

## Ponderings From the Pastor

By Brad Taylor, Pastor

Learning how to study the Bible may seem like a daunting task. But God intends for us to study His Word, no matter where we are in our Christian walk and growth. In 2 Timothy 2:15, the Apostle Paul wrote, *“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.”* The Greek phrase translated “accurately handle” (orthotomeo) also means to “guide on a straight path.” As we study the Bible, it’s important we do our best to stay on the straight path when it comes to interpreting and understanding it.

But how can we go about that? How can we learn how to study the Bible? Join us 6 p.m. Sunday evenings as you learn how to accurately handle the word of truth.

The Nominating Committee has been working hard to enlist

nominees for officers, teachers and committee members. This committee will bring before the church a proposed list of nominees to be elected to serve during the 2024-2025 church year. This list will be voted on during a special called business meeting immediately following the Aug. 11 morning worship service.

Each committee must meet as soon as possible after this business meeting to discuss the task that is assigned to their committee and discuss any events, projects, needs or opportunities. Each committee will elect a chairperson that will represent the committee on for the Sept. 8 Church Council meeting and give reports at each business meeting.

The members who make up the Church Council are the pastor, other ministerial staff members,

directors of church program organizations, chairman of the deacons and chairmen of church committees. The role of the Church Council is to serve the church by planning, coordinating, conducting and evaluating the ministries and programs of the church and its organizations. Matters agreed upon by the Church Council which call for action not already approved shall be referred to the church business meeting for approval or disapproval.

The active participation of those who have been selected to serve is critical for the church to achieve its mission. If a member chooses to not fulfill their elected responsibilities it is the responsibility of the Nominating Committee to replace them with another person who will do complete the task. Colossians 3:23 says, “Whatever you do, do your work mightily unto the Lord.”

# OGBC Youth News

Submitted by Matt Shepard, Youth Leader

On Friday, Aug. 9, I will be taking a van to Field of Faith for the youth! It starts at 6:30 p.m. at the Catoosa High School football field. We will be leaving the church at 6 p.m.

We will go back to regular times for Wednesday night service starting August 21 (6:30 - 8 p.m.). Awanas and van will pick back up too. Sixth graders will also be joining the youth group at this time!

Back-To-School Splash will be August 18 at the Boyers following Morning Worship service. There will be swimming, food, and whoever brings the most friends will win a gift card. Students will be back to the church at 3:30 p.m. to be picked up at that time.

Upcoming events:

Aug. 9 - Faith on the Field, 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 14 - 6th graders join youth! Wednesday night service goes back to regular time (6:30-8 p.m.)

Aug. 18 - Back-To-School Splash at the Boyers



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## August Sermon Calendar

Aug. 4 — Mark's Snapshot of Jesus' Ministry, Mark 3:7-12

Aug. 11 — The Unforgiveable Sin, Mark 3:12-35

Aug. 18 — The Soils Pt. 1, Mark 4:1-20

Aug. 25 — The Soils Pt. 2, Mark 4:1-20

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**Welcome new members:**

Bobby and Tina Qualls



# August 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

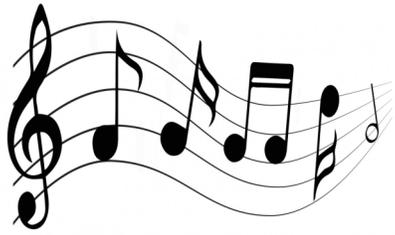
Thu

Fri

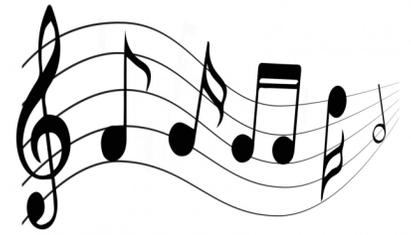
Sat

				1	2 Adult Game Day, 11am; Sandra Eastham & Chip Shoun bdays	3 Les Braden bday
4 Deacons Mtg	5	6	7	8 Crafty Christians, 10am; Allison DeVore, Brett Johnson & Gayla Pruett bdays	9 Faith On The Field, 6:30pm	10
11 Cheryl Easton bday	12	13	14	15	16 Mike Mayfield & Kay Moheng bdays	17
18 Special Business Mtg, noon; Youth Back-To- School Splash at the Boyers	19	20 David Curtis bday	21 Awana Kickoff, 6:30pm; Kimberly Roberts bday	22 Crafty Christians, 10am	23 Vicki Albright bday	24
25	26	27	28	29 Ben Pruett bday	30	31 Kai Faulkner bday





