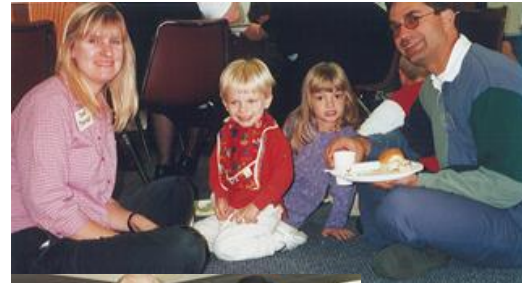


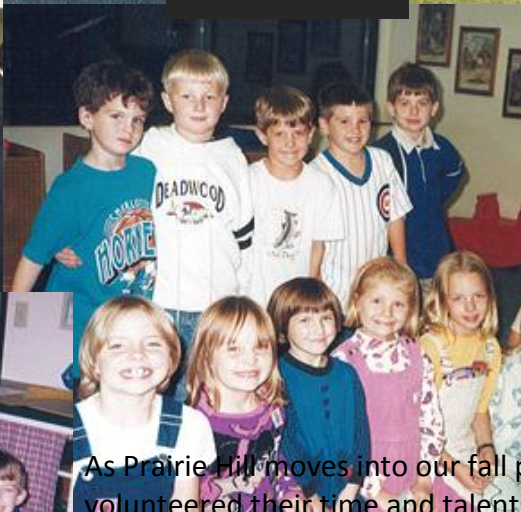
# FLOCKTalk

PRAIRIE HILL EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

These are some historical snapshots of Prairie Hill. Some were taken before the sanctuary was built on and some at groundbreaking and during construction. One was taken at an Ice Cream Social (year?), and others of children (now grown) in their classes. Another is of a young drummer using his talents for the Lord.



PHEFC



As Prairie Hill moves into our fall programming, many people have volunteered their time and talents. Some are serving in a temporary role (like our worship leaders) until the Lord brings His person to us. We thank each of the volunteers and know that they will touch our lives as they serve Him. These photos are glimpses of the past, and as we look at these, we anticipate, with joy, what He will do in 2011-2012.



### Child Protection Policy Reminder

As we restart “school year” activities, we’d like to remind our Prairie Hill family that we have a PH Child Protection Policy in place. It is our desire to provide as safe and secure an environment as reasonably possible in which children and youth can experience spiritual and physical growth during church sponsored activities. To meet this goal, all adults who work in children and youth programs must complete an application and background check.

Two of the Child Protection Policy (CPP) guidelines will be highlighted here. If you’d like a complete copy of the CPP please contact Kathleen or Eileen.

Please remember to plan ahead if an individual other than parent or guardian is to pick up your infant/child from the **nursery**. A **written release or authorization** must be provided to staff prior to the beginning of class. These forms are available from Kate Tucker or Kathleen O’Connor. They can be kept on file or the school year.

**Supervision** is provided during **church sponsored activities**. However, children and youth are expected to be under their **parents’ supervision before and after** designated activity times unless other guidelines have been consented to by parent/guardian and agreed upon by staff. Activity leaders cannot be responsible for children or youth dropped off early or picked up late. Please note that all other church activities fall into this same parental supervision category, such as **midweek family meals** and **potlucks**.

May we all continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Eileen Weber, on behalf of the CE Committee



Tyler and Ellie Pearson invited the most friends to VBS and won tickets to hear and meet the Go Fish Guys at Higher Ground in Winsted, MN.



### Sports Update!

Youth vs. PHEFC Softball  
August 7, 2011

We had a great time watching this fine group of softball players battle it out in a friendly game at Lake Ann field in Chanhassen – Youth vs. PHEFC.

The Adults were the victors this year!

Thanks to all the players and fans who came.

## Joplin Tornado Relief Work

My parents grew up in Missouri, and I was born there, so it has a special place in my heart. When the tornado hit Joplin on May 22nd, I started praying for an opportunity to go and help out in a way that would be practical and helpful rather than hindering to the people and community of the Joplin area. My home church was taking a group of teens down, so I decided to drive down with my mentor and prayer partner Ginny, and tag onto the tail-end of their trip.

