



At Countryside Covenant Church, we are a Community growing in the Grace and the Truth of Jesus Christ as we ...

- Worship
  - Disciple
    - Serve
      - Multiply



VOLUME 23, ISSUE 7

July 2024

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***Rearranging Adventure!***  
***Pastor Lynn Black; Amy Brunk – Director of Children's Ministries; Lizy Johnson – Director of Student Ministries***

Hello Church Family!

We've got some fun and exciting news... we are REARRANGING! And we've been dying to share the plans!

Countryside Covenant has always valued our Christian Formation hour on Sunday mornings. We use this hour for both adults and students to grow in their knowledge of the Bible and build community within the body of believers. More and more, we have noticed some hiccups with the placement of classrooms, flow of traffic and safety of our kiddos. Lots of suggestions were discussed amongst the Staff. We took the time to invite a Covenant building use specialist to discuss our church facility and classroom options. He loved our space and he believes we can be more efficient in our use of our classrooms and floorplan.

The Staff have come up with some fresh classroom configurations that will allow us to rearrange, redecorate, and implement by the Fall 2024 Christian Formation year. These changes will affect almost all of the classrooms only during the Christian Formation hour on Sunday mornings. Wednesday evening classroom use will stay pretty much the same.



Over the remainder of the summer, you may notice an increase in painting, furniture rearranging and relabeling of hallways or classrooms. As a church staff, we believe this change will allow us to better steward the incredible facility we have been blessed with, as well as create even more space for growth!

During our remodel, we would encourage you to check with the Church Office before using any of the classrooms, even for a one-time, ad hoc meeting. Reserving a space ahead of time will ensure that you have something suitable to your needs that avoids our construction zone.

We are thankful for you, our church family and this exciting new "rearranging adventure." We hope this plan will be a breath of fresh air come Fall and allow more and more opportunities for growth and service!

Lizy, Amy and Lynn

COUNTRYSIDE COVENANT CHURCH  
PO BOX 765, 940 E. NORTHVIEW AVE. MCPHERSON KS 67460

# THE PULSE OF COUNTRYSIDE



LIFE STUDENT MINISTRIES

# THIS SUMMER IN LIFESTUMIN...

We would love your prayers for these upcoming events!



Middle School and High School head to Covenant Cedars in Nebraska for camp the first two weeks of July!



30 students & 8 adults are heading to San Diego, CA for UNITE on July 15-19

Middle School 24-Hr Event in KC July 26-27



## Moms Group

WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER



### Splash Pad Events!

- July 16, 9:30-11:00 a.m. @ Inman Splash Pad.
- July 30, 9:30-11:00 a.m. @ Hesston Splash Pad.

Contact Lizzie Butterfield, (785) 477-3319, or Allie Diederich, (785) 212-1447, for more information.

Kickoff playdate for MOMs Group will be in August.

Meetings will be on the second and fourth Tuesdays, with the first meeting on **September 10 at 9:00 a.m.**

For updates and more info, check our Facebook page: McPherson Area MOMs, or Email: [mcphersonareamoms@gmail.com](mailto:mcphersonareamoms@gmail.com)



### Widows Connection

exists to help women find community, support, and joy in their common season. This month, they will meet on **July 2, 9:30am** at The Cedars Wellness Center, and **July 20, 11:30am** in the Countryside Café. Contact Lynn Black (620) 241-4499, Judy Blaine (360) 355-0943, or Becky Hogue (918) 706-1257, for more information.



... connecting women to each other and to Jesus!

