

the MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER 2019

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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*"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 Church Office...



Labors of love

Thomas Merton, an American monk, writer and social activist, said, "It is in the ordinary duties and labors of life that the Christian can and should develop his spiritual union with God." As the United States observes Labor Day, may we find meaning not simply in marking summer's end but in celebrating the ways nearly all "duties and labors of life" can empower ministry and faith.

Whether as a dentist, parent, artist, teacher, mechanic, gardener, city councilor, farmer, day laborer, attorney or anything else, a Christian can begin each workday or shift by praying for opportunities to serve whoever they'll encounter. We also can pray for and seek ways to grow in "spiritual union with God": cultivating spiritual fruits; actively loving God and neighbor; seeing Jesus in the vulnerable; practicing humility, gratitude and praise.

In Labor Day, may we find inspiration to make all our labors loving and faithful!



Tom Ewald (former Professor at Lincoln Christian University), Paul Boatman (Chaplain at Safe Haven Hospice and a former Dean at Lincoln Christian University), and Tracy Thomas (Partnership Development Representative at Lincoln Christian University) will be filling our pulpit in our interim while we search for a new minister. Thank you to these three men of God. We are privileged to sit under your teaching each week and thankful for your willingness to help us during this time. Please be in prayer for these men and also for our search committee as we prayerfully work through resumes to find the right man for our church.

8TH ANNUAL CRUISE-IN

Our annual Cruise-In is fast approaching!! Check the sign-up sheets and see where you can help and invite your friends! Thank you to everyone for all their hours of work and effort making this a success each year!

FREE*
NO ENTRY FEE

**CHARITY CRUISE-IN
TO BENEFIT**

Free Food*
(Walking Tacos
& Nachos)

International Disaster Emergency Service

Kid Games!

8th Annual Cruise-In

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3817 - 230th Street N.

Port Byron, IL

SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.



Dash Plaque to first 50 cars!

Shine 'em up and Show them off!

WEBER AUTO GROUP IS DONATING A VEHICLE!

A LIVE AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 1:00 P.M.

100% OF PROCEEDS WILL GO TO

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER EMERGENCY SERVICE!

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT THE LIVE AUCTION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE: countrysidecc.org

Music provided by DJ Slick Willy



*Prizes will be awarded to the
Oldest Vehicle and Oldest Participant*



***Donations Accepted For
International Disaster Emergency Service**

***100% of Proceeds go to
International Disaster Emergency Service***

**Bring the kids! The Hillsdale Fire
Department will be there with one of
their fire trucks. Fire hats and coloring
books for all the kids!**



**For information contact
the church at 309-523-2384
countrysidecc.org**

"We praise you, God, we praise you, for your Name is near; people tell of your wonderful deeds."

Psalm 75:1

EVANGELISM HIGHLIGHT

VOLUNTEER NEEDED



Fall Festival

and

INDOOR TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 27TH 3:00-6:00PM

We are in need of a volunteer to head up our annual Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat. We will hold it inside the church with games for kids and parents, prizes, and free food. There are lots of notes from previous years and materials at the church to help you and sign up sheets for extra help. Thanks in advance! Please contact Don Vickroy or the church office.



SEE YOU AT THE POLE 2019

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 7:00am

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT



Every year, around the globe, students meet at flagpoles to pray for their schools on the fourth Wednesday of September.

These two local schools will be participating:

Riverdale School District
Erie School District

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14



IDES stands for International Disaster Emergency Service. IDES exists to bring glory to God by meeting physical and spiritual needs in our hurting world until Jesus returns. For the past 46 years IDES has served as a channel through which Christian Churches/Churches of Christ and individual Christians could meet the physical and spiritual needs of suffering people throughout the world. The vision statement: “IDES vision is to lead the independent Christian Churches/Churches of Christ in responding to disasters and emergencies in the United States and throughout the world by mobilizing financial and physical resources to and through their missionaries and congregations for the purpose of benevolent evangelism.”

