

The Red Oak Christian

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August 2018

Minister's Moment

As you have probably figured out by now, I preach a lot of sermon series. Now, that might not be what you have been used to in the past, but it allows me to focus on things that I think are important for our congregation to think about. Early in my pastoral career, I used the lectionary to determine sermon topics, which is what a lot of Disciples' pastors do. And while there are some advantages to using the lectionary, ultimately, I think it limits the pastor's ability to focus on timely issues and on aspects of the Christian faith that we all need to be more knowledgeable about.

Currently, we are in the midst of a sermon series on the importance of choosing in our personal lives those things that constitute the heart of the matter when it comes to the Christian faith. The heart of the matter, the bottom line, the most important things are crucial to us living out God's call in our lives. So far, we have talked about choosing grace and choosing truth. This week, we are going to talk about choosing humility, then choosing trust and we will conclude the series with choosing sacrifice. All of these things, in my opinion, represent the heart of the matter and a better understanding of these ideas and realities will help us all.

One thing missing from this list is love, which I agree could easily be on the list of the things we need to choose every day. In fact, love is so important that it can't be limited to just one sermon. So, after completing this series, we will begin a new series focused specifically on the primacy of love as it relates to being a follower of Jesus. Specifically, we will use the 13th chapter of I Corinthians for this discussion. I hope you will continue to be committed to being a part of our worship time together; your presence means a lot to us as community of faith discerning who God wants us to be as Red Oak Christian Church.

Grace and peace,

Reece

Choir News

Choir practice will start again in September.

Christian Education

Camp will be winding down at Camp Caroline in August. We had about 15 campers this year. We would love to hear about YOUR camp experiences.

Christian Men's Fellowship

CMF will meet on August 11, 2018 at 8:00 am at Denny's restaurant.

Church Board News

The next Board meeting will be on Sunday, September 9, 2018 after worship. Our meeting times have changed. This month we will meet on the second Sunday due to the Labor Day holiday. Our regular schedule is the first Sunday, bi-monthly, after worship service. All members of the Eldership, the Diaconate, Team leaders, and ANY one interested in what the church is doing is invited to come.

Eldership News

The Elders will meet Sunday morning, August 5, 2018 at 8:30 am.

Evangelism and Membership News

Invite your friends and family to join us each Sunday.

Helping Hands Circle

Helping Hands will meet again in September.

Mission

The Prison Ministry will meet Thursday, August 2, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

The next Missions meeting will be Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 6:00 pm.



Community Garden: Every third Saturday starting at 8 am, the 3rd Street Community Center is open for volunteers to come and help in the Community Garden, to interact with the 3rd street community, and to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. You don't need special skills you just need to care. Share your caring this month, **August 18, 2018, at the 3rd Street Community Center.**

FEEDING THE HOMELESS: August 22, 2018 - Christin Men's Fellowship

Mission Team Project/Focus for August

Our August Mission Team project will be to assist the Third Street Academy in their return to school at the end of August. We have discussed the needs with the principal, Beth Hinson. She has suggested the following items to be included in a bag for each student:

- 1 pack of 2 pink rectangle erasers
- 1 manual pencil sharpener
- 1 pack of fine tip magic markers
- 1 pack ruled index cards
- 1 bottle school glue (not sticks)
- 1 pack of 2 high lighters
- 1 roll masking tape
- 1 roll scotch tape
- 2 rulers

We are helping to supply the K-1 and 2-3 grades so we will need a total of 28 bags. Please include all the items on the list so the bags will be the same. Please pick up your bag with the list inside from the Narthex and return by August 26, 2018. If you are unable to shop, please consider donating \$10 to \$15 and someone will shop for you. Funds can be given to Nannie Sue Fields (252- 355-5698) and/or Clara Faye Whitley (252-321-1941) or a check can be put in the collection plate with designation for "Third Street Academy". Thank you for your continuing and faithful support to our Mission Team projects.

Youth News

The Youth Group will continue meetings in the fall.

Prayer Concerns (Please hold our brothers and sisters in prayer)

Joy T. Clark, (Nannie Sue Fields' cousin), Sharon Cronin, (friend of Ricki and Blake Williams), Lauren Hendrix, (Ed Cavanaugh's granddaughter), Gwen Cavanaugh (Ed Cavanaugh's daughter), Robin Avery (Sandy Hazelton's sister-in-law), Shirley Lawson (Marilyn Harris' sister), Hazel Tripp, Katie Oliver (friend of Claudia Manning), Michael Edlen, (David Edlen's brother), Micky Anderson, Kim Woolard (Joyce Worthington's daughter), Ed Cavanaugh, Mike Rasberry, Pattie Mercer (Lou Joyner's daughter), Shemar Jordan, Lou Joyner, Grace Pate, Ruth Haddock



Year-To-Date Stewardship Report



Don't Forget
Your Tithe

Let these words from the scriptures guide you as you consider your financial gifts to the church in support of our programs and ministries:

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21. The following figures are given for your information from **January 1 through July 22, 2018**. Remember, faithful Christian stewardship is ***not*** based on the Church's need to receive, but upon our need to give as Christ commands.

Total funds needed for 2018	\$ 125,058.00
Received for General Fund	\$ 74,167.43

For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. (II Corinthians 8:9)

Serving in August

Elders

David Edlen, Capt. and Jeremy O'Konek

Diaconate

Curtis Gordon, Sarah Pittman, Lewis Cook, Jackson O'Konek

Curtis Gordon – Serves communion on August 5

Sarah Pittman – Serves communion on August 12

Lewis Cook – Serves communion on August 19

Jackson O'Konek – Serves communion on August 26

(If you are unable to serve, please find someone to fill in for you.)

Feed the Homeless

Christian Men's Fellowship

(If you would like to participate please call Sandy Smith at 814-4954.)

August 2018						
◀ Jul 2018						Sep 2018 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Prison Ministry 6:00 pm	3 Jeremy/Sharon O'Konek	4
5 Elders' Meeting 8:30 am	6 Danny/Anna Gaylor	7 Kateri Blazer Grace Pate Jeremiah/Karen Chamberlin	8 Greg/Paula Main	9	10	11 CMF Meeting 8:00 am
12	13 Brenda Dickerson	14 Belinda Leggett	15	16	17	18 Third Street Project 8:00 am
19	20	21	22 Feed the Homeless 6:00 pm	23	24	25 Chad Singleton Nannie Sue Fields
26	27 Mimi Denton	28	29 Trinity Ross	30	31 Sandy Hazelton	

*I can do ALL THINGS
through Christ
who STRENGTHENS me.*
-Philippians 4:13

