



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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JANUARY 2022

LMCO During January, all of our undesignated mission offerings will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering which supports the SBC's International missionaries.

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Weekly Schedule

Sunday:

- 8:45 a.m. Adult S.S. Class via Zoom
- 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. Class (In-person)
- 10:00 a.m. In-person Worship at Crest; Worship on Facebook
- 11:00 a.m. Adult S.S. Class via Zoom

Tuesday:

- 9:00 a.m. Women's Study
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Study, GriefShare

Wednesday:

- 7:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Youth In-person

Thursday:

- 6:30 p.m. In-person Worship at Crest
- 7:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study at the McRae's

Beloved,
Happy New Year! I'm sure that most of you are considering some changes in your life as we begin another year. Among the resolutions that you make, make some that will have eternal rewards.

In 2022, make spiritual

FROM THE PASTOR: CHUCK SPINDLER

growth a priority. Start with a good reading plan that will take you through the Bible in a year. The *Daily Bread* devotionals have a plan on each day's devotional page.

Second, make a commitment to be in regular fellowship with other believers. I think every Christian needs to be in regular corporate worship (Hebrews 10:25). But, we also need to be in regular fellowship with a small group of Christians with whom we are learning and serving. Sunday School and

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Celebrate Recovery

It's a new year and a time when many people make new year's resolutions—all in the hope of making their lives better. Promises to themselves, to others, and yes... even to God. For most, these resolutions call for minor life corrections. "Perhaps I'll exercise more or eat healthier."

Hi Crest Family,
Some people are task oriented and some people are people oriented. I am very much a task type of person. If something needs to get done, nothing else matters to me. This is great in terms of checking off a to-do list, not so great in terms

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR: NEAL MCRAE

of relating to people.

My reminder for myself in this New Year is that even though there is a list of things to be accomplished that never seems to end, the purpose of those tasks is to love people. When I become absorbed in my tasks, I need to take a step back, remember what's important, (God's love for us that inspires our love for one another) and keep a proper perspective. Let us do the good we've been created for, love God and love others!

Neal

Yet for others, these resolutions are heart rending calls of desperation. "Lord, I promise not to burst out in anger at my kids anymore; Lord, I promise not to drink until I wake up on the floor; Lord, I promise not to (insert here)." This is the point in our lives that we promise not to do the things that

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ADULT BIBLE CLASSES ON SUNDAYS

SUNDAY (9:00 A.M.)

Irrefutable: Prophecies that Point Us to Jesus — Each Christmas, we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ. Hundreds of years before He was born of the virgin Mary, God revealed through His prophets that Jesus would come, live, and pay the price for our salvation. These prophesies, along with the fulfillment of these prophetic words, point to Jesus as the irrefutable Lord and Savior of the world.

(Beginning January 23): **How to Avoid Life's Pitfalls**—This study looks at the life of Joseph, a man who overcame multiple dangers and challenges. His example points the way to how we, too, can avoid life's pitfalls. (Bible Studies for Life— Rm 109/Joe Powers. Fellowship Hall/Jamie Travis and Rm 105/ Connor Travis)

Sing — This five-week study by Keith and Kristyn Getty examines the role that congrega-

tional singing plays in our gathered worship. God intends for His people—a people joyfully joining together in song with brothers and sisters around the world and around His heavenly throne, including you—to SING! He wants YOU...He wants US to sing.

(Beginning January 9): **Difference Makers**—Natural disasters. Pandemics. Heartache. Human-made calamity. Tragedy of all sorts. The world is filled with hurt. God's people have to do something. The question is: What can we do? Can we really make a difference? Yes, we can make a difference. This study invites you to become a difference maker. (MasterWork—Room 104/Steve Marean)

ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES

Cancer Support Ministry—The group's next meeting will be following worship on Sunday, January 9 If you or someone you know has cancer, please contact Joe or Gay Lynn Owens at 641-202-5004.

GriefShare—This 13-week video/discussion group helps

those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one. A one-time seminar "Surviving the Death of a Spouse" will be held at 6:30 p.m. on January 11, and the 13-week series will begin on January 18. Contact Brian Cramer (641 344-6249) for info.

Celebrate Recovery—This ministry provides a healing, healthy environment for adults affected by hurts, hang-ups and habits. For more information about training meetings and the relaunch of weekly meetings in March of 2022, contact Amanda Davis (641-344-2440) or Pat Prentice (858-500-6751).

