
TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

October 2023

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- OCT 1 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
- OCT 2 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
- OCT 4 - DWAIN AND JANET FRIES
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
- OCT 5 - PRAYER MEETING (CHURCH) 6:30 – 730 PM
BARBARA HAEUSSLER'S BIRTHDAY
- OCT 6 - CHASE ALAN BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
- OCT 7 - LADIES FELLOWSHIP GATHERING (ARTICLE)
- OCT 8 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
- OCT 9 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
JV FOOTBALL TEAM MEAL (ARTICLE)
- OCT 10 - GRACE VANDERLINDEN'S BIRTHDAY
- OCT 12 - PRAYER MEETING (LARUES) 4-5 PM
- OCT 15 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
COUNCIL MEETING
LUCY ORNDORFF'S BIRTHDAY
- OCT 16 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
- OCT 17 - OWEN GAVER BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
- OCT 19 - PRAYER MEETING (CHURCH) 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- OCT 22 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
SUZANNE REID'S BIRTHDAY
- OCT 25 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
- OCT 26 - PRAYER MEETING (LARUES) 4-5 PM
- OCT 28 - TOM & NANCY PUGH'S ANNIVERSARY
ABIGAIL SMITH'S BIRTHDAY
- OCT 29 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
FIFTH SUNDAY LUNCHEON
- OCT 30 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM

COMMUNION SUNDAY

We will be celebrating the Lords Table on Sunday, October 1st during the worship service. Please plan on coming prepared to celebrate the Lord's goodness.

QUARTERLY COUNCIL MEETING

The quarterly council meeting of the church will be held on Sunday, October 15th following the worship service. In our effort to standardize reports and to create a single set of reports in advance of the meeting, treasurers and chairpersons are being asked to provide their reports to Pastor Mike by October 12th. For consistency, the treasurer's reports should be a year-to-date accounting through September 30th. They can be emailed to the church at timberridgechristianchurch@gmail.com or hand delivered. The meeting should last no longer than an hour.

COLLECTION FOR AMAZING GRACE FOOD PANTRY

Beginning now and continuing through October 9th, we will be collecting nonperishable food items for the Amazing Grace Food Pantry.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Sunday School will once again be collecting shoe box gifts in association with Samaritans Purse. These gifts are distributed to children in need in this country as well as remote areas around the world. Collections will begin on October 15th and will end on November 19th. We will be providing plastic shoeboxes as in the past. The Mission Committee will be paying for the postage again this year. For more information contact Jeanie Spaid.

LADIES FELLOWSHIP GATHERING

The next gathering of the Ladies Fellowship will be on October 7th from 11 am to 1 pm at 1107 South Hooks Mill Rd. A light lunch will be provided.

JV FOOTBALL TEAM MEAL

We will be serving the Hampshire JV football team pregame meal on October 9th. Preparation will begin at 12 noon at the church, leaving around 2 pm to deliver them to Romney. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.
Alan & Ginger Brill, alanbrill1@frontier.com
(304) 856-3635

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PASTOR'S PEN

Not Just a Slogan

We're about to start seeing shirts with our new slogan printed on them. That new slogan is **Rooted Deeper – Growing Stronger**. But it's not just a slogan. These words are meant to remind us of who we are in Christ and what He is doing in us. It's not that our slogan isn't meant to be catchy. It is. It's intended to be catchy, so it's easy to remember. It's also meant to be a conversation starter. When people see us wearing our shirts with the new slogan, let's hope they ask us what these words mean.

When we say we are **Rooted Deeper**, we mean that our roots are growing deeper in the gospel of grace. We're saying we are rooting ourselves deeper in the good news that Jesus came to save sinners. Salvation isn't something we could do ourselves. However, even though we believe in grace, we tend to allow works to crowd in or even crowd out the work of Christ. We allow this to happen even after experiencing the freedom delivered by the sacrifice of Jesus. Paul is clear that this tendency is deadly. Therefore, we must continue to root ourselves in the good news revealed in the gospel – **God alone saves sinners!**

Ephesians 2:8-9 reads, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." The interesting thing about roots is that they have no ability by themselves to sustain the tree. They cannot sustain the branches or the leaves without the nourishment they receive from the soil. The security that the tree enjoys during any storm is also not grounded in the roots alone, but actually in the soil which surrounds the roots. Anyone who has dug up unwanted plants around the house knows this. Take away the dirt surrounding the roots, and the plant can't even stand on its own.

You must be rooted in Christ! And the deeper, the better. And when you're rooted in Christ, there will be growth. Receiving nourishment from the risen Savior will cause you to grow in Him. Growing stronger in faith, which allows you to minister more boldly in His name. When people ask what it means that you are growing stronger, tell them you are being built up in Christ. **Colossians 2:6-7** reads, "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." **When you construct a house, the structure is not as stable in the beginning as it will be later. When the walls are only 2 x 4's, they are easy moved by even the slightest breeze. But, when the trusses are set in place and plywood covers the roof and walls, the added stability can be seen and felt! In Colossians, Paul calls us to be rooted and built up in Christ so that we are established in faith, growing stronger along the way so that we are not moved by every little trail that comes along.**

Being rooted deeper in Christ brings security and sustenance. Jesus said that apart from the vine, the branches can do nothing. But when you are connected to the vine, you will bear much fruit. Growing stronger in Christ means that you are growing in your faith, establishing your trust in the unshakable foundation of the finished work of Jesus. Our slogan is more than just words. It's a declaration that we know who we are and what God is doing in us. We are His workmanship, created to be rooted in deep communion with Him and growing stronger in Christ as He unites us to Him by sanctifying us daily. And that's good news that everyone should know!

~ Pastor Mike