

# IMPACT

*"Making Disciples and Loving the Least of These"*

A publication of Bayside Baptist Church

[www.baysidesuperior.org](http://www.baysidesuperior.org)

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## The Tonns open their home and hearts to foster kids

By Corinne Scott, *IMPACT* Editor

*Even with six biological kids, the Tonns' home and hearts are big enough to take in, care for and love on foster children.*



The Tonn family gathers around the kitchen table for a photo. (From left) Josephine, 8; Isabella, 13; Madeline, 17; Sophia, 11; Jeremiah, Tammy, Andrew, 9; Emma, 14.

*Photographer Mark Walkowiak/Bayside In Focus*

Just south of Superior is a house set in the countryside, and that house is full with a dad, a mom and lots of kids. That house became a home when Jeremiah and Tammy Tonn and their six biological children moved in. Then two years ago, the Tonns became foster parents, and they have since said yes to caring for 13 foster kids (not all at the same time!). Currently, in addition to their own six, they have two foster children—a 17-month-old and a 3-week-old baby.

Both Jeremiah, 41, and Tammy, 39, agree that foster care is so needed.

"We are a family that can give a loving stable home to these children who are put into the Child Protection Services," Tammy said.

"Tammy stays at home and homeschools," Jeremiah added. "With that we are able to take in the foster kids and give them a good, safe, loving home while their parents are working on getting healthy. We give the kids regular meals, which sometimes they haven't gotten. They can experience a normal childhood and family life."

"The biggest challenge is the uncertainty of not knowing how long we are going to have

them in our care," Tammy said. "Or," Jeremiah added, "if they are going back to a safe place."

### The church family helps

Several years ago, the Tonns were drawn to foster care when Pastor Mark Pavola was preaching on "stepping out." Foster care was something they felt they could do and something that would serve the community as well. They have also attended the monthly *Promise 14:18* group at Bayside, an adoption connection, but with a big foster care initiative.



## You Are Not Alone

By Associate Pastor Mark Brookmole

*“O LORD, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my*

*tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.”*  
Psalms 139:1-6 (ESV)

While reflecting on Pastor Mark Pavola’s sermon on Sunday (10/15), I realized that there have been times in my life that have hindered my being able to rest or abide in Christ’s love stemming from incidents from my early life. There have been times, because of some childhood experiences, where I have felt alone, misunderstood and isolated.

Psalm 139 has ministered to me during these times. David writes on how completely God knows me. I love the idea of God searching me, knowing all my activities, all of my ways, even knowing

what I am going to say before I do. Dwelling on this truth helps me to realize that I am not alone -- ever! That Christ cares so much that He is with me always. Once you have trusted in Christ and what He did for you on the cross, accepting the gift of God by faith, you are saved (Ephesians 2:8-10).

I would like to encourage you to prayerfully meditate on Psalm 139:1-6. In John 15:9, Jesus declares His love for us and invites us to rest and remain in His love. My prayer is that through meditating on Psalm 139, you will be able to experience His love in a new, real way.

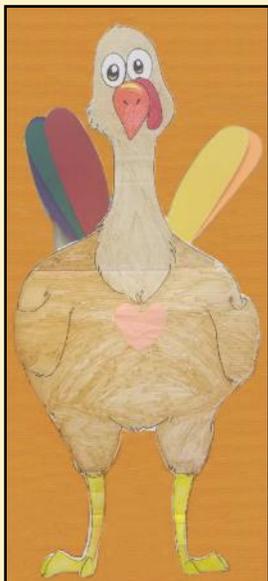
You are not alone!  
God Bless,  
Pastor Mark



## What IS Ted the Turkey you ask?

It is us, the church body, serving the community by being the hands and feet of Jesus and spreading goodwill toward men!

Every year at Christmas, our church gives attendees an opportunity to buy one or more feathers to adorn our “Ted the Turkey” cutout. Each feather goes for \$30 and covers the cost of a complete turkey dinner, all packaged in a nice box. The dinner includes the pan, foil, turkey, pie, butter, veggies, cranberry sauce, rolls, stuffing, potatoes and gravy! And more!



