

# STAY CONNECTED...

to Marion Hills Bible Church



Current Connection



*I believe*

*The Wiseman saw*

*The baby boy the angels  
called the Son of God*

*Heaven's child*

*The great I am*

*Born to take away my sins  
through nailed pierced hands*

*Emmanuel has come*

*And I believe*

*Precious child How can it be  
that*

*God's great plan*

*For history*

*Would send you to*

*The lonely tree*

*That you would come*

*For one like me*

*I believe in a cross*

*I believe He came for one,*

*He came for all*

*Heavens child became a man*

*Gave His life for me*

*In spite of all I am*

*I believe*

*I believe*

*Oh I believe*

*Christmas lives in me*

*I believe*

**S**uch powerful lyrics to the song entitled "I Believe" by Natalie Grant! Christmas and Easter are woven together so beautifully. We can't celebrate one without the other and that's great news! Indeed, it was God's plan from the beginning to send His one and only Son to be born of a virgin. Yet, Praise God, He did not stay a baby! Otherwise, it would just be a nice story. It would not be the powerful, soul saving story that it is! Oh how grateful I am, that He walked this earth in flesh and blood and was tempted in every way to be relatable to us, yet without sin. And this sinless Godman, Jesus, chose to endure a cruel cross for us, sinful man, so we could celebrate joyfully His birth, His death, and His resurrection!

Picture this...Christmas is over. Off go the lights; off go the sparkly ornaments. But instead of tossing the tree out, all the branches and needles are stripped off, so all that's left is the trunk of the tree. Then the top portion of the tree is cut off and nailed to the piece remaining, creating a cross. THIS is our indescribable gift (2 Cor 9:15) which is not found under a Christmas tree but upon it!





## Someone You Should Know




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*It will be worth it all  
when we see Jesus,  
Life's trials will seem so small  
when we see Christ;  
One glimpse of His dear face  
all sorrow will erase,  
so bravely run the race  
till we see Christ.*

---

I can understand why *When We See Christ* is Sandy Wagner's favorite song after reading about her life. Sandy shared the following:

I was raised on a farm with four brothers and four sisters in central Illinois. When our mother became ill, a group from a small country church began to minister to our family. We started attending that church, and I came to faith in Christ while I was in high school. I played the piano and sang with my sisters at church. After high school, my sisters and I came to LaGrange Park to work as nannies. We attended LaGrange Bible Church where we met Ira and Madeline Matthews. They took us under

their wing. Years later, after marriage, I found myself raising two teenagers alone. While visiting with the Matthews, I made a decision to take my children to LGBC and raise them in a Godly home. After my children were married, I wanted to find a smaller church where I could participate and use my abilities for the Lord. I came to Marion Hills in April of 1988 where I have been able to use my talents for the Lord.

I am blessed to have my daughter, Mary Beth (Mark) both graduates from Grand Rapids School of the Bible and Music living in Michigan. They have three children: Phil 26, Holly 21, and Amy 19. I am also blessed to have Chris (Cathy) who lives in Hinsdale. They have two children: Christopher 16, and Carolyn 14. We were asked at our ladies meeting "What our hobby or interest might be." I had to think about my answer. Attending baseball and football games whenever Christopher is playing!

When asked what keeps me coming back to MHBC my response was the services - knowing this is a Bible teaching church and a praying congregation. Since I have a large family and grandchildren with long term illnesses, I have seen many prayers answered since I began attending MHBC.



## The Man Behind the Pulpit

by Pastor Michael Campo

Christmas is right around the corner, and so I thought we might ask, "What does Christ want for Christmas?" Luckily, we don't have to wonder about the answer to that question. The Lord left his wish list for everyone to read. The answer is found in the little book of Micah.

First, the wrong answer, found in Micah chapter 6. "With what shall I come to the Lord and bow myself before the God on high? Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings, with yearling calves? Does the Lord take delight in thousands of rams, in ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

The answer is no. No, I don't want that? Do you know what we call this? This is "Let's Make a Deal" religion, isn't it? God said in verse 8, "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act **justly**, and to love **mercy**, and to walk **humbly** with your God."

This year, may I suggest we start giving the God who has everything, what He wants ...not what **we** want to give!

**Justice** means treating people right because you know God.

**Mercy** means loving the unlovely even when they don't love you back.

**Humility** speaks of an attitude that is the opposite of pride.

Humility does not say, "I'm a nothing, I'm a worm." That's not humility, that's self-pity, which is really another form of pride. This is humility, "God made me and I belong to him and whatever He wants I shall give!"

So what do we give the God who has everything?  
How about **justice**, **mercy**, and **humility**!



## Get Plugged-In



Please welcome **Thomas "T.J." Westerkamp** who became a member of Marion Hills Bible Church on Sunday, September 28, 2014.

**Daylight Saving Time** begins at 2:00 am March 8, 2015.

**Berean Ladies Fellowship** will meet at 6:30 pm on Thursday, January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16 and May 21. Watch for more information concerning these meetings in the bulletin each week.

**Men's Breakfast Fellowship** meets one Saturday morning a month. Check your bulletin for the date and time.

You can listen to Pastor Michael's sermons at  
[www.mhbchurch.org](http://www.mhbchurch.org).



