

Country Faith Church

Fall Newsletter

"Growing & working together to love God, love each other and spread the Gospel."

September - November 2017

Pastor's Heart - Pastor Jim Binder

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In 1791, John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church, was dying. In his lifetime he had accomplished what few people have. Beginning at age 36, he traveled over 250,000 miles on horseback, preaching more than 40,000 sermons, sometimes up to 3 sermons a day and preaching as early at 5 am (for farmers who had to milk cows). The crowds he drew ranged for just a handful to up to 20,000 at time and often in open air services. He was known as the 'Father of the Religious Paperback', publishing over 5,000 sermons, tracts and pamphlets.

At 87 he was so weak he could hardly hold a pen but he determined to write his last letter to his friend, William Wilberforce. Wilberforce had been fighting the English Parliament for some time in the effort to abolish the slave trade and it had been a long a difficult endeavor. Wesley wrote, "O be not weary in well doing! Go on in the name of God and in the power of His might, till even American slavery (the vilest that ever saw the sun) shall vanish away from it. May He that has guided you from youth up continue to strengthen you in this and all things is the prayer of, dear sir. Your affectionate servant, John Wesley". At his death, all Wesley left behind was one well-worn coat, two silver teaspoons and the Methodist church of 120,000 members on two continents.

"Do not weary in well doing", was what one man of God on his deathbed admonished another man of God to do. I have to admit, I didn't always like this verse. It was one of my mother's favorite (or so it seemed) and she never seemed to tire of quoting it in my direction when all I really wanted to do was complain about certain things. The rest of Gal. 6:9 goes on to say that we will reap in due season if we do not lose heart.

Life seems to be impossibly busy nowadays. I know things have always been busy to a point but recently everyone I talk to seems to be overly busy and exhaustion is commonplace. Some things just "have to go" from our lives or it seems that we will not survive but what goes? This verse refers to reaping what we sow, as in, sowing "good". What are you sowing today that you expect a good harvest from someday? It would stand to reason (as well as being Biblically sound) that to sow things that are "not good" we can expect to reap the same. But even when we DO sow "good", it may take a while to reap the same back. Waiting for the harvest and continuing to sow when the harvest has yet to begin can be a challenge. It IS easy to lose heart sometimes and we need each other to "stir up love and good works" (Heb. 10:24) Paul informs Titus that we are Jesus' "special people, zealous for good

COUNTRY
FAITH
CHURCH

Service Times: Sunday School: 9:00am Worship Service: 10:00am Youth: 7:00pm (Most Sundays)

218-776-3367 - cfchurch@gvtel.com - countryfaith.org - Find us on Facebook

Pastor Jim Binder - Pastor's Heart

works" (Titus 2:14).

Are you tired today? Does something that doesn't qualify as biblically "good" need to be removed from your life? Take heart, seek the Lord on it and make those hard decisions. Kick it to the curb and don't look back. If you are tired today while you wait for the harvest, take heart also, keep up the good works, harvest is coming! Look to the Lord for renewed strength while you wait. Wesley could never have done all that he did, listed above, unless he had been empowered by the Holy Spirit to do so. Tap into Him afresh today. He is our source! He is our strength! His promise is true that the harvest is coming! Encourage one another with these truths! Wilberforce needed to hear it and we are no different today!

Community Thanksgiving Service

Community Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 19th

7:00pm

First Baptist Church

Our very own, Pastor Jim Binder,
will be officiating

All are welcome to attend!



Ladies / Girls Christmas Tea

Date To Be Announced Soon

Ladies, you are invited to join us for a cup of Christmas tea, dessert and a delightful evening of music, sharing and focusing the season on Jesus! Tickets will be available in November!



If you would like to help with the tea or would enjoy setting one of the tables with your dishes and Christmas centerpiece talk to Sue Hoiland (694-6537) Laurel Jones (776-3462), or Sheryll Torgerson (776-3948).

Sunday School is starting Sunday, September 10th

Please join us as we kick off another great year of studies!

Sunday School classes are held for everyone...ages babies through adult, and will start Sunday morning, September 10th 9:00am-9:45am. We highly encourage you to come to Sunday school as it is a great resource to strengthen your faith and relationship with the Lord. Consider inviting others to join you as well!

Worship will start at 10:00am, following Sunday school. All children 1st-6th grade are invited to come to classroom 4 for our Kid's Worship experience. Following Kid's Worship the children will be released to their regular Jr Church classes.

Please keep in prayer those that have faithfully agreed to serve and share as Sunday school teachers.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

God is with us,

Nicky Ubert



Classrooms for Sunday School hour~ everyone's "place to be"!

With Sunday School classes right around the corner, it's good for all of us to know *where* to go when we get to church Sunday morning, September 10th and beyond!

From 9:00-9:45am Sunday School is held for everyone of all ages. At 9:45 kids reconnect with parents after class to get ready for worship service @ 10am. Nursery, 3-4 yr olds & 5-K's need to be picked up by a parent; the rest of the kids are released to find their families. If it is a day that Kids Worship is scheduled, kids in 1st-6th Grade will head to classroom #4 for Kids worship and will not return to their parents until after the service/Jr. Church. Here is where everyone can plan to be for that time frame:

Nursery (babies to age 3): Main nursery by sanctuary

3-4 yr olds & 5/K: Classroom wing, Classroom #1

1-2 grade: Classroom wing, Classroom #3

3-4 grade: Classroom wing, Classroom #4

5-6 grade: Basement classroom, under the upper room

7-12 grade: Upper room classroom (upstairs)

Adults: sanctuary

If you are unsure where to go, please ask an usher, greeter, staff member, or someone who seems to know where they're going :) and they'll be happy to help! Looking forward to seeing you all "in class" at 9:00am Sunday, September 10th!!

Adult Sunday School: Sept 10th - December 31st

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Fellowship Sunday

Sept 10th

We will begin our adult S.S. year with a coffee / fellowship / snack time and enjoy an occasional Fellowship Sunday between studies.

What Happens when Christians Live Like Christians

Sept 17th - Nov 5th (8 week Video series by Chip Ingram)

In this new series based on the book of Titus, Chip reveals the four key reasons why doing good matters so much. According to Scripture, doing good is not just a suggestion. It is a very powerful command and calling, and it can be costly. However, the price of not doing good can be even more significant. With his practical, relevant approach, Chip unpacks what doing good can do in and through you for the glory of God and the benefit of others.

