
TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

June 2023

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JUNE 4 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
- JUNE 5 - 10 AM BIBLE STUDY
- JUNE 8 - PRAYER MEETING (LARUE'S 4 – 5 PM)
- JUNE 10 - MEN'S BREAKFAST 7:30 AM (SEE ARTICLE)
- JUNE 11 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
DEACONS MEETING
- JUNE 12 - NO BIBLE STUDY
- JUNE 14 - SHARON JENKIN'S BIRTHDAY
- JUNE 15 - NO PRAYER MEETING
PATRICK CASH'S BIRTHDAY
- JUNE 18 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
11 AM ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE
FOLLOWED BY COVERED DISH
LUNCH (SEE ARTICLE)
FATHER'S DAY
- JUNE 19 - 10 AM BIBLE STUDY
- JUNE 21 - JENNIFER REID'S BIRTHDAY
- JUNE 22 - PRAYER MEETING (5:30 -6:30 CHURCH)
- JUNE 23 - KATE VANDERLINDEN'S BIRTHDAY
- JUNE 25 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
TRUSTEE MEETING
- JUNE 26 - 10 AM BIBLE STUDY
DWAYNE & DAWNNA SELDON'S
ANNIVERSARY
- JUNE 29 - PRAYER MEETING (LARUE'S 4 – 5 PM)

ANNUAL HOMECOMING/MEMORIAL SERVICE

Our annual Homecoming/Memorial Service will take place on Sunday, June 18th. Pastor Mike VanDerLinden, will be delivering the message. During the 11 am service we will remember those who have passed away during this year. As usual, a covered dish lunch will follow. Let's not forget that it is also Father's Day!

The watercolor prints of the church by local artist, Eugene Smith, will be available for purchase at a reduced price of \$30.00 each. The paperback book history of the church that was produced for our 200th anniversary will also be available for purchase at \$15.00 each.

The Trustees make it a high priority to maintain the cemetery in superior condition, even though the costs for doing so have risen over the last few years. For that reason, a donation to the cemetery fund would be greatly appreciated. Many contribute regularly, and we thank you for your ongoing support.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Group will be meeting for breakfast at Hayfield Restaurant on Saturday, June 10th at 7:30 am. Following breakfast, the men will be gathering at the church for clean up of the cemetery in preparation for our Homecoming/Memorial Service on June 18th.

PCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

During the week of June 12th thru June 17th, Lorrie and Pastor Mike will be attending the PCA General Assembly in Memphis, Tennessee.

We welcome any articles, comments or suggestions.
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PASTOR'S PEN

Throwing Fear Out

It's a well-known fact that children tend to fear the dark. Whether it was the bedroom's darkness after your parents tucked you into bed or the blackness of the forest on that first camping trip, our minds often imagine the worst. As we grow, the intensity of our childhood fear of the dark diminishes while at the same time being replaced by other more adult fears. We want to be accepted by others, be part of the community, find purpose and meaning in life, and live forever. We fear anything that threatens these things, especially death. Scripture has a straightforward answer. 1 John 4:18 tells us that perfect love casts out fear.

When the Apostle tells us this, he means perfect love casts out ALL fear. It reminds you that you don't have to fear being set apart from the world as a Christian, sickness, or even death. If you look up this verse in different translations, you'll find strong language used to describe the power of love over fear. Love casts our fear, drives out fear, and expels fear. The Greek word carries the idea of forcefully throwing fear out. So there is a power behind perfect love meant to strengthen us against the world's worries. Of course, this perfect love comes from God because God is love.

Death is probably the easiest place to begin to look at the power of love to cast out fear. Everyone (except unrealistic young men) knows they won't live forever! We may not know when death will come, but we feel it is stalking us as we grow older. And since we have no experience with the afterlife, it's understandable that we're afraid of death. But when we understand God's perfect love, we will come to know that love will cast out all fear, especially the fear of death.

The Apostle John records the events of the raising of Lazarus from the dead in chapter 11 of his gospel. Jesus said in that account, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" The point is, from an earthly standpoint, everyone dies. But, for those who put their trust in Jesus, death is only a transition to eternal life. Your eternal existence is not threatened at all by an earthly death.

When we see our loved one suffering or feel the cold hands of death trying to take hold of us, we must ground our faith in God's perfect love. Nothing can happen to you that doesn't pass through the sovereign hand of God first. It may look terrible from a worldly standpoint, but when you know your life is in the hand of a Father who loves you perfectly, fear can be thrown out and replaced by assurance, peace, and trust.

This is the thought behind the hymn *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*. The last stanza says, "What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms." Perfect love does cast out all fear! It doesn't matter if you are sharing the gospel with a neighbor, on the way to a doctor's appointment to get test results, or making the arrangements for the funeral you know is coming sooner than you expected. God is love, and when His love is perfected in you, perfect love throws fear out!

~ Pastor Mike