

#### There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

#### -Ecclesiastes 3:1

To say I am not fond of winter is an understatement. And as I get older, I am more convinced that I don't like winter. No flowers. No leaves. No swimsuits. Less sun. Too much cold and ice. I know some people love it. I am not one of those "some people."

I am a summer guy. Warm, long days. Swimming pools and sweet tea. Sitting in the backyard waiting for the steak to finish. Even shade trees look great in the summer. That is probably why I spent so many years in youth ministry. But I guess it can't always be summer. Or winter for that matter.

Life is comprised of seasons. That is the message of Ecclesiastes 3. Seasons are not biased. Seasons don't pick-and-choose. All people go through all seasons of life. There may be differences but there is no exception.

And we are continuing to move out of one; 2020. This year has been many things to many people. It has been a roller coaster that didn't let you off when you asked. And in our cynicism, some have seen God as the abusive "carny" that won't stop the ride. But that isn't the case. God sees from an eternal perspective all of time at once. This is not the first pandemic. It is only a season. And God is still on His throne and His love hasn't wavered. He has not left nor gone on vacation.

This is a season in life. Our life. And not all bad. It was a time when things were put into place. A time when we realized what was important and what could be missed. A time where we realized the value of a touch. A laugh. Coffee and conversation. It was also a time where we learned how to spread the gospel in a different and bigger way. Realizing that the Church is us and not the building. A time when we checked on our neighbors. Appreciated teachers and hospital workers. A time when community once again became a priority.

So don't hide from 2021. Whether the season is over or continuing. What you need to do is press through the dirt. Reach for the sun. Take in the nourishment of the life God has blessed you with. And before you know it, He has brought you to bloom. Spring has arrived.

And summer is just behind...

Here's to another year of walking with God and with you! Go enjoy!

From My Heart,





If you play a sport, sing, play in band, are king of your chess club, or if you are involved in anything, GET ME YOUR SCHEDULE!! I would love to see you compete or perform.



### JANUARY 2021

"Look for yourself and you will find loneliness and despair. But look for Christ and you will find Him and everything else."

- C.S. Lewis

The best lesson we have learned in 2020 is this. We have put so much stock into a lot of things that don't actually matter. This past year we lost many things, but maybe the biggest thing we can gain is a reminder of our deep need for Jesus and his presence. Let 2021 be the year that we stop trying to find and control our lives and allow Jesus to lead our lives.

In Christ, Caleb Page

#### What are we teaching?

WED NIGHTS: We are looking for when we can come back together on Wednesday nights.

SUN NIGHTS: We are having sunday nights again! 6-8pm you have got to be here!!



Sponsor meeting JAN 31st at 4pm in the youth room



#### January Newsletter

Our mission is to help children come to KNOW Jesus Christ, GROW to be like Him, and GO serve Him.

# Happy New Mear! 12021!

The holidays are always a great opportunity to start spiritual conversations with our families. They offer us a chance to build meaningful traditions and point our kids to God, even in a year with so much uncertainty. It is important to remember what God has done. As trying as 2020 as been I would like to encourage you to create a timeline with your family. On paper write each month and the challenge will be remembering what occurred each month. Include big things and small things, good things and bad things. In the book of Joshua, the Bible talks about how important it is to remember what God has done. For years and years and years, God had been promising to give His special people, the Israelites, their very own country, a place called the Promised land. They used to be slaves in Egypt, but God rescued them, and in this story He does a miracle by stopping the water of a river so the people could cross over to their new home. Wow, what a big day! The Israelites got a brand new home thanks to God's amazing power, and they didn't even have to get wet going there (Joshua 3:14-17). As you complete your family timeline, some months it may not seem as though God was with you 'that' month -- but God is with us every single day. The same God who was with us in 2020, promises to be with us in 2021 no matter what. Remembering this gives us courage to face the future.

"So do not fear, for I am with you, do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10

Sunday School ...is back in session!! → 9:30am

#### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

3yo ~ 5th grade meets in the KFC Room, Door will open at 10:15 am for check in. Church will start at 10:30 am until further notice.

#### KFC Volunteer Schedule

#### COKESBURY KIDS: Gospels-Ministry of Jesus

1st Sunday> Cheri & Emily 2nd Sunday Courtney, Open 3rd Sunday> Michelle, Open 4th Sunday Courtney, Open 5th Sunday> Courtney, Open

Children's Church at Home & Wednesday Night lessons are being added to our church website each week and can be shared with everyone.

