

JULY 2019

the MESSENGER



COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Dr. Deron Boyer

*"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."
1 Cor. 15:58*

From the Pastor's Desk...

"In the early days of your acquaintance with the Gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need...I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant, offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God."

Philippians 4:15-18

Dear Church Family,

In about 10 days, Paige and I will be embarking on yet another "Great Adventure" with the youth and young adults of our church community. For the 12 of us going, this year's trip to Denver will certainly prove to be a challenge in both heart and spirit. Naturally, we solicit your ongoing prayers and encouragement. Working with the homeless in any major city is a heavy task, but one which we believe God has called us to and will certainly equip us for.

Over the last 3 years, our church family has been extremely loving, supportive, and encouraging to our group of young missionaries. We have been greatly humbled by both your attendance and your donations at our fund raisers. We have been greatly blessed by your daily notes of encouragement and sugar-coated treats! And, we have been deeply touched by your love and support. For all that you have done, thank you!

Once again, we would like to invite you to further your support and generosity by helping us with a couple of needs. You may remember that each year we offer a program called "Adopt a Missionary." Our invitation is that each of you prayerfully consider which member of our mission team that you would like to adopt/support. We ask that for each day of our trip (6 days total), that you write a brief letter or note of prayerful encouragement, coupled with a small treat or item of encouragement (candy, pictures, jokes, etc.). We ask that you place each days note/gift in a Ziploc bag so that they are easy to keep separate and label them with the missionary's name. I will tell you from experience that our kids have always been deeply blessed by your words, your prayers, and your thoughtfulness. Thank you!

We would also like to invite you to share in our trip by making a small food donation to assist our travels. There will be a list of needed items printed in this Sunday's bulletin (June 30th). I know that we are in need of chips, bread, sliced cheese, ketchup, mustard, and Gatorade, just to name a few items. If you would like to help us in this capacity, we will need all donated items to be brought to the church by Friday, July 5th.

In the Scripture reference for today, Paul was commending one of his church families for their ongoing support and generosity. Please know that we appreciate all of you. But also know that God deeply appreciates all that you do for us too. I love what Paul wrote, "[your gifts] are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice. Folks, thank you for loving on our team of missionaries. It means more than you will ever know. Thank you for your prayers. And, thank you for your blessings. May God bless you abundantly!

Graciously,
Dr. D

YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO DENVER

On July 6, 2019, twelve individuals will be traveling to Denver, Colorado for a week to work with Open Door Ministries in their many programs to homeless and low income families. Please pray for these kids and adults as they prepare to go and while they are there. They are: **Andrew Boyer, Noah Christensen, Hannah Herrman, Abigail Boyer, Jordan Boyer, Nathan Johnson, Jacob Johnson, Christopher Gillman, Gavin Bussert, Deron Boyer, Paige Boyer, and Jan Rathburn.**



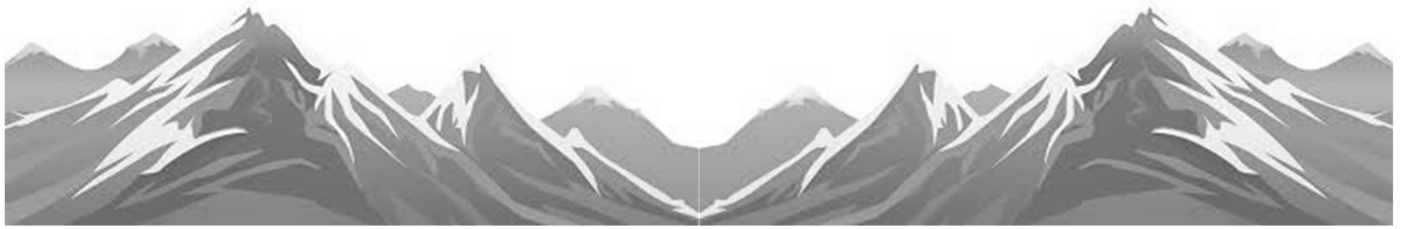
Open Door ministries was started in 1997 as an extension of Open Door Fellowship Church to minister to the homeless and low income families in the Denver area. It has grown to include 18 different programs to provide food, shelter, access to education and employment training, friendship, hope, and Christian guidance. These programs are:

