

Family & Friends..... October 20, 2021

Hope everyone is enjoying the warm weather and cool nights. It's beginning to feel like Fall! Sunny warm days paired with cool nights bring on the beautiful views of Autumn that it is known for. The leaves start losing their green colors and the pretty colors kick in like the red, blue, yellow, orange, brown, purple, and wine, and start showing up everywhere. It's time to load the family and friends in the car and take a road trip to see these astounding colors when they peak. Everyone will be in awe of what they observe and see as they take it all in. The trees in the Ozarks are usually the first to present those awesome colors. The Black gum trees are brilliant scarlet and the Sweet Gum trees start off the autumn season with a variety of colors. Sassafras' trees present a beautiful display. I love the Sycamore trees with their lightly white trunks that distinguishes them from all the other trees. They can be seen all along the side of the highway, along fence posts, and throughout the forest. Don't forget the Oak, Dogwood, and Maple trees. So much beauty to see and their fabulous colorful leaves when they have peaked. We will worry about cleaning the leaves up later! God is good! God is awesome!

He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers. (Psalm 1:3)

We are always happy to have our visitors: Donna Donaldson (Sugar Land, TX), Thadd & Alaina Valeika and Levi & Jill White (Marionville, MO), Joshua & Madelyn Sloan (Joplin, MO), Sheryl Harms (Weatherby, MO), Keith & Jennie Percell (St. Joseph, MO), Teresa Marcotte (Pineville), Marsha Kitterman (Springdale), Jerry Snyder (Rogers), Katelyn Jewett (Bentonville), Alivia Bockholt, Kelli Homeyer, and Mary Beth Thomson. BV

Those on our prayer list: Becky Donceel is in Mercy Hospital with several health issues. Pat Musson will have additional surgery on November 1st at 8:00 A.M. at Mercy Hospital. Patti Bertschy had knee replacement surgery, and her sister, Pam, has a brain tumor and had surgery to remove it on October 18th. Barbara Roberts' brother-in-law, Danny Madewell, had open heart surgery. Continue to remember and pray for Chuck Pippin, Susan Duffy, Donna Rowland, Jennifer Oxford, Priscilla Paugh, Judith Carmical, Lou Hollo, Bob Douthit, Mike Lacey, Steve Ashcraft, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president.

Items for Fair Haven Children's Home: canned tuna & chicken, juice, salad dressings, carrots, and snacks. Food Pantry: pie crust mixes & pie fillings, French fried onions & green beans, cranberry sauce, gravy mixes, instant potatoes, cream of mushroom soup, canned yams/sweet potatoes, Stovetop stuffing mix.

To the wise, God's Word is sufficient. Love you, stay safe.

Karen

**Bella Vista
Church of Christ**

Highway 71 and County Road 40
989 NW McNelly Road
Bentonville, AR 72712

Return Service Requested

LORD'S DAY	8:15 AM
Early Worship	9:30 AM
Bible Class (Livestreamed)	10:30 AM
Worship (Livestreamed)	
EWEDNESDAY	9:45 AM
Ladies' Class	7:00 PM
Bible Classes (Livestreamed)	

Phone: 479/273-2434

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ELDERS

Tracy Bowman.....479-899-3089
Don Butcher.....636-548-0458
Dallas Dobbs.....479-640-49439
Pery Johnson.....913-707-8379
Ray Reiss.....903-908-0203

DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Chris Johnson Bryan Busbee Joe Hott Robert Horton
Randall Hunt Harold Phillips Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Mitchell Whittington

MINISTERS

Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135
Parker Willis.....615-587-3208
Selwyn Nel.....Cape Town, South Africa
Javier & Helmer Rosero.....Bogota, Colombia

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Bella Vista

Sheep of His Pasture

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

(Psalm 23:1-3 ESV)

There's no doubt that we live in a fast-paced demanding society. There is always something to do, something that needs to be done, things that we should be doing. There seems to be a constant barrage of things being thrown at us making demands for our time and attention. We look for ways of escape. We want rest!

Rest. It is not only something that we want; it is something that we desperately need. Our bodies are made for a rhythm of work and rest. We know the numerous health benefits of getting the adequate amount of rest. We want rest. We need rest. Yet rest is something that often eludes us.