News & Upcoming Events



#### Wednesday Nights

CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE





Every Wednesday night, Billy brings a video presentation of a lesson, with a downloadable worksheet (accessible through the website). Currently in a great study of the book Philippians.



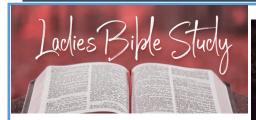
#### **Prayer Requests**

## Call or email the church office, 387-4100, ncc@nccok.com.

Prayer Requests will be taken during the week, shared on Sunday mornings, and then added to the prayer list. Since we won't be meeting on Wednesday nights until further notice, you can still and always call or email the church with your prayer requests and updates during the week. These will be added to the list and emailed out a couple times a week. And also, we'll continue to send out urgent prayer needs as we find out about them.



<u>SMALL GROUPS</u> will provide more opportunities to fellowship and study together in the coming months. Watch and listen for more details to follow in preparation for Feb. start-up.



Ladies Bible Study—begins
Wednesday, January 13th @ 7:30
pm and runs 6 weeks, in person at
the church or on Zoom . It's a Beth

Moore study, called **The Quest**, and there's an accompanying journal for \$17. Please sign up in the foyer, or email or call the



church, and we'll write your name down. The journals will be purchased ahead of time for those who have ordered and paid for them. Please talk with Courtney for more information. Here's a link to the Beth Moore study to find out more about it. The Quest Bible Study | Beth Moore | LifeWay.



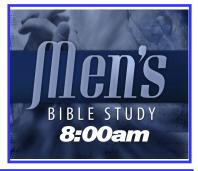
Sunday School for adults is starting up again! Come on over to the

fellowship hall, Sundays at 9:30am (or you can watch online!) In person study will be socially distanced.



We are resuming
some of our pre-pandimic
activities. Sunday School
starts again on January 10th,
and the Ministry Leaders Meeting
on the 10th, and Men's
Bible Study on the 16th.





### <u>Offering</u>

For the time-being, the offering plate will not be passed during service. There is a giving box in the foyer for your checks or cash (in an envelope please). Giving is also available through the church website, or by mobile device on the GivePlus app. (Directions are on the website). (Reminder: If you give on the website to the Other category, *please* type in the text box the purpose for it.) If using your mobile device, the "Other" giving category is *not available* through the mobile app. If you have a payment or donation to make to other than the listed categories, please use an alternate method, such as the website, or by check or cash (in an envelope with the purpose written on the outside.) If you have any questions about this, call the church office. Thank you!



#### January Nursery Workers

3—Amanda Nix

10—Michelle Collier

17—Kristi Harris

24—Emily Littlejohn

31—

#### **Church Office:**

Phone: 387-4100
Fax: 387-2399
Website: nccok.com
Email: ncc@nccok.com

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

<u>Staff</u> Billy Collier, Minister billy@nccok.com Caleb Page, Youth Minister

caleb@nccok.com Cheryl Millican, Ellen Storey, Secretaries ncc@nccok.com

Courtney Loveless-Children's director/ Preschool Director blessedmeb@yahoo.com

Adult Sunday School resumes 9:30-10:15

Elders Rick DeWeese

**Deacons** 

**Travis Cotten—Garland Hawkins** 

**Sunday** 

Sunday School Worship Service Youth Group not at present 10:30 a.m. 6:00 pm

#### Wednesday

**Bible Study (access on website)** 

Important Dates in January

(Note the Preschool and Home School dates on the calendar)

1—Office Closed HAPPY NEW YEAR!

5—Gentle Yoga 6:30 pm

8—Pantry 9-10:30 am

10—Adult Sunday School resumes 9:30-10:15am

10—Ministry Leaders meeting at 4pm

16—Men's Bible Study 8 am

21—Red Hats Game Day

### January 2021 - Communion & Offering Thoughts

	1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	5th Sunday
COMMUNION					
THOUGHT	Ed Harris	Gary Pitzer	Rick DeWeese	Caleb Page	Billy Collier
PRAYER TIME	Caleb Page	Garland Hawkins	Ed Harris	Rick DeWeese	Gary Pitzer



The calendar is being sent by separate email so that it is easier to read in landscape mode. It's also easier to print it out and put it up on your fridge for handy reference.