



God's Heart for the Nations

I have a weird shirt that I made. It is a gray t-shirt with a pocket that is a lighter shade of gray. The weird part is that the pocket is located on the bottom right of the shirt and quite large. On the pocket is a stitched red heart. This shirt reminds me of God's heart for the nations of this world.

Take fifteen seconds right now to picture Heaven in your mind and the people you would see there... no, really do it... are you done yet... now, who are the people that you picture being there? Chances are you thought about the people in your life you love who are there. Did you know that God gives us a picture of who will be in Heaven? They are the people who He loves.

After this I looked, and there was an enormous crowd—no one could count all the people! They were from every race, tribe, nation, and language, and they stood in front of the throne and of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. (Revelation 7.9)

God's heart is for every variety of people on earth. It always has been from the time that God told Abraham He wanted to bless the nations of the world through Him to when Jesus said to us to "Go and make disciples of ALL nations."

The question is... is that your heart? Do you have a love for people who are different than you, or is your first reaction when you see them to feel uncomfortable or afraid? Are your life decisions centered around how you can use your gifts and passions and resources to see all nations represented in Heaven? How far are you willing to go... how much would you sacrifice to add one person to that number?

When I made that t-shirt it was after my first experience on a mission trip. It was to a Muslim country in Africa. When I came back I was never the same. The shirt pocket was designed after the pocket that is on the outfits of the people of that country. The heart I sewed on top was there to represent how God had given me His heart for the Muslim people of that country. God used that experience to call me as a pastor who is passionate about missions.

This March 7-15 is our annual Missions Conference at the International Falls Covenant Church. There will be lots of fun and learning activities with missionaries from all over. I encourage you to keep a paper schedule or use the one on the website to participate in as many of these as you can. My prayer is that through the missions conference God would put His heart in all of us for the nations of the world to worship Jesus in Heaven.

Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.
Pastor Seth



Most people will tell you that separation and divorce are the most painful and stressful experiences they've ever faced. It's a confusing time when you feel isolated and have lots of questions about issues you've never faced before. DivorceCare groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each session has two distinct elements:

A Seminar with Experts

During the first 30-40 minutes of the meeting, each DivorceCare group watches a video seminar featuring top experts on divorce and recovery subjects. These videos are produced in an interesting-to-watch television magazine format featuring expert interviews, real-life case studies and on-location video.

A Support Group with Focus

After viewing the video, DivorceCare group participants spend time as a support group, discussing what was presented in that week's video seminar and what is going on in the lives of group members.

DivorceCare will meet on Thursday nights, 6:30-8pm, in Room 200. This is open to the community! Questions? Please contact Andy & Laurie Hedlund at 286-3310.



- Saturday
 - March 7, 14, 28 @ 10am
 - March 21 @ 1pm
- Room 200
- Questions? Contact Tucky Dill at 218.742.6040.



- Wednesdays
- 5:00-5:45pm Supper
- 6-7:30pm Awana Clubs



Waffles & Widows

Join other ladies for a time of encouragement & fellowship. Questions? Contact Tucky at 218.742.6040.

March 21 • 10am • Gym



Celebrate Recovery

Tuesdays @ 7pm in Room 200

This is for anyone who has hurts or hang-ups that they are working through.

Questions?

- Mary LePage at 286-5236
- Will Davies at 283-0925



Saturday, March 7

- 5:30pm — Family Fun Night

Sunday, March 8

- 9am — Sunday School with Kirsten Wagenius & Matt Keller
- 9am & 10:30am — Worship with Dennis Clark

Monday, March 9

- 4:30pm — Ruby's Pantry Serving Opportunity at Backus

Tuesday, March 10

- 12pm — Round Table Discussion of Practical Application
* Meal provided

Wednesday, March 11

- 6pm — Awana families & clubbers with Bill Hoppe
- 7pm — Teens with Jerry Skifstad

Thursday, March 12

- 7pm — Jerry Skifstad will be sharing with the young adults

Friday, March 13

- 7pm — Movie Night

Saturday, March 14

- 9am — Brunch & Prayer with Missionaries
- 1pm — Seminar with Nate Oyloe on Interacting with the LGBT Community

