

Chronicle

Newsletter of
Country Christian Evangelical Free Church
Scotts, Michigan
626-9733
<https://country-christian.org/>

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Attention CCEFC cardio drummers!

Are you missing our Tuesday evening workouts?

Our coaches, Anita Shoup and Sarah McClure are leading drumming classes online 3 evenings a week from Anita's home.

The format is the same, a devotion, prayer, warm-up exercises, a solid hour (or sometimes more) of drumming, cool-down exercises and ending with prayer.



Weekly Opportunities

Sunday

9:30 Worship
11:15 Sunday School for all ages
Impact Youth

Monday:

8:00 Young Adult Bible Study

Friday

5:30-7:30 AM Prayer

Just go to the Facebook page, "God is on the move, we drum to His beat" and ask to join. Then tune in on any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 6:00 to participate.

We are also using the Facebook page to post photos, Bible verses and songs to encourage each other during this time when we can't physically meet.

By the time fall comes, when we hope to again meet in church, we should all be in great shape!

"Our purpose is to be ambassadors for Christ, helping people to become spiritually mature, filled with the fullness of God"

Sometimes wearing a mask is fun, we wear masks when attending a masquerade party, for fall celebrations, we often dress our kids with masks. We wear a mask in the winter to protect our face from the harsh elements. Over the past few months, we have been encouraged when in public to protect ourselves and others. For many of us, wearing a mask is nothing new, we have been wearing a mask most of our life. The style and comfort of these new masks has changed and we may complain about them. The mask we are accustomed to-fit us, we are so used to wearing them we don't even realize that we are wearing them in many cases. Those around us are accustomed to us wearing our masks and might not recognize us if we take them off.

You may be thinking "Jim, I don't wear a mask" but I bet you do. We wear a mask when everyone around us thinks we have it all together, but inside we are falling apart. We meet someone on the street and they ask "How are you?" We reply with "OK" or "fine", but wondering where our next meal is coming from, how will I keep the lights on, will my child come home, is my child dating a good person, or dealing with any of a number of other worries. True, many times this is just polite conversation, but when someone really wants to know, is our response any different? A leading cause of depression is this type of mask wearing. How many people have we heard about that took their own life and those around stated "I didn't know anything was wrong"? That person was hurting inside, but wearing a mask to those around projecting that everything was going well.

Worse, some will learn the Christian lingo, and appear to be religious without ever having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus talked about this in Luke 12:2. Sooner or later the mask will come off.

Historically, masks became popular in the theatre to allow the actors to hide themselves and pretend to be someone or something else. When we pretend to those around us that everything is going fine, but feel turmoil inside, we are wearing a mask. We are pretending to be something we are not.

Acts 5 records an incident with Ananias and Sapphira where they wanted to be thought of differently than they really were, to their detriment (death), they put on a mask to gain this recognition while lying to the church about their gift.

In his sermon "Don't Disintegrate; Communicate", Adrain Rogers talks about the importance of open and honest communication. Frequently, when people hear "communication" they think of speaking, but the more important part is actively listening. It is easy for our minds to wonder when we listen, we need to keep coming back to focus on the speaker.

Someone has said "God gave us two ears and only one mouth so we should listen twice as much as we speak." There is truth in that, if I am speaking, I am not learning about the topic or the other person. James (1:19) tells to be "quick to hear, slow to speak". How often have we spoken and regretted it because we didn't have all of the information?

No matter how successful we are at holding a mask to those around us, we cannot hide behind a mask before God. 1 Samuel 16:7 "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." It does


?? ?

Bible Quiz

? ?

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Which of the following are mentioned in the list that follows?

- A. a time to teach, and a time to learn
- B. a time to mourn, and a time to dance
- C. a time to fast, and a time to eat
- D. a time to work, and a time to rest



Answer: B (See Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.)

Country Christian Evangelical Free Church

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Submissions to the Chronicle are welcomed and are subject to editing for content, length or grammar. In addition submissions must be in keeping with the principles and teachings of CCEFC. Submissions may be made by electronic media or hand written article. Submit an article electronically to the following E-mail: CCChronicle@sbcglobal.net
Fax: (610) 549-7184
or on disc: MSWord or Wordperfect formats for electronic submissions is preferred. Typed or hand written submissions are also accepted.

Deadline for submissions is the second to the last (usually the third) Sunday of the month prior to late morning service. Questions about the Chronicle should be directed to the editor or the board of elders.

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not matter how much we hide ourselves to others, or even ourselves, God still sees us for who we really are.

Are we wearing a mask? Are we willing to be open to others? Will we open up to those around us who are concerned? Do we see ourselves as God sees us? Let's each work at dropping our masks.

