



# The Crest Connection

Connecting people with the Life that counts for eternity!

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM CREST BAPTIST CHURCH, CRESTON, IOWA

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OCTOBER 2021



October's mission emphasis will be the Southern

Baptist Convention's Global Hunger Relief. 100 % of funds go directly to hunger insecure needs in the U.S. and around the world.

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### Weekly Schedule

#### Sunday:

9:00 am Bible Study for all ages  
10:00 am In-person and Facebook Worship Service

#### Tuesday:

9:00 am Women's Bible Study  
6:30 pm GriefShare

#### Wednesday:

7:00 am Prayer Meeting  
6:30 pm Youth Hang-out; Women's Bible Study

#### Thursday:

6:30 pm In-person Worship  
7:00 pm Young Adult Gathering

Beloved,

One of the most important things you or I can do in obedience to the Jesus' mandate in the Great Commission is to share our faith

with others. The first step in making a disciple is for them to come to Christ, implied by the phrase "baptizing them..." (Matt. 28:19).

Over the last month, we have been talking about sharing the Gospel and how to do that effectively. I have encouraged each of you to write out your testimony, using a simple outline modeled after the Apostle Paul's own testimony before the Jewish authorities.

~ My life before receiving Christ.

~ How I realized I needed Christ.

~ How I received Christ.

~ How Jesus makes my life meaningful. (Acts 22)

Remember, we are not responsible for saving

someone, but your witness empowered by the Holy Spirit may be the "life saving rope" He uses to bring someone to eternal safety in Christ. Please take some time to write, rehearse and ask God to give you opportunities to share it. I would love to see it, so please send me a copy at [info@crestbaptistchurch.com](mailto:info@crestbaptistchurch.com),

In His love,

*Chuck*

### FROM THE PASTOR: CHUCK SPINDLER

Hi Crest Family,  
I love the fall semester. It's comforting to resume a familiar routine. One of the routines that I enjoy with our young adults is our Thursday night Bible study.

This small group reminds me that while I enjoy my self-sufficiency and independence, God created us for relationship with Him and others.

It's not always easy or convenient, but those close, real relationships that we develop with fellow believers are something that we

need. We may not feel the lack immediately, but over time that isolation will take its toll on us spiritually and mentally.

I'd like to encourage everyone reading this: if you are not a part of a

close group of believers, seek one out. Check out our Sunday morning or weekday Bible studies. The information and knowledge you'll gain through these is important, but additionally, you'll be able to live one more area of your life the way God designed you to.

*Neal*

### FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR: NEAL MCRAE

## ADULT BIBLE CLASSES ON SUNDAYS

SUNDAY (9:00 A.M.)

**No Doubt: Six Things We Can Know For Sure**—This study examines the assurances we're given in the Book of 1 John. We can be absolutely sure of the things of God and the way He seeks to work in our lives.

**Walking in Confidence** (beginning on October 17)—Abraham was a man whose life seemed to be continually up-ended. In each case he had to choose whether or not he would trust God and walk in faith. Thus, his life encourages us to walk in confidence. (Bible Studies for Life— Room 109/Joe Powers and Fellow-

ship Hall/Jamie Travis)

**Detours**—The journey toward your God-ordained destiny will inevitably include detours—times when you seem to be making no progress toward God's purpose for you but God is using to prepare you for what He has in store for you. This study explores various aspects of these detours and encourages you to remain close to God despite what might be happening around you.

**The Holiness of God** (beginning on October 24)—R. C. Sproul examines perhaps the overarching aspect of God's character, His holiness. That holiness is reflected in all God is, says, and does, includ-

ing His actions we struggle to understand. Understanding His holiness better helps us see Him more clearly and related to Him more faithfully. (MasterWork— Room 104/Steve Marean)

### ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES

**Cancer Support Ministry:** The group's next planning and fellowship meeting will be a lunch on Sunday, October 24, following Worship. If you or someone you know has cancer, please contact Joe or Gay Lynn Owens at 641-202-5004.

**Women's Bible Study:** The Fall study of Hebrews is meeting on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., exploring how God "provided something better for us" in the person of Jesus Christ (Heb. 11:40).

A person might ask, "How do I break the chains binding me to brokenness?" In essence, how do I free myself from the things that make my life miserable, burdensome, and hard-to-live. In Celebrate Recovery terms, this is overcoming our hurts, habits, and hang-ups.

