

REFLECTIONS

Grace OPC

NEEDED: A 'NADERE' REFORMATION

By Pastor Brian De Jong

From the early 1600's through the middle of the 1700's, a 'Nadere' Reformation took place in the Netherlands. This term, 'Nadere', is hard to translate exactly into English. While some have suggested "Second Reformation" or "Dutch Puritanism" to describe this movement, most scholars have settled on the designation of "Further Reformation."

The Further Reformation did not replace the theology of the Protestant Reformation of the 1500's. Rather it sought to apply that theological system to every aspect of life – personal, family, church, business, culture and society. In reality these folk were attempting to put into practice what they had learned from Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, Knox, Guido de Bres, Ursinus and Olevianus.

Of particular interest to the Further Reformation was personal piety – a devotional commitment by the individual believer to walk in the Lord's ways. This emphasis was needed in the face of an increasingly "dead orthodoxy." Such folk still held to the theology of the Reformation but they lacked any significant spiritual life. Sound doctrine had become cold theory that lacked vibrancy and enthusiasm. Under such conditions the worship of the church became ritualistic. Preaching was academically oriented and increasingly useless to the common people.

Following their English Puritan cousins, the preachers of the Further Reformation sought to preach the word of God plainly and clearly. In this manner they made the Scriptures more accessible and

understandable to ordinary believers. They called people to repentance, faith and a life of godliness. They urged their hearers to be reconciled to God through Christ and to be completely committed to walking in that narrow way that leads to



life. How we need a 'Nadere' Reformation in our day! Much of the culture has lost any remaining understanding of true Christianity. Knowledge of the gospel can no longer be assumed – most in our culture have no concept of substitutionary atonement or justification by faith alone.

Moreover, in the church today there are undercurrents that need correction. In some circles there is an anti-intellectualism that disdains sound doctrine altogether. These folk favor individualized spiritual experiences that convey a feeling of worship. This is often reduced to the latest fads in contemporary Christian music. Don't bother teaching about the doctrine of sanctification – just give me the tunes that will stimulate those feelings I crave!

On the other end of the spectrum are some who have overdosed on theological steroids and become academic in the extreme. Not only is it hard for most believers to understand the highly specialized terminology, but few practical applications of the truth to everyday life are offered. If the average Christian has no clear idea what the preacher is talking about, and receives little help in applying it to life, you can begin to understand why "Dead Orthodoxy" is still the Achilles

Volume 10, Issue 11

November 2015

Inside this issue:	
<i>Pastor's Article</i>	1
<i>Ryle on Sanctification</i>	2-3
<i>Ten Commandments for Church Members</i>	4
<i>Birthdays and Anniversaries</i>	5
<i>November Calendar</i>	6
<i>Meet Samuel Wenzler</i>	7
<i>Front Page Concluded</i>	7
<i>Comments on Finance</i>	8-9
<i>Pine Haven Pizza Fundraiser</i>	9
<i>Pine Haven Annual Fund Drive</i>	10
<i>Harvest Home Supper</i>	10
<i>Deacons' Update</i>	11
<i>Recipe Corner</i>	11
<i>Spurgeon Corner</i>	12
<i>Thanksgiving Football Game</i>	12

Mnemonics...

- *Reformation Conference Lunch, 1st*
- *Harvest Home Supper, 14th*
- *Thanksgiving Football Game, 26th*

Continued on page 7

Sanctification Part 1

by JC Ryle

The subject of sanctification is one which many, I fear, dislike exceedingly. Some even turn from it with scorn and disdain. The very last thing they would like is to be a “saint,” or a “sanctified” man. Yet the subject does not deserve to be treated in this way. It is not an enemy, but a friend.

It is a subject of the utmost importance to our souls. If the Bible be true, it is certain that unless we are “sanctified,” we shall not be saved. There are three things which, according to the Bible, are absolutely necessary to the salvation of every man and woman in Christendom. These three are, justification, regeneration, and sanctification. All three meet in every child of God: he is both born again, and justified, and sanctified. He that lacks any one of these three things is not a true Christian in the sight of God, and dying in that condition will not be found in heaven and glorified in the last day.

