

THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

Stockton Christian Church Newsletter

TUNNELL'S VISION

BY PASTOR MICHAEL
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One Sunday morning a minister was preaching a children's sermon, using a telephone to illustrate the idea of prayer. "You talk to people on the telephone but you don't see them on the other end of the line, do you?" , he began. The children shook their heads. "Well, talking to God is like talking on the telephone. He's on the other end, but you can't see him. He's listening though." Just then a little boy piped up and asked, "What's His number?" We don't need a telephone number to get through to God, we can talk to Him any time. He just wants us to keep on talking. He always listens and always understands.

Prayer is one of the greatest blessings we have in our lives as Christians. There is not a day goes by that we do not find ourselves in times

of trouble and distress and we need guidance from God and His wisdom. Unfortunately, it seems that all too often distractions get in our way of prayer, and we focus our attention elsewhere. Christy Brewster in a Decision magazine publication many years ago shared these suggestions for making prayer a priority in our lives. I want to share them with you and encourage you to never let prayer slip from your priority list.

1. Make prayer a priority. Just as you need air to breathe, you need this time with God for your Spiritual health. (1 Corinthians 15:44)
2. Schedule the time on your calendar. Treat this time like an important meeting. If you wouldn't cancel an appointment with an important business associate or your doctor, why would you cancel one with the God of the universe?
3. Remember the cost of your privilege, and plan, plan, plan. Some people fail in their attempts at prayer because they don't have a plan. Some ideas:

>The Psalms can be a good starting point

>The Lord's Prayer can be the perfect guide to prayer.

>A church Hymnal can be helpful for praise....or for when the mind goes blank.

4. Don't become discouraged. The point is not to get what we want out of prayer but to be obedient to God. God always answers our prayers. Sometimes His answers may be "no" or "not yet." His purpose could be to teach us persistence!

Prayer is one of the most rewarding ways to spend our time. Let me challenge you to spend more time in prayer and see just how God in return will bless your time. A great time to join with other Christians and pray is during the National Day of Prayer service in the Stockton City Park on Thursday, May 5th. Many people from throughout the community will come together at 12 noon and pray for our country, our leaders and for those who need the guidance and protection of our Lord God. Hope to see you there.

UPCOMING EVENTS



National Day of Prayer May 5, 12pm

LOCATION: Stockton City Park

Join our community in prayer at the city park.



Baby Bottle Fundraiser May 8-June 19

Beginning Mother's Day, we will begin the baby bottle fundraiser for Alpha House in Bolivar. The fundraiser will run until Father's Day. You can support Alpha House by picking up a bottle, fill it with change and bring it back to the church. We will collect all the donations and send them off to Alpha House.



Thrift Store Sorting May 19, 1pm

LOCATION: SAMA Thrift Store

Volunteers are needed to help sort linens and curtains at the SAMA Thrift Store. If you are interested either talk to Linda Kimmel or meet at the store.



VBS Volunteer Meeting May 22, 11:30am

LOCATION: Sanctuary

We will have a final VBS meeting for all volunteers following the service. This will be a quick meeting giving details on what to expect during VBS week. Volunteers are encouraged to attend.

VBS is June 6-10th

We would love your help at VBS week, if you are interested fill out a volunteer form.



Core52 Bible Study Sundays, 6pm

LOCATION: Overflow

Are you interested in studying the Bible? Join us Sunday nights as author Mark Moore identifies the most power-packed passages and distills them into a digestible format for busy people who want to gain proficiency with Scripture.



Student Ministry Activities

Summit Kids After School will meet for the last time on May 24th. The After School program will start up again when school starts.

Youth Group will continue meeting on Wednesday nights until July.

Keep an eye out for news and updates about your students attending Maranatha Bible Camp this July.



Men with God Wednesdays, 7pm

LOCATION: Overflow

Men with God is a Bible Study for men, led by Pastor Michael. They meet every Wednesday evening at 7pm in the church overflow.



Mystery Island VBS

Grab your snorkel and flip-flops--we're off for an intriguing adventure!

VBS is June 6-10 and will begin at 6:00pm and end at 8:30pm. Kids ages 4-12 years old, will enjoy an evening of fun tropical themed rotations as they learn about the one true God.

Our van services will be available for pick up before VBS and take home afterwards. Please make note on your child's registration if you are interested in our van services.

//REGISTER YOUR CHILD HERE//

<https://www.myvbs.org/sccvbs/>

Or fill out a paper form in the church foyer.

SAMA FOOD PANTRY



THIS MONTH'S DONATION:
DRY GOODS

bring donations to the box in
the entryway

Online Giving

Give to the church online through Faithlife Giving. It's easy to make one-time and recurring gifts, plus view your giving history. Go to stocktonchristianchurch.com/give to get started.

I will exalt you,
my God and
King, and praise
your name
forever and
ever.

I will praise you
every day; yes, I
will praise you
forever.

Great is the
Lord! He is most
worthy of praise!
No one can
measure his
greatness.

Psalm 145:1-3 NLT





the
back corner

BY JACOB HAUGHT
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This next month is exciting for many students. School is out for summer break, seniors are graduating high school, vacations, church camp, and the idea of staying up late and sleeping in. Well maybe for some people! This month has many big milestones for many of our students. I love what Deuteronomy has to say for these students experiencing change.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”
Deuteronomy 31:6

With new adventures starting out for many of students, it can be an uncertain time. But it is encouraging to me to know that the Lord our God goes with us wherever we go! Moses writes to be strong and courageous to the people that are following him. That’s a great message for us to follow as well. We know who walks with us and who know that he will never forsake us. We are secure in our knowledge and of our faith in Jesus Christ. As new students graduate, get new jobs, or whatever adventure may come at them in their life to come, let us hold on to those words from Deuteronomy 31:6. Be strong and be courageous. Don’t be terrified as to what might come, but stand firm in your faith in Jesus. Go and be more than conquerors in this life!

CONTACT

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BOARD MEMBERS

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Lee Kennon
Larry Stockstill
Ray Winters

INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday 8am-11am

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday School //9:30am
Sunday Worship //10:30am

WEBSITE
stocktonchristianchurch.com

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Greeters

May 1: Bill Smith

May 8: Butch Boban

May 15: Carolyn Boban

May 22: Vermina Albers

May 29: Beth Brown

Communion & Baptism Towels

2 Sundays: Phyllis Rutledge

3 Sundays: Elaine Haun

Benevolence Committee

Chairman: Linda Kimmel

Committee: Jean Lane, Sandra Moore, Beth Brown, Nedra Fox, Neda Witt

Communion Meditation

May 1: Steve Rutledge

May 8: Michael Tunnell

May 15: Brent Rutledge

May 22: Bill Smith

May 29: Jacob Haught

Sunbeams Teacher

May 1: Maranda Spangler

May 8: Cody Branson

May 15: Cody Branson

May 22: Nichole Marshall

May 29: Nichole Marshall

If you are
unable to
fulfill your
position,
please trade
with someone
or call/email
the office.