We have blessed and been blessed over and over again from this practical ministry. Greg Bijold helped last year and told of a gentleman who wept in gratitude and appreciation when he received his box. There have been countless similar stories. I remember

delivering a dinner to a mom and her young children. They all were so excited, happy and jumping up and down, crying and thanking us over and over again! It sure blessed my heart!

We bring these meals to folks unannounced. It’s strictly by knocking on doors and offering them a meal! We rotate from delivering in the nearby trailer park to the Royalton Manor and to people who you think would appreciate a dinner. We have also delivered to Caitlin Courts and Lund Apartments.

We are hoping to bless at least 100 families this year. Or MORE!!! Our God is big. Let’s not put limitations on this!

We would love to have you join us. We gather the food items at Super One and then package them, assembly-line style, in the church. Then we head out in our trucks and cars to deliver them. We come back to the church to enjoy coffee, cocoa and treats and prayer. There is a lot of laughter and sharing of testimonies of the day!

It really is a special moment of joy during a time when we are celebrating Christ’s birth. Sharing His joy and love to others who may just need to know that there IS kindness in this world and that WE are there for them ... now that’s a beautiful gift!

We will be collecting donations for Ted’s feathers in the fellowship hall on Sundays: Nov. 26, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10. We will be packing and delivering on Saturday, Dec. 16, 9 a.m. at the Church.

If you have a truck and want to help with picking up the items that Alicia Michels has ordered for us at Super One, let me know via e-mail at [hammerbecks@yahoo.com](mailto:hammerbecks@yahoo.com). Blessings, Terri Hammerbeck



## Ted the Turkey program makes Christmas dinner possible for many

By Terri Hammerbeck, Team Leader



## IMPACT

*For God and for Eternity*

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Impact is a publication of Bayside Baptist Church. The purpose of the publication is to raise awareness of ministries of the church and the impact of those ministries for God and for Eternity. We pray the impacts will glorify God and bring hope, encouragement, peace and the unconditional love of Jesus Christ to readers of "IMPACT."

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**"For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."**

Colossians 1:16-17 ESV

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## My Testimony -



*Photo of Jenny St. George by Madeline Walczynski*

## God's Plan for My Life is Better than Mine

By Jenny St. George

Hello Bayside,

People always ask, "When did you start coming to Bayside?" I'm not sure . . .but I know it was when Pastor Mark Pavola was on Chapter 8 of Revelation. It was a wonderful study.

I enjoy everything I've learned at Bayside. *Digging Deeper* on Wednesdays has been a blessing. When I attended *Divorce Care*, it was God's timing and so helpful. Everything I've learned on my journey of faith has strengthened me.

My life has had some major ups and downs. At a young age, I lost my mother. My grandparents raised me in a Christian home. I came to know Jesus at age 11 at Bible camp, and I was baptized when I returned home. It was a good life.

During my teenage years, it was harder for me to live for God. I became a prodigal. When I had my first child, my life changed for the better. I was making choices that revolved around what God's plan was for me. Some hard choices. But I need to believe this is the life that He has for me now.

When things have been hard, I have leaned heavily on the Lord and really trusted Him with my life. My life verse is 1 Peter 5:7 (NIV) **"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."** To come to Him with all my cares and anxiety is so comforting.

I pray on this journey that we all know to come to Him.

*Blessings – Jenny St. George*



## Girls Growing Closer to God -- Together

Photo by Madeline Walczynski/Bayside In Focus

By Amida Gallito, Youth Leader

Girls, like everyone else, want to love and be loved, to feel accepted, and to belong. The youth ministry at Bayside aims to provide a way to make this a reality for girls in Grades 4-12.

In March 2015, the CDC (Center for Disease Control) reported that the suicide rate for U.S. girls and young women was rising faster than for young males. That same week, Bayside had its first event focused on girls, "Girl, You Are Loved." Men and women at Bayside poured love on the 16 girls that the Lord sent our way and made them feel special. And most of all, they heard that God who is all-knowing and all-powerful loves them with a perfect love and will always be there for them.

This event was followed by the "So Long, Insecurity" (teen edition) study, where the girls and I learned that our true security is in Jesus. We later published a devotional to share what we learned. Every time I read this book,

I am reminded that I am the daughter of the One True King, and that every girl is God's princess, including me.

