

LAKE WISCONSIN NEWS FOR YOU

LAKE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

N1640 Ryan Rd., Lodi, WI 53555 • (608) 592-3091

November



2011

How to Handle Frustration

By Pastor Brian Erickson

Frustration comes at us in so many different ways. Things like driving behind a farm implement in a no passing zone, finding out your daughter is reading below grade level, or after all these years your husband still hasn't learned to pick up his dirty socks. We all face frustration. And we make the problem worse when we assume life should be free of frustration. We think what Jesus said in John 10 "*I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full*" means we will never have a problem, let alone be frustrated. But the Bible never says life will be frustration-free. God just tells us no matter what happens in life He will never leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).

So if frustration is something I need to expect in my life, I'd better learn some ways to deal with it.

1. Ask: "Did I bring this on myself?" Galatians 6:7 says "*A man reaps what he sows.*" Many of the frustrations we face are things we've caused. There is no one to blame but yourself. This probably adds to the frustration because it's not easy to take responsibility for the things that are not going well in our lives. It's always easier to blame someone else. The engine light in my car came on last week and I haven't taken time to get it looked at. On my way to work this morning my car overheated and quit on me. Who's to blame? I am.

How to Handle Frustration con't

2. Ask: "What does God want to teach me?" How you react to this frustration can be an opportunity to grow in holiness, becoming more like Jesus Christ. And as unbelievers observe you going through this frustration, this is the best way for them to see that because of Christ in your life, you are different...you don't react as one without hope. How is God developing the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal.5:22-23) in you? He puts you in situations where you have to react fruitfully. If God wants you to learn how to love, He will put you around those who are difficult to love. If He wants you to learn patience, you'll find your patience tested. (Rom.8:28) *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."* In the "stuff" of life, there will be frustration. But when we turn even the bad stuff over to God, He will work in it to accomplish His purposes.

3. Be thankful to God in the frustration 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says *"In everything give thanks"*. I don't think this means you need to be thankful for the frustration, but in the midst of it all, still thank God. God may intend that frustration, inconvenience, interruption or irritation to be a blessing for you or an opportunity for Him to use you. The Apostle Paul wanted to preach while he was in Rome, but God put him in prison. And while there, Paul wrote many of the letters in the New Testament. Whatever position you end up in, God can use it if you yield to Him.

4. Try to laugh at the frustration In the moment it's hard to find humor in frustration. But as soon as possible, try to laugh at it. One time we were on the lake having engine trouble with our boat and my dad was working on it. He dropped a tool and got a little frustrated. And in his frustration, he threw his sunglasses down on the seat and they bounced off the seat and into the lake. That doubled his frustration. I ran and got the goggles and was able to find his glasses in the lake. And he eventually fixed the boat. And we still look back on that frustrating moment and laugh. Proverbs 17:22 says *"A cheerful heart is good medicine."* A sense of humor is God's medicine for frustrating situations. Laugh more.

5. Ask God for the ability to love Why? Because 1 Corinthians 13:5 says *"Love is not easily angered."* Love is not selfish. We get frustrated because sometimes we expect everything in life to fit our needs and our schedule. But love is focused on the other person. Do you think Jesus ever felt frustration? I'd say so, but He always had time for people. Sometimes we get so focused on our own "stuff" in life, we forget that other people are the priorities in life. Isaiah 26:3 says *"You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you."*

Opportunity *Rocks!!*

Love to Sing? Love to play an instrument?
Want to Worship God in a very special way?

The Worship Teams are looking for men and women to sing or play at either service. If you feel you have the gift of music, NOW is a great time to consider using your gift to praise and worship God to the fullest.

THINGS TO KNOW

The time commitment is as little or as much as you feel you can handle. Some team members participate 2 to 3 times a month, others as little as once a month or less.

Details...

	Service	Practice	Music Style
1st Service	9:00am	Sun. 7:50am	Traditional
2nd Service	10:30am	Thur. 6:30pm	Contemporary

CONTACT INFORMATION

1st Service: Mike Ashworth/608-237-1405/

residentmanager@picalw.org

2nd Service: Deb Boor/608-635-9461/dboor@aeieng.com or

Tom Gilles/608-635-2857/tomgilles@charter.net

Don't miss this opportunity to grow both spiritually and musically!!



