



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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NOVEMBER 2021

LMCO

—
LOTTIE
MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING*

During November and December, all of our undesignated mission offerings will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering which supports the Southern Baptist's International missionaries.

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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,

Myra and I want to thank you for all the kind expressions of love and care this past month. I cannot fathom serving alongside a more loving church than you. We have been blessed

these past 27 years to see God build His church, and we continue to sense His hand moving among our community, drawing people into authentic relationship with Him and one another. We are truly blessed, and we thank God for you!

Others are noticing your love! In fact, one of the overriding comments I hear from guests to our church is that we are "friendly." I find it hard to imagine going to a church and not having people speak to me but apparently that happens far too often in people's experiences. I realize that we aren't perfect, but by and large we engage one another, we linger after service and visit, we pray for one another and help as we know of needs. To me that shows a love for God that motivates a love for others. And that is the original intent of 1 Corinthians 13 (not a wedding text). Paul's instruction to the church was that love should permeate the relationships within the church...the kind of love that puts others first. I believe that is the quality that impresses guests.

FROM THE PASTOR: CHUCK SPINDLER

Because we have been seeing an increase in the number of guests in our worship services, be sure to take a minute before or after services to greet them. Our former associational missionary, Roger Graves, suggested

this "script."

1) **GREET:** Say "hello"; "how are you?"; "My name is..."

2) **ASK:** Say, "Are you visiting today?"; "What is your name?" or "Can I help you?"

3) **THANK:** Say, "Thank you for joining us today at Crest today." "I am so glad you are here."
(rogerkgraves.com)

While COVID had caused some to be a little more reserved in outward demonstrations of greetings, this "script" can still easily be practiced. If this is not YOUR practice, try getting out of your comfort zone to make others comfortable and welcomed. You'll be blessed!

We are planning to have a Thanks/Praise gathering on November 21 at 6:30 p.m. While not a full dinner this year, there will be lots of desserts and a great time of fellowship, music and thanking God for the ways in which we have seen Him at work. Please plan to join us as we share in this special "Season of Thanks!"

In His love,

Chuck

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES ON SUNDAYS

SUNDAY (9:00 A.M.)

Walking in Confidence —

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 Fellowship Hall/Jamie Travis)

The Holiness of God — 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, including His actions we struggle to understand. Understanding His holiness better helps us see Him more clearly and relate to Him more faithfully.

(MasterWork—Room 104/Steve Marean)

ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES

Cancer Support Ministry—

The group's next lunch fellowship meeting will be following worship on Sunday, November 14. 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 Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., exploring how God "provided something better for us" in the person of Jesus Christ (Heb. 11:40).

Celebrate Recovery— This ministry provides a healing, healthy environment for adults affected by hurts, hang-ups and habits. For more information, contact Amanda Davis (641-344-2440) or Pat Prentice (858-500

In last month's Connection newsletter, we asked the question, "How do we break the chains binding us to brokenness?" The answer is always Christ.

Now, let us turn to the how. Celebrate Recovery's third principle is not something exclusive to Celebrate

Recovery. In fact, it is a universal truth to all humanity—if they are honestly seeking the "how" in which to overcome their hurts, habits, and hang-ups.

Principle 3: Consciously choose to commit all my life and will to Christ's care and control. That is so easily said yet putting those words into action is harder. There is a key word in Principle 3, that word is "consciously." Consciously means we must commit ourselves in a deliberate and intentional way to following

Christ. Because Jesus loves us so abundantly, He has provided the means to live life to its fullest. Scripture tells us this repeatedly and, in many ways.

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Perhaps the humblest expression of this fact is found in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. "Happy are the meek (Matthew 5:5a NIV)." Meek is being quiet, gentle, easily accepting Jesus' lordship—not fighting His desire but that we trust him. It is being happy because we allow him to heal us.

This leads us to Celebrate Recovery's next step. Principle 4: Openly examine and confess my faults to myself, to God, and to someone I trust.

Paul in his letter to the Ephesians writes about Christ

being the light and how the darkness of sin binds people in their hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Paul is imploring hearers to offer themselves up as an offering to God and to step out of darkness and its sense of misery, and step into the light. Hear Paul's words, "But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: 'Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you (Ephesians 5:13-14)'"

Principle 4 calls us to wake up and to look at ourselves closely. Nothing can be fixed unless it is first recognized as being broken. Then, tell Jesus!

Jesus knows already, but when we lift our brokenness up to Christ, there is something miraculous, redeeming, and

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NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sundays 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am In-person and Facebook Worship Service	1 Birthday: Joe Powers	2 Birthday: Elaine Krambeck	3 Birthday: Arthur Carr	4 Birthdays: Cody Frey; Taylor Royster	5	6 Birthday: Monica King
7 Birthday: Sherri Cramer 	8	9 Birthdays: Linda Landers; Dorine Peterson	10 Birthday: Tyanna Jackson	11 9:00 a.m. Mayflower's Veterans' Day Service (all are welcomed)	12 Birthdays: Clara Jennett; Anthony McRae	13 Birthdays: Micha Stephens; Christian White
14 Birthdays: Frank Paullin; Lindsay Street	15 Birthday: Liz Marroquin	16 4:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	17 Birthday: Sharon Paullin	18	19 Birthday: Tori Fienhage	20
21 6:30 p.m. Thanks/Praise Dessert Fellowship	22	23 Birthdays: Ron Hampton; Tim Redd	24	25 Birthday: Jerry Hynes 	26 Birthday: Jesse White	27 Birthdays: Cheryl Blazek; Cody Purdum Anniversary: Vince and Cindy Taylor
28	29 Birthday: Justin Kendrick	30 Birthday: Rosella Putman	Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm GriefShare	Wednesdays 7:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. Youth Hangout; Women's Bible Study	Thursdays 6:30 p.m. In-Person Worship 7:00 p.m. Young Adult Gathering at the McRae's	



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healing in that honest heartfelt act. Confession thrusts darkness into the light, and it is exposed. No longer is sin and brokenness free to steal about in the shadows—inflicting its poison—but becomes immediately vulnerable to the power of Christ. We also need to share our awareness with someone we trust, to enlist them to aid us in our battle.

Together in Christ, and Christ in us, we confront brokenness. In its place, sanctification, righteousness, and

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wholeness becomes who we are. Jesus had much to say on the mount, indeed he spoke about this freedom in Him also, “**Happy are the pure in heart (Matthew 5:8a.)**”

These are the next two steps in choosing Christ and healthy choices. Whether we are actively in Celebrate Recovery or not, we all have hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Come, let us awaken to Christ together at Celebrate Recovery.

For more info, contact Amanda Davis (641-344-2440) or Pat Prentice (858-500-6751).



Join us for an evening of fellowship with the theme of “Thanks/Praise” on November 21 at 6:30 p.m. We’ll meet in the Fellowship Hall for a variety of desserts and then move into the Worship Center for a time of praise and sharing. If you would like to bring a dessert, contact Patty Marean.

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