

# Chester Baptist Church

August, September, October 2022



## FOLLOWING JESUS

*"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."*

**John 10:27 ESV**

Jesus had disciples and he asked his disciples to make more disciples that follow Him. Because of that pattern, and because I put my trust in Jesus for my salvation and eternity (and you too if you've done the same), I am a disciple. Which simply means that I simply follow Jesus. I am a follower of Jesus who lives in a way to help others do the same.

Author, theologian and philosopher Dallas Willard likes to points out that the word Christian is only found in the New Testament a total of three times. However, the term disciple is found 269 times. That may just mean something.

Churches everywhere are trying to convert people to Christianity to become Christians. This is a great thing, but the word Christian can be confusing to some. That word has become convoluted over the centuries. It has formed crusades, been part of a monarchy, and been a statute for morality, amongst other things. All these things point awkwardly away from the person and work of Jesus Christ.

The trajectory of our lives should be to follow Jesus in the way He lived.

What did Jesus do? How did He interact with people? How did He communicate? How did He respond to people? What things did Jesus do regularly? (Hint: finding regular times of corporate worship, of studying the scriptures, solitude, of silence, and of conversational prayer with the Father.) That is how we follow Jesus. We simply follow His example and what He directs us to do.

To be a true Christian in the New Testament sense, it must be formed by our understanding of following Jesus as a disciple. It is not a cultural definition, but defined from the one who invited us to follow Him.

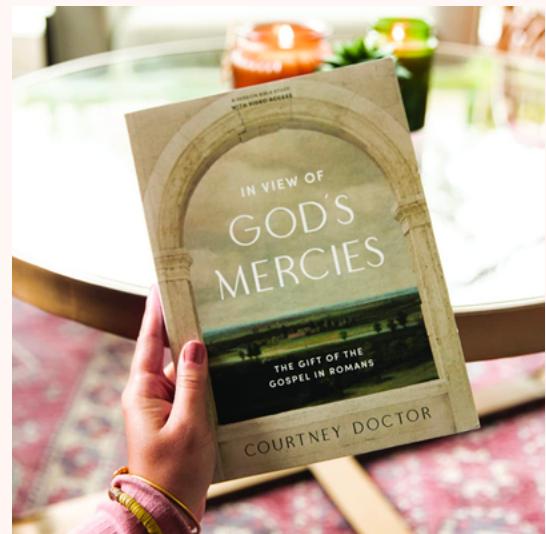
*Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."*

## A NEW BIBLE STUDY STARTING SOON

A new Bible Study for women is coming September 13. It is a study of Romans by Courtney Doctor and is entitled "In View of God's Mercies--The Gift of the Gospel in Romans." The nine sessions are video-based. We meet each Tuesday morning at 9:45 a.m. to watch the video and discuss our study questions.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I also need to know if you plan to attend so that a book can be ordered for you. The paperback Study Guide is \$21.99 and includes video access from your home computer. There is also an ebook version of the Study Guide.

Landa Cook  
(Contact Landa, [landat43.lc@gmail.com](mailto:landat43.lc@gmail.com), for more information.)



## CHURCH-WIDE WORKDAY

Church-wide workday, September 10th, 8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Chester Baptist Church will conduct its fall workday on Saturday, September 10th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We'll meet in the Great Hall around 8:30 a.m. for coffee and donuts, organize into teams and work as long as we can. If you can only spend an hour or less with us, please come to enjoy the fellowship and help make the church and grounds look so much better. We have several projects to complete concentrating on the kitchen, Great Hall, and grounds. Hope to see you all on September 10.

If you have any questions, please contact Cary Allen, 804-896-3069, & [caryallen5@aol.com](mailto:caryallen5@aol.com)

## DONATE THROUGH THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM (KCRP)

CBC is enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards Program (KCRP). Here's an easy way to participate:

- Go to <http://Kroger.com>
- Click on the link for KCRP at the bottom of the page under Community.
- Once logged into your Kroger account, you can search for Chester Baptist or HP586 and click Enroll. (New users will need to create an account which requires some basic info, a valid email address & a rewards card.

