

the MESSENGER



COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

JULY 2021

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As a kid I remember playing Hot Potato. You never wanted to be caught holding the Hot Potato. There was a kind of cancel culture associated with it... you were the loser who should be shamed for being caught holding the Hot Potato. Today there are a lot of topics in our culture people don't want to speak out on, or they may get the shame of holding the Hot Potato. However, I'm going to handle with as much care as I can a very Hot Potato... Here we go...

It is better to make decisions on facts/truth than on feelings.

How a person feels has been elevated in many ways to be the critical criteria to making good decisions, yet the truth is this can be a very damaging criteria and can lead to very bad decisions. For example, if one follows their feelings in only eating comfort food, eventually it will catch up to them and they will suffer discomfort that will come from health issues. On the other hand, if one will eat their vegetables even though they are not as pleasurable as ice cream, they will reap the benefit of being healthy. OK, so far it's probably not hard to disagree with me. But here is where it might sound a bit more like a Hot Potato issue: **Should children choose their gender based on the way they feel?** This is a very real topic being tossed around today. First, let me say all feelings are valid. You feel what you feel. The point I want to make is that feelings are not the best criteria for making decisions. Feelings are to be understood and then brought into conformity with fact/truth. We know eating ice cream feels better than eating vegetables but the undeniable truth is that vegetables are better for you. So you wrestle your feelings and do what is best in spite of your feeling, and then the reward of feeling good comes. This lesson need to be taught to young people who are dealing with all kinds of feelings as they are growing up. Feelings that come from peer pressure, exposure, and bio chemical - all need to be held up against the facts and truth that come from the One who created us. Here is a clip from a Dec.1/2020 Focus on the Family Newsletter:



**Steve Allison,
Minister**

"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

“Prioritize honoring God above pleasing people.

Honoring God out of reverence for who He is and from gratitude for His saving grace is an appropriate heart response toward our Creator. However, others around us may care very little or even ridicule this kind of living from our faith. When people close to us aim to pull us away from this devotion, boundaries are necessary. Loving God results in loving others, but dishonoring God inevitably leads to dishonoring others as well. This is important to remember as we protect our children and teach them to guard their hearts and minds.

(continued on next page)

So much of the reasoning behind the LGBTQ movement is based on people's feelings and experiences. Their legitimate pain calls out for compassion and support, touching our hearts, as it should. But when we elevate people's stories, feelings, preferences, and experiences above scriptural truth, we have built a house of cards instead of a foundation for life. Those who create their own principles of sexuality are not models to follow. Only God's perfectly designed plan, as communicated in His Word, should be the standard to which we aim.

Well-meaning Christian parents may fall into the trap of thinking that it's loving to acquiesce to their child's gender struggle without considering the more important responsibility of shepherding their eternal souls. But putting your acceptance of your children's preferences and behavior above their relationship with God doesn't truly help them. As Edmund Burke wrote, "Whatever disunites man from God, also disunites man from man."

Encouraging your children to honor God and lean on Him as their gracious Helper is the most loving thing you can do as their earthly parent and, hopefully, as their eternal brother or sister in Christ. Staying compassionately connected to the heart of your child does not require distancing from the heart and plan of God.

Parents/guardians, your job is not always easy, but when we teach our kids to filter their feelings through truth we do what is best for them. Just like eating right, it might not always be what feels the best, yet the outcome is always best. Stay close to your kids and teach them the truth that comes from God's word.

In Christ, *Steve*



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Would you like to know more about Countryside Christian Church? Do you have questions about our doctrine, history, or theology? Are you wanting to become more involved and place your membership at Countryside?

**TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021 AT
6:30 PM**

This class is open to anyone and everyone who may have questions and would like more information about the church.

Becoming a member at Countryside is for those who feel led to make a deeper commitment to the church; and those who want to be surrounded by a community of believers who encourage and strengthen one another in their walks of faith.



SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

This last year has been a difficult year for many families with COVID and job layoffs or extra medical bills. We would like to help families in the Riverdale School District in providing school supplies for their children. Research shows that receiving new school supplies can make all the difference in the world to a child. Grades, classroom behavior, and engagement improve. Self-esteem increases. Attitudes toward school and learning strengthen.