Jim Hawkins—editor

Climax-Scotts Graduation Parade

Graduation parade for Climax-Scotts grads will take place May 31st (today). Line up at 12:45 at the Scotts Community Center and parade through Scotts and make way to Climax. Families and friends can wave and celebrate them as they drive through both towns.



VBS Status

At the time of publication, the status of our 2020 VBS is undecided. Please watch the church website, Facebook site, church bulletin, and other resources for updates.



Correction

Last month's Chronicle contained the incorrect URL for the church web site. The Chronicle regrets this error and steps have been made to prevent this error in the future. The correct address for the church website is: <https://country-christian.org/>



Our Father

You sum up the whole of New Testament religion if you describe it as the knowledge of God as one's holy Father. If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all.

—J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*



(Continued from page 8)

both sides of the spectrum. Yes, it will be costly for churches to keep offering online services for those who don't feel comfortable attending physical gatherings. Yes, it will be a sacrifice for church members who are sick of masks, social distancing, and Zoom to continue to use these for the sake of others. But little is more Christian than a posture of sacrifice (Rom. 12:1). We should embrace it with gladness.

Countercultural Humility

Have you noticed how remarkably *confident* so many of us are in our views right now? Unfounded certainty—on the part of laypeople, leaders, modelers, and “experts” alike—is a contagion at least as viral as COVID-19 itself. We could all use a bit more humility, and the church should lead the way.

As much as ever before, Christians should follow the advice of James to be “quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger” (1:19). Listening well may slow down the process of deliberation and planning, but it is worth it. Whatever opinions church leaders themselves have on the matter of reopening, they should take time to humbly hear the voices of others—perhaps convening forums of various stakeholders within the church, as well as other church and government leaders in their area. Church members should likewise model Christlike humility (e.g., Phil. 2:3) in how they react to the plans outlined by leaders, even if they don't agree with every aspect of it. No one of us should assume we've arrived at the definitive answer on how to do this well. Let's model humility by acknowledging that everything is *not obvious*, and we are all just trying to do the best we can in this “build the plane in midair” moment.

Countercultural Patience

Patience is one of the rarest virtues in today's insta-everything world. And yet patience has rarely been more needed, as many of us are antsy to break free of “stay home” isolation and get back to normalcy as soon as possible. To be sure, it is good and right to be eager to gather again as churches. We should take Hebrews 10:25 seriously when it says we ought not neglect meeting together. We should feel the ache of what is lost when we only meet virtually, and every Christian should long for the day when “church on Zoom” gives way to “church in a room.” That day will come. But we

should be careful to not rush it. We should be careful to not go faster than governments allow, or faster than those in our community can understand. We should be patient with a timeline that might be slower than we'd prefer; patient with a reopening process that will doubtless be clunky; patient with leaders feeling the pressure of this complex situation; and patient with one another as we figure out the new normal. Those who are not comfortable with physical gatherings should be patient with those who *are*, and vice versa. As hard as it will be to practice patience, remember that in the scheme of eternity this season—whether it's months long or years—will be but a blip.

Countercultural Nuance

We live in an *un*-nuanced age. The economic model of the media (built on clicks and views) works against nuance. Advertisers know nuance doesn't sell. Politicians know it too. We shouldn't be surprised by how rare it is for someone to hold humble, complicated, “both/and” views in today's hyper-partisan, media-catechized world. But if churches are going to emerge from this crisis with unity and fellowship intact, we must embrace the countercultural path of nuance. It's the path that avoids ALL CAPS hysteria of every extreme sort, recognizing that truth is rarely as simple and shrill as Twitter would have us think. It's the path that prizes *both* courage and prudence, and avoids *both* pollyannaish and doomsday responses. It means we can be skeptical of some aspects of the lockdown without resorting to outrageous conspiracy theories, and we can honor governing authorities (Rom. 13) while engaging them in civil pushback when necessary. Countercultural nuance avoids thinking the worst of people and concedes that the other side of a debate is sometimes right, just as we are sometimes wrong. Nuance often results when humility and patience combine.

There are some things Christians should *not* be nuanced about, of course, and one of those is our rugged commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ and all that Scripture commands. What Paul urges the Ephesian church, therefore, should be equally urgent for us today: “Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Eph. 4:1–3).” – Brett McCracken.

