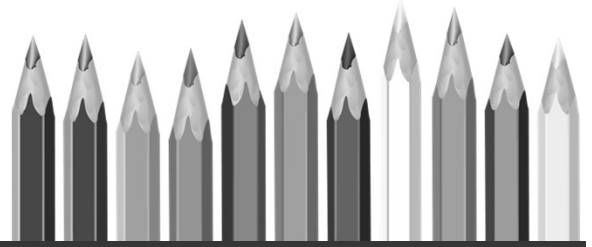


the MESSENGER



COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2020



From Steve's Desk...

THE MUDDY WATERS MIRACLE

In John 9, Jesus is with his disciples and they encounter a man who has been blind since birth. In a very unique way Jesus heals him. Jesus spits on the ground, reaches down and mixes it with the dirt, makes mud, and rubs it in the blind man's eyes. Jesus then tells him to go dip in a pool... The mud was washed away and he was healed.

Sunday, July 26th, I had the opportunity to preach at Muddy Waters Motocross Track. Dave, the track owner, asked if I could do a chapel service. Arriving around 8am, the dew was still on the grass and, with all the dirt bike riders zooming around, there was plenty of powdery dirt. I noticed that my shoes were getting muddy as I walked from grassy areas across dusty trails.

In Luke 7, Jesus was invited to a gathering of folks. While dining, a woman washes Jesus' feet with her hair. Most likely, Jesus' feet were dirty from walking dusty roads. According to Luke, the most religious people were offended that Jesus would be so close to a sinner; yet Jesus was always surrounded by sinners. He was always compassionate and willing to forgive people who were far away from God.

As I looked around while at the Muddy Waters Track, everywhere I looked I saw people who loved camping, being with family, riding motorcycles, and enjoying the people around them. I was excited to be there! I had the awesome privilege of preaching Christ to a lot of families who may not know Him. Around 8:15am as the announcements started to be made over the PA system, it was impossible to miss the call to the worship service. Then what I thought might happen, happened. I observed a complete indifference to the call out to come to worship from so many. People barely looked up when the announcement was made. I couldn't help but be even more excited for the opportunity to preach. As about 20 people gathered in a shady spot nearby, I knew that my sermon was being carried over the PA into the crowd whether they had intended to hear it or not. God can use that. I was planting seeds in some muddy ground and God has the power to make that grow. I knew I was right in the middle of lost people and being a friend to sinners.

