

CORNERSTONE

“...for I am sending Christ to be the precious Cornerstone of my church...” Peter 2:6

Westfield Welcomes David Champ as Director of Youth and Family Ministries

An Interview with the Newest Member of our Ministry Team

Where were you born?

Washington, PA (actually Prosperity, PA but no one has a clue where that is!)

What was your favorite activity as a child?

Watching hockey/cartoons

Did you/do you play sports?

I loved playing soccer in high school. I am also a huge hockey fan. I love to play it, watch it, read about it. Everything about it!

Tell us about your favorite classes in high school as well as your least favorite.

I really like Graphics Design as well as my English classes. I really didn't like math or science.

Why did you decide to attend Grove City?

My parents are grads and so I visited the campus in 6th grade and fell in love with it. When I was a freshman in high school I knew I wanted to go into the ministry and Grove City best prepares you spiritually as well as academically.

What is your major and why?

Biblical and Religious Studies with a Christian Ministries minor. I felt the call to ministry and I continue to get it solidified. God is good and called me out of darkness to bear fruit for His Kingdom and this major best prepares me to do so in the way that He has called me.

Tell us about your family.

There is my mom Kim and dad Warren who have been together from 1988 on (2 years before I was born). My brother Jeff is three years younger and is a freshman at Waynesburg University.

What is your vision for youth ministry?

I believe in a youth ministry that is cross-centered. If Jesus is not the core/focus, it will fail. With a cross-centered ministry, this will allow for youth who are on fire for Christ as well as a mission-minded group. We live to serve our Lord by serving His youth, not serving ourselves.

(continued on back cover)





Two Ways of Life: A Look at Psalm 1

by David Champ

Each month, in addition to an update on YO! and where we are heading, I want to provide a couple of thoughts I have for the parents and for the youth (as well as anyone wanting to read). This month I just want to talk, briefly, about Psalm 1. Read it. It paints the picture of a tree by a stream of water bearing fruit and being strong. This parallels our relationship to God by reading His Word.

We don't want to be a dead tree or a "poser tree" as someone once told me. We end up stapling apples to our branches but in the end, the apples will die away because they aren't properly attached to the tree. Just like us. If we are abiding in God as John calls it in John 15:4: "*Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.*" We need to cling to the cross and read Scripture every day to properly bear the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-26). We want to bear true fruit and not false fruit. Scripture is also called the "*sword of the Spirit*" in Ephesians 6 and someone once told me that no one wants to fight with a rusty sword. You need to "polish" and "sharpen" it every day. Basically what I am trying to say is that we need to read Scripture every day and meditate upon and use it. After all, it is meant for us! (Hebrews 4:12-13, II Timothy 3:16-17).

What's Happening at YO!?

In December the youth group (YO!) continued our study which will wrap-up at the end of January. On January 15 we are having a bowling day at Mohawk Lanes from 1-3 P.M. This is an opportunity to eat some pizza, bowl and get to know me and visa versa. We are looking forward to seeing you all out there for this! We'll have regular YO! from 6-8 P.M. at the Grange on January 8, 22, and 29.



January 2012

- 8** *Who Will You Consult?*
Galatians 1:6-24
Ordination/Installation of Elders and Deacons, Recognition of Trustees
- 15** *Does God Show Favoritism?*
Galatians 2:1-21
- 22** *Who Has Bewitched You?*
Galatians 3:1-29
- 29** *Who is Your Daddy?*
Galatians 4:1-32

Pronoun Shift

Society encourages us to focus on ourselves. The pronouns in the parable of the rich man indicate that he fell into this trap, too: "He talked to himself: 'What can *I* do? *My* barn isn't big enough for this harvest. ... *I'll* tear down *my* barns and build bigger ones. Then *I'll* gather in all *my* grain and goods, and *I'll* say to *myself*, Self, *you've* done well!'" (Luke 12:16-19, The Message).

What a difference other pronouns would have made. The man could have asked, "What would you have me do, God?" He could have seen things as God's, on loan to him to share with others: "This barn you've blessed me with, God, isn't big enough for this harvest you've provided. I'll share the extra with others, as you've commanded."

And instead of taking credit himself, he could have offered praise: "God, you've cared so well for me. Thank you, Lord!"



New Library Materials Available Soon

Have you been looking forward to the “deep, dark dead of winter” to catch up on some reading? The church library has some great selections, including these new items. They were donated by the Faith Seekers Class in memory of loved ones.

In This Mountain and Shepherds Abiding by Jan Karon

These New York Times bestsellers are the seventh and eighth novels in the beloved Mitford Series. Jan Karon writes “to give readers an extended family, and to applaud the extraordinary beauty of ordinary lives.”

Basic Christian Doctrine: A Summary of Christian Faith-Catholic, Protestant, and Reformed by John H. Leith

Drawing on years of experience as a pastor and seminary professor, Leith provides a brief but comprehensive statement of Christian faith for contemporary Christians. He considers the theologians of the ancient church and affirms the faith of the ancient creeds.