We partnered with Joplin Family Worship Center. The JFWC has agreed to act as the city's main relief resource center for the next 3 years (to handle the intake of volunteers, as well as the distribution of donations not covered through FEMA or insurance). They partner with FEMA and the Red Cross to access needs and then deliver supplies based upon those needs.

Ginny and I were qualified to do intake assessment for FEMA (via the JFWC), since we had "case management backgrounds and strong communication/social skills." Survivors would come in and provide proof that they qualified for FEMA assistance. Then, they met with one of us. We spent time with each family hearing their story, what their living conditions are like now, assessing any immediate needs, and specific grocery/toiletry needs. Then, we would send them to the "store" in the sanctuary, where other volunteers "shopped" for based upon their needs. While the family was waiting, I would get to counsel and pray with them, which was quite humbling. We met with every survivor registered through FEMA who needed supplies from the center, over 180 families. It was amazing to hear their personal stories and a blessing to be able to spend time with several hundred of them individually.



The next day, Ginny & I went alone to the Misty Mission tent city for homeless survivors. I was not prepared mentally for this. The temperature was over 105 degrees and people were living in tents on the side of the highway, with port-a-potties and hoses for running water. We spent time praying and listening to people's stories, offering support and encouragement to them. We handed out bottles of water and had squirt gun wars with the kids.



It was pretty shocking and numbing to drive through the southern part of Joplin. The amount of devastation that occurred in about six minutes, was overwhelming. Thousands of homes were completely gone, stripped off of their foundations. However, there is a basic sense of American spirit and community in Joplin. Hope was ever present. While the area is still in shock, and mourning, they are picking up the pieces and plowing ahead, with grit, determination, and pride. And God continues to reveal His glory to the people there. His mercies are new each morning...

Soli deo Gloria, Emilie (Schmitz)

Visit: [www.jfwc.org](http://www.jfwc.org) for more info. on ways you can help



## IN OUR OWN BACKYARD



Can you picture this beautiful playground equipment in our own backyard? This amazing, high quality play set is being donated to Prairie Hill this fall. It includes components such as an enclosed climbing tower, large enclosed slide, rock wall, monorail, spinners, balance beam, and swings.

We are very excited about this incredible gift for our kids. However, we are still in need of a few more volunteers to help with the dismantling, moving, and installation. If you have a couple of Saturdays available to help in September or October, please contact Joe Klemaszkeski at [klemasz@hotmail.com](mailto:klemasz@hotmail.com), or sign up at the Men's Ministries vehicle at our Tailgating Party on September 11. We will schedule work days on the dates that the most volunteers are available. We anticipate one day to dismantle and haul, and one day to reassemble. We are shooting for a minimum of ten guys.

**Our  
Kids  
Will  
Thank  
You!**



## Chicago 2012

For the past three years, Prairie Hill's puppet team has had the wonderful experience of ministering at ICCM (Inner City Church Ministries) in south Minneapolis. ICCM, also known as Minneapolis Life Center, reaches out to hurting people and works with them for a long-term. They reach society's throwaways—people struggling with addictions, the homeless, un-parented, uneducated, and unskilled. As if all of this is not already amazing enough, the Life Center pastors do all of this, times 2. Pastors Chris and Monica DeLaurentis have a second church on the south side of Chicago.

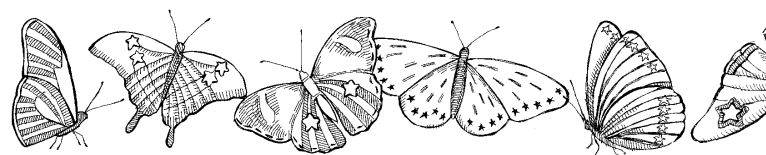
Pastors Chris and Monica have repeatedly asked our puppet team to come to Chicago, so, it is our hope to do so. In June of 2012, Prairie Hill's puppet team plans to partner with Chicago Life Center to reach children of the inner city of Chicago with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In addition to ministering through puppets, team members will host afternoon "sidewalk sites" in four different parks in inner city Chicago. Simply put, a sidewalk site is a mini VBS. We will play games, sing songs, and present the gospel message to the children in the park.

