



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 20, ISSUE 11
November 2021

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

THE PULSE OF COUNTRYSIDE

What Set Them Off?

- Pastor Jon Black

As I read through Luke 4 this past week, I was struck by the events that occurred when Jesus returned to his hometown of Nazareth. He entered the town synagogue and read from Isaiah.

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind.

..... 21 He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

How did Jesus' hometown people respond? They responded with great admiration.

Yes Jesus. You have come to help people in need. You da man!

22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

They recognized in Jesus an authority and grace that was exceptional....

But then Jesus had to go and mess things up by revealing their hidden thoughts....

23 Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself?' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

In other words, "Jesus, give us one of those cool healings or miracles that we've heard so much about. Make us proud, Jesus!"

Jesus didn't give them what they wanted to see. Rather he spoke the truth of what they needed to hear.

24 "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. 25 I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout

the land. 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon.



Widows in the Old Testament times were non-entities, nobodies, outcasts, overlooked, scorned, judged. Most widows would have to eke out an existence in poverty. We know from this account from 1 Kings 17 that that this particular widow was in the process of gathering sticks for the fire to heat up her last meal before hopeless starvation during a famine.

This widow was also Gentile; an outsider, a non-chosen one, an inferior race in the eyes of the chosen Jews. And finally, she was from the god forsaken territory of Zarephath; the pagan territory of the demonic god, Baal.

Jesus presented another example:

27 And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

Jesus suggested that God chose to display His power to yet another Gentile outsider who did not deserve God's favor. This Gentile would have been considered even more sinful than the rejected widow because of the existence of his leprous condition.... understood to be a consequence of some great sin in his life.

So, how did the hometown crowd respond to Jesus' examples?

Their immediate reaction revealed their thoughts. In verse 28-30 their anger caused them to grab Jesus, force Him out of town towards a nearby cliff, and give Him a shove to His demise.

"Nobody disrespects us like that and gets away with it."

- continued on page 2

Ministry to Women

Recently on Facebook I saw a post that read, "we encourage you to shop now for Christmas because items may be more available now than later." But someone responded, "maybe you don't have the actual reason for Christmas in mind when you say that." So true!! And, as we see multiple ads on tv and Facebook, I want to say ... let's spend the month of November being grateful and thanking God for what blesses our lives. Often I am drawn to the book and concept of 1,000 Gifts and the JOY DARE collection. In her book, author Ann Voskamp writes, *"A friend dared me to start counting one thousand things I loved. (Three things times 365 days equals 1,095 things!) I took the dare, accepted the challenge, kept track of one thousand things, one thousand gifts – a thousand graces – on a quiet, unassuming blog. Before I knew it, thankfulness to God began to fully change me."* A great way to begin this journey by grace is to begin your own gift list, count all the ways He loves you.

- ♦ **Pray.** Start with a simple request, making it the refrain of your day: "God, open the eyes of my heart."
- ♦ **Receive.** Open your hand to the simple, daily gifts, writing down all the unique and ordinary things you notice, from the grand and obvious to the humble and hidden.
- ♦ **Praise.** Praise Him for the unexpected and the unlikely, for the daily and the difficult, and the graces in disguise. The more you count, the more gifts you will see.

She's created daily suggestions to help identify items to be thankful for. I've put copies of the lists at the Information Center. Feel free to take one and begin writing down your items November 1.

On Monday, November 29, **A Woman's Night of Service**, will be held in the Student Center at 7 pm. As women gather, our goal will be to undertake specific projects for local and area missions. Creating gift bags for widows and single moms, assembling goody bags used by the Open Door Pregnancy Center are just a few of the projects we've already identified. Come and enjoy blessing others through this ministry; we'd love to have you!!

Bible studies are in full swing this fall ... over 70 women are studying God's word and fellowshiping together! Thanks to those who are facilitating the groups ... Sharon Stinemetze, Angela Brunk, Bobbie Kaufman, Emilie Schulz, Lynn Black, Michelle Logback, Cathy Skar, Cheryl Boerger and Nancy Fuqua. Your leadership and gifts are greatly appreciated!!

Wishing you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving!

Linda

"May the God who gives hope fill you with great joy. May you have perfect peace as you trust in him. May the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with hope." – Romans 15:13

Sew & Share, Monday, November 29, 9:00 a.m.

We will gather to sew projects and have fellowship together! We will meet in **Room 5**.

Feel free to come and go as you wish. Contact Shirlee Harper, 620-755-1205 with any questions.



Women's Coffee Connection meets

every Saturday, 9:00 a.m., upstairs at the Tin Roof Pantry in Galva.

We would love for you to join us for good coffee and great conversation!

- continued from page 1

But it wasn't God's plan for Jesus to die at that time. So Jesus....

30 ...walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

What transformed these admiring townspeople into angry assassins so quickly? What threatened them so much?