This 8-part series includes the following messages:

- Why Doing Good Matters So Much
- Doing Good - Where It All Begins
- The High Cost of Not Doing Good
- How Doing Good Will Change Your World

Fellowship Sunday Nov 12th

TWO TRACKS OFFERED HERE

Nov 19th - Dec 17th

OPTION 1: “Crazy Cycle”

5 weeks - Video Series By Emerson Eggerichs

Combining biblical instruction with scientific expertise, Emerson provides insight into the unique ways in which God has designed both men and women and how they can rightly embrace their differences in marriage. As couples come to see the heart behind their partner's complaints, they will better understand the place for both love and respect between husband and wife.

OPTION 2: “A Clash of Kingdoms”

5 weeks - Video Series By Ray Vanderlaan

As Christians, we are called to proclaim God's Name in all the earth (1 Chronicles 16:8), but how do we do that in the midst of false gospels & chaos? Discover in this 5 week series how Paul communicated the Good News of Christ to Philippi, a Roman colony that worshipped false gods. Can YOU *Live* the message as Paul did while he encouraged the church in Philippi to consider itself a colony of Heaven, not Rome? Consider *your* citizenship- and the message YOU convey to the world.....

December 24th or Dec 31st – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Christmas/New Year Break)

Children's Ministry Upcoming Teaching Topics

Sunday School

Sunday School Fall Quarter Sept 10-Oct 29

3's-4's/ 5K: One Accord Heart Shaper Curriculum

God Made the World
Noah & Abraham
Joseph & Samuel

1-2 Gr: Radiant Life Primary Curriculum

The Church
Women of Faith
Daniel & His Friends

3&4 Gr: One Accord Heart Shaper Curriculum

Our Great God
God's Promises
God's Plan & Protection



9:00-9:45am (starting Sept 10th)

5&6 Gr: One Accord Heart Shaper Curriculum

Living God's Image
Temptation, Sin, Forgiveness & Thankfulness

Junior Church

3's&4's: Hand's on Bible Curriculum

Creation
Noah
Abraham & Sarah

5K: Hand's on Bible Curriculum

Creation
Noah
Abraham

1-2 Gr & 3-4 Gr:
Character by God's Design Curriculum

*9 Month study rooted in scripture to help equip kids with character qualities they need to become the person God created them to be.

(1st Quarter)
Diligence
Gratitude
Faithfulness



**Each Sunday during
the Sermon
(Birth-4th Grade)
(through 6th grade once a month)**

Junior Church

5-6 Gr:
Grapple Curriculum

*helping preteens grapple with Biblical answers to their common questions

(1st Quarter)
Relationships
Faith Questions
Choices

“When the Call Comes” - Chaplaincy Article



Chaplain responds to worst US Naval Disaster since USS Cole

By Chaplain Jonathan Stephens, USS Fitzgerald, as told to Andy Meverden

“The first time I stepped foot on a ship, (one of my recently assigned ships) the USS Fitzgerald, DDG-62, I was lowered by hoist from a helicopter. We could not land, as the ship was listing at 5 degrees. I was one of four people sent to the damaged vessel, along with the Deputy Commodore, Damage Control Chief, and a Medical Doctor. 300 Sailors were fighting to keep the guided missile destroyer afloat. For the 15-hour ride back, I did non-stop counseling. The first thing I did was conduct a ‘spiritual triage.’ I spoke with those in or near the damaged area, those who closed the hatch to the flooding compartment, and then those who were standing watch when it happened. Later, I asked the command, ‘Who do you want me to see?’ A bow to stern head-count revealed seven Sailors missing.”

The collision with ACX Crystal, a larger Philippine container ship, occurred on June 17th, about 56 nautical miles (64 miles) southwest of the USS Fitzgerald’s homeport of Yokosuka, Japan. Chaplain Stephens, continued: “When the ship finally made it back to port, the community had rallied at the pier. Families provided food for the famished crew, and additional chaplains and counsellors stood by. It was a base-wide response.” Jonathan took a long breath. “Family members of the missing crew members were frantic. Divers went down into the flooded area, and found seven Sailors drowned in the berthing area.”

The next morning, Chaplain Stephens showed up in his dress blues for casualty operations ministry duties to formally notify and console grieving family members. “The next ten days were a blur. How do you explain the unexplainable to loved ones whose whole world has changed? It’s not normal. So much damage was done; to the ship, the crew, and most significantly, to the Families of those who perished. Everyone worked together; the base chaplains, casualty teams, the command, family support; all the while we were grieving, together.” When I asked about the dignified transfer of remains back to the Sailors’ home towns, he said, “The Air Force team as Yakota Air Base handled the sendoff. Air Force chaplains conducted the Dignified Transfer of the flag-draped coffins on the ‘Angel Flight’ cargo plane. They did a great job supporting us.”



I then asked Jonathan about the local memorial service for the seven lost Sailors: “We had great command support for the base-wide service; from the Commodore and Senior Chaplain down. The Navy flew the Families out. Five of seven Sailors’ Families came, along with Admirals from one to four stars. The news media was kept out of the service, with only the Armed Forces Network allowed to cover and film the solemn event. I thought for sure the command would have the senior command chaplain officiate the service, but Commander David Cline, senior chaplain, put me up front. He and other base chaplains provided all the backup and support of this major event for over 750 people.”

His words were aired at the Washington, D.C. Memorial Service and provided healing and comfort to Sailors, Families, and the Nation. His message at the Memorial Service focused on the act of giving displayed by the seven Sailors. He said, “So much has been given...But I want to say, for those of us grieving...at the end of the day, what’s given to us is not what is going to heal us. True healing doesn’t come

“When the Call Comes” - Chaplaincy Article (cont)

from what we receive; true healing comes from what we choose to give for others.”

When I asked Jonathan how he felt undertaking this difficult ceremony, he replied, “Lord! I felt so honored to play a role in the work He’s doing during this great tragedy.”