The simple answer is we don't, God does! Scripture again and again tells us we are powerless in the face of sin—but God is not. It is in this first realization that Celebrate Recovery begins to help us on the road to recovery.

This realization goes to the heart of Celebrate Recovery's Principle 1: **Realize I'm not God; I admit that I am powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and**

**that my life is unmanageable.** This belief is rooted in the Beatitudes, as all eight Celebrate Recovery principles in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Jesus preached, "**Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:3 NIV).**" When

**Celebrate Recovery**<sup>®</sup>  
A CHRIST-CENTERED 12 Step program

Jesus said poor in spirit, he was not thinking of a material poverty, but alludes to those who humbly trust in God. It is used to contrast those who think they control their own fate—an arrogance of spirit believing they are in control.

It is when we recognize that we ultimately "do not"

have control and that we humbly turn to Jesus to heal us, that we take the first step into the kingdom of heaven by surrendering control to him.

To make this great leap of faith—trusting Christ—you must believe in Principle 2: **Earnestly believe that God exists, that I matter to Him and that He has the power to help me recover.** In his sermon, Jesus quickly followed up by saying, "**Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted (Matthew 5:4 NIV).**"

Jesus does love us and feels our pain when we suffer! He knows we mourn when we repeatedly do that which we do not want to do. He is the true

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# OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Sundays 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am In-person and Facebook Worship Service</p>		<p>Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm GriefShare</p>	<p>Wednesdays 7:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. Youth Hangout; Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>Thursdays 6:30 p.m. In-Person Worship; Young Adult Gathering at the McRae's</p>	<p>1 <b>Anniversary:</b> <i>Jesse and Valerie White</i></p>	<p>2 <b>Birthdays:</b> <i>Allie Holliday; David Marroquin; Aaron Richardson</i> <b>Anniversary:</b> <i>Ray and Jane Wilson</i></p>
3	4	<p>5 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Erica Wolfe</i></p>	<p>6 <b>Anniversary:</b> <i>Tim and Cindy Fisher</i></p>	7	8	<p>9 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Michele Simmons</i></p>
<p>10 <b>Birthdays:</b> <i>Steve Johnston; Ben Walker; Nancy Young</i></p>	11	12	<p>13 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Caleb Cramer</i></p>	<p>14 <b>Birthdays:</b> <i>Drew Dobbs Shannon Howe</i></p>	<p>15 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Shawna Carr</i></p>	16
<p>17 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Tom Young</i></p>	18	<p>19 4:00 p.m. Finance Committee 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>20 <b>Anniversary:</b> <i>Ron and Rosalie Hampton</i></p>	<p>21 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Bethany McRae</i></p>	<p>22 <b>Birthdays:</b> <i>Steve Marean; Malissa Richardson</i></p>	<p>23 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Teresa Pendegrift</i></p>
<p>24 Congregational Meeting (end of Worship)</p>	<p>25 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Ray Wilson</i></p>	<p>26 <b>Birthdays:</b> <i>Kyle Harvey; Kathy Peterson</i></p>	<p>27 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Nicole Hogue</i></p>	<p>28 <b>Birthdays:</b> <i>Joni Gillam; Wileen Seeley</i> <b>Anniversary:</b> <i>Chuck and Jennifer Hoyt</i></p>	<p>29 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Misty Deemer</i></p>	<p>30 <b>Birthday:</b> <i>Alison Van Gelder</i></p>
<p>31 5:00-7:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat</p>						



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and faithful one who can comfort us—if we let him.

These are the first two steps into the kingdom of heaven. Whether we are actively in Celebrate Recovery or not, we all have hurts, habits, and hang-ups. All God’s children must take these steps before they can enjoy the fruit of the kingdom.

Let us take these steps together!

*CR launch will be in March 2022, but training events for leaders will start soon. For more info, contact Amanda Davis (641-344-2440) or Pat Prentice (858-500-6751).*



## “Trunk or Treat”

This community outreach ministry sponsored by the Youth will be held on Sunday, October 31 from 5—7:00 p.m. Volunteers (individuals or classes) are asked to decorate the trunk of a car or rear hatch of a van and distribute candy to children in our community. Other volunteers are needed. Contact Pastor Neal at (641) 782-2018. If you are unable to participate, the donation of candy will be appreciated!



Steve and Suzie Johnston and family following the death of his father, Max Johnston, on September 10.

Steve and Kara Ottman, following the death of their daughter, Tiffany Ottman, on September 12.

John and Dorie Shiltz after the death of her father, Ron Ray, on September 22.

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction...

(2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

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