- Open Door to Success – employment training program
- Street2Life Print Shop – business offering transitional employment to people on the street
- Three homes for single women suffering from homelessness, addictions and abuse:
 - Chayah House, Esther House, Treasure House
- Cornerstone Home – home for disabled men
- Te Veo House – short term housing for women in crisis
- Lighthouse – home for single men dealing with addictions and homelessness
- Sanctuary Housing – short term housing for those in hardship or homeless
- Nehemiah Leadership Hall – housing and training for emerging urban leaders
- The Table – meal served Saturdays and Sundays
- TRYAD – Reaches disabled individuals/evangelism
- Urban Immersion – organizes short term trips
- The Family Room – provides hospitable place to rest
- Ezra – outreach/mentoring ministry to homeless
- The Learning Center – education for kids 3yrs – 12yrs
- Downtown Youth Center – Bible studies/activities for urban youth
- Westside Youth Center – Discipleship/tutoring for youth

Please pray for these individuals as they minister in Denver, CO



“He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” Luke 10:2



DENVER 2019 MISSION

Adopt-A-Missionary

These twelve individuals will be traveling to Denver on Saturday, July 6th for one week to minister to the homeless. Please consider sponsoring one of these for the week by praying and providing a daily encouragement and small gift/letter. The sign-up sheet is in the church foyer. Items need to be brought to the church by Friday, July 5th.

1. Abigail Boyer
2. Andrew Boyer
3. Deron Boyer
4. Jordan Boyer
5. Paige Boyer
6. Gavin Bussert
7. Noah Christensen
8. Chris Gillman
9. Hannah Herrman
10. Jacob Johnson
11. Nathan Johnson
12. Jan Rathburn

- Obtain (6) Ziploc bags and label them for each day of the week (Sunday - Friday)
- Write (6) brief letters for your missionary, also labeled for each day of the week for the purpose of encouragement and support. Place the letter into the appropriate Ziploc bag.
- Feel free to stuff the bags with small tokens of appreciation such as candy, tracts, pictures, or jokes, etc. (use your imagination on this!)
- Pray for your missionary every day...several times per day if you feel so moved!

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR LIST OF NEEDED FOOD ITEMS FOR THE TRIP IN THE CHURCH FOYER OR IN THIS SUNDAY'S BULLETIN (June 30th) Things such as chips, bread, sliced cheese, ketchup, mustard, and Gatorade are on the list. just to name a few items. If you would like to help us in this capacity, we will need all donated items to be brought to the church by **Friday, July 5th**. Thank you!!!

THE POWER OF A SEED

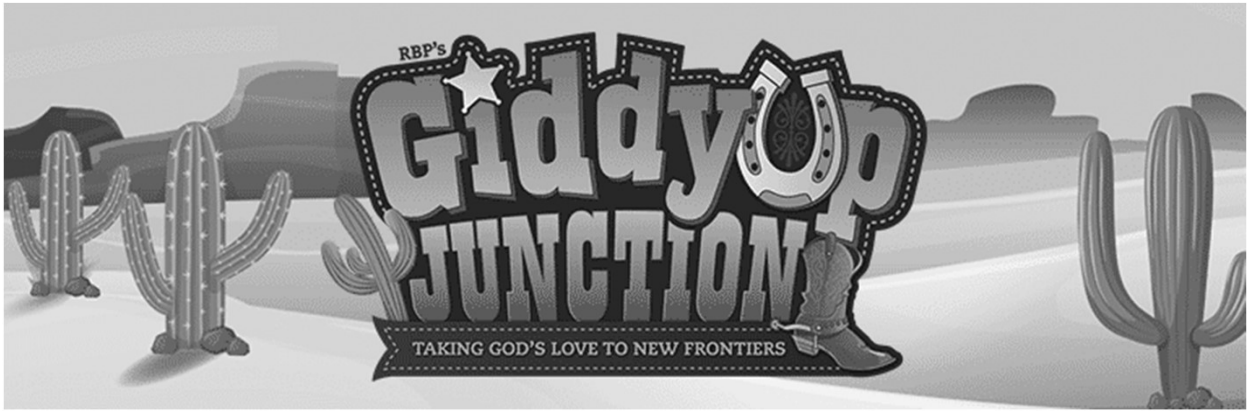
Want to see a miracle? Plant a word of love heart-deep in a person's life. Nurture it with a smile and a prayer, and watch what happens. An employee gets a compliment. A wife receives a bouquet of flowers. A cake is baked and carried next door. A widow is hugged. A gas-station attendant is honored. A preacher is praised. Sowing seeds of peace is like sowing beans. You don't know why it works; you just know it does. Seeds are planted, and top-soils of hurt are shoved away. Don't forget the principle. Never underestimate the power of a seed.



