



# the messenger

*a river of hope in a thirsty land*

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## JULY 2026 NEWSLETTER

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*Happy Birthday*  
**AMERICA**

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# LIVING Sent

**Dear Friends in Relationship with God,**

**The Bible is the best book on prayer. Here are a couple of passages that speak to the invitation God gives us for relationship with Him and an example of Paul's prayer for the church in Ephesus.**

***Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.***

**How do you see prayer as a critical part of your relationship with God?**

**Why is prayer difficult?**

**Do you really believe prayer makes a difference?**

***Ephesians 3:14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.***

***20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, 21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.***

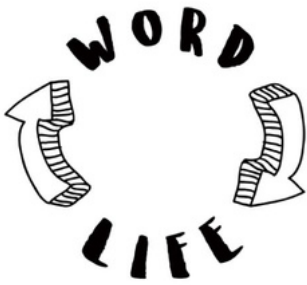
**What are the types of things Paul is praying for the church people in Ephesus?**

**What types of things prompt us to or prevent us from praying for one another?**

**With the Bible as a primary resource and as the conviction that we need to develop a praying life, we are going to use *A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World* by Paul E. Miller as a help in our personal prayer life by making it available for our Community Group leaders and participants. This will also help our congregation have some tools for being a praying congregation. We will use the Fall Quarter which is September—October—November of 2026 for this particular tool.**

**I have treasured praying with the people of Candies Creek on Wednesday nights and with the men on Thursday mornings. I am so thankful for those patterns that were established long before I arrived as pastor. Prayer is a way that we humble ourselves before the Lord and likewise a way we show our dependence on the Lord.**

**Let's pray,  
Pastor Stan**



Wednesday  
@6:16pm  
**Life 122**

**Church,**

**I am so grateful for Christ's love being evident in the way you care for one another and our students. Paul writes in Colossians 1:28 that we are to proclaim Christ and admonish and teach everyone with all wisdom so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. Thank you for your hard work to present our young people as fully mature.**

**Part of this maturity in Christ is doing these three things themselves for God's glory. As we head to Clarkston, Georgia, this month, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with our church to live out Colossians 1:28. Clarkston is known as the "most diverse square mile" in America and is home to many refugees from across the world. Here, we have the privilege to serve families through education camp, VBS activities, medical informational services, and relationship building. As we consider our Revelation 7:9 calling, I praise God that we have the multitudes of the world just a few hours down the road. Please pray for our team as we strive to proclaim Christ to a world that desperately needs a Savior.**

**Many of the people we will have the opportunity to minister to come from a Muslim background and train their children to be resistant to the Gospel. Last year, I heard the phrase, "I can't talk about Jesus because I am a Muslim," many times. Even Christian children would speak up to us to let them know that their friends couldn't talk about Jesus because they were Muslim. Please pray that God works in the hearts of both the little children and the adults we come into contact with so that the light of the Gospel is able to be received.**

**Grace and peace,  
Jed Cole**

## **Notable Dates**

**Each Wednesday at 7:45 - 3v3 Basketball League.**

**1st -No Life122, instead Atlanta Team/Parent Meeting 6:15 in StuB.**

**5th - Connect Night @ Geyman's.**

**12-16 - Atlanta Mission Trip (No Life122 or basketball on 15th).**

**19th - College Night @ Davis.**

**21st - Connect Night @ Smith's.**



# Candies Creek Kids

## **MISSIONS ON THE PLAYGROUND**

For June we studied: Lottie Moon missionary to China, Dr. David Livingston missionary to Africa and William Carey missionary to India.

We will take a short break July 1 and July 8th for holidays and day camp.

July 15th we return with MORE incredible stories of faith, perseverance, endurance, and sacrifice that will inspire the next generation of Candies Creek Kids to "Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God."

Hudson Taylor

## **PROMOTION SUNDAY AUGUST 9th**

All kids move UP to the next age/grade classroom in Sunday School  
Children's Church begins for K-4th grades during the Worship Time  
Children's choir starts back up at 6 pm in the Treehouse!

## **CHILDREN'S BIBLE DAY CAMP**

at Cumberland Springs July 6-10th for 4th-6th graders (for those who have signed up). Our church van will leave daily at 7:15 am and return approximately 5:15 pm after our "mini field trip" Matthew 7:24-25 My Foundation.

## **2026-2027 SUNDAY SCHOOL NEEDS**

2 Teachers for the 1 yr old Sunday School class

WHAT YOU GET: Rocking chairs and reading, goldfish snacks, felt board Bible stories, joy of watching toddlers grow in the Lord.

