

photo by Doug Brush



*the*  
**channel**

July 31, 2016  
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# Making Life Count

by Dr. Eric Costanzo

I think one of the most beautiful words in the English language is the word *evanescent*. It means “something that vanishes, or lasts for a very short time.” Nathaniel Hawthorne, in his 1837 short story “Footprints on the Sea Shore,” described the mist of the sea in this way: *The sea was each little bird’s great playmate... they floated as lightly as one of their own feathers on the breaking crest. In their airy fluttering, they seemed to rest on the evanescent spray.*

From the Bible’s perspective, our very lives are evanescent. None of us know exactly how much time we have; but the older we get the more aware we become that our time is fleeting. Consider **James 4:14**: **“Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.”**

As I wrote last Sunday, all of us could use some serious slowing down. It is impossible to make the most of the short time we have if we spend most of our lives physically present but emotionally distant. We cannot love God and love others the way we should when we live that way.

Our ministerial staff is reading a book together called *5 Gears*, by Jeremie Kubicek

and Steve Cockram. The whole idea behind this book is to develop a strategy to take back some control over the pace of our lives, and to be fully present in the moments that really matter.

The book offers several probing questions like,

“How are your relationships right now with your family (spouse, kids, siblings, or parents)? Are you connecting with them, running over them, or disengaging entirely?”

“Do you feel like you have the capability to be present with people or are you consumed with social media and other distractions?”

“Are you able to be physically and emotionally present with people even when you have tight deadlines?”

“Do you know how to slow down enough to hear what someone else is saying?”

We all want to make our lives count – and as followers of Christ we want to make our lives count for His Kingdom purposes.

The more we return to being fully present for the most important things in our lives, the more we can be used by our fully present God. His promises will last forever, far beyond the fleeting distractions of our lives.

As **1 Peter 1:24-25** says: **“All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever.”**



## ministerial staff

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## publication deadlines

**The Channel**  
Wednesday

**Messenger Wrap**  
Monday

**TableTalk**  
Tuesday

Please email all submissions to Kim Hayes by 10:00 a.m. at kim@stbc.net

## on the cover

Ed Reynolds,  
Mark Latham



# Welcome New Members



Linda Fannin,  
by letter

## School Supplies for North Tulsa

One of the wonderful ministries we have at South Tulsa Baptist Church is to help with school supplies for children in North Tulsa. We need to bring school supplies to the church by Wednesday, August 17. Tubs are available near the entrances to the church. The men from North Tulsa will be here on August 19 to pick them up. As you are purchasing school supplies for your children would you purchase a few extra things and bring them to the church? Thank you for your ministry to these children.

Owasso Baptist Children's Home

## Back-to-School Style Show & Brunch

The style show is August 6, 10:30 a.m. at the Renaissance Hotel. Tickets are on sale for \$20 each and can be purchased from Carolyn Larkin in the office.

## GriefShare

If you've experienced the death of a loved one, GriefShare is here for you. Groups meet at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. on Mondays in the STBC Conference Room. New members are always welcome. For more information, please call Mary Jane Howarth at 918-749-0826.

# the scorecard



07.24.16

## Church in Action

### Giving

Ministry Financial Plan .....	250,095
Actual MFP Receipts .....	221,245
General Fund .....	64,048
Building Fund .....	1,145

### Sunday Bible Study

Adults .....	514
Youth .....	69
Children .....	90
Preschool .....	92
Unclassified .....	10
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>775</b>

### Weekday Bible Studies .....

*Adult, Youth, Women's, Men's*

### Music & Worship .....

*Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, Praise Team*

### Stephen Ministry

Care Receivers .....	10
Care Givers .....	24

### GriefShare *afternoon - evening*

Participants .....	3 - 8
Facilitators .....	3 - 5

### Early Learning Program .....

## Church on Mission

### Jail Ministry

Prayed to Receive Christ .....	16
Bibles Distributed .....	34
Quarterlies Distributed .....	124
<b>Tract Ministry .....</b>	<b>275</b>

### The Ministry Center

Volunteers .....	25
People Helped .....	302
Medical Clinic .....	13
Salvations .....	2

