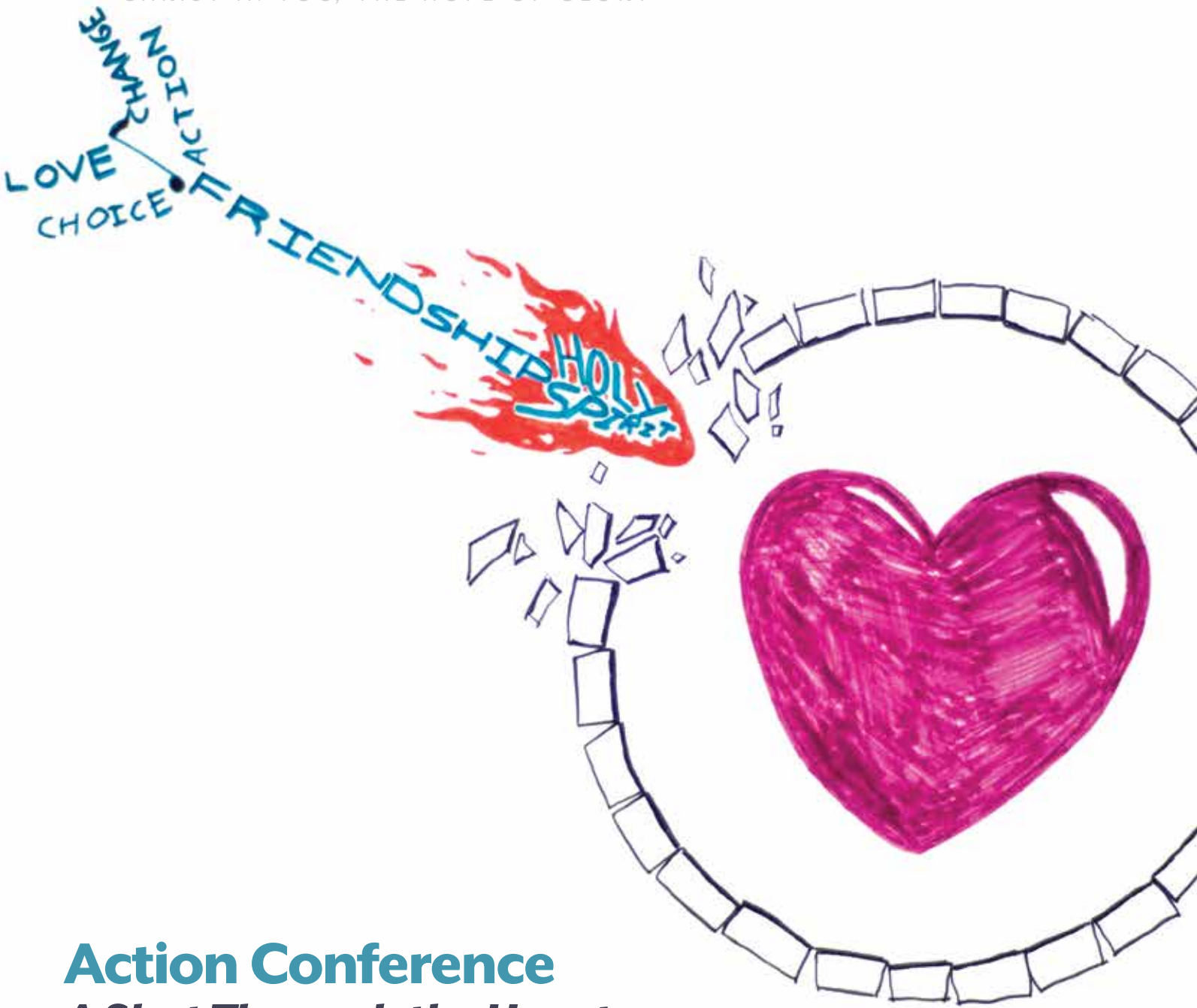


LATE SPRING 2018

V&B

CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY



Action Conference

A Shot Through the Heart

Healings
Walking Miracles

Servant Branch
Welcome to the West Side

Excerpt
Christ in the World

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Libby Grondin (left) is helping Latisha, Praise Academy's seventh grader, study music history and learn how to play the violin. Here, they are onstage at the Riverview Theater right after they performed in the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra's Education Concert Series in January.

VOL. 33, NO. 3

V&B

The Magazine of the People of Praise

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FRONT COVER

This poster from the 2018 Action conference depicts the Holy Spirit breaking through the barrier around participants' hearts so that the good news and the themes of the conference could penetrate. Friendship, love, choice and action are what is needed to follow the Holy Spirit for change to occur. The poster was created by Davis Bowler, Peter Cieslak, Max Cook, John Crimmins, Luke Kabele, Ian Milton and Jacob McDougall. Photo by Collin Anderson.

BACK COVER

Brigette Mysliwicz (Mission, Allendale) took this picture in March while visiting the Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch in California, which features 50 acres of blooming Ranunculus flowers and is open for only six weeks in the spring.

