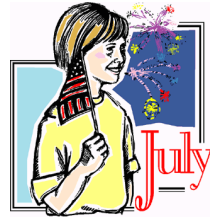




# Calendar

of



## Events

**Financial Resources Committee**  
June 8 and July 13, 7:00 p.m.

**Board of Elders**  
June 9, 7:00 p.m. (No July meeting)

**Craft Night**  
June 10 and July 8, 7:00 p.m.

**Dudes Night**  
June 11 and July 9, 5:00 p.m.

**Children's Education Ministry Team**  
June 12 and July 10, Noon

**PADS Sandwich Ministry**  
June 12 and July 10, Noon

**Worship Planners**  
June 12 and July 10, 5:00 p.m.

**Concert of Prayer**  
June 19 and July 17, 6:30 p.m.

**Caregiving Ministry Team**  
June 20, 7:00

**Scarborough/Davis Baby Shower**  
June 25, 9:30 a.m.

**Annual Church Picnic**  
June 26, Noon  
Whytegate Park

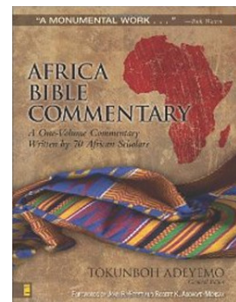
**Annual Ravinia Outing**  
July 31, 5:00 p.m.  
CSO plays Tchaikovsky's *1828 Overture*  
Lawn Tickets \$10

### Weekly Dates:

**Special Summer Ladies' Bible Study: *Battlefield of the Mind***  
Mondays, 7:00 p.m. (June 9, 16, 23 and 30)

**Ignite (Sr. High Youth) & Club 180 (Middle School Youth)**  
Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.

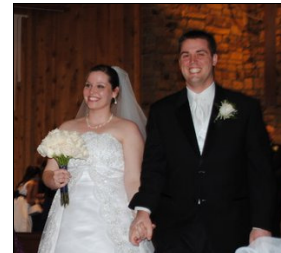
Just a quick note to let you know that we received word this week that the Africa Bible Commentaries your churches helped to provide for the Congo Free Church pastors are now in Dr. Nupanga's office at the seminary in Bangui and will soon be distributed among the CECU churches. Thanks for your part in this extremely important project!



Kevin Kompelien  
Africa International Leader, EFCA ReachGlobal

**Congratulations** to newlyweds Brandon and Ashley Boulais. They were married at VCL on May 21st.

**Congratulations** to new members Bob and Judy DeBaets.



**Congratulations** to all our families who have recently dedicated their children:

Derek and Emily Torres dedicated their daughter Ginny on May 1st.



Yohan and Inae Park dedicated their son Simon on May 15th.

Billy and Shanté Pohl dedicated their son Samuel on May 29th



Joon and Sooyoung Cho dedicated their daughter Sammie on May 29th.

(from front) Conference the following week which, conveniently, is in San Diego this year. Tammy will be able to travel with him to both events. The weekend in between, they will have the opportunity to attend a marriage conference which the Navy offers. It is something



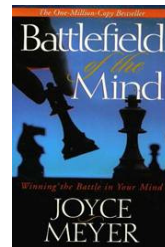
that the base in El Centro would like Jared to promote which he can better do if he has first-hand experience. In addition to this trip, Jared and Tammy have been doing some local exploring on the weekends and have enjoyed getting to know this new area they now call home.

### Directory Updates

A mid-year directory update is available at the Information Center on the right hand side near the directories. If you prefer a digital copy, just send an email to the church office with your request.

### Special Summer Women's Bible Study

We will be having a special four week ladies Bible study this summer and would love to have you join us. We will gather on consecutive Thursday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at VCL beginning June 9. The study is a DVD series entitled "Battlefield of the Mind" by Joyce Meyer. A time of discussion and prayer will follow. Joyce stresses ways we can guard our hearts and minds using God's Word and how to recognize counterproductive thought patterns. She teaches that our battles are won or lost in our minds, and that it is obedience to the Word of God that changes our thought patterns. Come and learn these powerful truths. If you have any questions, please call Kaye Lyons (847) 945-6964 or Ruth Ann Van Dixhorn (847) 634-9491.



Crafters rejoice....VCL now has a monthly craft night! It will be held every 2nd Friday of the month at the church. Join us on Friday June 10th from 7pm-11pm. Bring your craft or just stop in for some great fellowship. Our swap table is filled with craft items - swap your gently used item for a "new" one. The June demo will be card-making by Pamela Hedges. The July demo will be paper-crafting by Steph Ingersoll- you won't want to miss them! Questions - contact Steph Ingersoll or Pamela Hedges.

Plan ahead to attend both of VCL's summertime annual fellowship events.

