

Family & Friends..... August 2, 2023

Hello, August! The 8th month of the year, last month of summer and the hottest month of the year. August is considered Peach Month and the official flower is gladiolus. This flower was named from the Latin word gladius, meaning sword. It symbolizes strength of character, faithfulness, honor, and remembrance. August is also an essential month for gardening and harvesting vegetables when reaching their peak flavor and nutrition levels. How about all those fresh garden veggies! Yum yum! There are fewer rainy days which means more sunshine and that gives us a good source of Vitamin D. Sunshine boosts our serotonin levels and makes us happier. National Watermelon Day is August 3rd. Get out and watch the kids or grandchildren play baseball. August is one of the most popular names for boys and girls in the U.S. School is starting back this month for most children. In August the large masses of berries when in flower have attracted many wild bees. I always like the last of August when you can usually feel a cool breeze blowing over you in the evening hours. Feel that breeze! Fall and Winter are soon to follow. How about a big smile for this coming Lord's Day? National Smile Week is August 5th – 11th. Enjoy the rest of your summer. To God Be the Glory.

“He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.’” (Matthew 9:37-38)

Those on our prayer list: Our heartfelt sympathies go to John Hayes in the loss of his mother. Please keep John and the family in your prayers. Mitchell Whittington's daughter, Michelle, fell and is not doing well. Mary Louise Harris is on hospice care in Florida. Keep her and the family in your prayers. Lynn Barnica is scheduled to have a biopsy on October 25th to examine a spot on his pancreas. Ray Reiss is doing well after his recent heart procedure. Glenn Myers suffered a heart attack last week but is improving. Continue to remember and pray for Doris Rhodes, Eugenia Garrison, Dianna Fanning, Robbie Balentine, Maggie Wicker, Susan Duffy, Patsy Tarr, and our missionaries.

Items needed for the Children's Home: Spaghetti, peanut butter, green beans, applesauce, snacks for the kids, and toothpaste. Food Pantry: Pancake syrup, Tuna & Chicken Helper, low salt veggies and soups, Rice Krispy treats or any type of bars for kids going back to school.

Rise above the storm and you will find the sunshine. Love you, stay safe.

*Karen*

*Bella Vista*  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

REACHING FATHERS - MOVING CLOSERS - GROWING DEEPER

Highway 71 and County Road 40  
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Bentonville, AR 72712

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**ELDERS**

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

**DEACONS**

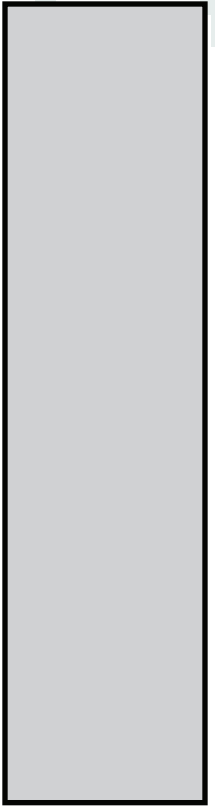
Mark Bagwell John Bowman Chris Johnson Bryan Busbee Joe Hott  
Randall Hunt Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Tyler White Mitchell Whittington

**MINISTERS**

Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135  
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<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:15 AM
Early Worship	8:15 AM
Bible Class (Livestreamed)	9:30 AM
Worship (Livestreamed)	10:30 AM
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9:45 AM
Ladies' Class	9:45 AM
Bible Classes (Livestreamed)	7:00 PM



**The Catch**

It had been a long night. He and his partners had worked and worked, but still came up empty. Now the arduous task of cleaning began. They couldn't even do that in peace because a crowd had gathered along the shore to hear some traveling preacher. If that wasn't bad enough, this preacher just stepped into his boat and asked him to push out just a little from the land. The crowd pressed right up against the water to hear what this man had to say about God and his Kingdom, and with good reason. The message of this New Kingdom was different than anything they had ever heard.

When he was finished speaking, Jesus asked Peter to put out into the deep, throw the nets, and try his luck again. What was he thinking? He may have been an excellent teacher, but he seemed to know little or nothing about fishing. *Peter answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."* The catch was incredible.

*"And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he and all who were with him*

**LIFELINES**



were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken," (Luke 5:6-9)

The catch, recorded in chapter five of his gospel, is Luke's account of Jesus calling his first disciples. This group of men

- Peter, Andrew, James, and John – who would be joined by others were ordinary fishermen whose lives would never be the same after that day on the sea. They began a journey that they could have scarcely imagined prior to that day. They would spend the next few years following Jesus everywhere. After his death and resurrection, they would continue for the rest of their days carrying the message of the Kingdom that had caught ahold of them. What was it that they witnessed that day that made such a difference?



**They caught a glimpse of the Kingdom of God.** No doubt, that while they were washing their nets nearby, they heard Jesus speak about this Kingdom (Luke 4:43). They probably heard the good news of a Kingdom in which not only the elite of society enjoyed privileges, but where everyone, even common, blue-collar fishermen were welcomed and could participate. They were introduced to a Kingdom in which those who were part looked out for the best interests of others and not just themselves. It was news of a Kingdom that was unlike any they had ever known, and one that brought true freedom.

**They caught a glimpse of a very different kind of King.** They witnessed a King who was willing to give gifts to his people;

a King who wanted the good *for* his people instead of just things *from* them. They were in awe of the good news of a King who could be trusted to seek the best for his subjects, and really cared about their futures and their wellbeing. They met a King with true authority, authority like they had never seen. They met a King who would teach them, defend them, protect them, challenge and correct them, feed them, and even lay down his own life for them.

Once it became apparent that Jesus was no ordinary teacher, but a different kind of King who was calling people to a different kind of life in a different kind of Kingdom, it is no wonder they left everything and followed him.

It seems too good to be true. Could there really be a King who is more concerned with enriching our lives than his own? Could there really be a King who welcomes all people and not just the elite? Could we really be a part of a Kingdom where self-sacrificial love and seeking the good for others is the order of the day? Could there really be a Kingdom where we can be free from the bondage and guilt of sin, and be truly human as we were designed?

This is what Jesus came to bring. This is what he is offering. Once we catch sight of this, we can no longer ignore who he is. We can't pretend that he has nothing to say about how we live or how we respond to the world around us. We can't just pretend that he doesn't matter or that he doesn't care. Once we see him for who he is, that vision captures us, and everything else becomes secondary to what he calls us to do. May God help us to be continually captured by Jesus, and to share the good news that will capture the hearts of others around us.

-JEFF GRISHAM



## Don't forget the Fish Fry! Saturday, August 5th at 5:00 pm.



### SUNDAY SERVANTS August 6, 2023

#### First Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture ..... Nathanael Green    Song Leader ..... Anthony Christiano  
Greeters ..... Don Cope, Billy Helms, David Saunders    Communion Scripture & Prayer ..... Steven Ashcraft  
Closing Prayer ..... Dallas Dobbs  
Nursery Workers ..... Brenda Tucker, Alana Tucker

#### Second Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture ..... Ken Rosenbaum    Song Leader ..... Lee McCain  
Greeters ..... Don Cope, Stan Hankins, Stephen Hunt    Communion Scripture & Prayer ..... Mitch Whittington  
Closing Prayer ..... Perry Johnson  
Nursery Workers ..... Megan Ballard, Kayla Bishop    Van Driver ..... Kyle Dillard

#### August Worship Coordinators

Worship Coordinator ..... Mike York    Streaming Coordinator ..... Aaron Sloan  
Audio Coordinator ..... Homer Makinson    Video Coordinator ..... Marquis Elliott