



Sunday Morning Services:

9:30am Sunday School*

10:15am Breakfast

10:45am Worship*

*Nursery is provided

Children's Church (4yrs-4th grade) during Sermon Time

Wednesday Activities:

3-5pm Kids Club (K-5th)

4-5pm Impact (Jr High)

6:30pm Small Groups

Church Office:

309-523-2834

Church Email:

cccportbyron@gmail.com

Church Website:

www.countrysidecc.org

Live Streaming Info:

Paste the links below into your browser:



shorturl.at/CIM08



shorturl.at/wBVY4

From Steve's Desk...

Hi Church family... I read this on the Christian Standard website and want to share it with you. I hope you find it encouraging!

Cross-Eyed

By Doug Redford

Doug was in the seventh grade when he first realized he was having problems with his vision. He was having to squint to see what was written on the blackboard—a sure sign he needed glasses. But he really didn't appreciate his need for them until he put them on for the first time.

Before he put on his new prescription glasses, the assistant at the office said, "Look across the street." He did, and then she said, "Now, put your glasses on and look across the street." He did and was amazed at how the parked cars were so much clearer. He couldn't believe how poor his vision had been and how improved the glasses made it.

Communion gives us the opportunity each Lord's Day to refocus our spiritual vision. It's not unlike the salve Jesus told the church at Laodicea they needed to acquire and apply to their eyes (Revelation 3:18). Things can happen in our lives during any given week—personal problems and challenges, situations that loved ones or friends are dealing with, or sometimes just the way the world seems to be going. Our focus wanders from the Lord . . . from his presence with us and his promises to us in Scripture. It can require some serious squinting to see him amid all the distractions.

When Jesus established Communion as a memorial for his followers to observe, he said, "Do this in remembrance of me." A part of that is remembering that Jesus is still with us "to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). We cannot see that far into the future, but according to Paul, any time we partake of Communion, we "proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26). When Christ returns, we will take our place at the "wedding supper of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:9), which will be an even greater "Lord's Supper." For now, the emblems of Communion provide a way to carry out John the Baptist's command: "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). It's probably the only time when being *cross-eyed* is a good thing.

Steve



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



UPCOMING VIDEO SERIES



Steve has been leading a video series called “How Happiness Happens” written by Max Lucado for the last several weeks. The final lesson will be on March 5th. This class was available to any adult during the Sunday School hour.

There will be a new video series starting Sunday, March 12th so be on the lookout for that announcement! If you haven’t attended Sunday School before as a family, now is a great time to start!

Sunday School is every Sunday at 9:30am

Nursery provided for Newborn – 3 years old

4yrs – 4th grade Sunday School – Connie Curry (Teacher)

5th – 8th grade Sunday School – Judy Millies (Teacher)

Adult Sunday School Lesson – Wayne Lotz (Teacher)

Adult Sunday School Video Series – Steve Allison (Teacher)



KIDS CLUB

& **IMPACT**

March 2023



Thank you to all who helped make our Annual Spaghetti Dinner a success last month! This month, we have Spring Break coming up so we will not meet the week of March 15th. Don't forget about our super fun Annual Beach Party this month also!



Beach Party!

5:00 PM

MARCH

25

FAMILY GAMES,
FOOD, & PRIZES!

Events



- March 1- Weekly Meeting
- March 8 - Weekly Meeting
- March 15 - NO KIDS CLUB/IMPACT
- March 22 - Weekly Meeting
- March 25- BEACH PARTY
- March 29 - Weekly Meeting

Church Office:
309-523-2834
Church Email:
cccportbyron@gmail.com

Did you turn in your Sonfish Bank yet? We have been able to raise about \$150 so far to help with our IDES Food-packing event!



REACHING OUR COMMUNITY

Easter is right around the corner! The church has already been spending hours planning this year's celebration! The times of the services that Sunday are below. We would appreciate any donations of candy in the coming weeks that we can use to fill the Easter eggs! We typically have about 100 kids that morning so that is a lot of eggs!

Keep an eye on the volunteer table in the lobby for sign up sheets for Easter breakfast or any other way you can get involved. We are excited to reach our community with the good news this Easter!