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Matt and Mary Brickweg host morning prayer twice a week. From left: JT McManmon, Geriann Raway, Chris Raway, Matt Brickweg, Jim Bulger, Beth Bulger, Mary Brickweg and her daughters.

Welcome to the West Side

BY ELIZABETH PEASE

The West Side of St. Paul is a neighborhood of contrasts. It's the sort of place where you'll find grand Victorian-era homes with their arched brick balconies close to tired-looking slum apartment buildings with fleece blankets covering the windows. On summer Saturdays a farmer's market pops up in the parking lot of a former Dairy Queen, now called the Icy Cup, which sells tacos in addition to sweet treats. The whole neighborhood slopes down a hill from south to north, ending abruptly in a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River, with downtown St. Paul in all its glory visible on the opposite bank.

Knocking on doors at random, you're just as likely to meet a Mexican grandmother and her teenage granddaughter, a family of Muslim immigrants from Africa, a white woman smoking in Tweety-bird slippers, or a college-educated couple in their first home. Ask locals where they live, and they won't say "St. Paul." Welcome to the West Side, a place where community

members have been deliberately clustering and reaching out since the fall of 2014.

Today, the initial West Side outreach team consists of Mary Bredenberg, Matt and Mary Brickweg, Jim and Beth Bulger, Tony Kuplic, JT McManmon, Chris and Geriann Raway and Pat Murphy, who heads the outreach. (A second outreach team is in its early stages—see below.) The first team meets weekly for a meal, where they plan and share the fruit of their activities. They join together for prayer early on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Brickwogs' house, where Madeleine, 4, and Vera, 2, act as joyous ringleaders, dancing about and clapping along to the guitar. They see one another often. The Brickwogs and Raways live next door to each other on Winifred Street, the Bulgers live two houses down, and JT McManmon lives one street over.

"The common life that the team members are living together is thick," Pat says. "There is a lot of time that people are spending together. The team members are

becoming fast friends and their life together may be the biggest thing happening in our West Side work right now." Long-term, he says they hope that the life they're building will attract neighbors. In small ways, that attraction is already setting in.

In the summer of 2017, many community members came together to put on a day camp in a local park for neighborhood children. Through the camp, they met several local families, most of them originally from Mexico, and some new relationships began to blossom. At a cook-out on the evening of the last day of camp, Mary Brickweg met an expectant mother and offered to make a meal for her family when the baby came. A few weeks later, Mary was making plans for the meal and called the mother to work out the logistics. "I asked her how many people to cook for, and she rattled off her family, and then she said, 'Oh, and your family, of course, too.'" When the day came, Mary helped set the table and a grandfather gave Matt a tour of improvements he'd made to the house. "It felt like we were just waltzing into the home of a family we'd known forever," Mary says.



Left: The Brickwegs' house (left) is next door to the Raways'. Center: A view of downtown St. Paul from Prospect Park near branch members' homes.

Another new friendship began when Maricruz Hernandez brought her two grade-school-age boys to the camp and realized she'd seen Beth at church. Beth offered to babysit, and stunned Maricruz when she came to pick the boys up by declining an offer of payment. Maricruz remembers, "She said, 'Think of it as if a grandma was babysitting. That felt really nice, because my mom is not here. Even my aunts charge me for babysitting.'"

At the time, Maricruz and her husband Francisco had been living in an apartment building whose front steps attracted a wandering group of teenagers smoking and drinking. One day last fall Maricruz called Beth to ask if the West Side team could come pray with one of her sons who was sick. Beth, Jim and Chris arrived first, and had to walk through a crowd of about 15 on the porch. "Tensions among the youth were escalating," Beth recalls. As the three of them stood in a small foyer waiting for JT to arrive, Chris urged them to pray, and they began to pray deliverance prayers in full view of the crowd on the porch. "Pretty soon after that, we noticed that this crowd of kids was gone," Chris said. After that, the group stayed away, according to Maricruz.

A few weeks later, Maricruz and Francisco learned that their rent was

going up, so they started to think about moving. The rental house next to Matt and Mary was vacant, left in poor condition by former residents. Maricruz was convinced they wouldn't be able to afford to rent a house, but decided to look anyway. The owner was reluctant to rent the house again because it was in such bad shape, but when they toured the house they struck a bargain that involved Francisco working to improve the house in exchange for a reduction in rent. Over the last few weeks of December, the Raways and Bulgers and their adult children visiting over the holidays put in many hours helping Francisco and Maricruz get the house ready. They cleaned the house from top to bottom, refinished floors and painted. "I have never felt God's love that much," Maricruz says.

The friendship between Francisco and Maricruz's family and the team members continues to grow, and now includes a regular outreach men's group meeting and women's group meetings, not to mention Spanish practice. Since fall the Raways and Beth have been taking classes, believing that God may want them to get to know many more Spanish speakers in the area.

