKA HANNA!! compiled by Maralee Gifford



Erika Hanna has been West Hills Nursery Coordinator since 2015. She has done an amazing job of caring for our little ones during the Sunday services as well as providing child care during Bible Studies and

special programs at West Hills. Erika is leaving her position at West Hills as she plans on furthering her education starting this Fall. We asked Erika about her time as Nursery Coordinator and her answers below really helped us to appreciate even more how fortunate we were to have her at West Hills. **Thank you Erika for not only doing such a good job but having such a loving heart!**

## 1. Tell me about your time working in the nursery (how long/roles, etc).

I have had the pleasure to be working in the nursery for almost 17 years. I came in as a nursery staff member in 2004 and in 2015, I became the nursery coordinator. The timing of both of these things were completely God's timing. In 2015 I had just started to stay at home with my kids after leaving the classroom. My ultimate desire was to be home, but I really longed for more interaction with other kids and to use my education degree. At the time, Beth Nodes was moving into her full time social work role and so her nursery coordinator position was made available.

## 2. What made you interested in working with our youngest members? 3. What has been the most rewarding part of leading the nursery ministry?

My educational background is in teaching littles so that is where I really feel most at home. The innocence and wonder of their minds is incredibly fun for me. What a gift it is to be one of the first adult leaders to speak God's love into them. This would have to be one of the most rewarding parts of leading the nursery ministry.

## 3. We understand that you have an exciting new chapter beginning in your life. What is your next call in God's kingdom work?

I am beginning my graduate degree at UNO this fall and I'll be serving as a graduate assistant. I will be dual majoring in School Counseling and Clinical Counseling. I am very excited (and a little nervous) for this next adventure! I am not sure where God will lead me post graduation, but I am happy to be along for the ride.

## 4. How has your time leading the nursery helped you to discern this call?

My time in the nursery has definitely made me lean into what God has in store for me. When I first came on as a staff member and as a coordinator, it was just what I needed for my personal growth and for my family. I was able to experience young kids and their development as I was studying it in college, and then able to lead the nursery ministry while raising my own little "nursery" at home. It felt like "this is where I am supposed to be." If I could, I would stay rocking babies and greeting young families forever, but I know I am being called in different ways to minister.

## 5. As you look back over these seventeen years of ministry, what are you most proud of?

I think one of my proudest moments is when parents share stories of their child saying our nursery prayer before a meal. Some of these stories come from tiny littles who are barely making full sentences but they pick up that song! It is so genuine and sweet. I've always said my nursery mission is that our kids leave our space knowing that they are so loved by God. I am hopeful it sets a foundation for their faith. You are loved, you are loved, you are loved.

## 6. As you look back over these seventeen years of ministry, what is a memory or memories that make you smile?

I love when our nursery kids get to be apart of worship. I am sure some of you can remember the years our littles wore the lamb and donkey ears or held a baby doll while singing about baby Jesus. Heart melting!

## THANK YOU ERIKA, continued

### 7. Is there a story or memory that makes you laugh as you recall it?

I think of all the times we bring our nursery kids into the sanctuary and you just can't plan for what's to happen. There's no filter with 2 and 3 year olds. Will they stay on the stage? Sprint for mom in the back row? Cry out of nerves? One year when my oldest was two, he got up on stage and sang away and then screamed out "TOMAS!" in the middle of the song. We of course have it on video and every Christmas season we make sure to pull it up and watch his little hips sway, his hands clap and his shout singing.

Another year we had a sprinter in the middle of our Palm Sunday parade. Imagine me trying to quickly catch up with a FAST 3 year old while I am wearing heels...

### 8. What would you like to say to others about getting involved in the nursery ministry?

You're gonna love it! Prepare to get lots of hugs, maybe a little messy, and giggle a lot. You can come as you are and the kids will just be happy you're there. It is a pretty great feeling.

