



# The Crest Connection

Connecting people with the Life that counts for eternity!

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM CREST BAPTIST CHURCH, CRESTON, IOWA

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 7

JULY 2022



In July all undesignated mission gifts will support the Special Hope Network, helping children with intellectual disabilities in Zambia.

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### Inside this issue:

Small Groups	2
From the Church Administrator	2
Calendar	3
Vacation Bible School	4

### Weekly Schedule

#### Sunday:

9:00 a.m. Bible Studies  
10:00 a.m. Worship; Online Service on Facebook

#### Tuesday:

6:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery

#### Wednesday:

7:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Youth; Men's Bible Studies

#### Thursday:

5:30 p.m. Worship Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study at the McRae's

Beloved,

I was recently sharing information about Crest to a writer from Baptist Press. She was

impressed with our Cooperative Program giving, which at 10% of undesignated giving is commendable. The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' financial fuel for reaching **every person** for Jesus Christ in **every town, every city, every state, and every nation**. SBC churches voluntarily either give a fixed amount or percentage of offerings to support missions, benevolent ministries and seminary education just to name a few.

However, I gladly told the interviewer of the other ways in which we support missions beyond fi-

nances. I am most grateful for those within the Body of Crest like

Jessica Cramer Mwanza, who have made vocational commit-

ments of service to Christ in areas in which the comfort, security and close family contacts of stateside vocations have been surrendered.

On July 17 you'll have the opportunity to hear Jessica in the Worship service and then help support her work with Special Hope Network by attending a lunch (free will offering) after worship.

Remember, wherever you are, that is the mission field in which God has placed you. Share His light!

In His love,

*Pastor Chuck*

### FROM THE PASTOR: CHUCK SPINDLER

Hi Crest Family,

It's hard to believe that it's been five years since Beth and I came to Creston. You're probably familiar with the feeling. It seems like we've both been here forever and just arrived.

I never expected to find myself living in Iowa. I've spent my entire life coming here to visit friends or family, but never living here myself. There is so much to love about Iowa in general and Creston specifically.

When we talk about places to live, the things that come up are

usually weather, amenities, food, things like that. But let's be hon-

est, the most important thing that makes a place home is the people. Thank you for being those people for us.

This church has been more of a blessing than I can adequately express here. Thank you for being our friends, our neighbors, and more than anything, our family.

*Pastor Neal*

### FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR: NEAL MCRAE

**ADULT BIBLE CLASSES  
ON SUNDAYS**

SUNDAY (9:00 A.M.)

**The Four Wills of God** – Only four times in the New Testament does Scripture specifically and directly say something is the will of God. Knowing and obeying those four universal wills are key to learning the unique will of God for your life. (MasterWork - Rm 104/Steve Marean)

**Never Alone: The Holy Spirit in Our Lives:** This study examines six passages that tell us about the Holy Spirit’s role and work in the lives of believers. On July 3, a special focus session titled **Interdependent Independence** will interrupt the Holy Spirit series. It explores setting aside the freedom we’re given in Christ in order to encourage others and honor Jesus.

**How to Love Your Neighbor** (beginning on July 17) — Although loving others is not always easy, see how God’s Word gives us the guidance we need to love our neighbor even as Christ loves us. (Bible Studies for Life - Rm 109/Joe Powers, Fellowship Hall/Jamie Travis and Rm 105/Connor Travis)



**Small-Group Studies**

**ADDITIONAL WEEKDAY MINISTRIES**

**GriefShare:** This is a Christ-centered 13-week series for those grieving the death of someone close. Meetings will resume in September. Contact Brian Cramer for info about classes at (641-344-6249).

**Celebrate Recovery:** This ministry provides a healing, healthy environment for

adults affected by hurts, hang-ups and habits. The meetings are Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Amanda Davis (641-344-2440) or Pat Prentice (858-500-6751)

**The Book of Romans:** Men will be examining the Book of Romans on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. (Room 105). They will be taking a chapter-by-chapter view of this book that shows the righteousness of God is available to everyone who comes to Christ through faith.

