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# TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## NEWSLETTER

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October 2020

### BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study Group continues to meet on Monday mornings at 10 am. Please feel free to join with the group as you are able.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>OCT 4 -</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM</b>
	<b>WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM</b>
	<b>WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY</b>
	<b>(SEE ARTICLE)</b>
	<b>DWAIN AND JANET FRIES</b>
	<b>WEDDING ANNIVERSARY</b>
<b>OCT 6</b>	<b>CHASE ALAN BRILL'S BIRTHDAY</b>
<b>OCT 10 -</b>	<b>GRACE VANDERLINDEN'S BIRTHDAY</b>
<b>OCT 11 -</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM</b>
	<b>WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM</b>
	<b>DEACONS MEETING FOLLOWING</b>
	<b>SERVICE</b>
<b>OCT 15 -</b>	<b>LUCY ORNDORFF'S BIRTHDAY</b>
<b>OCT 17 -</b>	<b>OWEN GAVER BRILL'S BIRTHDAY</b>
<b>OCT 18 -</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM</b>
	<b>WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM</b>
<b>OCT 22 -</b>	<b>SUZANNE REID'S BIRTHDAY</b>
<b>OCT 25 -</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM</b>
	<b>WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM</b>
<b>OCT 28 -</b>	<b>TOM &amp; NANCY PUGH'S ANNIVERSARY</b>
	<b>ABIGAIL SMITH'S BIRTHDAY</b>

### COMMUNION SUNDAY

We will be having a communion service on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> during the worship service. As we did in for the July communion service and due to the pandemic, the deacons will not be serving the elements as in the past. The prepackaged bread and juice will be placed in the pews and the congregation is asked to social distance as much as possible.

### FALL FESTIVAL CELEBRATION/TURKEY & OYSTER DINER

The annual Fall Festival and the Turkey/Oyster dinner both generally held in October have been cancelled.

### COLLECTION FOR AMAZING GRACE FOOD PANTRY

Beginning on October 4<sup>th</sup> and continuing through October 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Amazing Grace Food Pantry.

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Sunday School will once again be collecting shoe box gifts in association with Samaritans Purse. These gifts are distributed to children in need in this country as well as remote areas around the world. Collections will begin on October 25<sup>th</sup> and will end on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Assuming that we can get them, we plan to provide plastic shoeboxes as in the past. The Mission Committee will be paying for the postage again this year. For more information contact Harry Spaid.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.  
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### *PASTOR'S PEN*

#### **The Gospel Diamond**

When you look at a diamond, the different facets cut into the face of the stone are meant to enhance the brilliance of its inner character. The many cuts don't change the inner core. Instead, they allow light to pass through at different angles. These facets enrich the overall presentation. As we start a new sermon series, we will be looking at the different aspects of the gospel message. By looking at the gospel from various vantage points, I hope that we will see the vast riches within such a simple message.

The gospel is a simple message. God has made a way for your sins to be forgiven. But just because the message is simple doesn't mean that it was easy to accomplish. No! It took the death of Jesus Christ. For some, this seems like an unnecessary requirement. That will be the first question we answer. We will then turn our attention to seven other facets of the gospel; the result, the cost, the free offer of the gospel, its sufficiency, its power, Christ as our High Priest, and the gospel as the only way to salvation.

These topics all emanate from one central fountainhead, the work of Jesus as he lived on earth, died on the cross, rose from the grave, and ascended to heaven. Hopefully, you already know the simple message that the death of Christ brought forgiveness. But Christ's life and death also made it possible for God to regenerate dead hearts, declare sinners legally just before Him, and announce an eternal adoption into a heavenly family.

The gospel message includes the fact that the death of Christ was necessary. The Fall of Adam and Eve left all of humanity separated from God with no way to fix it. The gospel message includes the announcement that God has dealt with this problem. You can now have your relationship with God restored. Of course, as I said before, the death of Christ accomplishes much more than just making it possible to have a right relationship with the Lord. But we'll get to that later. Since Christ had to die to secure what the gospel promises, the benefits we receive from Christ's death are costly. They cost Christ everything! He had to leave heaven, suffer the pains of this earthly life, and die a terrible death. For Jesus, it wasn't free. But for you, nothing could be freer than the grace offered in the gospel message.

There is a tension here that we will have to deal with as we address the work of Jesus to save sinners. The cost of salvation was more than you could ever pay. While at the same time, the fact that it's free, to you, makes it the costliest gift you could ever receive. I believe many struggle with the free offer of the gospel. They underestimate the richness of God's love in the offer of the gospel. In turn, this makes it hard to understand how God could offer something so expensive to someone so undeserving. But that is precisely what the Lord provides!

As we deal with the vast richness of God's grace offered in the gospel, we will also have to talk about its sufficiency. If you think your undeserving sinful behavior is a stumbling block for the work of the gospel – you're wrong. The gospel message is an announcement that Christ's sacrifice is sufficient. That's why we call Him our High Priest. As our High Priest, Christ entered the Holy of Holies, making atonement for your sin once and for all. I know this sounds too good to be true. But it is! As Thanksgiving approaches, we will see that the gospel is the only way to be saved. I pray that by then, you will be able to thank God that it is the only way. Because you know it is the best way!

I'm looking forward to sharing the fulness of the gospel message with you over the next eight weeks. My prayer is that these different facets of the gospel will open your eyes to just how much God loves you.

~ Pastor Mike