IDES has been the one source our churches and missionaries consistently turn to for help. In 2018, IDES celebrated 45 years of meeting physical and spiritual needs of suffering people throughout the world in the name of Jesus Christ. They have distributed millions of dollars over the years to help with disaster relief, development projects, medical needs, evangelism and hunger. Among independent Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, the work of IDES is unique. “Many areas in eastern Africa are experiencing a drought emergency. Malnutrition and disease are on the rise. A friend of IDES was visiting a mission in Kenya where he was providing pastoral training and counseling to a group of pastors. “Cows were thin as a stick and were eating paper” he said. A few days into his visit, a truck arrived at the mission and food began to be unloaded from the back. When the mission started distributing the food to those in need, he found out it was from IDES. “Without this food that is provided each month, my family would not be alive today,” a lady from the community told him with tear in her eyes.” (newsletter May 17, 2019)

On Sept. 28 Countryside is having a charity cruise in at the church. The money raised through donations for food and a car auction will all be donated to IDES for their global work. You can sign up now to assist with the event and be part of this fund raiser for this mission and their work both here and abroad.

As you can see IDES is a very busy, global organization meeting a variety of physical and spiritual needs. For more information about their activities check the mission booklet on the mission table in the foyer.

Now, suppose a person has enough to live on and notices another believer in need. How can God's love be in that person if he doesn't bother to help the other believer? Dear children, we must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words.

1 John 3:17-18

COMMUNITY PRAISE CONCERT

Sunday, September 29, 2019

6:00pm

Bethel Baptist Church

27308-108th Ave N., Port Byron, IL 61275

“I need to worship because without it I lose a sense of wonder and gratitude and plod through life with blinders on.”

—John Ortberg

Bethel Baptist Church, Port Byron, IL is hosting a Community Praise Concert on September 29th

6:00pm

Everyone is invited.



Ann's Helping Hands

Ann McCarrell will be giving an update on the Helping Hands Building Fund. “Rhythm of the Spirit” from Messiah Lutheran Church will be leading us in praise and worship. An offering will be taken to help Helping Hands. Desserts will be served after the concert. Should be a great evening of praise and worship!



“But just as your body needs sleep, your soul needs time to rest in God. To learn more about Him. To talk to Him. To worship and praise Him. To fellowship with other brothers and sisters.”

—Craig Groeschel

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHT

GROWING DEEPER IN FAITH

We are ready to begin our Women's Bible Study! Thank you for the responses. We will be meeting on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm at the home of Dottie Seitz in Cordova. If you need directions, please see Dottie or call the church office. We will choose between these two studies at our first Bible Study.



WOMEN'S Bible Study

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT



It's Not Supposed to Be This Way

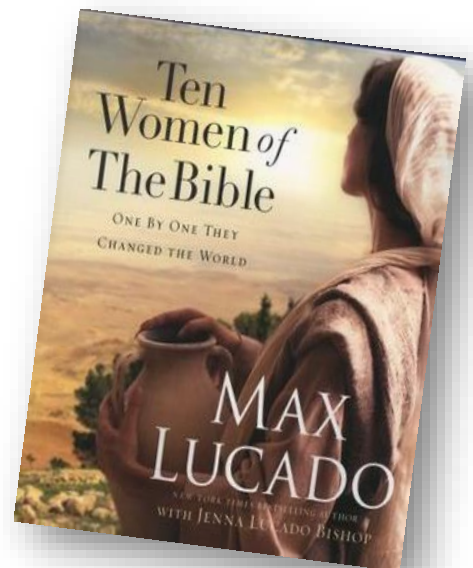
by Lysa Terkeurst

What happens when life looks very different from the reality we long for? This book offers a Biblical perspective and hard-won advice to encourage readers facing their own challenges. Find unexpected strength while wrestling between faith and feelings and learn how to stand through uncertainty and trust in God's goodness. \$13 each

Ten Women of the Bible

by Max Lucado

Their actions stood out to the writers of Scripture, even though society overlooked their contributions. In Ten Women of the Bible, a 10-session workbook, Lucado tells the stories of 10 pivotal biblical women, including Sarah, Rahab, Abigail, Esther, Sapphira, Mary Magdalene, and others. Each session features insights and study questions that explore their lives - and help you apply the lessons to yours. \$12 each



"That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Colossians 2:2-3

SMALL GROUPS BEGINNING

It's fall and some of the small groups that took a break over the summer are gearing up to begin again. Check out the different groups below and plug in where you can!