The first is the **Annual Church Picnic** which is scheduled for **Sunday, June 26** right after the service across the street at Whytegate Park. The park features playground equipment, tennis and basketball courts and lots of room to spread out and enjoy the outdoors.

Bring lawn chairs or blankets and any "outdoor" toys to play with. For the picnic, please bring your favorite meat to BBQ. If your last name begins with A-M, bring a side dish to pass, or if N-Z, then a dessert to pass. Everything else is provided. Questions? Talk to Daniel & Krista Sweetser, John & Steph Ingesoll or John & Amy Hartel.

The second is the **Annual Ravinia Outing** which will take place **Sunday, July 31**. This Tchaikovsky spectacular features his uniquely celebratory "1812" Overture --- accompanied by live cannons. It will be performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under the direction of James Conlon.

The performance begins at 5:00 p.m. Lawn tickets are \$10. Please bring your own lawn chairs and refreshments. The park opens at 3:00 p.m. — call The Johnson's to find our group's lawn spot. Questions? Talk to Carl & Sharon Johnson or Ted & Margaret Ward.

### Village Church of Lincolnshire

201 N. Riverwoods Rd.  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Phone: 847-295-7707 Fax: 847-295-7757

Email: [evcl@evcl.org](mailto:evcl@evcl.org)

Website: [www.evcl.org](http://www.evcl.org)

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Ministries Administrator  
Office Manager  
Custodian

Lee Eclov  
Michael Mauriello  
Susan Eclov  
Susan Beck  
Angela Fischer

**Elders:** Warren Anderson (chair), Bob Fischer, Carl Johnson, and Jim Stamoolis



# Village Vine

June/July 2011

## Summer Sermons: "Who is wise and understanding among you?"

By Pastor Lee Eclov

We tend to want wisdom in the moment, in a crisis, the way we want an emergency care center nearby. We also like the idea of knowing someone who is wise, who sees the forest even standing in the middle of the trees. We want someone who can get to the heart of a matter—*our* matter—with direct simplicity; kind of a personal consultant.

But how important is it to *you* to grow wise? If it can just happen naturally, easily, we'd all be for it. But how many of us have made it a lifelong project to grow wise? Who pursues wisdom with the dogged training of a runner preparing for a marathon?

The Bible teaches us that pursuing wisdom is a life or death decision. That it will make or break you. The Bible teaches us how to grow wise—slowly, gradually, deeply. All of Scripture is wisdom literature, of course, but the books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Songs specifically bear that label. In our minds at least, Proverbs is the book we think of first when we think of wisdom.

This summer we will seek to learn to love wisdom more than we do. Our focus will be the first nine chapters of Proverbs in a series entitled, "Who is wise and understanding among you?" Generally, the short, pithy proverbs we think of are not in those nine chapters. They are in chapters 10-31, and some of those proverbs will be taught and considered during the 9 a.m. hour each Sunday. But our focus in the worship services will be developing a heart of wisdom.

These chapters have memorable characters: the father and the fool, the enticing adulteress and Ms. Wisdom. There are stories of traps and treasures, schemes and street corners. We all talk about wisdom, and hope that we have some measure of it, but here is the test and the training we need.

As always, if you cannot be with us during summer Sundays you can read or listen to every sermon at our website, [www.evcl.org/sermons](http://www.evcl.org/sermons). For the preaching schedule, see the *Vine* flap.

## Summer Plans for ABF

By Pastor Michael Mauriello

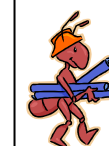
Did you ever hear the phrase, pecha kucha? I(t doesn't sound like its spelled. Try saying it fast: petcha-ki-cha.) I didn't either, until Pastor Lee told me about it. It's a new art form using a new medium: Microsoft Powerpoint. Here's how it works. Twenty slides, each up for twenty seconds, centered around a single theme or idea. They tell a visual story about something important to the artist. The artist then tells that story or talks about the idea, while the slide show is going. Pecha kucha.

Interested in seeing some? Here's your chance!! Starting on June 19<sup>th</sup>, during our 9:00 hour before worship, Andrew Seaman, Eric Hughes, and Pastor Michael are doing series on wisdom themes in Proverbs that will complement Lee's preaching series this summer. How will we do this? With pecha kuchas! After each presentation there will be questions to discuss together about each theme presented.

But that's not all that will change this summer. We're interested in using our time in our 9:00 hour for some "get to know you time." So, we're going to turn our great room into a sort of a coffee house, with great coffee, tables for talking and "getting to know you" interaction. We've got some new folks, and many of you didn't even know we had something at the 9:00 hour. Well here is a chance to get to know folks better, and get a chance to have a different sort of education hour, education through a new art.

We want our 9:00 hour this summer to be fun, friendly, and fascinating. Coffee, connection, and kucha. What could be better?

This series will run through August 7<sup>th</sup>. And we will take a break for the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.



