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I don't faithfully listen to podcasts or even radio programs, but when I'm in the car I often listen to whatever's on, and several weeks ago I heard John Rosemond being interviewed on the Dennis Prager show. He was talking about raising children, and I was intrigued by what I was hearing.

I don't know why I hadn't heard of him before, but he's been writing books, giving talks, and counseling parents for over forty years. Dennis said he is considered by many to be the current authority on child-rearing, so I ordered his book. Yes, another book on raising children.

Even before I was a father I read *The Christian Family* by Larry Christenson. Over the years we've read books and watched videos by James Dobson, Kevin Leman, and Tedd Tripp. I don't remember everything we learned together, but I'm pretty sure I've been reading some things I've never read before.

Rosemond opens his book with a shocking statement that I referred to in a sermon a couple of weeks ago.

"If asked 'Why do children, all children, misbehave?' most psychologists (of which I am one) would employ one or more of the following words or phrases: unresolved issues, anxiety, stress, conflicting messages, cries for help or attention, trauma, post-traumatic, power struggles, chemical imbalances, and genes. Nope. Some of those may help us understand why a four-year-old refuses to obey his parents, but none of those words explains why *all* children misbehave, and deliberately so. As it turns out, the explanation is simple: children are bad...and the sooner parents understand and accept this, the better for them and the better also for their children."

He goes on to note that he's really not saying anything new. What he's presenting is basically the common sense point of view that was held by most parents prior to the psychological-parenting revolution that swept America in the 1960s and early 1970s. What he's trying to do is help parents put common sense back into practice.

While you may not choose to follow all his specific suggestions for handling issues such as lying, defiance, tantrums, or refusing to use the potty, I think you'll find principles in his book that will help you raise *The Well-behaved Child*.

I have several copies in the office if you want one.  
God Bless, Rick



## THE CHATHAM MESSENGER

VOLUME 49

January 27, 2021

NUMBER 2



### CONNOR BALES WITH CHILDREN IN HAITI



Hey everyone! As many of you know, this past week I traveled to an orphanage called Family Care Haiti in Port-au-Prince, Haiti for my third time. With the global pandemic currently going on, I wasn't sure if this trip was possible this year, so it's a blessing that I was able to go. First, I wanted to thank everyone who contributed financially and through prayer. None of this would be possible without your support! Through your support we were able to spend many hours painting inside the orphanage and building tables, desks, and a classroom divider for the school. With this, the children now have the proper resources to participate in school in a more comfortable environment.

I wanted to personally thank Fritz Desir and his family for their amazing hospitality. I admire their servant hearts and look up to them in this aspect, along with much more. Fritz and his family set the perfect example of leading, serving, and living like Christ. It's always been apparent that any one of them would do anything for us, no matter how big or how small. Words can't even really describe Fritz's heart and this goes much farther than just adhering to our needs all week. They express how much we mean to them but I don't think they understand how much they mean to me. Fritz came from an incredibly poor background (much more than anyone can even fathom here in the US) and dedicated his life to serving Jesus. Not a single part of his life has been easy, but his reliance and faith in the Lord has driven him throughout everything. He takes nothing for granted and verbally expresses how blessed he is every single day. This is incredibly mind boggling to me based on what I see in America. Our country has fallen into an awful mindset where society seems to be so self-centered, ungrateful, and selfish. Spending the week with Fritz and hearing a completely different perspective makes me sick to my own stomach. I'm responsible for this just as much as anyone else, but my eyes have been even more opened in my third trip.

(Continued inside)

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**Sunday Worship Service**  
**Bible School**  
**9:15 AM**  
**10:45 AM**

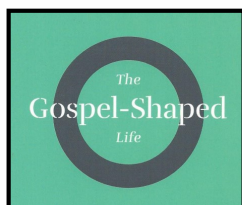
## STATISTICS

Worship	1/10	76
Offering		\$7,111.56
Worship	1/17	75
Offering		\$4,783.56
Worship	1/24	77
Offering		\$5,864.07



## Let Us Pray For...

- Carole Stucki at the passing of her mother.
- Bonnie Ruebush at the passing of her brother.
- Marilyn Lupton at the passing of Ken.



