



COVECHURCH

NEWSLETTER



Week of 12/9/2024

Words of Encouragement

“It is tempting to think that the gospel is how someone is saved and then they grow and move on to more mature spiritual topics. But Acts 15 shows us how Paul prioritized gospel centrality as a key element in advancing the church and why we should apply the same principle in the twenty-first century. By “gospel centered,” I do not simply mean that ministry is to be doctrinally orthodox. Of course, it must certainly be that. I am speaking more specifically of the gospel message of acceptance by grace alone. While every other religion operates on some type of performance-related principle (“I obey, therefore I am accepted”), the gospel condemns any self-righteousness and assures us of Christ’s righteousness (“I am accepted through Christ, therefore I obey”). Martin Luther’s fundamental insight was that the principle of “religion” is the default mode of the human heart. The heart continues to work in that way even after conversion to Christ. Though we recognize and embrace the principle of the gospel, our hearts are constantly trying to return to the mode of self-salvation. By seeking other ways to save ourselves, we fall prey to pride, spiritual deadness, and strife.”

-Tim Keller

Calendar

- Friday: 6:00 PM - December Fellowship Meal at the church
- Sunday: 9:45 AM - Prayer Time for the Lost at the church
- Sunday: 10:30 AM - Worship Service

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Scripture Reading

Consider reading Matthew 1-2 in preparation for this week’s sermon.

Prayer Requests

- Chet Peterson - Please pray for my uncle, Ray, as he goes to upcoming neurologist, cardiologist, and pulmonologist appointments to get to the bottom of a recent car accident he was involved in.
- Brenna Peterson - Please pray for my friend Mary Katherine’s baby who is showing signs of trisomy 18, which is severe developmental condition where most babies do not survive past birth or infancy. Please pray for her and her husband, Ricky, as they continue with the pregnancy. Praise the Lord though that even in the sadness, Mary Katherine has immense peace in her Lord and Savior.
- UPDATE: Praise the Lord! Brad passed his licensing exam. Please continue to pray for endurance and perseverance as he begins working at Blue Ridge Health.
- UPDATE: The results for Breanna’s echocardiogram and stress test came back with no major issues. She has a follow with her cardiologist next week and will discuss next steps.
- Please pray for Metta Bauman’s father. He was recently placed in Hospice care.
- Breanna Peterson - Please pray for my friend’s husband, Justin Wong, who was recently diagnosed with mesothelioma. Thankfully it is not in his lymph nodes. Please pray for him and his family, he is married with three young children.

Pray for the Unreached

Laven People in Laos and the US

Population: 98,000 | Primary religion: Ethnic Religions | Percent Evangelical Christian: .00%

There are no known followers of Jesus among the Laven people, in either Laos or the United States. Pray for a movement to Christ among the Laven people that would bless their community in every way. Pray for their leaders to taste and see that the Lord is good. Pray for employment opportunities.



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