

Journey News

A publication of Journey Church of Clinton, Iowa

SLOWING DOWN

BY SENIOR PASTOR TOM LOYOLA

Over the years I have written about the importance of personal time in the Bible and how I have pursued that practice. I want to share with you the latest development of this aspect of my journey with the Lord.

But first, just a reminder: reading the Bible has been indispensable in my spiritual growth. This has been true from the day of my spiritual birth (January 24, 1976) up to the present. God has used this time in His Word to grow and shape me and, especially, draw me into a closer relationship with Him. One of the biggest changes in my practice of Bible reading took place around 1983. At that time, a conversation with a brother in Christ helped move me beyond reading the Bible as a study exercise to reading the Bible as an act of worship. In other words, it became more personal ... more relational.

Second, and this will come as no surprise to those of you who have read some of my previous articles, for many years *The One Year Bible* has been my “go to” for my personal Bible time. What is that? Here is what the cover of my very weathered copy of *The One Year Bible* says: “The entire New International Version arranged in 365

daily readings.” (*The One Year Bible* has been published in other translation versions as well, at least two of which I have tried, but I have found I like the NIV best for my personal Bible time.) Each day’s reading is dated for the day of the year and contains readings from the Old Testament, the New Testament, the Psalms, and the Proverbs. In fact, the entirety of the book of the Psalms is in there twice: from January 1 – July 2 and again from July 3 – December 31.

The copyright date of the edition I read is September 1988. Why is that significant? I believe I have had this copy almost from that date ... perhaps from sometime in 1989. A dear mentor of mine, Jim Paul, gave me the copy I have. Sue Ann and I began serving a church in Dallas in February of 1988. Jim Paul led the Spanish-speaking congregation which was part of that church’s ministry. Jim frequently came to my office, most often solely to pray with me. What a gift that was! On one of those occasions he had this red *The One Year Bible* in hand and gave it to me. As a well-used phrase puts it, it was a gift that has kept on giving!

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EVENTS CALENDAR

June

- 1 Caleb Hirl’s Grad Party
- 2 Communion Sunday
- 8 Summer Camp Training
- 12 Daughters of the King
Recipe Swap Potluck
- 15 Men of Honor Breakfast Buffet
- 16 Father’s Day;
Child Dedication
- 18-21 UNITE Work Camp
- 20 M&Ms—50’s & Up
- 22 Security Training
- 30 Church Picnic

July Snapshot

- 4 Independence Day
Office Closed
- 15-19 Summer Camp 2019

For a day-to-day calendar go to JourneyClinton.org/calendar

SLOWING DOWN continued

“All right already,” you may be saying, “what is your latest development in Bible reading?!” Well, the title of my article gives a big hint: slowing down. I have slowed down the pace of my reading. For many years my goal was to finish reading through my one year Bible within the calendar year. And, for a number of years I met that goal ... but not in the last couple of years. I found that frustrating. What often got me off my pace was vacation, or any other stretch of time where I was out of my regular routine (e.g. attending conferences, etc.). I tried to catch up; sometimes I succeeded and sometimes I didn't. The result, along with the frustration, was a sense of self-imposed pressure. Needless to say, this distracted me from enjoying and benefiting from my reading.

My new approach? Read as much as I want, or, as much as I have time for. Then I mark the spot and pick up my reading there the next time. Can you guess where I got the idea from? My wise and dear wife, Sue Ann. :-)

Now, instead of being focused on getting to the end of the day's reading, I focus more on the content of what I am reading. I can linger over a verse or a paragraph or even a phrase. I can jot a note in the margin. And I underline. Of course, I have talked about that in previous articles as well. I use highlighter pens and colored pencils to underline specific themes (e.g. red for salvation, green for God speaking, orange for the Holy Spirit, etc.)—a color-coded way of bringing those themes out visually.

In the past, when I completed reading *The One Year Bible*, I would pick a new theme to look for while reading in the new year, and use a new color to underline it. I am still doing that. I have found it to be very beneficial in helping me focus while I read. And now that I am reading more slowly, I can see where I have missed those themes in some passages in past readings and I can underline them in their respective colors.

I am encouraged with my new approach. I feel less pressured in my reading and sometimes thoughts from my morning reading linger throughout the day. I think this has been a good step for me—slowing down.

Summer Camp Volunteer Training

June 8 • 9:00-11:00am • Fellowship Hall

If you are planning to help in *any* way with Summer Camp this year, please join us for Volunteer Training! We will go over our vision for Summer Camp and some general information, then break out into the various areas of serving so you can collaborate with your “team”. Donuts and coffee will be provided!

CELEBRATE OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Happy Birthday!

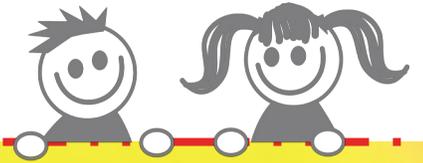
- 2 Joanne Tietjens
- 4 Hans Hinrichsen
Mike Foley
- 5 Addison Prinsen
Seth Bolen
- 6 Nanette (Nan) Powell
Rachel Hansen
- 7 Jason Lower
Lilleigh Pluister
Tracy Smith
- 11 Luke Ellis
- 13 Natalie Hirll

- 15 Laura Jorgensen
- 16 Tom Loyola
- 19 Ann Reed
June Matyas
Troy Alderman
- 20 Keith Boysen
- 21 Gary Parsons
- 23 Cathy Baca
Faith Pluister
- 24 Errol Peters
- 25 Dan Liedtke
Jeremiah Haas
Ray Dellit

- 27 Deighton Eggers
- 30 Rebekah Johnson

Happy Anniversary!

