

the MESSENGER



COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2021

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**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

Dear Church Family,

If you are watching the news at all or paying attention to the culture, you know that unfortunately there are many divisions that run deep. The question that we should all be asking is: *What is my response to a divided culture as a follower of Jesus?* Let me offer a few suggestions:

- 1. Focus more on being humble than being right.** Our culture seems to want to be right more than it wants truth. Ephesians 4:2 says "...always be humble and gentle." It seems like everyone wants to be an expert today, everyone wants to be right, some act superior and that they know better...it's toxic. What if we decided to be humble instead of right?
- 2. Focus on correcting your own shortcomings, not others.** Jesus said to look at the plank in your own eye and not the piece of sawdust in someone else's. It is really about valuing others, not defaming them. Ephesians 4:2 says "...be patient with each other."
- 3. Focus more on common ground than spreading trouble.** Ephesians 4.3 says "...make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit." Perhaps you have heard the expression: *the truth is somewhere in the middle.* In a polarized culture, most arguments are leaning very hard in one direction. Matthew 18:15 says "...if your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over."

May God bless us all as we try to find unity and make peace with everyone we encounter for Jesus' sake.

Steve





— Pastor —
APPRECIATION
MONTH

Pastor Appreciation Month is a special time that congregations set aside each year to honor their pastor for the hard work, sacrificial dedication and multiple blessings provided to the church through this man.

God has entrusted to them one of the most precious of assignments — the spiritual well-being of His flock. That's why God has instructed us to recognize His servants.

"The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching"
(1 Timothy 5:17).



Pastor Appreciation Sunday
is Oct. 11th

A basket for cards or love gifts will be placed at the front door Oct. 11th and presented to Steve and Karen at the end of the worship service.



EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Hello,

School is off and in full swing now. Jasper has been loving Pre-school and he enjoys all the crafty things that they make. I enjoy it too because my fridge is full of artwork and then I don't have to clean it. I've also been very happy with the turn out for Children's Church and Sunday School! It is nice getting together again before Sunday morning and learning about Jesus. Plus, especially for the children, they are soaking this information in and it really makes a difference. Barna research even says that half of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their Savior do so before reaching the age of 13. I believe that those statistics show just how much the church's Kids Club, Sunday school, Children's Church and other events shape the kids from an early age. You may not see the results yet, but all the volunteers are planting seeds and influencing these kids' minds to be equipped for the world through an eternal perspective. If you would like to really make a difference, I could use more volunteers for Children's Church! No preparation needed! There is a sign-up sheet on the front lobby table. And if you do volunteer, thank you! You don't even know how much I appreciate you! If you have any interest in volunteering, I sure would appreciate it and know that the kids you impact will remember you! Thanks for reading!!

In Christ,

Sarah

Education Chair

Sunday Mornings:
9:30 Sunday School for all ages
10:15 Coffee
10:45 Worship



"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." John 3:16-17

HARVEST FESTIVAL

EVANGELISM HIGHLIGHT

Countryside Christian Church

Harvest Festival



Come join us for a night of family fun!



Costumes, Games & Free Food!

OCTOBER 30TH
5-7PM

Countryside Christian Church
3817 230th St. N, Port Byron, IL
(309) 523-2834 www.countrysidecc.org



Candy & Prizes



Games



Hot Dogs & Smores

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever." Isaiah 40:8



IDES FOOD PACKING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, 9:00AM

"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat..." - Matthew 25:35

On Saturday October 2nd, Countryside will partner with the Erie Christian Church in preparing food bags for IDES (International Disaster Emergency Services). **The set up and unloading of the truck will occur at 8:00 A.M. At 9:00A.M. we will begin filling the bags and work until finished filling the bags (4-5 hours).** During the set-up we will need approximately 10 people who can lift boxes, move tables and take directions for set up and for being a crew leader. Each crew of 10 will need a leader who can give the crew instructions and oversee their line in bag filling. We are hoping to have six crews, three from Erie, and three from CCC. Thirty-five people from CCC will be needed to be crew members and will require extended periods of standing. We plan to be finished by early afternoon - that will be determined by the number of workers. Snacks and water will be provided. A sign up list is in the church lobby. Even if you can only work for a short period of time, sign up as workers will need rest periods.