Now a few weeks after the fact, I asked Jonathan how he and his young Family were doing? “Well, we weren’t even settled in quarters when the tragedy occurred. I had to leave Melissa and six-month old Louisa to fly to the ship. Fortunately, we had just acquired a car, so I loaded as much of our baggage into it before I took off, ‘Go-bag’ in hand. That next day, Melissa had to handle the arrival of our household goods, plus care for our baby. I remember the last thing she said to me, as I left, ‘Tell me what to pray for.’ We have a saying in the Navy, ‘The whole Family serves!’ Because of her faith and commitment to my ministry, I could fully engage in my duties without worry, or concern. She is a role model for military spouses in the time of intense crisis.”

Jonathan continued, “As for me, I have no routine yet. It was truly a “baptism by fire” at this new assignment. This major tragedy has gone on for six weeks. It’s been tough; no time to establish local community connections, a real struggle.”

When I asked Jonathan how people in our churches could pray, he gave me this list:

1. Praise and gratitude to God. It was incredible to see what God has done in and through this tragedy. I didn’t lose sleep throughout the whole event!
2. Going forward: for fellowship in the local base community – that support network we all need.
3. I was so busy for so many weeks, I got off balance. I am working to get back into reading the Bible for myself. We all need that daily quiet time/devotions.
4. To quote a friend, ‘The chaplain needs to fill up always and not just pour out.’

I was glad to finally get a call from Chaplain Stephens from Japan. I took notes as fast as I could, so I could share his experience with you our faithful supporters of chaplaincy. I urge you to lift Jonathan, Melissa, and baby Louisa to God in your prayers. As you do that, remember the other 189 chaplains serving across the 54 United States, Territories, Commonwealth and the District of Columbia, AND spread around the globe in combat zones, sailing hostile waters, and often flying in dangerous skies.

For more stories describing the ministries of CBAmerica chaplains, go to www.cbamerica.org/chaplaincy. If interested in learning what it takes to be endorsed for chaplaincy ministry, contact Andy Meverden, Director of Chaplaincy at chapandy@cbamerica.org.

What's Happenings for Women @ CFC

Women's Bible Studies

Offering Two Studies this Fall Simultaneously

1. Discerning the Voice of God by Priscilla Shirer (new updated version)
 - a. Friday Mornings from 9-11am - starting Sept 8th - Oct 20th
 - b. Monday evenings from 7-9 pm - starting Sept 11th - Oct 23rd
 - c. Discussion plus videos
 - d. **Traditional homework for 5 days/week (about 30min/day)**
 - e. AM Discussion leaders: Charis Nordlund, Heidi Syverson, Karleen Dahlberg
PM Discussion leaders: Adelle Graser, Lisa Ubert, Stacy Nordlund
2. Knowing God by Name by Mary Kassian
 - a. Friday mornings ONLY from 9-11 am - starting Sept 8th - Oct 27th
 - b. Discussion based - **no videos**
 - c. **Only small amount of homework**
 - d. Discussion leaders: Jen Haman, Jill Nelson, April Gazelka

Cost per study is only \$15. **Child Care** is provided for the Friday morning studies only. Please sign up at the Ladies ministry Cart in the foyer.

Women's Fall Northern Hub Truebridge Retreat

Theme: SIMPLY CHOSEN!- Key Verse: John 15:16 NIV You did not choose me, **but I chose you** and **appointed you** so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

When: Starts Fri Oct 27th - Saturday Oct 28th

Where: Country Inn, Bemidji and Tenstrike Community Church

What/Who: Simply Chosen Intro -Jamie Lundell (Destiny Fellowship) and Charis Nordlund (Country Faith)

Simply Chosen- Complete	Joan Pomp (Tenstrike Community Church)
Simply Chosen- Victorious	Abby Binder (Warroad Community Church)
Simply Chosen to Shine	Harvest Fellowship Ladies (Frazee)
Simply Chosen to Reach	Laura Binder (Thriving Life Church) and others
Simply Chosen to Influence	Becky Dorman (Country Faith Church)

Please sign up at Ladies Ministry Cart and see more details such as our delicious "ladies" menu with Sis-sie from Destiny cooking. You will be excited! Get a brochure to invite others.

Upcoming Activities/Events

Nov - Sign Making Class (exact date and more details to be released in Sept)

Dec - Ladies/Girls Tea (more details to come)