- 7 Terry & Sharon Braun
- 10 Mike & Janet Ketelsen
Cletus & Judy Portz
- 12 Nathan & Annette Eslick
- 16 Casey & Kelli Overberg
- 18 Jason & Joy Lower
Ken & Donna Okland
- 24 Dale & Diane Wilson
- 26 Mike & Linda Gordon
John & Patricia McClung



Journey Kids

Summer Camp 2019

July 15-19 Featuring Sports & Art!

FREE!



**Register now for Summer Camp 2019
featuring sports & art at
www.journeyclinton.org/children**

We still need some volunteers to allow us to reach more kids through Summer Camp this year!

The areas in which we most need help are:

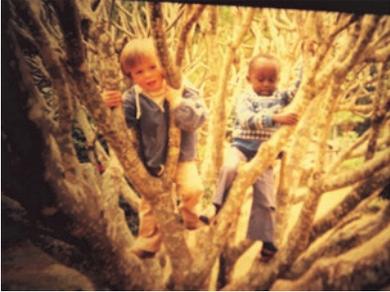
- Huddle Coaches:** connect with a group of 8-10 kids by assisting them with activities and lead a devotional lesson
- Sports Coaches:** (soccer & basketball) lead drills & scrimmages; playbooks are provided with suggested activities.
- Nursery/Preschool Coaches:** provide loving care for the younger children of volunteers

We can use help in other areas, as well, and you do *not* have to be available every night of Camp in order to help! If you are interested in reaching out to kids and families with the Good News of Jesus' love this summer, please contact Joy Lower at joyl@journeyclinton.org or sign up through the website at journeyclinton.org/children.

Missionary Focus

FROM THE MISSIONS LEAD TEAM

Jared and Anna Olander, missionaries in Kenya, Africa, will be visiting Journey Church, Clinton June 22 and 23. Although Jared and Anna have only been supported by our church since 2017, Jared is not unfamiliar with Clinton. Born at Jane Lamb Hospital, Jared left Clinton at the age of two with his parents, Mark and Jan, to live in Kenya. Growing up as a missionary kid had its charm and challenges.



After graduating from Rift Valley Academy (RVA), Kijabe, Kenya, Jared attended college in the United States. Meeting Anna at John Brown University in Arkansas and marrying in 2005 resulted in a joint desire to return to the African mission field in 2007. After a time in Sudan, they later moved to Kenya where their daughter, Malindi, was born in 2009. Sahara (now seven years old) and Collins (now three years old) completed their family of five.

While in Kenya, serving at Rift Valley Academy, Jared and Anna developed a passion to work among the Mu3lim people and moved to North Africa. Jared not only loved playing the game of rugby while at RVA, but also certified to coach and referee. Using his skills in the sporting arena, he developed a sports program to engage Mu3lim men in fitness, as well as rugby. Together, Jared and Anna engaged in lifestyle evangelism with their Mu3lim neighbors. After a time of furlough in Missouri, Jared, Anna and family have returned to Kenya. They have just recently completed leading a training program for interns who will minister in North Africa. After the two-year program, the interns have developed skills in Mu3lim ministry, Business As Missions (BAM), and sports ministry.

Jared has just transitioned into a new role in Nairobi, Kenya to begin later this summer. He and Anna will be visiting Clinton to share with us 'the rest of the story.' Join us Saturday, June 22 at the home of Jerry and Joyce Duey at 4:00-6:00 pm for an ice cream sundae bar and hear the Olanders share their anticipated upcoming ministry. Jared will also speak during the Living Stone Life Group (overflow room) at 9:00 am Sunday the 23rd. The love for Mu3lims motivates them to seek various ways to engage the 300,000 Mu3lims living in their city. All are welcomed to join us during Life Group time and for lunch with the Olanders following the church service.



ADULTS:

M&Ms/ 50's & Up!

Join us on **June 20 at 11:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall for good food, fantastic fellowship, and meaningful prayer. See you there!

MEN_{of}HONOR Breakfast Buffet

June 15 • 8:00-9:30 am
Cost \$10 • Sign up by June 9
at the Toolbox

Men, Come join us at Rastrelli's on Saturday, June 15 for a delicious breakfast buffet (including BACON), great fellowship with other men from Journey Church, and an engaging and challenging presentation. See you there!

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING RECIPE SWAP POTLUCK

Wednesday, June 12 •
6:00-8:00 pm

Come and have a fun night of fellowship, food, and games. Bring your favorite main dish, side, or dessert and copies of the recipe to give away.



Connection Point Team Training Meeting

The Connection Point Team will have a training meeting on Sunday, June 9 at 8:15 am. Please consider serving at the Connection Point, and attending the training. If you have any questions please contact Pastor John (johnm@journeyclinton.org).



LIFE GROUPS

SUNDAY Adult Life Groups at 9:00 am

Foundations Sr. Pastor Tom Loyola
mixed, Room D

Logos Larry Cornelius
mixed, Room F

Yadah Yada Mike Ketelsen
mixed, Room E

Daughters of the King Sue Ann Loyola
women, Room S

Honoring Christ Gary Fier
men, Room U

Living Stones Scott Smith
young marrieds, Room C

TUESDAY Adult Life Groups

Daughters of the King Sue Ann Loyola
women, Parlor, 9:30 am

WEDNESDAY Adult Life Group

Ignite John & Patricia McClung
young adults, Special Summer Meetings

LIFE GROUPS

SUNDAY Student Life Groups at 9:00 am

Middle School Boys Hans Hinrichsen
Room Y

Middle School Girls Corrine Sheets
Room Z

High School Brad & Cheri Hirl
Room W

summer!



Journey Church

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www.journeyclinton.org

“FORMING *Followers* OF *Jesus* WHO IMPACT THEIR *World*”

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