### Worship Service Online

#### LIVE Views .....

*(U.S. 1,842; International 1,050)*

@ Legend at Mingo Road .....	17
@ Brookdale Broken Arrow .....	5
@ Autumn Leaves .....	19
@ Prairie Rose .....	16
@ Clare Bridge .....	22
@ The Arbors .....	4
@ Burgundy Place .....	7
@ Legend at Tulsa Hills .....	
@ Storey Oaks .....	27
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>3,009</b>

#### ON DEMAND Views .....

*(U.S. 598; International 341)*

Cities Represented .....	37
<i>Tulsa, Broken Arrow, Bixby, Dallas, Jenks, Breckenridge, Owasso, Naperville, Odessa, Chicago, Denver, Eden Prairie, Houston, Lawrence, Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Bartlesville, Beggs, Bolivar, Hewitt, Lawton, Muskogee, Radcliffe, San Francisco, Sand Springs, Severna Park, Seattle, Sapulpa, Bentonville, Claremore, Fort Worth, Inola, Norman, North Naples, Orange, Porter, and Pineville.</i>	

For more information about these ministries  
and how you can be involved, check out our online scorecard at  
[www.southtulsa.org](http://www.southtulsa.org).

## please pray for...

### Jessie Adams

Jacqueline Arterburn  
Larry & Karen Baker's  
Daughter's Family

Sharon Barnett

William Bass

Mary Baucam

Clark Bolding

Holly Bowlby

### Beth Brumbaugh

Karen Byrd

### Suzi Byrd

Pam Campbell

Gary Chapman

Howard Chapman

Kathleen Cleary

### Evie Coons

Chris Crabtree

Chris Cuaderes

Buster Davenport

Ashlyn Dirteater

Joy Disler

Craig Donnelly

Annabelle Doolin

Michelle Dudley's

Mother, Ann

Betty Dugger

Kelsey Easterwood

### David Eldridge

Tammy Ezell

Lane & Evie Fleming

Vicki Franks

### Julie Gentry

Jordan Greenway

Breydon Hammer

Sonja Harvey

Gene Hatfield

Ginny Hensley's mom

### Richard and Carol

Herman

Steve Herman Family

Ron Holland

### Judi Hopkins

Kaden Howard

David Hubbard

### Christian Jasper

Katherine Johnson

Tonya Johnson

Josh Jordan

Rachel Key

Beverly Kieffer

Beverly Kieffer's

brother, Mark

Mildred Lawson

Virginia Love

Edith Mabry

Geraldine McCoy

Alicia McLaughlin

Cathy Meares

Greg Moran

Elizabeth Moses

Orvalyn Murphy

Mike Nelson

Naedene Neumeyer

Jackie Newman

Monica Oliva

Laura Platt

Manley Porter

### Heather Priddy

Jon Randall

Joyce Robertson

Martha Rogers

Shechem Romoser

Dylan Rowe

Clay Sanderlin

Mary Jo Sanders

Barbara Shores

Logan Short

Frank Sims

Judy Smith

Sharolyn Sorrels

### Mark Thompson

Kelsey Thrasher

Allan Trimble

Becky Tuttle

John Vick

### Isabel Warren

Danny Wasson

Bill Weir

Katie Wilkinson

Dixie Woodard

### Lorraine Yeubanks

*If you have a prayer request, an update or a change, please contact Carolyn in the church office at 918-299-0904 or carolyn@stbc.net.*

## Precept Bible Studies Beginning in September

### Covenant - Mondays

*Knowing God's Covenant* (11 lessons)

Mondays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room

beginning September 12. See this incredible thread running from Genesis through Revelation. God enters into a binding agreement with His people and always keeps His promises. Trusting Him as a covenant partner frees us from the bondage of worry and anxiety. Excellent for those who have yet to take a Precept course. Please contact Patrick Lovelace at [patricklovelace@cox.net](mailto:patricklovelace@cox.net), 918-286-3226 for more information or to enroll.



