

A Moment with the Pastor

(An article from Discipleship.org)

My greatest fear growing up was getting lost. It terrified me so much at times that while hunting as a young boy I considered never going in the woods again. My fear of being lost would sometimes even cause panic attacks. One particular time, when I was about 10 years old, my dad and I were deer hunting and an awful snowstorm blew in. The day was nearly over and we had only an hour or two left of daylight. I was walking alone back to our pickup truck, far enough from my dad that I could get lost. Then, the snow became blinding. I struggled to see even a few feet in front of me. The next five minutes felt like five hours as I struggled to get my bearings. I remember feeling short of breath, fighting the panic, and trying to keep my mind focused. I was terrified of being lost in the woods during a horrible storm. By God's grace, I stepped out onto a main road and within 10 minutes after that, I made it to the truck where my dad was waiting. It took years of battling that fear to conquer it, and today I love the outdoors and the adventure of traversing God's creation.

I think back to that day and draw parallels to the world around us now. When I see so many people lost and separated from God, my heart aches for them because I know the feeling. My stomach sinks as I consider that those who are spiritually lost have no idea of the perilous state they are in. It ignites a fire in my soul that I believe motivates me in my calling in Christian ministry.

A significant part of the discipleship process is reaching the lost. Unfortunately, what I have seen in the church today is that we alternate between two extremes. Either we establish our church structures to support a fortress mindset that appeals only to those who have made it inside the fort, or we focus solely on "getting people saved." In either case the rest of the discipleship process is ignored or forgotten. While I commend the courage of those who preach the gospel on a street corner or hand out literature with the path to salvation, I want to suggest a bigger and more holistic approach to our second guardrail principle, which is reaching the lost.

When Jesus walked the earth with his disciples, his method of ministry embodied the message he preached. Did you catch that? His methods embodied the message. His very life reflected the truth of the gospel. The message of the gospel is woven like fabric with the threads of grace, love, truth, forgiveness, and mercy. Jesus demonstrated in tangible ways each of those concepts so that the gospel became alive. The message of Jesus Christ was lived out in the method of Jesus Christ. He lived the message of the gospel by modeling it through action. We see this in the way he diffused the situation with the woman caught in adultery, how he gently but firmly revealed the sinful lifestyle of the woman at the well, and how he marveled at the faith of the Roman Centurion and healed his servant. He was the embodiment of the message. When he told his disciples to go and preach the Kingdom of God, he meant for them to not only teach the gospel with their words, but also to model the gospel in the way they lived their lives.

We as Christ followers are called to go and make disciples of Jesus Christ. Jesus makes this clear in the Great Commission of Matthew 28: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19-20). This passage means that our churches must reach the lost—it's part of our calling. We must individually reach out to those who are lost and help them find their way home. Also, our church and organization structure must work in such a way that we not only reach them, but also help them connect in the church. So, go out into the world and share your life with those around you. Even more, be the message of Christ as you walk out the methods of Christ.

Stewardship Statistics							Total Money And Average Attendance
	6/29/25	7/6/25	7/13/25	7/20/25	7/27/25		
Attendance for in-person services.	61	55	51	51	55		54.6
General Fund	\$1907.00	\$2685.00	\$1690.00	\$1655.00	\$9637.00		\$17574.00
Weekly Budget	\$2464.71	\$2464.71	\$2464.71	\$2464.71	\$2464.71		\$12323.55
+ or— Budget	(\$557.71)	\$220.29	(\$774.71)	(\$809.71)	\$7172.29		\$5250.45
Designated Giving							
Birthday Money	\$5.00	\$7.00					\$12.00
Food Pantry	\$25.00		\$59.00		\$480.30		\$564.30
Mud Hens Tickets	\$52.00						\$52.00
Lehman Memorial Camp Fund				\$11.00	\$50.00		\$61.00
Total Giving's	\$1989.00	\$2692.00	\$1749.00	\$1666.00	\$10167.30		\$18263.30

Prayer list:

Skylar - Cancer is back
 Connor Sons
 John and Sara Roberts
 Sue Snyder (brain cancer)
 Sara Way Knight (pray for continued strength)
 Julia Haynes (ACL knee surgery/recovery is 9 months)
 Claire Campbell (cancer came back)
 Diane Miller (heart issues)
 Cindy Pratt (cancer removed/healing)
 Kristin & Tyler Foster (pray for healing)
 Jeff Frost (cancer/more chemo planned)
 Gloria Lehman (healing/wrist)
 Paul Kuzio (kidney failure/John's friend from Wisconsin)
 Jessica Johnson (chemo, but working)
 John McKenzie (pray for good health)
 Ricky Humphries (kidney failure)
 Lisa Buck
 Oakley Adams (2 yr. old had cancerous kidney removed/pray for strength)
 Gloria Snyder (cancer in vocal chords)
 Andrew Baron (back issues)
 Bill Way (healing at home)
 John DuBois (pulmonary disease)
 Cathy DuBois (home healing)
 Roger Meador (terminal lung cancer)
 Leeanna Trail (cervical cancer)
 Lorna Magrum's brother (strength)
 Russ Harshberger (knee pain returned)

Prayer list cont.

Victims of recent natural disasters
 Sheryl, friend of Mary Ann (She had pancreatic surgery & starts chemo again.)
 Larry Frost (vertebrae surgery done)
 Tim McKenzie (stroke recovery, just having trouble with balance)
 Carol Krause (fell & injured right hand)
 Norman, Philippines Bible College instructor (has full blown tuberculosis)
 Family of Rich Barton (Ed's uncle)
 Barry (heart surgery 7/21, remained in hospital due to pain)
 Jerry Snyder (home now, awaiting answers for seizures & heart issues)
 Leighan's Wal-Mart Associate was on her moped in the parking lot and hit by a vehicle and killed.
 Linda, Patsy's cousin (needs strength)
 Mary, Joan Eckhardt's sister (strength and recovery from knee surgery 7/7/25)
 Cindy Robinson, friend of Linda Weatherbee (2 blocked arteries to the brain, awaiting info from Cleveland)
 Family of Josh, Joanne McK's grand nephew (passed away unexpectedly)
 Bev Murphy's father had heart attack 7/26 and surgery 7/27.
 Molly (surgery recovery)

Remember our Shut-ins

Peggy Carsey - Brookdale #105
 Phyllis Betz - Home in Tontogany

Those in Service:

Darryl & Carol Krause (missionaries)
 Lt. Col. Elijah Ward – Carlisle, PA
 Ron Burkhart - Stateside
 Jon Walker - 180th TFW Active duty
 Michelle Metzger - Army Nat'l Guard
 Luke Millican - USAF
 Walker Polsinelli - Pakistan
 McNeil Snyder - USAF/Georgia
 Wynter Anderson - Army Nat'l Guard
 Hunter Braun - USAF Basic Training
 MSgt Deidra (Anderson) Braun - USAF

“TIME SPENT IN PRAYER IS NEVER WASTED.”

—FRANÇOIS FÉNELON

“EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.”

—NELSON MANDELA



Fellowship Break

August 3rd hosted by
Leighan Yarger

Men's Mentoring

follows Break.



Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 5th at 7:30pm

Friday Game Night,

August 8th

Bring food to share!

Fun for kids and adults alike!

Small Group Bible Studies with Ed Tolles

Wednesday Nights at 7:00pm

Book of Acts

Food Pantry is Open

August 2nd and 16th

10:00am - Noon

⇒ Annual Church Picnic

Bowling Green City Park, Kiwanis Shelter

Sunday, August 17th

Arrive around noon.

Eat at 12:30pm.



- Bring a dish to share.
- Hotdogs and hamburgers provided.
- Table service will be provided.
- Coffee will be provided.
- Bring your own drink.

Friday, August 22, 9:00pm

**Outdoor
Movie**



Bring your chair or blanket.

Bring a friend.

Popcorn and drink provided.