A Trail of Crumbs

By Pastor Scott Larson

Have you ever noticed that some sections of the Bible seem pretty random and disjointed? Take John 6 for example. It starts off with the well known story of Jesus feeding 5000 people by multiplying loaves and fishes. Then the crowd is so amazed that they planned on starting a riot, overthrowing the local Roman soldiers, and making Jesus King (John 6:15). Next the disciples leave for the other side of the lake, and Jesus walks out on the water to them during a storm. The following morning, once everyone calmed down and processed all that happened, Jesus taught them a sermon based on bread.

Even though those stories seem unrelated, I know that John wanted us to read them together. I am certain of this because of the literary technique of framing. You see John 6 starts out with a story about Jesus miraculously making bread, and it ends with Jesus teaching about bread. Is this a coincidence? I don't think so. Remember what John says in 21:25 (seriously, go look it up). John is admitting he picked specific stories (out of many) and arranged them in a way that presented the most important themes and lessons of Jesus.

So in that light, how can we read this section in a way that everything ties together and makes sense? Consider this: in John chapter 5, Jesus healed a man from a lifelong disease. Then in John 6 Jesus feeds 5000 people. Finally, Jesus walks across the water in a storm. Is it any wonder that the crowds wanted to make Jesus their king? After all, Jesus just displayed dominance over sickness, nature, and hunger. The people want Jesus to seize control over the political and social systems, because no man had (or would ever) have his qualifications. And isn't this something you and I have wondered too? If Jesus can heal the sick, calm the storms, and feed the masses, why does he let plagues decimate populations, why does he let hurricanes batter the Gulf Coast, and why does he let children go hungry? This is one of the world's great questions, and this is the question that John is answering here! Do you see it yet?

A Trail of Crumbs con't

The chapter concludes with Jesus teaching about bread, with the summary and conclusion: “for my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink... so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.” (6:55-58) It’s fairly obvious that Jesus is talking about the Lord’s Supper. And what is the main lesson of this tradition? Consider how Derrek Webb describes communion in his song *Take to the World*:

And may the bread on your tongue

Leave a trail of crumbs

To lead the hungry back to the place that you are from

You see, as a Christian takes communion they should thank God for sending Jesus to be broken for our sins. They should thank Jesus for willingly sacrificing Himself for us. And then we should emerge with the realization that we are now the Body of Christ, called and equipped to combat sickness, nature, poverty, and hunger. John 6 answers the question of why Jesus has not yet seized control of this planet with swords and lightning. And the answer is because he wants us (Christians) to rule it, through a humble and intentional lifestyle drawn from his teachings.

So let those lyrics be said about you, about me, and about all of us at LWEFC.



Mark your calendars

On Wednesday, November 23, at 7:00 p.m. our church is hosting the annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve service. Brian Worthing (Prairie Valley Church) is scheduled to preach. Please plan on attending and, if you can, stay and enjoy coffee and fellowship time after the service.

LAKE WISCONSIN MISSIONS MINISTRY

Jill and Larry Couch
Serving in Sarajevo, Bosnia
Submitted by Audrey Messinger

In 2007 Jill and Larry started a new ministry by joining a church planting team in Sarajevo, Bosnia. They assist with the operation of the Nova Nada Ministry Center in central Sarajevo. Larry helps direct the teaching ministry and Jill oversees hospitality.

Larry and Jill visited us at Lake Wisconsin in October, 2010 as they were on "Home Assignment." At the end of January, 2011 they returned back to Bosnia. While in the U. S. they had to stay connected to home events, their ministry and the rest of their team in Sarajevo. All of us here at Lake Wisconsin enjoyed learning more about their ministry and getting to know them better personally.

Back home now they have been working on a five-year vision plan of an expanding network of seven or more new healthy churches in Sarajevo and beyond. "We exist to glorify God by establishing healthy multiplying communities of believers in Bosnia and Herzegovina." Pray for the implementation of the ministry it outlines.

Youth with a mission outreach team from Constanza, Romania had a three week short-term ministry in partnership with the Sarajevo team. Primary purpose was to assist with the English Camp, help kids learn English, try to help children break out of the poverty cycle of life for them and to learn about God. Eight to ten children attended daily.

In August, a Reach Global Europe Conference was held in Germany. (Every two years Reach Global has a required attendance conference for all of our missionaries in Europe.) The purpose of the conference was for refreshment, encouragement, instruction and training.


