

The Acorn

November 2010

Volume 2010, Issue 11

Monthly Newsletter of Oak Hills Baptist Church

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Give Thanks for a Bountiful Harvest

By Shelly Haan

I always feel a little sorry for Thanksgiving. Sandwiched between Halloween and Christmas, kids aren't always hip on it because it doesn't involve candy or presents. Retail establishments

unwelcome/unpleasant time in the kitchen.

It's too bad, really. Thanksgiving has great historical significance, dating back to the three day feast held by the pilgrims to "give thanks"

friends, homes, good school, an excellent quality of life, not to mention the ability and privilege to live and worship freely in a country in which freedoms abound. Maybe life isn't quite what we were expecting or has taken turns we were unprepared for, but we know and see God's hand there beside us, guiding us on a daily basis.



It is true that the timing of Thanksgiving is such that it comes after Halloween and before Christmas... every calendar, every year, every time. But

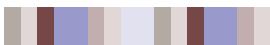
essentially ignore it as they put out Christmas merchandise in August and tote holiday sales weeks before any of us have even considered the Thanksgiving menu. And for some of us, time spent with family may involve a grueling travel schedule or

for a bountiful harvest. Thanksgiving is the opportunity for many of us to come together with family and friends to thank the Lord for the many gifts and blessings He has bestowed upon us

Today, so many of us have so much to be thankful for....family,

instead of an overlooked or burdensome experience, Thanksgiving is a time of reflection, to say thanks and to acknowledge a Lord who watches over us. It is a time to be humbled by our own bountiful harvest, though it may look significantly different than that of the pilgrims. And it becomes a time to prepare for the most glorious celebration of the year, the birth of Jesus Christ.

You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.
[Isaiah 9:3](#)





Thank you Oak Hills family. What an amazing family you are! The prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits have been overwhelming to Roger and I. Our God is faithful and hears the prayers of His people.

In Christ's love,
Roger and Kay
Harms



Mission Updates

Jayme McKercher— Cameroon

- Pray for me as I am in Colorado Springs October 17–November 9 for a 3 week missionary training course. It's very good, but is very physically draining and emotionally intense.

- Right now, I am at about 56% support. Pray for churches as they have business meetings these next couple of months and are considering supporting me.
- Thank you for your prayers and support!

Mission Haiti

Thank you for your prayers! Our group is back and has so many stories and experiences to share. On November 21 during the church service, we will share briefly about our time in Haiti. Watch the next Acorn for more stories and pictures.



COME TO OAK HILLS'

PRAISE AND PIES

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2010
6:30 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY**

**SIGN UP TO BRING A PIE,
WHIPPED CREAM OR ICE CREAM.**

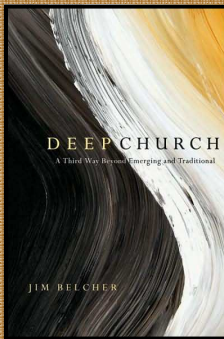
**GIVE THANKS
WITH A GRATEFUL HEART!**

**This
Month**

SQUARE

Deep Church

by Gregg A.
Ten Elshof

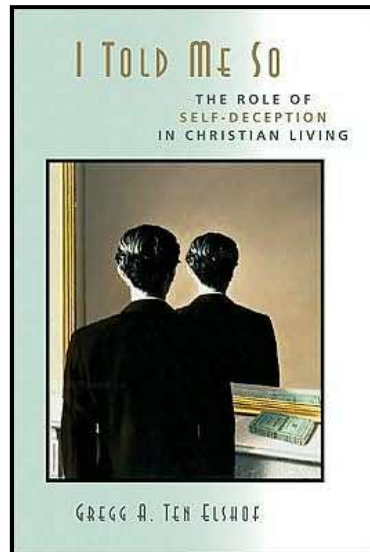


Facilitator:

**Pastor
Kirby Wilcoxson,
Trinity Baptist
Church**

**November 2, 2010
at 7:00 pm in
Room 213 of the
Cleveland Center
at USF**

SQUARE: December: *I Told Me So*



December 7, 2010

7:00 pm; Room 213 of the Cleveland Center
on the campus of the University of Sioux Falls

I Told Me So:

Self-Deception and the Christian Life

by Gregg A. Ten Elshof

Facilitator:

Tim Heerts

On Tuesday, December 7th, at 7:00 pm, SQUARE—a readers' forum sponsored by Oak Hills—will be discussing Gregg A. Ten Elshof's *I Told Me So: Self-Deception and the Christian Life*. Our discussion will be held in room 213 of the Cleveland Center on the campus of USF.