It is a subject which is peculiarly seasonable in the present day. Strange doctrines have risen up of late upon the whole subject of sanctification. Some appear to confound it with justification. Others fritter it away to nothing, under the pretence of zeal for free grace, and practically neglect it altogether. Others are so much afraid of “works” being made a part of justification, that they can hardly find any place at all for “works” in their religion. Others set up a wrong standard of sanctification before their eyes, and failing to attain it, waste their lives in repeated secessions from church to church, chapel to chapel, and sect to sect, in the vain hope that they will find what they want. In a day like this, a calm examination of the subject, as a great leading doctrine of the Gospel, may be of great use to our souls.

I. Let us consider, firstly, *the true nature of sanctification.*

II. Let us consider, secondly, *the visible marks of sanctification.*

III. Let us consider, lastly, *wherein justification and sanctification agree and are like one another,*

and wherein they differ and are unlike.
16

If, unhappily, the reader of these pages is one of those who care for nothing but this world, and make no profession of religion, I cannot expect him to take much interest in what I am writing. You will probably think it an affair of “words, and names,” and nice questions, about which it matters nothing what you hold and believe. But if you are a thoughtful, reasonable, sensible Christian, I venture to say that you will find it worth while to have some clear ideas about sanctification.

I. In the first place, we have to consider *the nature of sanctification.* What does the Bible mean when it speaks of a “sanctified” man?

Sanctification is that inward spiritual work which the Lord Jesus Christ works in a man by the Holy Ghost, when He calls him to be a true believer. He not only washes him from his sins in His own blood, but He also *separates* him from his natural love of sin and the world, puts a new principle in his heart, and makes him practically godly in life. The instrument by which the Spirit effects this work is generally the Word of God, though He sometimes uses afflictions and providential visitations “without the Word.” ([1 Peter iii. 1.](#)) The subject of this work of Christ by His Spirit is called in Scripture a “sanctified” man.⁵

He who supposes that Jesus Christ only lived and died and rose again in order to provide justification and forgiveness of sins for His people, has yet much to learn. Whether he knows it or not, he is dishonouring our blessed Lord, and making Him only a half Saviour. The Lord Jesus has undertaken everything that His people’s souls require; not only to deliver them from the guilt of their sins by His atoning death, but from the dominion of their sins, by placing in their hearts the Holy Spirit; not only to justify them, but also to sanctify them. He is, thus, not only their “righteousness,” but their “sanctification.” ([1 Cor. i. 30.](#)) Let us hear what the Bible says: “For their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sancti-

“Sanctification is that inward spiritual work which the Lord Jesus Christ works in a man by the Holy Ghost”

Sanctification Continued...

fied.”—“Christ loved the Church, and gave Himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it.”—

“Christ gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”—“Christ bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.”—

“Christ hath reconciled (you) in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in His sight.” ([John xvii. 19](#); [Ephes. v. 25](#); [Titus ii. 14](#); [1 Peter ii. 24](#); [Coloss. i. 22](#).) Let the meaning of these five texts be carefully considered. If words mean anything, they teach that Christ undertakes the sanctification, no less than the justification of His believing people. Both are alike provided for in that “everlasting covenant ordered in all things and sure,” of which the Mediator is Christ. In fact, Christ in one place is called “He that sanctifieth,” and His People, “they who are sanctified.” ([Heb. ii. 11](#).)

The subject before us is of such deep and vast importance, that it requires fencing, guarding, clearing up, and marking out on every side. A doctrine which is needful to salvation can never be too sharply developed, or brought too fully into light. To clear away the confusion between doctrines and doctrines, which is so unhappily common among Christians, and to map out the precise relation between truths and truths in religion, is one way to attain accuracy in our theology. I shall therefore not hesitate to lay before my readers a series of connected propositions or statements, drawn from Scripture, which I think will be found useful in defining the exact nature of sanctification.