## **AWANA begins August 26th**

### **Cubbies, Sparks and TNT**

We can't wait for another year memorizing God's Word.

Volunteers sign up in July with Richard and Katie Kerley

Registration for kids will open August 1st

# Praying for America

**“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.”**

**Proverbs 14:34**

**As we celebrate the Semiquincentennial of America’s Declaration of Independence from the tyrannical rule of the King of Great Britain on July 4, 1776, may we declare anew our faithful trust and obedient dependence on the sovereign rule and saving grace of the King of kings. Earnestly confessing sin and seeking revival, the richness of scripture can guide our prayers:**

***“[If] My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven... forgive their sin and heal their land.”***

***2 Chronicles 7:14***

***“...O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances. Moreover, we have not listened to Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name... Righteousness belongs to You, O Lord, but to us open shame... because we have sinned against You. To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against Him; nor have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in His teachings which He set before us through His servants the prophets. O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive...”***

***Daniel 9:4-19***

***“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”***

***1 Timothy 2:1-4***

***“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.”***

***Romans 12:21-13:1***

***“...be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity.”***

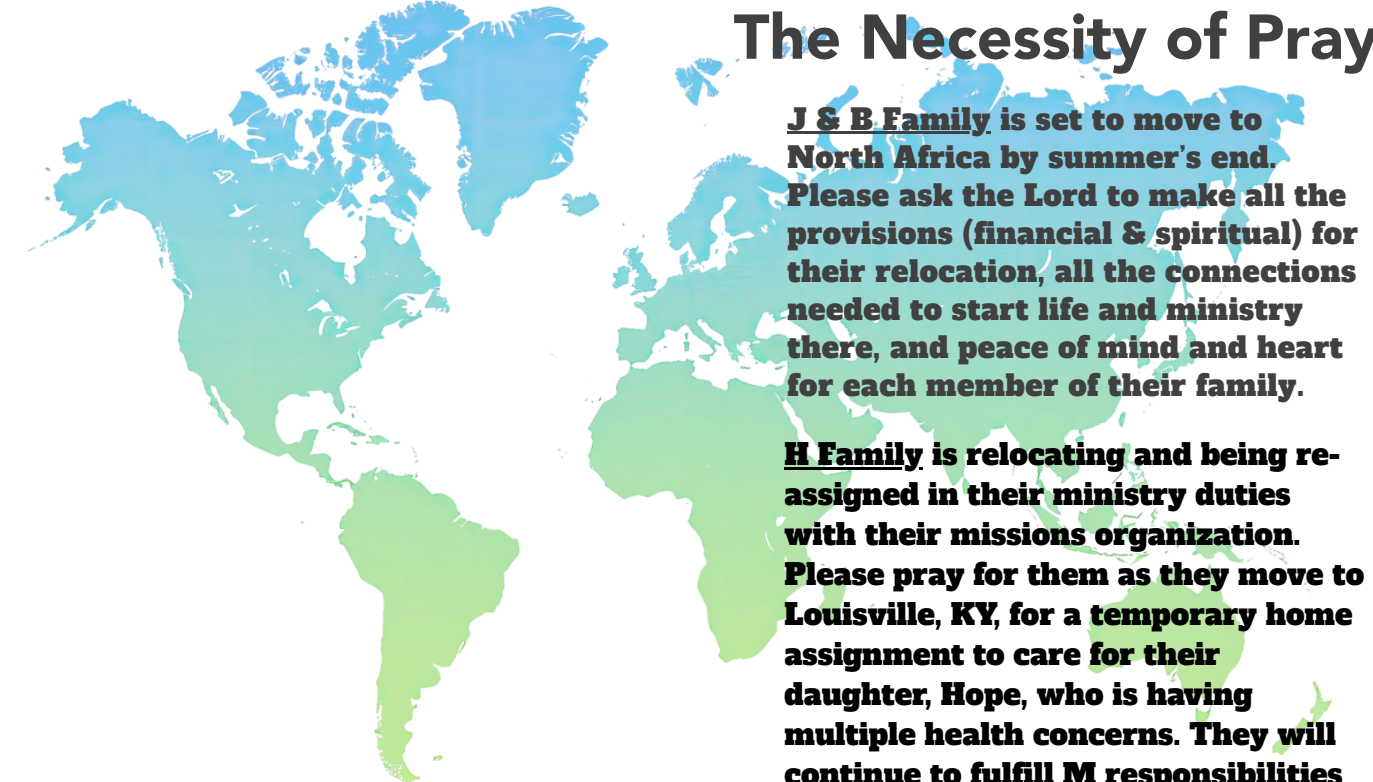
***2 Peter 3:17-18***

***“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”***

***Psalms 33:12***

# Global Partnerships

## The Necessity of Prayer



**J & B Family is set to move to North Africa by summer's end. Please ask the Lord to make all the provisions (financial & spiritual) for their relocation, all the connections needed to start life and ministry there, and peace of mind and heart for each member of their family.**