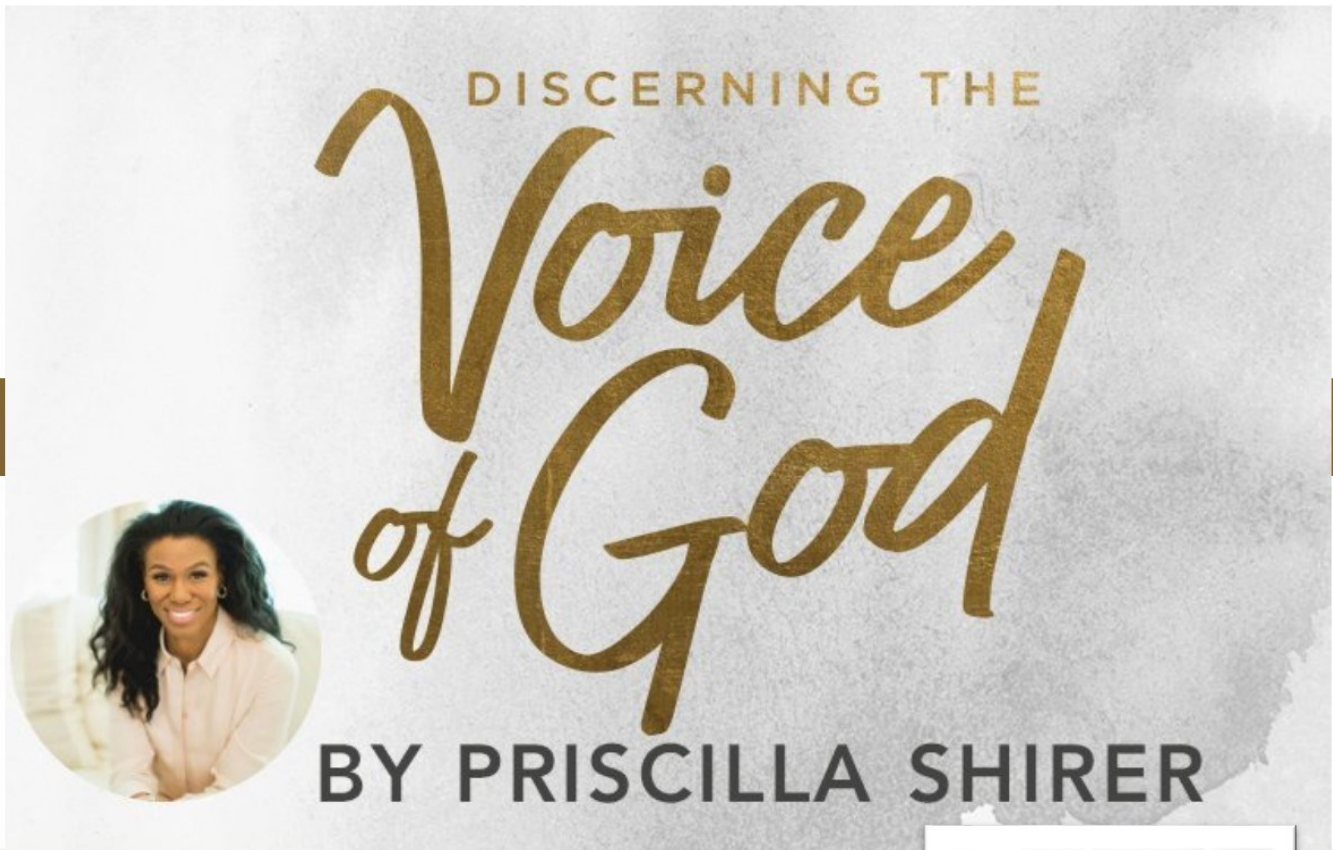
Ministry Opportunities

Mentoring - Interested in Mentoring or being mentored - Contact Charis Nordlund/Lisa Ubert

Serving - Making meals for people in need - contact Lisa Peldo to be on a call list

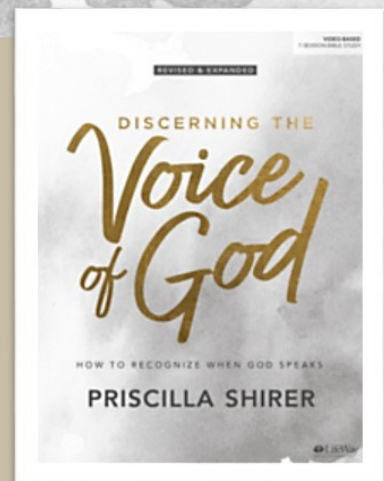
Suggestions - Call Karleen Dahlberg or Stacy Nordlund

Upcoming Ladies' Bible Study



A decade ago, Priscilla Shirer authored *Discerning the Voice of God*, and since then God has continued to grow, teach, and challenge her in her walk with Him. This revised and expanded edition reflects that growth through new stories, illustrations, and exercises.

Through 7 sessions, **discover the root to clear and daily communication with God - humble obedience.** Learn how surrender unlocks His many blessings intended for us, centers us in His will, and helps us discern His voice in everyday life.



Friday Mornings from 9-11 starting Sept 8th - Oct 20th

Monday Evenings from 7-9 starting Sept 11th - Oct 23rd

Child Care Provided for Friday Morning Study

Please sign up by contacting the church 776-3367

Cost is only \$15

Upcoming Ladies Bible Study (cont)

To know God better,
know His names.

A new Bible study by
Mary Kassian



God is too big, too magnificent for a single name. Consider this: the God whose many names include Creator, Provider, Ruler, and Redeemer wants you to know Him better. Mary Kassian's new study—*Knowing God by Name*—examines 35 of His names. This is more than a Bible study; it's a personal encounter with an awesome God. Find out more: www.lifeway.com • 1.800.458.2772 • LifeWay Christian Stores

Offered Friday Mornings from 9-11
Starting September 8th through October 27th

Only \$15

Childcare provided

Joyfully you | www.lifeway.com/women

LifeWay | Women

Ladies Fall TrueBridge Retreat



Simply Chosen

October 27th - 28th

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

- John 15:16 NIV -



Schedule

Friday, October 27

5:00-6:00 pm Registration @ Tenstrike Community Church
6:00-7:00 pm Supper
7:00-7:45 pm Announcements & Worship
7:45-8:45 pm Simply Chosen Jamie Lundell (Destiny Fellowship) and Charis Nordlund (Country Faith)
8:45- Prayer Opportunities

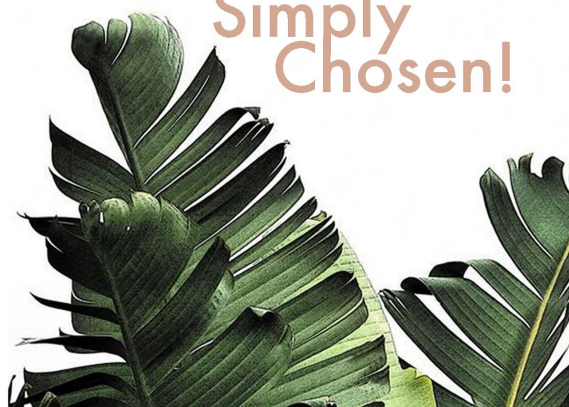
Saturday, October 28

8:00- 9:00 Continental Breakfast at Church (Continental Breakfast is available at the Hotel for those guests)
9:00- 9:45 Announcements & Worship
9:45- 10:15 Simply Chosen- Complete in Him - Joan Pomp (Tenstrike Community Church)
10:15-10:45 Simply Chosen- Victorious Abby Binder (Warroad Community Church)
10:45- 11:00 Break
11:00- 11:45 Simply Chosen to Shine Harvest Fellowship Ladies
12- 1:00 Lunch
1:00- 2:00 Simply Chosen to Reach Laura Binder (Thriving Life Church) and others
2:00-2:30 Break
2:30-4:00 Simply Chosen to Influence Becky Dorman (Country Faith Church)
Worship & prayer
4:00 Home ready to live, Simply Chosen!

We tend to be great at overcomplicating the things God has for us, wants from us and even what He doesn't want from us. As a result we are left feeling overwhelmed, self condemned and paralyzed. Ladies, let me just say there is no secret formula to get God to love you more. You didn't work your way into His good graces. He simply chose you. All of YOU. You on your good days. You on your bad days. And yes, even you on your worst days. He chose you with a specific plan and a purpose for your life.

This life, here and now. You were chosen for such a time as this. Come, join us, for a time of cleaning out the clutter in our minds and zeroing in on the simple, personalized truths about who you are and what you were made for.