Please drop donations in the box in the foyer for the school supplies. **We will collect until August 1st.**
Thank you for your support!

PACK THE Backpack



**Aug
7th**

Time: TBD

For a complete list of school supplies by grade, check <https://bit.ly/3zQ5CDh>

KINDERGARTEN School Supply List



- 1 Box of Crayons 24/Pkg
- 12 #2 Pencils
- 1 Pink Eraser
- 1 Pkg Washable Markers 8 ct
- 2 Glue Sticks
- 1 Bottle of School Glue
- 1 Bottle of Hand Sanitizer
- 1 Box of Tissues
- 1 Pkg Wipes
- 1 Pair Fiskar Blunt Tip Scissors
- 1 Pencil Box
- 3 Plastic Pocket Folders with Brads

WWW.SCHOOL-SUPPLY-LIST.COM

1st Grade School Supply List



- 12 #2 PENCILS
- 1 Box of Crayons 24/Pkg
- 2 Glue Sticks
- 1 Box of Tissues
- 1 Pink Eraser
- 1 Pkg Washable Markers 8ct
- 1 Pair Fiskar Blunt Tip Scissors
- 1 Pencil Case
- 2 Wide Ruled Spiral Notebooks
- 3 Pocket Folders
- 1 Pkg Map Colored Pencils

WWW.SCHOOL-SUPPLY-LIST.COM

2nd Grade School Supply List



- 12 #2 Pencils
- 2 Glue Sticks
- 1 Box of Tissues
- 1 Pink Eraser
- 1 Pkg Washable Markers 8 ct
- 2 Wide Ruled Spiral Notebooks
- 1 Bottle of Hand Sanitizer
- 1 Pkg Wipes
- 1 Pencil Box
- 1 Pair Fiskar Blunt Tip Scissors
- 2 Plastic Pocket Folders with Brads

WWW.SCHOOL-SUPPLY-LIST.COM

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Romans 12:10

CRUISE IN IS COMING!



Saturday, August 21, 2021

11:00AM – 3:00PM

Countryside Christian Church

3817 – 230th St. N, Port Byron, IL

All Donations benefit the Riverdale School District

Free Entry!
Free Food!
Free Fun!

Vehicle Sign In When You Arrive
Vehicle Entry Fee – FREE

Shine 'em up and Show them off!

CLASSIC ROCK MUSIC, FANTASTIC FOOD, CHILDRENS' ACTIVITIES

DASH PLAQUE TO FIRST 50 CARS!

PRIZES AWARDED TO:

- THE OLDEST VEHICLE
- THE OLDEST PARTICIPANT
- PASTOR'S CHOICE AWARD



Thank you Port Byron Fire Dept for bringing a truck and goodie bags for the kids!

ENJOYING THE SUMMER!

NOTE: Special Kids Club OFF-CAMPUS event! Open to families! (We are unable to provide transportation but anyone wanting to carpool is welcome to meet at the church at 11am)