9:30am Breakfast

10:30 Egg Hunt

10:45 Worship

3817 - 230th St. N

Port Byron, IL 61275

Phone: 309.523.2834

Pastor Steve Allison

cccportbyron@gmail.com



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/countrysidechristianchurch>



www.countrysidecc.org

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Luke 16:15

EVANGELISM HIGHLIGHT

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. 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.



As I write this article Norm is on his way to Papua New Guinea after a three year lapse due to Covid. "On Sunday afternoon (Feb. 12) I (Norm) will be starting my long trip over to Madang, Papua New Guinea. This journey will take 4 days to travel on 5 flights through 4 countries before I will arrive in Madang on Thursday, Feb. 16.

Praise God that after almost 3 years. I will be able to return to PNG to work in-person with my Akukem national translation team. After 3 years of working on the text of Luke, we are ready to do the Final Consultant Check on the Akukem Gospel of Luke. Praise God that Steve Hayward, who will be the outside consultant, received his Entry Visa to allow him to come to PNG to conduct the checking session." (Newsletter Feb. 10)

"Jill has recently made a book launch of her new devotional book "A Devotional Journey" by Jill Weatherhead. We think you will enjoy reading this book which comes out of all the life lessons Jill has learned as a servant for the Lord and as a child of God. This book is one way that Jill can give back out of the fullness of her walk with the Lord, and her/our prayer is that you would be blessed by this book. Jill is already thinking of some ideas for future books to write which will continue her ministry of helping people to rediscover the total beauty that is in each of us, designed by God." (Newsletter Feb 3,2023)



Prayer Requests:

- *That Norm will have a safe, smooth, and uneventful trip from Canada to PNG Feb. 12-16
- *That all the Akukem team members (8in all) will be able to leave their villages and arrive safely in Madang to work with us on checking Luke,
- *For Jill, who is planning on coming over to PNG at the end of Feb. to be with Norm and support our translation work through the month of March,
- *and most of all, that the translated Work of God in the Akukem language will speak to the hearts of the people once we have the Gospel book of Luke ready for print and audio."

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.



Faith Promise 2023

Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 10:45am

Next month, we are looking forward to our annual Faith Promise & Missions Sunday. On this Sunday, we get to hear updates from our missionaries we support and the work they are doing around the world. We also have the opportunity to set our Faith Promise goal for the next year, trusting by faith that God will provide.

Connie Curry always provides us with a missionary update each month for a specific missionary we support. This month's focus is on Norm and Jill Weatherhead. We appreciate the way she keeps us informed of the work they are doing and any needs that they have. Jill has recently published a book you may want to check out also!! An email arrived this week from the Weatherhead's with some additional prayer concerns for Jill's health and traveling complications for Norm. It is also included in this newsletter.

We have also received some updates from a couple more of our missionaries: IDES and Dale and Sonja Hawkins. From disaster recovery in the aftermath of devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, to traveling to Papau, New Guinea to translate the Bible for the Akukem people, to hosting retreats for individuals interested in becoming an international missionary, the good news and hope of Jesus continues to spread around the world.

Please remember their specific prayer requests as you pray for them in the coming weeks.



February 23, 2023

Dear Family & Friends,

We wanted to get a quick word out to you all so you could be praying with us and for us. As we write this we are in route to the Appalachian Christian Camp in East Tennessee where our first Next Step Mission Event of the year is being held. As many of you know, this is the mission retreat we host for those interested in exploring the opportunities for cross-cultural missions and their part in it. **Please pray for the Lord's direction in the lives of those attending and for them to be sensitive to the Lord's leading. Pray for those of us who will be sharing and leading as well.**

As you may already know, Dale's Dad (Noble Lee) was diagnosed with Myelofibrosis and has become very weak. He has been staying with us in our home for the past two weeks as he began a new medication and tries to regain some strength. Kelvin, Dale's brother, came to stay with Noble Lee so that we could leave for this event. This past week Noble Lee has shown some improvement in his strength, which is a big encouragement for us. He received a blood transfusion a week ago, and since then we have seen a little improvement each day. We are so thankful for the improvement he has made. God has been faithful to sustain him (and us). **Please continue to pray for Dale's Dad as he deals with this new diagnosis of Myelofibrosis. Pray also that he will continue to do well with the medication and treatment. Pray for us as we continue to care for him while he adjusts to the treatment plan. Pray for Kelvin as he cares for Noble Lee over the next several days (we so appreciate Kelvin being willing to do that). Pray that Noble Lee will be able to return soon to the Shelbina Villa where he and Emmalynn have been living since the end of December. Please pray that the Lord will renew our strength as we strive to keep up with all our responsibilities.** We feel the weight of being the primary caregivers for Dale's Dad as well as concerns for Emmalynn during this time. Many of you have lived through that yourselves and understand what that means.

