

south shore fellowship

"it's all about relationships"

bridgman, michigan



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Aloha,

September 2009

Got passion? Passion, according to Webster's dictionary is " a strong feeling...such as love". Are you passionate about something in your life? Do you know someone who is? I sure do!

We just spent several days with our son Josh, his wife Taylor, and our grandson Jack. They are 3 very passionate people! This was their first visit to our home and we all had a great time.

Josh is passionate about his music. God has gifted him to play, sing, and compose. He is anxiously awaiting to get into the studio with his "band" and record another worship album. He also has plans for two more albums! His music is his diary. It comes from his heart and his struggles and his intimate times with his God.



Taylor, Jack and Josh at WEKO Beach

Taylor is passionate about food. We had some awesome times of visiting road-side stands filled with fresh vegetables and fruits. There is a store near us that features healthy food choices and even a vegan/vegetarian restaurant. It was so fun sharing those experiences with her.

She is amazing in the kitchen...chopping and seasoning with herbs and spices...she made us such amazing meals. Even the way she presented the food on the plate was a work of art. I learned so

much from her. And her enthusiasm was contagious.

Then, there is our grandson, Jack. He has several things he is passionate about but I think he is most passionate about trains. He calls them "doot-doots". He is crazy for Thomas and all of the trains associated with him. I chuckle as I write this because he has Taylor, Josh, and his Uncle Josiah singing all the songs....they know ALL the words. They will sing and when they finish he will smile and say...."again?"

We have a shop near us called "I Love Toy Trains". We took him there. What an experience it was to see him pointing to the trains and calling them by name! Every night he lays his "doot-doots" and his trucks on their sides and tells them good night. In the morning he runs in and says, "good morning doot-doots" and sets them all up again.



Jack and Nicolas playing with trains

Passion. What keeps it going? The fires of passion must be stoked from time to time to keep it going. Josh stokes his passion by listening to music, reading the Word, strumming his guitar and writing new songs. Tay stokes her passion by reading cook books and learning from her mentors who are vegan, going to farmer's markets and presenting her creations to her family.

Jack's passion is stoked by his parents and those who love him who buy him new "doot-doots" and sing him the songs, and play with his trains. All of these things keep those passions alive.

Our Friday night small group has been so amazing. We have divided the group between the men and women and the boys and the girls. All the women and girls are meeting upstairs and going thru the book 'Captivating' by Stasi Eldredge. The men and the boys are meeting outside (as weather permits) and downstairs and they are going thru 'Wild at Heart' by John Eldredge.



Buzz and Jack baptize Doug Mitchell from the Friday night group

Some of the girls are jealous because the guys are throwing tomahawks, knives, shooting pellet guns, sling shots and attempting to start fires with flint. So far, all the girls do is TALK!

One thing we have been learning is that we serve a passionate God. He designed passion. He put it into all of us. He himself is passionate....about US! He loves so passionately. It is all over scripture. His fire was stoked at Calvary when he sent His ONLY son to suffer and die for us so that we could be intimately connected to him, here and now, and in the ever after that is to come.

Lately, in my daily S.O.A.P. reading I've been so reminded of our Father's passionate love for us. As I've read thru the prophets and Revelation, even, I am encountering a just God, a God of judgement against sin, but a God that is so passionate for us that He will do everything He can to bring us back into an intimate, passionate relationship with Himself.

We'd like to encourage you to come to our meetings on Friday nights if you are in our area. We meet at the Nordgren house at 7 p.m. It's never too late to start coming and get your passion for God going!

SSF Updates:

Friday & Saturday – October 9-10th – Men's Retreat at Camp Tecumseh, including fishing, rock climbing, canoeing, archery, rifle range & flag football. Brochures and sign-up sheet at the book table (cost \$75)

Saturday – October 10th 9am-3pm - Women's conference with Liz Doyle at Living Way Church in New Buffalo. Please sign up at the book table.



SSF worship team: Maree, Matt, Christina & Dave



*Four generations of Nordgrens
Aloha Ke Akua,*

*Jack & Maree,
Jack & Maree*