I wonder if religious folks like us today would have reacted any differently to Jesus's teaching had He come into our church and highlighted a couple modern-day equivalent examples of oppressed people to our situation?

Would we choose to quickly show Him the door or would we choose to examine our hearts in prayer?

This teaching from Luke 4 got me thinking....In fact, I'm still thinking.

November Youth Schedule:

3 | 6:15-7:45 pm Edge
8-9:30 pm Ignite

5-7 | Middle School Fall Retreat @ Covenant Cedars

10 | 6:15-7:45 pm | Edge
8-9:30pm | Ignite

17 | 6:15-7:45 pm | Edge
8-9:30pm | Ignite

19-21 | High School Fall Retreat @ Covenant Cedars

23 | 9 pm Ignite to HAPPS @ Applebee's

24 | Service opportunity at Community Building Thanksgiving- TBA
NO YOUTH GROUP – Happy Thanksgiving!



Ignite Paintball Event



Life Student Ministry November Food Drive:

Students will be collecting food items for the McPherson County Food Bank November 1-21st. Students will be having a friendly competition to collect the most food. The LSM Christian Formation class that collects the most food will get a pancake breakfast during Christian Formation hour on November 28th.

Service Opportunity:

Students are invited to the Community Center on Wednesday, November 24th to help set-up and prep for the Community Thanksgiving dinner on November 25th. Time will be announced, watch the church app.

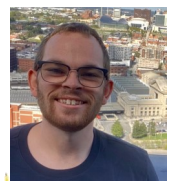
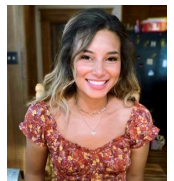
Watch For Upcoming Events:

Please refer to the church website and church app under Student Ministries to stay informed on upcoming events. You can also follow us @Lifestumin on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for announcements.

Welcome New Leaders: Both are Life Student Ministry Alumni and we're so excited to have them serving the next generation!

⇒ **Elle Barrett:** Elle is a McPherson College Senior and will be a small group leader for Edge girls.

⇒ **Welcome back Joel Harper:** Joel will be helping with the games and in the sound booth at youth group.



Countryside Kids

P&M PUMPKIN RANCH!



KIDS LIFE

WEDNESDAYS | 6:15 PM - 7:45 PM

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Kids ages 4 - 5th grade will be dropped off and picked up in the Worship Center on Wednesday nights.

NOVEMBER PARENT EQUIPPING CLASS

On the first Wednesday of the month, parents have the opportunity to attend a workshop-style class after the All-Church Meal. We met last month and learned how we could teach our kids to discern truth. This month our topic is *How to Work Hard in a World that Would Rather Play*. Next Parent Equipping classes will be in January, February, and April.



ALL CHURCH MEAL

Join us on November 3rd for our All Church Meal from 5-6 PM. We will be serving Lasagna, Salad, and Garlic Bread. We are still looking for people to prepare and serve the meal. Please contact Kristen Houston at (620) 242 - 7551 for more info. You may RSVP for this meal by responding on your connection card or through the website!



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM | DECEMBER 19

Children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to join us in presenting *Long Foretold: The Journey of the Magi*.

- Preschoolers will practice during Kids Town
- Kindergarten - 5th Grade will practice during Kids Town and Kids Life
- Kindergarten - 5th Grade will have additional practices on December 8th and 15th from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

If your child (1st-5th Grade) is interested in a speaking part please contact Amy!

NOVEMBER

7, 14, 21, 28 | Kids Town @ 10:00 AM

3, 10, 17 | Kids Life @ 6:15 PM

3, 10, 17 | Preschool Play Group @ 10:00 AM

3 | All Church Meal & Parent Gathering

DECEMBER

1 | Caroling and Cocoa @ 6:30 PM

5, 12 | Kids Town @ 10:00 AM

19 | Christmas Program 8:45 & 11:00 Service



CAROLING & COCOA | DECEMBER 1ST

Our annual Caroling and Cocoa Event is scheduled for December 1st this year! We will meet at the church and depart for various locations at 6:30 PM. Limited transportation will be provided (Trolley and Church Vans) so you may need to transport your family in your own vehicle. We will return to the church for cookies and cocoa!

Thank You's

On behalf of the Jaymie O'Dell family, I express our sincere appreciation for all the prayers, acts of love and kindness, and encouragement we have received. We have received so many compliments regarding the "Celebration of Life Service". Not only was the life of Jaymie shared, but also, as she requested, the Life of Christ as our Savior was shared. So, special thank you's to Pastors Jon and Lynn, Tony, Connor and the sound team. Many viewed it "live stream" too. Thanks to those who made that happen. We sincerely appreciated the wonderful luncheon. It allowed many of us a time of fellowship and sharing with loved ones while enjoying a wonderful meal. So, thank you Val Mork and your wonderful team for serving us as all of us remembered Jaymie. As Rozalynn (Ken) Frey, Crystal Clobes, our six grandchildren and I move forward with life we are comforted in knowing the following:

1. Jaymie is with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
2. Our church family is supporting us.

God Bless,
David O'Dell

Dearest Church Family, we want to thank all who expressed condolence to us concerning the passing of my mother. Words of concern, flowers and lifting us up with prayer were a blessing to us. It is wonderful to be part of a family of God.