IDES provides nutritious meals which are sent to countries that have experienced disasters. Each bag contains the equivalent of 6 meals which can be reconstituted with water. Each meal contains vitamins, minerals and rice. In Sept. of 2018 we prepared 4000 bags or 24000 meals. If you have any questions please see Connie Curry.

On Saturday, October 2nd, Countryside and Erie Christian Church, along with volunteers from the community, are hoping to pack at least 24,000 GAP meals. Join us at Countryside, beginning at 9:00am. We'll package meals, helping to feed the hungry, and to transform lives around the world.



KIDS CLUB HIGHLIGHT

HARVEST TIME FUN!

KIDS CLUB

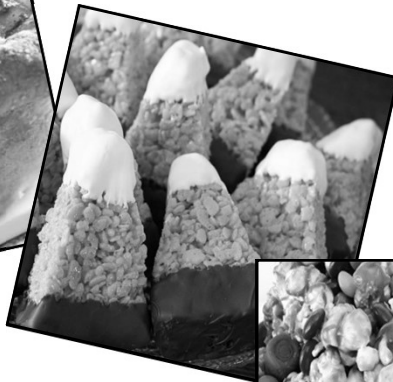


WHAT WE ARE DOING IN CLUB THIS MONTH...

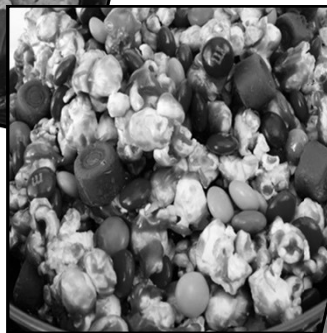
This month, we are in the kitchen! Each week the kids are going to have a chance to make AND EAT something new for fall! Also, mark your calendars for OCT 30TH – our Harvest Festival at church for the whole family! 5-7pm



Mini Apple Pies



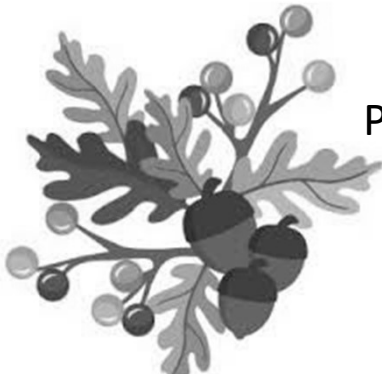
Chocolate Dipped Candy Corn Treats



Harvest Caramel Corn



Pumpkin Crunch Cake



"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

GROWING TOGETHER

IMPACT MIDDLE SCHOOL

IMPACT HIGHLIGHT



Our Middle School group, Impact, kicked off this past month on Wednesdays! We are excited about the possibilities of this for reaching kids this age and continuing relationships formed during Kids Club. We could really use another volunteer (preferably a woman to meet with the girls) during small group time. Check with Steve if you're interested!

THEY'RE
NOT
"JUST KIDS"
THEY'RE
FUTURE
LEADERS



"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT

Toby Mac (and a whole host of others) are coming back to the Taxslayer Center on Oct 2nd. Contact the church office if you would like to go as a group!



Coffee Fellowship



Attn: Ladies!
October 9th, 9:30am

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thess. 5:18

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Pioneer Bible Translators

Norm and Jill Weatherhead work with Pioneer Bible Translators in Papua, New Guinea as Bible translators. They have been involved there for over 20+ years. They are from Calgary, Canada. Jill works a portion of the year as a registered nurse in Calgary and joins Norm when she can to work with the translation team in PNG. Drawn by a vision to see God's Work changing lives in every language, Norm and his wife, Jill have devoted their lives to translation work.



Currently Norm and Jill are in Calgary, Canada due to the Covid virus. With modern technology, Norm is able to continue his translation work with the individuals in Papua, New Guinea. When he will be able to actually return in person is not known.



In our latest communication with Norm (Sept.2021) he describes the process of translation to make it understandable and accurate in the native language for those in PaPua, New Guinea. They are currently working on the book of Luke. Luke has 24 chapters and 1,151 verses. Norm says that a great day for him is to work through 20-25 verses. An example is Luke 1:1-4 which has 42 words in the Greek, 79 in English and uses 89 words in the Akukem translation. For more detail on the translation process check out the Pioneer Bible Translator booklet on the mission shelf.