Simply Chosen!



Registration Deadline: Sunday October 15th

- Retreat Sessions will be held at Tenstrike Community Church, Tenstrike, MN appx. 17 miles north of Bemidji on #71

- Hotel reservations are at Country Inn and Suites Bemidji.

Please see inserted registration form for details regarding hotel rooms and registration cost.

FRIDAY SUPPER

*Spinach and kale salad with berries, Parmesan, candied pecans and a raspberry lemon vinaigrette
*Honey Garlic Roast Pork and sauce add Chicken option as well
*Baby red potatoes with herb butter
*Oven roasted tricolor carrots with roasted asparagus
*Dinner rolls
*Apple cobbler with vanilla bean ice cream and warm caramel sauce
*Beverages

SATURDAY CONTINENTAL

*Bagels and cream cheese
*Blueberry coffee cake
*Fruit
*Beverages

SATURDAY LUNCH

*Roasted butternut squash soup
*Oven baked ham and three cheese sliders
*Cucumber Salad with fresh herbs
*Mini mixed berry parfaits
*Beverages

SATURDAY AFTERNOON DEPARTURE

*Warm chocolate chip bars

Care Groups

Fall Semester: September 13th - December 6th, 2017
options and opportunities for everyone to get “Connected”!

“A Discipleship Journey”

Fred and Julie Sundquist 218-487-5605, F cell 218-766-8012, J cell 218-368-1009
Meet at - Sundquist’s Home (North of Gonvick) ~ Wednesday nights - 6:45 to 8:30

We will use “A Discipleship Journey” as our guideline. This study is designed to ground the new believer in core biblical truths, as well as shore up the foundations of the veterans of faith, to equip you on your journey to “Go and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to obey what I have commanded you...and I am with you always.” Matthew 28:18-20.

No matter where you are at spiritually, this will be a good fit for you.

Our group will share an occasional meal, and always a good cup of coffee and snacks. We will discuss, pray, laugh and get to know each other in a relaxed atmosphere. The goal will be to leave refreshed and revived in Jesus!

“Follow” by Andy Stanley

Jay & Jerianne Moen 785-2046, Jay: 358-0854, Jerianne: 358-0856
Jason & Shawna Hermiston (J: 533-0445, S: 358-0557)
Meet at - Moen’s Home (Bagley) ~ Wednesday nights - 6:30-8:00pm

Our group will be starting out with Andy Stanley's video series called "Follow". We will be doing a few informal Bible studies in addition to the video series. We will also be having a couple of fun/fellowship nights.

Clearbrook Area Group

Miles & Brenda Rouland 218-694-2106, M: 556-3270, B: 358-0884
Meet at - Dave & Karleen Dahlberg’s Home (by CFC) ~ Wednesday nights - 7:00-9:00pm

We will meet for fellowship, Bible Study, and prayer with an emphasis on building relationships.

“The Life Study” by Jaime Saint

Austin & Adele Graser (Austin: 760-5693)
Shane & Marie Powell (S: 254-258-0609, M: 254-258-0622)
Meet at - Shane & Marie Powell’s Home (South of Bagley) ~ Wednesday nights - 6:30pm start

The LIFE Study helps us look at what the Bible teaches about different areas of our lives, and helps us apply those Truths in a practical way. The areas explored through this study include: success, financial, career, family, physical, social, intellectual, and spiritual. *The LIFE Study* is a tool for real world, practical discipleship to encourage living intentionally in every area of life, reflecting the love and light of Christ into a world that is dark and without hope.

Care Groups (cont)

"James" by Francis Chan

Jim & Nikki Juve 218 280-8742 (NJ), Gary & Stacy Nordlund 218 358-0411 (SN)

Meet at - Juve's Home (East of Fosston) ~ Wednesday nights - 6:30-8:30pm

True faith produces fruit. A faith without action and without life change is ultimately a dead faith. The book of James speaks to the realities of a living faith in Jesus—the kind of roll-up-your-sleeves and get-your-hands-dirty discipleship that is borne out of an authentic relationship with the risen Lord. James writes to believers who know suffering, who've faced trials, and who ultimately desire a deep relationship with God.

Francis Chan unpacks the dense truth contained in the book of James in front of the iconic backdrop of San Francisco, the city where he lives and ministers. Through 12 sessions, Francis works through James verse-by-verse, challenging followers of Christ to move beyond a private, intellectual knowledge of God and His Word, to a vibrant faith that impacts every square inch of life.

We welcome you to join us as we build friendships, encourage each other and grow in our faith!

"Multiply" by Francis Chan

Nathan & Charis Nordlund N: 766-7714, C: 320-304-0439

Meet at - Nathan & Charis Nordlund's Home (Bemidji) ~ Monday Nights - 6:30pm start

A typical evening will include a study time, discussion, prayer, time encouraging one another and of course some snacks! We are looking forward spending time with you as we grow as disciples of Jesus.

"Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God" by Henry & Richard Blackaby

Andy & Nicky Ubert (Andy: 688-0997, Nicky: 688-0998), Dudley & Cindy Wishard (776-2715) Meet at - Josh & Ruth Gerlofs (Clearbrook area) ~ Wednesday nights - 6:30-8:00pm

Our care group will be starting a challenging and in-depth study with reading and weekly homework. This is a 13 week study that may carry over into the next trimester. "Experiencing God is based on seven Scriptural realities that teach us how to develop a true relationship with the creator". We plan to incorporate a few fun, fellowship evenings throughout.

"Growing as Disciples"

Larry & Becky Dorman 230-5554 (LD)

Meet at - Country Faith Church ~ Wednesday nights - 6:30-8:00pm

We highly value building relationships, loving each other, encouraging each other, praying for each other and growing together as followers of Christ. Our emphasis for the year will be challenging ourselves to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ and encouraging others God has placed in our lives to do the same.

“One Day” - by Stacy Nordlund

The 5 mile journey to town took me on a gravel road past Clifford and Violet's, everyday. The retired farming couple had followed the pattern of generations of Scandinavians in our area by having a "little lunch" and coffee around 10 and 3 everyday. Gary and I happened to be there for one of those afternoon coffee rituals. As we sat at the small kitchen table sipping coffee and eating homemade ginger snaps, Clifford and Violet started telling us that several times a day they saw me come sailing by in my car with dust rolling off the road into their yard. When they saw me come flying by, Clifford would raise his cup of coffee, take a slurp, and say to Violet, "There she goes again".