### Isaiah Part 1 - Thursdays

*The Word of the Holy One to Israel, the Remnant, and the Nations . . . and the Promise of the Child to Be Born* (Chapters 1-39) - (14 lessons) Thursdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Choir

Room beginning September 8. In Isaiah Part 1, we'll meet the Holy One of Israel, and learn how He deals with those who claim

Him as God but don't honor Him as God in the way that they live. And we'll find the destiny of nations, the future of all mankind ... including ours. Isaiah offers insight into the final days which complements Revelation, Daniel, 2 Thessalonians and Zechariah. Please contact Patrick Lovelace at [patricklovelace@cox.net](mailto:patricklovelace@cox.net), 918-286-3226 for more information or to enroll.

## Congratulations!

Baby Hudson Webb Lee was born on July 26, weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz. and 19 1/2 in. long. Proud parents are Brendan and Abbe Lee. Even prouder grandparents are Mark and Paula Meese and David and Kara Lee. Hudson was born on David and Kara's 30th wedding anniversary!



## Mentors Men's Ministry

Join us tomorrow morning, August 1 for Bible study, donuts, bagels, and coffee! Mentors meets on the first Monday morning of every month at 6:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall - all you need to bring is yourself!

## Be a Mentor Mom

MOPs is looking for some Mentor Moms. Moms who walk a few steps ahead of the moms in our group. Mentors bring perspective on mothering, womanhood and relationships. You have the opportunity to invest in the lives of young women, cheer them on as they try new things and lead the celebration of all they do! Please contact Miriam Shipman at 757-634-9624.

# What's Happening with Equipped By His Word?

Hello brothers and sisters at STBC. From time to time I like to let you know what is going on with our ministry, Equipped By His Word. Jerri and I love to see you when we are able to be in our church. But the fact is we are staying very busy with ministry. We wanted to give you a calendar of events so you could pray for us. Again, thank you for praying for, and supporting Equipped By His Word. We could not do what we do for pastors and churches without your involvement. You are a blessing to us.

## Here is our calendar for the remaining summer weeks and the fall:

**July 31**–Life Fellowship Church, Pryor Okla. David Jarboe, Pastor. Pastor Jarboe has asked me to preach a message on The Family.

**Aug. 1**–First Baptist Church Ft. Gibson. Danny Gandara is the pastor.

**Aug. 21**–First Baptist Church Kingfisher. I will be leading a retreat for the Deacons in that part of the state.

**Aug. 28-31**–Gregory Baptist Church. The Blessed Life Conference.

**Sept. 11-15**–Lynn Lane Baptist, Broken Arrow. The Blessed Life Conference.

**Sept. 25-28**–First Baptist Church Cheyenne, Okla. The Blessed Life Conference.

**Oct. 2-5**–Westport Baptist Church Cleveland, Okla. The Glory of God Conference. I will be teaching on the glory of God in suffering.

**Oct. 17-19**–The Pastors Encouragers Conference in Branson, Mo. This will be the fourth year for this conference. After this conference we will have had 130 ministry couples attend. That means a total of 260 people in ministry have attended The Pastors Encouragers Conferences. There are many at STBC who make this conference possible through your giving and praying. Thank you so much. You are a blessing to many pastors.

**Oct. 23-26**–Arrow Heights Baptist Church Broken Arrow. The Blessed Life Conference.

**Nov. 6**–First Baptist Church Owasso.

**Nov. 11-13**–Ozark Bible Conference in Jasper, Arkansas. Pastor Dennis Gundersen organizes this conference each year. I am honored to be the Bible teacher.

**Nov. 14**–I am preaching at The Pastors Conference for The Baptist General Convention of Okla.

Jerri and I are so honored and amazed the Lord has given us a full schedule for this fall. I would like to ask you to take this schedule of events and place it on your refrigerator. Every time you look at it would you take a moment and pray for us.

We love you South Tulsa Baptist Church. You will always be the joy of my life. ~By His Grace, Ted and Jerri Kersh

## Senior Adult Luncheon

Come join us this Tuesday, August 2 for a delicious lunch, fun fellowship, and a special message from Jerry Don Abernathy. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 11:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

## Sympathy

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to David Eldridge and family on the loss of his step-mother Ann Eldridge on July 24; and Paula Meese and family on the loss of her nephew and his son, who were both killed in an accident on July 27.