### 9. How can we be praying for you as you step into this new calling?

I would covet your prayers! Change is exciting and change is hard. Prayers for my transition into being a student again (it has been awhile!) and for my husband and kids as they have to shift a little for this to happen, too. I am so grateful to have my West Hills family praying for this journey!



## SPIRITUAL CORRESPONDENCE

by Jana Prescott



Jana's word: Has anyone been on a long journey? Was it fun? Was it challenging? Did it have things you've never listened to, or things you've never tried on your own? Can you think of any places that might fit into a journey like

that? Think about the preparing and the waiting and how it made you feel. I have been on a journey back into rehab as I broke my leg on June 1. It's hard work. Days can be long and boring. But I know that I just have to take it day by day, and remind myself of my favorite verse.

God's word: "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

Next month we'll hear more about the inaugural West Hills Family Camp! Here are a couple photos until then...



# WHC's FINANCE UPDATE by Mike Overby, Elder for Finance

Happy summer to all at WHC! It has come and will go all too quickly. Enjoy the remaining days. As we continue to press forward into the second half of the year I want to share with everyone where we stand from a financial perspective. We live in a world that now champions the belief in 'transparency'. A Google search finds 'transparency' implying "openness, communication and accountability". At its heart I find its meaning to be the sharing of information freely in an effort to benefit an organization and its people. With this as a background, below you'll find a brief summary from West Hill Church's Operating Fund for year to date results through July 31, 2021:

	July YTD <i>Budget</i>	July YTD <i>Actual</i>	over/(under) YTD <i>Act to Bgt</i>	2021 ANNUAL Budget
Pledged Revenue	439,850	412,522	(27,328)	843,000
All Other Revenues	21,320	23,540	2,220	47,287
<b>Total Operating REVENUES</b>	<b>461,170</b>	<b>436,062</b>	<b>(25,108)</b>	<b>890,287</b>
<b>Total Operating EXPENSES</b>	<b>564,133</b>	<b>510,688</b>	<b>(53,445)</b>	<b>990,287</b>
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(102,963)</b>	<b>(74,626)</b>	<b>28,337</b>	<b>(100,000)</b>
<b>Extraordinary Revenue</b>				
Reserves available due to PPP Loan Forgiveness	100,000	100,000	-	100,000
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(2,963)</b>	<b>25,374</b>	<b>(28,337)</b>	<b>-</b>

## Highlights and Observations

- In column 4 above, 2021's Annual Budget was approved as a 'balanced budget' with the inclusion of the benefit of a \$100,000 loan under the federal PPP program supporting COVID relief needs. This was a one-time grant (as the loan obligation has now been forgiven).
- Through July, the Budget essentially projected a breakeven condition for the WHC's operations (actually showing the (\$2,963) deficit as reflected in the first column).
- Our giving, as defined as "Pledged Revenue", now stands at a (\$27,328) shortfall.
- Operating Expenses are \$53,445 below the Budget. While this is favorable, it does reflect some timing delays in certain known expenses to be paid in the near term and does also reflect some changes and/or delays in planned expenses impacted/associated to COVID as we resume fully reopening church activities.
- YTD results show a (\$74,626) core operating deficit.
- AFTER factoring in the \$100,000 PPP Loan Forgiveness, a net operating surplus of \$25,374 is evident. This surplus is expected to be used over the next few months requiring use of funds from operating cash reserves.
- Historical giving, and as budgeted again for 2021, resides in the month of December to reach our budgeted break even projection.

So, first let me **Thank You** all for your faithful giving thus far this year. Stewardship challenges us to use, maintain and give from the gifts God has blessed each of us. Prayerfully consider your giving over the remainder of the year. Putting our trust in God to provide moves us beyond those challenges and enables the work ahead to be accomplished. As a reminder, the YTD recap of our giving relative to our stewardship driven budget and in comparison to the prior YTD results is shared in the first **Thursday Thoughts** of each month. **Should there be any questions to the above please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly or at [mcoverby9@cox.net](mailto:mcoverby9@cox.net) or contact Mike Alfieri at [mikea@whcomaha.org](mailto:mikea@whcomaha.org)**

## 2020/2021 WEST HILLS MISSION UPDATES by Mission Team Members

Covid changed how mission looked - but it didn't change the mission!

