

# SEPTIMBER PATHWAYS

## Back to Jesus Weekend Sept 25-26

*By Pastor Mike*

With the upending of our routines this past year, now is the perfect time, not to get back to normal, but to get **back to Jesus**. It is time to make Him the center once again. Past generations have called this "revival". Each one of us needs to see our love for Jesus manifest more abundantly in every area of our lives. Each one of us needs to be filled with His fire and His love so that we can be about His will and see others come to love and serve Jesus.

It has never been more apparent in my lifetime that our society is in grave trouble. The hand of God that has protected and guided our nation has been withdrawn because we have allowed God to be removed from every public and private place. Cities are being destroyed and no one is willing to stand against the wickedness and darkness that has overtaken our land.

The Scripture tells us exactly what to do in times like these: repent and pray! **On Friday and Saturday, Sept 25-26**, we are holding a **Back to Jesus Weekend**.

**Friday night from 7-9pm** we will live stream a special Awakening Service featuring Jim Cymbala, JD Walt, Miriam Swaffield and others from the New Room/Seedbed Conference (link to [www.newroomconference.com](http://www.newroomconference.com)). I attend this conference every year and I promise you don't want to miss this opportunity.

**Saturday, 9am-4pm**, we will join hundreds of thousands of other Christians around the country for The Return ([thereturn.org](http://thereturn.org)), a National Day of Repentance. We will begin at 9am by joining others on the national mall in Washington DC and participate from 9-4pm as we examine our own hearts, repent, and call out to God for revival in the us, our homes, our church, and nation.

I am calling everyone, young and old, to this solemn assembly. One Christ Won City will be joining us on Saturday. Because we will be watching services online for parts of the day, we will be unable to live stream our weekend. There will be a designated masks only section in the sanctuary (and Memorial Hall if necessary).

**If things are going to change in our nation, they must first change in our hearts.** The people called by His name must repent and recommit ourselves to Him and His glory in every area of our lives. It is time to get **Back to Jesus!** Make your plans to join us for this life changing weekend!





## Wednesday Nights & Sunday School Classes Return!

Beginning **Wednesday, Sept 9**, we will restart our **Pastor's Bible Study at 5pm** in the Sanctuary. The study will be streamed online like we have always done. I hope you will join us for it!

Also that night, we will resume our **Wednesday Night Dinners at 6pm** in Memorial Hall Dining Room. For this first week back: **You will need to call the church office by Friday Sept 4 at noon to make your reservation.** Our seating is limited because we will be spread out and only have four to a table. The food will be served to you to avoid unnecessary touching.

**Sunday, Sept 13, we have four Sunday school classes resuming on site.**

**At 9:00**

- Don Yerxa's Kingdom Class will be in Room 24/25 and on Zoom.
- Ken Woodruff's Discovery Class will be in Room 22/23.

**At 10am**

- Pastor Bob's Class will meet in the Parlor and on Zoom.
- Dan Manningham's Parables Class will be in Room 24/25 and on Zoom.

More details on how to log on to the classes available on Zoom will be made available so stay tuned.

**The Coffee and Donuts Sunday Cafe** will also resume on the 13th in Memorial Hall. Everything will be served from the kitchen windows by masked and gloved volunteers to avoid unnecessary touching.

We are doing all of this because we know connection is vitally important to being a disciple of Jesus Christ. Humanity was never intended to live in isolation, but in community and relationship. We are trying to provide avenues for each person to connect with others either in worship, in a small group, or online. Please get connected one way or another.



*Worship the LORD with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.*

*Psalm 100:2*

**God has called us to use our gifts for His glory.**

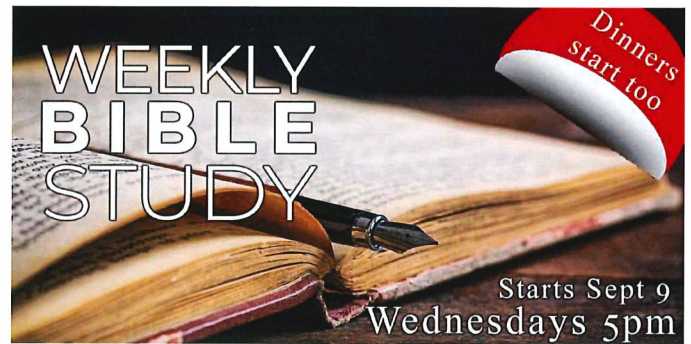
It is a common misconception that because you see musicians and singers on the platform each Sunday morning, that your musical gifts are not needed.