John Ostby dates his decision to move to the West Side to a branch men's retreat in

the spring of 2016. Nick Holovaty (Mission, Evansville) led the retreat, and at one point he asked the men to take five minutes in silent prayer and ask the Lord for a word for someone in their men's group. After the prayer, Bruce Olson came up and tapped John on the shoulder. He reminded John of a story from the Gospels in which Jesus tells his disciples to throw their nets on the other side of the boat. As John tells it, Bruce said, "I believe that's a word for you and Sandy, and I believe it's also a word for Charlene and me." John answered, "I believe you're right and I believe that means the West Side. We're gonna go fish for God on the West Side."

Last summer, after some months of prayer and discernment, and after selling their suburban homes, the Ostbys and Olsons moved to rental apartments on the West Side, but they hoped to find houses to buy. One day Charlene took a walk and stopped to pray in front of a house she liked. A man stopped his car and asked what she was doing. Charlene explained that she walked the neighborhood each day to pray for a house. The man paused a moment, then said, "You know what, God's gonna get you a house, and it's gonna be better than you can imagine." Then he got back in his car and left.

A few months later, they came across



Right: Dinner before the team meeting at the Brickwegs' includes a few guests. Below: A fence in the Icy Cup parking lot emblazoned with local pride.

a large, four-bedroom house across the street and around the corner from 490, the former convent on the grounds of St. Matthew's Parish where Servant Branch college students and community members have been renting apartments since 2016. The house has two bedrooms upstairs and two bedrooms on the first floor, with a full bath on each floor, and it dawned on them that the two couples could live there together. They plan to move in this May. Together the Olsons and Ostbys are the backbone of a second outreach team, which they hope will grow. Their team has a different geographical focus, centered on the area around 490, about five blocks away from the cluster where the Bulgers, Raways and Brickwegs live.

Another prong of the outreach is growing at Cerenity Senior Care, a home for seniors which is also close to the 490 apartments. After talking with the chaplain about what might be helpful and trying a few ideas, Beth, Geriann and Meg Ferber ended up starting a small group called Women in Faith that resembles a women's group. Geriann explains, "We generally share a Scripture passage, and are trying to elicit friendship among them, particularly in sharing their struggles and praying for one another." Some of the residents who attend

the group are in their 90s or over 100, and others are younger, but live at Cerenity for help with various health needs. Beth recalls a birthday celebration in the small group: "One of the women always knows who's been the hospital, who needs to be cheered up, or who has a relative in trouble. We found out that it was going to be her birthday, so we honored her, and we brought her favorite food. We knew she liked music, so we brought a guitar that day. She normally is giving a lot of love and sometimes experiences loneliness herself. She was very touched."

Pat says that they hope to start a men's group at Cerenity in the near future. "There are a lot of people in that nursing home and we might end up having a big impact on them at the last stages of their lives."

As they go about their days, all the community members living on the West Side seek to interact with neighbors, paying attention to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and responding in a harmonious way. That might mean walking for a few blocks with an older woman who gets off the bus with three or four bags and needs a little help carrying them. It might mean buying a meal for a homeless man and using the time to talk about the Lord, or inviting a married couple over for an impromptu meal and praying with them afterward. As Pat puts it, it means always being open to the Lord, always asking, "What do we see God doing? What's right in front of us, and how can we respond to the things we run into?"





This year's Leaders' Conference for Men brought together veteran leaders and younger men in their 20s, 30s and 40s for a series of teachings and conversations about the present and future of the community. Rob Brickweg (Servant Branch) spoke from the mic during a plenary session.

2018 Leaders' Conference for Men

Brothers Across the Generations

By Peter Hammer

IT'S SATURDAY, MARCH 17. More than 100 men wearing jackets and ties file into the banquet room at the community center in South Bend, anticipating the Lord's Day opening. A holy presence stirs in our hearts and minds, the lingering effects of a prayer meeting which marked the transition to the final hours of the 2018 Leaders' Conference for Men. Then Craig Lent pauses the evening's flow, explaining that on certain formal occasions which call for a head table the seats at that table go to those brothers who have been covenanted for the longest time. The room fills with hearty applause as brothers shift left and right to catch a glimpse of Paul Barrett, Paul DeCelles, Charlie Fraga, Joel Kibler, Kerry Koller, Craig Lent and Kevin Ranaghan. This moment of honoring encapsulates the message of the conference beautifully: we are a community which spans generations. Every decade is represented, from brothers in their 20s right up to brothers over 80. Younger brothers gladly join in giving honor to their senior brothers. Long-time members, including founding members of the community, welcome the vibrancy of these younger generations with an eager share of gladness. The Spirit of God inspires our partnership, encourages our dependence on one another and draws us all together in true brotherhood.

Available on the File Library

Below is a list of the talks from the conference, with either a short summary or key quote from each. The talks were organized into four broad categories: (1.) the big picture (2.) characteristics of a Christian man, (3.) People of Praise DNA, and (4.) outreach challenges. All the talks are available on the People of Praise file library.

The Big Picture

1. **Encountering the People of Praise** (Craig Lent) 44 minutes

Craig shares how he came to join the community, a journey that begins during his student years at Cal Tech University, then took him to San Francisco, Minneapolis and South Bend. He also introduces one of the main themes of the conference, the dynamic tension between being and doing.