(1) Sanctification, then, is the invariable result of that *vital union with Christ* which true faith gives to a Christian.—“He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit.” ([John xv. 5](#).) The branch which bears no fruit is no living branch of the vine. The union with Christ which produces no effect on heart and life is a mere formal union, which is worthless before God. The faith which has not a sanctifying influence on the character is no better than the faith of devils. It is a “dead faith, because it is alone.” It is not the gift of God. It is not the faith of God’s elect. In short, where there is no sanctification of life, there is no real faith in

Christ. True faith worketh by love. It constrains a man to live unto the Lord from a deep sense of gratitude for redemption. It makes him feel that he can never do too much for Him that died for him. Being much forgiven, he loves much. He whom the blood cleanses, walks in the light. He who has real lively hope in Christ, purifieth himself even as He is pure. ([James ii. 17-20](#); [Titus i. 1](#); [Gal. v. 6](#); [1 John i. 7](#); [iii. 3](#).)

18

(2) Sanctification, again, is the *outcome and inseparable consequence of regeneration*. He that is born again and made a new creature, receives a new nature and a new principle, and always lives a new life. A regeneration which a man can have, and yet live carelessly in sin or worldliness, is a regeneration invented by uninspired theologians, but never mentioned in Scripture. On the contrary, St. John expressly says, that “He that is born of God doth not commit sin—doeth righteousness—loveth the brethren—keepeth himself—and overcometh the world.” ([1 John ii. 29](#); [iii. 9-14](#); [v. 4-18](#).) In a word, where there is no sanctification there is no regeneration, and where there is no holy life there is no new birth. This is, no doubt, a hard saying to many minds; but, hard or not, it is simple Bible truth. It is written plainly, that he who is born of God is one whose “seed remaineth in him, and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.” ([1 John iii. 9](#).)

Ryle, J.C., *Holiness*, Chapter 2, Sanctification.



Ten Commandments for Church Members Regarding Your Pastor

By Joel Beeke

1. Don't idolize your pastor. Don't expect him to be able to do what only God can do. Don't make a savior of him.

2. Don't criticize your pastor, unless he departs from the truth, and then do it with tears. And please don't expect perfection. He is a mere man—a weak, sinful man at that, just like you. His office is divine, but his person is human. He sets before you treasure in an earthen vessel. If you don't remember that, you will cry hosanna today, but will crucify him tomorrow.

3. Don't avoid your pastor. Go to him, tell him your needs, open your soul, but don't waste his precious time. It is your duty and privilege to go to him with your questions and spiritual troubles—and that will be to his encouragement and joy.

4. Do pray for your pastor. Pray for his soul, that he may be kept humble and holy. Pray for his body, that he may be kept strong and spared for many years. Pray that he may be a burning and shining light. Pray for his ministry that it may be abundantly blessed. Pray for his wife, his family, his sermon preparation, his delivery, his counseling. Pray your minister full and he will preach you full.

5. Do be a good listener to and doer of the sermons your pastor preaches. Listen to and obey your pastor. As long as he preaches the Scriptures, receive it as the very word of God. Remember, he is Christ's gift to you.

6. Do be interested in your pastor. Don't let all your conversation with him be focused only on you. Be

kind to him. Show interest in him, his life, and the life of his family; he is human too!

7. Remember to appreciate your pastor's strengths and minimize his weaknesses, always reminding yourself that your next pastor may not have your present pastor's strengths. Don't compare pastors to each other, but learn to appreciate each pastor whom God sends you for the peculiar gifts that God has given to that pastor.

8. Look above and beyond your pastor. Look to Him whom your pastor sets before you.

9. Do be coworkers with your pastor and the consistory. Be self-forgetters, Christ-exalters, and collaborators. Covet humility, wisdom, peace, unity—and put on charity.

10. Keep an eternal perspective under your pastor's ministry. Ask God that your pastor may give a good account of your soul on Judgment Day. Remember you don't have to give an account of your pastor's blemishes and strengths on the Day of days, but you do have to give an account of what you have done with the word that he will bring you. If you are as yet unsaved, look on his ministry as one more major opportunity God is giving you to receive with meekness His engrafted word. Through his ministry, the Lord is saying that He has more people from your church to be gathered into His eternal harvest—and why should it not be you? Oh, that you would know the day of your visitation under your pastor's ministry!



