

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 2020

10:00 a.m.

PRESERVICE MUSIC.....*“Who You Say I Am”*

WELCOME*Jim Loeffler*

INVOCATION*Pastor Keith*

PRELUDE.....*“As the Deer”*

PRAISE SONGS.....*“Everlasting God”*
“Broken Vessels”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE*Adrienne Morton*

OFFERING A PRAYER OF OUR GIFTS & THANKS TO GOD

THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN.....*“As the Deer”*

SERMON.....*Pastor Keith*

**“IF MY PEOPLE ...
THE POWER OF PRAYER”**
Nehemiah 1:1 - 2:10

SONG OF RESPONSE.....*“Who You Say I Am”*

BENEDICTION/BLESSING

Scriptures for Today's Worship Service:

Nehemiah 1:1 – 2:10

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL – *has begun*

Welcome back to in-house Sunday school! Kids ages 4 yrs. to 5th grade can experience the joy of going to Sunday school again. Just drop your child off at the lower west side entrance – a teacher will come out and escort them to their classroom. After worship, pick them up where you dropped them off. Remember masks and all other safety protocol will be followed. There will be no snacks or drinks provided.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT

WATCH PARTY – *has been cancelled*

The Wednesday night Watch Party with Linda Morey at 6:30 pm for the Battle Plan for Prayer has been cancelled.



Book Club will start meeting again on Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to join them. They'll be reading "*The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend*" by Katrina Bivald. If you would like a copy of the book see Linda Morey or Diane Senger. Or call the church office.

BIBLE STUDIES FOR FALL

Please call the church office @ 899-5962 as classes are limited because of COVID-19.

IN-PERSON BIBLE STUDIES in the Multi-purpose Room:

- Monday evenings @ 6:30 p.m. starting Sept. 21 with Sue Fuller – a Bible study for young mothers. If you'd like to join the group give Sue a call at 969-1649.
- Tuesday mornings @ 9:30 a.m. with Elna Morton. They will be studying the Book of Genesis.
- Tuesday nights Sean Gotham will begin a Bible Study for men to connect with the Lord and each other. The date and time have not been set yet – so keep watch!
- Wednesday mornings at 11 am – "The Battle Plan for Prayer" – read below for more information.
- Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Diane Senger will lead the Sweet & Salty Bible study on *Esther* by Beth Moore. They had their first meeting tonight (Oct. 8) in the multi-purpose room. All are welcome to join in!

"THE BATTLE PLAN for PRAYER" study -- Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. starting Sept. 30 with Pastor Keith in the multi-purpose room. Readers will be guided scripturally through the fundamentals of how effective prayer works; shown how to develop specific prayer strategies, etc. Prayer should be your first plan of attack in all of life's battles, not your last resort. If you want to experience the joy of mightily answered prayer, then it's time to engage with God at another level. **This course will be in-person**, so that you can study, learn, and ask questions but don't worry you can also tune in on Facebook at that time or ---- in the evening you can check our website or app for the course. If you are interested in purchasing the study book, "*The Battle Plan for Prayer*," it is \$10 and you can contact the church office to purchase one. **We do ask that if you plan to attend, you give the church a call so that we can set up the multi-purpose room to everyone's needs.**

We've missed you! -- Are you ready to begin "in-person" worship??!!

We will, of course, be in full compliance with CDC Guidelines:

- Face Masks
- Sanitizing & Disinfecting
- Social Distancing
- Limiting our Capacity
- Temperature Check



If you would like to join us on any Sunday, please call the church office at 899-5962 by noon on Friday each week, to let us know you are coming. Please arrive around 9:30 a.m. in order to be seated by 9:55 a.m.



THE BATTLE PLAN FOR PRAYER

THE PRIORITY OF PRAYER:

1. GOD HAS STRATEGICALLY CHOSEN TO ESTABLISH AND UTILIZE PRAYER AS PART OF HIS SOVEREIGN PLAN FOR US. IT IS LIKE OXYGEN FOR OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES. (BPFP pg. 21)
2. GOD NEVER INTENDED FOR US TO LIVE OUT THE CHRISTIAN LIFE OR ACCOMPLISH HIS WORK ON EARTH IN OUR OWN WISDOM OR STRENGTH. HIS PLAN FOR US IS TO RELY ON THE HOLY SPIRIT AND LIVE A LIFE OF OBEDIENCE IN PRAYER. (BPFP pg. 23)
3. IF WE WERE TO PRESS THE PAUSE BUTTON, REPENT, AND MOVE PRAYER TO A PLACE OF PRIORITY IN OUR FAMILIES, SCHEDULES, AND CHURCH LIVES, EVERYTHING WOULD BE IGNITED AND IMPACTED BY IT...WE WOULD ALL WORSHIP BETTER, SING BETTER, FELLOWSHIP BETTER, GIVE BETTER, EVANGELIZE BETTER, SHARE BETTER AND BEHAVE BETTER. (BPFP pg. 23-24)

PRAYER IS COMMUNION WITH GOD THAT:

1. BUILDS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
2. TRANSFORMS US TO BE ALIGNED WITH GOD
3. EXTENDS THE KINGDOM OF GOD AGAINST EVIL

Heavenly Father, I come to You in Jesus' name, asking that you draw me into a closer, more personal relationship with You. Cleanse me of my sins and prepare my heart to pray in a way that pleases You. Help me know You and love You more this week. Use all the circumstances of my life to make me like Jesus, and teach me how to pray more strategically and effectively in Your name, according to Your will and Your Word. Use my faith, my obedience, and my prayers this week for the benefit of others, for my good and for Your glory. Amen.

MY PRAYER TARGETS:

DEVELOP A SPECIFIC, PERSONALIZED, ONGOING PRAYER LIST USING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE BIGGEST NEEDS/CONCERNS RIGHT NOW?
2. WHAT ARE THE TOP THREE THINGS YOU ARE MOST STRESSED ABOUT?
3. WHAT ARE THREE ISSUES OR CONCERNS IN YOUR LIFE THAT WOULD TAKE A MIRACLE OF GOD TO RESOLVE?
4. WHAT IS SOMETHING GOOD AND HONORABLE THAT, IF GOD PROVIDED IT, WOULD GREATLY BENEFIT YOU, YOUR FAMILY, AND OTHERS?
5. WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD MAY BE LEADING YOU TO DO, BUT YOU NEED HIS CLARITY AND DIRECTION ON IT?
6. WHAT IS A NEED OR CONCERN FROM SOMEONE YOU LOVE THAT YOU'D LIKE TO START PRAYING ABOUT?

Dear God, I ask you to forgive me for the times when I haven't valued or believed in the power of prayer that you've offered to me. I've tried making things happen in other ways. But that has not proven to be so effective. Father, I want to learn to pray in faith. I want to grow closer to You. I want to experience this kind of confidence and freedom to believe You, rely completely on You, and go into battle with You. Guide me, I pray, as I try to trust You more. Train me. Equip me. Make me a mighty warrior in prayer. Be glorified through me as I trust in You. In Jesus' name. Amen.