JULY 7TH
2021
Splash
Party



Pool Fees:
11:30am-3:30pm
\$6.00
All Kids 2 and under:
FREE

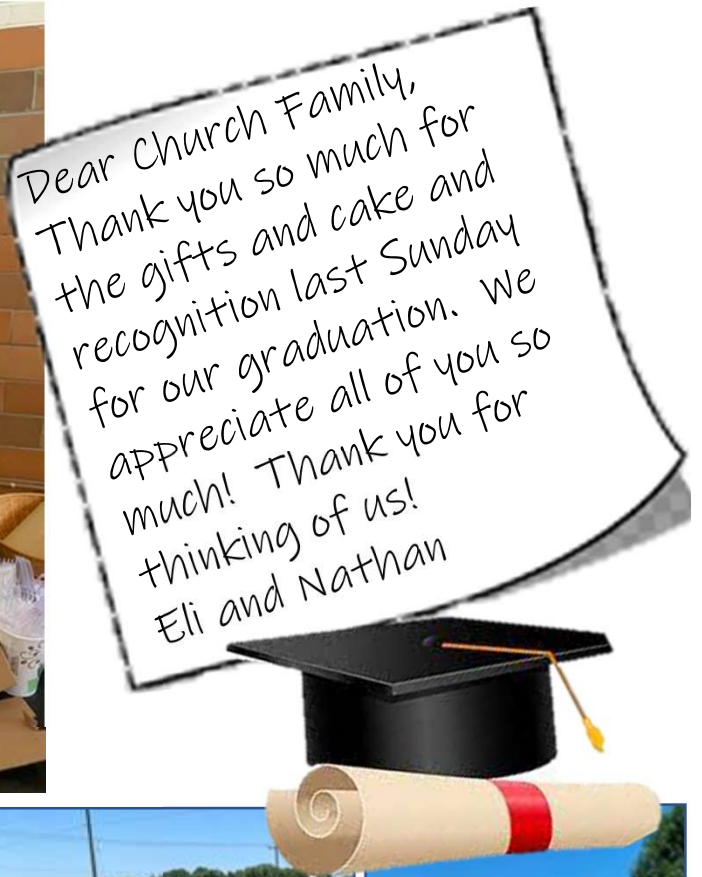
Splash Landing
2220 23rd St.
Bettendorf, IA
www.bettendorf.org/splash



"The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth." Psalm 145:18

SUMMER KICK-OFF & GRADUATION PARTY

Kicked off summer on Sunday, June 13th with a barbecue following church and honored our two graduates with a cake reception. Congratulations Nathan Johnson & Eli Mueller!! Thank you Education Dept for the cake and Jim Kaecker for donating the meat! It was a great day enjoyed by all!



FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: I.D.E.S.

Currently Countryside Christian Church is planning a food bag packing event on Oct. 2, 2021. We will be working with the Erie Christian Church for this event. Details will be forth coming.



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 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 48 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.



IDES has been the one source our churches and missionaries consistently turn to for help. In 2021, IDES celebrates 48 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.

Rick Jett has been leading IDES for many years and is now finding it time to retire. “Under Rick’s leadership, IDES has expanded its role as a relief agency increasing the number of countries served to 127 with over 7,000 projects. We have seen thousands of people baptized into Christ, millions of meals given out, and hundreds of thousands of displaced people provided shelter, food, clean water, and medical supplies. It is hard to imagine where IDES would be without his and Nancy’s leadership and service.



We are pleased to announce David Stine as IDES’ new Executive Director. This changeover became effective January 1, 2021. Rick has assumed the role of Executive Director Emeritus and will continue to represent IDES to churches and individual supporters, while serving as an advisor and mentor to David during the next nine months to ensure the smoothest of transitions so that God’s great story through IDES will continue.

David has been the Director of Operations at IDES for 5 years. He was raised on the mission field in Mexico City and graduated with degrees from Ozark Christian College and Lincoln Christian University. David and his wife, Nicole, are blessed with two young sons, Luke and Logan. David has been strongly connected with the Restoration Movement all his life. The IDES staff and board have complete confidence in David, and Look forward to his future leadership.” *(Newsletter Dec. 2020)*

2021 YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Jacob & Seth Going to Montana

Through the years Pinehaven has helped hundreds of kids with a program structured to help struggling kids whose lives were at critical "Make it or break it" turning points, sometimes potentially life or death in nature. Our goal has always been to help the child "Make it" by changing the atmosphere and influences around them while at the same time showing them that Christ loves them and so do we. HE always has a better plan for our lives. The Pinehaven setting, (the wholesome, simplistic lifestyle of the Western cattle Ranch) has been (and is) a perfect place to realign the societal and spiritual values that are necessary to accomplish this goal.



