

the MESSENGER

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MAY 2022

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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."

Dear Church Family,

In the world we live in today we all need help staying close to Jesus! Close, as in who we are on the inside, and how we show it in our actions. Here is some help offered by Kathryn Sryri that I think helps us focus well on these two areas. She says...

Step 1. Learn and Be Instructed (Colossians 2:7)

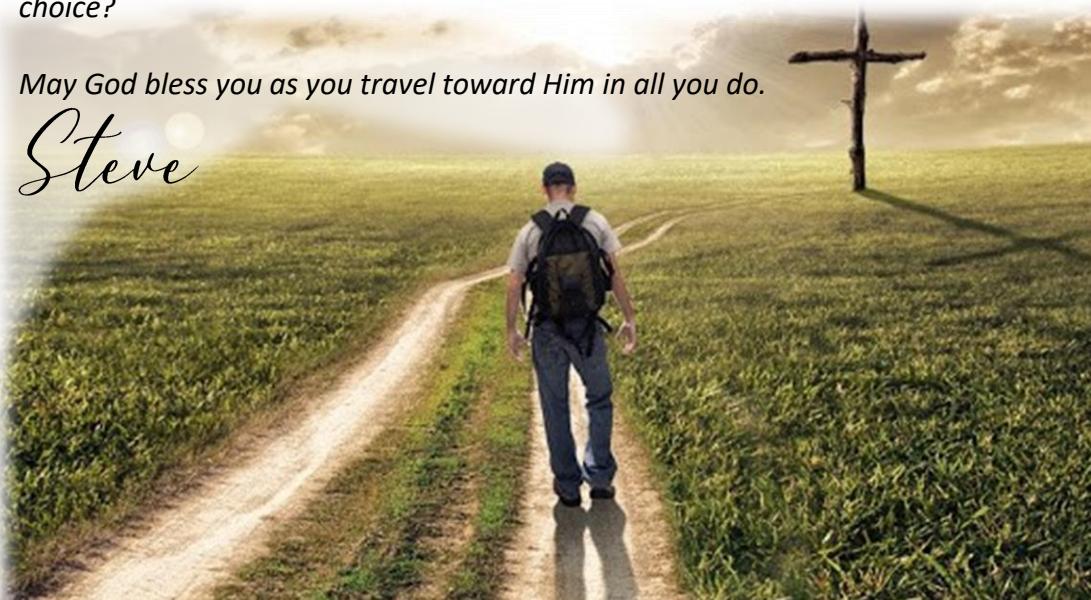
The Christian life isn't just about accepting Jesus and being baptized. That is only the beginning. We must then commit ourselves to a lifetime of learning. You have to be willing to read and study God's Word, be ready to accept guidance and instruction from others, and to learn to listen for God's direction. It's not an academic exercise, but rather a process of surrendering self to the process of allowing God to show you his way and reform you into his image. Then...

Step 2. Do Not Follow the Way of the World (Psalm 1:1)

As Christians we are called to walk the narrow road, choosing to follow God's way, not the way of the world. This means we'll make hard choices to say "no" to things that might put us in tempting situations. We'll say "no" to things the world says are okay, but we know aren't okay to God. Remember the "wicked" and "sinners" won't often look like "bad guys". In fact, they'll often look like friends, co-workers, the popular crowd, the people the world reveres. Their path may not look dangerous or illicit. It may look like the path that makes the most money, the way that leads to earthly happiness, the choice that fits in best with everyone else around you. Ask yourself: is this step I'm taking in line with God's word and rule in my life or is it focused on earthly, human gain? Where is God in this choice?

May God bless you as you travel toward Him in all you do.

Steve



OUR GRADUATING SENIORS



Jacob Johnson
2022 Graduate
Erie High School
Graduation: May 15th

Graduation

RECEPTION

SUNDAY, JUNE 5
FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP
SERVICE
for Jadyn and Jacob



Go Be Great

Be strong and courageous;
do not be afraid; do not
be discouraged; for the
Lord will be with you
wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9