Dedication of the Akukem national translators who have stuck with this translation project for 16 years, for sustaining Norm through these years of pain and fatigue to keep on working on Bible translation, we are ready for one last advisor/team check on Luke to be done over six weeks via online Zoom sessions in Oct-Nov.

Praises

Prayer Requests

Pray that Norm can finish all his Advisor questions on the text before we start the checking session in late October, that the national translators will remain healthy and be able to come into Madang in late October to do checking with Norm, for our PBT staff over in Madang, PNG as we continue to operate with very limited numbers of missionaries and staff during this pandemic over there, that the translated book of Luke, when released, will speak to the heart of the Akukem people and it would help lead some of them to Christ as Savior.

Norm and Jill state that they are so grateful for our partnership with them in prayer and financial support. For more information refer to the booklet on the mission table in the foyer.

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

HE IS FAITHFUL

We have heard countless times in songs, sermons, and scripture readings: God is faithful! That doesn't just mean He is faithful when everything is going well and prayers are being answered as we hoped for. He is also faithful in the "valleys" of life. There's another song we have been singing in church lately that comes to mind:

*The God of the mountain is the God of the valley.
There's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again!*

Where do these songs come from? Lamentations 3:21-23 says: "But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; *great is your faithfulness.*"



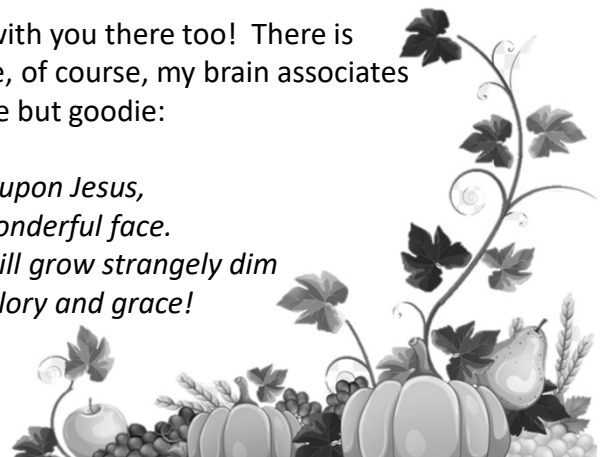
He is ALWAYS faithful, ALWAYS true to His promises. We can count on Him! He tells us that NEVER will He leave us and NEVER will He forsake us! (Hebrews 13:5)

Turning on the news is something I can't do for very long. I don't even need to list the things that can be worrisome and overwhelming – you already know what those things are. You know what in your own life weighs you down and causes you to wonder if He hears you or sees you. But the Bible tells us that He knows the very number of hairs on our head and not a tear falls that He doesn't take notice of. He knows the depth of your pain and struggle. He is with you! He is for you! He never fails! He sees you! He hears you!

And if you are currently on the mountain, He is with you there too! There is joy in this life when we walk with Jesus. Because, of course, my brain associates everything with a song, I leave you with this oldie but goodie:

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace!*

In Him,
Laura



*"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."
Psalm 73:26*

BUILDING UPDATES

PROPERTY HIGHLIGHT



We are getting closer to the finish line with new carpet in the lobby and opening up the foyer and new sliding barn doors! We are so happy with the changes and updates that have been done to the building and a HUGE THANKS to ALL OF THE PEOPLE who worked tirelessly to make this happen! Our building is a tool and our desire is that we would be good stewards of this gift God has given us in order to further the ministry of Countryside Christian Church in our community.

