



## AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Minnesota Seniors Enjoying the Second Half of Life!

Minnesota District AG / 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Ministries

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**A Note from the Director** – We enjoyed our senior luncheon at Family Camp on July 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to those of you who joined us. MN Asst. Supt. Doug Graham was our speaker and Todd, and Brenda Marshall led our music, which was comprised of some of our traditional songs which they had the audience select by tables – a unique approach! Thank you, Doug, Todd, and Brenda for providing such a delightful time! Great food – Great fellowship – God is good!



**2022 Fall Retreat** - We are now preparing for another fall retreat at Lake Geneva Christian Center, September 8- 10. We sent out the information in our last mailing. There is still time to register – we would love to see you this year! Drs. Paul and Carol Alexander will be our speakers – always a favorite. Dan and Sandy Adler will join us for the Thursday concert night. Remember to register directly with Lake Geneva Christian Center.

**Our “Seniors on the Go” bus tour** to the Ark Encounter last May was an exciting event! Many of the travelers are ready to venture out again along with other interested folk, so..... we are announcing a **“Branson Christmas” bus tour’ for November 9 - 14**. The enclosed flyer will give you information on that. If you plan to ride with us, be sure to get your reservation in ASAP. A \$200 deposit is required to reserve your place with the balance payable by October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Grandparenting Legacy** - In just a few years Legacy Coalition has seen thousands of Christian grandparents find purpose; by having a greater spiritual impact on their grandchildren’s lives. This ministry has the largest source of grandparenting resources available and is rapidly growing in its influence to equip local churches to begin grandparenting ministries. **2nd Half Ministry is pleased to sponsor a Legacy Coalition workshop during our fall retreat.**

**Legacy Coalition will conduct a simulcast “Summit” on October 20 – 21**. There are two Minnesota churches that will host the simulcast – New Hope Church in Minneapolis and the Willmar Assembly of God. You can find information and registration on the Legacy Coalition web site: [Legacycoalition.com/summit](http://Legacycoalition.com/summit). I attended the Summit last year and found it to be both informational and inspirational. I urge you to join them this year. Perhaps it will be an inspiration for your church to begin a ministry to grandparents and their families.



### NATIONAL GRANDPARENT’S DAY

National Grandparent’s Day will be observed on **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**. Here are a few ideas to recognize the grands in your church on their day. Plan to have a special dinner honoring the grands after the service. Perhaps they can serve as greeters or present special music in the service that day. Make sure they are visible to your congregation in some way. How about setting up a photo booth where grandparents and their grandchildren can have a picture taken together. It will serve as a lasting memento of a special day. Pictures could also be mounted on a bulletin board for the rest of the church to see. Another idea would have grandparents stand and invite someone nearby to lay hands on them and pray for these special people that God has placed in our churches.

**A NEW WAY TO PAY OR GIVE!** We are excited to offer a new way to pay or give to 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Ministries. You can now pay for a registration or give online by using the secure link below. This will allow you to give an offering or pay for events such as the **Fall Retreat, luncheons, tours, etc..** We hope you will find this helpful, and, it will save you the cost of a stamp! You can continue to use ‘snail’ mail to pay/give if you desire. Use this link when remitting funds online:  
<https://onrealm.org/mnaog/give/secondhalf>



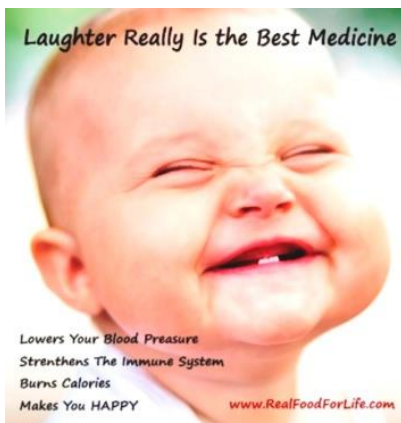
**THE ISAACS**  
**Saturday, Sept. 17 at 5:00 pm**  
**Crossroads Church**  
**17671 Glacier Way - Lakeville**  
**Tickets at iTickets.com or**  
**by phone at 800-965-9324**

Would you prefer to receive our mailings by email?  
 Notify us by writing to: MN2nd Half Ministries –  
 1315 Portland Ave. So – Minneapolis MN 55404 or  
 email us at [mn2ndhalf@gmail.com](mailto:mn2ndhalf@gmail.com)

**Do you want to begin a seniors ministry in your church, or give your present ministry a little more zip?** We invite you to send for the 35 – page manual “**2<sup>ND</sup> Half Ministries**” authored by Dr. Ray James of the A/G Potomac District. We will mail you a copy by your request to **MN 2nd Half Ministry, 1315 Portland Ave. So. Minneapolis MN 55404.**

## WORKING WITH BOOMERS?

**Bruce Schoeman, Encore Pastor at the Willmar A/G focuses primarily with ages 57 – 75. He is interested in those who might be working with this age group. If you are, contact him at [pastorbruce@willmarag.org](mailto:pastorbruce@willmarag.org)**



A Sunday School teacher began her class with a question, “Boys and girls, what do we know about God?” A hand quickly shot up in the air, “He’s an artist” said the kindergarten boy. “Really? How do you know that?” asked the teacher. “You know – our Father, who does art in heaven.”

## GOD IS FAITHFUL!

Scott Hillstead is the chaplain at the Homestead in Anoka. I met him a couple of years ago while I was serving as chaplain there; a ministry that I enjoyed for 6 years. Scott has now replaced me, but I return to the home from time to time to visit some of the friends I got to know while serving there. On one occasion, Scott shared with me a beautiful testimony of perseverance during a very difficult year for his family I asked him to write up this testimony so we could share it with you here. Scott’s testimony was an encourage to me, especially during our recovery from the automobile accident Yvonne and I experienced this past April. We have recovered and are now returning to our ‘normal’ schedule, thanks to God. I know his testimony will encourage you should you be going through a difficult time in your life. God is good! God is faithful!



*Bruce Talso, MN 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Director*

*“2022 has become a year our family will never forget. We have prayed, agonized, mourned, waited, and celebrated. This year has taught us much of the abundant provision and goodness of God. Suffering and pain do not come as a result of bad luck or happenstance. Our circumstances first pass through the hands of our Lord and Savior. That means He has purpose and meaning in allowing it into our lives. Last January, our 30-year-old son, Scotty passed away. He had a passion for Christ, but made foolish decisions, and his liver failed. In February, March, and April, I was dealing with severe back pain. I took my first ambulance ride and spent a week in the hospital. The diagnoses was a bulging disc with sciatica. From May 1 – 31, another son (Erik, 25 years old) was in ICU for extreme pain. He was diagnosed with a very rare form of vasculitis. The staff told us we came very close to losing him. Through it all, God was more than faithful. Psalm 118:6 was a truth we claimed regularly, “The Lord is for me, so I will have no fear,” along with His promise that “His mercies are new every morning.” (Lamentations 3:23). We saw God honor thousands of prayers. Scotty was rescued from his addiction and is in the arms of Jesus today. I resonated with my wife when she said, “We have witnessed God’s mercy.” My crippling pain, one day, was suddenly gone. I can attribute that to prayer and good care. Erik has been healed of his initial debilitating condition and is home with his wife and five-month-old daughter. God provided Erik and I with excellent medical care. We have a God of miracles and redemption. We saw God hold our family (5 kids, 9 grandkids), along with many, many others, through prayer. We have seen numerous opportunities to testify of God’s goodness. Many good seeds of kindness, gentleness and love that Scotty planted in his life, God is using to bear fruit. Truly, God is good, and His faithfulness endures!”*

*Scott Hillstead*

