



The Baptist Bulletin

August 2024

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Prayer Requests:
Our Nation & Leaders; Election

Church Family & Community
Caleb Kinnman's transition into
our church & community

Ministries:
Bible studies
Youth Gathering
Awana Sparks & Cubbies
Moms in Prayer

No Longer Trusting Our Eyes

The book of Judges has a very interesting ending that gives a strong warning for how to live life. The context of Judges shares the start of life in the Promised Land. One will study in the book of Exodus the Jewish people being led by Moses to the Promised Land. Then study in the book of Joshua about how the Israelites moved into the Promised Land. The Lord shared the command to take over every part of the land, but the Israelites fail to do that.

Early in the book of Judges the death of Joshua is recorded. Right after he died the Israelites were in an identity crisis that they should not have been in. When Joshua was alive, they served the Lord (Judge 2:7). The Israelites were faithful to the promise they made to the Lord in Exodus 24:3. They promised to obey everything the Lord commanded.

But that changed quickly. A generation later, the Israelites "did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals" (Joshua 2:11). Then the Lord sent for them judges to rule over them. There were twelve judges to lead the Israelites. They were not perfect people who always did the right thing. They led Israel by following the Lord, but they made lots of mistakes during that time because they were affected by sin as well as everyone else.

The saddest account of the lives of the judges is how the book of Judges concludes. "In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25). This passage is a powerful look into the life of the Israelites. Everyone looked to themselves as the final authority on life. They felt as though they never had to submit to the will of anyone else or that they should never serve anyone else. They believed that they were always right, no matter the subject.

This is a verse that we need to look at as we look in the mirror. At times we are faithful to the Lord. We passionately desire to serve Lord and we willingly submit to His commands in our lives. Other times, we want to be God. In these moments of life we attempt to rework the Lord's commandments to make sure we get what we want. We seek to manipulate the Lord into doing what we think is the best.

In those moments we are doing what is best for ourselves in our own eyes. We are not living under the power and authority of the gospel, the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. Instead, we are seeking to glorify ourselves. We are not to trust our eyes because they will lead us astray. We are called to trust in the Lord with all of our hearts (Proverbs 3:5-6), to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7), and to submit to the Lord (Job 22:21-25). Let us daily refocus upon the Lord by reading the Word, praying, and seeking to live in fellowship with the Body of Christ. Let us walk by faith and not by the sight of this world

Mission of the Month ~ Awana & Youth Group

School begins soon and with it will follow Awana Sparks and Cubbies meeting on Wednesday nights. Pray for the plans being laid and for the kids that we can reach in this community through this ministry.

Karman Keith will be the Commander again this year and is seeking those with hearts to serve. If that is you contact her!

It will be exciting to get started again with registration at Ehmen Park on Wed. Sept 4th and club beginning the next Wednesday night from 6:30—8 p.m. Cubbies is 4 & 5 year olds and Sparks is K-2nd grade.



We also anticipate the start of our Sunday evening Youth Gathering beginning again under the leadership of Caleb Kinnaman, our new Associate Pastor. He will be busy this month making plans, settling in and getting acquainted with the kids in our church and community. Watch for fall kick-off plans soon.

Pray for this to be an outreach to the teens in our community that need to know Jesus and find a place to grow in their faith. They will meet on Sunday from 6-8 p.m.

This month we are welcoming Caleb Kinnaman to our church as Pastor of Youth and Worship. Caleb comes with 12 years of experience and a heart to serve. You will see his contact information on the cover page of this newsletter and the weekly bulletin. He looks forward to getting acquainted with everyone.

Caleb will marry Morgan, his fiancée, on September 14th and then she and her two sons, Bryxton & Huxley will be joining us also. Caleb's son Porter will be with us some weekends too. Pray for their marriage and the blending of their families as they settle here in Gothenburg. Pray for a fruitful ministry in our congregation and community.

Financial Report ~ ~ ~

Budget for the Year: \$203,758.67

Fiscal Year ends 2/28/25

Offerings Received for 5 months:
\$ 54,440.71Expenditures Paid for 5 months:
\$ 71,835.47**Birthdays ~ ~ ~**

Aug 8	Joyce Sabin
Aug 7	Laurie Viter
Aug 8	Jenelle Larson
Aug 8	Faye Kniss
Aug 21	Isaiah Urman
Aug 29	Quinley Keith

Anniversaries ~ ~ ~

Aug 8	Dan & Dawn Urman
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Greeters ~ ~ ~

1st week	Jim Flesch / Alissa Urman
2nd week	Marsha Weeks / Joyce Sabin
3rd week	Kim Crisman / Kelli Beck
4th week	Val Parsons / Connie Sitorius

(See Marsha Weeks to volunteer)

Nursery ~ ~ ~

Aug 4	Jody Nelson
Aug 11	Marsha Weeks
Aug 18	Alisa Crown
Aug 25	Connie Schweitzer

(See Kelly Peterson to volunteer)

Sunday, August 18 First Baptist will hold our regular worship service at 9:45 a.m. for our own and any area worshippers that would like to join us. We want to provide an indoor option for all who are unable or don't want to participate in the outdoor setting of LOL on this day.

There will be no Sunday School following, so if you want to do both you can head up to Lake Helen then!

LIVIN' LOUD

LAKE HELEN, GOTHENBURG NE • A DONOR-DRIVEN FAMILY EVENT • FREE TO ATTEND

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 | 4:45

LIVE IN CONCERT

WE THE KINGDOM

TENTH AVENUE NORTH
THUNDERSTORM ARTIS
TORI HARPER
SEPH SCHLUETER

WITH A MESSAGE FROM ROGER COOPER

PLUS, JOIN US

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 | 10:45

FOR A COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE
LED BY MIKE DONEHEY & ROGER COOPER

www.livinloud.org | info@livinloud.org | AN OUTDOOR EVENT | Post on Facebook

*Witnessing for Christ is not something we turn on and off, like a TV set.
Every believer is a witness at all times—either a good one or a bad one.*
Warren Wiersbe

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

Aug 1	Woman's Council—1:30 pm
Aug 4	Christian Ed meeting—12pm
Aug 7-10	Pastor on Vacation
Aug 8	Awana Connect—7 pm
Aug 12	Management Finance—7:30
Aug 12	Elder Board meeting—8 pm
Aug 18	Worship Watchcare meeting
Aug 21	Sparks Leader meeting
Aug 25	Fellowship Outreach meeting

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<u>Sun.</u>	Worship Service—9:45 am Sunday School—11:00 am
<u>Wed.</u>	Men's Bible Study—6 am at Hospital
<u>Thurs</u>	Prayer meeting—5:15 pm



Ladies Bible Studies

The Monday evening Bible study will be beginning *Discovering Daniel* by Amir Tsarfati in September. Contact Kim Crisman for more information if you are interested.

There will also be a Wednesday afternoon study yet to be determined.

Sparks Leader Meeting

Wed. August 21

6:30 p.m.

August means back to school and time to prepare for the fall start of Sparks and Cubbies.

Commander, Karman Keith is calling all volunteers to come gear up to serve another year by attending.