November Birthdays



Wedding Anniversaries





Grace OPC

November 2015

Showing forth the excellencies of Jesus Christ



Church Office:
4930 Green Valley Ln
Sheboygan, WI 53083

Phone: 920-565-2160
Website:
graceopcsheboygan.com
Email:
revbriandejong@gmail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Reformation Conference Fellowship Lunch	2 Women's Bible Study, 6:30 am	3	4 Prayer Meeting, 7:00 PM	5	6	7
8	9 Women's Bible Study, 6:30 am Pine Haven Bible Study 1:30 pm	10 Session Meeting	11 Prayer Meeting, 7:00 PM	12	13	14 Harvest Home Supper
15	16 Women's Bible Study, 6:30 am	17	18 Prayer Meeting, 7:00 PM	19	20	21
22	23 Women's Bible Study, 6:30 am Pine Haven Bible Study 1:30 pm	24	25 Thanksgiving Service 7:00 PM	26 Thanksgiving Football Game	27	28
29	30 Women's Bible Study, 6:30 am					



Meet Samuel!

From Mike Wenzler

Early Sunday morning, September 6th, Samuel Michael Timothy Wenzler was born! He tipped the scales at 7 lbs flat and measured exactly 20", We barely made it to the hospital in time (less than 30 minutes from when we checked in till we were holding him...) and we could not be more thrilled that the Lord has given us another son! We had been telling William that he's a big brother and a baby is coming, but seeing him say, "baby!" and crawl into Samuel's bassinet and kiss him could not be any sweeter. Of course William gets jealous at times and nights can be long but Lauren and I are absolutely enthralled with our two baby boys. The Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations (Ps 100:5).

I want to take a moment to thank you for your prayer and financial support for my family and

the ministry of RUF at UWM. We always give thanks to the Lord for you and are grateful for your contribution to the needs of the saints here in Milwaukee.



Front Page Concluded

heel of Reformed Christianity.

What is needed? An adjustment that brings together sound doctrine with practical emphases. Truth that is taught plainly and clearly, and applications that enable average church-goers to be "doers of the word, and not mere hearers only." There needs to be a renewed commitment to an applied Christianity that doesn't budge an inch on doctrinal orthodoxy. At the same time we need doctrinal orthodoxy made accessible to the people in the pews, with ample assistance in knowing how we should live out this glorious truth. We need a 'Nadere' Reformation to sweep the church in our day!



Comments on Finance

by Joel Moody

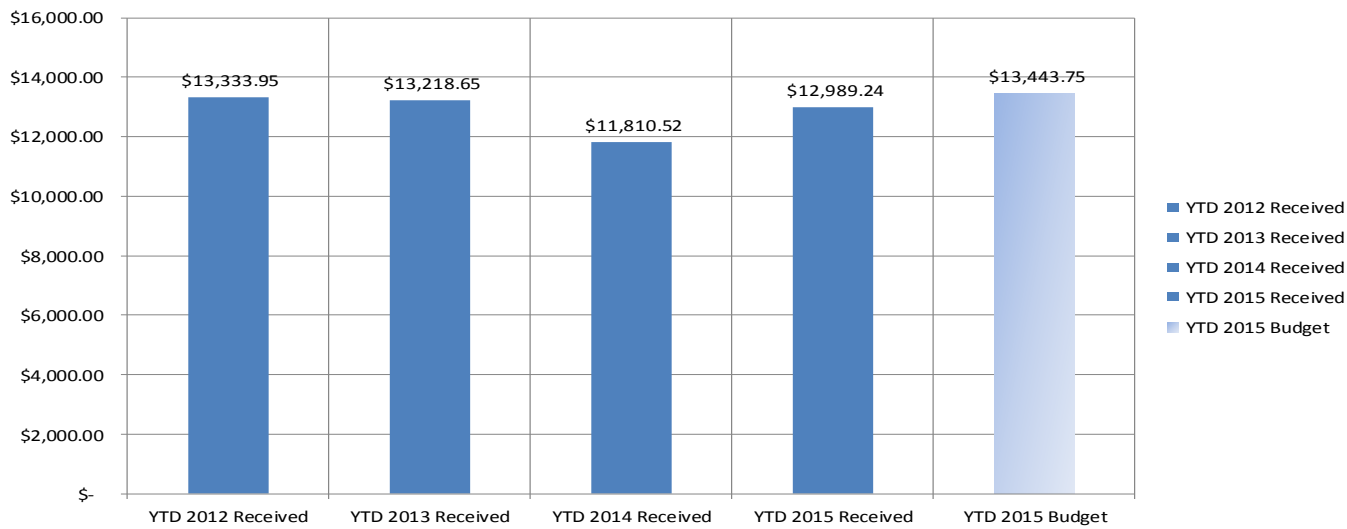
General Fund receipts for September totaled \$11,838.85 as compared to the budget of \$12,927.38, while General Fund disbursements for September totaled \$11,919.71. September year to date General Fund receipts totaled \$114,675.03 as compared to the budget of \$126,042.00 (a shortfall of \$11,366.97), while September year to date disbursements of \$117,407.85 were \$8,634.15 below budget. Through the end of September, the General Fund has decreased by \$2,658.20. Year to date General Fund receipts for September were 1.8% below last year's total on an average Sunday while disbursements were 2.8% above the prior year.

