

Church Overview

God is doing a new thing here in Oglala, and if you were to ask me what it is, my answer would be simply, **I don't know and I'm okay with that.** This past spring the Holy Spirit taught me one of the great lessons of my life and it has changed my perspective of both ministry and life in general. The lesson is this: **God has a plan.** It's a perfect plan, it's a wonderful plan, and we all have parts to play in it - but we don't necessarily need to know what His plan is or how it works for our lives. You see, for so long I wanted clarity, I wanted all the details, I wanted the "game plan" for my life, when all He wanted for me was to trust Him and take another step of faith.

What I'm learning is that it's not about knowing what "The Plan" is but knowing **who God is.** When I know that God is Goodness, that He is Love, that He is All Powerful and that He is All Knowing, then I know that He not only has my best interest in mind but that He will finish what He started, and He does know what He is doing! So with that knowledge I can truly rest and just trust Him to carry out His Plan to perfection in my life and the life of this ministry.

So if you ask me, "What is God doing in Oglala?" I can honestly and with complete peace respond, **"I don't know... - but I know He's up to something and I know that it is Good!"** Now of course that doesn't excuse us from any responsibility, for we must position ourselves to be a part of this plan, and we do that by our Faith and Obedience. I've always told our team that it's not a matter of **if** God will do something amazing in Oglala but a matter of **when.** We just need to keep the faith, be obedient and persevere, and we will have the privilege of being a part of His Great Plan for Oglala and the Lakota people.

I want to send a personal thank you to those who helped us this summer in the replacement of our roof and the renovation of our Sanctuary. Not only did the money come in at a miraculous rate, but thanks to Curtis Hoyt and our friends from Kentucky, the entire roof was replaced in just one week! Also thanks to our friends from Tulsa, Watertown and particularly our new team members Jeff & Stacy Bohlmann. Because of them and others our sanctuary is almost completely done and it is absolutely beautiful! We plan on having a Sanctuary Dedication in November to celebrate what God has already done here in Oglala and what He will continue to do in the future.

I also want to say welcome to our new ministry team members and intern (see last paragraph). I look forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit is going to use you all here in Oglala and watch Him carry out His Plan for your lives.

Our expectations are high, our faith is strong, and more importantly our God is Good and He is doing a new thing here in Oglala! Thank you for your prayers, your support and your love. Sincerely in Him, Pastor Eric Sutton

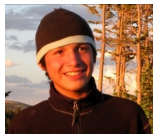


OASIS Youth Group



I believe that this summer was one of the best we have ever had. As I say this I'm thinking of several things that were accomplished in or around the Re*Creation Center. An outstanding spiritual time was

in August when we took a handful of teens backpacking in Wyoming. During that time God spoke clearly to everyone on the trip. One young adult even gave his life to God! Continue to lift this young man up in prayer as he struggles to love Jesus in a place that does not understand the meaning of love. And thanks to everyone who supported this trip through their prayers and finances - my beard has grown back by now! :-)



We continue to seek God in prayer and believe that He is going to move upon the youth here. Actually we started a new youth group on Friday nights (before OASIS Teen Nite), a time to come and have fun and study the Word of God. Also Mary has taken up her volleyball meetings with the teen girls again and draws a good crowd. Glory to God for the awesome opportunities He gives us to share & to love!

It is our prayer that God will open eyes and give the teens the vision to see the truth. Truth only comes when we surrender our life to Him. The history of the Lakota seems to be one of surrendering, but always in the negative context of being mistreated and abused. Pray that Jesus' healing touch will bring transformation into the hearts of our youth.

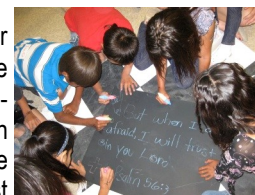
Leon & Mary Schwartz, Youth Leaders

All-Stars for Jesus

Last week in Kids' Church, Christine shared about how God helped her be a better volleyball player. She had been telling herself she couldn't hit the ball. After three or four times of repeating "I'll never be able to hit the ball", she stopped and reminded herself to say what God says. "I can hit the ball because *I can do all things through Jesus Christ who gives me strength!*" Philippians 4:13. She was very excited and happy about helping her school team win two ball games!



God's Word will never fail us - and it will not fail the children of Oglala. We challenged the All-Star children to learn 31 scriptures. The one who learned the most won a \$25 Walmart gift card. Seven of the older kids were able to actually quote most of the verses with just the scripture reference or a little hint. It is so important for children to learn Bible verses by heart, but I get really excited when I see them apply the scriptures to their lives and experience God's faithfulness and love for themselves. When a child speaks and God moves, it changes their lives for all eternity!



We are looking back on a very busy summer with lots of activities for the children: VBS, swimming trips, sleepovers, and more. God has been faithful and good. We are learning every day to trust in Him and hold onto His hands.

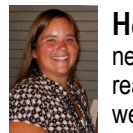
Terry and Kathy Michels, Children's Pastors

Meet our new Team Members

We are looking forward to getting some wonderful additions to our ministry team at the RecCenter. God is calling the laborers into His mission field here, and we believe with Him that there is a rich harvest coming up!



Jeff and Stacey Bohlmann from Watertown, SD have already moved in and started to get to know people in the community. They have rich experience in counseling and construction work and are a true blessing to us and the Lakota community in their desire to share God's transformational love with everyone.



Heidi Martin from Morgantown, PA is not a new face but an old friend. She is getting ready to move back here in November, and we can't wait to beat her at „Settlers“! :-)

Matthew Economy from Trinity Bible College, ND is going to intern with us for a while. We are excited with him to find out what God's plan is for his life.

BULLETIN BOARD

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Much has been done during the summer, and not the least of these accomplishments is our remodeled sanctuary! We enjoy the brand-new carpet and stage area which makes extra room for better attendance - something we still pray for! ☺



Wednesday night Bible Study started again! Our Bible teacher John Davis comes down from Rapid City to teach through the life of Abraham, which has much to say about our own lives with God.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sanctuary Dedication November 6th, 2011 we want to celebrate the goodness of God and the beautiful new sanctuary He provided for us. There will be a special worship service with various guests who helped build, pray, and bring this project to its completion.

Christmas is coming up... Our annual Celebration Service will be held December 11th, 2011.

Please stay updated on prayer & events on our brand-new website www.oglarwc.org

PRAYER NEEDS

Pray for the church, our team, and other ministries on the Reservation - that they would be strengthened, encouraged and filled with the Power of the Holy Spirit and the Love of God. Pray for the lost, the hurting, and the hopeless - that they would meet the Good Shepherd of their souls and learn to listen to His voice.

- ♥ Eric, Leon & Mary, Terry & Kathy, Heidi, Jeff & Stacey, and Matt
- ♥ For our church family for strength and encouragement to stand firm in the Lord and to stay in the Word and in prayer, and to be "A light in the darkness"
- ♥ For the Oglala community for a revelation of who Jesus really is

A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Oglala Re*Creation and Worship Center
P.O. Box 108
Oglala, SD
57764-0108

Oglala Re*Creation & Worship Center

A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS



Tel: (605) 867-2510
www.oglarwc.org