2. **The Big Picture** (Craig Lent) 51 minutes

Craig comments on his personal story using Scripture and the *Spirit and Purpose*. “Christians have to understand how big a deal it is that we are together. This is a very big deal—Christian community! Holiness and the unity of the community are essential.”

3. **Contrast Issues** (Craig Lent) 40 minutes

A review of community teachings in two areas: the roles of men and women and sexuality. “We want to create a society in Christ in which men are free to be men and women are free to be women.”

Characteristics of a Christian Man

1. **Thinking Clearly** (Mike Zusi) 19 minutes

As a community, we value unity of mind, a goal that requires thinking carefully, calmly and patiently, while keeping strong emotional reactions in check.

2. **Prayer** (Joel Kibler) 22 minutes

Joel speaks of learning to be present to God who dwells in each one of us: “Neither science, nor sociology, nor psychology, nor economics, nor philosophy, nor technology can ever grasp the mystery of God dwelling in us.”

3. **Freedom and Decisions** (Mike Zusi) 18 minutes

“There is a growing unease, an aversion to making commitments or decisions. The acronym at work in the social world is FOMO or Fear of Missing Out. . . . But I want to make a case that decisions and commitments make space for more freedom.”

4. **Being Men of Action** (Nick Holovaty) 22 minutes

“The difference between you and the effectiveness of your action and Jesus and the effectiveness of his action is not that he has more of the Holy Spirit, but that he is a better human being.”

5. **Perseverance, Endurance and Character** (Phil Monaco) 20 minutes

“There is no greater good or purpose for our life than the call that we are gathered here to celebrate, the call of our Lord to build his kingdom and to love one another and the Father.” It’s a call that demands perseverance and endurance.

6. **Evangelism and Joy** (Jim Mysliwiec) 22 minutes

“The gospel constantly invites us to rejoice. Jesus himself ‘rejoiced in the Holy Spirit.’ His message brings us joy. . . .” Jim tells how life in community helps keep joy alive.

People of Praise DNA

1. **Filled with the Spirit** (Joel Kibler) 32 minutes

Joel describes the action of the Holy Spirit in Christians and urges, “Don’t live a tame People of Praise life!”

2. **Covenant** (Kevin Ranaghan) 30 minutes

Kevin lays out the biblical understanding of covenant and explains how the founders of the community understood the covenant of the People of Praise. He discusses how the covenant, the *Spirit and Purpose* and other foundational documents allow for changes in community life while helping to keep our original spirit alive.

3. **People of Praise Life** (Tom Caneff) 27 minutes

Tom draws on battle imagery from Scripture and war movies while discussing some of the basics of branch life: personal prayer, headship and subsidiarity. He frames life in the People of Praise as part of the ongoing Christian struggle.

4. **Structure** (Mike Zusi) 21 minutes

The community is organized into branches and program offices for the sake of both being a community (our highest goal) and accomplishing our mission.

5. **Good, True and Beautiful** (Jon Balsbaugh) 22 minutes

Jon unpacks the community’s commitment to integral Christian humanism, as expressed in the *Spirit and Purpose*: “We want to be involved in the culture of the world, knowing that science, art and music are means of human refinement and that industry and commerce are means of human service.”

6. **Ecumenism** (Mike Coney) 16 minutes

How did the People of Praise become ecumenical? Mike Coney tells the story and explains our ongoing commitment to a grassroots movement for Christian unity.

7. **Sacrifice** (Sean Connolly) 33 minutes

The true story behind the movie *Chariots of Fire*: how the Scottish sprinter Eric Liddell won an Olympic gold medal then left behind athletic glory to live as a missionary in China.

Outreach Challenges

1. **Millennials** (Jon Balsbaugh) 23 minutes

Jon draws on his conversations with Trinity alumni, high school and college students to consider several challenges those in the millennial generation face as they encounter Christian community.

2. **Listening to Our Neighbors** (Nick Holovaty) 21 minutes

Nick shares about learning to ask neighbors open-ended questions such as, “What do you want?” It’s important to listen to what neighbors have to say, rather than always presuming that we already know the best way to solve their difficulties.

3. **Emmaus Outreach** (Eric Shreves) 28 minutes

Eric introduces Emmaus, a new movement he leads in Portland. (Eric is also the leader of the local division which is responsible for the movement. The division is part of the Christian Life Movements program office.) Emmaus aims to invite disconnected young adults into friendship and Christian community through open men’s and women’s groups, weekend gatherings and mentoring.

4. **Christianity in the West** (David Salmon) 33 minutes

David shares sobering statistics about the decline of mainline churches. He analyzes how Christians contributed to this decline by relying on institutions to advance the work of the church and by assimilating into the larger culture.

5. **The Good News** (Mike Wacker) 23 minutes

Mike offers his one-sentence summary of the Good News: “God is pouring out his Holy Spirit on us.” Using the parable of the sower, he shares how we can become more effective in spreading the gospel by first assessing the condition of our hearers’ hearts.