Blessings,
Juliana & Barry Meador



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD NATIONAL COLLECTION WEEK November 15 - 22

LOCATION: COUNTRYSIDE COVENANT CHURCH. 940 E. NORTHVIEW. MCPHERSON, KS

DATES/TIMES

Monday, November 15, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 16, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 17, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 18, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Friday, November 19, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Saturday, November 20, 10 a.m. – Noon
Sunday, November 21, Noon – 4 p.m.
Monday, November 22, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

CONTACT: Mary Bohnenblust. 620-755-4134. dmbohnenblust@gmail.com



Covenant World Relief & Development Sunday November 21, 2021

Covenant World Relief & Development (CWRD) is the Evangelical Covenant Church at work in the world. Through CWRD, Covenanters participate in God's transforming mission.

Immediate response to disasters is vital to save lives and facilitate recovery. For more than 65 years, CWRD has been the Covenant's response to human suffering and injustice in the world. "We work through partnerships with Covenant and Covenant-connected organizations. These partners are experts in their communities. They are best equipped to work together with local leaders in long-term development and to respond immediately to disasters."

Covenant World Relief & Development exists because of the generosity of Covenant churches and individuals.

You can be involved with CWRD in several meaningful ways:

- **Stay connected** using their website, <https://covchurch.org/cwr/>, Facebook, and Twitter.
- **Pray** for transformation around the world, in our neighborhoods, and in our own lives.
- **Give** locally, give online at www.covchurch.org or by mail.

We as a church will take a special offering for CWRD on Sunday, November 17.

In case you haven't heard about our name change, "CWR" is now "CWRD:" Covenant World Relief & Development! Our work and values that you know, love, and support have not changed. Our name has changed to more truly reflect the work of sustainable transformation in communities through long-term development strategy that has always been at the forefront of our commitment together with our global partners.



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

****ALL CHURCH EVENT****

**CovTalk - Monday, November 8,
7:00pm, Countryside Worship**

Center: "Pieces Falling, Navigating 9/11 with Faith, Family, and FDNY," by Ann Van Hine. Her husband was on duty with the New York Fire Department and made the ultimate sacrifice on 9/11. Ann will share her inspirational testimony of how this event rocked their world and how God met them in the midst of it. McPherson Fire Department will be sending their on-duty fire-fighters for us to recognize. Bring friends to hear this amazing story! (Bonus: she is Pastor Jeremy's aunt!)



Crescendo Christmas Party!

Tuesday, December 14, 6:30pm.
Enjoy an evening of high-spirited fun and connection over dessert. More details to follow. Save the date!



Prayer Walk at P & M
Pumpkin Ranch



Crescendo Sleuths at
"Escapetology" in
Wichita.

Widows' Connection Upcoming Events:



- * Tuesday, November 2, 9:30am, Monthly Meeting
 - * Saturday, November 20, 11:30am, watch for details
- Contact Judy Blaine, 360-355-0943, for more info.



Know someone with an unplanned pregnancy? The **Mobile Unit from the Open Door Pregnancy Center in Hutchinson** parks in the

McPherson Genesis/Scooters parking lot and offers free sonograms every Thursday. This confidential service blends in with cars around to help women feel more secure and anonymous if need be. Hours are 10am to 3pm. Counselors will be on hand to help care for women through their entire pregnancy through Open Door's multi-faceted services. Feel free to stop in if you haven't seen this mobile ministry yet; they're happy to show you around!



Partnering with Life Student Ministry here at Countryside!

The McPherson County Food Bank's shelves are near empty and our students are having a food drive for them during the month of November through the 21st. Bring to church a sack of groceries for the food bank and the students will see that it gets delivered when the bank is open!



We are hosting a Volunteer Recruitment Event

**November 6th, 2021 4pm-6pm
At the ReUse It Center
120 S. 81 Bypass**

Come to learn about all the volunteer opportunities that we have to offer. There will be a free hotdog meal, tours of the building, a chance to chat with some of our volunteers, learn where we donate money and see how it changes lives!!