## ISM Furniture Fest

FURNITURE OUTREACH REQUEST – International Community Outreach is hosting its annual Furniture Fest at the University of Tulsa, on Saturday, August 20. The nations are here at our doorstep and you can help impact them for Christ. Your furniture and presence can be a blessing to international students at TU through the Furniture Fest. Used furniture (beds, chairs, desks, etc.) suitable for small apartments will be picked up each week on SATURDAY mornings July 23 through August 13. To donate items, email us at [terryligon@gmail.com](mailto:terryligon@gmail.com) or call or text 918-504-3489 or 918-345-2062. Gifts are tax deductible.

## Thank You

There are not enough words to express my gratitude to my church family. You knew what I needed before I did in this difficult time. You were God's hands and feet for me, sharing your love. My heart is shattered and your kind acts are piecing it back together. Bless you my brothers and sisters. ~Karen Grubb



# FirstSteps

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

## etc 8:30 July 31

<b>hostess:</b>	<b>Debbie Steen</b>
Room 101	Jerry & Martha Zimwalt
Room 102	Brenda Negahban, Michelle
Room 111	Caitlin Everett, Michelle Dudley
Room 105	Sam Pogue, Molly Dudley
Room 108	Barbara Tuttle, Vicky Findley
Room 109	Brad & Lisa Fuller

## etc 10:45 July 31

<b>hostess:</b>	<b>Lila Johnson</b>
Room 101	Peggy Cossman, Charlene Phillips
Room 102	Brenda Negahban
Room 111	Caitlin Everett, Michelle Dudley
Room 105	Sam Pogue, Molly Dudley
Room 107	Kim Hayes, Carolyn Gates
Room 108	Dick Faurot, Becky Duren
Room 109	Paul & Julie Warren
Room 114	David & Kara Lee

## etc 8:30 Aug 7

<b>hostess:</b>	<b>Debbie Steen</b>
Room 101	Ken & Laura Lovett
Room 102	Brenda Negahban
Room 111	Caitlin Everett, Michelle Dudley
Room 105	Sam Pogue, Molly Dudley
Room 108	Barbara Tuttle, Jill Whitten
Room 109	Karlas & Jennifer Gripado

## etc 10:45 Aug 7

<b>hostess:</b>	<b>Lila Johnson</b>
Room 101	Patr Hair, Carol Selby
Room 102	Brenda Negahban, Lauren Granger
Room 111	Caitlin Everett, Michelle Dudley
Room 106	Sam Pogue, Molly Dudley
Room 107	Hannah Barnett, Jenny McMinn
Room 109	Robert Gerred, Lashan Young
Room 114	John & Diana Lowe

# STAY CONNECTED

by Dru Finley

## Persistence

“Never give in, Never give in, never, never, never—in nothing, great or small large or petty—never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never give in.” These were words spoken by Winston Churchill in an address at Harrow School on October 29, 1941. I think they are words that should ring in the ears of every Christian regarding the cause of Christ! Persistence is something that is lacking lately in our society, after all, why keep trying for something when so many other things are instantaneous in our culture. We often fall prey to the microwave mentality, that everything can be obtained in an instant. But, some things, many things in fact, are worth striving for and working hard to invest time to achieve!

Take for instance the pastor’s wife at the Hallows church, the church that four STBC members just spent four days working with. She has been developing a relationship with two other mom’s for five years now. These women have wanted nothing to do with the church or Christianity. As a matter of fact they have at times been quite verbal against Christianity. The pastor’s wife still made it a point to foster a relationship with these two women, and after five years of knowing her they began to ask questions of the pastor’s wife. As they walked their children to the sports camp (our mission emphasis), they began to ask Kim what their church was all about. They asked about Christianity. And, these women were willing to have an open gospel conversation with the pastor’s wife...after five years of knowing her. Now that is amazing persistence in forging relationships for the purpose of making the name of Christ known among the nations!

This seems foreign to us in Oklahoma, but in other areas of this country and other areas of the world people are much more resistant towards the good news of Jesus Christ. That is the way that Fremont Seattle is. They are “free thinkers,” but for the most part don’t want anything to do with Christianity. But that doesn’t mean we quit trying to share. What would have happened if Kim would have walked away after her initial attempt at sharing Christ with these women after a few months of knowing them and sensing their reluctance? What if the Holy Spirit walked away from you the first time that He prompted you and your heart was hard to His moving? The reality is that we are all at war with God in our hearts. Colossians 1:21-22 says, “you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death.” And in Romans 5:10, “while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son.” The persistence of the Spirit brought us life! Even so, we are to live with the same persistence in our lives toward the lost.