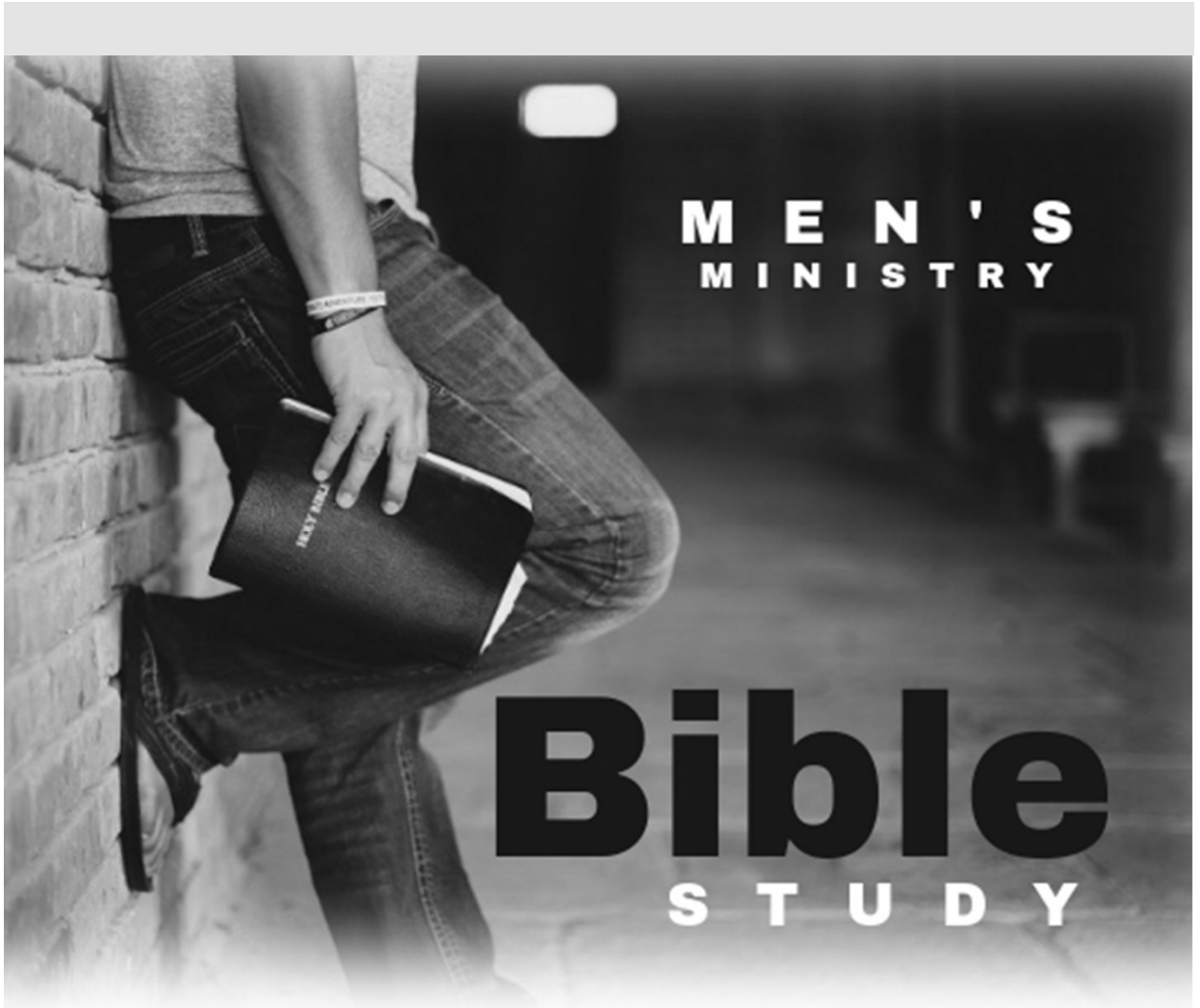
I look forward to August 16th when I get to return to the Muddy Waters and preach Christ again. My prayer is that just like the blind man, one day many of the people there will wash the dirt from their eyes in the waters of baptism and see clearly Jesus before them.

I would like to invite some of you to join me there. Would you be willing to arrive at the track around 7:45am? Bring a lawn chair and make your way to the concession stand where the service is? Dress like you have been camping in the mud and you won't stick out in the crowd. The service starts at 8:30 so be there early and just ask people about their bikes and they will be glad to chat. I hope that 5 or 6 of you will join Junior, Laura, and me as we sing a song and lift up the name of Jesus. By you being there it helps us create a small crowd. It's easier for folks to blend in if they feel like they won't stand out. Let me know if this sounds like something you would like to be a part of.

God Bless, Steve

GROWING TOGETHER

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT



STUDYING THE BOOK
OF ROMANS

**TUESDAY
MORNINGS
9:00AM**

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Our weekly Men's Bible Study kicks off at 9:00am July 21st and is open to all men. This is a great opportunity to grow some genuine relationships with other men in our church family. So men, if you've never come to one of the weekly Bible Studies on Tuesday mornings, or if you are a regular, we hope to see you there!