**Bible Studies**

Summer “Stand Alone” Studies. Here’s the last three of the six that we’ve arranged:

- ⇒ **July 10**, *How to Study Your Bible*, Lizzy Butterfield, facilitator. *We talk about studying the Bible, but do you know how? You’re not alone! Come find out how to study God’s word and grow deeper in your understanding of Him.*
- ⇒ **July 24**, *Let’s Get Out of Our Head*, Jean Ballew, facilitator. *Are you tormented by thoughts triggered by doubts, hurt, regret, unforgiveness, or shame? Find out how to defeat them with spiritual help and trauma-informed methods.*
- ⇒ **August 7**, *Topic to be determined*, Lizzy Johnson, facilitator

These studies are offered with absolutely no homework necessary so, just grab your Bible and show up on that particular **Wednesday at 7 pm in Room 18.**

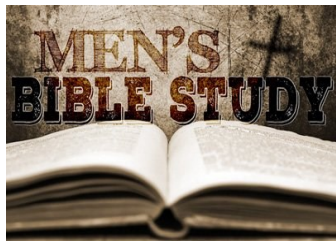
**Opportunities**

- **A Woman’s Night of Fellowship, July 29** – All women are invited to come and enjoy an ice cream social as we meet for a time of fellowship and fun! We’ll meet in the Student Center at 7 that evening. 
- A special thanks to those who took the fleece blanket kits and are busy tying knots! Please return them to the Church Office when they are finished and will pass them along to McPherson Hospital for the cancer treatment patients.
- Even though Women’s Fall Retreat at Covenant Cedars isn’t until **October 4-6, registration opens on July 15.** Registration is done through their website, [www.covcedars.org](http://www.covcedars.org), and your payment is due at the time of registration. 

God bless



...land that I love.



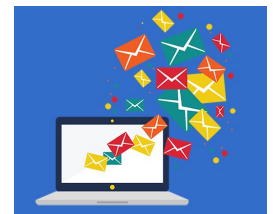
**Wednesday Night Men’s Bible Study**

will resume meeting on **July 10 @ 6:45 p.m.** They will continue their study of Luke, beginning in Chapter 10. Contact

Craig Spencer, (620) 504-2441, with any questions.

**The PULSE Newsletter**

Beginning in July, we will offer you the option of receiving our monthly newsletter,



The PULSE, by **email or mail**. Be sure to mark the back of your Connection Card and let us know which is your preference. You can also email [kimg@csidecov.org](mailto:kimg@csidecov.org) or call the church office, 620-241-4499, with your choice. Please check your junk mail every month, as sometimes our emails tend to end up there!

# Countryside Kids



## GREAT WEEK OF VBS!

During the first week of June, we had about 150 kids join us for our summer VBS! It was a fantastic week learning about the *Rock Solid Truth* of God! Our highlight for the week was our offering project. The kids gave it their all as they raised money for the bridge-building projects in the Congo through the Paul Carlson Partnership. They raised over \$2000 in coins plus we had a \$1000 match. And thanks to your additional giving on VBS Sunday we came in at around \$5000. The leadership team also utilized FAITH funds to match that with another \$5000. This brought our total to \$10,000! This is enough to fund an entire bridge in the Congo!



## COVENANT CEDARS BIBLE CAMP



## CHANGES TO FALL MINISTRY

We wanted to give you a heads-up on some changes to our fall ministry for children so that you can begin to prepare your kids for it! Starting in the fall, kids going into 5th grade will remain with children's ministry instead of moving up to youth ministry. Next month we will let you know where all of the classes will be meeting but wanted to pass this change along. Kids Life and Kids Town will resume in September.

### Kids Town (Sunday Mornings @ 9:45)

Ages 2 - Preschool      Nursery Area  
 Kindergarten - 5th Grade      Location TBA

## JOIN OUR TEACHING TEAM!

We are planning to expand our teaching team this fall by adding some additional teachers in preschool and in K-5. If you are feeling called to teach this fall, please contact Amy. We will help place you in an area that fits how you have been gifted!



EXPLORER BOYS CABIN



PATHFINDERS

In June, children 1st-6th grade went to Covenant Cedars Bible Camp in Nebraska! We got to witness these kids not only build special relationships with their counselors and other kids from MWC churches but we got to watch them discover who they are as kids that are created, formed, and redeemed by God! *Trailblazer* pictures next month!

## CALENDAR @ A GLANCE

**JULY**  
 No Events/Programs  
**AUGUST**  
 28 | Kick-Off Event

During the summer months we take a break from Kids Life and Kids Town to give our leaders a season of rest and refreshment!