What we can learn from this Seattle based church is that sometimes things don’t come easy. Sometimes we need to be committed and persistent even in

*continued on page 7*

July 25 - July 31

*"Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the womb; even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you.*

*I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save."*

~Isaiah 46:3-4

\*

August 1 - August 7

*"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."*

~Philippians 1:21

## LIFELINE STUDENT MINISTRY

### STUDYING LEADERSHIP: NEW SUNDAY MORNING TEACHING SERIES BEGINNING TODAY!!

"Where do leaders come from?" "What does a good leader do?" "How can I be a godly leader?" "What if I don't want to be a leader?" In this study, we will discuss and begin to answer these questions and many more. This is the perfect time to study such questions as our country gets ready to choose a new leader. On a more personal note, whether you are in high school or middle school, you have been called to be leaders in your faith! Join us!

### 7TH GRADE SET OUT: DIGGING FOR CRYSTALS AT SALT PLAINS! AUGUST 5, LEAVE AT 8AM!

This is going to be a trip unlike any we've ever done before! We're super excited! But we're mostly excited to get to minister to the upcoming 7th graders. We want them to feel welcomed and excited about starting this new chapter! We'd love for some leaders in the youth group to step up and help

sponsor! Contact Karen if you'd like to help. You need money for one nice meal on the way back. We'll provide snack foods and water. Bring a jug!

### HOUSE PARTIES! WEDNESDAY NIGHTS, 6PM TO 8PM. \*LAST HOUSE PARTIES OF SUMMER 2016!

Don't miss the last house parties!! Each Wednesday we go to a different house from someone in the church. We have food (students bring pop or chips) and swim! We have worship and a lesson after we've hungout. This year the lessons will be lead by our awesome interns! House parties are a great way to get to know people! Bus leaves the church at 6 and gets back at 8. Join us for fun and fellowship!!

### SECRET CHURCH: SUNDAY NIGHTS THROUGH AUGUST

Don't miss this summer's Secret Church, Sunday nights in July and August. Dr. David Platt, President of the International Mission Board, will be teaching by video. Earlier in the year, Dr. Platt taught on the subject of a Global Gospel in a World of Religions. We are excited to hear!

*STAY CONNECTED continued from page 6*

the face of difficulty and rejection. It's not easy by any means to continually put yourself around people who don't want your message. It is not an enjoyable thing to be rejected, but we must realize what is at stake. First the great name of Christ who is worthy of all praise and glory, and the lives of people around us. Therefore we must speak, we must love, and sometimes we must be persistent in order that they might see our message through our lives!

## DAILY BIBLE READING

*Next week's scripture -*

**July 31** Free day to reflect, catch up, and/or memorize.

**August 1** Luke 13:1-9; 1 Timothy 1:1-11; Proverbs 1; Ezra 1-2.

**August 2** Luke 13:10-21; 1 Timothy 1:12-20; Proverbs 2; Ezra 3.

**August 3** Luke 13:22-35; 1 Timothy 2; Proverbs 3; Ezra 4-5.

**August 4** Luke 14:1-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-10; Proverbs 4; Ezra 6.

**August 5** Luke 14:15-24; 1 Timothy 3:11-16; Proverbs 5; Ezra 7.

**August 6** Luke 14:25-35; 1 Timothy 4; Proverbs 6; Ezra 8.

## Wednesday Dinner August 3, 2016

**Dinner Assistants:** Jana King, Bruce Humphrey, Ron Hunt, Jeff Johnson.

**Menu:** Italian baked chicken, rice, vegetable, bread, salad, ice cream, and beverage.

### Dinner Reservations:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# of adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00

# of children \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$3.50

(Up to \$18.00 per family)

Please make this a standing reservation.

PLEASE make your reservations or cancellations by Tuesday at noon.

