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THE SUMMIT



Springtime at The Summit

It's now May and we're gearing up to usher in the warm weather that we hope will actually stick around this summer. At The Summit, we desire to have a very strong sense of community. So we want to encourage all of you to continue to branch out and create life groups. These simple ways of 'doing life together' will allow you to get to know each other beyond a Sunday morning knowledge. We need to caution you though: a deepening of friendships and encouragement in your faith may occur!

Important upcoming dates:

Mother's Day May 9

Don't forget to honour yours and other mothers you may know!

Newsletter Ads May 21

Send in your photos, stories, recipes, etc. to be featured in June.

Silver Birches May 31

Be sure to have your application in if you'd like to be a volunteer this year.

Special Dates

On behalf of The Summit, we'd like to say a big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to the following people:

Timothy Hillyard ----- May 16
Emily Kars ----- May 18
Dave Hillyard ----- May 29
Kyle Pritchard ----- May 29
Laurel Arnold ----- May 31

We also want to congratulate the following couples on their upcoming anniversaries:

Nathan & Alison Smith ----- May 14
Dave & Andrea MacArthur - May 17

If you're birthday wasn't listed here please fill out our online directory form at

www.thesummitcommunity.com/contact/

Got Prayer Requests?

Email us to let us know how we can lift you up in prayer as a community of believers. Email: info@thesummitcommunity.com



There can be miracles...

From early childhood until now I have always enjoyed singing. My mother has often told me that I usually woke up singing. I remember listening to the words of the Christian records and 8 tracks (yes, I am that old) and then cassette tapes that we owned and thinking about really meaning the words as I sang and danced in worship to God around our dining room table. As I am raising my own children I have used songs to teach my children about God's love and character as well as to worship God with them. Some of our favorite times of family worship have been around the piano with David taking requests from the girls and I of all kinds of hymns and choruses.

Last year after my thyroid surgeries I found my voice did not make a full recovery. My range was greatly diminished, and I no longer had any strength behind my voice. When I tried to sing out as I used to my voice would simply cut out. There was more than one occasion in which one of my girls would tell me to just stop singing because it sounded too awful.

This past month while I sat in the surgery waiting room with my Aunt Marilyn during my mom's surgery she began to share with me about what she had recently learned in a Bible study. She said that God so often

wants to bless us, but we either don't ask Him or we try to fix everything on our own.

The next Sunday during musical worship at my parents' church I once again struggled to reach any notes as my voice cut in and out. God brought the conversation with my Aunt to my mind, and I immediately prayed and asked God to give my voice back.

Now, I have always believed that God can do miracles. I have personally seen a miracle of God multiplying food to serve homeless people in South Dakota. I guess I have just felt selfish asking God to do a miracle for me personally. Why would God want to do that for me? I have done nothing to deserve a miracle, and God has plenty of people asking Him for things. Well, none of us fully understand the ways of the Lord. He sometimes chooses to say, "No." and other times, "Yes." or "Wait."

My voice has made a dramatic recovery in the last couple of weeks. I am so blessed that God has poured His love out to me in this way. I pray that God will use this lesson about His blessings to help me grow in my relationship with Him. May I always remember to worship God with my heart, actions, and whatever voice I have to offer Him.

Judi Kars



Pineapple-Mango Salsa

- 1 mango, peeled and cubed
- 1 can (8 oz) pineapple tidbits, packed in juice, drained
- 1/3 cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1/4 cup sliced green onions
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes (optional)
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

In medium bowl, stir together all ingredients; cover and refrigerate to blend flavors until ready serve with tortilla chips.

This may be a great recipe to share at a Life Group!

Get to know The Summitband!

Here is an interview that will give you some insight on the worship band that God has placed at The Summit:

Who are the official members of The Summitband at this point? Dave Hillyard - Percussion, Dave Kars - Drums, Erin Lodge - Keys & Vocals, Wade Lodge - Guitars & Vocals, Stephen Mason - Lead Guitar. This makes up the core of the band. There are other members who participate in Sunday morning worship times.

How was the band formed? - About 3 years ago we were approached by the district to lead worship at a Youth event called the Northern Summit, that was being held in the city at the time. We had already been leading worship at the Summit, but hadn't really formed a name or a specific identity. They needed a band name and photo for the poster, and so we chose the name The Summitband.

What made The Summitband decide to release an album? I

(Wade) had a few songs that I had previously written, and I started to share them with the band. I also wrote a few after coming to the Soo. As a band we began to collaborate on these songs, each person adding their own idea and eventually we wrote the title song "Where I Belong" together.

We wanted to be able to share these songs with our local church family, which we were doing at various times during worship. However, we wanted to be able to give the Church something to use during their personal worship times. So it was mainly intended for our Summit church family, but we also wanted to make it available for God to use outside of our church family if He desired to do so.

