

# Meadowbrook MESSENGER

A Monthly Newsletter for Members and Friends of Meadowbrook Christian Church



## A Devotion from Daniel

This message will be short and sweet. Sometimes we fall prey to the notion that we must talk at great length or use big fancy words in order to prove we know what we are talking about. But my message for you today is this...THANK YOU! To everyone who did anything at all to make last week's VBS a success thank you. If you taught, cooked, cleaned, decorated, donated, hung a flyer, sang, danced, provided security, or prayed. Thank you so much.

Here is why I thank you, because what you did was Kingdom work. I want to relay a story to you that you would probably never hear if I did not share it here. And without getting to hear this story and others like this it would be easy to question why we spend the resources to put on an event like VBS. This is the story of a little boy who attended our VBS last week. I won't use his name, but he was in early elementary school. His mother would drop him off and pick him up each afternoon. It was clear in my limited interaction with his mother that English was not her first language. The little boy was very smart in class and a great reader for his age. Every day I would encourage his mother by telling her how well behaved he was and how bright he was. I would ask her to stay for lunch with everyone and she would decline respectfully every day. I assumed that would be the limit of our impact on this family. We entertained their son for a few hours, we kept him safe, and we smiled politely at each other at pick up and drop off. It was on Saturday when they returned for the closing party that my wife had a chance to have an extended conversation with the mother as the son played in the splash pool. She said... "My son is coming home every day talking about this Jesus who forgives you no matter what you do." If you ever wonder if there are truly people in our midst that have never heard the name of Jesus before, my wife met one on Saturday. She might be your neighbor for all I know. And while I cannot say that this family placed their faith in Jesus last week, I know based on that conversation a seed was planted. It was by your willingness to give of your time, treasure, and talent that the seed was put into the Earth. Only God knows what will grow from there.



## Message from Anthony

### Song Stories

Here at Meadowbrook, we sing a lot of different songs in worship. Be it a classic hymn, a well-known contemporary chorus, or something that is lesser known, we sing a variety of songs that help us connect with the Father and worship Him fully. But why so many songs, and why THESE songs in particular? Well, this series of articles is going to attempt to answer those very questions as we explore some of the songs that make up our worship sets on Sunday morning.

#### "Battle Belongs"

Battle Belongs is a song from Phil Wickham that we are introducing here at MCC this fall. It was written with 2 Chronicles 20 in mind, reflecting on how God's people turned to Him in prayer when faced with insurmountable opposition. Let's reflect on the lyrics of this song for a moment:

#### LYRICS

##### VERSE 1:

When all I see is the battle, You see my victory  
When all I see is the mountain, You see a mountain moved  
And as I walk through the shadow, Your love surrounds me  
There's nothing to fear now for I am safe with You

##### CHORUS:

So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees  
With my hands lifted high  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You  
And every fear I lay at Your feet  
I'll sing through the night  
Oh God, the battle belongs to You

##### VERSE 2:

And if You are for me, who can be against me? Yeah  
For Jesus, there's nothing impossible for You  
When all I see are the ashes, You see the beauty  
Thank You God  
When all I see is a cross, God, You see the empty tomb

##### BRIDGE:

Almighty fortress, You go before us

Nothing can stand against the power of our God  
You shine in the shadow, You win every battle  
Nothing can stand against the power of our God

“Battle Belongs” Written By: Brian Mark Johnson / Philip David Wickham

When we face our own trials and opposition in life, we have a God that reminds us that He loves us, protects us, and fights the battles we can never win. He has already overcome the greatest enemy we could ever face, that being the death sentence we earned in our sin. There are so many reminders of this in scripture, one being found in Psalm 108:13, which says:  
With God we shall do valiantly, it is he who will tread down our foes.

When God’s people cry out to Him, He responds with power and presence that we can only imagine. But there is a catch - we have to be following God’s will in every circumstance. Trust that He knows the way and will make a way over every obstacle we face when we follow Him. The battle truly does belong to the Lord.



**IDES Food Packing Event - February 4, 2023**

**8:00am-12:00pm at Meadowbrook Christian Church**

## Update from Karamoja Mission

### August 2022 Update from Duncan Ojiambo Nabilatuk Church of Christ building

"I am happy to report that Nabilatuk Church Building is nearly complete. This Sunday we moved from the place we have been renting in Nabilatuk town to our home. The church met in our own building. We have been able to buy windows and doors, plastered only at the front of the church building and poured concrete slab in the floor. We can now use our property. Thank you, Meadowbrook Church, for your financial support towards the construction of this home, for Bible School and Church."

### Church Website





# Sisters IN CHRIST Service

## **SIS Hosting the MCC Annual Garage Sale**

SIS will be hosting our annual Garage Sale on Thursday, August 18 and Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am-4pm, and Saturday 9am-2pm at the church. All profits from the garage sale will be used to minister to those in need within our community.

Acceptable Items: Clean and gently used household items, tools, jewelry, and children's books and toys

Not Acceptable Items: Clothing, books other than children's, large furniture, such as sofas, tables, or bookcases.

### **Drop off dates for donated items:**

- Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup> – bring them when you come to worship!
- Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 2pm, in the front foyer of the church. Individuals will be there to receive your donations.
- Any day of the sale.

Assistance during the sale: We welcome any assistance you can provide **any day of the sale, and for the initial setup on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm.** It's a great time of fellowship and meeting our wonderful neighbors in search of a good bargain! If you have any questions, please see Cathy Podvin or Lynn Ross.



### **Off-Campus Youth Group**

The MCC youth group is meeting off campus for the summer. The youth have made it to several Meadowbrook family member homes to enjoy time spent together in fellowship, as well as share in a devotion. A text will go out to all the youth parents with the location address by the Wednesday before the following Thursday event. All MCC youth group meetings from June through August will be held on Thursday evenings from 6-8pm.

### **Family Movie Night**

Join us September 15th @ 5:30pm for Family Movie Night! Hot Dogs, Pizza, Popcorn, and Sonic the Hedgehog! All are welcome. We'll See you there!



### **Young Adults – Bowling Event**

An off-campus YA event is happening on Wednesday, August 31st. If you are interested in being added to the invite list, or know someone who should be, please reach out to Daniel at [daniel@mccrochesterhills.com](mailto:daniel@mccrochesterhills.com). More info to come.





### **Birthdays**

Sawyer Sweigard – August 2

Jeremiah Cox – August 4

Elaine Bright – August 14

Ron Murphy – August 30