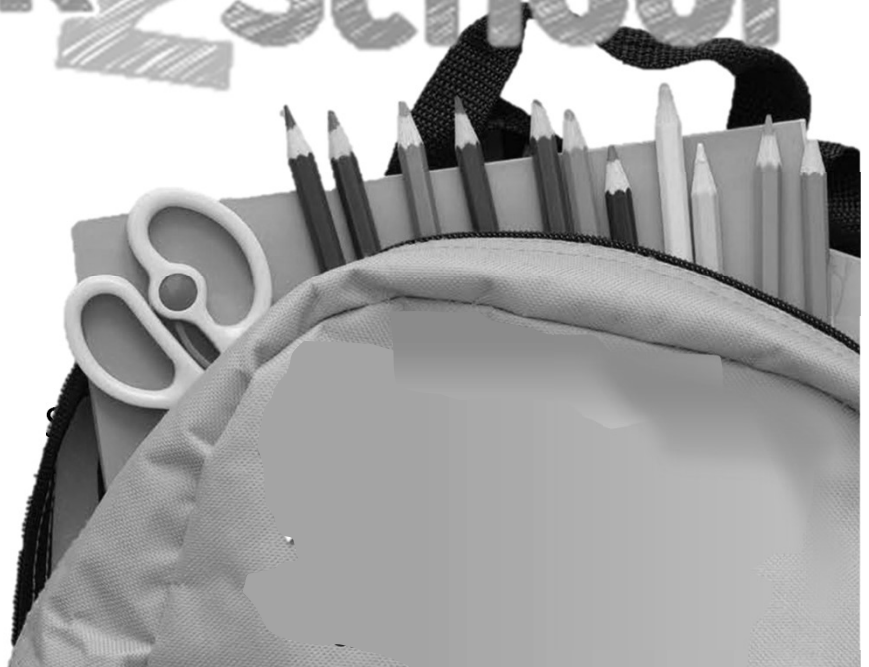
CALL 309-523-2834 FOR MORE INFO

"Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always." 1 Chronicles 16:11

HELPING AREA SCHOOLS

Back2School

Please help us fill some backpacks for area children as they head back to school! See the list on the following page.



TUTORS NEEDED

School may look very different this fall and there may be a need in our community for tutors. We would like to be able to serve that need if we have enough willing volunteers. If you would like to help in this way, please contact the church office!

*"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."
2 Timothy 1:7*

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

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.

Countryside Christian Church, together with URICMA and Ann's Helping Hands, is asking for your help in providing school supplies for students in the Riverdale School district. We will collect until the end of August. Please drop donations in the box in the foyer for the school supplies. Thank you for your support!

HIGH NEED ITEMS:

Ticonderoga Pencils
Water Color Paints
Pencil Top Erasers
Black Dry Erase Markers
Highlighters
Mechanical Pencils
Fiskars Scissors (Pointed And Round)
1 Inch Binders With Clear Plastic Covers
1 1/2 Inch Binders With Clear Plastic Covers
1/2 Inch Binders With Clear Plastic Covers
Zip Up Trappers With Handle
Red Pens
Zip Up Pencil Bags With 3 Holes
Back Packs - Solid Color Or Minimal Design For Older Kids
Plastic Slider Boxes
Index Cards

MODERATE NEED ITEMS:

Crayola Colored Pencils
Crayola Skinny Markers
Crayola Crayons
Pencils
Blue or Black Pens
Glue Sticks
Backpacks For Younger Kids



TO DONATE, BRING ITEMS DURING THE
MONTH OF AUGUST TO:
Countryside Christian Church





CELEBRATING TOGETHER

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT

*Countryside Church Family,
Thank you so much for surprising me
with a graduation reception and a
customized Bible, I cannot put into
words how appreciative I am. You
have all made me feel so special
over the years, and especially during
the craziness of graduation being
cancelled because of the pandemic.
I'm so blessed to be part of such an
incredible church family and know I
have so many people to rely on if I
ever need it!*

