



PATHWAY NEWSLETTER

IN THE KNOW

MARCH/APRIL 2024



MARK THE CALENDAR

Good Friday Service
Church Event

March 29, 2024

Easter Sunday
Church Event

March 31, 2024

Church Potluck
Church Event

April 28, 2024

OUR HIGH PRIEST ON THE CROSS

ROB HASLAM

Have you ever been given something you didn't know you needed? I remember ridiculous ads on TV when I was a kid, that promised to change how your life functioned. These ads promised everything from the "Veg-O-Matic" making julienne fries to the perfect haircuts from the Amazing Flowbee. Of course, most of these ads did not truly make good on their claims, but occasionally something would, and we wouldn't know what to do without them now. Items like the "Ove'glove" saved many a burnt hands when pulling something out of the oven. That's how life is. There are things we had not thought of before we learned of them and the value of what they did.

It is similar in our faith. Consider **Hebrews 9:7**

"But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never with out blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance."

As a modern westerner I have no context for understanding my need of a High Priest. I did not grow up in a system where someone needed to intercede on my behalf for anything. It is in learning what the role of the High Priest was that helped me deepen in my understanding of Jesus. Once I learned of that role, I was unable to separate it from my understanding of Jesus.

The High Priest in the Old Testament had a very interesting and important role. The High Priest represented Israel to God. He made intercession for the people's sins, both the ones they knew about, and the ones done in ignorance. Hebrews 9:7 alludes to this truth

Leviticus 4:13-21 addressed the sacrifices offered for "the whole congregation of Israel "sins through ignorance" (4:13). The leaders of Israel identified the slaying of the bull as a sacrifice for the nation's sins both known and unknown.

Jesus continually moved in the direction of our salvation. He regularly spoke of the work that needed to be accomplished, the "baptism" that He needed to undergo and the desire to see His followers united. John 17 is highlighted appropriately as Jesus' High Priestly prayer. In it He makes intercession for us. But there is a prayer of intercession that Jesus makes that is directly linked to Him being our High Priest, that I believe should be understood as High Priestly:

Luke 23:34

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

I had no idea that this prayer from the cross carried so much weight. Jesus made intercession for the sin of ignorance of the people while He suffered on the cross.

He sits at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us daily.

Hebrews 7:25

"Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them."

What a wonderful High Priest we have!



TESTIMONY

BRENT UNRAU

I live in Reinfeld, MB with my wife Christina. I have been a follower of Christ almost my whole life, raised in a Christian home. My parents took us to church where we attended EMMC for many years. I loved AWANA and the amazing people I got to meet through that.

Fast forward to my teens where I joined a youth group at Bethel Church, again meeting great people that were kind and loved worshipping God. I had the chance to go on a missions trip to Puerto Rico with Pastor Harold Espinosa and many of the people that I attended youth with. We got to help a blind school with repairs and set up an AWANA program at the local church. It was an amazing experience and we got through to so many kids with singing and skits that showed our love for Christ.

Around the same time I was a Jr. Counselor at Pembina Valley Bible Camp. I had attended many years at camp and decided I wanted to try to be a counselor. I loved the camp, the songs, group prayers and I felt so close to God while I was there. I accepted Jesus Christ into my heart the first year I attended. This was my first time giving him everything and asking for His grace.

Late teens and early adulthood my life changed. I gave into the temptations of alcohol, marijuana and other drugs that ruled my lifestyle. I would work during the week just waiting for the weekend to enjoy these things that lead me down a dark hole.

In my late 20's, I started to feel as if these worldly things were not enough and began to feel shame and depression after doing them. When I met Christina and started a relationship with her we had the conversation about God. I had told her my struggles with faith and that I had had a relationship with God but had not felt close for a long time. At that time I was not ready to give up my worldly addictions but it was not long after I felt my heart change and I felt that I needed to be a better man for myself and for her.

We started attending Pathway together when I moved back to Winkler, not long after my good friend asked me to join a Bible study. What felt like a gentle push from God in the right direction, put me right back into that desire of God's grace and the lifestyle that comes with it.

My decision to get baptized was to show and proclaim my love and faith to God for many to see. My hope is that my commitment to God and my works to others shines my light bright for many others to see.

Thank you Pathway for allowing it to happen on such short notice and thank you to all my friends and family here today for coming out to witness my testament of faith to God!

I'd like to share a few verses that stuck out to me in my preparation for Baptism.

John 8:12

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life".

Romans 6:4

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

CONGRATULATIONS!

BAPTISM

Congratulations to those who were baptized in February!

**Brent Unrau
Oleg**

**Crissy Hildebrand
Cody Wiebe**

**Bailey Wolfe
Carter Dyck**



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY...

Starting in May we will have the opportunity to serve at Central Station's Community Meal, Cafe 545. Cafe 545 is a FREE community meal that takes place on Monday evenings! It's a place where individuals and families can come and share a meal together, no matter what life's circumstances are. It's a great way to develop new friendships as well as create a sense of community.

We are looking to put together a team so that we are able to serve on a monthly or every other month basis. If you are interested in serving or have more questions regarding this opportunity you can email Terrance at dhcm7723@gmail.com