Kevin Lasley will be leading the study of *The Gospel-Shaped Life* for the next two Sundays while Rick and Marilyn are on vacation. Please join him at 6:30 as we continue this very insightful and helpful study.

## WOMEN'S CLASS

Jeni Sperry has been offering a Sunday School class for women for several months now, and has finished a study in the parables. A new study of the kings of the Old Testament will begin next week. All women are welcome to join the class in person or online.

Please contact Jeni if you have any questions about the class.

## CONNOR BALES

On this trip, we were also able to spend countless hours with the children. Language barriers do absolutely nothing. I feel just as close, if not closer to these children than I do with someone who speaks the same language. Every year my relationships with the children are strengthened and I love each and every one of them like brothers and sisters. I can't even begin to describe the love and joy in their hearts. They wake up every morning extremely blessed for the lives they have. Most of the children were once naked, dirty, and malnourished on the streets of Port-au-Prince before being taken in by Fritz and Family Care Haiti. Struggling to even find scraps of food, most of them have no parents or any connections to anyone that can provide for them at all. Seeing some of the poverty in Haiti, words can't express what it's like. Even seeing a small glimpse of it, I still have no idea what it's like to live in it. I have no room trying to explain what it's like because words can't even describe what Fritz tried to describe to us. I've been encouraged to look at my own life and make many changes. We take so much for granted. I can't express this enough. I could say it over and over again but there's still something I'm taking for granted because even the smallest things are forgotten about. I encourage everyone to take a step back and look at their life because there are people literally fighting to stay alive.

I'll never forget these trips to Haiti and this has began to turn into something that I'm extremely passionate about. I hope to spend the rest of my life supporting this mission and visiting whenever I can. I love this orphanage, I love these kids, I love Fritz and his family, and I love Haiti. I'm not a very emotional person, but these experiences make me bawl. I cry because it seems like heartbreak leaving these kids. I cry because I see how joyful and loving hearts are supposed to be. I cry because I see what poverty people are living in and I cry because I see how Jesus is moving through Fritz and his mission. Once again, thank you to every single person that supported me — I can't thank you enough.



We have some new, better tasting portable communion packages that we have been using for those in the nursery during church services. If anyone would like to have a months supply to use at home while worshipping with us online, you are more than welcome to have some. We can either drop the communion off at your house or arrange a time at church for you to pick them up. Feel free to reach out to any of the elders, Rick or myself and we will make sure you have some communion in time for next week's worship service together.



## Grades K-5

It's time for our annual trip to Showplace Lanes in Virden for an afternoon of bowling, laser tag and pizza! Who will emerge as the Laser Tag Champion of 2021? We will find out soon enough as we venture out together after Sunday School on Sunday, February 14th. The cost for a game of bowling, two games of Laser Tag and lunch will be \$15.00 per child. Also, I won't be taking the church van so I will need a couple other parents to drive. A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board on Sunday for all interested in going!



Camp registration is open for all ages! The schedule is posted on our bulletin board and all relevant information can be found on the camp website. Please contact me before you register and I will give you our CCC code which entitles each student to one session of camp at half the tuition.



## High School

Please keep Saturday, February 13th open in your calendars for our service project here at the church. We will be baking a bunch of cookies to deliver not only to some in our church family, but also to the residents and house parent at the Beerlahai Roi house in Springfield. This is the ministry that supplies shelter, food and clothing to homeless pregnant women within a Christian environment. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to get to know them better!



## Junior High and High School

After comparing all our schedules on Sunday morning, the best date for our movie night is Saturday, February 20th. We will be stopping by the best pizza joint in Central Illinois before heading to the theatre for our private showing. The more the merrier! Invite all your friends! More details will follow as we get closer to the activity.