Walking Miracles

Editor's note: During the prayer meeting at the end of the Leaders' Conference for Men in March, Tom Shriver (Buffalo) shared the story of his healing from cancer, a story many in the room had never heard. The bottom line: Tom is a walking miracle.

That got us thinking. How many more healing stories are there? How many more miracle men and women are walking in our midst? Here are two such stories, but we invite you to send us more. If you've experienced a dramatic healing, please let us know and we will consider your story for a future issue.

Live Man Walking

By Tom Shriver

Shortly before Christmas, 1993, I began to experience some persistent lower-back pain. My doctor started me on a series of tests and evaluations: C-T scan, sonogram, blood work, urinalysis, X-rays and MRI. I was seen by urologists, gastroenterologists, neurologists, neurosurgeons and even a chiropractor. Nothing turned up wrong, and my doctor dismissed the ever-increasing pain as stress-related.

Gradually the pain became so severe that I could not lie prone to sleep. Eventually, I was unable to drive or work, and walking was becoming difficult. Then my bowels and bladder shut down.

Members of the branch here in Buffalo came to the house regularly and laid hands upon me, praying the healing psalms from the Bible, inserting my name. My favorite, which I clung to throughout this ordeal, was Psalm 118:17, "Tom shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord."

On February 23, 1994, I returned home from a doctor's visit and within an

hour I was paralyzed from the waist down. My doctors were notified and I was rushed to Sisters of Charity Hospital in Buffalo. I was sent for a myelogram and another C-T scan. When the tests were complete, my neurosurgeon told me that something was pressing on my spinal cord. I was prepped immediately for emergency surgery.

Prayer groups and churches, family and friends, strangers and community members prayed in earnest for God's will to be done. I cannot deny that my relationship with the Lord Jesus, coupled with the power of prayer from God's people, was the reason I was so confident and able to hear the bad news from the doctors when I awoke from surgery the next morning.

The surgeon had removed a tumor that was pressing on my spinal cord and causing the paralysis. He expected the paralysis to be temporary, but I would have to learn to walk again and it might take three years to recover full use of my legs. The tumor was malignant and he said there were probably more (there were).

I remained calm and confident; I was so grateful to be finally out of pain. I knew that God put me flat on my back for some purpose which I was unaware of right then, but which he would reveal on his own schedule.

The next few months included recovery, radiation, physical and occupational therapy, the development of blood clots in my leg, lots of good food and fellowship, massive chemotherapy and three days of extensive radiation leading up to a bone marrow transplant in early June.

About three weeks after the transplant I developed bleeding around the brain, which required immediate surgery. Doctors were not sure if I could live through it in my weakened condition. The night of my surgery, my wife Theresa

informed Bud Northway, Buffalo's principal branch coordinator at the time, of the urgent need for prayer. Bud was attending the leaders' conference in South Bend, where 200 men lifted me up to the Lord in prayer.

A miracle happened: I came through surgery with flying colors. In the morning I was up walking around the halls, having tea with the nurses, mostly unaware of the wonder God had performed. My doctor was so surprised to see my instant recovery that he labeled me "The Miracle Man!" God had heard and responded to the prayers of his people.

Slowly but steadily, my physical strength and endurance returned. One doctor told me: "After all you've been through, the progress I see in so little time is nothing short of a miracle." Only a month after I was released from the transplant hospital, I was off all antirejection medications. Today, 24 years after the transplant, I am still cancer-free. Glory to God!

In those 24 years God has given me much to be thankful for. I was able to see each of my five children grow into wonderful adults, get married, and bless us with 14 grandchildren so far. Theresa and I continue to grow closer in our marriage and our walk with the Lord through several Marriage in Christ seminars we have given together.

The Lord has provided me with two teaching jobs working with high school students who have special needs. In the Buffalo branch I serve as the principal branch coordinator, a position I have held for more than 13 years. I love this job as much as my teaching job. I, along with my wife and a few others, have shared leadership of Buffalo Camp for more than 30 years, drawing many of our community



Tom Shriver paused at a statue of a tired pilgrim in the Plaza San Marcos in Leon, Spain, during his first hike on the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route in 2014. He hopes to redo the 500-mile trip from Saint-Jean-Pied-De-Port, France, to Santiago de Compostela when he retires.

children into closer relationships with the Lord.

I am also very grateful for the opportunity to have walked the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route in Spain twice in the past three years. I hope to be able to walk it at least one more time after I retire. These pilgrimages have given me tremendous moments of closeness to the Lord as well as great struggles—times when I learned to lean on him and nothing else.

So the story continues. On a warm June evening, 24 years ago, the Lord of the universe heard the prayers of his people and reached down and touched this simple man, beginning a chain reaction of events that blessed hundreds, maybe thousands of people since that night. I am humbled, yet grateful that God chose me to be the object of so much blessing.

A Leg Lengthened

By Anne Osterhouse

I didn't grow up in the community, but in the spring of 2001 I went on a People of Praise retreat for ninth- and tenth-grade girls along with other members of my class at Trinity School at Greenlawn.