Please RSVP to Shulah Neff by November 3rd
Only 30 spots are available!!
1-620-245-0122 or shulah.ruic@lrmutual.com



A few weeks ago, Pastor Jon spoke about leadership. Specifically how servant leaders gave more than they received. As this message resonated with me, I noticed all the servant leaders on the Oak Harbor Cottages Project. Several examples that came to mind were Sarah Goering, Craig Spencer, and Allan Sents, who stepped up to put the windows and doors on the Agape House when the lead's wife became ill. In addition, Bob Andersen has been on the project since the beginning offering a helping hand whenever and wherever it is needed. Finally, Steve Steffes has stepped up to train and install the donated siding that he designed for CertainTeed. It has been such a blessing to the project and the other two churches to have his leadership and guidance. I could write a book on the acts of kindness, fellowship, and sacrifice I have witnessed. Thank you for your faithfulness.

So, where are we? The siding for Jaymie's place is close to completion. We are waiting for the electrical to be installed to insulate and hang the sheetrock. The 1st Mennonite Church is painting the interior, and the 1st Baptist Church is installing the siding and the front porch. The drainage work on the site is almost complete, and the new sewer system for the entire neighborhood will start soon. We have several more churches that have signed on to sponsor a cottage. We continue to write grants, find resources, and educate the community on the needs of those around us. If you have not been to the site, we encourage you to visit. Someone is always available to give you a tour.

For additional information contact

Chris Goodson (620) 242-6799

Bob Andersen (620) 654-8053, Sarah Goering (620) 755-3377

Items Still Needed For Jaymie's Cottage

- ⇒ Sharp knives-set of 3 or 4 with cover for blades
- ⇒ Heat-resistant scraping spatulas (for bowls)
- ⇒ Food storage containers-various sizes
- ⇒ Dish drying mat or small rack and tray
- ⇒ Small dish pan (sink is single basin)
- ⇒ Better Homes & Garden-3pk container set (37, 60, & 80oz.)
- ⇒ Better Homes & Garden 16 cup container
- ⇒ 2 Twin waterproof mattress pad covers
- ⇒ Board with pegs or hooks on it for backpacks, coats, etc.
- ⇒ 2 Sterilite 66qt. underbed storage tubs with wheels
- ⇒ Microfiber cloths for multi purposes
- ⇒ Shark cordless stick vacuum (or similar)
- ⇒ Something to clean vinyl "wood" flooring
- ⇒ Door mirror for parent room
- ⇒ Parent bedroom waste basket
- ⇒ Kids bedroom waste basket
- ⇒ Bathroom waste basket
- ⇒ Kitchen waste basket
- ⇒ 4 hot pads
- ⇒ Sugar bowl
- ⇒ Toaster

Contact Linda Andersen before purchasing items: (620) 654-6534



HARVEST FESTIVAL SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

CELEBRATING GOD'S GOODNESS

Worship Services

8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

Christian Formation - 10:00 a.m.

Potluck Dinner - 12 Noon

Business Meeting - 1 p.m.

Potluck Dinner - If your last name is A-L, please bring a crockpot of soup. M-Z, please bring a pie. Salad will also be served.

October 2021 Attendance (includes online)

	Christian Formation	Worship
October 3	216	454
October 10	176	494
October 17	194	491
October 24	220	524

October 2021 Giving

October 3	\$18,025.77
October 10	\$15,379.89
October 17	\$20,950.40
October 24	\$18,086.86
Total Y-to-D	\$947,090.40
Giving vs Expenses Y-to-D	\$44,793.54

Countryside Covenant Church
PO Box 765, 940 E. Northview Ave.
McPherson KS 67460

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Your November Newsletter is here!!



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

This Month at Countryside

Worship Services at 8:45 & 11:00 a.m.
Christian Formation, 10:00 a.m.

NOVEMBER EVENTS (see enclosed calendar for full list of events)

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | Men's Coffee |
| 2 | Widows Connection |
| 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | Celebrate Recovery |
| 3, 10, 17, 24 | Time of Prayer |
| 3, 10, 17 | Preschool Story Time |
| 3 | All Church Meal |
| 5-7 | Edge MS Fall Retreat |
| 6, 13, 20, 27 | Women's Coffee Connection |
| 8 | "Pieces Falling" Presentation by Ann Van Hine |
| 9 | MOMs Group |
| 9 | Leadership Team Meeting |
| 15-22 | Operation Christmas Child Box Dropoff |
| 19-21 | Ignite HS Fall Retreat |
| 21 | Harvest Festival & Business Meeting |
| 25 | Happy Thanksgiving |
| 26 | Church Office Closed |
| 29 | Sew & Share |
| 29 | A Woman's Night of Service |



Countryside Staff

Pastor Jon Black, Lead
Pastor Jeremy Bower, Associate
Pastor Lynn Black, Adult Ministries
Amy Brunk, Children's Ministries
Connor Gibson, Worship Arts
Kelly Morrow, Student Ministries
Linda Totman, Church Administrator
Kim Goering, Office Assistant
Kristi Monroe, Children's Ministries Assistant