Every now and again, one stumbles across a book that seems so incredibly relevant that one wonders how it went so long without being written. *I Told Me So* is one of those books, receiving a 2010 Christianity Today Book Award in the "Christian Living" category. In the beginning of his book, Ten Elshof cites the statistic that 94 percent of college professors believe their job performance is better-than-average. :) Sixty percent of high-school seniors think they are in the top ten percent when it comes to getting along with others. Clearly, our capacity for self-deception is such that it must impact our Christian walk as well. Ten Elshof explores this impact in ways that are certain to spark some meaningful and, perhaps, uncomfortable reflection.

We invite you to secure a copy of the book and join us for what promises to be an intriguing and lively discussion. Additional information about SQUARE and Ten Elshof's book will soon be available on the Oak Hills website.



Women's Ministries News

Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer—Nov 1

ABCs of WHY I PRAY

I pray because God tells us to pray.

Philippians 4:6 tells us to pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done.

I pray because prayer is powerful.

Jeremiah 33:3 "Call to Me, and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things which you do not know."

Join me in thanking God for the ABCs of answered prayer:

Allows me to approach the throne of Grace
 Burdens are lifted
 Calms my fears
 Directs my decisions
 Enlightens me to His will
 Forgiveness
 Guidance

Helps me stand strong in times of temptation

Increases my faith

Joy in my heart

Keeps me grounded

Love of God

Marriage of love and happiness with my husband

Nothing is impossible with God

Others are blessed

Protection for family, friends and self

Quiet, peaceful time in God's presence

Releases God's power

Soothes my soul

Touches and heals me

Understanding of spiritual truths

Voice of God is heard

Washes away my sins

X-Chromosome-a

beautiful, loving daughter in my life

Young people like my grandchildren who God has given me

Zealous work is encouraged



Beth Moore—Living Proof Live

November 19-20, 2010 in Rapid City, SD

Info: <http://www.lifeway.com/event/39/>

Develop your own acrostic of answered prayers in your life and give God the glory!

*Psalm 50:15
 Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you and you shall glorify Me."*



For more information on the BWA World Day of Prayer, go to:

<http://www.bwawd.org/templates/System/details.asp?id=36375&PID=759179>

Children's Ministries News



Putting Service into Action

F.W. Friends takes it to the streets!

58 Kids raking...
12 lawns in....
2 hours!!!!

Thank you to all those who participated, who drove, who supervised and who allowed us the opportunity to expend our energy.

We had an absolutely AWESOME night for leaf raking. I received so many comments about how hard the kids worked. It was really neat to hear.

(See page 6 for pictures.)

There will be NO F.W. Friends on Wednesday, November 24, 2010.

Operation Christmas Child



A shoe box. It may look simple enough, overlooked even. To a needy child who doesn't know Jesus, it may be the first step toward understanding His great love and incredible sacrifice.

Last year, over 8 million children received a shoebox filled with toys, candy and mostly importantly, a message of love and hope. Operation Christmas Child is a project the whole family can get involved in. It's easy.



Operation Christmas Child
A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE



Grab it: Take a shoebox from the lobby.

Pack it: Fill the box with small toys, school supplies, hygiene items or hard candy/lollipops. As an extra, enclose a note to a child.

Drop it: Place the label on the box to designate whether it is for a boy or a girl and drop it off in the lobby by November 21, 2010. We take care of the rest.



A shoe box. Not only can it be a message of love and hope, filling it can be a lesson in kindness and giving.



Oak Hills Family Christmas Practice Starting



You will just get the Halloween costumes put away and believe it or not, it will be time to start practicing the Christmas program. Get to the Manger is the title of the program the kids will be performing this year. The program is **Sunday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m.**

The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

Sunday Morning: 9:45-10:10 a.m. starting October 31, 2010

Wednesday Nights: 6:30 to 7:10 starting November 3, 2010.

Saturday, December 5th and 12th Times to Be announced.

Practices are scheduled during F.W. Friends, but kids **do not** have to attend F.W. Friends to be in the program. Everyone is welcome to participate in the program and to stay for F.W. Friends and Sunday School after practice. The program is for kids Kindergarten through 5th grade, but our Preschool friends will be involved, but do not need to attend practices.

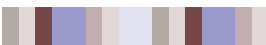


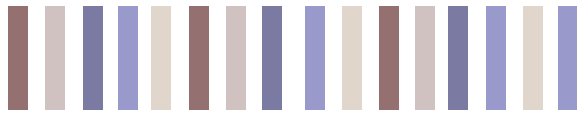
F.W. Friends Raking Event



F.W. Friends takes it to the streets!