~ Max Lucado, from *The Applause of Heaven*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JUNE 24 - 28

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT



Thank you Sarah for leading VBS this year!

We averaged about 20 kids for VBS this past week. Check out the video on Youtube or on our Church Facebook page for lots more pictures! Thanks to all of the adults who helped with crafts, snacks, Bible stories, skits, decorating, and more. A big thanks to Sarah Denekas who was our VBS director this year!

Youtube:

<https://youtu.be/dK9nKC6kzx4>

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/countrysidecc.org



"Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

NEW MISSION: Chinese to Christ Ministries (C2C)

Last September, the Mission department decided to add, Chinese to Christ Ministries (C2C) to the missions supported by Countryside Church. In April, Wing Wong came to the Faith Promise rally and presented his mission work in New Hampshire and also in China. Wing Wong has worked for many years in China presenting the message of Christ and also to the Chinese in New Hampshire. The work in New Hampshire is under the partnership of Restoration House Ministries.

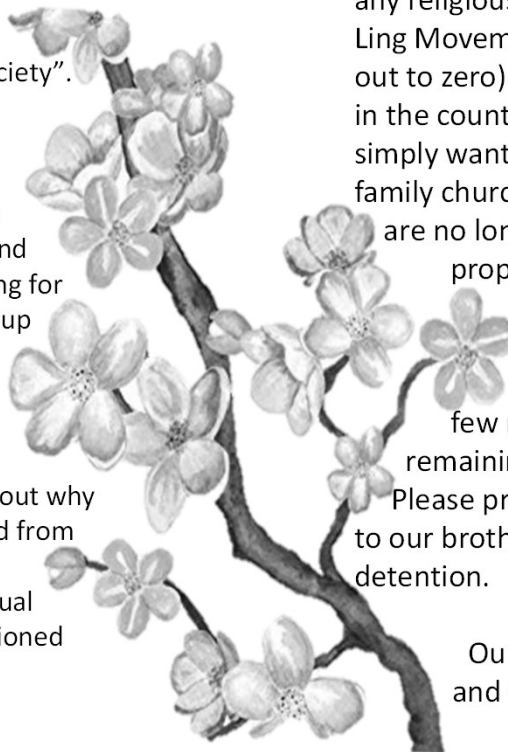
We Pray:

Pray for Wing Wong as he brings the message of Jesus Christ to the Chinese people in New Hampshire and in China.

DID YOU KNOW?

2018 was the start of a 5 year government plan in China to sinicize Christianity. The government's ultimate objective for this plan is to sanitize Christianity in order to better reflect Chinese socialist views and culture. Religions can operate only if they are "Chinese in orientation" and Beijing "must provide active guidance to religions so that they can adapt themselves to socialist society".

Bible have started disappearing from online stores including Taobao and Jingdong. Where, searching for key words for Bible came up with "no results", or if it was found people could not add it into their carts. A major speculation from the online community about why Bibles have been removed from the stores was that it is in preparation for the eventual release of the state-sanctioned version of the Bible.
(C2C Ministries Blog)



"I want to take the time to sincerely thank you for your prayers and financial support to C2C. May the Lord continue to bless you as well as our brothers and sisters in China.

China's crackdown on Christians and their churches is intensifying. The new restrictions on internet, social media and religion are all seriously limiting freedom. Christian persecution happens countryside in both state-approved and non-registered churches. Before, churches were perceived as a threat if they became too large or too political. Today even small family churches are at risk. The youth are increasingly being removed from church life, worship is monitored via CCTV and spies, civil servants are told not to have any religious affiliation. The so called 'Qing Ling Movement' (literally it means empty out to zero) is aiming to reset Christianity in the country. The Chinese government simply wants to completely destroy all family churches. Our brothers and sisters are no longer allowed to rent any property for religious activities. Under all of these new regulations, many Christians were arrested in the past few months. They will be remaining in jail until their court day. Please pray that God will give strength to our brothers and sisters who are in detention.