**If you are a musician or singer who enjoys contemporary style praise, would you pray about serving on our team?** Take just a moment and consider this testimony from team member, **Ginny Derrough:**

*I have always considered music to be one of God's marvelous gifts to us. I've been involved in praise teams, choruses, chorales, etc. for most of my life. Then some things changed where I had to step away from serving in that capacity. At that point, I felt like that joy in serving was a season in my life that was over and done and there was no place or need for me to return to it. Through our Praise Team Leader Amy's encouragement, and the conviction of the Holy Spirit, I sensed a prompting to go back and serve the Lord on the Praise Team. If you have been given a musical talent --- instrumentally or vocally --- it is to be shared for the glory of God and the uplifting of the body. We need your talent, but most of all, your heart of worship. If you feel a prompting, don't go into the paralysis of analysis --- step up and ask, "can you use me?" Come on, we're waiting for you!*



The first step is always the hardest to make, I'm here to make it easier! **Contact Amy Wilson-Moghina at [amy@christvenice.com](mailto:amy@christvenice.com)** Whether you are just curious or ready to serve, we want to hear from you!





# September Connection Reflections

by Pastor Val Garron

## Fall: New Season of Growing

As we move into the season of “back to school,” opportunities for growth in holiness of heart and life continue here on campus for all ages. Our faith journey is not meant to be static at any point in our time on earth, so we are always trying to provide “connection” opportunities with that growth in mind. On that note, our fall line-up of Adult Sunday school and Small Groups has some new offerings...

**Adult Sunday School** - There will be four adult Sunday school classes beginning Sunday, September 13, two classes at 9am and two at 10am. Three of these will be available in house AND on ZOOM so everyone may participate. One will be in house only. You may choose which works best for you:

- **9:00am Kingdom Class** – Don Yerxa studying James in Room 24-25 and via ZOOM (Link will be provided on the church website).
- **9:00am Discovery Class** – Ken Woodruff studying Revelation in Room 22-23.
- **10:00am Pastor Bob's Class** – Pastor Bob discussing the morning sermon in the Parlor and via ZOOM. (Link will be provided on the church website).
- **10:00am Parables Class** – Dan Manningham studying the time bombs of scripture in Room 24-25 and via ZOOM. (Link will be provided on the website.)

### **Small Groups**

- **Quest for Holiness**- From Casual Conviction to Courageous Faith begins Wednesday, 9/16 at 6:45pm in Room 22-23, Memorial Hall. How do we develop the faith necessary to face the challenges of living as Christians in a time such as this? We'll look at the heroes of the faith who wrestled with the same questions we are asking today and see how they moved from casual religious conviction to a courageous awakened faith in God. Leader: Val Garron for 7 weeks. **Please register at:** [val@christvenice.com](mailto:val@christvenice.com)
- **SOAP Group**- Continues on Monday mornings at 9:30 in Rooms 24-25 discussing insights of our church Bible reading program. Free SOAP journals are available in the office and the narthex. Leaders: Bob Blakeslee & Rob Montano All are welcome to join!

Please stop by Connection Point for a full list of available groups being offered. Feel free to call me at 941-493-7504 with any questions about Adult Sunday School or Small Groups.

## New Service Opportunities

### **First Time Guest Table**

**Cindy Charland** is our new First Time Guest Table Coordinator. One of our new members, Cindy loves to meet and interact with people, so this was a perfect match for her spiritual gifts! She is in the process of making a new fall schedule of volunteers, so if you are looking for a way to use your spiritual gifts and love to meet people, then why not give her a call? Each volunteer takes a set Sunday each month in one of two time slots, 8:30 or 10:30 and greets first time visitors in the breezeway of the church. You may reach her at (207)902-3802. Welcome Cindy!