### Sunday School Rocks



To help make this trip possible, the puppet team has scheduled a Dinner Theater/Fundraiser on **Saturday, September 17**, and **Sunday, September 18**; 5:30-8:00 p.m. For the small price of \$5.00 per person, you can enjoy the culinary delights of our own top chef, Kate Blythe, who will be cooking up a wonderful "Sunday School Picnic" dinner. Following dinner the puppet team will perform **Sunday School Rocks**, just before you get to enjoy a delicious dessert. A free will offering will be taken following the program and all of the proceeds will help to fund the Chicago trip and sidewalk sites next June. Please invite your friends, neighbors, and family. Contact **Laurie Toews** at **952-906-9958** for tickets.

To learn more about the ministry of Minneapolis and Chicago Life Centers, go to [www.changingourcity.org](http://www.changingourcity.org).



Vacation Bible School is over and our summer intern has gone back to school. Sarah was also involved in many other areas of children's ministries and did a great job in each one.

For those of you who did not have the opportunity to experience "Backstage With the Bible," this will give you a sense of the fun, excitement, and truths learned.



**VBS  
2011**



We had 94 children attend. Of the children involved, 30 are from the Prairie Hill Family.



## YOUTH MISSIONS



### BRAT FUNDRAISER

AT CUB FOODS - MTKA.

September 16-18

11am-6:30pm

#### Ways you can support this fundraiser:

\*Sign up to work a shift – 10am-2:30pm or 2:15-7:15pm  
(we need adults too!)

Please call Marilyn Strand if you are willing to work a  
shift – 952-937-8067.

\*Come & eat ~ Bring your family and friends!!!!

## PRAIRIE HILL OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

### Union Gospel Mission

77 9<sup>th</sup> St. East ~ St. Paul

Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

4 – 9:30 p.m.

(Meet at the Church – or meet us there!)

We will be serving 200+grilled brat & hot dog suppers to the men at the Union Gospel Mission. We will also have enough suppers for ourselves so that we can eat & visit alongside the homeless men. Following supper we will join up with the PHEFC Puppet team who will be providing the chapel service for the men there at the mission.

*We are in need of people to donate 2 dozen homemade frosted cupcakes for the supper. Please sign up for that on the youth bulletin board.*

#### Evening Schedule:

4:00pm – Youth and anyone who wants to go – Meet at PHEFC

4:25pm – Youth & PHEFC friends Load up and leave for U.G.M.

5:30-6:30pm – Serve Meals to the men

6:30-7:30pm – Clean up dining hall – go to the Chapel for prayer for the night

7:30-8:30pm – Evening Service with Puppet Team

9:30pm – Return to PHEFC

Please sign up to come or donate cupcakes on the Youth Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 28

## Youth “See You At the Pole” Day

CONVERGE—come together, unite, connect...

Join students around the world the morning of September 28, 2011, for *See You at the Pole™*, the Global Day of Student Prayer. Be a part of something much bigger than your own local campus—join the movement! Be encouraged, challenged, and blessed to experience what God is doing globally. Regardless of the church group or the school peer group you are apart of, gather with everyone and pray. Converge!



The 2011 See You at the Pole theme verse is a promise from Scripture that is one of the most popular and quoted throughout history by believers.

*“Whenever two or three of you come together in my name, I am there with you.” Matthew 18:20*

This simple verse is a comforting and encouraging promise from Jesus Himself that helps us to know He is always with us. When we gather and agree together, placing Him first, He is there. And when God and His people converge for prayer, lives change!

There are many *See You at the Pole™* gatherings where dozens of students, sometimes even hundreds, gather to pray at their school flagpoles. Yet there are thousands of campuses where just a handful meet to pray. Regardless of number, God takes each situation seriously and promises to be in their midst. So, whether your school has a huge group that covers the front of the school or you have just two or three, there is power in each group.

What an amazing thought that on **September 28, 2011**, millions of people all over the world will be praying—each in their own language! God wants to hear your heart for your campus. So, will you join Him? Will you join your friends? Will you converge with your generation for a Global Day of Student Prayer?

**6:30-8pm – Our Prairie Hill Jr. & Sr. High groups will be going on prayer walks to various schools that our youth attend to pray for them and their schools.**