# The Church Has One Foundation



Submitted by Mindy Taylor, Worship Leader

A new report has found America's church attendance could be much lower than previously thought. The Washington Post recently released a breakdown of America's faith habits. Using data from the U.S. Religious Census, The Post's Department of Data mapped out the "geography of religious devotion." But their report uncovered something far more interesting than just regional religious preferences.

Across the U.S. as few as 5% of the population regularly attends religious services. That's a major difference from surveys from Pew or Gallop, who put weekly church attendance at 21-30%. If the Post's math is right, it means only one person in 20 attends church (mosque or synagogue) at least three times a month. Of course, that depends on where you are in the country.

Regular attendance varies from state to state. The South — aka Bible belt — has higher attendance numbers than the North: 6.4% in Kentucky, 7.2% in Arkansas, 8.6% in Tennessee. Utah by far has the highest numbers with 11.8%. At the bottom is Vermont with just 0.7%. Oklahoma is at 6.4%. To make this statistic even more surprising, the 5% estimate uses pre-pandemic numbers. And since church attendance has notably declined since 2020, the number could be lower at this point.

Experts argue that America's declining interest in religion is largely driven by the rise in "Nones" — Americans with no religious affiliation — which has risen from 9% in 2000 to 28% as of this year. This is especially prevalent in young adults ages 18-29, who are already the least

likely to attend services regularly.

According to Gallup, 35% of young adults say they have no religious preference, higher than the national average.

This was taken from Relevant Magazine and frankly this should set off alarms. This made me think of the song "The church Has One Foundation":

*"The church has one foundation,  
'Tis Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation,  
Through water by the word.  
From heav'n He came and sought  
her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought  
her,  
And for her life He died.*

Let's stand and build Christ's church! Let's reach out! Serve! Worship! Teach! Fellowship! And Minister to others! To reach those that have fallen in the gap! Let's rise brothers and sisters. Will you give YOUR life for Him?



# August Daily Bible Reading Plan

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 1 Joshua 1:1–18   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 12 Judges 6:28–40  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 23 1 Samuel 1:1–28  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 2 Joshua 2:1–24   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 13 Judges 7:1–25   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 24 1 Samuel 2:1–11  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 3 Joshua 6:1–27   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 14 Judges 8:1–28   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 25 1 Samuel 3:1–21  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 4 Joshua 22:1–9   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 15 Judges 13:1–25  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 26 2 Samuel 5:1–25  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 5 Joshua 22:10–34 | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 16 Judges 15:9–20  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 27 2 Samuel 7:1–17  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 6 Joshua 23:1–16  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 17 Judges 16:1–22  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 28 2 Samuel 7:18–29 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 7 Joshua 24:1–33  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 18 Judges 16:23–31 | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 29 Romans 4:1–25    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 8 Judges 1:1–19   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 19 Ruth 1:1–22     | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 30 Hebrews 11:1–22  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 9 Judges 4:1–24   | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 20 Ruth 2:1–23     | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 31 Hebrews 11:23–40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 10 Judges 5:1–31  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 21 Ruth 3:1–18     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 11 Judges 6:1–27  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 22 Ruth 4:1–22     |   |
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## Children's Church Lesson Calendar

Submitted by Cindy Tittle

Aug. 4 — Jesus Healed The Sick, lead by John and Cindy Tittle

Aug. 11 — Jesus Calmed The Storm, lead by Dave and Margaret Gauling

Aug. 18 — Jesus Raised Lazarus, lead by Charles and Gayla Pruett

Aug. 25 — Jesus Helped His Disciples, lead by Charles and Gayla Pruett

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