the MESSENGER

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2023

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:

You Tube shorturl.at/CIM08

f

shorturl.at/wBVY4



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,

It's Friday night after a great VBS. As I sit here in my house, reflecting on all of the kids and all of the fun that was had during the week... I am listening to the storm. Sirens going off around me and the television program that I was half watching has been interrupted by the weatherman explaining that there are storms on the way.

Ever since last night's closing program of Vacation Bible school, I have had a sort of smile in my spirit because of the good work and relationship building that was done. That joy is currently being pushed on by reports of tornadoes happening just north of me. The wind is blowing harder. The storm is coming. However, I am encouraged in my heart, because of the work of the church, and yet I am very aware of a storm that is happening.

I can't help but think that this is the role of the church in our culture today. At church, I am encouraged with new families arriving and participating. I am encouraged when I reflect on VBS. I am encouraged to think about what will happen with the Cruise-In coming up, the Food Packing Event that is coming up, and already thinking about Kids Club and Impact kicking off. We should all be encouraged. We can all be encouraged as our church continues to do the work we are called to do.

Church family, as we do this work, I feel we need to be more aware of our culture and the destructive winds that are blowing through it. There seems to be an ever increasing attitude that everyone is free to do whatever they want. You can live your own truth. However, this is an attitude that will definitely bring destruction. Every person who has ever hurt someone, stolen something, or worse, has brought with them the attitude that they were doing exactly what they wanted to do. It felt good to them. You could say they were living their own truth. This attitude is a growing storm in our culture and runs so counter to who Jesus wants his followers to be.

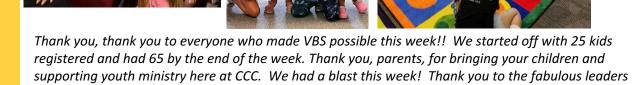
Jesus asks us to deny ourselves and follow Him. Jesus asks us to put others first. The Bible tells us that our will and our way will generally lead to a storm.

As I am now sitting here in the comfort and protection of my house, there is literally a storm raging around me. I can't miss it. The wind is blowing. The lights have flickered. The windows have rattled. I'm very aware of it. So, as your brother in Christ, I want to remind you and help you to be aware of the spiritual storm that is all around us. People are looking for comfort and peace that only Christ can bring. As I sit here surrounded by the storm, I also want to remind you that our hope and our encouragement comes from the Lord, and he is working through us and in us at Countryside Christian Church. Jesus has already claimed victory over the enemy! So, my friends, be encouraged but be aware. See ya Sunday.

Steve







Registration: Alicia Simms

Preschool-Kindergarten: Ruthie Coverdill

who volunteered and did a phenomenal job!

1st - 2nd Grade: Judy Millies

3rd-5th Grade: Wayne & Cathy Lotz

Games: Georgia Cullison & Jimmy Schumpert

Crafts: Sandy Lawrence, Jamie Schumpert, Becky Wierenga,

Jackie Naftzger

Snacks: Becki Winger, Kati Jo Chasek, Amber Ramos Tech Leaders: Kellan Schmidt & Evan Schumpert

Youth Helpers: Ellie Johnson, Maddie Holderman, Natalia Ramos, Fallen Byers, Lauren Tiesman, Claire Arnold, Clara Jones, Abby Yoder,

Ava Mathis, Kellan Schmidt, Evan Schumpert, and Erin Trout Adult Helpers: Steve Allison, Ryan Schmidt, Jim Kaecker, Jeff & Naomi Jones, Ashley Knapp, and so many others who offered to stay

and help out for the night!



We pray that the Word of God was planted in the hearts of these children this week. It was a GREAT WEEK! Thank you again to all who helped and donated money, crafts, or snacks this week! In Christ, Laura & Ellie, Directors



"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING





On Saturday, July 29th, we had a very special morning here at the church - Daughters of the King Brunch. What a joy it is to honor you ladies and thank you Teresa Holt Garcia for planning these beautiful events!

Teresa also hosts a weekly Bible Study on Tuesday mornings for the ladies of the church at 9:00am and a once-a-month Saturday Coffee Fellowship for all the women too!

If you have not been to one of these events yet, please see Teresa or contact the church office for details. A very special event is being planned for this fall so keep an eye on the bulletin or newsletter for details!



The Ladies' Bible Study group on Tuesday mornings have been busy at work making Prayer Squares. I think at last count they had almost 100! Thank you ladies for using your talents to bless others!

"From them will come songs of thanksgiving and the sound of rejoicing. I will add to their numbers, and they will not be decreased; I will bring them honor, and they will not be disdained."