**H Family is relocating and being re-assigned in their ministry duties with their missions organization. Please pray for them as they move to Louisville, KY, for a temporary home assignment to care for their daughter, Hope, who is having multiple health concerns. They will continue to fulfill M responsibilities for their country in Asia.**

**B family is relocating to Cleveland this summer for a temporary home assignment to care for aging parents. They will continue to fulfill M responsibilities for Southeast Asia. Pray with them for God's wisdom and celebrate with them in the birth of their first grandchild.**

**Miller family is relocating to the US to fulfill God's calling to serve their missions organization in a new stateside role while continuing their M status and ministry. They will arrive in Cleveland this Fall. Please pray for their transition and for their financial support in making this move.**

**The R family and the Y family are both adjusting to living in new Asian countries this year for ministry. Please intercede on their behalf for adjustment and Gospel fruit in their new places of ministry.**

## Upcoming Efforts

**Weekly Local Outreach Weds. @ 4:45pm**

**Refugee Missions, Clarkston, GA; July 12-16**

**Alaska Mission, July 10-19**

**Point Honduras Dental Clinic, November 1-7**

**Where is God sending you this week?  
Next year?**

**Who do you know who needs the  
Gospel?**

# In the Know



Church Wide Fellowship  
July 26 @ 6 pm

Everyone bring potluck foods.  
Bring large side items; desserts, other meats ,  
breads, drinks etc. to share.

Church will be providing some chicken , tea and  
water.

## Monday Night Bible Study

**The plan is to resume our verse by verse  
Scripture study on July 13th by  
reviewing the book of Acts. We'll focus  
on the spread of the Gospel to the  
uttermost parts of the earth and our own  
forgiveness by looking at the  
encouraging examples of Peter (denial of  
Jesus) and Paul (persecution of  
believers). BYOBible and join the  
fellowship at 6:30 at the Dunn house.  
(423.614.0273).**



## Shoebox Ministry

**Hold on tightly because the Shoebox Ministry  
is shifting into high gear. There are four  
workdays planned for July because we plan to  
pack shoeboxes for the 10-14-year-olds towards  
the end of the month. Our planned workdays  
are July 10th, 17th, 23rd (pack) and 24th (pack).**

**Come join us!**

**This is the time to purchase school supplies  
either for your own boxes or to help us. The  
stores are having great sales! We pack 24  
crayons in all the younger children's boxes and  
12 colored pencils in the older children's boxes.**

**Also, depending on age/skill level, we pack  
pencils, erasers, pens (black, blue, and red),  
pencil sharpeners, scissors, solar calculators,  
and spiral notebooks (the Staples ones pack  
more easily). If you want to donate a few,  
please leave them on the Fellowship kitchen  
ledge.**

**Thank you, Candies Creek, for all the support  
over the years!**

## July Financial Update

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Given in June         | \$64,099.96  |
| June Expenses         | \$78,903.30  |
| Year-to-date Giving   | \$413,021.15 |
| Year-to-date Expenses | \$474,404.84 |
| Lottie Moon           | \$3,841.06   |

## PRAYER GUIDE // JULY 2026

### Now Is the Time: Healing of Our Land

Now that the magnificent temple of the Lord was finally complete, King Solomon knelt before the people with outstretched arms in a fervent prayer to Almighty God. He pleaded for God to hear the cries of His people and respond with favor.

When Solomon finished praying, the glory of the Lord overwhelmed the temple. The people's only response was to bow down on their faces in worship. God's pleasure and favor was in the room! Week after week, they praised God, sacrificed thousands of animals, and rejoiced at His goodness.

God then assured them that He had heard their prayers by giving both a warning and a promise. Yes, there might be times when He sends droughts or pestilence. But, He declared, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

It's a promise to Israel that reflects His heart and character for us today. Now is the time to again humble ourselves and plead for God's mercy and the healing of our land. May His favor overwhelm us!

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**1** King Solomon knelt before Almighty God in prayer:

"LORD my God, give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence." Pray that our national leaders will also humble themselves and cry out to God for His mercy and favor (2 Chronicles 6:19).

**2** As Solomon finished praying, "fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices." As you pray for the healing of our land, ask God to respond with His burning fires of revival and spiritual awakening (2 Chronicles 7:1).

