



# FULTON

May 2026

Light

## A Moment for Missions

*Our Missionary of the Month for May is J.D. Atkins with United World Mission. This is from his recent newsletter.*

### Dear Friends,

We have yet another challenge and opportunity to stretch our faith: Our visas are in serious jeopardy because of a combination of some changes to financial requirements, tax requirements, and various rising costs. So, below I give a major financial update along with a request for fundraising referrals, and some prayer requests. But amidst all the challenges we are facing, cool things are happening too. My new Biblical Hermeneutics course is off to an excellent start with a packed-out classroom of eager learners from 11 countries in Europe, Asia, and Africa. In fact, I'm so excited that I have too much to say about it and decided to postpone it to the next newsletter.

Instead, I've included below a shorter, but still very encouraging, update regarding Tyndale's *Open Day 2026*.

— JD

### Financial Update: A Perfect Storm of New Costs

After an encouraging round of fundraising and meeting with churches in the US, I thought my fundraising was back on track and in a healthy place. As it turned out, it was just the calm before the storm, in fact, a perfect storm in which various new situations created a multiplicative effect. As a result, **I need to raise about \$3200 per month more than I expected, and ironically, that includes a 200-euros per month decrease in take-home pay!** While we can tighten our belts as a family and figure out ways to deal with the pay cut, there is unfortunately no way to avoid a major fundraising budget increase.

While I am working on four creative solutions to try to reduce these additional costs, they are all partial solutions, and none of them can be implemented immediately.

### The Bottom Line

Ok, but how does this relate to your visa? Well, my visa depends on minimum salary and tax requirements set by the Dutch government (#'s 1 and 2 in the shaded section above). I have to fundraise so that Tyndale can meet those minimum requirements for me. If not, the Dutch government will revoke my visa. The bottom line is that if my donations don't increase in a big way by July, we will be booted out of the Netherlands for not

### Prayer Requests

**Pray for new donors and new churches.** I am applying to three new churches for support. Pray that all three give. And pray for new individual donors as well.

**Pray that we find a doctor in the Netherlands with the right expertise who will take Elijah on as a patient.** If we can do this, we could potentially shift our health insurance from the American system to the Dutch system. This would result in a still bigger jump in taxes, but it would be more than offset by a huge drop in health care costs.

I've made a couple of proposals to my missions agency, Mesa Global, for reducing my overhead costs. They like the ideas in theory and are working hard to assess their feasibility. **Pray that they find one of these proposals not only feasible, but quick and easy to implement!**

Finally, **if I am not able to keep my visa, pray that we find a way for Alice to keep her visa (which is currently tied to mine).** Alice is scheduled to do the field research in the Netherlands for her doctorate in cross-cultural ministry this Fall. If our visas are revoked, it will no doubt delay her research and her completion of her degree by at least six months to a year.



TYNDALE  
Theological Seminary



Mesa Global

The Atkins

web: [mesaglobal.co/workers/31663/](http://mesaglobal.co/workers/31663/)  
email: [jatkins@mesaglobal.co](mailto:jatkins@mesaglobal.co)

**MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH**

**MAY**

**JD ATKINS  
UNITED WORLD MISSION**



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**SPRING CARE BASKETS**

*Delivery May 5 between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm*

call/text Ronelle Harms at 608-215-8212

**CARE**  **NET**®

Pregnancy Center of Dane County  
*Serving South Central Wisconsin*

**House Church Sunday Hosts Needed**

On Sunday, August 2, we'll be gathering in homes instead of meeting at Fulton Church for House Church Sunday. We're looking for people willing to host a group for a simple time of worship, a sermon video, discussion, prayer, and a shared meal. Hosts should be able to accommodate around 10+ people and provide a main dish (support is available as needed).

If you're interested in hosting, please contact Pastor Zack by May 24.  
Thank you for helping create space for meaningful community!

**BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**

**The Baby Bottle Campaign for CareNet Pregnancy Center begins on Mother's Day and ends on Father's Day. Please take home a bottle or two and fill with coins, cash or checks. The last day to drop them off will be Sunday, June 21. They will be available near the welcome shelf in the lobby.**

**Thank you!**

## Vacation Bible School 2026 DARE 2 BE A DANIEL

Join the fun including storytelling, crafts, games, recreation, music, snacks and more.

We will be exploring the life of Daniel with the fiery furnace and King Nebuchadnezzar.

**June 22 – 26, 2026 12:30 to 3:30pm**

Free for children ages 3 to entering sixth grade.

We will have a free bus service leaving from the Elementary School after Summer School.

Register at [fultonchurch.org/vbs](http://fultonchurch.org/vbs)



### All-inclusive Men's Cabin Fishing Trip near Townsend, WI

May 22-25 is Father/Son Fishing over Memorial Day weekend. Leave Friday after school, return Monday late afternoon (cost \$150/Son & \$350/Dad)

May 30-June 3/4 is Men's Fishing for 4-5 days (cost \$500)

Hiking, logging museum, fire tower, candy store and yes, fishing!

Scholarships are available if needed.

Contact Brent Delzer 608-755-1857

## BOOK CLUB

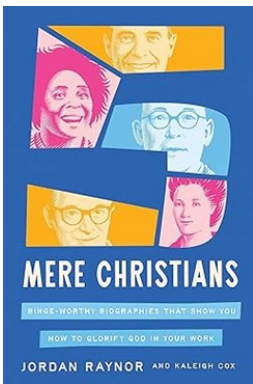
### Five Mere Christians

By Jordan Raynor

Biographies that show how to glorify God in your work.

Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> 6 PM,  
Romblom Home

Any Questions Contact Linda  
608 931-5215



### Save the Date for Men's Activities:

#### **Men's Hiking at CamRock Park with dinner -**

Carpool departs church at 5:30pm May 6th

#### **Golf Driving Range at 59er Sip & Swing with dinner -** 6pm May 13th

#### **Fulton Church Men's Golf Outing & Dinner -**

(Best Ball Foursome) Wednesday, June 24th at Creekview Par Three



### BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY - MAY 31

We'll be honoring the graduates! Please let Dena Casper know if you'd like to participate in the service by May 24th.

Graduates of high school, college or grad school are welcome.

Dena: [dena.m.casper@gmail.com](mailto:dena.m.casper@gmail.com)

### Fulton Church Parade Float

Volunteers are needed to march in parades with our Celebrate 175 float.

Syttende Mai Parade in Stoughton on May 17

4th of July Parade in Milton on July 4

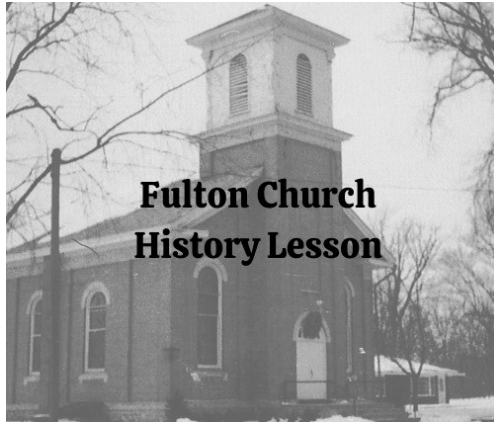
Donations of candy are needed.

Sign up sheets for parades are on the Welcome Shelf and a box for candy donations is in front of the shelf.

**Awana Awards were held on April 19th. We are so proud of our children, and very grateful for our leaders and volunteers!**



**A huge thank you goes to our Awana Director, Jeremy Bilhorn!**



*As we celebrate the 175th Anniversary of Fulton Church, it is interesting to learn about years past.*

## **A Short History of Fulton Church**

### **Organization - Constitution - Affiliations - Revivals**

1848 - Church services were being held in the wood-frame schoolhouse, including services held by a Universalist minister.