As always, please continue to remember the Outreach International missionaries and national workers as they serve on the field.

Thank you for lifting us up before the Lord – your faithfulness in prayer on our behalf makes all the difference for us and this ministry! We too, pray for you as you serve the Lord “in your neck of the woods”.

Eternity Matters Most,

With grateful Hearts,

Dale & Senja

“Those that wait upon the Lord will renew their strength... They'll run and not grow weary, they'll walk and not faint...” Isaiah 40:31

(Lord helps us to know how to “wait upon the Lord” 😊)



International Disaster Emergency Service

"IDES exists to meet physical and spiritual needs of suffering people throughout the world in the name of Jesus Christ."

February 24, 2023

"The scale of the disaster here in Turkey is overwhelming. The total affected area is larger than the entire state of Indiana (more than 42,000 square miles) but as we walked the streets of several of the worst hit cities, it is also deeply personal." (IDES International Project Managers currently on the ground in Turkey)

In a different region, a partner described the extreme needs of the situation, stating that "Epidemics [are] breaking out because of unburied corpses. Looters [are] confronting aid workers at gun point (workers evacuated from one location before our people arrived there)."

But even in the midst of sorrow, chaos, and devastation, our Project Managers say that the gospel is still going forth--"The tiny and persecuted church here is responding with food, hygiene, blankets and other aid as they are able in the worst hit cities. Frequently they are asked by recipients, 'who are you and why are you helping?' which allows for a natural and loving witness about the hope and help of Christ."



"As I travel from disaster site to disaster site, it is amazing to witness the selfless dedication that our volunteers possess as they bring the love of Christ to those who are hurting after a time of crisis."

B.G. Moore (IDES Media Director)

February 14, 2023

At this point, there are reported 37,357 people dead, 89,926 people injured, 1.3 million people displaced, and 24 million people affected. (Source: Reuters)

So far, IDES's support has been focused on providing funding for emergency supplies, especially cold-weather supplies. And, IDES International Project Managers (one of whom is a licensed medical professional) are currently en route to the affected area to establish and staff a mobile medical clinic. IDES is committed to sharing help and hope in the midst of this disaster, and we ask that you consider joining us. 100% of any donations designated to "Turkey/Syria Earthquake" will be put directly towards relief efforts. Visit <https://ides.org/turkey-syria-earthquake> today to learn more.





Pioneer
Bible Translators



The Word of God in the
heart languages of people
Transforms Lives

Our Latest Prayer & Praise

The plan was relatively simple: Fly to Australia via Vancouver and Auckland, rest for two nights and then fly up to Madang, PNG. I was looking forward to writing everyone to say, "I'm finally in PNG after being away for 3 years." Then everything went sideways.

Checking in at Calgary on Sunday, Feb 13 I was informed that travelers needed an entry visa to New Zealand, even though I was transiting in and out of the airport in just a 5-hour period. No worries, they told me it would take 15 minutes online to get the electronic visa. Well.... Hours later, having missed three possible flights, no visa, and no rebooking possible even though an airline agent worked with me for 90 minutes on the phone to find a new route, I had to trust God that a solution would be found.

So... back to the house... (thanks Jill for rescuing me at midnight), and finally by 4am I found a new route via Los Angeles which only cost us an additional \$1500!! So off to the airport again and on to Australia. Praise God I had thought of booking two overnights in Brisbane. I caught up to the 2nd overnight and then early next morning I was off to PNG.