Junior/Senior High Youth Group

2nd and 4th Saturdays at the parsonage

19737 Sand Ridge Rd., Weston

August 9 and 23, 5:00 - 6:30pm

Dinner will be served - Games - Lesson



5th Sunday Singspiration - August 31st at 6:00pm

Come to praise and worship our Lord in song.

Everyone is welcome! Refreshments served afterwards!



Need a Vocation Vacation?



"It is not more vacation we need," said Eleanor Roosevelt. "It is more vocation" — in other words, something that God calls you to do. God uses his people to accomplish amazing things, even during the summer! Call it a "vocation vacation."

If you're planning a trip, call ahead and offer to serve at a local homeless shelter or urban ministry. If you want to be outdoors, ask a Bible camp or recreation department if it needs volunteers. Other possibilities include assisting with programs that help elderly residents or people with special needs enjoy outdoor activities.

You'll enjoy summertime fun (vacation) *and* the knowledge that God is working through you (vocation).

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Fixer-uppers

Summer is peak time for home renovations and remodeling projects. Those can be super stressful, starting with the selection of a contractor.

In a blog about her own family's construction plans, Laura Elliott explains the challenge: "It's not just any builder I want. I want one who has impeccable workmanship, is completely trustworthy and delivers our long-awaited [projects] early and under-budget." After sifting through bids and reviews, she discovered that most builders "look like they do pretty similar work for a pretty similar price."



For spiritual renovations, however, the choice is clear. "God is the builder of everything," says Hebrews 3:4 (NIV). Elliott writes, "Jesus is not only the *builder* of His Father's house, but He is the *buyer*, and the *heir* as well." And what he's building, she adds, is "a better Bride," his church.

Faith upgrades are an ongoing, lifelong process. "The renewal of our natures is a work of great importance," said 18th-century minister George Whitefield. "It is not to be done in a day. We have not only a new house to build up, but an old one to pull down." It's a good thing God oversees this project!

—Stephanie Martin

Lifelong Learners

"If you don't have wisdom that goes with knowledge, you are only a walking encyclopedia," wrote Jack Wellman, a Kansas pastor. "A book of knowledge is useless without the wisdom to know how to apply that knowledge. ... Information without transformation leads only to frustration."

Consider the many benefits of wisdom — and how you can use what you've acquired to serve God, your church and your community. To better fulfill your calling, what wisdom might you yet need to acquire?

As another school year begins, here's a prayer for students of all ages:

All-wise, all-knowing God, make us willing learners and seekers of your wisdom, not for the gain of knowledge for its own sake, but that we might handle every situation we face with the wisdom of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

No Reserve, No Retreat and No Regrets



William Borden (1887-1913) was a Yale grad and the heir to his family's fortune. But he left behind a life of riches and comfort to become a Christian missionary.

Before arriving in China, where he had hoped to share the gospel with the Kansu people, Borden died of spinal meningitis at just 25 years old. According to legend, the words "No Reserve," "No Retreat" and "No Regrets" were later found in Borden's Bible.

Unlike the men who told Jesus they had to handle some family business before following him (see Luke 9:57-62), Borden didn't waver or stall. Some people might say Borden "didn't make a good trade," writes Kyle Idleman in his book *Not a Fan*. Borden "gave up his family, his fortune and a future career to follow Jesus," Idleman writes, "and he died before he reached the mission field. But this man ... knew he had made the right decision."

By committing completely to Christ, Borden inspired other mission workers and pastors, including Idleman. "Say no to self and yes to Jesus every time," Borden wrote in his journal. More than a century after his death, that no-regrets message lives on.

The Newsletter

A Walking Contradiction

A real Christian is an odd number. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen; talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see; expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another; empties himself in order to be full; admits he is wrong so he can be declared right; goes down in order to get up; is strongest when he is weakest, richest when he is poorest and happiest when he feels the worst. He dies so he can live; forsakes in order to have; gives away so he can keep; sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, and knows that which passes knowledge.

The [person] who has met God is not looking for anything; he has found it. He is not searching for light, for upon him the light has already shined. ... He is not a copy, not a facsimile. He is an original from the hand of the Holy Spirit.