"There she goes again" is a great description of my life twenty years ago. At that time I was 33 years old and had 12 and 10 year old sons. The car drove back and forth all summer long to ball games and practices, afternoons at the pool and friends coming to play. Gary did farming before and after carpentry work, so often I was making meals and bringing to the field. When I wasn't doing that, I worked a few hours a week as the church secretary. From time to time, I tried to take care of a vegetable garden, which usually ended with the mower being pushed between the rows and little produce stored for the winter. There was always laundry, always household cleaning, always the lawn to be mowed, always something to do! It seemed to be an unending stream of responsibilities and demands on my time.

All this ultimately affected my spiritual life. When you are busy running to and fro, it gets hard to stop, read, and listen to the Lord. Often when I was trying to find time to spend with the Lord, I would think how it would be one day in the future. "One day", I wouldn't have piles of laundry to do. "One day", I wouldn't have to bring meals to the field. "One day" there would only be dishes for two to wash. "One day" the house would stay clean because there would be only two of us. "One day", it would be easier to get up early and be with the Lord. "One day" I will be able to sit down during the day and read or pray. "One day...."

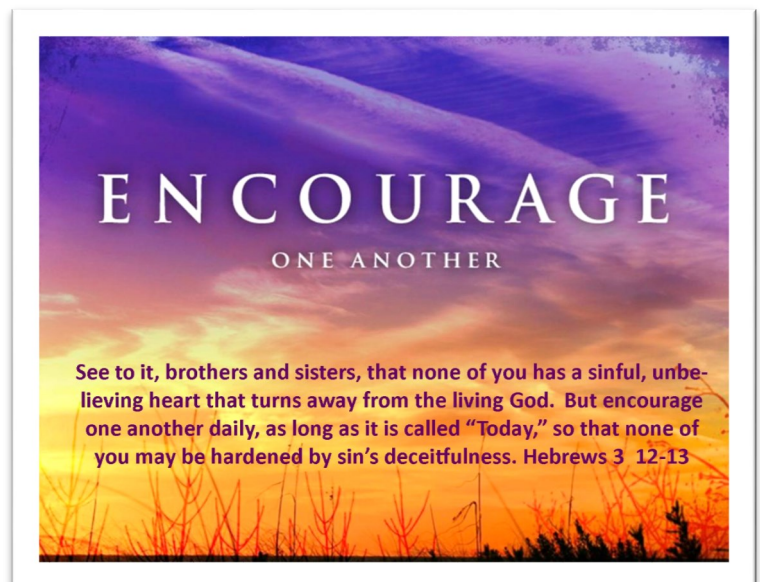
This summer I turned 53 and "one day" finally came. "So", you ask, "how did that turn out, Stacy?" It didn't! Not the way I imagined any way. Life is not simpler and things aren't easier! Today has become "one day". There are only two of us in the house and the place is still a mess. There are still dishes in the sink almost all the time. The pile of laundry hasn't gotten smaller, it's gotten larger! The two of us have just acquired more clothes that sit for longer periods of time and create a bigger heap until I finally wash them! I don't work just a few hours a week, I work closer to 30 hours. I've taken on bigger responsibilities related to ministry. When I was 33 years old, smart phones hadn't been invented yet so I could have peace and quiet any time I walked away from the phone that was attached to the wall of the house. The internet was probably just starting to get popular, but hadn't impacted my life. There was no Facebook or blogs to take my time. There were only 3 channels I could see on TV, all of which went off the air around 2 am. Can you imagine! Off the air! What in the world did I do without 24 hour news and entertainment! I didn't have a wide variety of schedules to work around when organizing a family event. I didn't realize my sleep habits would change over the years or that health issues would affect my energy during the day. These are just a few of the unforeseen things that have made "one day" different than I imagined.

Hebrews 3:12-15 says, See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called

“One Day” - by Stacy Nordlund (cont)

“Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness. We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end. As has just been said: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion.” I want to hold my conviction firmly to the end and I need to be encouraged, by others, to keep moving forward. Pastor Larry in his sermon last week, said that spending time with the Lord daily isn't about fulfilling some religious requirement, it's about keeping our focus set in the right direction so that we will firmly hold our conviction to the end.

"One day" thinking deceived me into believing that life would be easier or more convenient tomorrow. It was an excuse to not do what I said was important. If you are living in "one day" thinking, don't let yourself be deceived like I was. "One day" probably won't look at all like you are imagining. If there is one thing I have learned, it is rarely easy to seek the Lord. It takes a decision; a choice of my will every day to seek the Lord and there is always something beckoning to me, enticing me to say "one day"; tempting me to put off spending time with the Lord. "One day" may never come, but we have TODAY. Today, if you are hearing His voice call to you, don't put it off with "one day" thinking. Act today! Move toward Him, and He will move toward you.





Children's Ministry

A Christmas in October

All 1st-6th grade are invited to a FREE event at Country Faith Church on Tuesday, October 10th from 5:00pm-7:30pm. Come join us for some early Christmas JOY as we prepare our hearts to focus on giving to others. All kids will be able to “shop” for items to fill an Operation Christmas Child box, write a letter and seal the box with *prayer*! We'll have some music, a pizza party, complete a craft and most importantly pack those boxes! More detailed information including sign-ups and suggested donations will be available soon. If you have any questions or are curious how you can help please talk with Nicky Ubert or Sue Hoiland.



Coming soon- Our next Family Fun Night!!

We are excited for our next family fun night to be held tentatively Thursday, November 30th from 6:30pm -8:30pm at Country Faith Church. ***This next event will be a Christmas Story Create & Take!*** The family fun night events are for children ages 2 through 2nd grade and their parents, grandparents, guardians or someone special. We also encourage you to spread the word and invite family, friends, or coworkers with children that fall in this age group. If you have not had a chance to join us, we hope you can at the next upcoming ***Christmas Story Create & Take Fun Night***; it is a great opportunity to spend some fun quality time with your little one(s). All of our family fun night events have a variety of Christian themed crafts, learning activities, music & movement, sensory play, story time, and a fun snack.

If you have any questions or want to know how you can help please feel free to check with me!