In the opening lines of the 23rd Psalm, we hear David compare himself to a sheep under the leadership of God as his Shepherd. Scripture often draws this picture for us of God's people as sheep and God as the shepherd. Over 40 times this comparison is made in the Old Testament alone. When we come to the New Testament, this comparison gets repeated several times. Maybe the one most closely tied to this particular Psalm is Jesus's statement from John 10, "I am the Good Shepherd." We are the sheep of God's pasture.

We also hear David make the claim that with the Lord as his shepherd he wants for nothing, even rest. I'm told that it is nearly impossible to make sheep lie down. In fact, sheep need to be free of four things in order to be at rest: fear, tension, aggravation, and hunger. Let's take a few minutes and look at the way in which the Good Shepherd sets us free from these four deterrents to rest.

MEMBER



Freedom from fear. Sheep are animals with almost no way to defend themselves. As a result, they are easily frightened. Frightened animals (like frightened people) do not rest well. How many times have we been tired, but can't rest because of situations or circumstances that frighten us? The Good Shepherd has faced and continues to face every enemy that seeks our destruction. He faced every temptation that we do and overcame them all. He has faced death itself and emerged from the grave victorious. He is the one who constantly intercedes on our behalf. In Him our future is secure. We can rest.

Freedom from tension. I understand that sheep have trouble resting if there is tension in the flock. Occasionally there will be a sheep or two that are more aggressive and dominant that will cause some tension, which results in others being unable to rest. Can we relate? As people living in a broken world, we experience tensions in our relationships. These may be with family members, coworkers, classmates, spouses, boyfriends or girlfriends, or even with members of the church family. The Good Shepherd gives us a great example of how relationships can be mended. He shows us how we can forgive and reconcile with one another. He has made peace between God and us and enables us to make peace with one another. He gives us peace so we can rest.

Freedom from aggravation. Sheep have trouble resting when various insects and parasites are pestering them. Ticks and flies are very irritating to the sheep and prevent them from being able to rest comfortably. We have similar things that swarm around us. We may be reminded of past failures and regrets. We may hear the whisper of our enemy telling us that we are not good enough. Maybe he is planting that seed of doubt that we are really secure in the family of God. The Good Shepherd says that, under his care, we can flourish and be secure. He assures us that he has come to give us life abundantly. We can trust him. We can rest.

Freedom from hunger. It is always easier to rest when we are well fed. Sheep are no exception to this rule. The Good Shepherd leads us to green pastures. He feeds and sustains us. He promises that all who come to him, all who believe in him will not hunger or thirst (John 6:35). He is the bread of life who satisfies our deepest need. He is enough. He is more than enough to sustain us and fill our souls. We can rest.

As baptized believers, as disciples of Jesus, we are the sheep of His pasture. God has truly blessed us to be a part of this flock. May he continue to bless us as we continue to follow the voice of the Good Shepherd.

-JEFF GRISHAM

Welcome Cory, Ashley, Hunter, & Emma!



We are excited to welcome our new College/Young Adult minister, Cory Spruiell and his wife Ashley, along with their two children, Hunter and Emma to be a part of our church family! They are super excited to begin their work with us here at Bella Vista, and will be a great addition to our group.

Cory has served as an associate minister at the Cabot Church of Christ in the past, and has most recently been involved with CASA. Ashley is a elementary teacher who just left her third grade class to come and be with us. Hunter is 4 and Emma is 2 and they are really sweet and outgoing kids.

They will move in to their new home at 47 Little Drive on Friday and could use our help that afternoon to get things unloaded. They will be here with us permanently beginning Sunday. Don't forget the potluck after the late service on Sunday to welcome them and serve as an opportunity to meet them and get better acquainted. Please be here if at all possible to welcome them to their new church family!



Join Us For Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 30th, 4:00 pm

SUNDAY SERVANTS: 10/24/21

First Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture Bill Alumbaugh Song Leader Marquis Elliott
 Greeters David Saunders, Chris Johnson Communion Scripture & Prayer Chad Dobbs
 Closing Prayer Dallas Dobbs
 Nursery Workers Mary Bell Banks, Shannon Hubanks

Second Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture Tracy Bowman Song Leader Mark Bagwell
 Greeters Howard Hurst, Eric Gibson Communion Scripture & Prayer Don Butcher
 Closing Prayer Perry Johnson
 Nursery Workers Muriel McSweeney, Abby McSweeney Van Driver Jim Branstetter

October Worship Coordinators

Worship Coordinator Mike Lunsford Streaming Coordinator Elijah Johnson
 Audio Coordinator Homer Makinson Video Coordinator Aaron Bagwell