Benevolence Fund receipts for September totaled \$1,249.00 as compared to the budget of \$1,493.75 (a shortfall of \$244.75). Year to date Benevolence Fund receipts through September totaled \$12,989.24 and were below budget by \$454.51. Please refer to the graph for a historical trend of benevolence receipts as well as the current benevolence budget. During September, \$500.00 was sent to Worldwide Outreach (WVO) for the general missions outreach of

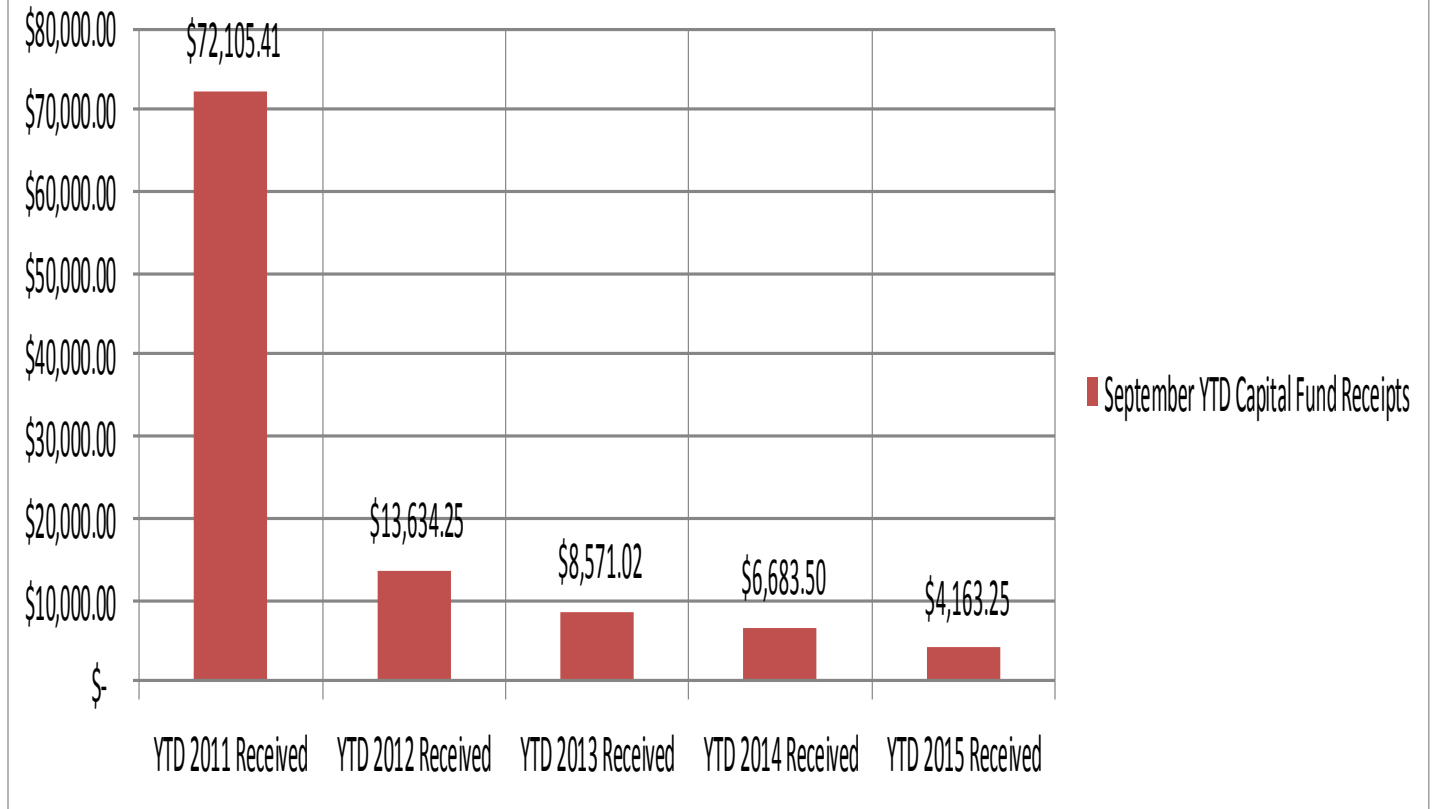
the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and \$200.00 was sent to the Midwest Presbytery's Church Extension Committee (CHEX).

