CHURCH on the BLUFF

Ordinary people serving an extraordinary God

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FROM YOUR PASTOR'S HEART

August 20, 2026

Live out your faith so people see Him in you.

I was informed by a lady once that the Sabbath Day is Saturday. Thus, by my choice to call Sunday the Sabbath and doing stuff on Saturday, I was being disobedient…maybe even heretical. We were at a wedding rehearsal and it wasn't the proper time to argue theology with a stranger, so I just told her that I respected her belief and continued the rehearsal.

Here is what I personally believe about the Sabbath: I believe it to be an "old covenant" institution for God's Hebrew nation to both give them a time of rest and to glorify God. While the model was certainly based on the creation story, I think the Hebrews went a little overboard on the observance. But that's what a carnal mind does with divine commands: it reduces them to a list of "dos" and "don'ts".

"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns." (Exodus 20:8, 10 NIV). Here is a brief synopsis of what the verse says: Keep the Sabbath holy and do not do any work that day. Now, here is where the human mindset comes in. *How do we do that? The reasoning at the time was (and is now) was that to make the day holy we are to do nothing that brings us pleasure. For instance, reading (except for scripture), watching television, listening to the radio, and recreation of any kind (plus many other things) are strictly forbidden.*

OK, we have nailed the "keep it holy" part. What about work? We can't cook on the Sabbath (although reheating food that was cooked before sunset on Friday is permissible…as long as you do not have to build a new fire). We are told we can only walk a certain distance, no traveling in a vehicle is allowed, we can't lift a burden (I wonder how much something must weigh before it becomes a burden). The list goes on.

While Jesus kept the Sabbath as any Jew would, He emphasized that the Sabbath was also to benefit mankind. Then, His death and resurrection ushered in the new covenant. The law (including the Sabbath) was not voided, it was enhanced. Don't murder? No…don't even get angry. Don't commit adultery? Nope. Don't even lust. I believe that goes for the Sabbath, also. Keep the Sabbath holy? How about keeping *every day holy? But what about work? Do we take every day off? I wish. But most everybody takes at least one day off during the week…sometimes more.*

Christians have decided to meet and sing songs of praise and worship on Sunday. The early disciples did so because Jesus (the Lord of the Sabbath) rose from the dead on that day. We call it the "Lord's Day" and strive to make the day as special as possible. But, honestly, I'm more tired on Sunday than most other days of the week.

Make every day a "sabbath" to the Lord. Dwell on Him. Read His word. Live out your faith so people see Him in you. I think God will be pleased. And I'll see you on the Lord's Day and we will study, worship and fellowship.

Say good things about your Savior and His Church on the Bluff

Bro. Tony

August:

- ◊ 22nd: Faith Class Luncheon
- ◊ 23rd: Church Council-Yearly Planning Meeting after Worship Pizza Provided
- ◊ 25th: Coffee, Cake & Chat
- ◊ 26th: Fellowship Meal
- ◊ 30th: Ladies Bible Study 5:00 PM

Weekly:

Sundays
Bible Study - 9:00 AM
Worship - 10:00 AM
Wednesdays
Bible Study & Prayer - 6:30 PM
Choir Practice - 7:15 PM

Office Hours 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Monday-Thursday

Prayer & Bible Study
Wednesdays

Happy Birthday!

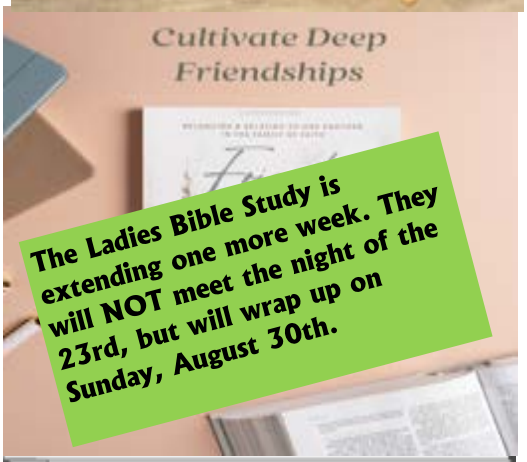
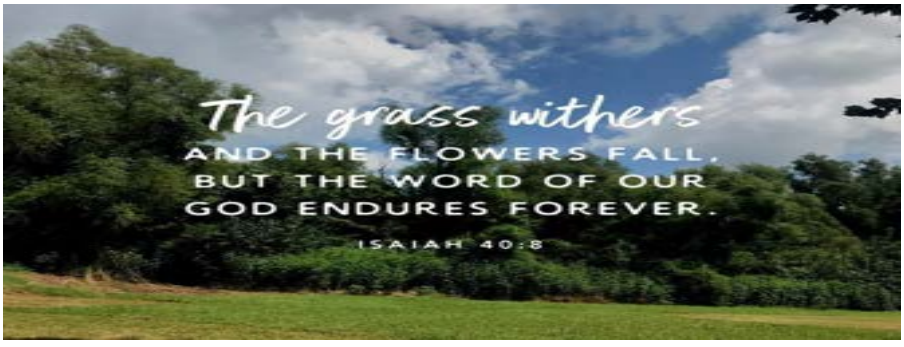
AUGUST

27 Jack Farmer
28 Karen Jones

SEPTEMBER

4 Wanda Chancellor
4 Kerry Foley
5 Kathy Tyson
5 Lynn Kurtts
6 Cornelius Yelling
7 Maressa Colin
8 Kaci Loftus
16 Pat McGraw
17 Roger Boothe
21 Holly Burford

Fellowship Dinner
Aug 26th
6:00 PM



We need just under $600 to have the funds needed to purchase the blinds for the back side of the church. Please make any donation to the "Maintenance" fund.