Here are highlights from some of our partners over the past 1 1/2 years. God's power and grace were abundant!! More next month from our other partners!

### International Partners:

#### 41O Bridge Haiti

Our continued support in Haiti helped tremendously with Covid related food scarcity. It also provided seeds to farmers which contributes to alleviating hunger and starvation there. Their women's project sewed masks and our funds also kick-started their education efforts for children. The WH 41O Bridge Day in April 2021 raised \$2,955 to use for pastor training in Jeanton and two other communities.

#### For His Children Ecuador (FHC)

West Hills work with FHC brought His kingdom near in these ways:

- In 2020, 58 children were cared for, 9 national and 2 international adoptions were completed, and 2 family reunifications were accomplished.
- During COVID, 5 babies abandoned in Quito were welcomed to FHC, online learning was provided for the children, and staff lived onsite for 2 weeks at a time.
- Justin (age 8) learned to read and write Braille, Alan (age 8) took his first steps after many years of physical therapy, and Micaela (age 7) joined her forever family through adoption after praying for a family for many years.

*Upcoming opportunity!! FHC will be giving West Hills a virtual tour via Zoom on Sunday, Aug 29th at 11:30. This will include getting a tour of the facilities, meeting the staff, interacting with the children, and having a time for prayer. Join in the chapel!*

#### JR\* - Navigators

Our own local ambassador to the nations! (\*We can't print his name.) The Covid pandemic was definitely a challenge for him, keeping him from his field of work. The Lord had a good plan for him though and brought a wonderful woman into his life. They were married in May and are now seeking the Lord together for their next steps. **Pray for them!**

### Local Partners:

#### Westgate Schools

West Hills provided school supplies and staff gifts last August. At Christmas we adopted families supplying gifts for them and gave cards/cookies to staff. The staff was encouraged several times with meals for either conferences or just to let them know we cared and supported them in this most difficult of years. **Pray for our schools and neighborhood.**

*Upcoming opportunity!! We are currently gathering school supplies and hopefully we will be able to have volunteers return to help with reading, mentoring, etc.*

#### Abide

West Hills gifts to Abide helped immensely during this past year. We assisted the neighbors on Seward Street in feeding their children and helped them stay positive while they were quarantined. Abide also distributed more than 40,000 meals, provided individualized egg hunts for more than 40 families, and helped scholastically with the online Game Changer Academy. At Christmas West Hills helped them reach 425 families and 1,500 kids with 5,000 gifts. **Pray for our city!**

*Upcoming opportunity!! Skinner East Block Party September 18th. Need volunteers for food, trash pick-up and handing out fliers. Please attend!*

#### Crossroads Connection (CC)

CC is a community of Omaha churches assisting prison inmates in their transition back to life outside of prison. CC works to bridge the gap by helping former inmates find their way back into society through the caring support of Christ's followers. Covid halted many of their activities, but they started meeting again in May. **Pray for them!**

*Upcoming opportunity!! West Hills is hosting them on August 15th for a night of worship and a meal in the fellowship hall. We need side dishes, desserts and servers.*

**Be encouraged! Stay tuned next month for updates on more West Hills Mission Partners. To volunteer for any of the opportunities contact the church office at 402-391-8788 or by email at: [info@whcomaha.org](mailto:info@whcomaha.org).**

## CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING MISSION EVENTS!



For His Children  
**Virtual Tour**

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**This is an opportunity to see how your partnership is impacting the lives of the children and staff at For His Children!**

Join us on Zoom for a 45 minute interactive live tour of the home in Quito. You will meet some of the children and staff, learn more about Ecuadorian culture, and have a time of prayer for the ministry.



On **Sunday, August 29**, you can travel to Ecuador without even leaving your home! Join us for a virtual trip to Ecuador via Zoom. **For His Children** ([forhischildren-ecuador.org](http://forhischildren-ecuador.org)) is one of the ministries West Hills Church supports and this is an opportunity to see how our partnership is impacting the lives of the children and staff!

