

Missionary Updates ...Bill & Cindy Hoppe

As your Awana missionary I represent Northeast Central, Northeast Minnesota, and Northwest Wisconsin. In the first week of April I had 3 days of meetings and training at the International Home Office of Awana in Streamwood, Illinois. There were about 80 other Awana missionaries from across the United States gathered. At these annual meetings, we not only receive good and encouraging training, but sweet fellowship with people we see in person only once or twice a year.



The highlight for me was the retirement ceremony for an Awana missionary couple who have faithfully served 43 years as Awana missionaries. Awana also brought in an already retired Awana ministry couple who faithfully served at the Awana Home Office for about the same number of years.

I will be contacting every church I serve in the coming weeks, to see if they would like me to partner with them in providing some refresher training, even during the summer months.

Thank you again for all of you who pray for us and the many of you who faithfully support me to serve as an Awana missionary.

Prayer Requests:

1. Safety and protection as I travel to the different churches.
2. The need for people interested in serving Christ as an Awana missionary.
3. For the churches who are in need of some refresher training; that they will contact me.

The ABC's of Becoming a Christian

A — **Admit** to God that you are a sinner. Repent, turning away from your sin. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

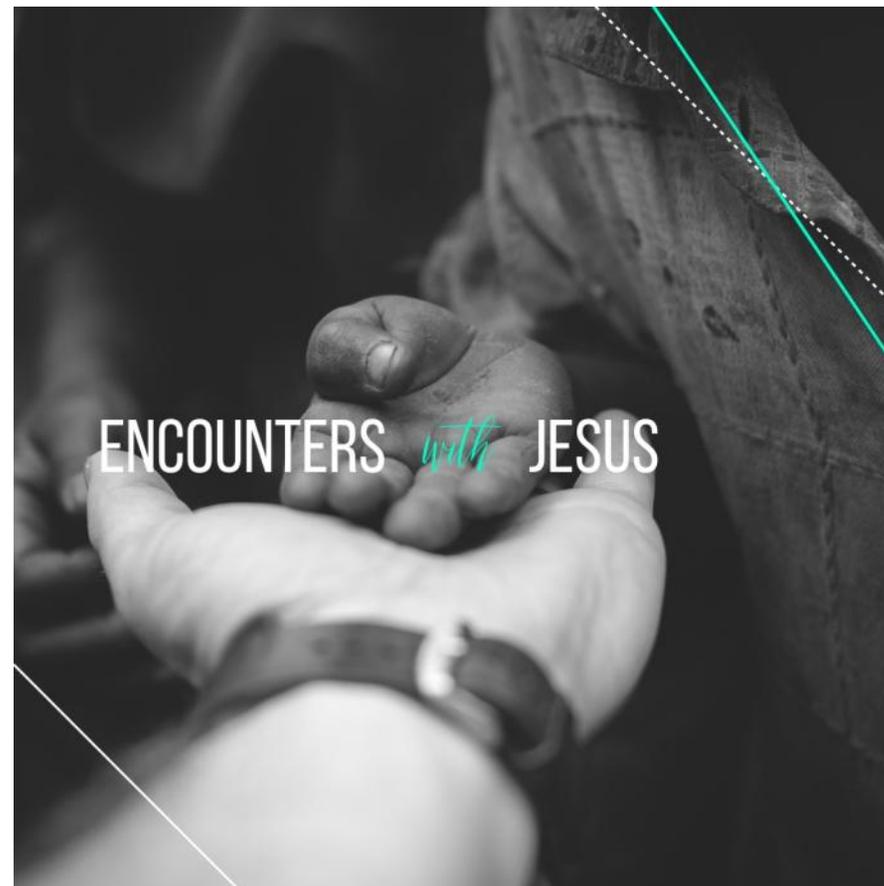
B — **Believe** that Jesus is God's Son and accept God's gift of forgiveness from sin. "While we were sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

C — **Confess** your faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord.

"If you will confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

Prayer: Dear God, I am sorry for my sins. I believe Jesus died on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me. I ask Jesus to come into my life to be my Savior and Lord. Thank you for loving me and saving me from my sins. In Jesus name, Amen.

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Dan Johnson • 320.295.6091 • dan.johnson@ifallscovenant.org
Seth Bjornrud • 218.209.6293 • seth.bjornrud@ifallscovenant.org
Church Office • 218.283.3365 • ecc@ifallscovenant.org
Ed Natysin • 218.417.0653

Prayer Requests: snatysin@gmail.com or
ifeccprayerchain@gmail.com

Wi-Fi: Exodus15:2 • www.ifallscovenant.org • 283.3365

Welcome to Worship!—We're so glad you have joined us this morning. If you are a guest today, please fill out a Covenant Connect card and place it in the offering. **Children's Church** (10:30am service) is for 3-year olds—2nd grade. The children gather in the Cubbies Room downstairs after the announcements are given.

 **Bridal Shower** — Ladies, you are invited to a bridal shower for Jess Pollino today at 11:45am. See her online registry at www.theknot.com/us/wayne-schrock-and-jess-pollino. She is also registered at City Drug. Bring a copy of a favorite recipe for Jess as she starts her married life.

National Day of Prayer — Join us at the flagpole on Thursday, May 2, at 12 noon for a time of prayer.

Waffles & Widows — Join others for a time of yummy waffles and encouragement on Saturday, May 4, at 10am in the gym. Contact Tucky Dill at 218.742.6040 if you have a question.

Pastoral Search Committee — Please continue to pray for our search committee as they gather and interview candidates. The members are: Carol Anderson, Beth Nelson, Eric Todd, Rod Enns, Kristy Hufnagle, David Hebig, and Andy Hedlund.

Updating Our Records — If you have recently moved, dropped your landline and gotten a cell phone number, please fill out a Covenant Connect card with the updated information and drop it in the offering.

Prayer Meeting — There will be no prayer meeting on Monday, May 6.

Our Sincere Sympathies — are extended to John & Kim Morrison and Bob & Cathy Morrison and their families on the recent loss of their father, John S. Morrison, who passed away on April 19.

Community Opportunity ...

NOW — Get roses for someone special for Mother's Day and support life. You can buy a dozen assorted long-stemmed roses for \$25; orders should be placed by April 28. You can order online at www.northernoptions.org, or call the office at 218.285.7673. Please pick them up at Northern Options for Women on May 9 & 10.

Encountering Love

John 21:15-19

1. A Restored _____.

Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?'

'Simon son of John, do you truly love me?'

'Simon son of John, do you love me?' John 21:15, 16, 17

Peter asked, 'Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.'

John 13:37 (NIV)

'Yes, Lord,' he said, 'you know that I love you.'

John 21:15 (NIV)

'Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.'

John 21:17 (NIV)

2. A Restored _____.

'Feed my lambs.'

'Take care of my sheep.'

'Feed my sheep.' John 21:15, 16, 17 (NIV)

Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

1 Corinthians 1:26, 27 (NIV)

That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:10 (NIV)

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:30, 31 (NIV)