Seth Johnson



Jacob Johnson

July 24-31, 2021

Jacob (17 yrs) and Seth Johnson (15 yrs) will be traveling with the Erie Christian Church to the Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch and School this month to work for a week helping with the kids and around the farm. They start out with devotions in the morning after breakfast and then split into their work groups. Some things they will be required to do:

- firewood stacking
- heavy machinery
- gardening
- welding
- painting
- drywall
- barbed wire and split rail fencing
- electrical
- home repair
- sewing
- plumbing
- cooking
- carpentry
- concrete plumbing and finishing

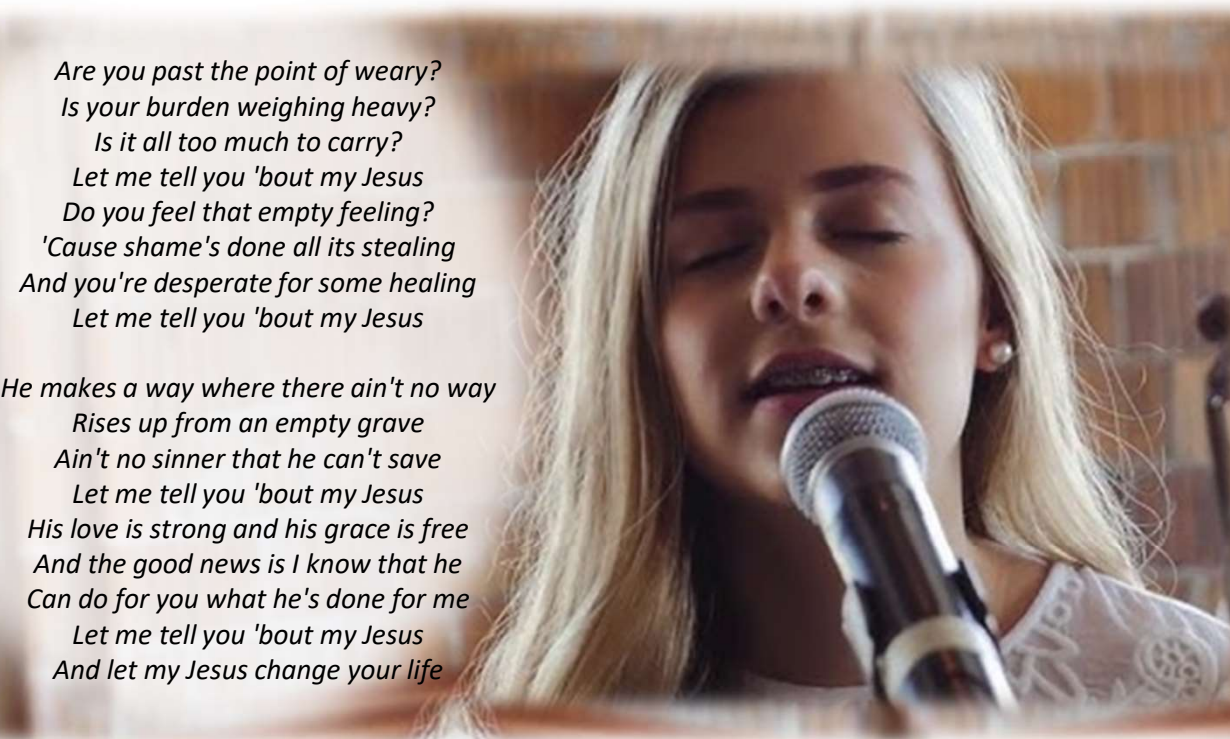


**CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S
RANCH AND SCHOOL**
ST. IGNATIUS, MONTANA

A HUGE thank you to those who sponsored the boys for this mission trip! Please pray for them and the rest of their team as they travel to Montana at the end of this month. They will be working hard and sharing their testimonies with the children who live there.

WORSHIP OUR SAVIOR

Have you heard the new song "My Jesus" by 19 yr old Anne Wilson? She wrote it after her brother was tragically killed in an automobile accident. Matthew West sings it with her and the words are powerful...



*Are you past the point of weary?
Is your burden weighing heavy?
Is it all too much to carry?
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus
Do you feel that empty feeling?
'Cause shame's done all its stealing
And you're desperate for some healing
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus*

*He makes a way where there ain't no way
Rises up from an empty grave
Ain't no sinner that he can't save
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus
His love is strong and his grace is free
And the good news is I know that he
Can do for you what he's done for me
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus
And let my Jesus change your life*

Even in times of great sorrow, we have hope in a greater God. Tragedy has touched our family as well this month and the verse that kept running through my mind during the funeral was: *I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. – John 16:33*

We aren't promised an easy journey through this life but this is not our home. There will come a day when He will wipe away every tear from our eyes and there will be no more death, no more pain, no more sickness, and no more sin.