Jadyn Collis
2022 Graduate
Erie High School
Graduation: May 15th

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

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

EASTER BREAKFAST & EGG HUNT

EVANGELISM HIGHLIGHT



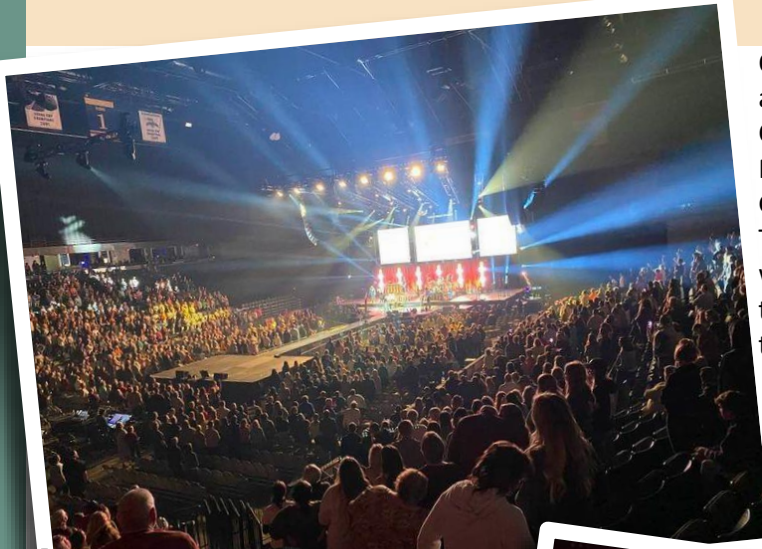
Easter Sunday was April 17th and a HUGE thanks to the Evangelism Dept, Fellowship Dept, and especially Georgia Cullison for all the work they did in making this happen! We sent out almost 2,000 postcards, filled over 3,000 eggs, and served breakfast to about 200 people. Praise God!



Revelation 1:17b-18a: "Don't be afraid! I am the First and Last. I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever!"

CONCERT TIME!

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT



On April 28th, CCC had almost 40 people attend the We the Kingdom and Casting Crowns concert at the TaxSlayer Center in Moline. Thank you Jim for getting us GREAT seats and a special group discount! The show was spectacular and very worshipful. A great night of fellowshipping together! Thank you Criss for organizing this night!



CASTING CROWNS
and
WE THE KINGDOM



Psalms 66:4 All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name."

KIDS CLUB

MAY NEWS



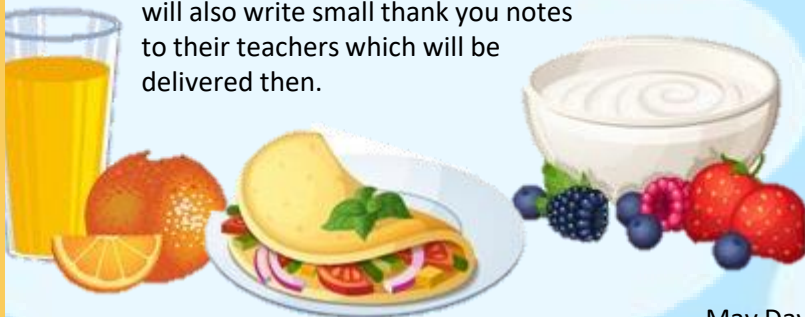
Last Day of Kids Club is May 18th!!!



We will have an end-of-the-year party that Wednesday!

Thank you!

On Monday, May 2nd, the Kids Club leaders will be providing breakfast for the Riverdale School teachers and staff as a thank you. The kids will also write small thank you notes to their teachers which will be delivered then.



May Day!

May Day is Sunday, May 1st. Every year, the Kids Club makes about 100 bags and we deliver them to each door of people in the church who are house-bound or in nursing homes. This year, that day falls on a Sunday. If you are able to come to church that day, the kids are going to pass out their baskets at church. We will deliver the remaining ones that afternoon.



The kids are going to be working on a special Mother's Day project this month. Please send a picture of you with your child(ren) as soon as you can to cccportbyron@gmail.com or text: 815-325-8079. Thank you!





Our new tables and chairs are here! Thank you Sarah for all the research and time you spent finding the perfect tables and chairs for our Kids Church room. They really brighten up the space and are kid-friendly!

On Easter, we had over 30 kids (4 yrs – 4th grade) attend Kids Church during the sermon time. THANK YOU volunteers who are dedicated to making Kids Church fun and growing the program!

If you would love to be a part of this exciting ministry opportunity, please contact Sarah Denekas to be put into the rotation. You don't have to commit to very many Sundays and the lessons are already planned for you.



Vacation Bible School for 2022 is tentatively planned for the last week of July (Sunday through Thursday night) July 24th-July 28th from 6:00-7:30pm.

