



*Welcome
August*

***NCPC
August
2026
Newsletter***

August Events

Sunday, August 2—Food Bank Collection Sunday

Sunday, August 9—11:45 am, Fellowship Potluck, "Oldies but Goodies," with Car Show, Fellowship Hall & West Parking Lot

Thursday, August 13—7:00 pm, Session Meeting, Library

Saturday, August 15—6:00 pm, Scripture Singles, @ Beth Oliver's Home

Wednesday, August 26—1:30 pm, Kneedles & Hooks, Promise Room

*****New Calendar Event*****

Every Monday evening at 7:00 pm, those who would like are invited to participate in a neighborhood Prayer Walk. We will meet at the church, and then walk through the area, praying for our neighbors. If you have any questions, please see Kevin Evenson.





A Word from the Pastor

"I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment." (from Romans 12:3)

With the arrival of August, we enter into that period of late summer called the 'dog days.' But, lest you think this is an article on the apathy and boredom that can often accompany this time of the year when the temperature is at its hottest and the weather is at its driest, it is not. This month, I am not addressing the 'dryness' we may encounter, spiritually speaking, in these 'dog days.' Rather, it is about another spiritual concern that can 'hound' all of us, and can best be identified by comparing cats and dogs (and so this 'dog days' introduction).

What's the difference between cats and dogs? One writer puts it this way – "When you get up in the morning and feed your dog, he looks up at you and thinks: 'She comes, finds my food and pours it out for me – she must be a god.' A cat thinks: 'He comes, finds my food and pours it out for me – I must be a god.'" A true God does not focus on Himself, but on others; while a false god can only focus on himself.

It's something we all tend to struggle with at one time or another. In fact, it stands as the basis for every sin we commit – pride. The issue, as shared above, of thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought. The issue is one of looking at life more like a cat, when what we ought to be doing is living our life as a dog.

If there is one quality that is foundational to the Christian life, and sums up all the Christian characteristics that we see in the Bible, it would be the attitude of – humility. What does Paul tell us we should strive for in trying to live like Christ? Humility.

The Apostle writes in his lead up to the Christ hymn of Philippians, chapter 2, that "Your attitude should be the same as Christ Jesus." And then he goes on to point out how Jesus gave up His nature as God and humbled Himself, making Himself nothing and taking on the very nature of man. So, Paul begins by focusing on how we need to model our lives, our minds, and our hearts after Christ in that same way - by striving for the humility of Christ.

Too often we can have a wrong view of humility. We can have the view of it as being associated with someone who doesn't say anything, who is never bold but meek, who is sort of a pushover; a nice guy who never takes a stand nor stands his ground. That certainly isn't Jesus Christ. Jesus was bold. Jesus was clear. Jesus spoke the truth. Jesus stood His ground. He got in people's faces. He declared what they needed to hear, not what they wanted to hear. He chastised. He rebuked. Yet, always from a place of humility. And that's what the Bible tells us we are to do.

Humility isn't easy. Especially in a world that honors the 'cats' while discounting the 'dogs.' Real humility is not an act. You can't pretend at it. Humility is not just trying to think less of yourself. Rather, humility is thinking of yourself less. It's getting over yourself and trying to put others first.

Humility is something that we have to constantly pursue, while also recognizing that we will never fully arrive. Because, the moment you start taking pride in how humble you are, you've lost it. It's not just about wanting humility; it's about the constant and diligent pursuit of humility and praying for humility.

It takes humility to pray for humility. It's the proud person who thinks he or she is okay and needs nothing from God. In fact, prayer, itself, is an act of humbling yourself before God, recognizing that, most assuredly, you are as dependent on Him for your needs, even your humility, as the dog is dependent on his owner for his food.

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So, when it comes to striving to become more and more like Christ by growing in our humility, we will end up facing a true contradiction in our lives of faith: because the more you grow in humility, the more you actually grow in your recognition of your own pride. And so, the more you feel like you're not growing in humility.

But, nevertheless, let us not let that dichotomy keep us from faithfully following the model Jesus has set for us – let us stop thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought and, rather, adopt the same attitude of humility as Jesus Christ. For, if we do, in the dog days and, indeed, every day, we will find ourselves being like dogs and stop being like cats.

God bless you and keep you. And, as always, see you in church.

Pastor Craig

A Note From Janet

Military Music – Part 3 of 4

It has been said that there are no atheists in foxholes. This points out the significance of faith in our Triune God to those who commit their lives to preserving our nation. Starting this year and continuing for the next eight years, our country will recognize the founding of our democratic republic through the times of the Revolutionary War that began in 1776 until the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1784.