—A.W. Tozer

Why Christian Community is Key

Jesus' followers aren't meant to pursue faith by themselves. In fact, that's impossible! A *family* and *the body* signify plural members. It is among brothers and sisters in Christ that we:

- experience our Savior's presence, living and incarnate;
- unite in worship, confess our sins, hear the gospel and receive Communion;
- accept church discipline through the gentle guidance of others;
- learn — through other people's examples and experiences — what it means to live a life of discipleship;
- and lovingly serve together as Jesus' hands and feet.

Puzzle!

The biblical calendar had many feasts and festivals. They were connected with the changing of the seasons or special events.

Use the code to find the name of the special days the Israelites observed.

CODE:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

SEASON

HOLIDAY

1. End of Summer

New Year

I L H S S Z H S Z M Z S

2. Fall

Day of Atonement

B L N P R K K F I

3. Fall

Festival of Booths

H F P P L G S

4. Winter

Festival of Rededication

S Z M F P P Z S

5. Winter

Festival of Lots

K F I R N

6. Spring

Festival of Unleavened Bread

K Z H H L E V I

7. Spring

Feast of Weeks/Pentecost

H S Z E F L G

Answers: 1. Rosh Hashanah, 2. Yom Kippur, 3. Sukkoth, 4. Hanukkah, 5. Purim, 6. Passover, 7. Shavuot



August

*Birthdays
and
Anniversaries*

Judy Stewart

Bob Tolles, Sr.

Gloria Lehman

Phyllis Betz

Cheryl Garrett

Robert Walker IV

Jan Finn

John McKenzie

1 Paul & Becky Chamberlin

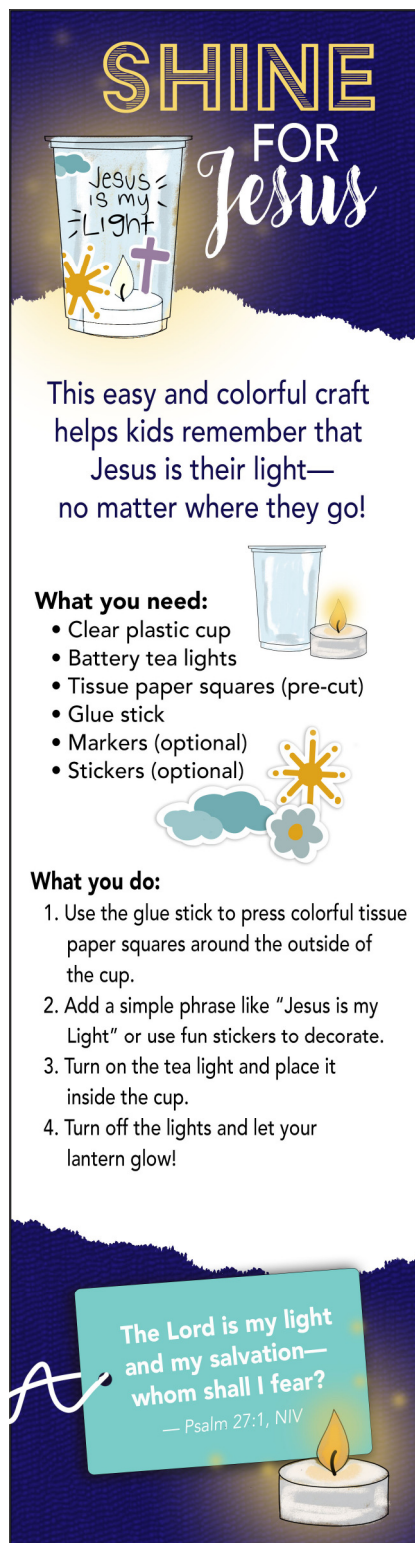
A Path of Persistence

Some Christian converts in an overseas village were diligent about daily prayer. In the thicket outside town, they each had a place where they prayed in solitude. Over time, these believers wore pathways through the brush to their special prayer areas. If someone neglected his or her prayer life, it was evident because fresh grass started growing on that footpath. Out of concern, fellow Christians offered this loving reminder: "Friend, there's grass growing on your path."