"There are four things on earth that are small but unusually wise." (Proverbs 30:24) This summer during Children's Church we will learn from the small and wise. Our multi-media exploration will include puppets, computer technology and other artistic expressions. The result of our "hand"y work will be used for various service projects in our community. If you are between the ages of 4 and 12, you are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings at the 10:30 hour.

## So, How Are The Smiths?

You may be wondering how Lt. Jared and Tammy Smith are doing since they left VCL in April, so here is a brief update.

After a 5-day, cross-country drive, the Smith's arrived at the base in El Centro, where they are settled in to base housing. This particular base is small and quite relaxed for Navy standards. People have been very welcoming to the Smiths. Since they both grew up in small towns they are enjoying re-acclimation to a "small town" feel. Additionally, this command is very supportive of the chaplaincy.

Since arriving, Jared has been very busy. He does the protestant service on base every Sunday morning. It's a small (and short) service - there have been about 12-15 people in attendance each week, and not always the same ones. The feedback he is receiving has been positive, so that has been encouraging. Jared has

## Congregational Meeting Synopsis

By Jim Stamoolis

While in many church fellowships, the business meetings are routine and often boring, we are privileged to be part of VCL where they show the spiritual life of the church. The congregational meeting on May 15 was no exception, as we received reports on the ministry and heard encouraging projections for the future.

Always a highlight is the informative and humorous look at our church finances by Jim Hansen. He has the gift of making the intricacies of budget clear while making us laugh. Thanks to Jim and the finance committee, our assets are being carefully managed to extend the work of VCL in our local area and around the world. The main points include a balanced budget for 2010 with a small surplus. The committee applied part of the extra to pay down our mortgage balance and increased the money available for missions. Through lower interest on our mortgage and judicious application of funds, we have been able to pay down our principle by \$100,000 since December 2008. This was accomplished at the same time we increased giv-

## Summer Youth Plans

By Pastor Michael Mauriello

Summer finally came. For our seniors, summer is bitter sweet; saying goodbye to high school is sad, but saying hello to the next step, college, military, or work, is exciting. For everyone else, it's just sweet: no school! The change is good. We have some changes for the summer as well in our youth program. Let me share them with you. First, many of our beloved Trinity volunteers are leaving for the summer. Don't worry; some will be back very soon. But in the meantime, we're running a skeleton crew. So, to accommodate this during the summer months we are combining our middle school and Sr. High for the summer months. They will meet together and share the same games, worship, and lesson. After the lesson, there will be age based small groups for discussion questions. Our youth ministry will be on Wednesday evening from 7:00-9:30, and will start the first Wednesday in June (June 1<sup>st</sup>). We will run this format through August.

We are also planning on having our youth ministry

been trying to find different ways to connect with and serve the people on base. He hosted a prayer breakfast on base on the National Day of Prayer, which was the first one they've had in recent memory. About 30 people came which was very good attendance, especially considering the short time frame for planning the event. He also spends a good portion of his week meeting with people for counseling (often unplanned), attending meetings, planning, and just getting out and about to meet and get to know people on base. He has already been called upon to offer prayers at various events, including the dedication of a new fire engine on base. He also prayed at the local Memorial Day service in town.

In mid-June, Jared plans to go to San Diego to meet with some other chaplains at the larger bases there, and then will attend the EFCA (continued on back)

ing to missions and took on two new missionary couples. Jim reported that in spite of higher than expected expenses for utilities and snow removal, we are still running under budget for expenses.

Associate Pastor Michael Mauriello gave an update on Compassion Ministries. He is leading us in a multi-faceted plan to have more of the congregation involved in outreach. These areas include ongoing ministry at Sedgebrook and other retirement centers, more contact with the school we provided seat sacks for, and a new lunch program. Pastor Michael announced our participation over the summer in the PADS sack lunch program on June 12, July 10, and August 16. On those Sundays after church and with VCL providing the ingredients, volunteers are needed to make bag lunches which will then be delivered to the PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) Center at the Great Lakes Naval Base.

Did you skip the meeting? You missed a blessing!

join the adult class for the pecha kucha wisdom series on Sunday morning. (What's pecha kucha? Read the rest of the Village Vine to find out! J ) This will be a great chance for our students to participate with our adults in both fellowship and education. Do you know who our middle school and high school students are? Do they know who you are? Well, now they and you will both get a chance to get to know each other better.

We have some fun things coming up too: one thing particularly is a Sr. High guy's trip to visit Harold and Meghann Lutz in Cincinnati on July 22-24. A trip to Six Flags is beginning to form too. Stay tuned for details!



## Canopy Issue Resolved

The problem seemed preposterous. When we added the drive-under canopy over the front doors of the church we thought we had done everything required to comply with various regulations. Four years later we learned that we had never gotten an occupancy permit—for the canopy! What's more, it didn't have the required sprinkler system to stop fires. That despite the assurances we had in writing that the fire-retardant stain used on the wood would meet the fire department's concerns.