We have also been studying the "Polka Dot Girls-Life Lesson for Girls" series. Last year we studied "Who Am I?" "For we are God's masterpiece." (Ephesians 2:10 NLT) became our favorite verse, and this helped us nurture God-confidence. After our session on spiritual gifts, these talented girls organized an impromptu talent show for their parents. They celebrated their unique abilities and personalities, and they were empowered to shine for God's glory.

This year, we are studying "Knowing God." Our theme verse is "The Lord is close to all who call on Him." (Psalm 145:18 NTL). We reviewed that our Heavenly Father loves us, protects us, and provides for us, that God the Son (Jesus) came to earth and died on the cross to give us an "all access" pass to God, and that God the Holy Spirit was sent to be our comforter, teacher and guide.

Through these studies, we are experiencing the joy of spending time with God by

reading the Bible and praying at all times.

Grateful for His presence in our lives, we are excited to share the gift of salvation to others. And as our life overflows with God's love us for us, we are finding ways to share God's love to our friends, families and to the world.

The Youth Ministry teams up with the Women's Ministry every summer and hosts the "Set Apart Simulcast" so girls and women of all ages can spend quality time together:

2015- Undivided Heart: The Passion of A Set Apart Woman

2016- Radiant: Reflecting His Light to the World

2017- The Bravehearted Woman: The World Changing Power of Christ-Centered Femininity.

Girls in Grade 7-12 are invited to join us for Leslie Ludy's Bible-based course "Fearless

Please see **GIRLS** on next page

## GIRLS

From Page 4

Living: How to Adopt a Battle Plan Against Anxiety,” starting Nov. 12.

A big thank you to generous families and sponsors who bless us with meals so we can have food, fun, fellowship, friendship and fall more in love with Jesus one study at a time.

It is a privilege to be a part of this group of kind, loving and sweet girls, growing closer to God together.

On behalf of the Bayside Youth Ministry, Amida (ATGallito@aol.com)



Photo by Madeline Walczynski/Bayside In Focus

#### Amida Gallito, Leader Profile:

- Princess
- Pray-er
- Photographer
- Physician
- Favorite Verse: Jeremiah 29:11 (ESV)  
 “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

“There is an abyss within the human soul which is so great that only God can fill it.” Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)

## Women’s Christmas Tea Set for December 9

Women’s Ministry

By Corinne Scott, *IMPACT* editor

Bayside Baptist’s annual Women’s Christmas Tea is scheduled for Sat., Dec. 9, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Kimberly Dawn Nyborg, (pictured below) a radio host on Psalm FM in International Falls—“Icebox of the Nation,” will be the guest speaker. Her message will be: “God So Loved-A Christmas Presentation. Jesus the Light of the World.” The University of Wisconsin Chamber Choir has been invited to perform Christmas music.

Kathy Brookmole, Christmas Tea coordinator, said the Christmas Tea is a time to get together in the busyness of the Christmas season, to celebrate, slow down for a couple of hours



Submitted photos



with other ladies, have a nice meal and not have to do the dishes afterwards. The tea has become a Bayside Christmas tradition, certainly for the last six years.

“We have 100-110 women attend each year,” Brookmole said. “All ages come and that includes friends from Bayside, friends outside of Bayside and family members. Opportunity to sign up for the Christmas Tea will start on Sunday, Nov. 19. Cost is \$10 per person. Women can pay at the door on Dec. 9, but a sign up is necessary for adequate food preparation.”

The traditional menu for the tea will include chicken salad on a mini croissant, wild rice soup and a yogurt parfait topped with fresh fruit and granola. Gluten-free chicken salad on a bed of crisp lettuce will also be available.

Part of the fun of the Christmas Tea is viewing the beautifully set Christmas tables. Approximately 13-15 tables in the fellowship hall will be decorated with the hostesses’ personal Christmas china and centerpieces. The table hostesses can decorate their tables anyway they like. A hostess can choose a round or rectangular table, and she can bring plates, flatware, napkins, tea cups and centerpieces. Some hostesses have offered little treats of chocolate candies.

Another of the traditions with the Christmas Tea is the Men’s Ministry serving the women. “We are so blessed by them every year,” Brookmole said. “They are so gracious to us, serving us the food, pouring lots of hot tea and cleaning the kitchen afterwards until it sparkles.

