## TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH newsletter

May 2024

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Apr 29 9 Am back pack preparation (see article) 10 Am bible study
- May 2 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER PRAYER MEETING (CHURCH) 12 - 2 PM DWAYNE SELDON'S BIRTHDAY
- May 5 10 am sunday school 11 am worship service
- May 6 10 am bible study
- May 9 prayer meeting (winchester) 4 5 pm place to be determined
- May 11 MEN'S BREAKFAST AT CHURCH 8 AM (SEE ARTICLE)

MOUNTAIN TIME JESUS JAM 1–6 PM CAPON BRIDGE FIRE HALL

May 12 - 8:30 am mothers day breakfast (see article)

> 10 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 11 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

- MAY 13 NO BIBLE STUDY
- MAY 16 NO PRAYER MEETING
- MAY 19- 10 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 11 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
- MAY 20- 10 AM BIBLE STUDY
- MAY 22 PASTOR MIKE AND LORRI'S WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
- MAY 23- PRAYER MEETING (CHURCH) 6:30 7:30 PM
- May 26 10 am sunday school 11 am worship service home mission offering
- May 27- memorial day no bible study May 28 - brian spaid's birthday May 30 - prayer meeting (winchester) 4 – 5 pm

PLACE TO BE DETERMINED

#### BACKPACK PREPARATION

Preparation for our rotation of the Backpack Ministry will be on Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 am. The plan is to prepare all three weeks on that date and delivered accordingly. Any help and extra plastic bags are always appreciated.

#### MOTHERS DAY SERVICE

As part of our Mother's Day celebration on May 12th, we will be having our annual Mother's Day Breakfast beginning at 8:30 am. The men who will be preparing the meal will need to be there by 7 am. For the worship service, we will continue our tradition of placing flowers in the sanctuary in memory or honor of our mothers. If you wish to participate in this tribute to our mothers, please contact Alan or Ginger, at church, by email or by phone as listed below by May 9<sup>th</sup> so that we may include it in the bulletin for that Sunday.

#### **MENS GROUP PROJECTS**

The Men's Group is planning to prepare the Mother's Day breakfast and will meet at the church on May 11<sup>th</sup> to fix their own breakfast and prepare for the Mother's Day breakfast the next day. Please be at the church on Sunday by 7 am if you are planning to help with the breakfast.

#### CEMETERY REPAIR CRINIC

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, "Restoring America's Cemeteries" will be holding a cemetery repair clinic at our church from 9 am to 3 pm. This is a 48 state project and our church was chosen as the West Virginia project. Additional information can be found at <u>https://48statetour.com/</u>. Please refer to the church bulletin throughout May for up-to-date details.

> We welcome any articles, comments or suggestions. Alan & Ginger Brill, <u>alanbrill1@frontier.com</u> (304) 856-3635

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# PASTOR'S PEN

#### Ministering in the Real World

If all goes as planned, we will finish our "What Now?" sermon series, following up on how Easter changed everything by moving to the book of Acts. As we conclude our look at how Easter changed everything, we'll be talking about The Great Commission, church membership, and sanctification. The book of Acts is an account of how these topics were worked out in the real world. That's important because the theology found in the bible is not concerned with philosophical thought but with life-changing transformation of individuals, communities, and the world. The book of Acts shows us that The Great Commission is not about setting up ideal situations in an uncertain world; it's about ministering the gospel in a messy but real world. The Book of Acts is the second installment written by Luke. It describes what happened when Jesus came and how it affected the world after His ascension. Luke desired to set forth an accurate account of the ministry the Apostles accomplished through the work of the Holy Spirit. The last few instructions Jesus gave His disciples included the fact that they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit and they would be God's witnesses to the ends of the earth.

It was an exciting time to be alive! God had not spoken to Israel through a prophet for over 400 years. When John the Baptist breaks on the scene, many were ready to hear God's prophetic word and respond. His message was one of preparation. They were to prepare themselves for the arrival of the Lord. Even though it was an exciting time, it was also a time of misunderstanding. What did it mean to "prepare the way of the Lord?" It didn't take long for them to find out. As Jesus began His ministry, signs and wonders pointed to a new era of God's work in the world. Of course, the ministry of Jesus only lasted three years, and then He ascended to heaven.

The book of Acts follows what happened after the ascension. The book relates the history of the founding of the New Testament church. We could say it's our history! The problems the early church faced helped to mold the church into what it is today. The missionary zeal of Paul and others laid the groundwork for all that came later. This is because Acts is not just history. It's theology, too. The book of Acts relates how the disciples put into practice the Theology taught by Jesus.

If the Jews were excited by the arrival of the voice of God again, the Gentiles had even more reason to celebrate. In the Old Testament, the voice of the Lord was mainly reserved for the nation of Israel. If you wanted to be part of the family of God, you had to become a Jew. With the inauguration of the New Covenant, all of that changed. Now, anyone who called on the name of the Messiah could be saved. The Gentiles were now allowed to approach God, having even greater access than anyone had ever known before.

This newfound freedom, proclaimed as the gospel message, ignited a fresh zeal to spread the word. The book of Acts will take us on a journey from Jerusalem to Asia minor, and then to Rome. As we observe how the Apostles established the new church, we will discover that Acts has much to offer us. Despite the differences in our historical context, the principles we'll glean from Acts are still applicable. Many of the challenges we witness them grapple with in the first century are the same ones the world still wrestles with today. And that should encourage us because we know that the Lord remains the same yesterday, today, and forever.