On Saturday afternoon, we spent quite a bit of time in personal prayer and then had the opportunity to pray with one another in small groups. I was raised Catholic, but I had never experienced charismatic prayer before and this was the first time I had ever prayed with anyone. Although I'd heard of miracles and believed in them theoretically, I had always been fairly cynical when I heard of them actually occurring. Yet that afternoon, as we were preparing to pray together, a thought entered my head: "pray for your leg."

I knew exactly what that meant. You wouldn't have noticed it by looking at me, but my right leg was seven millimeters shorter than my left leg. Also, I only had half of a vertebra at one point in my back, which threw things farther out of alignment. These two things meant that my spine wasn't even, so the ligaments in my back were stretched out. I had to wear a lift in my shoe—a small piece of rubber—to make my legs function as if they were the same length and get some injections near my spine to strengthen the stretched ligaments. Though I had only known about it for a couple of years, I had had this problem my entire life and I expected to have it

for the rest of my life.

When that thought entered my head, I knew, with absolutely no doubt, that God would heal me. It was the most certain I have ever felt about anything, before or since. In our small group, I asked to be prayed with in a very vague way. I said something along the lines of, "I have some back problems." I experienced no sensation whatsoever while being prayed with, but as soon as I had been prayed with I knew, with absolute certainty, that I had been healed, that my legs were the same length and that the half-vertebra was whole.

Coming home that evening, I kept my lift in my shoe, but it didn't feel right. When I got home, I went straight to my room, shut the door, and stood in front of the mirror. If you look, when you put your feet together your ankle bones should line up and touch in the middle. Mine never had, and my shoulders had never been even. When I looked in the mirror that night, my ankle bones lined up perfectly and my shoulders were exactly the same height. Now, more than 17 years later, they still do and still are. I have never worn my lift again and have never had another problem with these things since. Praise God!



ACTION CONFERENCE 2018 ***A Shot through the Heart***

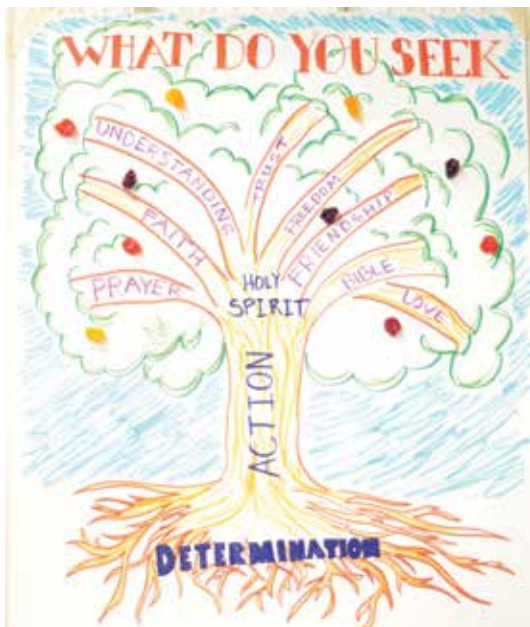
The 2018 Action conference aimed to address, as one participant put it, “universal questions that all teens have been asking themselves”—questions about friendship, God and how to take effective action during the school year. The conference, held April 4-7, brought together 137 students and 59 adults at the South Bend branch center. It was designed to tackle tough issues the high school students themselves had raised during last summer’s Action trips. In his opening talk, Program Coordinator Mike Wacker summarized what the students had said: “We want to be friends, but don’t experience friendship much. We want to grow in love of God, but the circumstances of everyday life control us and squeeze God out. We feel stuck.”

The conference’s talks, discussion groups, prayer

times and practical workshops aimed to help the students get unstuck, addressing topics such as friendship, self-control, determination, the Good News, praying through the Bible, fixing relationships, scheduling, making college decisions and maintaining faith in college, and the ultimate key to effectiveness, the Holy Spirit.

Was the conference effective? In many ways, the jury is still out—“every tree is known by its own fruit,” as Jesus put it. But in a sharing at a branch meeting in South Bend junior Sean Pingel expressed optimism: “The conference . . . gave us specific direction in how to do what we wanted to do for God. . . . We experienced the Lord’s forgiveness, his joy and his power. As groups and individuals, we recom- mited ourselves to live for the Lord and with him.”





Clockwise, from top left: Morning sessions included general talks and discussion. (Collin Anderson)

Afternoons included reports from Action and mission efforts around the country. (Becca Joy Root)

Friday evening featured swing dancing. (Amy Root)

Saturday evening closed out the conference with a prayer meeting. (Amy Root)

Workshops, such as this one on the Gifts of the Spirit led by Chris Vieck (Mission, Evansville), were held in the afternoons on Thursday and Friday. (Amy Root)

On Saturday afternoon each discussion group created a poster to help themselves grasp and remember major themes of the conference: growing in friendship with one another and the Lord, and taking responsibility for concrete steps to answer the Lord's call on their lives. (Collin Anderson)

A workshop on reading the Bible led by Nick Holovaty (Mission, Evansville). (Amy Root)

Participants squeezed in time for basketball, volleyball and ga-ga ball whenever they could. (Collin Anderson)

RECIPE

GRANOLA BARS

RECIPE BY SHEILA TIMLER

PHOTO BY JENNIFER KENNING



Sheila Timler's (South Bend) simple recipe for granola bars is both nourishing and delicious (but not low-calorie!). "I've made these bars for a young adults' camping trip, for a welcome gift when a family moved to the branch, for a wedding-morning snack for a community couple, and as a gift for a number of moms when they had their first babies." She notes that, since they're nutrient-dense and can be eaten with one hand, they really are perfect for moms with new babies.