**3** When overwhelmed by the glory of the Lord, the people responded, "He is good; his love endures forever." Let this be your prayer of joy and thanksgiving today (2 Chronicles 7:3).

**4** Ask for a renewed destiny of our nation in honoring God and exalting Jesus. Pray that the Spirit moves in hearts of believers to humble themselves in prayer, seek God, confess sin, repent, and cry out for the healing of our land (2 Chronicles 7:14).

**5** The Lord promised Solomon that "my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." Pray for movements of fervent prayer in churches across this nation, for revival and for awakening of the lost (2 Chronicles 7:15).

**6** God chose and consecrated the temple "so that my Name may be there forever." He added this glorious promise: "My eyes and my heart will always be there." Praise God for His faithfulness to His Church. Pray that His name is exalted in your church in ways that bring awakening to your community (2 Chronicles 7:16).

**7** Pray that the Church heeds God's warning that He will discipline His people "if you turn away and forsake the decrees and commands I have given you." Pray for a reverent fear of the Lord that leads His Church into truth and unwavering devotion (2 Chronicles 7:19).

**8** Pray that the leaders of our nation will pursue biblical truth in all their decisions and understand that "righteousness exalts a nation." Ask God to also make them solemnly aware that "sin condemns any people" (Proverbs 14:34).

**9** Nations may try to conspire against God's rule, but "the One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them." Pray for an awakening in our nation to the fear of the Lord, the honoring of His name, and surrender to obey His Word (Psalm 2:4).

**10** God invites His Son to "ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession." Pray that this nation and all nations will exalt Jesus and embrace His reign and rule (Psalm 2:8).

**11** The Lord warns kings and rulers of the earth to be wise, and to "serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling." Pray that this nation will always bow to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and rejoice in reverence to His rule (Psalm 2:10-11).

**12** Pray that the people and leaders of our nation will believe that "blessed are all who take refuge in him." Pray for a national spiritual awakening that draws people to exalt Jesus as the only hope for peace and safety in the healing of our land (Psalm 2:12).

**13** Trials, disasters, and chaos may descend on our nation at any time but pray that our leaders will call on God in the day of trouble, believing that He delivers and heals those who honor Him (Psalm 50:15).

**14** Pray for the peace and prosperity of this nation “because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Ask God to heal our land in answer to the humble prayers of His people (Jeremiah 29:7).

**15** Challenges will come to any nation. But pray that people will remember God’s faithfulness in the past and determine to “be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” Pray that believers will model their trust in Jesus with a vision for restoration of this nation (Romans 12:12).

**16** This nation has a rich history of God’s intervention at critical times when God’s people cried out to Him. Pray that stories of God’s grace will be passed on to the next generations, telling of “the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done” in healing this land (Psalm 78:4).

**17** Pray that leaders in your community and state are awakened to the truth that when they seek God, they will “find [Him] when they seek [Him] with all [their] heart.” Pray that your city will be governed by people who honor biblical principles and turn to God first (Jeremiah 29:13).

**18** Pray that our local and national leaders will understand that “there is no authority except that which God has established.” Pray that as governing authorities, they will honor their roles by acknowledging God and leading in His truth (Romans 13:1).

**19** Pray that the Church is mobilized to offer “petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving” on behalf of “all those in authority.” Pray for unity in urgent prayer that exalts Jesus over political differences (1 Timothy 2:1-2a).

**20** Pray that followers of Christ are faithful in interceding for leaders “that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” Pray for a unified prayer movement among God’s people for those in authority (1 Timothy 2:2b).

**21** Pray for a resurgence of showing esteem for people in authority, that all generations might “show proper respect to everyone.” Pray for healing of hatred and division toward those in leadership (1 Peter 2:17).

**22** The Lord is near “to all who call on him in truth.” Pray that humility characterizes our leaders as they submit to God and search out direction in His Word. Ask God for godly spiritual advisors who will point them to Jesus as the source of all truth (Psalm 145:18).

**23** Pray that as a nation, we will seek God in all things, knowing that “for lack of guidance a nation falls.” Pray for

godly leaders who will not hesitate to pray and seek wisdom from the Lord (Proverbs 11:14).

**24** Pray for our president and other national leaders to surrender to the Lord’s leading, knowing that “in the LORD’s hand the king’s heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him.” Pray for our leaders to embrace the power of the gospel to transform their lives (Proverbs 21:1).

**25** Pray for God’s mercy for our nation, knowing that “He makes nations great, and destroys them; he enlarges nations, and disperses them.” Pray that this nation prospers in righteousness and helps advance the gospel to the ends of the earth (Job 12:23).