“I love being part of this event each year, seeing everyone’s creative side and getting together with other women for some fun and an inspirational message. It is a lot of work beforehand but I am really blessed by the ladies that come.”

## Men's Ministry



# Why Do You Come Out to the Garage?

Men's Ministry team leader, Matt Bordes, asked the men who gather in the church garage each Wednesday night, "Why do you come out to the garage? Here are some of their responses.

- I enjoy the fellowship in the Word each time I attend.
- I enjoy the activities outside of the garage as well.
- Time in the garage is the place where men gather to sharpen each other and learn what it takes to live for Jesus outside of the garage.
- I come to the garage to encourage young men to follow Jesus.
- I come to study and trust His Word.
- I come to proclaim that there is **NO** disappointment in Jesus.
- The garage allows me to get to know other men at a level that is more than superficial.
- The sharing of life experiences is a real aid to my growth as a Christian.
- I come for the fellowship of the Body and because every man in the garage has both something to share and something to learn.
- The garage is a place where men can gather to be honest, real, truthful, and loving about our struggles and praises in our walk with Jesus.
- I go to the garage because it's great to have a group of guys who will care about you and pray for you.
- To be with a group of guys seeking God, looking to grow in the Word, to be encouraged, to receive prayer and pray for other men.
- Study of God's Word, a chance to ask questions and not feel put on the spot/embarrassed, the fellowship, and for friendship.
- I was invited to come check it out.
- The Bible is preached.

Maybe it's time you checked out the garage on Wednesday nights?? See you soon.



Matt Bordes, Ministry Team Leader



Photographer Dave Hudacek/Bayside In Focus



## Lighten

### Thanksgiving Jokes

*Cut out the jokes and slip into your child's lunch pail or hide under a family member's plate at Thanksgiving dinner OR tell them to your Happy Hubby in bed one night this month!*



**Q.** Why did they let the turkey join the band?

**A.** Because he had the drumsticks!



**Q.** What kind of music did the Pilgrims like?

**A.** Plymouth ROCK!



**Q.** Why can't you take a turkey to church?

**A.** Because they use such FOWL language!



**Q.** What did the mother turkey say to her disobedient children?

**A.** If your father could see you now, he'd turn over in his gravy!

## TONNS

From Page 1

Sometimes the Tonns will call Dave Lemaster, team leader for *Promise 14:18*, and say they're getting a placement and they need certain size clothes, diapers or whatever else is needed.

"We've been able to bless them with our foster clothing closet a few times," Lemaster said, "or through the urgent foster placement e-mail list where we ask those who want to be on the list to donate needed items."

Tammy said that the kids come dirty, broken and sick.

"They come with nothing – no shoes or anything. We never know what age they are and what they will need. You sometimes only have a half hour until you get that child," Jeremiah added, "so you have to scramble to get the things these kids will need. The *Promise 14:18* ministry has been wonderful to us."

Another blessing are the people from the church who bring over meals to the Tonns when they get a new child. They are very thankful to Rich and Renae Tunell and

Jerry and Jayne Choate who brought meals at those chaotic times when a new foster child arrived and everyone was trying to get used to each other.

"It's one less thing I have to worry about," Tammy said. Jeremiah added that the first few hours are rather hectic, running to Walmart and getting a few needed things. A meal delivered helps take out some of the stress.

Seeing the foster kids happy and thriving before they go back is one of the Tonns' greatest joys.

### The biological family helps

Jeremiah, who is an electrician for Verso Paper Company in Duluth, said he and Tammy wanted to make sure they could take care of their six biological kids' needs first. They weren't sure how their kids were going to react to foster care. "It has been a real blessing," he said, "as we have discovered we have some mother hens in the family. Emma and Madeline, our oldest, even help in the children's church and the nursery, and they do babysitting for foster families."

Emma, 14, said, "I like it. Sometimes we can't do school work because we have to

help watch them. But, it is fun. The hardest things about foster care is that if we have them for a long period of time and they have to go, it is heartbreaking to send them back. Because you love and care for them, they become one of your siblings. Then they just go away."

Isabella, 13, likes to paint the girls' fingernails. Sophia, 11, likes to play with the foster kids. Andrew, 9, says having foster kids is okay, but he has learned to do a flip, so that entertains them! And, if you visit the Tonns' home, a little girl named Josephine, 8, just might open the door and invite you in.