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.



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 11th). Meets at 6:30pm on Wednesday nights with Doug Hoffman leading.

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 week on Thursday nights at the home of Dottie Seitz in Cordova at 6:30pm.

Adult Sunday School Classes: One class studies a book or series while the other is working through a book of the Bible (currently 1 Corinthians). See times above.

Children's Sunday School: Classes are available for all ages (4 years – Sr. High)

"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

"I place no value on anything I have or may possess, except in relation to the kingdom of God. If anything will advance the interests of the kingdom, it shall be given away or kept, only as by giving or keeping it I shall most promote the glory of Him to whom I owe all my hopes in time or eternity."
– David Livingstone



YTD Offering Income

Budget: \$135,577

Actual: \$124,035

YTD Faith Promises

\$11,510

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.

WE GIVE
BECAUSE
HE *first*
GAVE
TO
US.
John 3:16



"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

DISCIPLE DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS (DDS)

Once a quarter, our church offers DDS classes for those wanting to learn more about the church or wanting to grow deeper in their faith. Our next set of DDS classes will be held on Sunday, September 15th from 3-7:30pm. See what will be covered in each class and sign up in the church foyer for the next class in your sequence.



...the key to spiritual growth

WHAT WE WILL COVER

- Our Salvation
- Our Statement
- Our Strategy
- Our Structure
- How to Get a Grasp on your Bible
- The Habit of Daily Time with God
- The Habit of Prayer
- The Habit of Giving
- The Habit of Fellowship
- What Does the Bible Say about Ministry?
- The Process for Discovering MY Ministry
- What the Bible says about Spiritual Gifts
- Assessing my Abilities
- Becoming a Contagious Christian
- Being Yourself
- Building Relationships
- Handling Objections

DDS 101: Discovering Membership
DDS 201: Dedicated to Maturity
DDS 301: Devoted to Ministry
DDS 401: Defining Your Mission

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Upcoming Events

9/9

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

Evangelism/Missions (6:30pm)
All Departments (7pm)



9/15

DDS 3-7:30pm

Join us in saying goodbye to Pastor Deron and Paige and their family as they embark on their next calling: evangelism in Texas.



9/24

ELDER/DEACON BIBLE STUDY

Monthly Bible Study at the church at 8am



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!



9/29

FAMILY SUNDAY/POTLUCK FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Immediately following the Service





- 8 – Greg Jones
- 8 – Arlys Koepping
- 11 – Josh Stokes (Ethel Knight's grandson)
- 13 – Lucas Baxter-1999
- 15 – Becki Winger
- 16 – Connor Kohrt – 2010
- 18 – Angela Heydeman
- 19 – Bill Courter
- 19 – Nancy Dufur
- 19 – Sydney Collis - 2005
- 20 – Gail Horst
- 22 – Scott Green
- 27 – Cathy Lotz
- 27 – Larry Cullison
- 30 – Curt Koepping



- 1 – Shirley & Al Baxter
- 10 – Holly & Tim Trout
- 22 – Jan & Steve Rathburn

Special dates

- Labor Day, *September 2nd*
- National Grandparents Day, *September 8th*
- Patriot Day, *September 11th*
- First day of autumn, *September 23rd*



Children's Church:

- 1st – Sarah Denekas & Connie Curry
- 8th – Sarah Denekas & Kayli Neer
- 15th – Sarah Denekas & Dottie Seitz
- 22nd – Sarah Denekas & Cathy Lotz

Building Cleaners

- Roger & Connie Curry
- Gail Horst & Teresa Holt
- Don & Donna Vickroy

“The simplest toy, one which even the youngest child can operate, is called a grandparent.”
—Sam Levenson



Back-to-school Humor

What kind of school do you go to if you're:

- an ice cream man? Sundae school
- a giant? High school
- a surfer? Boarding school
- King Arthur? Knight school

Teacher: What's the chemical formula for water?

Student: H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O

Teacher: What are you talking about?

Student: Yesterday you said it was H to O.

Math teacher:

A person from LA drove toward New York at 250 miles per hour as a person from New York drove toward LA at 150 miles per hour. Where did they meet?

Student: In jail!