58 Kids raking...
12 lawns in....
2 hours!!!!.





UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

- November 3rd**
 Farwell for Matt Styles
 Dwight & Deb Beukelman's home
 6:30-8:00pm
- November 10th**
 MS Youth group
 6:30-7:45pm
 HS Youth Group
 8:08-9:20pm
- November 14th**
 Baptism Sunday
 Six-Pack Sunday
- November 17th**
 MS Youth group
 6:30-7:45pm
 HS Youth Group
 8:08-9:20pm
- November 21st**
 The Well
 (College Small Group)
 6:30-8:00pm
 in the youth room
- November 24th**
 No Youth Group

What's Going' On Here?

Thanks Matt!

As many of you know, Matt Styles has been serving in Oak Hills Student Ministries while he has been completing his M Div at Sioux Falls Seminary. Matt has played a huge role on our youth staff and we have been so blessed to have him here. In May, Matt graduated from the Seminary and began looking for a full-time ministry placement. A few months ago, Matt was contacted by Komstad Covenant Church in Beresford, SD in their search for a Senior Pastor. Matt did a series of interviews and he and Amanda had a candidating weekend in October where the church voted to call him. By the way, the vote was unanimous. On Wednesday, November 3rd, we will be celebrating the work with Matt that God has done and we will also celebrate the call that Matt has responded to in taking this position. Matt has played a huge role in the lives of students at Oak Hills and I am so thankful for his presence here. He has helped write curriculum, plan trips & retreats and he even started an in-depth class for high school students on systematic theology. In addition to all of this, he also has been discipling middle and high school students too. Matt stepped into student ministries at Oak Hills with Janna Thorson and Joe Wiltse at a time in between youth pastors and they together helped lay the foundation of the community of students that we now have. We are also thankful for his wife Amanda, who has served with us as well. Her presence on the Colorado trip was a huge blessing to our group. Amanda has also graciously allowed us to spend a lot of time with Matt, which we know was a sacrifice on her part. Thanks Amanda for sharing your wonderful husband with us! While we are sad to be sending Matt off, we are also thankful for the time that we have spent with him and we are confident that God will continue to work in him for his name's sake and

for His glory alone. Words are not enough, Matt, for all that you have done. But we celebrate not only what you have done here, but also we celebrate who you are. We love you.
 —Oak Hills



Oak Hills Baptist**Student Ministries Staff**

Maria Boyd

Dave Campbell

Janna Thorson

Matt Styles

Joe Wiltse

Loralee Grimmer

Ashley Maturan

Korey Peterson

Kate Friesen

Heather Grause

PRAYER WALL

O God, early
 in the morning
 I cry to you.
 Help me to pray
 And to concentrate my
 thoughts on you:
 I cannot do this alone.
 In me there is darkness,
 But with you
 there is light;
 I am lonely, but you
 do not leave me;
 I am feeble in heart,
 but with you there is help;
 I am restless, but with you
 there is peace.

College Ministry

Six-Pack Sunday is coming up November 14th. We will be serving college students a free meal after the 11:00 service. (You will also receive a FREE Six-Pack of juice, water, or soda.) Please RSVP by going to our website: www.oakhills.net, go to the college ministry tab, and click on the link to let us know that you are coming. Please help us get the word out. Bring your friends, roommates and classmates to Oak Hills with you on November 14th for a hot, home cooked meal! Hope to see you there!

—Dave

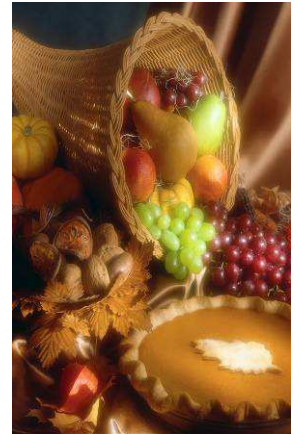
Something I've Been Thinking

I can remember when I was a little kid being jealous of my older brother. Not because he was older than me, or because he had his own room, or even because of his amazing sports card collection. No, I was jealous of my brother because he was bigger than me. Like any other sibling relationship, I had a healthy amount of fear of my older brother, because I knew he could push me around if he needed to. I have been doing a lot of thinking lately about growth. Not physical growth per se, but spiritual growth. It seems like for many Christians, their spiritual growth seems to be a source of comparison and a source of guilt in their lives. So often, we see the things that God is doing in other people and instead of celebrating them, we become jealous of them. We see God's work in them and we begin to look at ourselves and ask, "why am I not growing like that person?" This seems to cultivate not only jealousy in our minds and hearts but also guilt. It might be that we begin to convince ourselves that we are not growing because we aren't doing enough "stuff." If we would simply do more, then maybe we would grow. It seems that we celebrate less and less the small steps that we take in our spiritual journey, but the thing is, that it is those small steps which set the trajectory for our journey down the road. A few weeks ago, I came across a quote in a book by Mark Yaconelli that really got me thinking: "Above all, trust in the slow work of God." --Pierre Teilhard De Chardin. I was reminded of the supreme importance that trust must place in our walk with Christ. We might not always notice the manner in which God is moving us toward righteousness, but it is vital for us to trust him in the process of being made holy in His sight. I'm still not as big as my brother, but I understand something about growth that I didn't get when I was younger. Growth is more about taking small steps in a process than it is about getting to some destination. What small steps can you take today on your way to spiritual maturity? Today, are you trusting in the slow work of God? Or, are you trusting in something else.... It's just something I've been thinking about.