U.S. Marine Corps: Their hymn, “*From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli*,” was copy-written in 1919, and is considered the oldest of the official military hymns, as well as being the Marine song. It is traditionally used as the Marine’s official service march. The melody, with a little variation, is from a comic opera by the French composer, Offenbach. By 1929, it was the first officially recognized military hymn. For the Marines, singing this hymn is considered an act of respect for those who came before and a reminder of their duty to those who come after them. On June 18, 2024, retired Air Force Captain and chaplain James F. Linzey wrote the sacred hymn “*Serving for Thee*,” in commemoration of the 226th anniversary of the permanent establishment of the U.S. Marine Corps. It is set to the tune *BETHANY*, which was composed by Lowell Mason in 1841. The lyrics emphasize faith, perseverance, sacrifice, and spiritual devotion in military service. “*Serving for Thee*” was composed as a prayer for the U.S. Marine Corps and is intended for use in chapel services, patriotic observances, memorial ceremonies, and other religious settings.

U.S. Air Force: The Air Force was originally termed the Army Air Corp until 1947, when this branch was established. Their official song is “*The Wild Blue Yonder*.” It was composed by Robert M. Crawford after WWII. The song celebrates the courage and skill of the Air Force personnel. In 1915 English Poet, Mary Hamilton, wrote a poem titled, “*Lord, Guard and Guide the Men Who Fly*.” Look on You-tube for the U.S. Air Force Band’s Singing Sergeants.

Deacons Corner

Deacons—our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 5:30 pm, in the Church Library. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

August Greeters

Annie Gajewski
Jane Langvardt Jan Lindwall

August Ushers

Annie Gajewski Jane Langvardt
Jan Lindwall Harry Moyer

Son-Rise Guys

Every Thursday morning—7:00-8:00 am
In the Church Library



We are continuing our study of *"The Gospel of Jesus Christ,"* by Paul Washer. The Gospel reveals that God has come and won the victory for us in a hopeless world.

Guys, join us for Coffee, Snacks and Fellowship!

Kneedles & Hooks

Kneedles and Hooks will meet on August 26, (We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month) at 1:30 pm.

We hope you will join us in making scarves and other warm items for those in need.



Here are some fireworks photos from our Fire & Ice gathering, shared with us by Kelly Nachtigal of Newton.





August 2026 Mission Prayer Notes



Murray & Kathy Trim— Japan—TEAM, (The Evangelical Alliance Mission) - since 1988

PRAY for Murray and Kathy as they go about their work and in their relationships with people as they share the message of GOD's LOVE to people in Japan:

Kathy, as she teaches classes and has a ministry with women, and

Murray, in his opportunities to Pastor and other activities.

Continue to **PRAY** for health and strength for each of their mothers. Kathy's - in Pretty Prairie, and in her 90's and Murray's in Nebraska, she is now 100 years old.

Shelly Zadina – Medical Ambassadors – Albania & the U.S.

Shelly would very much like to come New Covenant, let's pray that she will be able to do that soon. As she stays here in the States, she visits churches and individuals here in the U. S. who support her and the work in Albania and shares about the work in Albania. She **NEEDS TO GO TO ALBANIA BEFORE THE END OF OCTOBER** to keep her permanent residency status there.

Katelynn Robinson – Has sensed a **calling from GOD** to go into full time Mission Work. She has submitted an application to **Project Video's Immersion Program**. She will be having an on-line interview in the very near future, and anticipates starting in January with a 1 year commitment, this is not finalized at this time. She will begin support raising very soon. Let's be praying for **Katelynn** as she looks forward to this change in her life activities.

Fredy and Djana JAVIER – Macedonia – World Outreach (WO)

Pray for the Javier's – as they work with the mission project they set up in Macedonia and for their children, **JAVI (Shavi)** and **SHARON**. Pray for us to have better communication with them.

The New Jerusalem / Children of Hope—School in Haiti



Haiti continues to have many needs. Our communication with the school is missing, **PRAY** that there will **soon be an end to the gang activity** which is so very dangerous, destructive and disruptive. **PRAY** for the people there – students, faculty and others, what they are enduring each day is sad and destructive. **PRAY** for **VOLVICK**, continues to live and work in Port au Prince, supporting himself, so that money sent goes to support the schools. The town where the schools are located is some distance from Port au Prince. In better times, **Volvick** was able to get back and forth and

in the summer, he went to the area of the school and supplied the students and their families with food. **PRAY** for safety for **VOLVICK**, the **teachers** and **students and their families**. **PRAY** that we will be able to safely send money to the school soon.

LOCAL MINISTRIES

FOOD BANK – THANK YOU for your generous giving to the **Food Bank**. Items put in the basket designated for the **Food Bank** are taken to and distributed through the **Food Bank** to those in need in our community. **THANKS** again to **CARL** and **Jean Sidebottom** for their faithful delivery to the **Food Bank** of items collected here. Items can be put in the basket for the **Food Bank** any time, they are usually delivered early each month.