Pastor Pat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																	
<p>Weekly: 9:30 Worship 11:15 Sunday School* 6:00 Impact (Youth)</p> <p>*For the time being, Sunday School is being replaced by a 11:00 Worship Service</p>	<p>1 Weekly: 8:00 PM Young Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>2 Weekly: 6:30 Cardio Drumming</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Weekly: 5:45 AM Prayer</p>	<p>6</p>																																																	
<p>7 Communion</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 7:00 Elders Mtg</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 6:30 CE Board Mtg. 7:00 Elder Board Mtg.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>																																																	
<p>14 Flag Day</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 First Day of Summer</p>																																																	
<p>21 Fathers Day Deadline: July newsletter</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>																																																	
<p>Please Note: At the time this calendar was put together, the stay at home order for the Coronavirus Pandemic is scheduled to be lifted on June 12... This order may be extended or modified. Even a full lifting of this order may affect the communal events on this calendar. Please check with your event leader, the church website, church bulletin, or church Facebook pages to confirm events will be held as scheduled.</p>																																																							
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>July 15 VBS Training Mtg. 20-24 VBS</p>			<p>27</p>																																																	
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Who to contact**Country Christian Evangelical Free Church**

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 Scotts, MI 49088
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**Pastor:**

Pat Clarey 321-0132
 clarey7@sbcgloal.net

Threads of Hope

Laura Sandahl 324-3142
 LLSandahl@gmail.com

Elected boards:**Elders:**

Russ Bartholomew 626-8019
 Russ Drallette
 *Walt Dubbeld 649-0656
 Daniel Fritz 626-0180
 Rob Smith

Deacons:

Lynn Coville 998-3144
 Larry Fleck 203-5458
 Dave Goad 616 460-4596
 *Roger Wedel 568-0540

Christian Education Board:

Colleen Clarey 321-0132
 Stacey Coville 720-3728
 *Chris Dubbeld 649-0656
 Kay Landrum 568-0543
 Terrie Schwartz 303-4758
 Kim Smith 649-0461

* indicates board chair

Ministries**Children's Church**

Walt and Chris Dubbeld 649-0656

AWANA

Stacey Coville 720-3728

Jr. Hi Youth

Colleen Clarey 321-0132

Sr. Hi Youth

Gary Truax 377-5343

Missions Committee

Roger Wedel 626-8937

Worship Team

Dana Schwartz 929-6242

Hallelujah Party

Christian Ed Board

VBS

Chris Dubbeld 649-0656

Sunday Bulletin

Pamela VanDongen 317-997-1717
 spvanmom@msn.com
 (Please have the subject line say "Bulletin Info")

Chronicle

Jim Hawkins 649-4394
 Chronicle@Country-Crhistian.org

Nursery

Dawn Drallette 746-3345

Prayer Chain

Betty Kremble 649-3917

Treasurer

Jamie Morrison 806-9838

Financial Secretary

Christine Audette 626-8105

Webmaster

Dawn Drallette 746-3345
 webmaster@countrychristianefc.org

Website

<https://country-christian.org>

Event Photos

Facebook page: Country Christian
 Photos

Laura Sandahl

LLSandahl@gmail.com

Online Church Directory:

Members.instantchurchdirectory.com

Shopping Fundraisers

Office Depot: 111699341

Facebook Page

Stacey Coville

Weekly Bible Studies**Sundays:**

Pat Clarey's: 6-8 PM in the church
 library – Pat's phone – 321-0132
 or 626-4531 (every other week);
 Russ and Ruth Bartholomew's – 6:15
 – 8:15 PM at their house on T
 Ave, phone – 626-8019;

Mondays:

Young Adult Bible Study 8PM at the
 Fleck's led by Trenton Steele

Wednesdays:

Ladies Bible Study at the church 9:00
 AM

Thursdays:

George and Joyce Wedel – Every
 other Thursday night at their
 house – 11626 East R Ave., call
 – 626-9764.

Church Directory and On**-line TV services:**

There is a flyer under the
 TV monitor in the back of
 auditorium. Check the
 church Facebook page:
[https://
 www.facebook.com/
 countrychristianefc](https://www.facebook.com/countrychristianefc)

THIS MONTH

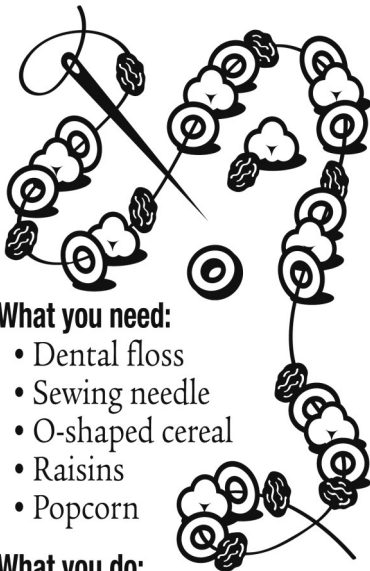
3 Dick Budden
 5 Kary Christiansen
 6 Larry & Sandy Bryan
 6 Bill & Laura Sandahl
 6 Andy Zylstra
 7 Dave & Joyce Mannes
 8 Charlize Gibbs
 9 Dave Mannes
 9 Donald Peck
 9 Troy & Holly Gray
 10 Christine Audette
 10 Jeff & Sara Steele
 14 Dan Fritz
 15 Darion Bartholomew
 15 Lydia Drallette
 15 Nick Schwartz
 16 George Wedel
 17 Kortney Wright
 19 Debbie Drallette
 19 Rob & Kim Smith
 19 Mike & Deb Weinberg
 21 Colleen Clarey
 21 Christine Dubbeld
 22 Ruth Hiskes
 22 Ella Juday
 28 June Boer
 25 Roger Wedel
 26 Dave Goad
 26 David & Lyndsay Juday
 29 Karen Duckworth
 30 Tyler Parnaby
 30 Andy & Joy Zylstra