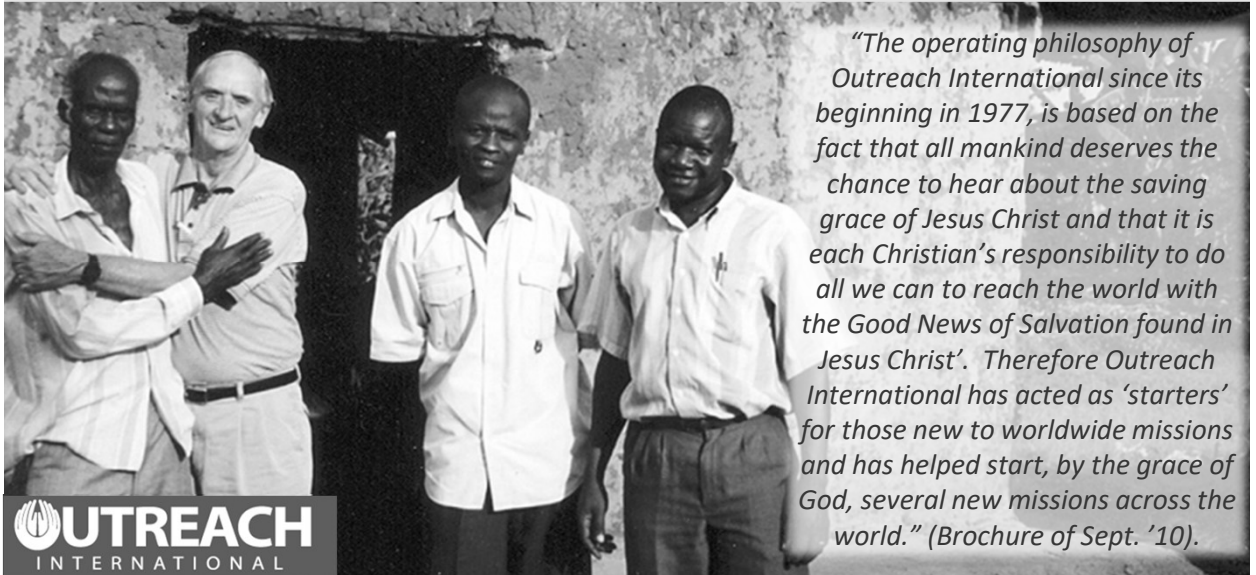
Love, Hannah

(Hannah is going to be studying Biology
on the Physician Assistant track at St.
Ambrose University next year. We pray
great blessings on your next year,
Hannah, as you pursue your education!
We love you!)



"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." Colossians 3:2

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Outreach International



"The operating philosophy of Outreach International since its beginning in 1977, is based on the fact that all mankind deserves the chance to hear about the saving grace of Jesus Christ and that it is each Christian's responsibility to do all we can to reach the world with the Good News of Salvation found in Jesus Christ'. Therefore Outreach International has acted as 'starters' for those new to worldwide missions and has helped start, by the grace of God, several new missions across the world." (Brochure of Sept. '10).

Outreach International was founded in 1977. Since that time many people have been recruited for missionary and tent making ministries in several countries.

"In 1998 there were approximately 18 workers, in 9 projects and 9 countries.

Currently there are 60 workers, in 37 projects in 18 countries (3 projects added just this year, 2019). By God's grace, OI has helped workers start and establish their own ministries as well as recruited workers to serve with other mission ministries. You have been a part of this effort and we thank you for serving alongside us and the OI missionaries around the world."

Some of the current prayer concerns and praise are: Wayne and Judy Black who have served Outreach International for many years as missionary workers and forwarding agents are dealing with Judy's hospitalizations for a colon infection.

Also three new couples coming under OI and for us as we serve them, Dwayne & Arlyn Boyer (Philippines) the Parker Family (East Asia) and Tom & Laura Garrett (Uganda). Pray for them as they prepare for service overseas and for the Garretts as they continue on the field.

Praise God that Dale and Sonja were able to see Sonja's mom (Annette) face to face a few weeks

ago even with masks on and 6 feet apart. Please continue to pray for our parents to stay healthy and also remember those caring for Annette at the assisted living facility as they work with residents and try to meet the emotional and physical needs of the residents.

Praise God for the blessing of a new office! They are hoping to move into the OI office in late June. They have lots going on work wise and ask for our prayers that they will be able to do what needs to be done and still get moved.