Sunday, March 15

- 9am — Sunday School with Bill & Cindy Hoppe
- 9am & 10:30am — Worship with Nate Oyloe
- 11:45am — Potluck with Jerry Skifstad sharing A-K • Main Dish; L-Z • Salad/Dessert





March Reading Schedule

1.	▶ MATTHEW	21:23-32	▶ ROMANS	1:1-17	▶ PSALMS	48	▶ NUMBERS	1-2
2.		21:33-46		1:18-32		49		3-4
3.		22:1-14		2		50		5-6
4.		22:15-33		3		51		7-8
5.		22:34-46		4		52		9-11
6.		23:1-12		5:1-11		53		12-14
7.		23:13-24		5:12-21		54		15-17
8.		23:25-39		6:1-14		55		18-20
9.		24:1-14		6:15-23		56		21-22
10.		24:15-35		7:1-12		57		23-25
11.		24:36-51		7:13-25		58		26-27
12.		25:1-13		8:1-17		59		28-30
13.		25:14-30		8:18-39		60		31-32
14.		25:31-46		9:1-18		61		33-36
15.		26:1-16		9:19-33	▶ DEUT.	62		1-3
16.		26:17-35		10		63		4-5
17.		26:36-56		11:1-24		64		6-8
18.		26:57-75		11:25-36		65		9-12
19.		27:1-10		12:1-8		66		13-17
20.		27:11-26		12:9-21		67		18-21
21.		27:27-44		13		68		22-26
22.		27:45-56		14		69:1-18		27-28
23.		27:57-66		15:1-13		69:19-36		29-31
24.		28:1-10		15:14-33		70		32
25.		28:11-20		16		71		33-34



Recipe Corner

Poke Turtle Brownies

Brownies: 1 C flour
1/4 tsp cinnamon (optional)
3/4 C unsweetened cocoa powder

1 C semi-sweet chocolate chips
1/4 C mini semi-sweet chocolate chips

Frosting: 6 TBSP butter, softened
2 TBSP light corn syrup or honey

Caramel Sauce: 3/4 C butter
2 TBSP water

1/2 C evaporated milk

1/2 tsp baking powder
1C butter, melted
4 large eggs
1 1/4 C pecans; chopped

1/2 tsp salt
2 C granulated sugar
2 tsp vanilla extract
3/4 C caramel sauce

1/4 C + 2 TBSP cocoa powder
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 1/2 C light brown sugar, packed
1/4 tsp salt
1 TBSP vanilla extract

To make Caramel Sauce: Add butter, brown sugar, water, and salt to saucepan; heat over medium-low heat, stirring until butter melts. Bring to a boil and then reduce to a vigorous simmer, whisking constantly until thickened, (approx 5-7 minutes). Remove from heat and stir in 1/2 C evaporated milk (it will bubble a lot) and vanilla. Add more evaporated milk to achieve desired consistency.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 9x13 pan with nonstick cooking spray and set aside. For the brownies: Mix together flour, baking power, salt, and cinnamon; set aside. In another bowl, whisk butter, sugar and cocoa powder together. Add eggs, one at a time, beating after each addition until incorporated. Beat in vanilla. Fold in flour mixture just until combined. Add 1 C of chocolate chips & 3/4 C pecans to batter and stir until combined. Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 30-35 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes then poke holes all over with chopstick. Pour 1/2 C caramel over brownies & spread. Refrigerate for 1 hour or freeze for 30 minutes to let caramel set. Meanwhile prepare the frosting by beating butter, cocoa, corn syrup & vanilla until blended. Add powdered sugar and 2 TBSP milk, beating until smooth; add more milk if needed to reach spreading consistency. Frost cooled brownies; sprinkle with pecans, mini chips and drizzle with leftover caramel topping. Enjoy!

The



Messenger

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From the Desk of Pastor Dan ...