Sheila says that she usually sets aside the amount that her family will eat in two or three days and freezes the rest. She typically uses the smaller amount of brown sugar and the smaller amount of dried fruit, but if you prefer them sweeter you can add more.

GRANOLA BARS

MAKES 48 BARS

Ingredients

- 1 ½ C canola oil
- 1 ½ C honey
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons vanilla extract
- 6 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- 3 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 to 1 ½ C light brown sugar
- ¾ C wheat germ
- ¾ C ground flaxseed
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon
- 1 ½ teaspoons salt
- 1 ½ to 3 C dried cranberries or raisins, to taste
- 1 ½ to 3 C walnuts or pecans, to taste, finely chopped (optional)

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease two 9x13 baking pans and set aside.
2. Mix canola oil, honey, eggs and vanilla extract in a medium bowl and set aside.
3. Mix remaining ingredients in a large bowl. Make a well in the center of the mixture. Add liquid ingredients and mix thoroughly.
4. Spread mixture into baking pans. Use a rubber spatula to press down and smooth the top. Be sure that there are no thin edges, which will cook too quickly.
5. Bake for 30 minutes. Cool in pan for 5 minutes only, then slice each pan into 24 bars. Allow to cool completely in the pans.

Have a recipe idea? Contact Elizabeth Grams at egrams@peopleofpraise.org.

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT: *Being Christ in the World*

BY KEVIN AND DOROTHY RANAGHAN

Editor's note: Kevin and Dorothy (South Bend) published the book *Catholic Pentecostals* in 1969 about the charismatic movement that had begun in the Roman Catholic Church in 1967. They showed that charismatic experience was at the very heart of Christian life.

We have before us the task of being Christ in the world. That means that in, with and through him, by the power of the Spirit, we are to worship, love, and adore our Father, just as Jesus did. It also means that we, the corporate Body of Christ, must communicate the experience of the saving love of Jesus to the world. To the world means to mankind: not to men's feelings or emotions, not to men's disembodied spirits, but to human people in human societies and man-made institutions. The world that needs Jesus' love is shackled with poverty and disease, with racism and war, with lust for power and just plain indifference to the "other guy." This is the world we are sent to transform with Jesus' love, not so the world will be condemned but that it will be saved.

The two-pronged Christian life of worship and service in all the various forms it takes in today's Church is at the same time the most joyous and the most crucifying burden any man could assume. Yet that is what we must do, for we *are* Christ.

Catholic Pentecostals is out of print, but used copies are available from a variety of online retailers, including Abebooks, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. This excerpt can be found on pages 211-212.



RAY BOWAR

By Earl Stodden

Ray grew up on his parents' farm. He attended St. John's University in Collegeville, MN, for a year before enlisting in the Coast Guard for three years. Then he helped his father out on the farm for a year before attending South Dakota State University in Brookings to earn his degree in electrical engineering. When he was hired by Univac, the family moved to Rosemount, MN.

Ray and Donna both had farming in their blood. In 1973, they found their dream place in Farmington, MN. Ray raised various crops and lots of hogs while working full-time at Univac, and never lacked for helpers with those eight kids. He was a Mr. Fixit; there wasn't anything he couldn't figure out and fix. He was eager to help others and share his talents, always with a big, broad smile.

When their son Tom started attending Catholic charismatic prayer meetings, they checked it out. Eventually, they were drawn to Servants of the Lord, then the People of Praise.

Ray loved traveling, and after retirement he worked part-time delivering RVs nationwide, then bought a fifth-wheel trailer so he and Donna could travel more together. They spent some winters in Arizona, but Ray's favorite place was at home with Donna, the family, his men's group and all of his brothers and sisters in the branch.

Before Ray went to be with the Lord, whom he loved so much, Alzheimer's stole a lot from him, but it never diminished the gentle spirit that so aptly described him.

facts

- Ray was born in Faulkton, SD, January 13, 1931, and died in Hastings, MN, on January 20, 2018.
- In December, 1955, he married Donna Hilkemeier of Redfield, South Dakota, at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Redfield. They were happily married for 62 years and raised eight children: three boys and five girls.
- Ray and Donna made the covenant of the People of Praise September 15, 1985. Other community members in Ray's immediate family are his son Tom (Servant Branch) and grandsons Joe Bowar (South Bend), John Bowar (Mission, Allendale) and Andy Bowar (Servant Branch).



DAVID O'HANLEY

By John Vogel

David leads a gaggle of River Ridge students, bending low, toward a flock of geese feeding over a hill. At the crest, boys and geese stare, eye to eye. Awe, yes, but mere prelude to the stunning whoosh-whoosh of rising and falling wings as the geese take flight—yet another of David's many masterfully created teaching moments at Trinity School.