We send out very few letters seeking financial support for Outreach International General Fund because we trust God working through His people to support this, His ministry. We strive to be good stewards of what the Lord entrusts this ministry to use and stretch the funds.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry. "We love you all and thank God for you! We too, pray for the Lord's Blessings on each of you! Because of Jesus and in His Love, Dale and Sonja." (June Newsletter 2020)

One of the missions under the umbrella of OI is Me and My House in Colima Mexico. Countryside Christian Church also financially supports that work as well as funding OI.

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden." Matthew 5:14

BIBLES FROM BELIEVERS



Overview

As a member of Countryside who has served on multiple mission trips, I have come in contact with countless homeless people who did not have a Bible, or any exposure to the Gospel. In the past, mission teams have taken Bibles on trips to distribute to individuals who needed one. When I think back to my first Bible, I remember feeling intimidated. I was given a big book to read with little to no guidance, and was told that this book was going to be the most important one that I would ever read in my life. I think that other people new to their faith may also feel intimidated upon receiving a big book with little to no guidance on how to study it. For that reason, I think it would be a great idea for the members of Countryside to help provide Bibles to homeless people in our community, as well on mission trips. The Bibles could also be used for anyone who contacts a church member saying they would like a Bible.

Goal

I would like members of the church who feel called to participate to either buy a Bible or contact me to provide them with one, and mark the Bible as they would their own. I would also like to provide each participant with a notebook or journal to write down prayers, devotions, and other things that they wish. I want each person to spend a considerable amount of time with this Bible, so this project would start as soon as possible and I would like to collect them around Christmas time and deliver the Bibles then. I would encourage people to pray for whoever may receive their Bible, and make it very personal. I want whoever receives the Bibles to feel comfortable reading through the Bible, and un-intimidated. There really isn't a right or wrong way to do this, people can have fun with it and do whatever it is they want.

Dates

Ideal start date: As soon as possible

Ideal collection date: December 15th or later

*Hannah
Herman*



"They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.'" Acts 16:31

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

YTD Offering Budget: \$107,500
YTD Offering Actual: \$90,327
YTD Faith Promises: \$8,736

FAITH *Promise* GIVING

We finished our first quarter with \$8,736 designated to Faith Promise! We mailed checks for \$1248 to each of the seven missions at the end of July. Thank you for your contributions!



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.

5 WAYS TO GIVE

- IN PERSON
- MAIL
- ONLINE
- MOBILE APP
- TEXT

Point your smartphone camera at the QR code to the right to be taken to the online giving site. From here you can choose to give online or via text



We sincerely appreciate your generosity in support of our church. Together, we will continue to do God's amazing work!

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

events



8/12

ELDERS' MEETING

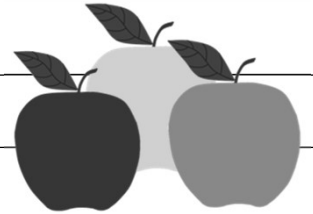
9:00am



8/14

1st Day Back to School

Please be in prayer for the students, teachers, and administration as they begin this new school year.



8/15

PACK THE BACKPACK DUE

We would like to receive the school supply donations by this day so we can distribute them to kids starting school.



8/16

MUDDY WATERS SERVICE

8:30am. Sunday morning service at the Muddy Waters Motorcross Track in Port Byron.



8/30

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Items for the month are due this Sunday and will be delivered to the Food Pantry this week.



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

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



AUGUST Birthdays

- 4 – Laura Schmidt
- 10 – Eric Ryden
- 12 – Jan Rathburn
- 12 – Sherry Carr
- 14 – Jaelin Hawkins
- 15 – Samantha Short
- 16 – Randy Denekas
- 21 – Sarah Denekas
- 27 – Rock Lawrence
- 28 – Bob Gipson
- 29 – Alissa Wheeler



AUGUST Anniversaries

- 6 – Gail & Jamie Horst
- 11 – Ryan & Laura Schmidt
- 24 – Tiffany & Josh Wheeler
- 29 – Bob & Cheryl Gipson



"It's hard to bear the fruit of the Spirit when they're hurling rotten tomatoes."