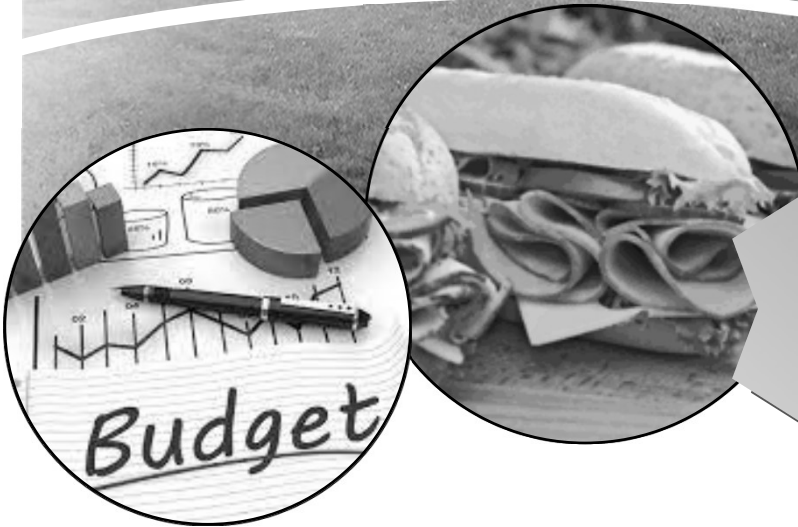
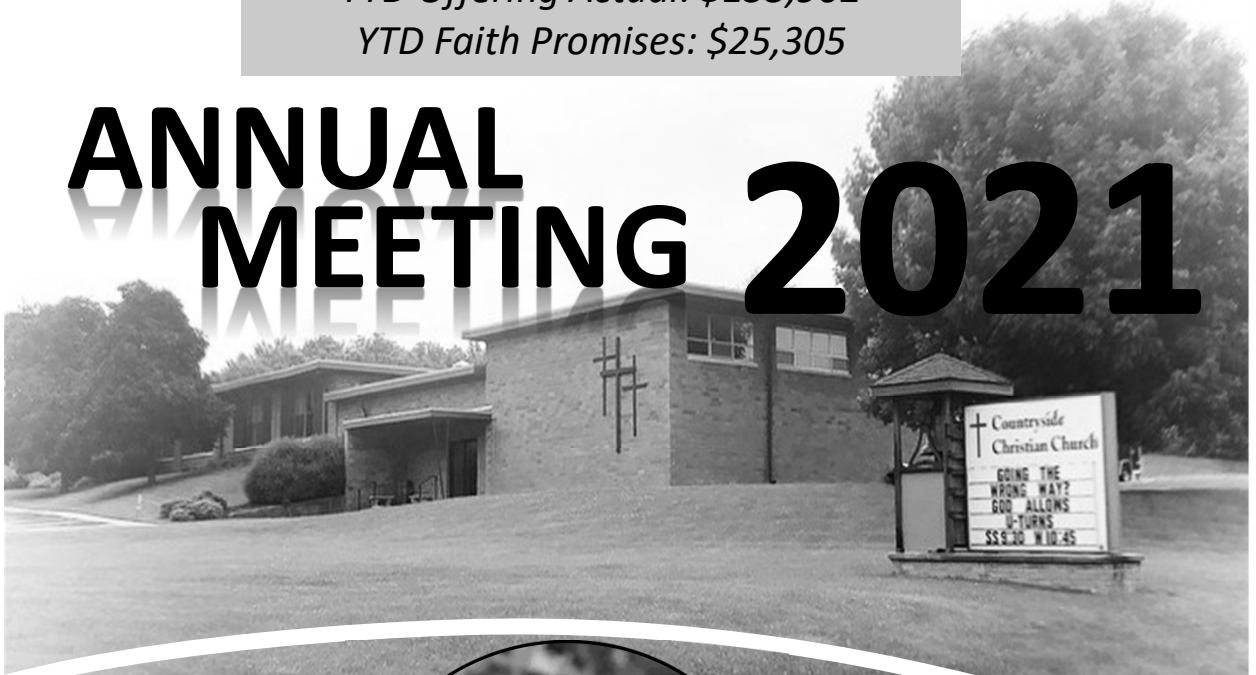
If you haven't yet seen the updates, check out previous newsletters....or better yet, stop in!

"He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it." 1 Thessalonians 5:24

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

YTD Offering Budget: \$149,342
YTD Offering Actual: \$153,902
YTD Faith Promises: \$25,305

ANNUAL MEETING 2021



Department Reports due October 10th

October 17, 2020

Another year has flown by already and it's time for our Annual Meeting.

Join us on Sunday, October 17th after the Worship Service for a potluck lunch and our Annual Meeting at 1pm to help plan and prepare for the upcoming year.

SEE YOU THERE!

