



The Optimist Club of Treynor, Treynor, IA  
Iowa District, Zone 2 Club Number 40-109  
Iowa District Governor: Jane Schmidt  
Lt Governor: George Volz

## NEWSLETTER

Treynor Optimist Club President:  
**Dale Willenborg**



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### **Brian Young, Pastor Living Hope**



Brian Young, Pastor of Living Hope Community Church, west of Treynor on Hwy 92, grew up near Glenwood. He received a degree in Business from Northwestern College at Orange City and has attended many seminary classes. He and his wife Jen have four children,

ages 13-3.

Brian praised the Optimists for their role in the community. With so many divisions among people and violence in the world, what we do with the can kennel, scholarships, etc. helps develop the youth and plays an important part in the community.

Brian also encouraged us by stating that faith in Jesus is important. No matter what we face, we can look to the letter Paul wrote, while in prison, to encourage the people in Ephesus. He declared that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. He came, met the requirements and was perfect, but when He died, He didn't take all the problems away. We are not to retaliate but do good to those who hate you.

Brian continued saying, "We are to put on the characteristics of Jesus like armor." Jesus talked about justice and faithfulness through wearing the helmet, the breastplate, etc. (Ephesians 6) The one thing in the armor that is the only offensive weapon (the sword) is the Word of God and prayer. In spiritual warfare, God's Word is to go on offense and empowers believers to resist the evil effort we see in the world. The Bible speaks about rulers and principalities, not flesh and blood, of another realm – spiritual beings trying to get us not to care about others. The spiritual

realm crosses paths when we put on our armor because we are doing battle against evil.

Brian served in Honduras in the U.S. Peace Corp for a little over two years. Brian and Jen then served in Oman as missionaries for four years. They returned to the US when Pastor Ken Dohmen called Brian to say he would be retiring at the church in the future. Brian became Associate Pastor.

In Oman the Muslims were willing to have conversations and yes, there were some radicals. Muslim women and men meet in separate groups. Brian felt the people wanted to have good relationships with the U.S. People were open to them and would invite them to have tea or a meal. The Muslims believed in ridding the world of evil and wondered if life in the U.S. was like the film, Fast & Furious, with all the immorality.

Brian said they didn't want to be confrontational, but conversational with the Oman people and that was received well. If they were to give out Bibles or literature, that would not have ended well. If there was theft or use of drugs, there were penalties for people. Chopping off a hand was a threat or you might go missing. Oman wanted control over their people. This actually helped Brian and Jen to feel safe as long as they let you be in their country. Jihad is about ridding the world of evil. Abraham had two sons and the Muslims follow Ishmael.

Pastor Brian wants to encourage and support people and to unify the church. He said it is difficult when members leave, but he still wants to encourage them and will still maintain contact with them.

Young discussed questions the Optimists had. He concluded by saying the battle is serious. The enemy doesn't want Christians to laugh or enjoy themselves. This is a reminder that something much bigger is going on and it is important to put that armor on.

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**Next Week's Program:**  
**Collins Consulting**  
**Tax Update on the tax changes from**  
**The Big Beautiful Bill**

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**Inspirational Quote:**

**"If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way."**

**Martin Luther King**

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**Meeting Minutes**

Vice President Kirk Vorthmann called the meeting to order. 14 members were present. Guest: Brian Young

**Prayer:** Kirk Vorthmann

**Jokes:** Keith Denton, Bill Vorthmann, Judy Guttau (story)

**50/50:** Marsha Underwood

**Attendance:** Dave Danker but couldn't claim

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** We celebrated Dee and Gary Guttau's 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Gary told of the heavy snowstorm that occurred that day. Dee shared a funny story about a gift of red night shirts!

Thanks to Dee and Gary for bringing pastries.

**Bragging Rights:** (Dollars are contributed to benefit local youth programs.)

- Keith Denton: Lily Denton was named The Nonpareil City's Female Athlete of the Year.

**Business**

- The next Can Kennel sorting is for After Prom Committee on Sun., Jan. 4.
- Gary Guttau announced that all dues have been paid but three and those are coming.

**Community:**

- **Sun. Jan. 4: Bingo** at Legion at 6:30 PM.
- **Sun. Jan. 25: Spaghetti Dinner** at Lutheran Church
- **Sun. Feb. 22: Treynor Winter Market 10-2**

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**Events this week in Treynor and some away if indicated:**

- Christmas Break: No School through Jan. 2
- Sat. Jan. 3: V Girls Wrestling @ Clarinda

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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**HUMOR**



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**CALENDAR**

**Events:**

- Jan. 3 Optimist Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM, Treynor Community Center
- Jan. 4 Can Kennel sorting for After Prom. Time?

**Birthdays:**

- Jan. 19 Dennis White
- Jan. 23 Doug Dillivan
- Jan. 23 Jordan Campbell

**Anniversaries:**

- Jan. 7 Dick and Sherry Fox

**Programs:**

- January Judy Guttau (1<sup>st</sup> Sat)
- January Keith Denton (2,3,4,5 Sat)
- February Linda Danker (1<sup>st</sup>,2<sup>nd</sup> Sat)
- February Kirk Vorthmann (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sat.)
- March John Klein
- April Chad Guttau
- May Ken Graham (1<sup>st</sup>,2<sup>nd</sup> Sat)
- May Jeff Jorensen (3<sup>rd</sup>,4<sup>th</sup> Sat)
- June Steve Irvin (1<sup>st</sup>,2<sup>nd</sup> Sat)
- June Dee Guttau (3<sup>rd</sup>,4<sup>th</sup> Sat)

**Speakers:**

- Jan. 3 Collins Consulting – Tax Update on the tax changes from the Big Beautiful Bill.
- Jan. 10 Eva Stalling (Keith Denton's daughter), school psychologist at Millard.