1849 - A Baptist organization was formed. Several other pastors were holding services, including Presbyterian and Methodist pastors. The Baptist and Methodist services were held on alternate Sunday mornings. The Presbyterians held afternoon services.

1850 - A Presbyterian Church was organized. The Presbyterian minister held strong convictions on the justification of slavery. By 1952 all the Presbyterian members had switched membership to the Congregational Church.

1851 - The First Congregational Church of Fulton was organized in the house at 9218 Co. Hwy M (just south of the old gym) on Sept. 14, 1851. There were nine charter members. The meeting adjourned to the schoolhouse where public worship with Holy Communion was held.

1857 - Building the church began and was enclosed by the end of the year.

1858 - In late winter and spring a great revival took place. The unfinished church was seated with planks to accommodate the crowd, resulting in 24 additions to the church membership.

1860 - The church had 60 members. Membership between 1860 and 1941 ranged 60 to 75.

1872 - Another notable revival occurred, this possibly in conjunction with the temperance movement. 24 young people were added to the membership rolls.

1941 - The church had 54 active members, with 17 on the absent list, making a total of 71.

1960 - New constitution was written.

1960 - The church membership voted to associate with the United Church of Christ.

1960's - The church dwindled, and members considered closing its doors. Instead, they voted to build the Fellowship Hall to allow for potlucks, nursery, and indoor plumbing.

1962 - Merlyn Bilhorn was hired as a part-time pastor. Pastor Bilhorn brought two things that changed the course of Fulton Church. First, he taught the theology of grace: that salvation is God's gift to us because of His goodness and not ours. Second, Mer brought the Awana program. Awana helped kids and leaders alike to learn biblical truth. It galvanized the church to reach out to the community, and our congregation still includes multiple generations of families who, over the years, first met God through Fulton's Awana program. During Pastor Bilhorn's pastorate, (1963-1975), a total of 137 members were added to church membership and about 50 "Believer Baptisms" were performed.

1972 - Participation in the Greater Madison Crusade for Christ. Several members were counselors and sang in the combined 135 member choirs.

??? - Left the United Church of Christ

*The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you, the Lord turn His face toward you and give  
you peace. - Numbers 6:24-26*

## Happy Anniversary

Mark & Pat Towns	5/10
Roy & Peggy Nelson	5/15
Josh & Rochelle Roller	5/19
Pat & Maria Hemenway	5/21
Jack & Barb Rose	5/21
Eldon & Ronelle Harms	5/24
Luther & Lori Johnson	5/26
Steve & Son Hui Hilmer	5/26
Ryan & Lisa Arndt	5/28
John & Shawn Schmitz-Granger	5/29



## Happy Birthday

Zack Casper	5/9	Dave Flood	5/21
Beth Kaufman	5/11	Aaron Rice	5/24
Steve Hilmer	5/11	Jodie Morrison	5/24
Ethan Hemenway	5/13	David Gonzalez	5/24
Riley Arndt	5/15	Betsy Towns	5/24
Larry MacKenzie	5/17	Steve Towns	5/28
Jayden Gonzalez	5/20	Ken Buhrow	5/28
Jordan Millard	5/21	Sam Bilhorn	5/30
Steven Olson	5/21	Shelly Schieldt	5/31

# MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Friday Bible Study 9am  UW Whitewater InterVarsity Women's Sleepover 7pm-6am Saturday	2 Men's Basketball 7:30 am Prayer Meeting 8am Varsity Fundraiser Panda Express 9:30am-10pm Soul Sisters Dance Event 10am Bill Woyak Funeral 12pm
3 Worship Service 8:00 & 10:30 Sunday School 9:30 Church Council 12pm	4 Fulton Cares Spring Basket Prep 12pm  Music Ministry Rehearsal 5:30pm 4H Board Meeting 6:30pm	5 Fulton Cares Spring Baskets 8am  Carving Group 9am P&W 6pm	6 Men's Group 6pm Celebrations Team 6pm  Varsity Club 6:30pm Immerse Zoom 8pm	7 National Day of Prayer Torah Club 9am NDOP Meeting 11:30 Culver's Bible Study 1pm-5pm Hebrew Class 5pm Larry's Group 6pm	8 Friday Bible Study 9am	9 Men's Basketball 7:30 am Prayer Breakfast 8am
10 Mother's Day Worship Service 8:00 & 10:30 Sunday School 9:30	11  4H Club Meeting 6:45pm	12 Carving Group 9am Life Group-Hataj /Casper 5:30pm Missions Team 5:30pm Facilities & Grounds 6pm	13 Men's Group Driving Range 6pm  Varsity Club 6:30pm  Immerse Zoom 8pm	14 Torah Club 9am Culver's Bible Study 1pm-5pm Hebrew Class 5pm Larry's Group 6pm Life Group-Choates 6pm	15 Friday Bible Study 9am	16 Men's Basketball 7:30 am  Church Council Annual Retreat 7:45am  Prayer Meeting 8am
17 Worship Service 8:00 & 10:30 Sunday School 9:30 Church Council 12pm Syttende Mai Parade 12pm JV-Varsity Boys Event 3pm	18  Life Group Culver's 11:30am	19 Carving Group 9am  Fulton Cares 3pm  CED Meeting 6:30pm	20  Book Club 6pm  Varsity Club 6:30pm  Immerse Zoom 8pm	21 Torah Club 9am Safety Team 9am Culver's Bible Study 1pm-5pm Hebrew Class 5pm Music Student Recital 5:30pm Larry's Group 6pm	22 Father-Son Fishing Trip  Friday Bible Study 9am  Music Student Recital 5:30pm	23 Father-Son Fishing Trip  Men's Basketball 7:30 am Prayer Meeting 8am
24 Summer Schedule Starts  Father-Son Fishing Trip  Worship Service 9am Outreach Team Meeting 10:30am	25 Memorial Day  Father-Son Fishing Trip	26 Carving Group 9am  Life Group-Hataj /Casper 5:30pm	27  Varsity Club 6:30pm  Immerse Zoom 8pm	28 Torah Club 9am Culver's Bible Study 1pm-5pm Hebrew Class 5pm Larry's Group 6pm Life Group-Choates 6pm	29 Friday Bible Study 9am	30 Men's Fishing Trip  Men's Basketball 7:30 am Prayer Meeting 8am
31 Men's Fishing Trip  Baccalaureate Sunday  Worship Service 9am	Men's Fishing Trip	Men's Fishing Trip	Men's Fishing Trip	Men's Fishing Trip		

*Our church calendar is also available at [fultonchurch.org](http://fultonchurch.org)*

## Fulton Church

9209 N. Fulton Street  
Edgerton, WI 53534  
608-884-8512  
www.fultonchurch.org

### Lead Pastor

Pastor Bob Wolniak  
414-520-9477  
bob.wolniak@gmail.com

### Associate Pastor

Pastor Zack Casper  
920-318-6040  
zackdcasper@gmail.com

### Office Communication

Susan Peterson  
608-884-8512  
fultonchurch@gmail.com

### Youth Director

Dena Casper  
920-318-6696  
dena.m.casper@gmail.com

### Awana Director

Jeremy Bilhorn  
608-438-4842  
bilhornj@gmail.com

***Be sure to "like" the Fulton Church Awana clubs Facebook page. Announcements and posts concerning club-wide events will be posted to keep you informed!***



### At Fulton Church, We Are...

- Growing in Christ
- Connecting as a Family
- Reaching the Community and the World with God's Grace



### Fall/Winter Schedule

**Worship Service 8:00 & 10:30**  
**Sunday School 9:30**  
**Awana and JV Clubs 2-4 pm**

Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 24th

Coffee Fellowship 8:00

Worship Service 9:00



We will be having a National Day of Prayer Meeting May 7th at Fulton Church.

Coffee and Donuts at 11:30 am  
Prayer Time at 12:00 noon

Contact Bob Morrison 608-290-9803