Once this issue surfaced, it took months to address it—

## Compassion at VCL

By Pastor Michael Mauriello

Reaching out to Senior Adults has been a vision that the Lord has laid on several people in our congregation. Even as we were breaking ground on the new building addition about five years ago, seeds were being planted as Sedgebrook went under construction and opened at approximately the same time. Now, that vision is beginning to take shape. A team is beginning to meet and talk about how, as a church community, we can better reach out and take care of the Senior Adults at the various retirement communities, assisted living communities, and nursing homes within our immediate area. I am so grateful for the participation of Mike Honl, Yelena Lopuga, Sarah Seaman, Daniel Sweetser and others as we begin to work through some new ventures.

We are still prayerfully considering if and where God might be opening other doors for compassion. Our relationship with Love Inc. in Zion, IL will continue as a vital part of our compassion initiative. But we are breaking new ground, simply by making sandwiches. A sandwich can go a long way, especially if you are

collecting documents, official conversations, more documents. But finally a couple of months ago, the onsite testimony of a representative of the company that provided the stain secured our approval from village officials. We're grateful this has finally been resolved. Among others, we owe our thanks to our office manager, Susan Beck, Rich Soderberg and Jim Lindberg for the painstaking process of getting this done. And now you can stand under the canopy with other friends knowing you have permission to occupy the space and feeling safe from fire.

homeless. PADS is an outreach program in Lake County that provides shelter and care for the homeless. VCL will be making sandwiches to help this group provide lunches for their clients on June 12<sup>th</sup>, July 10<sup>th</sup>, and August 14<sup>th</sup>, right after church. Can you make a sandwich? Then you can help. Some folks in our congregation have already indicated that they plan on helping out here. Please contact me if you would like to be a part of this venture.

David Hooper and I have been talking with a variety of organizations and hope to continue making contact with others. We are praying about a relationship with South Elementary in North Chicago, where our seat sacks from the Elikya Center will be going. There is the possibility of expanding our ministry to PADS. There is a possibility of expanding our relationship with Love Inc. But we are still asking God for clarity of direction. We would invite your prayers as well. We do not want to either lag behind our merciful Father, or run ahead of him, but practice faithfulness in compassionate outreach.

## Financial Update

By Jim Hansen

Each November, when members approve our annual budget, we do so before the calendar year end, before our financial results for the year is complete. This month, at our annual May congregational meeting, we reviewed our financial results for 2010 as well as the first four months of this year.

Our 2011 budget was constructed with a plan to take advantage of our monthly mortgage savings to pay down our debt more quickly, enhance our missions spending, and increase reserves. For 2011, we planned to increase our annual missions spending \$20,000, and pay an additional \$10,000 against our mortgage, within a total budget of \$500,000. Our giving for the past three years was \$496,000, \$504,000, and \$481,000, for

2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively.

Completing the 2010 year, our expenses were \$458,000, \$40,000 under budget, \$22,000 less than income, adding to our reserve cash. We also paid an additional \$20,000 to reduce our mortgage. The year finished with \$74,000 in general fund and reserve cash and a mortgage balance of \$1,275,000. While disappointing that our 2010 giving was less than 2009 giving and budget, we are encouraged to have been able to increase our savings.

Through April of this year, our income is \$4,000 less than our expenses, which are \$8,000 less than budget.

Many thanks to all, for your faithful giving.

## More Baptisms!

Congratulations to Hope Hartel, Anit Leons and Zach Rumley who were baptized on May 22nd.



## Preaching & Worship Series



### "Who Is Wise and Understanding Among You?"

- 6/5 Wise Up!  
Proverbs 1:1-7
- 6/12 Don't Be a Fool  
Proverbs 1:8-33
- 6/19 Lifesaver  
Proverbs 2
- 6/26 "Better Than Gold"  
Proverbs 3  
**Communion**
- 7/3 Do You Have It In You?  
Proverbs 4
- 7/10 Blindsided  
Proverbs 5
- 7/17 Guardian Angles  
Proverbs 6
- 7/24 The Stalker  
Proverbs 7  
**Communion**
- 7/31 May I Have Your Attention Please!  
Proverbs 8



### JUNE/JULY PRAYER LIST

Please tear off this list and use it in your regular prayers for VCL

That God would stir in us a hunger for wisdom as we study Proverbs

We want to draw together two different working groups for compassion ministries; one to tackle opportunities in the North Chicago area, and the other to work with senior adult outreach near our church; organizing meetings are to be held in June

To show visitors the love of Christ and to help those in need of a church home to find one among us at VCL

Pray that God would help us make the 9 a.m. Sunday hour an important time for discipleship training and fellowship