*Who can wipe away the tears
From broken dreams and wasted years
And tell the past to disappear? Oh
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus
And all the wrong turns that you would
Go and undo if you could
Who can work it all for your good
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus*

Hallelujah! Amen! There is a Savior who can right every wrong and bring beauty yet from ashes! Do you know my Jesus?

~ Laura

Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Mark 2:17

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

YTD Offering Income

Budget: \$94,230
Actual: \$94,158

YTD Faith Promises

Faith Promises YTD: \$1,020
Faith Promises Goal: \$35, 676



Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,
That there may be food in My house,
And try Me now in this,”
Says the Lord of hosts,
“If I will not open for you the windows of heaven
And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive it.
And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes,
So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground,
Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,
Says the Lord of hosts.

~Malachi 3:10-11



IT IS BEYOND THE REALM OF
POSSIBILITIES
THAT ONE HAS
THE ABILITY TO
OUTGIVE
GOD

Charles Spurgeon

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

JULY events

7/4

INDEPENDENCE DAY



7/5

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

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

MONTHLY MEETING

Be Connected Be Heard Be Informed

7/6

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

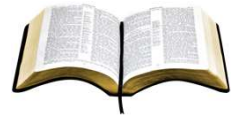
6:30pm



7/6

ELDERS' MEETING

7:00pm



7/7

KIDS CLUB OFF-CAMPUS DAY

Splash Landing
Bettendorf, IA
11:30am-3:30pm



7/8

CRUISE IN MEETING

7:00PM



7/24

KIDS LEAVE ON MISSION TRIP

July 24-31



7/25

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

JULY Birthdays

- 4 – Camden Collis
- 4 – Brooke Heydeman
- 6 – Ruthie Coverdill
- 7 – Georgia Cullison
- 9 – Hannah Herrman
- 13 – Kayli Neer
- 15 – Connie Curry
- 17 – Harry Kohrt
- 21 – Kellan Schmidt
- 27 – Joyce Reiling

JULY Anniversaries

- 16 – Cathy & Wayne Lotz

July

1. Psalms 109-111
2. Psalms 112-114
3. Psalms 115-118
4. Psalms 119
5. Psalms 120-123
6. Psalms 124-126
7. Psalms 127-129
8. Psalms 130-132
9. Psalms 133-135
10. Psalms 136-138
11. Psalms 139-141
12. Psalms 142-144
13. Psalms 145-147
14. Psalms 148-150
15. Proverbs 1-3
16. Proverbs 4-7
17. Proverbs 8-11
18. Proverbs 12-14
19. Proverbs 15-18
20. Proverbs 19-21
21. Proverbs 22-24
22. Proverbs 25-28
23. Proverbs 29-31
24. Ecclesiastes 1-3
25. Ecclesiastes 4-6
25. Ecclesiastes 7-9
27. Ecclesiastes 10-12
28. Song of Solomon 1-4
29. Song of Solomon 5-8
30. Isaiah 1-3
31. Isaiah 4-6



THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!



NURSERY

July 4 Mary Green	July 18 TBD
July 11 Becki Winger	July 25 Holly Trout

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

July 4 Sarah Denekas Kathy Kohrt	July 18 Sarah Denekas Cathy Lotz
July 11 Sarah Denekas Connie Curry	July 25 FAMILY SUNDAY



July 4 – *Still need a volunteer*

July 11 – Laura Schmidt

July 18 – *Still need a volunteer*

July 25 – Criss Evans



COMMUNION
MEDITATION

July 4 Wayne Lotz	July 18 Don Vickroy
July 11 Teresa Garcia	July 25 Steve Allison



July 4 Mike & Becki Winger	July 18 Criss Evans
July 11 Larry & Linda Griffin	July 25 Simms Family



Kati Jo Chasek & Teresa Garcia
Jerry and Nancy Dufur
Rock and Sandy Lawrence

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH



RUNNING THE RACE

Summer Reading Plan

Loving and following Jesus is like being a runner, the Bible says. And a special "prize" waits at the end of the race! When you're tired or your faith feels weak, trust Jesus to give you strength.