*Every person 55 plus growing in relationship with Jesus Christ and serving in His kingdom ministry.*

**Crazy Hot Indoor Picnic.**

It may be hot enough to fry an egg on the sidewalk but we're cool as a cucumber inside! Join us for great food, games, stunts, and a lot-a-bit of fun!



**Sat. July 13 at 4:30pm, Countryside Gym.** Bring a dish to feed 12. Potluck A-K side or salad; L-Z main dish. Dessert is whatever calories you're trying to clean out from your pantry.

**RSVP to the Church Office** so we can set a place at the table for you!

Crescendo is interested in finding people who want to finish well in this life by serving the Lord all their days. **Consider training with our Crescendo Leadership team this coming year!** Contact Pastors Jon or Lynn Black for further information.

**Thank you** to everyone who filled out a survey and received a cinnamon roll as a reward. Special thanks to Wanieta Penner and Deb Tice for baking!



**Connections**

As God's people, we see each person as made in God's image and therefore a welcome member of the family of God! Countryside's visitors need to connect with someone on a Sunday morning! Please practice hospitality by inviting them for a quick cup of coffee and a cookie between services or inviting them out to lunch after second service! Imagine the impact your conversation could make on helping them get acclimated.

Thanks to those who are baking and bringing treats to make fellowship sweeter; for those who greet to make our doorways and hallways friendlier, and for those who invite a friend, share a meal, and linger longer to help new people feel welcome!



**Thank You's**

Thank you to everyone who provided a dish and/or helped set up, serve, and clean up the meal after Les Mason's funeral. Your contribution is much appreciated. This ministry would not function without people like you helping it to run smoothly.  
-Aleasha Allen

Thank you to Jim & Lori VanGoethem for kicking off our "Connections Hour" with their food truck that served breakfast-on-a-stick and slushies!



Thanks also to the Middle School Students for baking cupcakes, and to the Precepts Bible Study for their goodies.





I eagerly anticipate God's guidance as I write this column every month. I patiently wait for His direction, whether through a sermon, a song, or a conversation with others. Over and over this month, the word invisible popped up in my encounters: **"INVISIBLE."** What does that mean? What message was I to glean from this simple word? Most of us have felt this way at one time or another, overwhelmed by life, bills, parenthood, and more. Not just low-income families feel this way. But imagine the impact when you have limited resources and feel ashamed or hopeless because you can't find a way out; giving up is easy. What does that feel like? Do people not look you in the eye? What is our response? Do we look away? Do we engage? Do we encourage? What can a simple act of kindness do for someone? It can be the beacon of hope that saves a life, leads someone to Christ, or gives a young mother hope for the future. These are powerful but true reminders to acknowledge and appreciate everyone we encounter. I am now challenging myself to see and validate every individual I encounter. I want to break barriers and show kindness to all, acknowledging the value in every person I meet.

**Stats:**

- 7 Homes in various stages of construction- Sutherland Estates
- 198 – people served YTD



**Upcoming Events:**

- ⇒ Lift Up Lindsborg — Ongoing
- ⇒ September 26<sup>th</sup> — McPherson County Housing Conference

*Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. ~ Luke 12:6-7 (NIV)*

Blessings,  
Chris Goodson



Come hear from Hadley and Katie Hageman about their future work in Vietnam. They'll be talking between services about church planting and our role in God's global mission. This will take place in the Student Center on **Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>.**