### **Connection Point**

Another fun way to serve the Lord is at Connection Point. Those with the gift of hospitality and helps serve on a set Sunday of their choosing each month before, during, or after worship. They answer questions and give out information, all of which is supplied to them before they serve each week. As we move into the fall season it's a great time to discern where God is calling you to service. Please call Val at (941)493-7504 to choose a spot.



Keep collecting those cancelled stamps. Alliance Stamp Ministry is now on the way to the next million to spend on Sunday School material for the Children in Latin America. Be sure to leave 1/3 to 1/4 of an inch around the stamps. Contact **Joyce Clark** at 941-484-0780, ministry coordinator, for questions or more information.





# Membership Audit

This is one of three required postings, in accordance with the 2020 Book of Discipline, of inactive full members that we have attempted to contact in various ways and have been unable to do so. If you know a **complete** and **accurate current address or email address** for anyone on this list, please call the church office at 493-7504.

## First Year

Sean Carmichael  
Elizabeth, Micah, & Lucy Cole  
Lois Evans  
Vincent Fogle  
Jim Goetluck  
Rose Gould  
Tom & RaeAnn Hoffman  
Christian Martinez  
Kori Merriman  
Kerry Montalvo

Patricia Mooney  
Robin O'Neill  
Brittany Pendergrass  
Vincent Perhats  
Mariana Petty  
Maxwell Pierce  
Rodney & Savanah Pocevic  
Ryan Schmidt  
Heather Shehorn  
Marty Tarala

Diana Taylor  
Rob, Emily & Suzanne Taylor  
Kristin Parks Taylor  
Ann Tyndall  
Drew VonMarschall  
Sarah Warman  
Thomas Watkins  
Mike Wellinghoff

## Second Year

Sue Atkinson  
Stacy Atkinson  
Gary Bennett  
Bernard & Morag Berry  
John & Ann Brandenberger  
Susan Browning  
Amy Canfield  
Darrell & Sharon Crose  
Darrell Crose Jr.  
D. Aileen Davis  
Amber Emett  
David Evans  
Hildy Goerke

Ralph Hooks  
Joan Jacob  
Chase Jacob  
Margaret Kraner  
Alan & Suzanne Laskowski  
Ken Logerquist  
Valerie Loth  
Shirley Mahnke  
Cher McBrayer  
EJ McCloud  
Marla McKeon  
Sharon Moitis  
Janie Palmer

John & Melissa Reed  
Cody Reed  
Robert & Shirley Reibly  
Bill Robinson  
AJ Sall  
Nick Sall  
Tara Sall  
David Sand  
Zonise Swanson  
Phyllis Tucker  
Gerald Williams

## Christ UMC's "Journeyman"

Men's ministry is an important part of life at Christ Venice. With that in mind, we have a Journeyman's group. We **meet** on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 8:00am** and the **4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 6:30pm** each month. For the later half of March and all of April and May we have been meeting virtually using a software called Zoom. We are planning a blended set of meetings for the next couple of months, where folks can be face to face or can join by using the Zoom software. We are striving to build our faith through service, study and fellowship and look forward to providing a place for the men of the church to grow in holiness of heart and life. If you have questions, contact:

**Blair Post**, 941-286-4970 [Blair823@Yahoo.com](mailto:Blair823@Yahoo.com) or  
**Nathan Skjerseeth**, 563-940-7293, [Skjerseeth@lcloud.com](mailto:Skjerseeth@lcloud.com)



**Sherry Del Giorno** 410-274-4301,  
**Dave Hinckley** 412-551-1127,  
**Don Paull** 941-303-6392, or  
**Deb Sauter** 218-393-9623.