Our Heavenly Father is our shield and will be with us in the valley and on the mountaintops."

(Newsletter, May 2019)

"What will the next generation of Christians in China be like if we sit back and take the easy road? Will God be pleased?"

For children who come from families struggling with extreme poverty, receiving new school supplies can make all the difference in the world to their future success. Grades, classroom behavior, and engagement improve. Self-esteem increases. Attitudes toward school and learning strengthen.

The Mission's department is asking for your help in providing school supplies for students in the Riverdale School district. Registration is early August and supplies will be distributed at that time.

Donate School Supplies

Items In Need:

- Book bags
- Glue sticks
- Wide lined notebooks
- Narrow lined notebooks
- Wide lined loose-leaf paper
- Narrow lined loose-leaf paper
- Index cards
- Folders
- Kleenex
- Paper towels
- Highlighters
- Dry erase markers
- Crayola colored pencils
- Crayola crayons
- Water paints
- Fiskar scissors
- No. 2 pencils
- Erasers



RIVERDALE SCHOOL

9624 256TH St., N
Port Byron, IL

Thank You!

Thank you so much
For the school supplies.



Donation Drop Off

**Please drop donations
in the box in the foyer
for the school
supplies. Thank you
for your support!**



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

*Worship is a **choice**. We worship in our prayers, in our singing, in our giving, and in our active listening of the Word. We are commanded to worship, whether our feelings coincide or not, over and over in Psalms. Why? Because God knows WE need it. It changes our hearts and our minds as we reflect on the majesty of God. Come Holy Spirit, fill us more today and make us a people overflowing with joy because WE KNOW who You are! "We also rejoice...because we know..." (Romans 5:3 CSB)*

WE NEED YOUR HELP

There are several areas you can get involved to help this month in Worship:

- Scripture Readers
- Greeters
- Communion Preparers
- Communion Mediation/Prayer
- Offering Prayer
- Donut Dandies

Please contact the church office if you can help in any of these areas. Thanks for your willingness!



Do you desire to be part of the Praise Team? More than musical ability, God wants a heart who longs to praise Him in SPIRIT and in TRUTH. Contact Laura Schmidt if you would like to use your musical gifts in this way.

We Pray:

Pray for God to be at work in the hearts of our leaders and especially as we begin the search for a new pastor.

DID YOU KNOW?

It's God's will that we become true worshipers. And when something is God's will, he will move heaven and earth to help us do that thing. He wants us as close to him as we can possibly be. He longs to open the windows of heaven and pour out more and more of his love on us. Our only job is to surrender to him on a daily basis so that he can daily give us more of himself. But the Lord is such a gentleman, he will never force us to do anything. He leaves the act of surrendering up to us. And that's where it has to start. – CeCe Winans

GROWING DEEPER IN FAITH

We invite you to join us in digging deeper into the Word. Discipleship is very important at Countryside. Discipleship literally means "to become a learner". 1 Peter 3:15 says "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." We are excited to have you study God's word together with us!

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:2)



Men's Bible Study. Meets Tuesday mornings at the church at 9:00am. Studying the book of Jeremiah.

Small Group in Port Byron.

Meets 6:00pm on Wednesday nights at Roger and Connie Curry's house. Studying the Apostles. Bible study is followed by prayer time and light refreshments.

Small Group at Church. (Will resume September 4th). Meets at 6:30pm on Wednesday nights with Pastor Deron.

Small Group in Geneseo. (Will resume September 4th). Meets Wednesday nights at 7:00pm at Wayne & Cathy Lotz' house. Studying the book of Acts. Bible study is followed by prayer time and light refreshments.

Women's Bible Study. Meets once a month (third Sunday of each month) at 8am at the church. Next meeting is July 21st.