During this 45 minutes interactive video call, you'll experience a live tour of the home in Quito, hear testimonies from staff members, learn more about Ecuadorian culture, and have a time of prayer.

The tour will be offered after our worship service at 11:30 AM and can also be accessed from home by a Zoom link. If you would like the Zoom link to watch from home, contact [info@whcomaha.org](mailto:info@whcomaha.org) and we'll send it to you.

## THE SKINNER EAST PICNIC IS COMING!

This year's picnic will be held on **Saturday, September 18th** at the Abide Lighthouse at 3204 Taylor St. As in years past, we are looking for volunteers to sign up to bring/donate food. For food we need chips, side dishes, salads, fruit and cookies/dessert. Your food items can be dropped off at church by September 17th. Or if you plan on attending the picnic, just bring them to the Lighthouse.

**The picnic starts at 12:00 p.m.**

We are also seeking volunteers to deliver flyers about the picnic, pick up trash and pray with neighbors on **Saturday, September 11th**.

If you are interested in attending, providing food, or delivering flyers, please email Steve Burgess at: [sburgess@dlrgroup.com](mailto:sburgess@dlrgroup.com)

# BIBLE QUIZ compiled by Gloria Zinn

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE BIBLE?

1. What was one of the first conflicts the early church experienced? A) Aramaic Jewish widows needed food B) Grecian Jewish widows needed food C) There was not enough food for all the widows D) No one to help distribute the food

2. What sin did Ananias and Sapphira commit? A) They cheated the person who bought their land B) They lied to God about the money they received from their land C) They sold land that didn't belong to them D) They charged too much for their land

3. Who persuaded the Sanhedrin to spare the Apostles lives? A) Saul B) Gamaliel C) God D) the Holy Spirit

4. Who argued before the Sanhedrin that Jesus was the Messiah? A) Peter B) Barnabus C) Stephen D) John

5. Who held the coats of the men who stoned Stephen? A) Saul B) Gamaliel C) Nicodemus D) Simon the Sorcerer

6. Who was responsible for taking the gospel to the Samaritans? A) Philip B) Peter C) John D) Barnabus

7. Who did Peter bring back to life after their death? A) Cornelius, a centurion in the Roman army B) a disciple named Tabitha C) a paralytic named Aeneas D) Simon, the Sorcerer

8. What action of Peter's was criticized by the other apostles? A) His refusal to meet with the Gentiles B) that he was preaching to the Samaritans C) that he accepted money from Simon the sorcerer D) that he met and brought the Word to the Gentiles

9. What event scattered the believers at Jerusalem in order to escape persecution? A) the arrest of Peter and John B) the stoning of Stephen C) Saul's conversion D) the flogging of the apostles

10. Where were the disciples first called Christians? A) in a Roman prison by a guard B) at the church in Judea C) at the church in Antioch D) by the Sanhedrin during Peter's trial

11. What prophet predicted, through the Holy Spirit, that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world? A) Azariah B) Joel C) Philip D) Agabus

12. Which of the two disciples helped the Antioch church grow into great numbers of believers? A) John and Paul B) Peter and Paul C) Barnabus and Peter D) Paul and Barnabus

*(answers on the back page)*

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## JULY Session notes

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1) Session approved the allocation of up to 11,000 of unbudgeted funds in addition to budgeted funds for asphalt patching and striping of the West and East parking lots, membrane roof patching by White Castle, and interior repair of the membrane roof leak.

2) Session approved a motion made to have a regathering celebration in September.

3) Session approved opening the church for funeral meals.

4) Elders and Senior Staff held a discernment retreat on July 23rd and 24th.