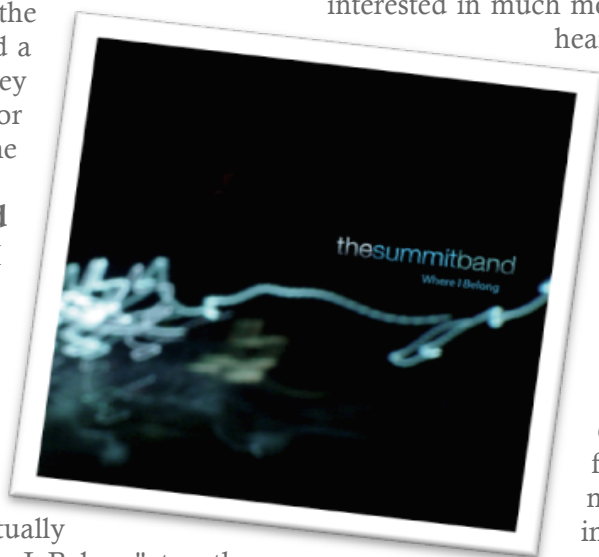
Who wrote the songs on your debut record

"Where I belong"? Most of the songs originated with me (Wade), but as I shared them with the rest of the band they added their own unique ideas and talents to create a Summitband sound. Stephen wrote the last track, entitled "In The Arms Of Love" which is a beautiful acoustic guitar solo. We also covered 2 songs. One is called "Out Of The Mud" which was written by Rodney Clawson of Seeds Family Worship.

He graciously gave us permission to use the song for free! The other song is a tradition hymn called "It Is Well With My Soul." Dave Kars & I came up with a little different arrangement of the song to make it unique.

Why did you choose that as the title song? This song was inspired by a sermon series by our lead pastor, Jeremy. In a nut shell, he talked about how we want to make the Summit a place where anyone can feel like they belong because ultimately we were all created to belong to family of God! So we wanted the album to reflect that theme.

Where did you draw inspiration from for the song "Hear My Heart?" This song was inspired by the our desire to teach our congregation that worship is much more than just singing songs or listening to a band. It's our hearts response to God, when we're singing, working, playing, studying for an exam, etc! Many times we can just sing words without really stopping to think about what it is we're really saying to God. He is interested in much more than just words, He wants our hearts!



Have you been working on any new music? Will The Summitband plan release another album at some point? Wade, Dave Kars

and myself (Stephen) are writing new songs in our spare time, so we hope to put out another CD in the future. With all of us having different backgrounds in our style of music, and having a few us of honing into different music genres, it will be really interesting to see what kind of music we will come up with.

Its just been announced that The Summitband will be playing on the Indie Stage at Big Ticket. What does The Summitband hope to gain from this awesome experience? We are very blessed

to be able to take part in The Big Ticket Festival this year. We will be playing on the Indie stage and will be given the opportunity to play on the Main Stage next year if we are voted the best band on the day we play. If we get voted best band overall, we will be able to take part in a Christian Talent Search in Nashville. If we get chosen at the talent search, we would get signed to a Christian record label, Word Productions. By playing in this festival, we hope to connect with other bands and learn from them.

The Big Ticket Festival is taking place from June 24 - 26 in Gaylord, MI. Tickets are still available and range in price depending on how many days you'd like to attend. Visit www.bigticketfestival.com for all the information!

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Family Corner

The Volleyball Game

By Claudette Murdoch

“Hi guys! All set for volleyball practice this afternoon?”

The big game is tomorrow, don’t forget!”

Jeff greeted his team as he jogged into the schoolyard, bouncing his volleyball. Slim, dark-haired Jeff was the perfect choice for captain of the seventh grade volleyball team. He was the best player in the whole school and he was always ready for a game. The boys liked Jeff, because he was fair and because he was friendly. That’s why they had picked him to be their captain.

His dark brown eyes sparkled as he grinned at his friends. Half a dozen boys gathered around, waiting for the pep talk, they knew was coming.

“We’ve got to win this game, guys, to be in the playoffs. If you want a chance at winning the school trophy, you have to give it your best tomorrow. We can’t lose this game.”

The boys all knew Jeff hated to lose. He tried hard to overcome it, though, and he never blamed them when they lost.

“Don’t worry, Jeff, it’ll be a good game, you’ll see,” said Bill.

“We’ll all be there for practice, Jeff,” said Joe.

“Yes, Jeff, you can count on us,” the others all agreed.

Jeff smiled in thanks as his friends reassured him. These were good pals.

“Come on guys, there’s the bell!”

With a whoop and some backslapping, the seventh

grade volleyball team rushed to their class. Mrs Quinn was standing at the front with a new boy beside her.

“Everyone in their seats, please. I’d like to introduce Mark. He just moved to our town and he will be in our class from now on.”

No one spoke. They were all too busy inspecting Mark. He was smaller than most of them and even though he wore blue jeans and a t-shirt, he was different. He had red hair and he wore glasses. Mark looked shy and uncomfortable; he half-smiled, unsure of them.

“Mark, you can sit here in front of Jeff.” Mrs Quinn led him to his seat.

Jeff mentally classed him as unimportant, since he obviously wouldn’t be playing volleyball. Nodding a smile at Mark, he decided he’d tolerate him. However, Mrs Quinn had a different idea. At recess, she called Jeff aside.

“Jeff, I would like to ask you a favour. Could you please be friendly to Mark and show him around? He is going to feel lost for a few days. You and the others can be overwhelming at times. Maybe you could even ask him to join your volleyball practice this afternoon?”

Jeff was stunned.

“You’re kidding, right? I’ll be nice to him, that’s all right, but ask him to play volleyball? I bet he wouldn’t even see the ball coming at him and if he did, he probably couldn’t hit it over the net.”

“Jeff, I’m sure you don’t really mean that. Think it over; I leave the decision up to you.” *TBC in June...*