(Missions continued on next page)

Thank You for Praying for Our Missionaries.

LOCAL MINISTRIES (continued)

YOUNG LIFE - PRAY for **Grant Luttrell**, the local **YOUNG LIFE** leader and others who spend time with the young people in our community. Both junior and senior high students may be involved in the **YOUNG LIFE** program. The local **Young Life** program is presently focusing on students in the Buhler school district, this fall they hope to start work in the Hutchinson schools - starting with those in the 7th and 8th grade and going to the high school.

PRAY for the activities planned for the young people in the coming months, in July there were some who had camp experiences in Colorado. **PRAY** for those who were able to go to camp, that the messages and activities there touched their hearts and minds. **PRAY** for those who were not able to go to camp, that they also will know **JESUS CHRIST** in a personal way. **Note from Grant** – We are continuing to look for more adults to be **PRAYER PARTNERS** for the local program. **PRAY** for dedication and good stewardship of people's time and talents as the leadership committee is being rebuilt. **PRAY** for the current need for more adults to work with Grant and the local **YOUNG LIFE** program with junior high students.

STERLING COLLEGE - PRAY for the faculty, leadership and others who work at **STERLING** as they are preparing for the coming school year. **PRAY** for the faculty as they work with and teach the students, that **GOD** will be honored in all things. Classes start **August 19**.

PRAY for the students as they end their summer break and return to campus and for the new students who will be going there for the coming school year, including one from New Covenant. **PRAY** for ways for **New Covenant** to help and support **STERLING COLLEGE** and its activities.

OTHER MISSION CONCERNS

Zach and **Ellie** - **PRAY** for wisdom for them as they continue to minister to people that **GOD** brings into their lives in the country where **GOD** has called them to serve and for them to be sensitive to the **LORD'S LEADING** in all of their activities, for ministry with people **GOD** puts into their lives, and activities in which they are involved and as parents.

PRAY for their young sons, **Roman** and **River** as they grow and develop.

They are serving in a country that is not really friendly to Christianity. If you have more questions about them, you can ask Pastor Craig or Glenda Riley.

Our special family - PRAY for them as they continue living here. **Pray** for concerns for **family** and **friends** still living in their native country, for their safety and well-being. **PRAY** for their girls, older daughter as she is in 4th grade this coming school year and younger sister as she grows and develops and learns new skills. **Pray** for wisdom for the parents as they make decisions for their family and for their future.

PROJECT VIDEO – PRAY for **PROJECT VIDEO** and those who work with it. This is the mission that **Kevin Evanson** is involved with, he will be happy to talk to you, if you have more questions, or if you would like more information on this Mission and its activities, talk to Kevin. Also, this is the mission with which **Katelynn Robinson** is becoming involved.

August Recipe

Iced Coffee-Brownie Slushie

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of strong coffee
- 1 cup of milk
- 1 to 2 tsp vanilla, to taste
- 1/2 to 1 cup sugar, to taste
- 4 frozen brownies
- Ice cubes—probably 3 cups

Directions:

- Make coffee and let sit until cool.
- In large measuring cup or bowl, mix coffee, milk, sugar, and vanilla until it suits your taste.
- Put ice in blender, and blend until fine (a Ninja blender works best for this).
- Add frozen brownies and blend until fine.
- Add coffee mixture and blend until all is mixed well.
- Serve immediately, or, if you prefer, you may also freeze as popsicles or in small cups for a frozen treat later.

**Note: amounts are approximate and may be substituted to your taste. Julia uses Oat milk. If you are not a coffee drinker, you could use frozen orange juice concentrate (probably half a can), more ice, (maybe less sugar?), omit brownies, and have a homemade "Orange Julius."*

~ this recipe created by Julia Berdahl



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Fellowship Footnotes

August Fellowship Potluck — “Oldies but Goodies”

Sunday, August 9, at 11:45 am

It won't be long until summer is over, and things will get back to what many consider “normal.” However, our Fellowship meal for August is going to be a bit different. We'll be having an antique car show along with our meal. Many of our members and friends have vehicles that would fall into that category. If you have a special vehicle, or you have a friend with one, please invite them to join us that day. Let's get those special vehicles all shined up and fill our West parking lot with those “cool” modes of transportation from the past.

And it won't be just the vehicles that will be “oldies.” Let's look back into our recipe books and find some old (but good) recipes from “way back.” Do you have any recipes from the 50's and 60's that you liked? Or maybe your favorite recipe is one handed down from generations of cooks in your family. We'd love to try it! See you around the table, and in the West parking lot.

Looking Ahead...

Sunday, September 13, Grandparents Day, will be our next Fellowship potluck. In honor of our grandparents, look through your old recipes for Grandma's best and tastiest recipe, and see if you can duplicate it. Let's enjoy Grandma's best recipes together!