5) Session approved holding a Special Session Meeting to set strategic priorities. The meeting will be held before the In-Gathering on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

To contact Session, send an email to:  
[clerkofsession@whcomaha.org](mailto:clerkofsession@whcomaha.org)

# OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE COOOOL

## The new 50 ton air conditioning unit in the sanctuary is up and running!

You may remember the article written by Don Glasgow in the April newsletter about the aging HVAC system and the challenges faced by the facility and grounds ministry team. "Both components were installed in the mid 1980's during the sanctuary addition. The outdoor unit (compressor system) has been plagued with problems for several years resulting in thousands of dollars worth of repairs and maintenance. The outdoor unit, located on a grade (south side of the Gym), has 2 of 4 compressors that are beyond repair. As of January 2020, the refrigerant (R22) used in the system is no longer in production. New equipment can no longer be manufactured with this refrigerant." And in deciding if one or both units should be replaced Don said, "The age and condition of the sanctuary AC unit justifies the need to upgrade the entire system". "New equipment will improve the efficiency of the system, save operating and maintenance costs, and serve the church well into the future."

This was a major undertaking, at a price tag of approximately \$138,000, we're so thankful to the congregation, staff and volunteers who made this happen. Also, thanks to the Wahldinger Corporation for their excellent service and workmanship. They were great to work with. These new units are sure to keep us cool for the next 25 years!

Old blower motor



New, more efficient, blower motor (2)



Old air handling system



New air handling system



## MOVIE SUGGESTION



“Discarded Things” is an approved, Dove Family Friendly movie for 12+. The story focuses on the life of music professor, Grace Wyatt. A combination of tragedies in Grace’s life, including an abusive father and the accidental death of her fiancé, leads her to a life of alcohol and drug abuse. When she finally loses her lavish academic life style she

is forced to move into Devlin house, a home for at risk youth. While the children work their own special magical healing powers on her, she must also confront the pending deaths of her parents and reach into the depths of her soul to forgive them.

Film run time is 107 minutes.

Starring in the film is Karen Abercrombie as Grace, *War Room* ( 2015), *God’s Compass* (2016), Christian Hip Hop artist Marcus “Flame” Gray, (American Lutheran Christian Hip Hop rapper with Clear Sight Music), Cameron Arnett, *I Still Believe* (2020), *Overcomer* (2019), *Star Trek the Next Generation* (1987), and Sharonne Lainer, *Summer of ‘67* (2018), *Sorry* (2020), and *The Dark: The Great Decision* (2020).

suggested by Debbie Chadwick

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**WEST HILLS  
FALL  
FUN FEST**

**Sunday, Sept. 26**

**11:30 - 2:00**

***More details to  
follow soon!***



3015 S 82 Avenue  
 Omaha, Nebraska 68124  
 402-391-8788  
 whcomaha.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**AUGUST**

- 1-Patti Brownlee  
Brayden Gill
- 2-Hal Capps
- 3-Steve Reese
- 4-Sandy Jernigan
- 9-Theresa Hamer
- 10-Megan Boyd  
Ken Blatny
- 12-Kelley Deases  
Luke Burns
- 14-Sherry Reese
- 15-Dick Burrows

- 16-Ethel Owens  
Rennie Grossoehme  
Stan Parker
- 17-Liz Woodworth
- 18-John O'Donovan  
Al Jansen
- 19-Kristina Schaffer  
Lloyd Woodworth
- 21-Elina Willie  
Mary Wagner
- 22-Hal Waller
- 24-Carolyn Collins  
Dan Travaille

- 25-Lisa Harrison
- 26-Sarah Sedivy  
Don Good
- 27-Nikki Burns  
Connie Schobert
- 28-Marti Bloes  
Leann Schaffer
- 29-Carolyn Bonner  
Stacey Neil  
Tim Schulte
- 30-Ethan Neil
- 31-Dave Krahmer  
Kurt Grossoehme

**SEPTEMBER**

- 1-Pat King  
Peggy Wheeler  
Mary Ann Olig
- 3-Ted Tromler  
Gladys Rumbaugh
- 4-Jan Drake  
Sam Nodes

*The complete list of  
 September birthdays will be  
 in the September newsletter.*