A percentage of your purchases will go to CBC at no cost to you.  
Please consider helping CBC earn a little additional funding!  
Happy Shopping!!

## PRESCHOOL NEWS!

August means the end of summer and the beginning of preschool. Where did the summer go? A lot of preparation has been happening in the preschool area to get ready. A huge thanks to all those involved in replacing the lighting and locks in the preschool area. Both of these projects have been a blessing and we are excited that they were completed before school starts.

Our preschoolers will be back on campus beginning Monday, August 29th. We are excited to have four classes this year. We have two three year old classes and two four year old classes. We can't wait to welcome our preschoolers back and hear their sweet voices in the hallways. And of course to get lots of hugs.

Thanks to those who have generously donated items off our Amazon wish list. Getting new items for our program is like Christmas morning when the Amazon boxes arrive. We know the joy it brings the children in the classroom and we can't thank you enough. This picture is just a sampling of some of the items we have received. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

We ask that you keep our students and their families in your prayers. Please also pray for our staff as we minister to not only the children in our classrooms, but their families as well. God has already sent us families who are facing challenges that they need support and to be shown the love of Christ. It is our prayer that we can be the hands and feet of Christ during this school year.

If you'd like to keep up with the preschool on a regular basis, you are welcome to follow our preschool adventures this year through the Chester Baptist Preschool Facebook page and Chester Baptist Preschool Instagram.

In Christ,  
Shelly McCabe



## THANK YOU

Chester Baptist Church Family,  
Bill and I thank you for the continued support that you have shown us. We appreciate all the cards, calls, and prayers.

Roberta Damon

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Dear friends ,  
We want to thank everyone for their prayers, calls, cards, visits and all of the delicious food that has been brought to us since Don's surgery. He is doing well, so far, has a period of 4 to 6 weeks of recovery, that he has to abide by, not driving is the big thing, but between Tim and I we are trying to do our best.

Thank you all, again and we love all of our dear friends at Chester Baptist Church. God Bless you, Don and Verta Blake



We are done "Making Waves" for the summer and are jumping straight into the books for the school year. During August we are talking about how God's story is an "EPIC" story of love for the ages. We can share God's love by showing others how much they matter to us. Love starts and ends with God. Love has always been the point of how God has interacted with the world. Since the beginning of time, God's love has always been on display.

*"Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins." 1 John 4:10, NIV.*

We are walking on a "High Wire" in September. Each day, we can dare to trust—by putting our confidence in someone we can depend on. God has always been faithful to us. We will talk about how God has been, and will continue to be, dependable. We'll discover how we can trust God no matter what we face.

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5*

October is starting off with a "Cliffhanger." We all face tough challenges in life. But living with grit means that we refuse to give up, and we believe that the story isn't over! As we continue our journey through God's Big Story, we take a closer look at the lives of Joseph and Moses. Both of these men trusted God through hard circumstances and would not give up.

*"Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up." Galatians 6:9, NIV*

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST STARTS IN SEPTEMBER**



Men's Breakfast returns in September. Join us at 8:00 a.m. in the Great Hall on the third Sunday of each month as we join together for good food and fellowship.

### **COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP SUPPER STARTS IN SEPTEMBER**



Our Community Fellowship Suppers resume in September. Join us the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall.

# CHESTER BAPTIST YOUTH MINISTRY

**Sunday Morning  
Bible Study**



**Wednesday  
Night Bible Study**



**Fall Retreat**



**All Saints  
Day Movie Night**



**Game Night**

## **THERE'S CHANGE IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY**

Do you like change?

It can be a wonderful opportunity to improve, build new habits and grow our outlook.

We are setting up a new gathering space in the library.

There will be a table for gathering around, as well as comfy chairs for sitting in.