# The Younger Crowd

## A Teen's View: Why are people cruel?

People are cruel because life was cruel first. Whether their home was broken, dreams were shattered, or they didn't meet their own expectations; life ruined them. They lived their life expecting to be something or to do something that mattered but that didn't happen. Their boss over looked them on that promotion, their friend didn't come through on that needed favor, the love of their life crushed them, and all they did was give others their love, dreams, and heart. They trusted. They cared. They idolized. And you were still crushed. Yes, you!

People are always going to be cruel, but it's how you deal with them that matters. If you let yourself become cruel, then all you are doing is adding to the kindle of life's cruel fire. A fire that everyone is fueling that can only be put out by using up all the flame. So will you be the kindle added to the fire of injustice, or will you be the water poured on to help cool the burning ashes? Every day we make choices and every day someone pays the consequences. It's easy to give up, and you will if you try it on your own, but with God's help you can "be the change you wish to see in the world." We can be the sharp light that everyone wants to follow - the light that leads.

# ✝ Gospel Connection

In reading from the book of Isaiah in the Bible, I noticed a detailed description about someone that would heal people. But why do we need to be healed?

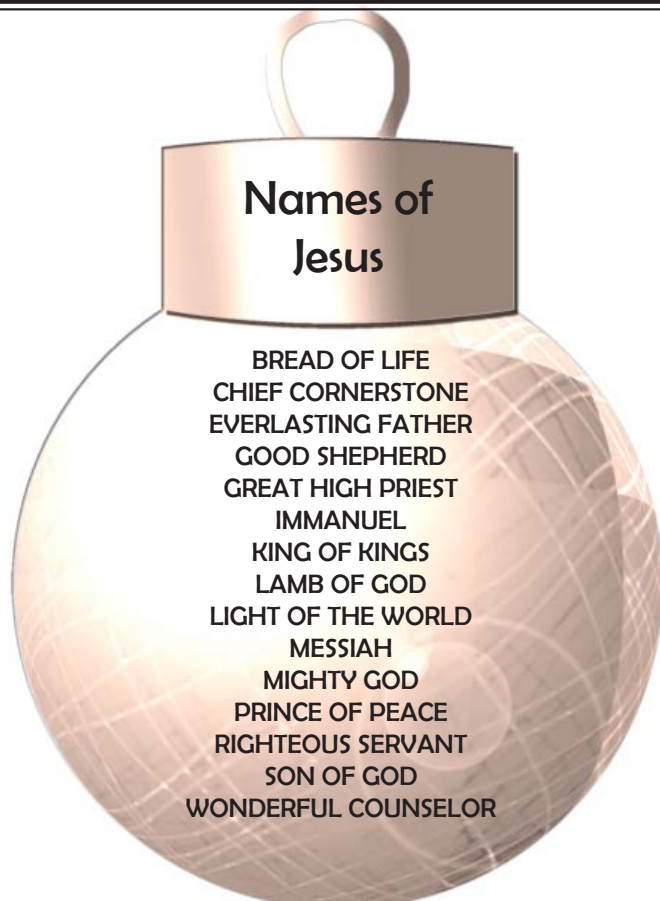
The prophet Isaiah, who wrote approximately 700 years before Jesus was even born, said this about Him, "But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5 NASB). This prophecy foretold the suffering that Jesus would go through when He atoned for our sins on the cross. Isaiah said, "...Yet He Himself bore the sin of many..." (Isaiah 53:12b NASB).

Because we have all sinned, we are deserving of punishment. God is just and holy and must punish sinners. God is also forgiving and wants to forgive sinners. In order to reconcile us sinners to Him, and remain holy and just while at the same time forgiving, God put on flesh and became a man in the person of Jesus Christ.

Jesus went to the cross and was crucified in order to take upon Himself the wrath that we deserve. Jesus satisfied the wrath of God through His death on the cross. Jesus' payment for our sins will be applied to everyone who will repent, that is, turn from their sins, and turn to God through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone.

## Get Your Game On

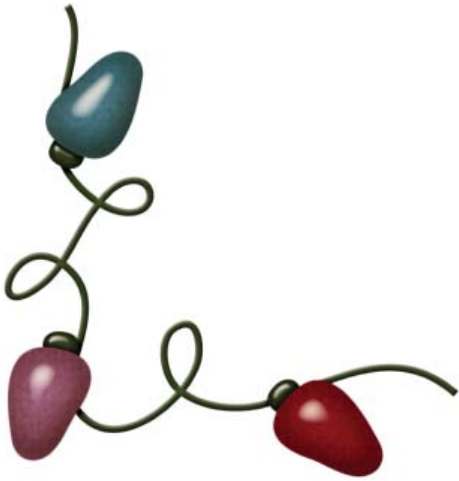
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# Marion Hills Bible Church

142 Plainfield Road

Darien, IL 60561



**“You can go anywhere you want to, but nobody wants you more than we do!”**

**POWER in PRAYER**



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## Schedule of Weekly Events:

Sunday School .....9:30 am  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 am  
Evening Service.....6:00 pm  
Wednesday Evening Services  
    Children’s Ministry .....6:50 pm  
    SYM Teen Club.....7:00 pm  
    Adult Bible Study/Prayer Meeting .....7:00 pm

## Schedule of Special Events:

Dec. 24 6:00 pm ..... Christmas Eve Service  
Apr. 3 7:00 pm ..... Good Friday Service

We want to pray for you! Please feel free to contact us using the information to the right.

### Newsletter Staff:

Pastor Michael Campo	Karen Kruse	Sandy Wagner
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Tim Grider		

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