Sunday School

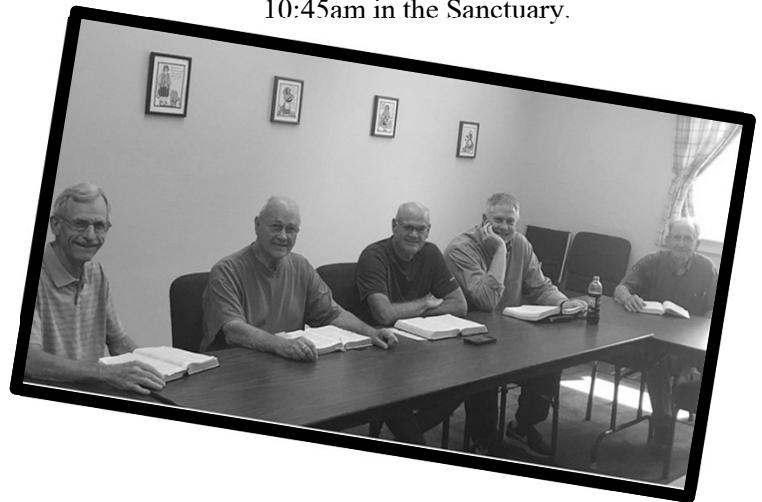
Meets every Sunday at 9:30am. There are two adult classes, Jr. High/Sr. High class, and Preschool and Elementary classes.

Breakfast/Fellowship

Enjoy our fellowship time in the gym between Sunday School and Worship Service and refreshments.

Worship Service

Sunday Worship Service starts at 10:45am in the Sanctuary.



"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him." James 1:5

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

It may surprise you to learn that Jesus taught more about money and possessions than He did about heaven or hell. The word "give" is used more than 1,500 times in the Bible, more than the words faith, hope, love or pray. Why? Obviously, God doesn't need our money. He's not poor. But God does want us to become like Him and that will only happen if we learn to be generous. God is a giver -- the most generous giver in the universe. Everything you have is a gift from God! (Rick Warren)



YTD Offering Income

Budget: \$98,077

Actual: \$99,122

YTD Faith Promises

\$3021.39

MY FAITH PROMISE TO WORLD MISSIONS

After a period of much prayer and discernment, I/WE promise to support the worldwide missionary program of the Countryside Christian Church over the next year. In total dependence upon God for HIS provision, it is our promise that "As God Gives, So Shall We Give." By faith, I/We promise the following amount of money:

\$ _____ **Annual Total**

Note: This is a faith promise, a covenant between myself and God. It is my voluntary offering for the evangelization of the world.

DID YOU KNOW?

Raising generous children is challenging in our society that so often screams "me first!" Do your children see you give? Do you have conversations with them about *why* we give back to God? Children mimic what they **see** and not only what they **hear**. God invites us to test Him in this "and see if He will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing there will not be room to store it." (*Malachi 3:10*)



"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Upcoming Events

7/1

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

Evangelism/Missions (6:30pm)
All Department Heads (7pm)



7/3

HAPPY JOE'S FUNDRAISER

Come and support our Youth Group's Summer Mission Trip to Denver, CO (July 2019). Thanks to the generous support of Happy Joe's Pizza in Le Claire, IA, we are excited to invite our friends and family to join us for a time of amazing pizza and ice cream!



7/6-
7/13

YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO DENVER, COLORADO

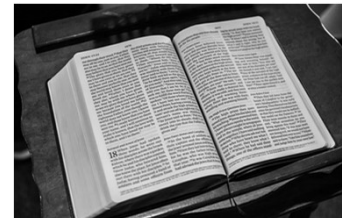
Pray for our youth as they minister with Open Door Ministries in Denver July 6- 13th.



7/21

ELDER/DEACON AND LADIES STUDY

Monthly Bible Study at the church at 8am



7/28

FAMILY SUNDAY/POTLUCK FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Immediately following the Service



9/28

ANNUAL CRUISE-IN

Our annual Cruise-In is coming up on September 28! We are looking forward to the car show, car auction, food, and games. Mark your calendar!