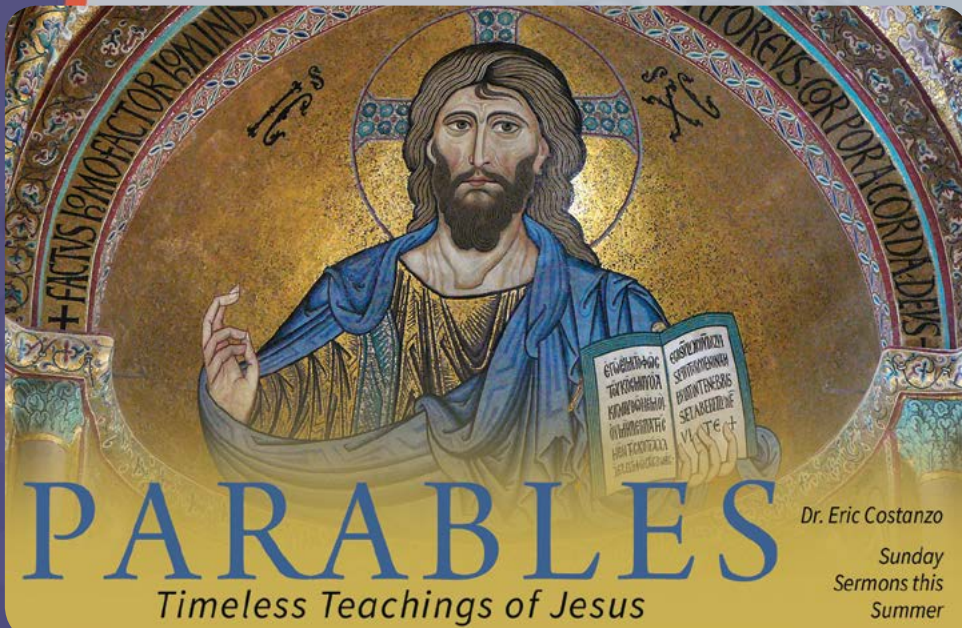
Tear out this form and place in the offering plate or call the church office, 918-299-0904.



# A GLOBAL GOSPEL IN A WORLD OF RELIGIONS

SUNDAY NIGHTS  
BEGINNING JULY 10, 2016

SECRET CHURCH  
KNOW HIS WORD. KNOW HIS PERSECUTED.



Dr. Eric Costanzo

Sunday  
Sermons this  
Summer

## YOU OTTER GIVE BLOOD



South Tulsa Baptist Church  
Oklahoma Blood Institute Blood Drive

Sunday, August 7 | 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Look for the Bloodmobile!

To schedule an appointment contact Carolyn at 918-299-0904.

Two free Zoo Tickets and a t-shirt for all donors!

To donate \$10 to Global Blood Fund text BLOOD to 52000.

southtulsa  
BAPTIST CHURCH

10310 S Sheridan Road, Tulsa, OK 74133  
918.299.0904 | southtulsa.org

Sharing the Good News  
about Jesus in our community  
and around the world

### this week at stbc

#### Sunday, July 31

8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:00-9:30 a.m. Library Open  
9:00 a.m. Early Sunday Bible Study Group  
9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study  
10:50 a.m. Worship  
12-12:30 p.m. Library Open  
4:00 p.m. Committee on Committees Mtg.  
6:00 p.m. Secret Church

#### Monday, August 1

6:45 a.m. Mentors Men's Ministry  
8:30 a.m. 1st & 2nd Grade Day Camp  
10:00 a.m. FIT Play Time  
1:30 p.m. GriefShare  
6:30 p.m. GriefShare, Summer Book Club

#### Tuesday, August 2

8:30 a.m. 1st & 2nd Grade Day Camp  
10:00 a.m. Kingdom Explorers Ladies Prayer  
11:15 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon/Bible Study

#### Wednesday, August 3

8:30 a.m. 1st & 2nd Grade Day Camp  
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Library Open  
1:30 p.m. Empty Nesters 1 Ladies Prayer  
4:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner  
5:45 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer  
5:45-6:45 p.m. Library Open  
6:00 p.m. Student House Party  
6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir  
7:30 p.m. Orchestra

#### Thursday, August 4

10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day  
6:30 p.m. MOPs Fellowship  
7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

#### Friday, August 5

#### Saturday, August 6