The Sugar Creek Gang Books 1-6 by Paul Hutchens

The Sugar Creek Gang sets out on adventures near and far. In the process, they solve mysteries and teach readers a thing or two. Books 1-6 include: The Swamp Robber, The Killer Bear, The Winter Rescue, The Lost Campers, The Chicago Adventure, and The Secret Hideout. These classic stories have been inspiring children to grow in their faith for more than five decades! Now that they have been updated for a new generation, you and your child can join in the Sugar Creek excitement. All ages, but especially boys 9-12.

Prima Scripture: An Introduction to New Testament Interpretation by N. Clayton Croy

In this volume an expert teacher of the Bible provides an introduction to New Testament exegesis (critical explanation or interpretation of

Biblical text) that will appeal to students across the spectrum. The book interacts with recent scholarship and is academically rigorous but is written in an engaging style, incorporating anecdotes, humor, scriptural illustrations, and examples of the practical payoff of disciplined interpretation. Each chapter includes discussion questions and suggestions for further reading.

The Cul-de-sac Kids Books 1-6 by Beverly Lewis

When your 7- to 10-year-olds join the kids on the cul-de-sac at Blossom Hill Lane, they'll encounter realistic (and funny!) predicaments that point to Jesus as the ultimate mystery-solver! This set of chapter books includes: The Double Dabble Surprise, The Chicken Pox Panic, The Crazy Christmas Angel Mystery, No Grown-ups Allowed, Frog Power, and The Mystery of Case D. Luc.

Coming Home by Max Lucado with illustrations by Justin Gerard

Max Lucado provides an engrossing allegorical tale for children in the tradition of John Bunyan about the second coming of Christ and the home he has prepared for us in heaven. Children will learn powerful lessons about faith, patience, and God's great love and mercy. Recommended for ages 4 to 10.

Institutes of the Christian Religion by John Calvin

Written to “aid those who desire to be instructed in the doctrine of salvation,” the *Institutes* explores both “knowledge of God” and “knowledge of ourselves” with profound theological insight, challenging and informing all the while. For either the recent convert or the long-time believer, for the inquisitive beginner or the serious scholar, this is a rewarding book worthy of study!





Winter 2012

(continued from front cover)

An Interview With David Champ

What is your favorite book of the Bible or favorite chapter of the Bible? Why?

My favorite chapter in the Bible is Romans 12, but my favorite book is James. I love the instructions and boldness of James and Romans 12 as well as what it means to be a true, fruitful Christian. Every time I've worked with someone who has given his/her life away to Christ, I always tell them to read James and Romans and it is amazing to see what the Lord has done in my life with these passages, as well as others.

Name some challenges youth have in today's world.

Every challenge. Youth are at a time in which they need to grow up and mature into adults and yet society demands they be "kids." They live in a world where there are very few good role models let alone good spiritual leaders. Their struggles at base level are that they live in a sinful world that encourages sin, a universal Church that underestimates sin, and a sex-driven culture. I could give you stats about youth that would blow your mind. I am passionate about changing lives so our youth can change their culture. Anytime you would like to discuss this with me, just ask!

"My favorite book is..."

A Praying Life by Paul Miller. It is 35 short chapters that walk you through a healthy prayer life. (I would also like to recommend *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands* by Paul David Tripp and *Prodigal God* by Tim Keller).

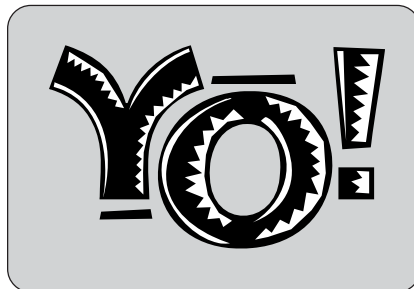
"Let me tell you about..."

An interesting moment for me came this

summer when I was frustrated with a camper (beyond description, I love to talk about him, just ask!) and one night in chapel while hearing the Word of God read, he began to weep and gave his life away!

What are you passionate about?

My passions for ministry are youth, relationships (yes marriage and dating ones), as well as counseling. I feel these are all important ministries that are being over-looked or misused in the Church and I have made it my life goal not to conform to this but to give God glory by serving Him in these capacities. My life verse is Romans 12:2 which says, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."



What would you like to say to the people of Westfield?

Let me express how thankful I am for this opportunity to serve the Lord with you. This

job is a huge answer to prayer as well as a dream come true. If you were to ask me to put on paper what it is that I want to be doing, I would just go ahead and print the job description that you had on the website! I have felt so welcome here and although I haven't met all of you, and I don't remember all the names yet, I really love you all so much!

I am available to talk to anyone about anything. Just give me a call on my cell 724-747-9144 to schedule a time. Or, check my office door for the weekly schedule of my office hours. I look forward to meeting each of you and working with you all to serve our God and our youth!



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Our online version is available on our web site:
www.westfieldchurch.org

We worship together every Sunday at 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:45 A.M.
We welcome all members, friends, and visitors to join us.

Please send any comments, questions, or address corrections to:

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DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE WHAT GOD'S WILL IS—HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL. —ROMANS 12:2