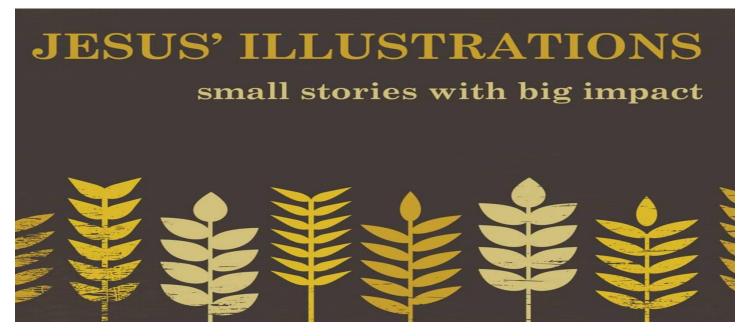


This edition of the NAC eNews will focus on the ministry events occurring at the church in February. In addition, we will highlight the Missions calendar for 2018 including various serving opportunities. We will begin with a preview of Pastor Nate's next message series...



<u>New Sermon Series begins Feb 4</u>: The parables of Jesus as recorded in Luke's gospel. Jesus often used parables because they are simply stories that are easy to remember yet convey deep truths. This 8-week series will include: The Sower, The Good Samaritan, The Prodigal Son, and five more parables with big impact for the 21st century Church. Plan now to attend!



<u>Membership Class</u>: On Sunday, Feb 18, at 12:15pm we will offer a class for those wanting to become members of Nowthen Alliance or simply wishing to learn more about our church. Enjoy a pizza lunch, followed by an 80-minute presentation. Time will be provided to answer

your questions about the doctrine and polity of the C&MA. To enable us to plan for food please notify the church office of your intent to come to the class.



<u>Food Packing Event</u>: On Friday, Feb 23, from 8:00pm until 9:30pm, join a team from Nowthen who will be packing food at the FMSC facility in Coon Rapids. Contact Claire Schuster to learn more or to sign up for this event. Do we have an email address we could link to?

PrimeTimers Event

Feburary 15 at 1:00pm, "The Mississippi Tour"



is invited!



Doug Ohman, Pioneer Photography <u>PrimeTimers</u>: On February 15, beginning at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary, Pioneer Photographer Doug Ohman will present "The Mississippi Tour" at Nowthen. Following the presentation, snacks will be provided in the café. Everyone is invited and there is no cost for this event!



Nowthen is a year-round collection site for OCC: At this time we are collecting school supplies, tools, toys, sewing, hats, and gloves. Please drop off donations in the bin near door "B". To learn more contact Tanya Bagwell. An email address link?



Rent-A-Student

<u>Student Ministries Fundraiser</u>: Do you have snow to be shoveled, rooms that need cleaned or painted, landscaping or yard work? Hire a high school student to complete the task. The funds they earn will support their summer missions trip. Contact Rob Bergfalk for details.



<u>Student Ministries Chili Cook off Fundraiser</u>: Will be held Sunday, Feb 11, from 11:00am until 1:00pm in the café. Come and enjoy the best chili in Nowthen! Minimum donation of \$5 per person or \$15 per family.



<u>Mission Calendar</u>: Over the past year the Missions Team developed a strategic plan to guide our missional efforts. One of the products of this plan is a year-long calendar (below). It is hoped that this will serve as a convenient overview of upcoming Missions events:

<u>January</u>: Africa, including the Sole Hope project. Ladies from Nowthen prepares shoes and care bags for children in Africa. The materials are sent to Sole Hope in Uganda for distribution. Funds are needed to send the supplies to Uganda for finish work, AND to distribute them to the children. Checks can be made out to "Sole Hope" and placed in the box near the church office. To learn more about Sole Home contact Carla Heino.

<u>February</u>: Nowthen partners with Rivers Young Life (Younglife.org). Beginning in 2019, we will bring a representative from this ministry to Nowthen. For 2018, Dennis and Lynda Blake will present on their efforts in Africa.

<u>March</u>: March Food Drive. The Missions Team will set up bins for congregants to place non-perishable food items. Items will be delivered to area food shelves.

<u>April</u>: Compassion International provides congregants with the opportunity to "adopt" a child living in poverty from a number of third-world countries. For a price of \$35 per month, each child is provided with food, water, medicine, and education materials. Learn more during Compassion Sunday in April.

<u>May</u>: CAMA services. Compassion and Mercy Associates is the arm of our denomination that provides relief events to needy people around the world (similar to Samaritan's Purse). Each May we will provide information on the efforts of CAMA around the world and offer folks the opportunity to donate. Learn more at: http://camaservices.org

<u>Summer months</u>: The summer months will be the primary times when we offer short-term missions trips to our partners in Taiwan, Vineland, Ecuador, and Uganda. In addition, we will hold the annual fund raising garage sale in June AND an Operation Christmas Child drive in August.

<u>September</u>: Always fall ministry startup month, however in 2018 we will be sending a team to Taiwan leaving Sept 4 and return on Sept 13.

October: ANNUAL MISSIONS CONFERENCE. In 2018 our Mission Conference will be held Oct 10-14 and our presenters will be Tim and Penny Iverson, International Workers in Taiwan. Learn about the work of the C&MA around the world via the Great Commission Fund.

<u>November</u>: Each November we organize, prepare, and transport Christmas Boxes as a drop off site for Operation Christmas Child. Contact Tanya Bagwell to learn more about OCC. In addition, Nowthen implements its own food ministry prior to Thanksgiving and a gift ministry in late November. The annual Thanksgiving offering is often used to support Missional efforts.

<u>December</u>: The Great Commission Women hold their annual Christmas Brunch in early December.



<u>Taiwan 18 informational meeting</u>: Nowthen will be sending a short-term team to Taiwan in early September of 2018. The second information session for this trip will be held on Sunday, February 11, at 9:45am in the conference room. Plan to attend if you are considering this trip or contact Pastor Bruce.



<u>The Truth Project</u>: Beginning February 20, the Tuesday Morning Women's 6:00am group will study the Truth Project. Contact Tami Ruble to learn more.