September year to date giving for the **Capital Fund** was \$4,163.25. Please refer to the Capital Fund graph that shows the historical giving for the years indicated in the graph. You may contribute to the Capital Fund by marking your gift as "Capital Fund" and placing it in the offering plate. Please note that the Capital Fund is used to pay for current and future needs that may exist to purchase additional equipment (such as computers, the sound system, tables and chairs, etc.) or building-type items (such as a parking lot, driveway, furnace boiler, etc.). Since some capital needs are quite substantial in nature, resources to finance and pay for these projects can take years to pay for them. Even though capital needs may not be large in the current year, we should wisely allocate our giving not only to current needs, but also to these future needs as well.

September YTD Benevolence Receipts Actual vs. Current Budget



September YTD Capital Fund Receipts



Pine Haven Pizza Fundraiser

Please join us for our Pizza Fundraiser on Wednesday, November 4th from 4-8 pm. at Falls Firehouse Pizza, 109 Maple St. in Sheboygan Falls. Come and eat in or have take out and a percentage of the profits from the night will be donated to the Pine Haven Auxiliary. Thanks for all of your support.



Pine Haven Annual Fund Drive

Kenneth Koehler

Six and a half decades ago, churches within the Sheboygan County came together with the mission to care for our senior population the way Christ would care for them—by providing quality, compassionate care in a Christ-centered environment. From this mission, Pine Haven Christian Communities were created.

Over the years, this mission has not changed, but it has grown. The original Pine Haven Christian Home had a capacity of 12. Today, they have 295 apartments, plus the capacity to provide outpatient rehabilitation services.

As the population of seniors continues to grow, Pine Haven's services become ever more vital in the community. As the Body of Christ, we need to support Pine Haven as they follow God's will, serving our elderly with passion and dedication.

Toward that end, the Pine Haven

Community requests your prayerful attention toward their Christian Home Foundation. The Foundation has many funds that support the mission of Pine Haven—like the Resident Assistance Fund, which supports residents who have come to the end of their ability to cover their life expenses.

Please prayerfully consider a donation to one of the funds within the Pine Haven Christian Foundation prior to year ending. This will help to ensure that Pine Haven can continue to provide quality service to as many seniors as possible.

PS: In your mail box you will find a letter from the Pine Haven Christian Communities Leadership Team. Also, an envelope is provided for the mailing of your donation.