David taught 24 years at River Ridge, coached lacrosse and robotics, and served on the Trinity Schools Board of Trustees. Scores of students, faculty and branch members would agree with alumnus Josh Ellis: "When Dr. O. speaks with you, it feels like you are the only person in the world that matters."

John Nesheim lost his feet to frostbite nine years ago. At the hospital David spoke as only a good friend can: "John, you have people depending on you. You need to pull yourself up. If there's any way I can help, let me know." Later, John needed encouragement, so every two weeks for months David took him out for coffee.

Speaking on climate science in one of his lunchtime talks to branch seniors, David was unbiased, accurate and accessible. He wanted to bring science to everyone. Anytime he couldn't answer a question, he would say gracefully and honestly, "I don't know that." Truth was more important than personally being right.

When diagnosed with cancer, David chose gene-targeted immunotherapy over side effects-laden chemotherapy, because he wanted a solid chance to continue living in his way—fully teaching, fully learning, fully loving.

facts

- David was born March 21, 1958, in Quincy, Massachusetts, and died in Minneapolis February 16, 2018.
- On February 6, 1982, David and Hilda Nevius married in Minneapolis. They had two children.
- David and Hilda made the covenant of the People of Praise April 4, 1999.
- He received a Ph.D. in geology from the University of Minnesota, was twice awarded the Hawley Medal by the Mineralogical Association of Canada, and authored the Oxford University Press monograph on serpentinites.
- To view the celebration of David's life, google "YouTube David O'Hanley."



Left: Anne Varevice signed the Colorado Springs branch's book of the covenant on April 1. Right: Members of the new start in Evansville celebrated a Christian seder together on Saturday, March 24.

LIFENOTES

Birth:

Luthien Rose, born March 9 to Chris and Rose Marquis (Servant Branch).

Anniversary:

Congratulations to Sean and Kellee White (Colorado Springs), who celebrated 25 years of marriage on January 3.

Covenant:

Congratulations to Anne Varevice (Colorado Springs), who made the covenant of the People of Praise on April 1.

Work and Achievements:

Congratulations to Paul and Ben Zusi, sons of Mike and Nora Zusi (South Bend), who danced in the annual Youth America Grand Prix ballet competition held in Chicago on January 14. Paul (17) placed in the top 12 performances (out of 135) in the senior classical division and Ben (14) placed first (out of 196 performances) in the junior classical division. Both Paul and Ben have also won full scholarships to the 2018 summer course of the School of American Ballet this July and August in New York City.

Praise God for the branch in Oahu, established 35 years ago in April of 1983.

Praise God for the branch in Shreveport, established 30 years ago on April 10, 1988.

Pray the Gospels, the app that One:Ten Communications built for Renew International which provides a guided way to do *lectio divina* meditations, is available on

both the Apple App Store (for the Apple/iOS version) and the Google Play Store (for the Android version).

In February Angie Hass (Mission, Indianapolis) began working as a special programs analyst at the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, helping the homeless and veterans acquire financial assistance for a place to live.

Chris Dietz (northern Virginia) has taken on substantial new responsibilities as a health and wellness consultant at Modere North America, a manufacturer and distributor of all-natural health products.

Ron Gouveia (Oahu) has retired from Carr, Gouveia and Associates, where he was a partner for 25 years in charge of the Computer Consulting and Audit and Accounting Departments. Before that he worked 14 years at Nishihama & Kishida CPAs. Ron now volunteers his years of accounting experience to assist Praise Academy at Lakeside.

Bill Flynn (South Bend) has retired after 40 years as a customer service representative at WestRock, a company that manufactures packaging supplies.

Elena Flynn (South Bend) has retired after 11 years as the office manager and grant administrator for Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County. Prior to that she worked for 19 years as office manager for Home Management Resources.

Kevin McShane (South Bend) started a new position in mid-April as project manager

at Epoch Architecture + Planning in South Bend.

Gina Busk (South Bend), currently director of communications and marketing for Trinity School at Greenlawn, has taken on the additional responsibility of working with Trinity Schools, Inc., doing strategic planning for messaging, marketing campaigns, social media and communications calendars, then coordinating and assisting all three Trinity campuses in implementing the plans.

Deaths:

Since the last issue of *V&B*, we've received word that a brother in the community has died. We pray for his family and friends in this time of loss.

Paul Nicklaus (Servant Branch) died March 31, 2018.

Executive Office:

Glenn Hilton (Saskatoon) was granted tenure as a coordinator of the People of Praise on April 3, 2018.

Dominic Jeremiah (Grenada) was granted tenure as a coordinator of the People of Praise on April 3, 2018.

Locksley Robinson (Kingston) was granted tenure as a coordinator of the People of Praise on April 3, 2018.

New baby? New job? Celebrating a major anniversary? Send your suggestions for lifenotes to thevine@peopleofpraise.org.



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**“The Lord God will cause
righteousness and praise
to spring forth before
the nations” (Is. 61:1).**