More information will be coming out soon about this. If you are available to help with this year's VBS, please contact the church office! Thank you!



"Before I tell you what happened, Mom, remember... the Lord will never give you more than you can handle."

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

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Lincoln Christian University

“Lincoln Bible Institute, ‘LBI’ was born in the mind and heart of Earl C. Hargrove in 1944 as the result of a God-given vision. From the very beginning unto this very day, countless people have sacrificially provided the resources to carry out this God-given vision of supplying dedicated and well-trained workers for the Kingdom.” The mission statement is “to nurture and equip Christian leaders with a biblical worldview to serve and lead in the church and the world”.

Lincoln Christian University (initially Lincoln Bible Institute, then Lincoln Christian College and Seminary, now Lincoln Christian University) was launched on May 4, 1944, to help prepare people to carry out God’s effort through the church. For decades, LCU has trained servant leaders to serve the church and world. Mr. Hargrove, LCU’s founding president, stated: “We need Kingdom workers.” In addition to supplying churches with preachers, LCU has trained worship ministers, youth ministers, church secretaries, Christian education directors, small group leaders, elders, Sunday school teachers, mission committee members and a host of other roles in the church. We are thrilled that God has used so many who took classes at LCU to help build His Church.

For over 75+ years, LCU has been educating Kingdom-minded leaders to serve in the church and the world. More than 16,000 have studied there.



The Covid virus has impacted the financial situation of LCU in a very dramatic way. Students were being taught virtually and the enrollment declined. On February 22, 2022, President Silas McCormick and Board Chair Tamsen Murray, announced a bold initiative to create a new model for Christian higher education is responsive to a new era of Kingdom work.

“The new model makes three primary changes to what LCU presently does:

- First, though it continues the University’s commitment to providing biblical, theological, and worldview education opportunities for Kingdom leaders through academic degree programs, it narrows those programs to those most directly tied to vocational ministry—specifically seminary programs along with two undergraduate programs in Bible and Theology and Christian ministry. It may be helpful to think of this as Seminary+, our Seminary plus two undergraduate programs.
- Second, it dramatically expands non-credit education opportunities in the form of workshops, retreats, conferences, curricula, and the like created by and led by LCU faculty.
- Third, it adapts to the fact that more and more churches are developing their own leaders in their existing contexts, In the new mode, LCU will offer the biblical, theological, and worldview components of our curricula, and a number of partner churches will offer the practical ministry training through internship and residency experiences as well as serving as a voice in the creation of workshops, curricula, conferences and consulting services on issues facing churches today.” (Newsletter March 8, 2022)

Many changes are occurring at LCU as the result of the impact Covid has had on the economic situation at the University. If you want more information about LCU check the booklet on the mission shelf by the office.

“God is light; in him is no darkness as all.” 1 John 1:5

ROCK RIVER SUMMER CAMPS

It's Camp Time!! (See the church lobby for brochures)

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT: \$20 off if registered by May 1st for full week youth camps (\$10 for one to three night youth camps)

BRING A FRIEND DISCOUNT: Campers who "Bring a Friend" (who has never been to RRCC) will receive a \$30 discount (\$15 for one to three night youth camps) for each new camper that registers for youth camp. The camper that does the inviting will receive the discount.

CCC SCHOLARSHIPS: Our church also supports kids who would like to attend a camp by helping with part of their registration fee.

TEDDY BEAR CAMP

June 17th-18th, 2022 (1st and 2nd Grade)

Cost: \$100 (cost includes camper & parent/guardian)

Dean: Valerie Pittman

This is a fun overnight experience for campers going into 1st and 2nd grade to come to check out RRCC for the first time. Each camper must bring a same-gender parent/guardian (or call the camp office to discuss possible options). Campers spend the weekend swimming, singing, enjoying the campfire, participating in great Bible lessons, having scavenger hunts, wagon rides, and more!