Inclement Weather Policy:

If it is a school day, and Climax-Scotts schools are closed for weather, all church activities for that day are automatically cancelled. For non-school days, check local television stations or with the event organizer. If the weather or roads are questionable, and the event is still held, you are encouraged to use your best judgement before venturing out.

ROAD TRIP TREAT!

Make this snack necklace to enjoy during summer travels.



What you need:

- Dental floss
- Sewing needle
- O-shaped cereal
- Raisins
- Popcorn

What you do:

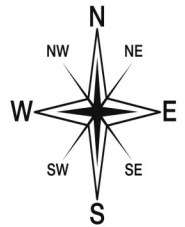
1. Carefully thread a yard of floss through the needle.
2. String a pattern of cereal, raisins and popcorn on the floss until only 4 inches remain on either end. Tie the two ends together.
3. Repeat to make necklaces for your whole family.
4. When you're ready to eat, simply bite off each "bead." Experiment with other non-perishable foods.

PUZZLE

Wherever we go

No matter where we journey, God always protects us.

Directions: Use the map and compass to answer the clues. Then write the boxed letters in order in the spaces below to complete Psalm 121:8, NIV.



Start at the SHIP.

Move 1 space N, 3 spaces E, and 2 spaces N

Start at the WORLD.

Move 1 space W, 1 space S, and 1 space SE

Start at the SUITCASE.

Move 1 space NE, 2 spaces S, and 1 space E

Start at the PLANE.

Move 2 spaces SW, 1 space S, and 1 space W

Start at the CAR.

Move 1 space E, 1 space N, and 1 space NW

Start at the SIGN.

Move 1 space SE, 1 space W, and 2 spaces NW

The _ ORD will watch ove_ your comi_g and go_ng
both no_ and for_ vermore. Psalm 121:8, NIV

Answer: plane, car, sign, ship, world, suitcase. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:8, NIV

Pat Answers

Is the Coronavirus Going to Divide Us?

An article from The Gospel Coalition recently came entitled: "Church: Don't Let the Coronavirus Divide You" written by Brett McCracken. I am going to include Brett's article here as my Pat Answers for June 2020. It is well worth reading and considering. For the Glory of Christ, Pat

"For church leaders and elder boards everywhere, the last few months have presented a near-constant array of complex challenges related to shepherding a church during the COVID-19 pandemic. The latest complex challenge is perhaps the trickiest yet: how to promptly resume in-person gatherings.

As if the logistical details weren't challenging enough—how to maintain social distance and limit crowd size, whether or not to require masks, to sing or not to sing, what to do with children, and so on—the whole conversation is fraught with potential for division. If a congregation—and within it, a leadership team—is at all a microcosm of our larger society, it will likely contain a broad assortment of strongly held convictions. Some will be eager to meet in person and impatient to wait much longer to get back to normal. Others will insist it's unwise to meet at all until there's a vaccine. Plenty will fall somewhere in between.

In such a precarious and polarizing environment, how can churches move forward in beautiful unity (Ps. 133) rather than ugly division? It won't be easy. But by God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit working to unify us in ways our flesh resists, the opportunity is

there for us to be a countercultural model for the rest of the world.

Countercultural Sacrifice

At a time when self-idolatry is being exposed in ugly ways, the church has an opportunity to model love that places the interests of others above the self. For example, someone might find it personally difficult—even maddening—to have to wear a mask during church and stay six feet away from everyone at all times. You might think these precautions are a needless overreaction. But here's the thing: *even if it turns out you're right*, can you not sacrifice your ideal for a season, out of love for others who believe the precautions *are* necessary? Even if you personally think it is silly, or even cowardly, for someone to stay home even after the church is open again on Sundays, can you not heed Paul's wisdom in Romans 14: "Let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother"? Or 1 Corinthians 8:9: "Be careful, however, that your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak."

Likewise, those who think the lockdowns should continue should not pass judgment on those who question the wisdom of the government's ongoing restrictions. Churches should strive to honor people on

(Continued on page 4)

Dated material—Please do not delay

If you would like to be included for the mailing list please contact the church office at 269.626.9733 and provide your name and address.

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