Missions con't


The Couch's have three children. Nathan is single and has recently purchased a home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He works for Rothwell International and is part of a team in the software library. Their daughter, Anna, is married to Jeff who pastors the United Methodist Churches in Mediapolis and Sperry, Iowa. They have four children and maintain a busy schedule. Leah and David Davenport have four children. Davis continues to work at 3M in Ames, Iowa. While Larry and Jill were on Home Assignment, can you imagine how much fun they had spending time with their family. Christmas time was especially special. Many days were spent sharing their ministry in Bosnia with their supporting churches and other friends.

Please pray for the Language study for Larry and for the development of the remaining full financial support of their ministry.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child demonstrates God's love to hurting children by partnering with churches worldwide to deliver gift-filled boxes and the Good News of Jesus Christ. We have shoe boxes available now in the church lobby for those of you who wish to participate in this ministry! Enjoy filling a shoe-box for a needy child. Please return your gift-filled boxes to the church by Sunday, November 13. Thank You!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
November 2011			
		1 9:30am Precepts Study Elders Meeting	2 6:00am Bible 6:30pm AWA
6 7:50am Worship Practice 9:00am Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service	7 9:30am Prayer Meeting	8 9:30am Precepts Study Trustees Meeting	9 6:00am Bible 1:00pm Book 6:30pm AWA
13 SHOEBOX DUE 7:50am Worship Practice 9:00am Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service (Annual Missions Offering)	14 9:30am Prayer Meeting	15	16 6:00am Bible 12:00pm Ladi noon Luncheo Assisted Livir 6:30pm AWA
20 7:50am Worship Practice 9:00am Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service National Bible Week	21 9:30am Prayer Meeting 	22	23 6:00am Bible 7:00pm Thank Eve Service
27 7:50am Worship Practice 9:00am Worship Service 10:30am Worship Service	28 9:30am Prayer Meeting	29	30

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Bible Study WANA	3 6:30pm Worship Practice	4	5
Bible Study Book Club WANA	10 6:30pm Worship Practice 7:00pm Wild Game Feed Meeting	11	12
Bible Study Ladies After- noon/ Living Visit WANA	17 6:30pm Worship Practice	18	19
Bible Study Thanksgiving ce	24	25	26
			

Wild Game Feed 2012

If you would like to be part of the planning committee for the Wild Game Feed, there will be a brainstorming/preplan meeting at church on Thursday, November 10, at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions or ideas for this year's event, please contact Tom Winter at 225-2848.

Anyone is welcome to attend this brainstorming/preplanning meeting!



November Theme Night - @



November 2 - Operation Christmas Child
November 9 - Stuffed Animal Night
November 16 - Awana Grand Prix
November 23 - **NO AWANA**
November 30 - Inside Out Night

Awana is a Bible Club for children ages 3 through 6th grade. We meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30pm-8:00pm.

Book Club News

Submitted by Delores Parsley

Wednesday, November 9, 1:00pm in the Church Library

The Help

By: *Kathryn Stockett*

This is a story of a young white woman who became interested in the lives of black maids employed by white women in Mississippi in the early 1960s, just before the Civil Rights movement. She writes their stories of mistreatment, abuse, and heartbreak but also of the loving relationships many of them developed with the white children in their care. This is a story filled with hope about 3 remarkable women set in very difficult times. Even though the story deals with a serious topic, there is much humor while teaching strong truths about race relations in the 1960s Deep South.

December Book Selection is *In His Steps*

By: *Charles Sheldon*

If you have any questions or would like more information regarding our Book Club, please contact Delores at 608-592-7344 or through email at chardel@charter.net.



Library Book Giveaway

On November 6, there will be a book giveaway in Joe's Café between services. The purpose of this is to create more space in the library for current and future use. The books being offered are duplicates of books already in the library or older books that few people are reading. There will be something there for all ages. These books still offer a lot of good reading. You might even find something that would make a good Christmas gift. Come and check them out.

There will be a basket available for donations for anyone who would like to contribute to the needs of the library. All contributions will be used to purchase more current books and reference material that would have a wider range of appeal to more people in our congregation.

Small Group Adult Bible Studies

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching”
Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

What is a Small Group?

Small groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God’s Word.

Why should I join a Small Group?

