

"To Publish with the voice of thanksgiving and tell of all Thy wondrous works." Psalm 26:7 (KJV)



Wisconsin Christian News

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THIS ISSUE:

Focus on the Ten Commandments

Update: A Musical Ministry of Love Leslie Lemke

By Dave Luepke
CENTRAL WISCONSIN

Last year, Wisconsin Christian News ran a front page story about Leslie Lemke, the



LESLIE LEMKE

incredible musically gifted savant. The story was in Volume 5, Issue 3 and was written with the help of Mary Parker and the written testimony of Dr David Treffert, M. D.

Mary Parker is Leslie's "Big Sister," Legal Guardian, full time care giver and just all around good person. Some years ago, Mary and Leslie toured the USA and even Japan and Norway to share Leslie's talent, tell his story, and ALWAYS give God the glory. They have given hope and inspiration to countless numbers of people, including this writer.

Time has taken its toll, and a variety of physical problems have slowed them down a bit, but recently they gave two incredible performances. On April 17th they came to Wells Nature View, an Assisted Living Facility in Marshfield. It was a small private affair to honor the 91st Birthday of one of the residents. It was truly an unforgettable day.

On Mother's day, they did a complete concert at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Medford. The appreciative crowd is still having a hard time believing what they saw and heard.

Leslie Lemke, born prematurely in 1952, severely brain damaged, eyes surgically removed at the age of six months, suffering from cerebral palsy and a variety of other problems and never having had a music lesson in his life, played and sang like very few people can. I won't even try to describe it. You simply had to be there.

Mary explains that Leslie belongs to God, not any earthly Church, and that's why their concerts are non denominational, yet they are always done to glorify God. She says that anyone can see the wonderfully created Universe. People can plainly see the earth and the stars: created and held in place by the spoken word of God, so does it not make sense that such an awesome God can give life and love and healing and even a beautiful unexplainable gift to Leslie? Seeing him in action helps us to understand that all this is true.

Mary Lemke, Mary Parker's mother, lovingly cared for little Leslie when almost everyone else gave him no chance to live at all. Mary never gave up. She did whatever needed to be done physically for him and NEVER stopped praying. Mary died in 1993 and her daughter, Mary Parker took over the care of Leslie and continued to have him sing and play the piano for groups large and small. She calls it the Miracle Of Love Ministry, and so it is. She does it to honor her Mother and to give hope to an often hopeless world, and of course, to praise God for his awesome love.

Mary says they will continue to do this as long as the Lord allows it. They only go where they are invited, so if you would like to have them come to you, invite them! You will be amazed at the God-given gift Leslie has, able to play perfectly any piece of music after hearing it only once. And while most of his concerts are primarily Christian and Gospel music, Leslie plays virtually all styles of piano. Don't miss out on this opportunity to bless your Church family with something truly miraculous!

Write to Mary Parker 8099 Grant Road, Arpin WI 54410.

Cover Story

Resurrecting the Good Book (s)

EAU CLAIRE, Wisconsin

In today's world of electronic wonders, anyone can instantly access the information superhighway with just a click of a mouse. But nothing can replace a good book.

But books do have one shortfall: they can deteriorate over time. Pages come loose, covers fall off, bindings separate and break - especially if the book gets a lot of constant use, such as a family or personal Bible.

Those of us who love our "special" Bibles and books are reluctant to part with them, even when they're no longer in perfect shape. With Bibles, especially, readers become attached to them, because they appreciate the translation, have spent years scribbling notes in the margins, highlighting text and searching the Scriptures. These Bibles become a part of us, and are hard to replace.

Now, you don't have to part with those aged friends! Julia Stanley is the daughter of Pastor Dan and Beth Stanley of the Eau Claire Gospel Center. She has spent the past four years learning the art of book repair, and her business, "Book Repair and Restoration" is booming.

"There's definitely a lot of work coming in," she said, noting that she's often hired by local bookstores and libraries.

Things began to really take off when she launched her website, www.bookrepair.us. As a result, she has repaired books from as far away as Maine, California, and even one from Singapore!

Awhile back, she was even contacted by the secretary for Josh McDowell. His old personal Bible was ailing, and his ministry staff wanted to surprise him with a complete restoration!

Julia works with both hardcover and paperback

books and can reinforce, recondition and recover books. She can repair torn pages, replace covers with genuine leather and even do personal imprinting.

It can be difficult to find a good book repair person. "It's such a unique art," Julia said, noting that she is

ing, which involves taking the original cover off and making a new one, using leather or standard material, and binding the new cover onto the text block.

How does one become an expert book repairer? Lots of research and practice. While Julia attended some



the only one doing this type of work within at least a fifty mile radius.

As a result, she has had the opportunity to work on a wide array of books, from treasured family cookbooks to a priceless book from the 1600s.

The technique used depends on the book. Most need to be stripped - meaning their covers need to be taken off, their spines cleaned up and their pages repaired and recovered.

Others just need recover-

specialized classes on the topic, most of her knowledge has come from independent research on the internet, and of course, in books!

So now, you don't have to replace that old favorite family Bible - you can send it to Julia and she'll restore it to like new condition!

To learn more, log on to her website, www.bookrepair.us, or call Julia at (715) 831-6788.

Her repair shop is located in Crossroads Books, 301 S. Barstow Street, Eau Claire.

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