"God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you" (1 Samuel 12:23)

I unlocked my office door and began the day's work, propelled by an acute sense of urgency. Rebel insurgents had over-run three-fourths of Congo and were slowly advancing toward our city. Missionaries had either fled or been taken captive. Guarded questions to my Congolese co-workers poorly concealed my anxiety about the welfare of my family. Regardless of what the future might hold, I had work to do. "Good morning, Speaker." This was the common term used for the white missionary.

I turned and saw outside my office window an old Christian, Elder Tshimanga, leaning on his walking staff. He had undergone two operations for cancer and was again suffering pain. His home was about two miles away. "Good morning, Tshimanga. Won't you come in?"

He seated himself in my office. "Speaker, I've come to pray with you. I know these are hard days for you; I want to ask God to strengthen your heart." We knelt by our chairs and for perhaps five minutes he poured out his heart to God on our behalf, that we would continue to give ourselves to the work, that we would not be afraid, that God would protect us in any eventuality. Then he rose, shook hands, picked up his walking staff and, with the slow, measured movements of a man in pain, he turned and left.

Only later that day did the impact of what he had done strike me. He had submitted himself to at least four hours of pain for the few minutes he spent with me. I had seen him walking a few yards to lean upon a tree; then walking another short distance to lean upon a fence post. Why hadn't I offered to drive him home? What could make me so calloused and insensitive to the needs of a human being in pain? Rebels never did reach our city and I was able to reciprocate the old man's kindness before he died. But the incident shocked me to an awareness of my guilt of the sin of over-busyness.

Levi Keidel, former missionary to Congo

Current Service Times
9:30 Fellowship Breakfast
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
To contact Pastor Matthew Majewski:
(563) 538-9234 or mmgreekteacher@gmail.com
To contact Sarah: sarahmajewski@gmail.com

1944K

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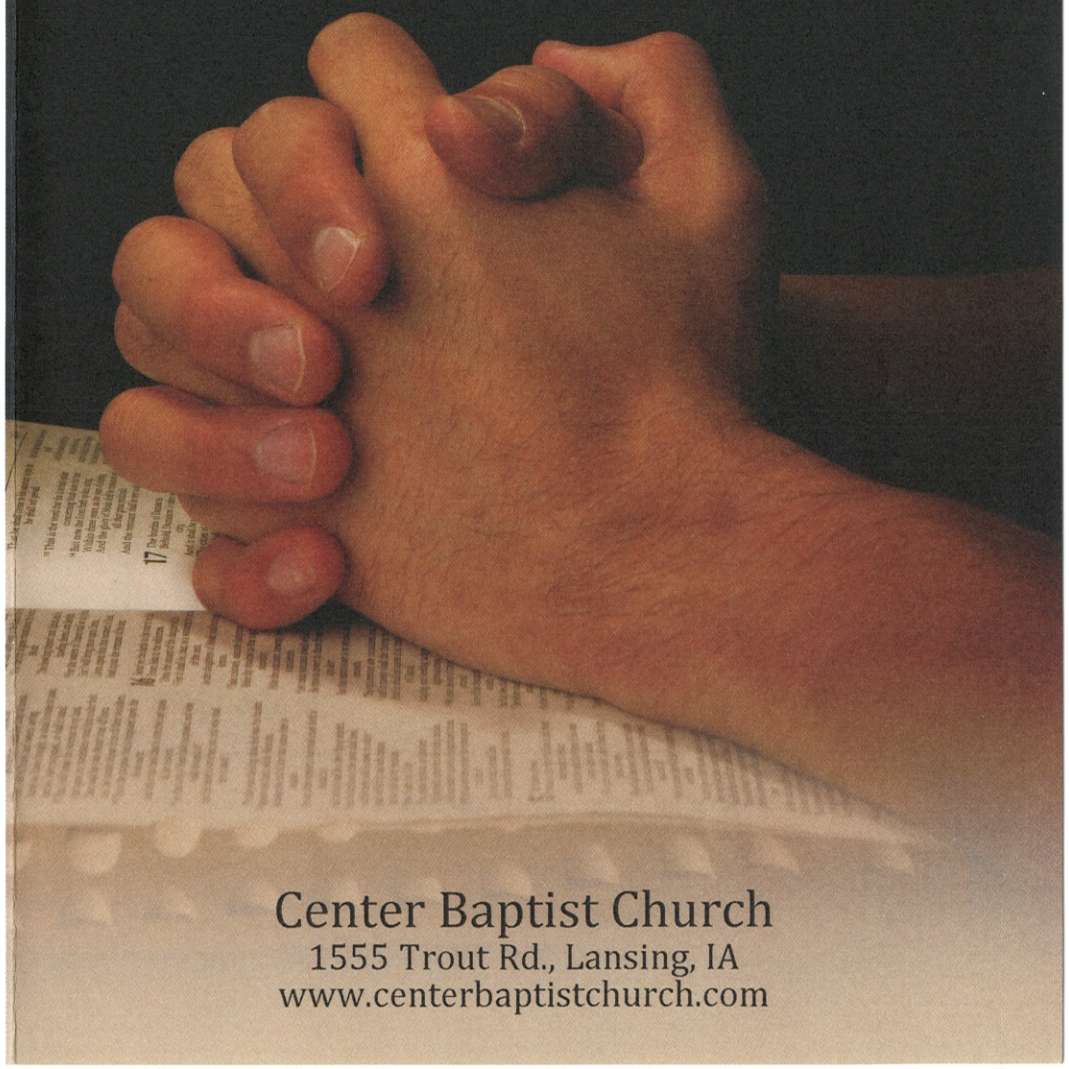
We... do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.

Colossians 1:9b



Center Baptist Church

1555 Trout Rd., Lansing, IA
www.centerbaptistchurch.com

Morning Worship

April 28th, 2019

Announcements & Prayer

Hymn #633 -- Open Our Eyes, Lord

Hymn Requests

Offering / Doxology (Hymn #815)

Children's Message

Message – Pastor Matthew Majewski

Hymn #389 -- Spirit of the Living God

April's Memory Verse

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Psalm 126:6

Special Days April 28-May 4

No Special Days

- Thank you to Bruce & Nelda for serving breakfast today. Next week Carol will provide breakfast.
- Thursday night at 6:30 -- Prayer Meeting & Bible Study.
- We will have a service today at Thornton Manor at 1:30.
- The next Christian Service Brigade meeting will be May 4th. Meet at the church at 11:30; then we will go to Village Creek Bible Camp for lunch and planting trees. Please let Pastor Matthew know if you are coming so we can give VCBC an accurate count for lunch!
- WMS will meet Wednesday, May 8th, at 11 am at Fajitas Grill in Lansing. Bring a plant or chocolate to exchange. All ladies are welcome!
- Our service times will change beginning May 26th. We will take a break from serving breakfast for the summer. The worship service will be at 9:30, with Sunday School following.

Notes

Offering – Regular Giving Record		
2018 Weekly Average $741.81	2019 Weekly Average $ 688.52	Offering Last Sunday $ 974.00

- Jeff and Grace Shergalis will get $100 a month and the rest will go to our quarterly missionary, unless designated otherwise.
- This quarter's missions offerings will go to the family of Lorelei Brink.
  Last week's Missions Offering: $ 45.00
  Total to Date: $165.00

To support our missionaries, write "Missions" and amount on the memo line of your check, or put cash in a separate labeled envelope.