He has made everything beautiful in its time.
Ecclesiastes 3:11

They say that timing is everything. That has certainly been the story of our family for the last couple of months. Our oldest son, Aaron, decided that it was time for a job change. He and his family moved to a new job in Phoenix. In order for that to happen they needed to sell two homes and buy a home in Phoenix, all in a matter of two weeks. Needless to say, they were praying and we were praying for God to work out a lot of details in a very short period of time. The good news is that God did just that. They sold the home they were living in New Mexico and shortly after that the home they had not been able to sell in Las Vegas. On top of it all, they found just the right house for their family in the Phoenix area. Needless to say, they were very thankful for how God answered prayer at just the right time.

In looking back on this experience, Aaron realized he had wasted a lot of time and effort worrying about things not working out. He could have saved himself a lot of trouble by simply trusting God to work things out when they needed to happen. Recently, we saw Aaron. We explained all the things that needed to come together in our lives in the next few months; hiring a replacement for Faith's job, selling a house, finding a new house. In that mature voice of experience that only adult children can have, he reminded us of his experience with God's faithfulness and timing to encourage us. He said, "I wasted a lot of time worrying when God had it all worked out all along."

I wanted to share my current testimony with you. Yes, I have been anxious and I have had to remind myself over and over that I can trust my Heavenly Father to work out details. And the amazing thing is, at just the right time, God has been answering prayer and showing me his plan for my future. The Bible says that God is working out all things together for our benefit. Our response is to trust him. My prayer for you is that we will trust God "to make everything beautiful in its time."

In His grip,
Pastor Dan

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Deion Kalar	3 Sherry Austin Paul & Victoria Galusha	4	5	6	7
8 Stephen Anderson Ruth Vacura	9 Ann Kaushagen Wayne Schrock Jennifer Vollom Sarah Young	10 Steve Nelson	11 Jerad Kostiuik Alan & Elaine Johnson	12 Adam Aili Brenda Hjelle	13 Greta Kostiuik Olnick & Mikaela Hultstrand	14 Gerald Dion Edward Serrano
15 Kayla Dowty Mariah Jo Layman	16 Regan Bilben Betty Blankman Lynn & Pat Larson	17 Maggie Morgan Earl Sneller Chelsea Vinar Punky Stadam	18 Kathy Blais Winona Ruffing	19 Blair Hjelle David Kellin	20 Stacy Hall Gerald & Louise Dion	21 Priscilla Schrock
22 Olivia Line Judy Pierce	23 Ella Bahr	24 Mike Carney Laura Zika Rodney & Angie Heppner	25 Chadd Boyer	26 Jeff & Diane Ad- ams	27 Wayne Hasbargen Megan Herrly Dave Howdahl	28 Rachel Anderson Jen Gustafson
29 Katy Nelson	30 Betty Williams	31 Mary Boyum Tyrel Shoberg				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30am Prayer 9am Worship & Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Sunday School	2 1pm Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm Prayer Meeting	3 9:15am Ladies Bible Study 6:45pm Prayer 7pm Celebrate Recovery	4 6am Men's Study 7:30am Men's Study 5-7:30pm Awana 7pm Teens	5 7pm Young Adults	6	7 10am GriefShare 5:30pm Family Fun Night
8 8:30am Prayer 9am Worship & Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Sunday School	9 1pm Ladies Bible Study 4:30pm Ruby's Pantry Serving Opportunity 6:30pm Prayer Meeting	10 9:15am Ladies Bible Study 12pm Round Ta- ble Discussion 6:45pm Prayer 7pm Celebrate Recovery	11 6am Men's Study 7:30am Men's Study 5-7:30pm Awana w/ Bill Hoppe 7pm Teens w/ Jerry Skifstad	12 7pm Young Adults w/ Jerry Skifstad	13 7pm Movie Night 	14 9am Brunch & Prayer 10am GriefShare 1pm Seminar with Nate Oyloe
15 8:30am Prayer 9am Worship & Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:45pm Mission Potluck	16 1pm Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm Prayer Meeting	17 9:15am Ladies Bible Study 6:45pm Prayer 7pm Celebrate Recovery	18 6am Men's Study 7:30am Men's Study 5-7:30pm Awana 7pm Teens	19 7pm Young Adults	20	21 10am Waffles & Widows 11pm GriefShare
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