I arrived in Port Moresby with just enough time to buy a new phone number for my PNG phone (they recycle your number if it's not used after a certain period), and over to Domestic Terminal to fly to Madang. Just minutes before boarding.... "Flight Cancelled!" was announced. PTL I had booked Air Niugini from Brisbane to Moresby to Madang, so the airline put me up at a downtown hotel. I had enough time to get a bite to eat and sleep for 4 hours before returning to the airport again at 3am.

We boarded the plane and took off for Madang. Hooray, I'm finally going to be back in Madang. Oops, wait, why are we circling Madang. I can see the town below!! Four rounds of circling, and then.... back to Port Moresby. There was an intense rain storm below and there was too much water on the runway to land. Anxiously we wait in the Domestic Terminal.... and then word to board the plane and try again.

Yes!!! We landed in Madang!! I experienced 2 cancelled flights, an aborted flight, a complete new booking with extra cost, traveling on 6 planes through 4 countries in 5 ½ days of travel to finally arrive in Madang, PNG.

NEWS BULLETIN: I found out during my trip that Auckland, New Zealand was besieged by the worst cyclone they had ever experienced in over 100 years with severe flooding and damage done to the country. **Pray** for their recovery... and, **praise God** I did not get on a plane to New Zealand and either a) be diverted to a different country I didn't know, or b) be grounded for days in Auckland if we had got there.

NEWS BULLETIN: there is a major dispute right now between the PNG banks and the fuel company resulting in planes being grounded across PNG. **Pray** for a resolution to this fuel crisis which is affecting all air and ground transportation. **Praise God** that I was able, not once but twice, to be able to fly from Port Moresby to Madang to finally arrive at my destination.

AKUKEM PROJECT: 3 men of our national translation team have arrived in Madang, and I have worked with them this week to clean up loose questions in Luke. **Pray** that the other 5 Akukem men can arrive on Monday to join us as part of the checking session on Luke. AND... **Pray** that our PBT consultant who will check our translation of Luke will also be able to arrive this weekend. Steve Hayward is journeying from Missouri to Madang and he needs our prayers that he will not experience interruptions to his travels.

NEWS CONCERNING JILL: a regular “FIT” test was scheduled by Jill’s doctor before she would travel to join me here in PNG. Based on that test, a polyp had been found and the doctor further scheduled Jill for a colonoscopy. They were able to remove the polyp, but it was larger than expected and the procedure was more difficult than expected. She was told that she should not travel for at least two weeks post procedure, and the polyp has been sent on for standard further testing.

Due to the delay in time for this procedure, and the possibility of not having any travel medical insurance for her if anything happened related to this while traveling here to PNG, we have made the tough decision that Jill will stay back in Canada while I work with the Akukem over the next four weeks in Madang. **Pray** for Jill to feel well quickly. And **pray** for both of us as we have made this decision to be apart so that I can concentrate on the Akukem translation session at hand.

Through all of this, we are continually reminded that **“We walk by faith, and not by sight.” (2 Cor. 5:7)** and that we must bathe all our plans in prayer, trusting in Jesus who loves us and gave himself for us. And... **our prayer** is that the Akukem people will come to know these truths as well. For their sakes, all of these trials of ministry and life are worth it.

We are so grateful for your partnership with us in prayer,

Norm & Jill Weatherhead
Missionaries to Papua New Guinea



REVIVAL

brings hope

Have you seen the news about the Asbury Revival last month and how it has sparked similar movements on Christian campuses across the country? On February 8, a handful of students stayed after their Wednesday morning chapel service to pray and give testimonies. Students were drawn back to the chapel until there was standing room only and then a line stretched outside the doors. The prayer/worship service continued for the next **sixteen** days without stopping!

What's happening at Asbury is not and will not remain confined. It will, and already is awakening the deep wells of revival on campuses across the nation. They have been churning, pressing against the seals that have kept them hidden, and they are about to burst with new life.

~ Rob Fultz, Campus Pastor of Lee University

Thousands have been impacted by this outpouring of the Holy Spirit and even news stations who typically avoid anything having to do with Jesus have to report on this movement because of its magnitude. How exciting and encouraging to see the Holy Spirit at work in the hearts of college students across the nation! May we pray for the same awakening and stirring here in Port Byron and may we be faithful in spreading the good news and hope of Jesus to people who are desperate to hear it!