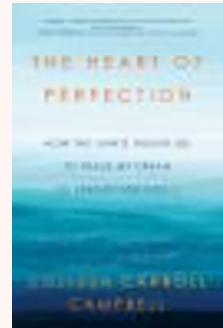
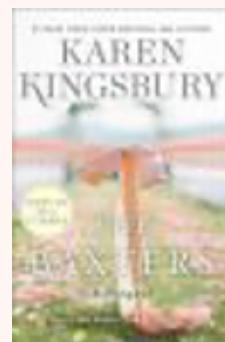
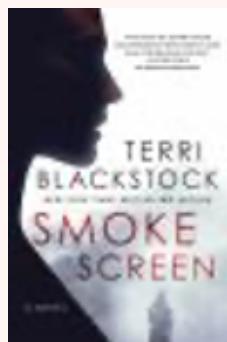
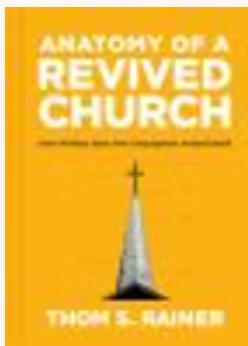
We have books in abundance, ready for browsing or checking out.

We are open on Sunday mornings and Wednesday mornings. If you would like to browse the library at another time, give us a call and we will meet you. If you would like to check something out, please let us know and we can have it ready for you.

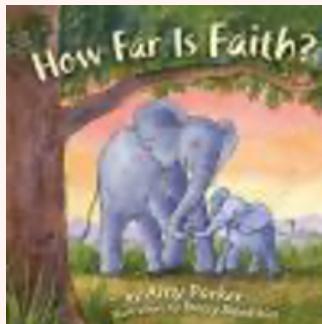
Email [libraryatcbc@gmail.com](mailto:libraryatcbc@gmail.com) or call either Jewel at (804) 526-4332 or the church office (804) 748-2939. The CBC Library Staff wishes everyone a successful change time!

Sundays 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Check out some of our most recent additions to the library!



BB CE KEN	God Made Me by Pamela Kennedy
BB C234.2 PAR	How Far is Faith by Amy Parker
248.843 CAM	The Heart of Perfection by Colleen Carroll Campbell
F KIN	The Baxters, a Prequel by Karen Kingsbury
F BLA	Smoke Screen by Terri Blackstock
254.5 RAI	Anatomy of a Revived Church



## RUSTY'S RAP SESSION

### HE IS FOR YOU



"The Blessing," is the title of a very popular Christian worship song. In that song over and over again the four words, "He Is For You!" are sung as an exclamation again, and again. Those four words have been going through my mind for the last month. As I have had my quiet time with the Lord and in my day to day living I find myself expectantly observing and waiting for God to reveal Himself and being "For Me". So this month I have decided to focus on God's amazing ability to always be on your side and my side. He is always on our side; "He Is For Us!", corporately. "He Is For You!", individually.

First and foremost, He is for us because He considered our shortcomings and imperfections in knowing that we could never be good enough on our own to deserve the promise of Heaven, so He made a way for us. John 1:17 states, "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." Most people know John 3:16, "For God so love the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." But they need to keep reading on to verse 17 which states, "For God did not send His Son to condemn the world, but that the world though Him might be saved." He did that because He was and is For Us!

He is For Us, because He causes the sun to rise on the evil and on the good. He brings rain upon the "just and the unjust." (Matt. 5:43-48) He loves us all the same. This may be pretty hard to fathom but God loves each and every person equally. The person who lies, cheats, steals, or bullies others is loved by God just as much but no less than the person who volunteers at the food bank, or assists with fund raisers for various charities. He is For US. He loves us All.

He is For Us, because He gives us the power to change. One of the thieves that was crucified with Jesus realized that he had received his punishment according to the law for the offenses he had committed. He also realized that Jesus had not committed any offenses and that He was being unjustly punished. He asked Jesus to remember him and Jesus stated, "Today you will be with me in Paradise," Luke 23:43. The thief had a heart change, he had been saved. Each of the twelve disciples were transformed by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and they changed the world by preaching the gospel.

He is For Us, because He gives us the power to forgive. When Dylan Roof, a young white man, killed 9 people in a South Carolina African-American church after sitting in on a Bible study with them, he hoped to spark the flames of a race war. The families of the victims chose to forgive him rather than condemn him. The power of God being For Them was greater than the power of Satan being against them.