- ▶ To develop friendships with others in the church.
- ▶ To study the Word of God and share how it impacts you.
- ▶ To support each other in life through prayer.
- ▶ To pray for a missionary assigned to the group.

How do I join a Small Group?

If you see a group you would like to try, please contact the host or leader using the phone number provided on the listing.

In general, groups will be meeting in trimesters, but may vary in some groups.

Fall: September through December

Winter: January through March

Spring: April through June

Sunday Afternoon & Evenings

12:00 - 2:00pm (Harmony Grove)

Hosts: Matt & Anne VanderKooi (592-2025)

Leaders: Matt & Tracy Jesse (592-7491)

Location: N2619 Joan Ct.

Topic: The Book of Mark

Childcare: Provided on site as well as brunch

- Praying for Missionary– Cathy Rostad/Campus Crusade for Christ

1:00 - 3:00pm (Lake Wisconsin/Lodi)

Hosts: Rotates among homes

Contact: Bob & Serena Walters (592-5049)

Location: Rotates among homes

Topic: Sermon-based questions

Childcare: Not Available

- Praying for Missionaries Ron & Carol Soderquist/Campus Crusade for Christ

Sunday Afternoon & Evenings Bible Study con't

6:30 - 8:00pm (Lodi-Okee)

Hosts: Rotates among homes
Leader: Neil Bishop (592-3134)
Location: Rotates among homes
Topic: Sermon-based questions
Childcare: Not available

- Praying for Missionaries David & Sasha Bliss/Evangelical Free Church of America

6:00 - 8:00pm (Harmony Grove)

Hosts: Jesse & Audrey Parpart (592-1378)
Leader: Tom Winter (592-4871)
Location: W11109 Lake View Dr.
Topic: Sermon-based questions
Childcare: Provided on site

- Praying for Missionaries Gene & Judy Whiting/Greater Europe Mission

Monday Evenings

6:30pm - 8:00pm (Lodi)

Hosts and
Leaders: Brian & Jenn Erickson
(592-5559)
Location: 112 Vilas Hibbard Parkway
Topic: Sermon-based questions
Childcare: Provided on site

- Praying for Missionaries Larry and Jill Couch/Evangelical Free Church of America

6:30 - 8:00pm (Lodi)

Hosts and
Leaders: Bryan & Laura Cummings
(592-0115)
Location: W10535 River Road
Topic: TBD
Childcare: Not Available

- Praying for David & Susan Rousseau/TEAM

7:00 - 8:30pm (Lodi)

Hosts and
Leaders: Rick & Barb Kaja (592-5475)
Location: N2194 Hwy 188
Topic: Books of the New Testament
Childcare: Not Available

- Praying for Missionaries Erick & Elissa Lettner/Campus Crusade for Christ



Nursery Volunteers

November

9:00am

- 6 Arne & Mary Olson
- 13 Judy Keller & Anne VanderKooi
- 20 Jeremy & Cheryl Piontek
- 27 Jenn & Ben Newcomb

10:30am

- 6 Ron Rowe & Jenn Erickson
- 13 Mark & Judy Stewart
- 20 Mark & Darla Niebuhr
- 27 Ron & Heather Treinen

Cross Walk Children's Ministry Volunteers

9:00am

- 6 Jeremy & Cheryl Piontek
- 13 Mark & Darla Niebuhr
- 20 Lisa Doyle, Jenn Erickson & Bob Walters
- 27 Mark & Darla Niebuhr

10:30am

- 6 Judy Keller & Sue Martin
- 13 Anne & Remi Malig
- 20 Jenn Erickson & Cherie Schmidt
- 27 Bryan & Laura Cummings

Volunteers Every Sunday: Loretta Parker, Dave Padley and Ron Rowe

Mission Christmas Offering

Our annual Christmas offering for our Missionaries will be held on Sunday, November 13.

*And he said to them, "Go into all the world
and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.*

Mark 16:15



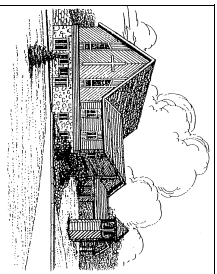


Ladies Afternoon Luncheon

November 16, at Noon

Afterwards a visit to Our House Assisted Living. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the church lobby. Please contact Lynn Muttini with questions (635-7710).

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