—Dave

November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	2 7:00 pm SQUARE 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	3 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm FW Friends 6:30 pm Youth Parents Bible Study 6:30 pm MS Youth 6:30 pm Walk by Faith 8:00 pm HS Youth	4 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	5 6:30 pm Marriage Small Group	6 8:30 am Prayer
7 7:30 am Prayer 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Children of the Sixties 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	8 7:00 pm Women's Ministry Team Meeting 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	9 7:00 pm Leadership Council 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	10 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm FW Friends 6:30 pm Youth Parents Bible Study 6:30 pm MS Youth 6:30 pm Walk by Faith 8:00 pm HS Youth	11 Veteran's Day 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	12	13 8:30 am Prayer
14 7:30 am Prayer 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12 pm Six-Pack Sunday 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	15 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	16 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	17 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm FW Friends 6:30 pm Youth Parents Bible Study 6:30 pm MS Youth 6:30 pm Walk by Faith 8:00 pm HS Youth	18 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	19 6:30 pm Marriage Small Group	20 8:00 am Men's Breakfast
21 7:30 am Prayer 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Children of the Sixties Praise & Pies	22 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	23 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	24	25 Thanksgiving  Church office is closed	26 Church office is closed	27 8:30 am Prayer
28 7:30 am Prayer 8:30 am Worship 11:00 am Worship 6:00 pm The Well 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	29 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	30 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study	<p>Bookmark the Oak Hills website!</p> <p>Submit and read prayer requests and praises at http://www.OakHills.net/prayer</p> <p>password is - he cares</p>			



Anniversaries:

- Nov 5 Andy & Sara Traub
- Nov 16 Mike & Jillene Reimnitz
- Nov 25 Joel & Vicki Dykstra
- Nov 26 Roger & Valerie Winegar
- Nov 29 Ryan & Jill Palcovic

Birthdays:

- Nov 3 Elaine Gortmaker
Ainsley Swanstrom
- Nov 4 Zoe Buchholz
- Nov 5 Abigail Voigt
- Nov 7 Ashlee VanDriesen
Roger Winegar
- Nov 9 Scott McKercher
- Nov 10 Braelyn Larsen
- Nov 11 Andrew Oines
- Nov 14 Mary Haan
- Nov 15 Kimlyn Bender
- Nov 16 Jeff Bakker
- Nov 17 Denver Kindt
LuAnn Reynolds
- Nov 18 Chris Murfin
Kristin Odland
Eva Peterson
- Nov 20 Gelen VanNoort
- Nov 21 Scott Johnson
- Nov 22 Salvatore Musumeci
- Nov 24 Alexandra Bill
Lisa Murfin
- Nov 26 Vicki Dykstra
Jen Sevold
- Nov 27 Scott Honner
Vange Renshaw
- Nov 29 Dave Campbell
Mark Schmidt
Andrew VanDreisen



Being the People of God for the Sake of the World



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Website: www.oakhills.net

Senior Pastor: Kimlyn Bender
kbender@oakhills.net

Associate Pastor: Join us in prayer as we
search for a new pastor

Associate Pastor
of Student Ministries: Dave Campbell
dcampbell@oakhills.net

Director of
Children's Ministry: Shelly Haan
shaan@oakhills.net

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Altman
kaltman@oakhills.net



Mark Your Calendars...

We are looking forward to these upcoming fellowship opportunities! Keep an eye out for more information in upcoming editions of the Acorn and in the Sunday morning announcements.

- November 21, 2010: Praise and Pies
- December 12, 2010: Oak Hills Family Christmas
- January 9, 2011: Baked Potato Feed
- February 13, 2011: Oak Hills Variety Show
- March 13, 2011: Spring Potluck Celebration
- April 24, 2011: Easter Day Brunch
- May 4, 2011: Cinco de Mayo Fiesta
- June 12, 2011: Ice Cream Social