How worn is your own path to prayer? Are you persistent when answers don't seem to come? Do you trust that God will answer your prayers, according to his good and gracious will?

When you grow weary, remember this promise in Galatians 6:9 (NIV). "At the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

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This easy and colorful craft helps kids remember that Jesus is their light—no matter where they go!

What you need:

- Clear plastic cup
- Battery tea lights
- Tissue paper squares (pre-cut)
- Glue stick
- Markers (optional)
- Stickers (optional)

What you do:

1. Use the glue stick to press colorful tissue paper squares around the outside of the cup.
2. Add a simple phrase like "Jesus is my Light" or use fun stickers to decorate.
3. Turn on the tea light and place it inside the cup.
4. Turn off the lights and let your lantern glow!



WHO AM I?

Did you know that some Old Testament books are named after prophets? Use the clues to figure out each prophet's name and write it on the lines. Then unscramble, use the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

1. I was called to preach to Nineveh, but I ran from God instead. My book is number 32 in the Bible.
I am _____.
2. I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. My book is number 37.
I am _____.
3. Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. My book is number 28.
I am _____.
4. My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises of comfort. It is book 23.
I am _____.
5. I had dreams and visions. My book is number 27.
I am _____.
6. I was often in danger because of my prophecies. I angered officials. My book is number 24.
I am _____.
7. I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. My book is number 30.
I am _____.
8. My book contains descriptions of strange visions. My book is number 26.
I am _____.

Prophets are _____.

Answers: Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel; Messengers.

?? ? ?

Bible Quiz

For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul's son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends. Which of the following statements is not accurate?

- The name of King Saul's grandson was Mephibosheth.
- He was lame in both feet.
- His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- He was injured while playing with his brothers.

Answer: D (See 2 Samuel 4:4; 9:1-7; 21:7.)

AUGUST 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
						10am - noon Food Pantry
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am Worship Birthdays/Anniversaries Fellowship Break hosted by Leighan Yarger Men's Mentoring follows break.		7:30pm Board Meeting	7:00pm Small Group Bible Study <i>Book of Acts</i>	7:00pm Band Practice	6:30 - 9:00pm Game Night	5-6:30pm Youth Group Parsonage Dinner Games Lesson
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am Worship 11:00am Jr./Sr. High S.S. and Adult S.S.			7:00pm Small Group Bible Study <i>Book of Acts</i>	7:00pm Band Practice		10am - noon Food Pantry
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30am Worship 12:00 Church Picnic at Bowling Green City Park, Kiwanis Shelter			7:00pm Small Group Bible Study <i>Book of Acts</i>	7:00pm Band Practice	Outdoor Family Movie at dark (9pm)	5-6:30pm Youth Group Parsonage Dinner Games Lesson
Fifth Sunday 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am Worship 11:00am Jr./Sr. High S.S. and Adult S.S.			7:00pm Small Group Bible Study <i>Book of Acts</i>	7:00pm Band Practice		
<u>31</u> Preschool & Jr. Church closed for 5th Sunday 5th Sunday Singspiration 6:00pm						

Weston Church of Christ
PO Box 344
13355 Center Street
Weston, Ohio 43569



September news articles are due August 26

Sunday Worship Times

9:30am Worship Service

11:00am Sunday School



August
2025

Weston Witness

Minister: Jacob Anderson, 660-998-9059

Elders: Ed Tolles, 419-409-1622;

John McKenzie, 419-806-5775

Bob Walker, 419-262-8006

Email us at: church@westonchurchofchrist.org

Website: www.westonchurchofchrist.org

Check us out on Facebook

August 2025

Pat Higley, Editor

Church Phone:

419-669-3895

**The purpose of the Weston Church of Christ is to glorify God by reaching the lost,
strengthening the saved and serving as one body for Jesus Christ our Lord.**