"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness." 2 Corinthians 9:10

FINANCE HIGHLIGHT



OCTOBER *events*



10/2

IDES MEAL PACKING DAY

9:00am – 1:00pm

10/4

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

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



10/7

ELDERS' MEETING

9:00am



10/7

BUDGET MEETING

All Departments (7pm)



10/10

ALL DEPARTMENT REPORTS DUE

10:45am



10/17

ANNUAL MEETING

1pm following the Worship Service and Potluck Lunch



10/20

KIDS CLUB & IMPACT

Note change of time this Wednesday:
Kids Club 2-4pm
Impact 3-4pm



10/30

HARVEST FESTIVAL

5-7pm



10/31

**FIFTH SUNDAY POTLUCK
FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**

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



UPCOMING EVENTS



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

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER Birthdays

- 4 – Seth Johnson
- 8 – Ethel Knight
- 13 – Sandy Lawrence
- 13 – Alissa Heydeman
- 14 – Josh Larimer
- 17 – Logan Heydeman
- 18 – Larry Griffin
- 28 – Mike Winger

OCTOBER Anniversaries

- 4 – Donna & Don Vickroy
- 12 – Amber & Jacob Miller
- 21 – Kathy & Harry Kohrt



October

1. Amos 4-6
2. Amos 7-9
3. Obadiah-Jonah
4. Micah 1-4
5. Micah 5-7
6. Nahum 1-3
7. Habakkuk 1-3
8. Zephaniah 1-3
9. Haggai 1-2
10. Zechariah 1-5
11. Zechariah 6-10
12. Zechariah 11-14
13. Malachi 1-4
14. Matthew 1-4
15. Matthew 5-7
16. Matthew 8-11
17. Matthew 12-15
18. Matthew 16-19
19. Matthew 10-22
20. Matthew 23-25
21. Matthew 26-28
22. Mark 1-3
23. Mark 4-6
24. Mark 7-10
25. Mark 11-13
25. Mark 14-16
27. Luke 1-3
28. Luke 4-6
29. Luke 7-9
30. Luke 10-13
31. Luke 14-17



VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!



NURSERY WORKERS

	During Sunday School	During Worship Service
Oct 3	Cathy Lotz	Mary Green
Oct 10	Mary Green	Nancy Dufur
Oct 17	Becki Winger	Sarah Denekas
Oct 24	Kathy Kohrt	Sandy Lawrence
Oct 31	Nancy Dufur	Cathy Lotz

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

	Teacher	Helper
Oct 3	Ruth Coverdill	Kathy Kohrt
Oct 10	Ruth Coverdill	Cathy Lotz
Oct 17	Ruth Coverdill	Donna Vickroy
Oct 24	Ruth Coverdill	Karen Allison
Oct 31	FAMILY SUNDAY	FAMILY SUNDAY



COMMUNION
MEDITATION

Oct 3 – Steve Allison
Oct 10 – Wayne Lotz
Oct 17 – Teresa Garcia
Oct 24 – Don Vickroy
Oct 31 – Ryan Schmidt



Oct 3 – Simms family
Oct 10 – Don & Donna Vickroy
Oct 17 – Karen Allison
Oct 24 – Don & Donna Vickroy
Oct 31 – Jerry & Nancy Dufur



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



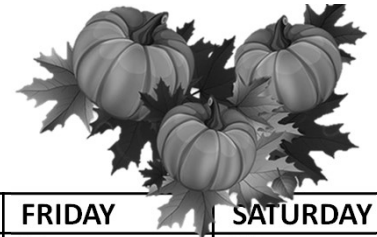
Please sign up in the church lobby for one week if you are able to!
Thank you!









"Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9:37-38

2021

October



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever. Isaiah 40:8</i>					01 Stamping Club (Bev Skelton) 9am-12pm	02 IDES Meal Packing 9:00AM 
03 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	04 Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm	05 Men's Bible Study 9am Worship Team- 7pm	06 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 7pm	07 Elder's Meeting 9am Budget Mtg- 7pm	08	09 Women's Coffee 9:30am 
10 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM ALL DEPT REPORTS DUE	11 Zuma Township Mtg Cub Scouts 6-7pm COLUMBUS DAY 	12 Men's Study 9am Cub Scouts 6-7pm Worship Team- 7pm	13 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 7pm	14 Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm	15	16
17 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM POTLUCK LUNCH ANNUAL MTG	18 Cub Scouts 6-7pm	19 Men's Study 9am Worship Team- 7pm	20 Kids Club 2-4pm Impact 3-4pm Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 7pm	21	22	23
24 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	25 Cub Scouts 6-7pm	26 Men's Study 9am Cub Scouts 6-7pm Worship Team- 7pm	27 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 7pm	28	29	30 HARVEST FESTIVAL 5-7PM 
31 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM POTLUCK LUNCH						

LIVESTREAMING *info*



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