**Church Life Update**

**Birth:**

**Lainey June, daughter of Dixon & Lauren Shaffett. May 29**

**Death:**

**Les Mason. June 3**

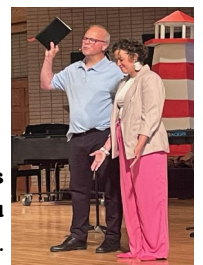
**Marriage:**

**Mattea Black and Kaden Bower. May 31.**

**White Rose:**

**Theo Johnson**

**Lizy Johnson's consecration as Countryside's new Student Ministries Director.**



# Leadership Team

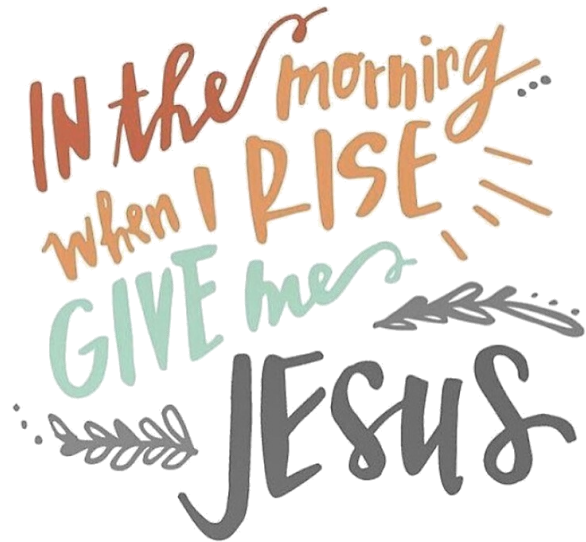
## UPDATE

It is officially summertime! We welcome the changing seasons that God brings us, to show us He is at work in our changing seasons of life. Our Leadership Team has been at work as well. In this month’s meeting we again reviewed our financial status, as we do every month, and were pleased to know that we are a little under budget as of May. Our income for June far exceeds our income for last year on this date! Thank you church family for giving back to serve God’s kingdom in the ways that He provides for and blesses you! That has been one of our goals as a the Church Leadership Team, to pour back God’s blessings from our Faith Funds!

In that, we, as a church were able to be a blessing and fund the remainder of the entire amount left after the donations of VBS, and our Sunday, June 16th, collection for the bridge project in DR Congo! That is \$10,000.00 collected for the **entire** bridge project! We were also able to fulfill a request for funds for the Pregnancy Service Center to grant them an additional \$1,000.00. Omega Houses, here in our community, are in need, and an additional \$3,000.00 was granted to them. We also saw fit to give \$1,000.00 to JAARS – Jungle Aviation and Radio Service, who’s mission is to reduce barriers, ease burdens and deliver God’s Word to remote jungle communities, as they provide Bibles in translations for those communities, as well as aviation support, land and maritime transportation, information technology and media. Look for them to visit in July at our McPherson airport for information and helicopter rides!

Continue, friends, brothers and sisters in Christ to bless and transform lives for Christ and please, even in these summer months... *let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Blessings,  
Reba Becker, Church Vice Chair



June 2024 Attendance (includes online)		
	Christian Formation	Worship
June 2	—	532
June 9	—	658
June 16	—	474
June 23	—	535
June 2024 Giving		
June 2		\$19,114.57
June 9		\$22,737.89
June 16		\$26,923.06
June 23		\$33,623.58
<b>Total Y-to-D</b>		\$661,801.91
<b>Giving vs Expenses Y-to-D</b>		-\$32,503.14

Countryside Covenant Church  
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McPherson KS 67460

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Your July Newsletter is here!!



*Countryside Covenant Church is a body of believers with a heart for Jesus Christ.*

## ***This Month at Countryside***

Worship Services at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

### **JULY EVENTS**

2 & 20	Widows Connection
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Men's Coffee
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Celebrate Recovery
3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Time of Prayer
4	4th of July/Office Closed
7-12	MS Camp @ Covenant Cedars
13	Crescendo Indoor Picnic
15-19	Unite 2024 @ San Diego State University
16 & 30	MOMs Splash Pad Events
16	Leadership Team Meeting
21	Missionaries Hadley & Katie Hageman here
26-27	24 Hour Rush
29	Women's Night of Fellowship Ice Cream Social

## **Countryside Staff**

Jon Black, Senior Pastor

Jeremy Bower, Associate Pastor

Lynn Black, Pastor of Adult Ministries

Amy Brunk, Children's Ministries Director

Connor Gibson, Worship Arts Director

Lizy Johnson, Student Ministries Director

Linda Totman, Church Administrator

Kim Goering, Office Assistant

Tiffani Eilrich, Children's Ministries Assistant