# September

## BIRTHDAYS

Carl Wardell	9/1	Lenée Schroeder	9/9	Sara Parmelee-Wall	9/18
Mike Kramer	9/2	Aryana Eckford	9/10	Marcia Pfleeger	9/18
Joann Myers	9/2	Jim Eynon	9/10	Jake Tate	9/18
Susan Royston	9/2	Carol Ann Mancuso	9/10	Jan Kovall	9/19
Lucy Hudson	9/3	Bill Schaid	9/10	Don Baublitz	9/20
Gloria Peacock	9/3	Helen Baker	9/11	James Hall	9/20
Trudy Curtis	9/4	Frank Marsh	9/11	Jayne Samuels	9/20
Walter Draime	9/4	Savanah Pocevic	9/11	Chen Bell	9/22
Eric Reintsema	9/4	Mick Varvel	9/11	Kathy Hees	9/22
Dinah Jackson	9/5	Marlilyn Baublitz	9/12	Kristin Mikarts	9/22
Susan Johnson	9/5	Sophia Bonito	9/12	Lou Sauppe	9/22
Kirby Outerbridge	9/5	Shirley Fugate	9/12	Joe Cordaro	9/23
Jenny Geremia	9/6	Don Kampman	9/12	Ross Gammon	9/23
Amy Jewell	9/6	Rich Hutter	9/13	Addilyn Morey	9/23
Sue Laskowski	9/6	Beth Laubisch	9/14	Teenie Barvir	9/24
Carolee Means	9/6	Calvin Stone	9/14	Gloria Hottes	9/24
Cheri Schmidt	9/6	Jean Jankowski	9/15	Bob Parrish	9/24
Barbara Seward	9/6	Jerry Norman	9/15	Jodi Eltringham	9/25
Gavin Drobisch	9/7	Carol Bauer	9/16	Patricia Billings	9/26
Alexander Claessens	9/8	Rita Belden	9/16	Al Gatto	9/26
Marian Fleming	9/8	Larry Crabbe	9/16	Jack Miller	9/26
Helen Johnson	9/8	Mike Jeffers	9/16	Amanda Barrett	9/27
Loren Sauter	9/8	Judy Obregon	9/16	Patsy Dulmer-Sanchez	9/27
Kandice Shrader	9/8	Pat Reed	9/16	Rachel Downing	9/28
Ronald Sparrow	9/8	Elaine Taylor	9/16	Gail Hixon	9/28
Tyler Eaton	9/9	Bill Pfost	9/17	Campbell Martin	9/28
Shirley Ellis	9/9	Audrey Roberts	9/17	Pete Peterson	9/28
Jane Green	9/9	Joshua Spurlock	9/17	Dorothy Woehr	9/28
Gus Grinstead	9/9	Peggy Weinauer	9/17	Diane DeSantis	9/29
				Josie Ennes	9/29
				Evie Fickel	9/29
				Matt McNutt	9/29
				Dee Wright	9/29
				Lois Evans	9/30
				Barbara Hinkle	9/30
				DestinyJo Ott	9/30
				Rana Weerasooriya	9/30



# September

## ANNIVERSARIES

Jeff & Mary Lou Dunn-Rankin	9/1	Don & Fern Knerr	9/10	Mike & Cindy Jeffers	9/18
Bill & Julie Schaid	9/1	Tom & Joan Moudy	9/12	Ken & Lynn Woodruff	9/20
Howard & Irene Spalding	9/2	John & Julie Kern	9/12	Sam & Agnes Teitsma	9/23
Jim & Clara Wray	9/2	Allen & Jewell Meringer	9/13	Dean & Ruth Shelton	9/25
Budd & Judi Pippin	9/3	Gary & Marion Olderman	9/13	Brett & Heather Stelmok	9/25
Frank & Darlene Craver	9/4	Luke & Ann Hertzog	9/14	Dave & Lisa Rysdyk	9/27
Michael & Roxie Hord	9/4	Rick & Donna McClelland	9/14	Gary & Rosemary Grim	9/28
Charles & Gloria Gore	9/6	Gale & Anne Adams	9/14	Fred & Karen Wolf	9/28
Eric & Lisa Reintsema	9/8	Fred & Gloria Ahlborn	9/18	Chris & Cristine Skelnik	9/28