With this Summer Reading Plan, you can complete a box every day or every other day. Read the Scripture and complete each activity to grow closer to Jesus. When you reach the finish line, start over for more practice. Invite a friend or family member to "run" with you!

KIDS CORNER

<p>START</p> <p>1 Corinthians 9:24-26 Run in place as long as you can. Think of ways you "run" for Jesus.</p>				<p>FINISH</p> <p>Revelation 22:20 Pray, "Come, Lord Jesus!"</p>	
<p>Deuteronomy 31:1-8 (focus on vs. 6) How does it feel to know God always runs with you?</p>				<p>2 John 8 Play Tag, then "reward" yourself with a cold drink or treat.</p>	
<p>Hebrews 12:1-3 Find out what "perseverance" means. Why do runners need that?</p>		<p>Matthew 18:10-14 Think of a time you "wandered off" — and how Jesus found you.</p>		<p>Matthew 24:13 Write the verse with sidewalk chalk. "Stand firm" by it and say it aloud.</p>	
<p>Jeremiah 10:23 Pray that God always directs your steps.</p>		<p>Psalm 119:32 Why do we need to follow rules — and God's commands?</p>		<p>Luke 15:11-32 (or a book about it) Why did the son run away? What makes his father run?</p>	
<p>Proverbs 3:5-6 Run backward, then in circles, then with eyes closed. Why are "straight paths" simpler?</p>		<p>1 Peter 2:21 Play Follow the Leader with friends & family.</p>		<p>John 20:1-10 Act out Easter morning, with runners sharing the good news.</p>	
<p>Psalm 18:32 Memorize this verse.</p>		<p>Isaiah 41:10 Make a paper baton. Practice relay handoffs & discuss God's helpful hand.</p>		<p>Acts 8:26-40 Why did Philip run? How do you share Jesus with others?</p>	
<p>Jonah chapter 1 (or a book about Jonah) What happens when Jonah runs from God?</p>				<p>2 Corinthians 12:9-10 Show muscles and say, "When I'm weak, I am strong."</p>	
<p>Great JOB!</p>		<p>Galatians 5:7 Make an obstacle course. What gets in the way of faith?</p>		<p>Philippians 3:13-14 Make a sign that reads "Press on!"</p>	
<p>2 Timothy 2:5 Make a crown to remember your victory in Jesus.</p>		<p>2 Timothy 2:5 Make a crown to remember your victory in Jesus.</p>		<p>James 1:12 Brainstorm ways to support and cheer other runners.</p>	
<p>Philippians 4:13 Write or tell someone your strengths.</p>		<p>1 Timothy 4:8 Do jumping jacks, stretches and physical training.</p>		<p>Hebrews 10:36 Talk about the promises God keeps to us.</p>	



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
It is for freedom That Christ has set us free. Galatians 5:1 				01	02	03	
04 COFFEE TIME 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM 	05 Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm U of I Home Extension 7-9pm	06 Men's Study 9am Membership Class 6:30pm Elder Mtg – 7pm Cub Scouts 6-7pm Worship Team- 7pm	07 Kids Club Splash Landing Event 11:30am-3:30pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm	08 Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm Cruise-In Meeting – 7pm	09	10	
11 COFFEE TIME 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	12 Church in use Zuma Township Meeting Cub Scouts 6-7pm Steve leaves on vacation	13 Men's Study 9am Worship Team- 7pm	KIDS CLUB – 10:00AM-12:30PM	14 Small Groups Port Byron – 6pm Geneseo – 6pm	15	16	
18 COFFEE TIME 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	19 Cub Scouts 6-7pm	20 Men's Study 9am Cub Scouts 6-7pm Worship Team- 7pm		21 Small Groups Port Byron – 6pm Geneseo – 6pm	22 Steve returns from vacation	23	24 Kids leave on Mission Trip to Montana 
25 COFFEE TIME 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM 	26	27 Men's Study 9am Worship Team- 7pm		28 Small Groups Port Byron – 6pm Geneseo – 6pm	29 Cruise-In Meeting – 7pm	30	31 Kids return from Mission Trip to Montana 

info

LIVESTREAMING



Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOR735qhzkzp>

(FlujEtp-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