**Cancer Support Ministry—** The group plans their annual “Hope Floats” picnic/boating evening on July 29 at an area lake. If you or you know someone who has been diagnosed with cancer or a survivor, please contact Joe or Gay Lynn Owens at 641-202-5004 for de-

*Preschool, Children and Youth studies also meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m.*

Crest Family,  
I want to start this brief note with this appropriate Bible verse, “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7).”

In part this is a reminder that we should give from the heart, but also as a reminder to be cheerful in doing so. It is that latter part, “to be cheerful,” that I (your Church Administrator) selfishly writes

because I am about to upset the apple cart.

This month, Crest is changing to Faithlife, our new provider for Tithe Accounting

**PAT PRENTICE  
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR**

Software and On-Line Giving. This means that those who give online (as I do) will need to move from Servant Keeper Giving to Faithlife.

I know this will be inconvenient for some of us, but it is

to improve our financial accounting process. Also, Faithlife has other features, other than financial, that will improve how we as a church family get and give information. Truly, I am excited about the future possibilities.

I will provide more in-depth instructions over the next few weeks and will reach out personally to all who give online. For now, I leave you with the words of singer Bobby McFerrin, “Don’t worry, Be Happy.”

*Pat*

# July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sundays 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (all ages) 10:00 a.m. Worship Service		Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery	Wednesdays 7:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. Youth Hangout; Men's Bible Study	Thursdays 5:30 p.m. Worship Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Young Adult Gathering at the McRae's	1	2
3 <b>Birthday:</b> Rachel Ford	4 <b>Office Closed</b>  <b>Birthday:</b> Michelle Hanson	5 <b>Anniversary:</b> Randy and Anne Vicker	6 <b>Birthday:</b> Tasia Scott	7	8 <b>Birthday:</b> Scott Sawtelle	9
10 <b>Birthdays:</b> Kerri Anderson; Olivia Hartman	11 <b>Anniversary:</b> Ross and Monica King	12 <b>Birthdays:</b> Rick Hanson; Jacob Webber	13 <b>Birthdays:</b> Carolyn Duskin; Elmer Young	14 <b>Anniversary:</b> Bige and Diane Fienhage	15	16 <b>Birthday:</b> Tara Hanson  <b>Anniversary:</b> Joe and Gay Lynn Owens
17	18	19 <b>4:00 p.m.</b> Finance <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Church Council	20	21 <b>Birthdays:</b> Mindy Gutmann; Jamie Travis	22 <b>Birthday:</b> Becky Shields  <b>Anniversary:</b> Phil and Beth McIntosh	23
24 Congregational Meeting after Worship	25	26 <b>Birthday:</b> Pam Hoffman	27	28 <b>Birthdays:</b> Paisley Goodenberger; Chuck Hoyt; Della Kramer	29 <b>Birthday:</b> Neal McRae  <b>Anniversary:</b> Wayne and Michelle Hanson	30
31 <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Vacation Bible School						

# crest baptist church

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Spark imagination and kick creativity into high gear at Spark Studios. During Crest's VBS, July 31-August 4, kids will learn that God's creativity didn't stop in Genesis. The Master Artist is working to redeem, reclaim, and transform us—His creation—to the design He planned for us. Kids will see the beautiful truth that they are God's workmanship as they learn to use their talents to bring glory to Him. If you would like to volunteer, contact Cali Purdum for details, sign up at the Welcome Center. Online



registration for children can be completed at [crestbaptist-church.com/vbs](http://crestbaptist-church.com/vbs).

### Why Lifeway VBS?

With so many options available people often get caught up on the VBS theme or look. We believe that the content is what is the most important aspect of any VBS program.

#### 7 Distinctives

1. Gospel Centered
  2. Trustworthy Content
  3. In-Depth Bible Study
  4. For All Ages
  5. Flexible & Customizable
  6. Equips Parents
  7. Custom Music & Media
- Plus, kids love it! Sign 'em up!

***Crest Baptist Church is... Committed to Christ—Connecting with Each Other— Commissioned to Serve Our Community and World***