**26** Even though as a nation “we have rebelled against [God],” pray with hope for healing of our land, knowing “the Lord our God is merciful and forgiving” (Daniel 9:9).

**27** Praise God that we have hope as a nation because God does “not stay angry forever but [delights] to show mercy.” Our sins are many, but pray that we will humble ourselves before God, confess sin, and prosper again with the healing of our land (Micah 7:18).

**28** In the midst of a national crisis, King David offered sacrifices—and “then the LORD answered his prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped.” Pray for a movement of prayer and repentance over the sins of our nation, that God might be merciful and heal us of destructive societal plagues (2 Samuel 24:25).

**29** As a nation, we have strayed from God in so many ways. But pray that God will “in accordance with your great love, forgive the sin of these people....” Pray for an awakening to a holy reverence for God and a longing to be restored to Him (Numbers 14:19).

**30** Ask God to respond with favor to our prayers by answering, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” Ask Him to make “a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland” as He heals our nation for His glory (Isaiah 43:19).

**31** After King Solomon prayed for God’s favor and offered sacrifices, “he sent the people to their homes, joyful and glad in heart for the good things the LORD had done for David and Solomon and for his people Israel.” Pray that as a nation we will recount God’s faithfulness, trust Him for our future, and worship Him with joy for all His provision (2 Chronicles 7:10).

# July Birthdays



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> Jake Beard, Don Markham,<br>Tobias Missisnne | <b>19<sup>th</sup></b> Jeff Davis   |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup></b> Kathy Flowers, Madeleine Stoody              | <b>20<sup>th</sup></b> Irlean Keyes, Donna Thomas   |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup></b> Elle Olmstead, Alice Torchick                | <b>21<sup>st</sup></b> Andrew Markham   |
| <b>9<sup>th</sup></b> Rick Simko, Audrey Torchick                  | <b>24<sup>th</sup></b> Annette Markham  |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup></b> Stan Gibson, Benito Mendoza,<br>Kelly Moore | <b>25<sup>th</sup></b> Virginia Beesley   |
| <b>13<sup>th</sup></b> David Ownbey                                | <b>26<sup>th</sup></b> Miles Moseley  |
| <b>14<sup>th</sup></b> Baylee Beard, Andra Griffey                 | <b>27<sup>th</sup></b> Cora Gibson, Milton Hooper,<br>De Wayne Pierce                           |
| <b>16<sup>th</sup></b> Tracey Hardin, Erika Olmstead               | <b>30<sup>th</sup></b> Jed Cole, Terri McConn   |
| <b>17<sup>th</sup></b> Marilyn Ebling, Garrett Martin              | <b>31<sup>st</sup></b> Palmer Blackmon, Jennie Davis,<br>Dale Elrod, Leah Jolley, Jenny Steinle |

## One Minute Clinic

**Romans 5:3-4: "Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."**

***This verse highlights the transformative power of suffering in developing character and hope.***

# July 2026



| SUN  | MON                  | TUES   | WED  | THURS  | FRI                                    | SAT  |
|--|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |                      |  | Student/Parent Mission Team Meeting<br>No Life 122, <sup>1</sup><br>No Children's Activities | GEM Team Meeting 6:30 pm<br>No Praise Team Practice <sup>2</sup> | Church Office Closed <sup>3</sup>      | Happy Birthday USA! <sup>4</sup><br>250 Years!           |
| Student Connect Night @the Geyman's <sup>5</sup>           | ←<br>6               | Cumberland Springs Kids Camp<br>7                | No Children's Activities <sup>8</sup>  | →<br>No Praise Team Practice <sup>9</sup>                        | Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am <sup>10</sup> | Multi-Language Community Outreach 10-12 pm <sup>11</sup> |
| ←<br>12  | Student Mission Trip |  | →<br>No Life 122<br>Missions on the <sup>15</sup> playground                                 | 16   | Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am <sup>17</sup> | 18   |
| College/YA Night @the Davis's <sup>19</sup>                | 20                   | Student Connect Night @the Smith's <sup>21</sup> | Missions on the <sup>22</sup> playground   | 23   | Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am <sup>24</sup> | 25   |
| Bussiness Meeting 4:30 pm<br>Church Wide Fellowship 5-8 pm | 27                   | 28   | Missions on the <sup>29</sup> playground   | 30   | 31                                     |  |

## Sundays

Community Groups  
8:45am  
Worship Service  
10:00am

## Wednesdays

Outreach  
4:30 pm  
Precept  
6:00 pm  
Prayer Meeting  
6:00 pm  
Life 122 6:15 pm

## Thursdays

Precept 8:50 am  
Praise Team  
Practice  
6:30 pm