Winter Women's Bible Study—*Sermon on the Mount* will examine Matthew's three chapters containing Jesus' longest recorded message – a section given to His disciples early in His ministry to articulate what the life of a Christ-follower could look like. You can choose studies on Tuesdays (beginning January 11) at 9:00 a.m. or Wednesdays (beginning January 12) at 6:30 p.m. For more information please text Jennifer Hoyt (641-344-2582).

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weekday small group are critical to your growth and ongoing connection to the Body of Christ.

Third, discover how God has intended to use you for His glory and service. Nothing would be more frightening to me than to meet God at judgment and have to admit that I never knew my purpose for be-

ing here. Peter wrote that we are to get busy serving one another with the gift God has given us (1 Peter 4:10). Christian, do you know what your spiritual gift is? Take advantage of training and opportunities to serve in 2022 as a way of confirming how God has shaped you for serving Him and others

In His love,

Pastor Chuck

LOSS OF A SPOUSE

The loss of a spouse brings a unique kind of pain. People who are widowed haven't just lost a loved one—they've lost an entire lifestyle. This two-hour seminar from GriefShare will be on January 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Register by calling the Office (641 782-2018) or Brian Cramer (641 344-6249).

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Sundays 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (all ages) 10:00 a.m. Worship Services (in-person and online)</p>		<p>Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study resumes 1/11 6:30 p.m. GriefShare resumes 1/11</p>	<p>Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. Youth Group; Women's Bible Study resumes 1/12</p>	<p>Thursdays 6:30 p.m. In-person Worship 7:00 p.m. Young Adult Meeting at the McRae's</p>		1
<p>2 Anniversary: Jerry and Laura Hartman</p>	<p>3 Birthdays: Karla Hynes, Dan Coder Anniversary: Elmer and Nancy Young</p>	<p>4 Birthdays: Hailey Deemer, Karla Powers</p>	<p>5 6:30 p.m. Crest Youth resumes</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Birthday: Dick Krambeck</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Birthdays: Merry Nurnberg, Wilma Osmun</p>	<p>12 Birthdays: Diane Fienhage, Ron Pendegraft</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Birthdays: Matt Deemer, Josh Simmons</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 Birthday: Larry Owings</p>	<p>17 Birthdays: Doryn Paup, Joyce Young</p>	<p>18 Birthday: Weston Goodenberger 4:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>19 Birthdays: Theo Hartman, Anna Thompson, Anne Vicker</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Birthday: Megan Travis</p>
<p>23 Appalachia Service Project Lunch</p>	<p>24 Birthday: Darrell Ellis, Gay Lynn Owens, Jason Wolfe</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Birthday: Candy Cain</p>	<p>27 Birthday: Dillon Hightshoe</p>	<p>28 Birthdays: Martha Heatherington, Kate Jennett</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p>	<p>31 Birthday: Gert Müller</p>					



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we do not want to do. Maybe, Romans 7 begins to echo in our mind!

Change is not easy—but it is never impossible! **Celebrate Recovery's Principle 5** cuts to the heart of change: Voluntarily submit to any and all changes God wants to make in my life and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.

It begins with that active submission to God and asking Him to heal you. Jesus gave us the key when He was preaching on the mountain, "Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires" (Matthew 5:6a TEV). If

we want happiness, wholeness, and contentment, we must actively pursue transforming our desire to mirror God's desire.

Jesus had more to say on the mountain that day. He also said to us, "Happy are the merciful" and "Happy are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:7, 9 TEV). Jesus compels us to examine ourselves and others, to see toxic relationships for the harm that they do, and then to make every effort to correct and put them right. **Celebrate Recovery's Principle 6** focuses on this idea: Evaluate all my relationships. Offer forgiveness to those who have

hurt me and make amends for harm I've done to others, when possible, except when to do so would harm them or others.

We are not created to walk this life alone; we are created as relational beings. Scripture conveys that when we embrace Christ Jesus as our first and highest relationship, He is faithful, and we learn His love for others. Christ gives us the strength and the heart to make new resolutions permanent.

So as 2022 begins, are there any difficult resolutions you need to make? If so, we at Celebrate Recovery would like to walk beside you in finding Christ's strength in victory.

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