Sunday School Nursery

Workers:

- 1st – Cathy Lotz
- 8th – Jane Noyd
- 15th – Nancy Dufur
- 22nd – Mary Green
- 29th – Kathy Kohrt

Worship Nursery Workers:

- 1st – Kathy Kohrt
- 8th – Gail Horst
- 15th – Becki Winger
- 22nd – Holly Trout
- 29th – Georgia Cullison

Worship Servers:

September 1st

- Wayne Lotz (Meditation)
- Jim Kaecker (Communion Prayer)
- Roger Curry (Offering Prayer)

September 8th

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

September 15th

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

September 22nd

- Doug Hoffman (Meditation)
- Don Vickroy (Communion Prayer)
- Jim Kaecker (Offering Prayer)

September 29th

- Wayne Lotz (Meditation)
- Jim Kaecker (Communion Prayer)
- Roger Curry (Offering Prayer)

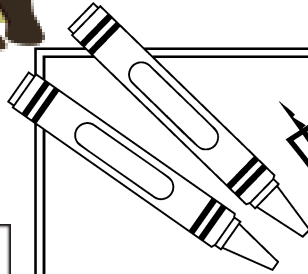
Can you help??

Sign-Up Sheet in the
Church Foyer

Communion Prep –
Scripture Reader –
Greeter –
Donut Dandy -



“Study to show yourself approved by God, a workman who need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15



PUZZLE

Grandparents of the Old Testament

Can you name these biblical grandparents? If you get stuck, find an Old Testament family tree in your Bible or online.

Directions: After filling in the crossword, unscramble the circled letters to complete Psalm 145:4, NIV.



ACROSS

2. David's grandfather

5. Jacob's grandfather

6. Esau's grandmother

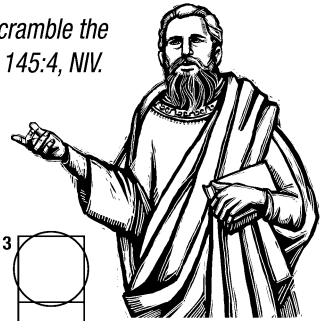
DOWN

1. Judah's grandmother

3. Joseph's grandfather

4. Solomon's grandfather

7. Jesse's grandmother



GROWING generations

Honor your grandparents with a gift that all generations can enjoy.

What you need:

- Cups (various sizes)
- Pencil
- Family photos
- Scissors
- Colored paper
- Hot glue (and adult help)
- Clothespins
- A small potted tree or bush

What you do:

1. Use a cup to trace a circle around faces in the photos. Cut out the circles.
2. Cut larger circles out of paper. Glue each photo onto a paper circle.
3. Glue a clothespin to the back of each photo. Clip photos to the branches.
4. Present the gift to your grandparents, and tell them you're glad to be in their family tree.

One G _ N _ _ _ _ _ N commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. Psalm 145:4, NIV

Answers: ACROSS 2. Obed, 5. Abraham, 6. Sarah; DOWN: 1. Rebekah, 3. Isaac, 4. Jesse, 7. Ruth. Generation

“Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.” Joshua 1:8



2019 September



"Can you say 'try the patience of a saint' in a public school?"

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---------------------------|--|--------|--------------------------|
| 01 | 02 LABOR DAY | 03 Men's Study 9am Pastor Search Meeting 6:30pm | 04 | 05 NO WORSHIP TEAM Women's Bible Study 6:30pm | 06 | 07 |
| 08 | 09 Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm | 10 Men's Study 9am Pastor Search Meeting 6:30pm | 11 Small Group Studies | 12 Worship Team 5:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Cruise-In Meeting 7pm | 13 | 14 |
| 15 DDS 3-7:30pm | 16 | 17 Men's Study 9am Pastor Search Meeting 6:30pm | 18 Small Group Studies | 19 Worship Team 5:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm | 20 | 21 |
| 22 Elder/Deacon Study 8am | 23 | 24 Men's Study 9am Pastor Search Meeting 6:30pm Elder's Meeting 7:30pm | 25 Small Group Studies | 26 Worship Team 5:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm | 27 | 28 Cruise-In 11am-3pm |
| 29 Family Sunday Potluck Lunch Food Pantry Collection | 30 | | | | | |