Laura



MEN'S GROUP

EVERY TUESDAY @ 9:00am
Countryside Christian Church

Women's BIBLE STUDY

EVERY TUESDAY
9:00am
Countryside Christian Church



OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

FINANCE HIGHLIGHT

four WAYS to GIVE at

Countryside
Christian Church

Visit
www.countrysidecc.org
for more information.



Mail-In

Mail in your offering directly to our church office at the address below:
Countryside Christian Church
3817 230th St. N
Port Byron, IL 61275



Online Giving

Visit online at
www.countrysidecc.org to use our giving website directly.



Mobile Giving

Use our Church App to give on your mobile device. Scan the QR code below to add to your phone.



Drop Off or In-Person

Visit our church office and use our drop box located in the church lobby.

March

BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Jacob Johnson
- 6 Amber Miller
- 7 Madalyn Simms
- 8 Kati Jo Chasek
- 10 Erin Trout
- 15 Corey Chasek
- 17 Zoey Heydeman
- 18 Teresa Garcia
- 21 Ryan Schmidt
- 22 Linda Griffin
- 23 Vicky LeCleir
- 27 Ashley Knapp
- 31 Jeff Wierenga



VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

Childrens Ministry

Sunday School (9:30-10:15)			Worship* (10:45-12:00)				
			Children's Church			Nursery	
Date	Teacher's	Nursery	Date	Teacher	Helper	Leader	Helper
			*Children's Church Teacher & helper are dismissed from service after the worship communion / offering				
			*Nursery workers are scheduled for the entire church service from 10:40-12:00				
March			March				
5	Connie Curry Judy Millies Steve Allison	Kathy Kohrt	5	Sarah Denekas	Cheryl Gipson	Shanie Bird	Kristina Rogers
12	Connie Curry Judy Millies Steve Allison	Becki Winger	12	Sarah Denekas	Kathy Kohrt	Shanie Bird	Ruthie Coverdill
19	Connie Curry Judy Millies Steve Allison	Sarah Denekas	19	Sarah Denekas	Donna Vickroy	Shanie Bird	Mikah Mikles
26	Connie Curry Judy Millies Steve Allison	Ruthie Coverdill	26	Sarah Denekas	Ruthie Coverdill	Shanie Bird	Becki Winger

Worship Ministry

COMMUNION MEDITATION

March 5 – Teresa Garcia
 March 12 – Jim Kaecker
 March 19 – Ryan Schmidt
 March 26 – Steve Allison

GREETERS



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

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.

Church

BUILDING CLEANERS



Brian & Dawn Tiesman
 Randy & Sarah Denekas
 Jim & Dawn Kaecker

"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

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

March

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth." ~ Hosea 6:3</p>			<p>1 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm</p>	<p>2 Worship Team 6:30pm</p>	<p>3 Stamping Club (Bev Skelton) 9am-12pm</p> <p></p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP 10:45AM</p>	<p>6 Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm</p> <p>Softball 5:45-8:45pm</p>	<p>7 Men's Study 9am Women's Study 9am</p>	<p>8 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm</p>	<p>9 Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm Gym in use</p> <p>Worship Team 6:30pm</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Women's Coffee 9:30am</p> <p></p>
<p> Daylight Saving Time Begins SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP 10:45AM</p>	<p>13 Church in use Zuma Township Meeting</p> <p>Softball 5:45-8:45pm</p>	<p>14 Men's Study 9am Women's Study 9am</p>	<p>15 NO KIDS CLUB OR IMPACT</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm</p>	<p>16 Worship Team 6:30pm</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP 10:45AM</p>	<p>20 Softball 5:45-8:45pm</p>	<p>21 Men's Study 9am Women's Study 9am</p>	<p>22 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm</p>	<p>23 Worship Team 6:30pm</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Kids Club Beach Party 5pm</p> <p></p>
<p>26 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP 10:45AM</p> <p>Easter lily orders due </p>	<p>27 Softball 5:45-8:45pm</p> <p></p>	<p>28 Men's Study 9am Women's Study 9am</p>	<p>29 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm</p>	<p>30 Worship Team 6:30pm</p>	<p>31</p>	