ROCK RIVER CHRISTIAN CAMP
TEDDY BEAR CAMP
JUNE 17-18, 2022
CHECK-IN FRIDAY AT 4:30-5:00 PM
CHECK-OUT SATURDAY AT 2:00 PM
OUR ACTIVITIES
WORSHIP, GAMES, SWIMMING,
AND MORE...
1ST-2ND GRADES
REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.ROCKRIVERCC.NET
FOR MORE INFO
RCCOFFICE@GMAIL.COM
815-493-6622
16486 W IL ROUTE 64, POLO, IL 61064
\$100 per camper/adult combo

First Chance Camp
July 5th-8th 2022 \$200
3rd-4th Grades
Check-in Tuesday 4:00-5:30 pm
Check-out Friday 4:00 pm
Register Online at:
WWW.ROCKRIVERCC.NET
16486 W IL ROUTE 64
Polo, IL 61064
815-493-6622
rccoffice@gmail.com
ROCK RIVER CHRISTIAN CAMP

FIRST CHANCE CAMP

July 5th-8th, 2022 (3rd and 4th Grade)

Cost: \$200.00

Dean: Brian Beck and Brian Rotert

First Chance is exactly what the title is called, a camper's first opportunity to join in on an exciting adventure where they can come to camp for the first time without bringing along an adult. This camp is for those going into 3rd and 4th grade. Campers will enjoy fun worship experiences, swimming, canteen, campfire, archery, crate stack, and more!

EMBARK (MAIN CAMP)

July 31st-August 5th, 2022 (4th-6th Grade)

Cost: \$340.00

Dean: Josh Lagrange

Campers between 4th-6th grade are loading up for the journey of a lifetime. Here at EMBARK, campers will be diving into what it really means to follow God with a lot of fun along the way. Each day these campers will come face to face with God's truth and grace. They will encounter higher challenges, whether it is stepping up and helping out, or maybe it is climbing up the zip line pole. These campers and faculty members will sleep overnight in cabins that are close to the bathhouse and dining hall. A day at camp consists of great worship, dynamic speaking, small family group times, swimming, canteen, campfires, and so much more! Get ready to EMBARK with us!

ROCK RIVER CHRISTIAN CAMP
EMBARK CAMP
July 31st-August 5th, 2022
Grades: 4th-6th
Activities:
Worship, Lessons,
Swimming, Zip Line,
Games, Campfires, and
more.
Register at:
WWW.ROCKRIVERCC.NET
RCCOFFICE@GMAIL.COM 815-493-6622
16486 W IL ROUTE 64, POLO, IL 61064
\$340 PER PERSON
Check-in Sunday from 4:00-5:30 pm
Check-out Friday at 4:00 pm

RRCC 2022 CAMP INFO



Proverbs 31 Woman

For years, I held an unrealistic view of the model Christian woman. I grew up believing the ideal godly woman was an over-worked, exhausted wife and mother, whose kids were perfect, home was spotless, and who consistently maintained a selfless, subservient, and sacrificial attitude, — regardless of her circumstances or state-of-mind. Traits that, at the time, I thought were essential for any devoted, Bible-believing, woman of God. Attributes I tried tirelessly — without success I might add — to model for years.

After more than 20 years of striving to live up to my aggrandized view of Proverbs 31:10-31, I finally unearthed the truth. The real woman described in this passage, is a God-fearing, dedicated, and independent woman. She bravely dives into leadership roles and takes on challenging positions with courage and confidence. When I finally discovered the true attributes of this bold and driven woman, she won my heart and inspired my future. Granted, it's impossible for any woman to live up to the full description of the Proverbs 31 woman, but I believe, this passage is meant to inspire us to be the unique, persistent, fearless women God created us to be. Therefore, let's push past the boundaries our society sets, and those we set for ourselves, and embrace our God-given potential with God's ever-present help (Psalm 46:1).

Take a look at the attributes described in Proverb 31 and take note of traits you sense God is calling you to appropriate into your life.

The woman of Proverbs 31 embraces her value (v10,28) and is:

- Honest and trustworthy (v11)
- An entrepreneur (vv13,14,16,24)
- Wise and discerning (vv13,18,26,27)
- Hardworking and Resourceful (vv13,19,24,27)
- A loving provider (vv14,15,21,24)
- Generous and kind (vv15,20,26)
- A supervisor (vv15,27)
- Independent and successful (vv16,24)
- Courageous and strong (vv17,21,25)
- Well-spoken of (v23)
- Confident and optimistic (v25)
- Praised by others (v28,31)
- Dedicated and godly (vv18,30)

Today, this passage inspires me to use the gifts, talents, and abilities God has given me to their full potential. Today, I continually sense God urging me to break out of my comfort zone in order to pursue His calling. And — today, I spend less time worrying about who and what I'm not — and more time striving to be all I can be. Allow Proverbs 31 to inspire us to be the fearless, dedicated, faithful women of God He is calling us to be.