Tammy has homeschooled their children since they moved from Nebraska four years ago. She said people ask her how she can get all her school work done with all these kids.

"I've learned it's not all academic" she added. "We focus on God's work, too."

Jeremiah and Tammy are both Christians. "Everything brings us closer to church and deepening our faith," Jeremiah said. "We are still learning and growing."

## Promise 14:18

Team Leader, Dave Lemaster

*Promise 14:18 is a ministry of Bayside Baptist Church in Superior, Wis., we desire to bring awareness, advocacy, and support for adoption, orphan care, and foster care issues in the Twin Ports.*



The Foster Donation Program has been in existence from early on in the life of *Promise 14:18*, basically early 2012. When a child is placed with a new foster family, many times the family does not have what is needed to care for the child's immediate needs. This is where we step in to help. We're provided with a list of things needed, such as clothes, diapers, wipes,

hygiene and even bigger items like pack 'n plays/high chairs/car seats, etc. Once we have this list, we distribute it via email to people who have stated they want to be contacted when foster needs arise.

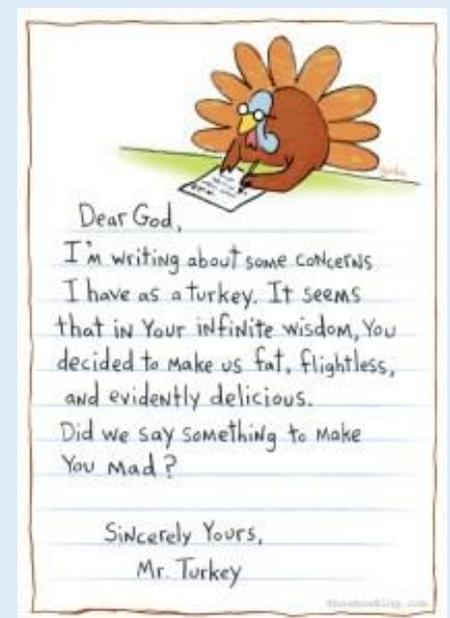
We ask for a quick turnaround, usually like three days, as these are items the family is in need of right away. We've started collecting items in a foster clothing closet to have on hand for quicker help if we don't get what we need from the email list.

This program has allowed us to develop a good relationship with Douglas County workers, in particular, and even workers in St. Louis County. It is a blessing to be able to help families who are bringing these children into their homes.

If anyone feels led to be involved, you can give me your email address, and I can add you to the list for when a need arises. Additionally, if you have any gently used items that you want to donate to the

foster closet, just let me know. Things like pack 'n plays are especially helpful as they are in high demand.

Dave Lemaster  
dave.e.lemaster@gmail.com)



Whether you turn  
 to the right or  
 to the left,  
 your ears  
 will hear  
 a voice behind  
 you, saying  
 "This is the way;  
 walk in it."  
 Isaiah 30:21 (NIV)



Osaugie Trail, Superior, Wis.

Photographer: Amida Gallito/Bayside In Focus

# Happenings

- Nov. 24-25, Friday and Saturday, 9a.m.-5p.m. Christmas decorating at the church.
- Dec. 2, Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. -- Bayside Bowl XII. For all students in 7th-12th grade. Games, food, fun and the featured event is the football tournament.
- Dec. 3, Sunday, 12:30-3:30 p.m. (JOY) - Lunch, fellowship and games in Fellowship Hall
- Dec. 3, Sunday, 4 p.m. (JOY) Christmas Choral Concert at Cathedral Church in Superior
- Dec. 9, Saturday, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Women’s Christmas Tea at Bayside Baptist
- Dec. 10, Sunday, Quarterly Business Meeting, after service
- Dec. 16, Saturday, 9 a.m. “Ted the Turkey” meals, packing and delivering, at Bayside
- Dec. 17, Sunday, 2 p.m. (JOY) “A Christmas Carol” at Duluth Playhouse
- Dec. 24, Sunday, 10 a.m., Christmas Eve Service

HAPPY  
*thanksgiving*  
 CELEBRATE GOD'S BLESSINGS

For more details and a complete list of church happenings, check out the “Calendar” at [www.baysidesuperior.org](http://www.baysidesuperior.org)