



Super Senior Scoop

Parkside Bible Church

January 2019

November Meeting



On November 28 over twenty Super Seniors attended Ade and Sharon Van Houten's Christmas concert in the Fellowship Area. We enjoyed a nice selection of Christmas music sprinkled with some of Ade and Sharon's experiences during their many years of sharing the

gospel. A nice "do-it-yourself" taco salad lunch with pumpkin cake desert and cider was set up following the concert. There was ample time to chat during and after lunch before "Santa" arrived with a Christmas gift for each family in attendance.



Dealing Faithfully With Dementia

The thought of having to deal with dementia bewilders and frightens many of us. Dementia challenges our usual ways of thinking about how God relates to us and how we relate to God, and tests the faith, hope, and love of all of us. We will explore how a neglected day in the Easter Season - Holy Saturday - can become a scriptural 'space' for the experience of dementia. We will also reflect on scriptural approaches to personhood in relation to people with dementia, and how dementia can

help all of us to learn what it means to say that our lives are hidden with Christ in God (Col 3:3). Along the way, we will consider some good care practices, and ways to give encouragement in Christ to those who suffer from dementia, and those who love and care for them. The Parkside



Super Seniors are blessed to have Suzanne McDonald as our guest speaker on Wednesday, January 30.

Suzanne McDonald is Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology at Western Theological Seminary (WTS) in Holland. She was born and grew up in Australia and then spent nearly 10 years in the UK, where she earned advanced degrees in theology. She joined the Religion Department at Calvin College in 2007 and moved to WTS in 2014. She has published books and articles on theology, and has been reflecting on the interface between scripture, theology, pastoral care, and dementia for many years.

Super Seniors will meet in the Fellowship Area at 10:30 am with lunch to follow Suzanne's program.

Super Senior Profile

Gary and Sue Spykerman

Gary was born in Holland, Michigan and lived there until he was 5 years old. His family move to southern California where he grew up and met Sue while they

were in high school. Their families began attending Grace Bible Church in Anaheim, California at approximately the same time and quickly took notice of each other! Sue played the piano, Gary played the organ and they sang together in



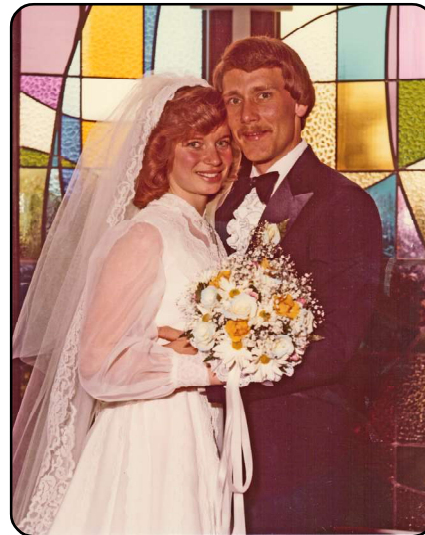
the church choir. They began dating at the young age of 15 and 18 years old. Gary left for Grace Bible College, while Sue finished high school. However, they wrote each other letters every day for the two years he was away.

Gary returned from college after two years, Sue had graduated from high school and a year later they were married on April 26th 1980. They returned to Grace Bible College where Gary continued his education in pastoral studies and Sue landed a good job in the corporate office at Steelcase. After just a year of marriage, they found they were expecting their first child, Michelle, then, only nine months, later Kevin was born. This certainly changed the Spykerman's plans of Sue working to provide for the family while Gary focused solely on his studies! So, they both worked part-time for the next few years while Gary finished his education.



Gary graduated with his Bachelor in Theology degree in 1985 and the family moved to Grants Pass, Oregon where Gary was the Associate Pastor of Christian Education, Worship, and Music. They served there for three years before returning to Michigan for a ministry opportunity to plant a new church in Portage with support of the Grace Gospel Fellowship Regions 9 and 10. While there they had two more children - Brian and Karen - completing their family with two girls and two boys. They served at the new church - Crossroads Community Church - for ten years then took a new pastoral position in Eastport, New York for the next five years.

At that time they saw a big need and opportunity



to help and serve their home church in California where Gary served as pastor for four years. Grace Bible College contacted Gary and asked him to join the faculty as Chair of their Pastoral Ministries Department where they ministered

for nearly eight years. In 2015 feeling an urgency to return to pastoring a local church led them to the calling of Parkside Bible Church .

Gary and Sue feel so incredibly blessed to be here in Holland, Michigan. Partnering and ministering together with the family of believers at Parkside Bible Church is a true joy and privilege. Seeing the Lord lead throughout the years in various ministries has been a wonderful adventure and one which they believe has led them to this very place in their ministry here at PBC.

They both enjoy times with family which includes their four children, their spouses, and nine (almost



The entire Spykerman family

10!) grandchildren. Gary's hobbies include biking, golfing, working out, reading, playing piano and chasing Sue! Sue enjoys playing and teaching piano, shopping, eating out, and watching her grandchildren. During the summertime, in the evenings, Gary and Sue will often be found out at the end of the pier at Holland State Park enjoying the warmth, sunshine, and watching the boats go in and out of the channel.

Arts & Craft Fair



Angie Rees and Lois Cosby serving at the baked goods table.

Parkside Bible Church held their 10th Annual Holiday Arts & Craft Fair on Saturday, November 17. All items are hand-crafted by the 75 Artists and Crafters presenting their wares at the fair. They include: wood, pottery, stain glass, jewelry, pho-

tography, floral, quilts, weaving, sewing, soaps, candles, paintings, framing, seasonings, clay ceramics, and



A view of some of the 75 vendors in the gym.

more. Several Parkside members had booths and many worked during the event. A Holiday Bake Sale was featured and lunch was available. The fair was open from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and attracted over 1,200 shoppers - another great event hosted by Parkside Bible Church.



Sharon Cranson at her booth in the Fellowship Area.

Both optimists and pessimists contribute to our society. The optimist invents the airplane and the pessimist the parachute.

Gil Stern

Activity Calendar

January 30

Dealing Faithfully With Dementia
Guest Speaker Dr. Suzanne McDonold
Western Theological Seminary

February 27

Guest Speaker Dr. Sam Vinton
Grace University

March 27*

April 24

Guest Speaker Dr. Ted Loudon
Michigan State University (Ret.)

May 29*

*these dates are tentative and subject to change - plans for each of these are being developed and will be announced in future issues of the *Super Senior Scoop*.



The Parkside Bible Church Super Seniors are a great bunch!

Thanks to Leon Greisen for the cartoon

Super Seniors Planning Committee

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Please contact a committee member with your ideas/suggestions for future activities.