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Proverbs 31:10 "A capable, intelligent, and virtuous woman—who is he who can find her? She is far more precious than jewels and her value is far above rubies or pearls."

★ ★

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVED

“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.” Psalm 91:1

Honoring Christ on Memorial Day

This coming Memorial Day, thousands of churches will pay tribute to our country’s fallen heroes, recognizing the liberties and freedoms we enjoy, and remembering the brave men and women who have given their lives for our country. Memorial Day is focused upon those who have fallen in the service of our country, but at the same time it is an opportunity to focus on Christ. Here are three ways to observe Memorial Day, and bring honor to the King of kings and Lord of lords.

1. Our coming PEACE!

Those who have given their life for our country have experienced the tragic bloodshed that conflict brings. Our world is rocked by strife and division. But one day there will be peace. The author of that peace is Jesus himself, who is described in Scripture as the Prince of peace. Memorial Day recognizes the valor of those in military combat, but a day is coming when we will live in a time of unparalleled peace, brought about by King Jesus.

2. Our HONOR and GLORY!

It is only right that we remember our nation’s military heroes, both past and present. We recognize, honor, and thank those men and women who are involved in the service of country. One day all believers will receive honor for their service. Although not all of us will enlist in the armed forces of our country, we will nonetheless hear the “well done,” from Jesus. This is another opportunity to glorify Christ during Memorial Day.

3. Our true GRATITUDE!

After the death of thousands of soldiers following the Civil War, our country’s leaders instituted this as day to remember, in solemnity and heartfelt gratitude, the ultimate price that was paid. We hold the deepest gratitude for the hundreds of thousands of soldiers who have given their lives over the ages, defending our freedoms and families. As we remember them, let us also remain aware that Jesus, too, gave the ultimate sacrifice. He laid down his life to secure a freedom which transcends any earthly freedom. Jesus gave his life to gain spiritual victory over sin, death, and hell. Memorial Day gives us a chance to praise our Lord for the price he paid, and the triumph he secured. As you commemorate our fallen heroes this year, take the opportunity to remember the day’s significance while also honoring Christ.



OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

May 1st is the beginning of the next Missions Year. We collected our faith promises for the coming year during our "Mission Not Impossible" Sunday on April 24th.

As of right now, our goal for the 2022-2023 Missions Year is:

\$31,852.00

Thank you for supporting the work of missions!

Remember our missionaries can only continue the important work of sharing the good news of Jesus with the prayerful and monetary support of churches like Countryside!

Countryside supports a wide variety of ministries including:

- Christian higher education
- Youth and adult camping experiences
- Global disaster relief and evangelism
- Ministry to the Chinese people in the U.S. & China
- Church plants in Mexico
- Bible translation in Papua, New Guinea
- Ministry to recruit and support missionaries around the world



2022-2023 Mission Year

(beginning 5/1/2022)

Faith Promises Goal: \$31,852

2021-2022 Mission Year

Faith Promises Goal: \$37,176

Faith Promises Total: \$36,860

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.

MAY *events*

5/1

MAY DAY



5/2

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

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

MONTHLY MEETING

Be Connected Be Heard Be Informed

5/2

TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Riverdale School 7:00am



5/8

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



5/12

ELDERS' MEETING

9:00AM



5/14

WOMEN'S COFFEE

9:30AM



5/15

RIVERDALE AND ERIE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



5/18

LAST DAY OF KIDS CLUB & IMPACT

3:00-5:00PM KIDS CLUB
4:00-5:00PM IMPACT



5/29

5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK & FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