He is For Us when we face heartache. He is For Us when we rejoice. He is For Us when we succeed. He is For Us when we fail. He is For Us when we experience victory. He is For Us when we feel defeated. He is for us when in good health. He is for us when we face disease. He is for us when we are certain. He is for us when there is great uncertainty. The bottom line is that He is For Us in every experience we have, He is For Us period.

As we face uncertain times during a pandemic and great civil unrest, we need to be reminded that He is For Us. Dear friend, HE IS FOR YOU!

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Michelle Spencer
- 3 Gail Davis
- 4 Frances Cook
- 6 Anniston Baker
- 8 Brenda Lowery, Dylan McLarn, Nancy Meager, Susan Meredith
- 9 Tess Felter
- 10 Drew Brockwell, Angela Luna, Ed Newman
- 12 Tim Meredith, Madyson Price, Steve Pruitt, Phyliss Shobe
- 14 Dawn Matthews
- 15 Sarah Kinsey
- 17 Yana Allen, Nick Williams
- 19 Linda Puryear, Carolyn Stables
- 20 Rebecca Coates
- 21 Sarah Gardner, Kaitlyn Williams
- 22 Kevin Pennington
- 24 Benjie Benton
- 25 Mandy Sullivan
- 26 Amy Fitzgerald Dubs
- 27 Mackenna Daugherty, Max Foreman, Mary Runnels
- 28 Susan Rehm
- 29 Martha Rodgers

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mildred Croxton, Pat Moore
- 2 Cynthia Barger
- 3 Tonya Mahaffey, Gene Sasser
- 5 Will Esque, Brenda Riding
- 7 Russ Johnson
- 8 Jewel Barger, Henry Fogle, Robert Meredith, Caleb Rinker
- 9 Jacquelyn Short
- 14 Mollie McDowell
- 16 Sue Hart, Golin Geer
- 17 Mike Baldwin, Ravyn Morris, Abigail Williams
- 18 Evon Gosnell, Don Johnson
- 19 Mari Ellis, Cyndi Wildeus
- 20 Susan Oliver, Grace Surber, Kathy Williams
- 22 Emily Dayalsingh
- 24 Walker Lilley
- 25 Isabella Oliver
- 26 Alex Sullivan, Carolyn Wingold
- 27 Linda Gwaltney
- 28 Tara Austin, Coralea Nutter, Bette Wilson
- 30 Stephanie Felter, Heather Morris

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Morris Cumbie, Crystal Williams
- 3 Rebecca Meager
- 5 Shirley Wright
- 8 Cary Allen, Michael King, Brenda Stargardt
- 9 Cindy Riveland
- 10 Megan Parrish, Mildred Ramey
- 13 Carolyn Parrish
- 15 Wayne Estes
- 16 Lou Swindell
- 17 Sherry Self
- 18 Cassie Ellis
- 19 Eve Woodfin
- 20 Hannah Rinker
- 21 Robert Bowles
- 22 Brandon Self
- 24 Edye Parrish, Stoogie Schwank
- 26 Pat Bennett, Barry Brockwell, Scott Fitzgerald, Randy Miller, John Waddill
- 27 Will Brockwell, Jessica Couchman
- 29 Alyssa Palmer
- 30 Betty Johnson, Logan McCabe



## JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

**SUNDAY MORNINGS**

**SUMMER HOURS**  
**10:30 AM**

**MEET IN PERSON OR**  
**JOIN US LIVE STREAMED ON**  
**OUR WEBSITE**  
**(WWW.CHESTERBAPTIST.COM),**  
**FACEBOOK, OR YOUTUBE**



## CONTACT US!

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
804-748-2939

**Senior Pastor**

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**Associate Pastor to Youth & Young Adults**

Pastor Bryce Williams, [bryce.williams@chesterbaptist.com](mailto:bryce.williams@chesterbaptist.com)

**Contemporary Worship Leader**

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**Preschool Director**

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**Church Secretary**

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**Financial Administrator**

Susan Meredith, [susan.meredith@chesterbaptist.com](mailto:susan.meredith@chesterbaptist.com)

**Pianist**

Ellen Sapko, contact church office, 748-2939