Blessings,
Nicky Ubert
Children's Ministry

Kids' Worship Schedule

Please take note and mark your calendars for the following Kid's Worship dates.

September 3rd Kid's Worship at 10:00am (in classroom 4)

September 10th Kid's Worship at 10:00am (in classroom 4)

September 17th NO Kid's Worship, please remain together as a family for Communion Sunday.

- Kids will be dismissed AFTER Communion for their regular Jr Church classes.

September 24th Kid's Worship at 10:00am (in classroom 4)

October 1st Kid's Worship at 10:00am (in classroom 4)

October 8th Kid's Worship at 10:00am (in classroom 4)

October 15th NO Kid's Worship, please remain together as a family for Communion Sunday.

- Kids will be dismissed AFTER Communion for their regular Jr Church classes.

October 22nd Kid's Worship at 10:00am (in classroom 4)

October 29th Kid's Worship at 10:00am (in classroom 4) ** *Start of Christmas Program practice.*

What Does A Sunday Morning Look Like???

- **9:00am-9:45am:** Sunday school for all Ages, including Nursery
 - ♦ *Nursery & Pre-K/K are picked up and go to the sanctuary w/ parents after.*
- **10:00am- 10:40am:** announcements, Kid's Worship (for 1st-6th Grade, room 4)
- **10:40am-11:15am:** Jr Church classes for Pre-K - 4th grade, 5th & 6th on Second Sunday only. *Nursery available as well.*

** Please note that we take the 3rd Sunday of the month off of Kid's Worship so that families can be together for communion and those that regularly help in Kid's Worship are also able to be a part of communion service.

The end of October we begin practice for the Christmas program, in place of Kid's Worship, and will resume Kid's Worship again in January; more information will be shared closer to program practice.

It is exciting to see what God is doing with the kid's as they are beginning to "lead" Kid's Worship themselves; please feel free to join us on a Sunday morning.

If you are a youth or adult interested in being a part of Kid's Worship please talk with either Cindy Wishard or Nicky Ubert. We are currently building teams of kids and youth to help lead live worship for the 1-6 graders- *are you interested talk to us!* We love to have adults available to help minister and encourage the kids in their gifting's.

God is with us,

Nicky Ubert

CFC Children's Ministry



Children's Ministry Christmas Program 2017

Fall is quickly approaching and with it Christmas program practice will get underway. I wanted to put out a couple dates to keep in mind and for planning purpose. The Christmas Program will be held Sunday, December 10th at 4:30pm and we will likely have the main stage practice again the day before, Saturday, December 9th in the morning. Specific information regarding exact time of the Saturday practice will be coming out end of October. We work to coordinate that stage practice as best we can with elementary basketball practices and other events taking place at that time. However, the stage practice will likely be held earlier in the morning on that Saturday, December 9th.

- **Practice leading up to the program will take place during Kid's Worship time for all 1st-6th starting October 29th! Plan to have your child come back and join us to be part of practice.**
- **Practice for the Pre-K & K groups will take place in their Jr Church classes starting the end of November.** The program for the Pre-K/K group will take place Sunday, December 10th near the start of our morning church service (plan to come to Sunday school at 9:00am on the 10th; we will get the kids dressed in their Sunday school classrooms and practice one more time before the program)

Look for specific information regarding the program and practice coming out towards mid-October. **If you have any questions or would like to be involved in helping with the Christmas program this year please get in touch with me.**

We ask for prayer for the Christmas program, the volunteers, and the kids! We appreciate so much the volunteers that help and know it is a commitment. We are always amazed and blessed at how God moves through the kids in the program.

Blessings, Nicky Ubert



Kids' Camp 2018 - Mark Your Calendars NOW!

A quick note about Kid's Camp 2018! Our dates for Kids Camp 2018 have been set and will be held July 12th-14th. **So mark your calendars early and we hope to see you there next year July 12th-14th of 2018!**

Any questions please get in touch with Nicky Ubert!



2017 CM Services Available

"We are blessed at Country Faith to serve many families with young children and occasionally it is helpful to provide a "refresher" of Sunday morning services available within Children's Ministry at Country Faith Church.

Nursery is provided for babies through the age of three and it is available during Sunday school at 9:00am from September through May and also every Sunday during the service after Worship. The nursery is split into 2 areas: birth - 18 months on one side and 18 months - 3 years of age on the other. We have a rotation of volunteers who commit to serving once a month, on the same Sunday each month, so your little one's can become familiar with the volunteer staff.

For those who may not know, there is a **Nursing Mom's Room** provided near the Sanctuary for your comfort! We provide video / audio access to Worship and the Service from within the Nursing Mom's room so you can still feel a part of the service. The room is equipped with comfortable seating, diaper changing capabilities, and extra accessories for babies comfort. Our desire is that the room be a blessing to you and your little one. If at any time, there is a need please let me know.

Sunday School classes are offered for all ages beginning at 9:00 am from September through May. Curriculums follow an age appropriate scope and each classroom is "staffed" with a committed Teacher(s) that will be with your child during the duration of the Sunday school season.

- 3's-4's & 5K are combined in room #2
- 1-2 grade in room #3
- 3-4 grade in room #4
- 5-6 grade in the basement classroom

Kid's Worship is available for all 1st-6th grade beginning at 10:00 am every Sunday except the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please see the upcoming detailed Kid's Worship schedule in the newsletter. Kid's Worship provides an opportunity for kids to worship with their peers, and use their talents/gifts to actively participate. Worship is designed with the intention to encourage the development of each child's individual spiritual foundation. We welcome our Youth to participate in helping facilitate Kid's Worship through running sound, projector, leading prayer ministry, or assisting with worship. If you are interested in learning more please talk with Cindy Wishard, Andy Ubert, or Nicky Ubert.

Jr Church is provided following Worship for all 3 year olds through 4th grade each Sunday. The 5th & 6th Grade children will have Jr Church once a month, currently on the second Sunday of the month. The curriculum varies based on age and specific needs of the classroom, but tend to also follow a defined scope. We make use of a variety of curriculum styles to meet varying learning styles and needs of the children-- *"Research shows that people remember most of what they do but only a fraction of what they hear- which means that kids learn best by doing"*. Each classroom is "staffed" with (4) Teachers each serving on a separate Sunday (1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th Sunday) but consistently the same Sunday each month so your child becomes familiar with their rotation of teachers.