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



5/31

MEMORIAL DAY



THANK YOU

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

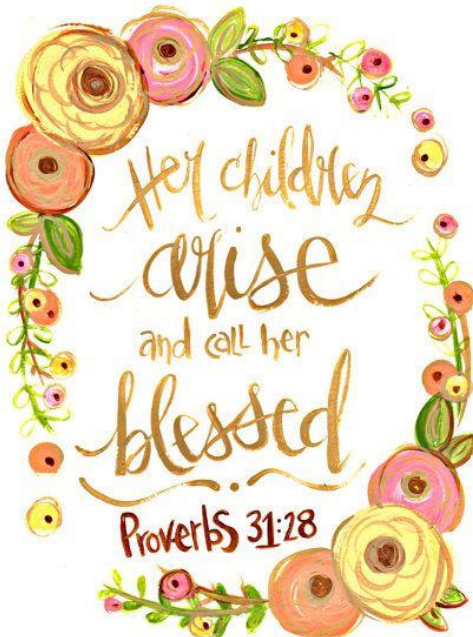
MAY Birthdays

- 4 – Amber Ramos
- 6 – Joanne Wiklund
- 11 – Tena Knapp
- 12 – Logan Wheeler
- 14 – Tiffany Wheeler
- 14 – Mikah Mikles
- 15 – Dawn Ryden
- 22 – Steve Allison
- 24 – Jasper Denekas
- 26 – Dylan Trout
- 28 – Natalia Ramos
- 29 – Teagan Collis



MAY Anniversaries

- 1 – Becki & Mike Winger
- 3 – Adam & Val Rutledge
- 6 – Ruthie & Brock Coverdill
- 11 – Jill & Norm Weatherhead
- 30 – Katie Jo & Corey Chasek
- 31 – Rock & Sandy Lawrence



May

1. 2 Chronicles 26-29
2. 2 Chronicles 30-32
3. 2 Chronicles 33-36
4. Ezra 1-4
5. Ezra 5-7
6. Ezra 8-10
7. Nehemiah 1-3
8. Nehemiah 4-6
9. Nehemiah 7-9
10. Nehemiah 10-13
11. Esther 1-4
12. Esther 5-7
13. Esther 8-10
14. Job 1-4
15. Job 5-7
16. Job 8-10
17. Job 11-13
18. Job 14-17
19. Job 18-20
20. Job 21-24
21. Job 25-27
22. Job 28-31
23. Job 32-34
24. Job 35-37
25. Job 38-43
25. Psalms 1-3
27. Psalms 4-6
28. Psalms 7-9
29. Psalms 10-12
30. Psalms 13-15
31. Psalms 16-18

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

Children's Ministry

Nursery

Sunday School Time (9:30-10:15)
Worship Time (10:45-12:00)

Date	Sunday School	Worship Service
1	Cathy Lotz	Sandy Lawrence
8	Nancy Dufur	Kathy Kohrt
15	Becki Winger	Georgia Cullison
22	Gail Horst	Nancy Dufur
29	Kathy Kohrt	Becki Winger

Children's Church

**Teacher/helper are dismissed after offering*

Date	Teacher	Helper
1	Cathy Lotz	Criss Evans
8	Cathy Lotz	Cheryl Gipson
15	Cathy Lotz	Alicia Simms
22	Cathy Lotz	Donna Vickroy
29	FAMILY SUNDAY	

Worship Ministry

Communion Meditation

May 1
Ryan Schmidt
May 8
Steve Allison
May 15
Don Vickroy

May 22
Wayne Lotz
May 29
Teresa Garcia

Greeters



Please sign up for a Sunday that works for your family! Welcome people, direct them to the sanctuary, nursery, or rest rooms if needed, and hand out bulletins.

Church Building Cleaners

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



Breakfast Volunteers



New sign-up sheets are in the lobby. Please sign up for a Sunday that works best for you! Provide breakfast treats and help serve coffee and clean-up between Sunday School and Worship.

May

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM MAY DAY 	2 TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST Exercise Class – 12pm Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm U of I Home Extension 7-9pm	3 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	4 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm	5 Dog Training – 1pm NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 	6 Stamping Club (Bev Skelton) 9am-12pm	7
8 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! 	9 Exercise Class – 12pm Church in use Zuma Township Meeting	10 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	11 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm	12 Elder Meeting 9am Dog Training – 12pm Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm	13 Women's Coffee 	14
15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM Erie & Riverdale Graduation 1:30pm 	16 Exercise Class – 12pm	17 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	18 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm LAST DAY OF KIDS CLUB Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm	19 Dog Training – 1pm	20	21
22 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	23 Exercise Class – 12pm	24 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	25 Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm	26 Dog Training – 1pm	27	28
29 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM POTLUCK LUNCH 12:00PM 	30  MEMORIAL DAY	31 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	<p><i>“She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.”</i></p> <p><i>Proverbs 31:26</i></p>			



Countryside Christian Church

3817 230th St. N
Port Byron, IL 61275

LIVESTREAMING *info*



[Youtube: \(https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOR735qhzkzpFlujtP-A\)](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOR735qhzkzpFlujtP-A)



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



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



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.