Jeremiah 30:19

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: FOOD PANTRY

Countryside supports our local food pantry located at Messiah Lutheran Church 302 11th Street Port Byron. The food pantry serves residents located in the Riverdale School district. It is open on Wed. from noon until 2:00 P.M. Families are eligible to obtain food once a month.

Some of the specific needs include:

all paper products, tooth brushes and toothpaste, soup (not chicken noodle), spaghetti sauce, canned corn, canned pastas, syrup, canned meats, hamburger helper and of course money. Cleaning products are also needed as they cannot be purchased with the SNAP cards. Ground beef has been donated so grocery items that can be used with the ground beef are helpful. The financial donations can purchase more food items from the food coop per dollar than an individual can purchase at the grocery store.

Countryside recently hosted a volleyball tournament with the admission being a non-perishable food item. Eighty five items were donated that day. The food pantry personnel were delighted with this donation.

Grocery prices and other living expenses are increasing for families so money for food items is shrinking. The food pantry recently had a large freezer/refrigerator donated so perishable food can be stored longer. Non- perishable food items are stored in the pantry space provided by the church. The food pantry is one way for Countryside to support the needs of our local community. The last Sunday off each month is designated FOOD PANTRY DAY. The boxes for the items are located in the church foyer.





God, we pray for all of our students that they will grow in wisdom over the course of this year. We pray that they will grow academically, learning all that is required of them. We pray that they will work hard, and be successful in their studies. More importantly, we pray that they continue to grow in the wisdom that comes from You. We pray that they become more capable lights to those around them and learn and follow Your heart for them as they make decisions. Give us as parents the wisdom to assist our children as they walk through this life and help us to discern how best to help them.

We pray that our children will continue to grow in faith and obedience to You. We pray that they have integrity in their choices, whether those choices are seen by others or not. We pray that they act in love and kindness towards others, especially those whom the world pushes to the margins. We pray You give them strength to stand up for the outcast. We pray that they may have strength to stand up for what is right. We pray for their obedience to You and other authority figures in their lives. We pray that they image Jesus in all their actions, words, and interactions with others. We pray that they are a light to those around them. We pray that they surround themselves with people who will help them grow closer to You.

CELEBRATE TOGETHER



VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

Childrens Ministry

| Sunda | ay 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 | | | | | | |
| August | | | August | | | | | | |
| 6 | Connie Curry Judy Millies | Ruthie Coverdill | 6 | Cathy Lotz | Cheryl Gipson | Shanie Bird | Becky Collis | | |
| 13 | Connie Curry Judy Millies | Cathy Lotz | 13 | Cathy Lotz | Sarah Denekas | Shanie Bird | Judy Millies | | |
| 20 | Connie Curry Judy Millies | Gail Horst | 20 | Cathy Lotz | Donna Vickroy | Shanie Bird | Mikah Mikles | | |
| 27 | Connie Curry Judy Millies | Kathy Kohrt | 27 | Cathy Lotz | Kati Jo Chasek | Shanie Bird | Georgia Cullison | | |

Worship Ministry

COMMUNION MEDITATION

GREETERS

August 6 – Ryan Schmidt August 13 – Teresa Garcia August 20 – Jim Kaecker August 27 – Wayne Lotz

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.



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 cleanup between Sunday School and Worship.



Randy & Sarah Denekas Wayne & Cathy Lotz 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

se-In -2pm

9

16

23

30

Small Groups

Port Byron -6pm

Geneseo – 6pm

Small Groups

Port Byron –6pm

Geneseo – 6pm

Small Groups

Port Byron -6pm

Geneseo - 6pm

Small Groups

Port Byron –6pm

Geneseo – 6pm

10

17

24

Worship Team

6:30pm

1st day of School

Worship Team

6:30pm

Worship Team

6:30pm

Worship Team

6:30pm

11

25

UGFES

Women's Coffee

9:30am

19

26

| | July | | Ī | | | |
|--------|--------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Satur |
| | | Men's Study 9am Women's Study | Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm | Worship Team 6:30pm | 4 Pack the Backpack Due | Cruise 11am-2 |

9am

Men's Study 9am

Women's Study

9am

Men's Study

9am

Women's Study

9am

Men's Study

9am

Women's Study

9am

Men's Study 9am

Women's Study

9am

15

22

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30AM

COFFEE TIME

10:15AM **WORSHIP SERVICE**

10:45AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30AM

COFFEE TIME

10:15AM

WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30AM

COFFEE TIME

10:15AM **WORSHIP SERVICE** 10:45AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30AM

COFFEE TIME 10:15AM **WORSHIP SERVICE** 10:45AM

13

20

27

Evangelism/

Missions 6:30pm

All Depts. 7pm

Church in use

Zuma Township

Meeting

14

21

28