"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

JULY BIRTHDAYS



- 4 – Camden Collis
- 4 – Brooke Heydeman
- 6 – Ruthie Coverdill
- 7 – Georgia Cullison
- 13 – Kayli Neer
- 15 – Connie Curry
- 17 – Harry Kohrt
- 21 – Kellan Schmidt
- 23 – Luke Mitton
- 27 – Joyce Reiling
- 28 – Evan Thoene (Vickroy)

Children's Church:

- 7th – Connie Curry & Holly Trout
- 14th – Cathy Lotz & Kathy Kohrt
- 21st – Connie Curry & Sarah Denekas

Building Cleaners

- Kathy Kohrt & Lisa Jones
- Jerry & Nancy Dufur
- Mike & Becki Winger

★
Communion Prep –
Scripture Reader –
Greeter –
Donut Dandy -

Can you help??

Sign-Up Sheet in the
Church Foyer



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 16 – Cathy & Wayne Lotz

Sunday School Nursery Workers:

- 7th – Cathy Lotz
- 14th – Jane Noyd
- 21st – Gail Horst
- 28th – Kathy Kohrt

Worship Nursery Workers:

- 7th – Noah Christensen
- 14th – Nancy Dufur
- 21st – Cathy Lotz
- 28th – Mary Green



Worship Servers:

July 7th

- Wayne Lotz (Meditation)
- Galvin Garcia (Communion Prayer)
- Roger Curry (Offering Prayer)

July 14th

- Roger Curry (Meditation)
- Doug Hoffman (Communion Prayer)
- Teresa Garcia (Offering Prayer)

July 21st

- Don Vickroy (Meditation)
- Teresa Garcia (Communion Prayer)
- Wayne Lotz (Offering Prayer)

July 28th

- Doug Hoffman (Meditation)
- Don Vickroy (Communion Prayer)
- Galvin Garcia (Offering Prayer)

KIDS CORNER



As President Lincoln said: "In regard to this Great book, I have but to say, it is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Savior gave to the world was communicated through this book. But for it we could not know right from wrong. All things most desirable for man's welfare, here and hereafter, are to be found portrayed in it."

JUST FOR KIDS



"IN DEPENDENCE" DAY!

Always live "in dependence" on God.

Directions: Use the vowel code to complete Psalm 16:8, NIV.

A=		E=		I=		O=		U=	
----	--	----	--	----	--	----	--	----	--

k _ _ p my _ y _ s
 I w _ y s _ n th _ L _ RD.
 W _ th h _ m _ t my
 r _ ght h _ nd,
 w _ ll n _ t b _ sh _ k _ n.
 Ps _ lm 16:8, N _ V

PATRIOTIC PINWHEEL

Create this colorful July 4th craft.

What you need:

- Decorated card stock square (5" x 5")
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- 2 one-inch circles of card stock
- Glue
- Pipe cleaner (3 inches)
- Drinking straw



What you do:

1. Fold the square corner to corner to form an X. Unfold.
2. To make spokes, cut the four creases until an inch from the center.
3. Punch a hole in the middle of the square, near the tips of each spoke, and in the middle of each circle.
4. Fold each spoke toward the center, lining up the holes. Glue in place.
5. Wrap one end of the pipe cleaner around the top of the straw. Thread a circle, the pinwheel, and the remaining circle onto the pipe cleaner.
6. Roll the pipe cleaner end into a ball. Then spin!

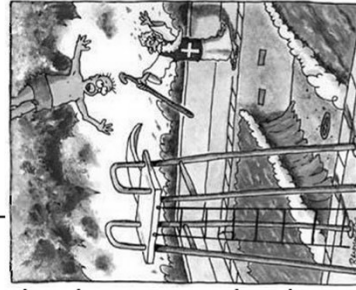
Answer: I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Psalm 16:8, NIV

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." John 8:36

2019

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	01	02	03	04	05	06
	Evangelism/Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm	Men's Study 9am	Small Group Studies			Mission Trip Departure
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
		Men's Study 9am	Small Group Studies	Praise Team Practice @7:30pm		Mission Trip Returns
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Men's Study 9am	Small Group Studies	Cruise-In Mtg 6:30pm Praise Team Practice @7:30pm		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Elder/Deacon & Ladies Study 8am		Men's Study 9am	Small Group Studies	Praise Team Practice @7:30pm		
28	29	30	31	01	02	
Family Sunday - Potluck Lunch Food Pantry Collection		Men's Study 9am	Small Group Studies			
04	05	Notes:				



Moses' first and last day as a lifeguard.