August

1. Isaiah 7-9
2. Isaiah 10-12
3. Isaiah 13-15
4. Isaiah 16-18
5. Isaiah 19-21
6. Isaiah 22-24
7. Isaiah 25-27
8. Isaiah 28-30
9. Isaiah 31-33
10. Isaiah 34-36
11. Isaiah 37-39
12. Isaiah 40-42
13. Isaiah 43-45
14. Isaiah 46-48
15. Isaiah 49-51
16. Isaiah 52-54
17. Isaiah 55-57
18. Isaiah 58-60
19. Isaiah 61-63
20. Isaiah 64-66
21. Jeremiah 1-3
22. Jeremiah 4-7
23. Jeremiah 8-11
24. Jeremiah 12-16
25. Jeremiah 17-19
25. Jeremiah 20-22
27. Jeremiah 23-25
28. Jeremiah 26-29
29. Jeremiah 30-32
30. Jeremiah 33-36
31. Jeremiah 37-39

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH



NURSERY

No Nursery at this time. Please utilize the gym during the worship service for a simulcast and child-friendly activities

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

No Children's Church at this time. Please utilize the gym during the worship service for a simulcast and child-friendly activities



August 2

Don Vickroy (Communion Meditation)

August 9

Ryan Schmidt (Communion Meditation)

August 16

Teresa Garcia (Communion Meditation)

August 23

Wayne Lotz (Communion Meditation)

August 30

Hannah Herrman (Communion Meditation)

*At this time, there will be no offering or communion ushers needed.

Building Cleaners

Roger and Connie Curry
Mike & Becki Winger
Randy & Sarah Denekas



Puzzle!

After looking up each Bible passage, find and circle the location mentioned in the word search. (If a verse lists more than one place, figure out which one is hidden.) Answers can be found horizontally, vertically, and diagonally.

Genesis 2:15	S	I	D	O	N	G	N	I	L	E	S	O
Genesis 11:9	J	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R
Genesis 35:1	E	S	G	A	A	R	C	A	N	A	A	M
Exodus 13:18	R	A	E	T	B	D	C	D	B	E	O	O
Ruth 1:1	U	M	T	H	B	E	T	H	E	L	F	U
1 Kings 18:19	S	A	H	E	T	N	E	A	T	N	G	N
1 Chronicles 11:4	A	R	S	N	Y	O	M	N	H	I	A	T
Isaiah 23:1	L	I	E	S	R	F	M	T	L	N	L	C
Isaiah 23:2	E	A	M	D	E	E	A	I	E	E	I	A
Isaiah 23:3	M	F	A	R	S	D	U	O	H	V	L	R
Jonah 1:2	G	H	N	O	A	E	S	C	E	E	E	M
Matthew 3:6	I	J	E	M	B	N	A	H	M	H	E	E
Matthew 4:18	T	O	W	E	R	O	F	B	A	B	E	L
Matthew 26:36												
Luke 24:13												
John 2:1												
Acts 8:5												
Acts 11:22												
Acts 17:16												
Romans 1:15												






"Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart." Psalm 37:4

2020

August



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						01
02 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	03	04 Men's Bible Study 9am	05 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	06 Meeting with Tutors TBA	07	08
09 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	10	11 Men's Bible Study 9am	12 Elder's Meeting 9am Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	13	14	15 Pack the Backpack Due 
16 WORSHIP SERVICE 8:30AM (Muddy Waters) 10:45AM 	17	18 Men's Bible Study 9am	19 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	20	21	22
23 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	24	25 Men's Bible Study 9am	26 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	27	28	29
30 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM 	31			BACK TO SCHOOL		

LIVESTREAMING *with*



Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOR735qhzkzpfUjEtP-A>



Facebook: www.facebook.com/countrysidecc.org at 10:45am.



Website. The sermon will be available in video or audio form on the church's website page <http://countrysidecc.org>



If you are not able to access the internet on your computer or mobile device, we will be able to download it to a DVD for you. Just contact the church office to obtain a copy.



Countryside Christian Church

3817 230th St. N

Port Byron, IL 61275