Harvest Home Supper

The annual Harvest Home Supper will be held Saturday, November 14th. Our speaker this year will be Dr. Bassam Chedid, president of Children of Abraham Ministries. This is a ministry spreading the gospel to Arabic speaking peoples, including Muslims. He will be talking about Christian responses to Islam.



Deacons' Update

The Lord continues to bless us with generous giving and answered our prayers. The current Deacon fund balance is \$8,700.

The Deacons have been able to assist with the following needs recently....food, yard work, house repairs, dentist/medical bills, transportation needs, and housing assistance.

If anyone needs assistance, please feel free to contact one of the Deacons - Don DeTroye, Christ Kaeiser, Randy Jensema or Jeff Froh.



Creamy White Chili

- ★ 1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1/2 inch cubes
- ★ 1 medium onion, chopped
- ★ 1 1/2 tsp. garlic powder (or fresh garlic)
- ★ 1 tbsp. vegetable oil
- ★ 2 cans (15 1/2 oz. each) great northern beans, rinsed & drained (or 1 heaping cup dry beans, cooked)
- ★ 1 can (15 oz.) chicken broth
- ★ 2 cans (4 oz. each) diced green chilies
- ★ 1 tsp. salt (or a little less)
- ★ 1 tsp. ground cumin
- ★ 1 tsp. dried oregano
- ★ 1/2 tsp. pepper
- ★ 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper
- ★ 1 cup sour cream
- ★ 1/2 cup whipping cream

In a large saucepan, saute chicken, onion and garlic in oil until chicken is no longer pink. Add beans, broth, chilies and seasonings. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, for 30 minutes. Remove from the heat; stir in sour cream and cream. Serve immediately. **Yield:** 7 servings

Debbie Boss



Showing forth the excellencies of Jesus Christ

Grace OPC

Church Office:
4930 Green Valley Ln
Sheboygan, WI 53083

Phone: 920-565-2160
Website: graceopcsheboygan.com
Email:
graceopc@tds.net
revbriandejong@gmail.com

CHECK OUT THE AUDIO:

**SERMONAUDIO.COM/
GRACESHEBOYGAN**

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE:

GRACEOPCSHEBOYGAN.COM



Spurgeon Corner

“But their eyes were holden that they should not know Him.”

(Luke 24:16)

The disciples ought to have known Jesus, they had heard his voice so often, and gazed upon that marred face so frequently, that it is wonderful they did not discover him. Yet is it not so with you also?

You have not seen Jesus lately. You have been to his table, and you have not met him there. You are in a dark trouble this evening, and though he plainly says, “It is I, be not afraid,” yet you cannot discern him. Alas! our eyes are holden. We know his voice; we have looked into his face; we have leaned our head upon his bosom, and yet, though Christ is very near us, we are saying “O that I knew where I might find him!” We should know Jesus, for we have the Scriptures to reflect his image, and yet how possible it is for us to open that precious book and have no glimpse of the Wellbeloved! Dear child of God, are you in that state? Jesus feedeth among the lilies of the word, and you walk among those lilies, and yet you behold him not. He is accustomed to walk through the glades of Scripture, and to commune with his people, as the Father did with Adam in the cool of the day, and yet you are in the garden of Scripture, but cannot see him, though he is always there. And why do we not see him? It must be ascribed in our case, as in the disciples’, to unbelief. They evidently did not expect to see Jesus, and therefore they did not know him. To a great extent in spiritual things we get what we expect of the Lord. Faith alone can bring us to see Jesus. Make it your prayer, “Lord, open thou mine eyes, that I may see my Saviour present with me.” It is a blessed thing to want to see him; but oh! it is better far to gaze upon him. To those who seek him he is kind; but to those who find him, beyond expression is he dear!

Evening, November 29th, by C. H. Spurgeon

Thanksgiving Day Football Game

The Annual Thanksgiving Day Football game will be held in the field next to the church parking lot on Thanksgiving Day morning. Come to play or to cheer on your favorite team. Participants are asked to bring some orange clothing to help differentiate the teams. Donuts will be available for everyone at half-time.