- 3's & 4's in Room #1
- 5K in Room #2

2017 CM Services Available (cont)

- 1-2 grade in room #3
- 3-4 grade in room #4
- 5-6 grade in basement classroom

If you have questions, comments, or would like to know more about Children's Ministry; please feel free to talk with me at any time! Also, if you are interested in finding out how you might like to serve in CM please get in touch with me.

Nicky Ubert

CFC Children's Minister

PARENT TIP:

You can access all take home parent pages sorted by grade and curriculum for all of our Sunday school and Jr Church classrooms using the link below. Sunday mornings can get busy and it is easy to overlook handing these out in the classrooms OR our kiddo's forget to hand them to their parents. We hope this little piece will help you stay connected at home with what our children are studying in their classrooms. If at any time you have questions or difficulty accessing the folder please contact us at church.

Link: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B6lo0NAchtrETE9JQ0IzQ2QtQ2c>

Operation Christmas Child

Good News! Great Joy!

Operation Christmas Child is a way for hurting children all around the world to experience the joy of Christmas, the love of the Savior, and hope of the gospel through a shoebox gift!



Zhenya grew up in an orphanage. Once a month the children were taken to a public bathhouse where 30 children shared ONE bar of soap. At age 12, Operation Christmas Child came to his orphanage with shoebox gifts. He was especially excited to discover a bar of soap included in his box!! His very own soap! Such a simple gift meant so much! What an easy gift for us to give!! Zhenya also heard for the first time how much God loved him!!! Now that is something to really get excited about!!!

You can bless a child like Zhenya with gifts such as soap, school supplies and a fun toy. More information and boxes for you to fill will soon be available. We will also have filled boxes for you to sponsor. Last year we packed and sent 400 boxes from Country Faith. Our boxes were sent to the African countries of Madagascar, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia. Four hundred Children were blessed and loved!!

If you have questions or would like to help in any way contact Sue Hoiland at 694-6537

Backpack & School Supply Outreach

I want to say thank you for all the volunteers, support, and prayers for the Backpack & School Supply Outreach. It was a huge success we gave out around 165 back packs filled with school supplies and after running out of backpacks, we gave out school supplies to 4 others!

I am so thankful to be part of a church that is able to give back to the community and bless them in a practical way. It is pretty amazing to talk with people in the community and hear the shock when they're told they are able to have these supplies for their kids with no questions asked.

After entering in all the information from the registration sheets, a majority of our backpacks were given to Jr/Sr high students and a huge majority came from the Bagley area. We also have around 10 people that mentioned they were not a part of a church and would like a call from a pastor.

This night could not have gone as smoothly without each of every one of you & your prayers. Thank you so much for helping spread Jesus' love to those in need!

Haiti Fundraiser Meal @ The Way Festival

This year, Dacia Olson & the missions team will be doing a fundraiser meal from 4:00-6:30pm at The Way Festival. They plan to have all the proceeds go towards, "They Deserve Better" a ministry in Haiti. Here's a little bit about that ministry:

They deserve better ministry does a Let's Go to School Program. It supports kids to go to school for a year, which includes: uniforms, shoes and books. They help to send kids to school whose parents cannot afford it.

The ministry also does VBS, brings food and supplies to an orphanage, elderly home and a remote village.

The heart behind "They Deserve Better Ministry" shows in all they do. They strive to help people in need whenever they can and continue to make Haiti great again



**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER
9TH**

THE WAY FESTIVAL

John 14:6

**Country
Faith Church
Grounds**

1:00PM- 9:30PM

**Find Full Event Details on
FB at The Way Festival or
www.countryfaith.org**

**Community
Fellowship**

**Music by
Bring Me
David**

Meal

INFLATABLES

**Prayer
Tent**

CONCESSIONS

**Octa-Pit/Outdoor
games**

**Out Door
Movie**

Upcoming Youth Events

Youth Parents Informational Meeting

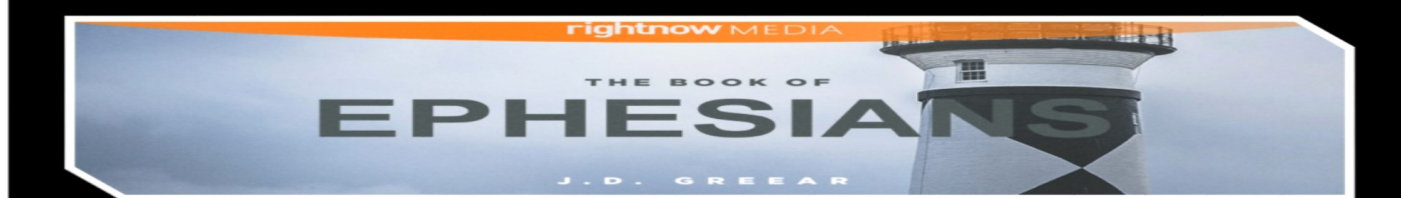
Sunday, September 17th at 7:00pm

All parents of Elevate Youth are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting in the Upper Room. We will be discussing some expectations for worship, drama, and baking. Pastor Brad will also be covering some other things that he would appreciate your input on. There will also be a time for Q&A. Help us spread the word.



Weekly from 9-9:45am

**9 Sessions starting
Sunday, Sept 10th**



Youth Nights Schedule

For 7th - 12th Grade Youth on MOST Sundays from 7:00-9:00pm here at the church.

Please join the Elevate Youth Group on Facebook or check out the website with the most current information on upcoming Youth events.

Sunday, Sept 3rd - No Youth Night

Sunday, Sept 10th - 7:00pm Youth Night

Sunday, Sept 17th - 7:00pm Youth Night

Sunday, Sept 24th - 7:00pm Youth Night

Sunday, Oct 1st - Mystery Fun Night

Sunday, Oct 8th - 7:00pm Youth Night

Sunday, Oct 15th - 7:00pm Youth Night

Sunday, Oct 22nd - No Youth Night

Sunday, Oct 29th - Hay Ride Fun Night

Sunday, Nov 5th - 7:00pm Youth Night

Sunday, Nov 12th - 7:00pm Youth Night

Sunday, Nov 19th - No Youth Night

(Thanksgiving Service at CFC)

Sunday, Nov 26th - No Youth Night

(Thanksgiving Weekend)

As always, please invite your friends.

