



December 31, 2023

“... let me know Your ways that I may know You.”

Moses to God in Exodus 33:13

Monthly Youth Group Starts in 2024

The first Wednesday night of each month is Youth Night, from 6:30-8:00 at the BSW Family Center. This is a time designed specifically for Junior High and High Schoolers (6th-12th grade). Each night will be packed full of relevant biblical teaching, worship, light snacks, and games designed to grow us closer to God, each other, and to kick off each month in a great way.

Come to the BSW Family Center door (far west door off Baker Street with the BSW Family Center logo). Doors open at 6PM. Parents can simply drop off and pick up their students but are also welcome to pop in to introduce themselves.

www.BSWfamily.com

Message notes for December 31, 2023

Prayers for a New Years Advent 2023 Part One of Seven Pastor Milt Van Natta

Set the scene:

Moses has a personal experience with God at the Burning Bush and proceeded to witness many signs, wonders, and miracles (the Ten Plagues of Egypt, the parting of the Red Sea, Manna from heaven, and water from the rock among many, many others).

Tell the Story of Exodus 33:12-23:

Moses longs for the person of God, the presence of God, and the glory of God (which God counters is his goodness).

My prayer for myself and my prayer for you is that you would have a hunger to know God more fully, to seek his presence more regularly, and to be aware of his goodness.

This Week at BSW

This Week's Micro-Church Schedule:

Sunday morning at Wood County Jail (Pastor Lonnie)

Wednesday morning at Waterford (Pastor Milt)

Wednesday afternoon at Arborview Lodge (Pastor Jim)

Coffee with Pastors:

Thursday morning from 9:30 to 11 am, the seniors (50+) are invited to the fellowship for a time of feasting, fellowshiping, singing, and prayer.

Other upcoming events:

Next Women's Study Groups: Monday, January 8 at 1:30 and 6 pm.

Next LBA Meeting: Tuesday, January 9 at 6 pm

Next Youth Leaders Gathering: Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30 pm.

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Coming Soon!

Deep Dive: Who I am in Christ!

The 2nd Annual BSW Women's Conference will be held on Friday, January 26, 2024, from 6 pm to 8:30 pm and on Saturday, January 27, 2024, from 9 am to 1 pm. The conference is open to ladies 18 and older. The cost is \$33.85, and tickets are available through 1/7/24.

The keynote speaker is Elise Zuber from the Great Lakes Region of the Wesleyan Church. Her focus will be your identity in Christ. Tickets are available using the following website:

<https://bit.ly/2024BSWWomensConf>

2024 Zambia Trip!

Things are beginning to ramp up regarding our up-and-coming opportunity to go and minister God's love with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Zambia. Please begin to pray and seek the Lord about your role in this trip: Missionary, Donor, Prayer Support, Fundraising, etc. We are looking at going to Zambia in June of 2024. I cannot wait to introduce you to the wonderful people I was blessed with getting to know! ~Pastor Carri. More details will be coming soon!

Spiritual Habit: Scribing

Now we will learn the spiritual habit of scribing or writing out the Word of God by hand. Get yourself a notebook and a writing instrument along with your Bible. Your assignment is to write or print the Gospel of Luke.

For those of you who do better with a schedule, here it is:

Sunday: Luke 17:1-10... Monday: Luke 17:11-21 ... Tuesday: Luke 17:22-27 ... Wednesday: Luke 17:28-37... Thursday: Luke 18:1-8 ... Friday: Luke 17:9-17... Saturday: Luke 17:18-28.

By The Numbers

Celebrating new life in Christ:

For the 2023-24 Church year (June 1, 2023, until May 31, 2024):

Those confessing Christ as Savior and Lord: 15

(Up to five teens confessed Christ as youth gathering on Wednesday evening. Final numbers to be included soon.)

Those recommitting their life to Christ: 2

Those being baptized: 4

Call-to-Ministry: 1

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Week 30 of the Church Year	Dec. 24 through Dec. 30, 2023
Sanctuary Attendance	178 (132 am and 46 pm)
Micro-Church Attendance	66 (three sites)
Live Stream Raw	40 (27 am and 13 pm)
Adjusted Live-Stream Reporting (X 1.7)	68
Total Footprint	312

Supporting BSW: There are four ways that you can support BSW with your tithes and offerings.

- 1) Securely online at bakerstwesleyan.org using the “support BSW” tab on the right-hand side of the homepage.
- 2) In the jar provided in the sanctuary on the tech booth.
- 3) By mail to Baker Street Wesleyan Church, 640 Baker St. Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, 54494. Attn: Treasurer.
- 4) Donation of stock and securities to our Edward Jones account.

Week 30 of the Church Year	Dec. 24 through Dec. 30, 2023
Total Tithes and Offerings last Sunday	\$ 2,077
Month to Date	\$ 15,404
Year to Date	\$ 88,750
	\$1,060 for Zambia \$1,496 for Middle School Retreat \$320 for wish list \$100 Christmas Shoeboxes \$1,990 Warehouse Ministry \$2,333 Christmas Benevolence \$169.01 Women’s Conference \$1,000 Staff Education Gift

Tax Year Ending:

The 2023 tax year ends today. Any tax exempt donations for 2023 tax year need to be made today, December 31, 2023.

Leadership Team 2023-24:

Local Board of Administration as elected at the Local Church Conference on Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Chairperson: Rev. Milt Van Natta, Senior Pastor

Treasurer: Jamie Mlsna

Secretary: Diane Jackson

Members-at-Large: Kat Esser, Mike Hamilton, Judy Henke, Jonathon Johnson, Kevin Lien (Vice-Chair)

Your BSW Staff Team

Lead Pastor/Teaching Pastor: Rev. Milt Van Natta

PastorMilt@BSWfamily.com

Next Generations Director/Worship Leader: Seth Dykstra

PastorSeth@BSWfamily.com

Assistant Pastor of Discipleship/Zambia: Pastor Carri Johnson

PastorJohnson@BSWfamily.com

Assistant Pastor of Spiritual Care/Prayer Chain: Rev. Jim Leston

PastorJim@BSWfamily.com

Jail Ministry Missionary: Rev. Lonnie Selje

Cot-Bearing Prayer Guide for Governmental Leaders

Monday: Local State Officials

Wisconsin Senate District 24 with Assembly Districts 70, 71, and 72

Senator Patrick Testin and Assembly persons Nancy Lynn Vandermeer (70), Katrina Shankland (71), and Scott Krug (72)

Tuesday: State Executive Branch

Governor Tony Evers, Lt. Governor Sara Rodriguez, and Attorney General Joshua Kaul.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jill Underly, State Treasurer John Leiber, and Secretary of State Sarah Godlewski

Wednesday: Wisconsin Federal Elected Officials

Senator Ron Johnson, Senator Tammy Baldwin

Representatives Bryan Steil, Mark Pocan, Derrick Van Orden, Gwendolynne Moore, Scott Fitzgerald, Glenn Grothman, Tom Tiffany, and Mike Gallagher.

Thursday: US Supreme Court:

Chief Justice John Roberts. Justice Clarence Thomas, Justice Samuel Alito, Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Justice Elena Kagan, Justice Neil Gorsuch, Justice Brett Kavanaugh, Justice Amy Barrett, and Justice Ketjani Brown Jackson.

Friday: Wisconsin State Supreme Court

Chief Justice Annette Ziegler, Justice Ann Walsh Bradley, Justice Rebecca Grassl Bradley, Justice Rebecca Dallet, Justice Brian Hagedorn, Justice Jill Karofsky, and Justice Janet Protasiewicz.