

Sometimes the best things in life we have to wait for, right? I think that's a dying concept in our fast-paced, technological world, but I still think it's true. I think we'd all agree that home-made ice cream is better than something from the store. I think we'd all agree that a slow-roasted roast is better than something we'd microwave. For a teen or young adult, we'd probably advise they wait for a good partner in life than to rush ahead with someone who simply is around. And, hopefully, we all understand the reward of a project that's taken time and effort to accomplish (like a building project). But we get impatient in life. Our phones, I believe, have made us even more impatient in life. We expect to have everything literally at our fingertips in just a few seconds. And I'm as bad as anyone, but I feel like the more and more we lose that sense of patience and that appreciation for things that take time, the more we can pull away from the natural rhythms and certain enjoyments in life. And patience is a complex virtue in our world. Often times we think of waiting for something to get accomplished or a job finished. Sometimes we think about needing patience in dealing with other people (okay, maybe that's more than sometimes.) But what's interesting about God's patience is that it's not really about a job that needs to be done or for patience with his children because they're tiring or exhausting. God's patience is really about love. In what seems like he's slow in accomplishing what he's promised is really a way that he's patience. Peter writes to us, "But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that

all should reach repentance." (2 Peter 3.8-9) God's patience comes due to the desire that as many can come to faith in Jesus as possible. And his patience is really due to the fact, as Peter explains here, is that time is different for God than it is for us. If a day is truly as long as a thousand years and a thousand years is a day for God, then time really has little meaning. There's no reason he couldn't wait and wait and wait (as it would seem from our perspective) until as many can come to repentance as possible. And so, for me, I find these words encouraging. It means that time needs to be put into the appropriate context for us, too, especially when it comes to other people. Often times we want people to change, grow up or mature in our time (and usually that's quickly). But maybe, even when it's incredibly challenging and hard, we find ways to just be patient with them. We wait for God to work and for their hearts to change, and don't just give up on them or write them off. If we truly want to follow God's lead in bringing as many to repentance as possible, we're going to need lots of patience, too. And patience for people's behavior, patience for their attitudes and patience that is full of love and grace. Serving Him and you, Matthew

LaMoine Christian Camp

Camp is in full force this summer, with camps available for 1st grade through 2022 graduates. Sign up is available through the camp website (lamoinecamp.org) and if you marked that you're registering through our church, we will pay 50% of each camper's registration cost. Please contact the church office with questions. Also, we are responsible for cooking on **Tuesday, August 2nd**. Please let Matthew know if you'd be interested in helping cook.

Day Camp

Camp Emmanuel will be hosting a Day Camp for kids from 3 year old on up each day on **July 18-22** from *9am to 3pm*. Each day is filled with lessons and games and fun activities that only being at camp can offer. A flyer will be available in the back of the sanctuary with more information.

Ladies of the church:

You are invited to a wedding shower luncheon for Shaina Thiner on Saturday, July 16th at 11am at the church. This will be a gift card shower. If you need ideas for gift cards, see Lynette Smith or Kathy Stambaugh. Please let Lynette or Kathy know if you plan to attend so we can get an approximate number for the luncheon.

Open House

Matthew and Shaina invite everyone to an open house/reception to celebrate their marriage on **Saturday, July 23rd from 2pm-4pm** at the church. This is just an opportunity to congratulate the couple and NO gifts are necessary.



Prayer List

Jerry Armbruster – serious health issues
 Bobby Blickenstaff – cancer treatments, weakness
 Don Elliott – heart issues, surgery
 Kianna Gilson - possible lupus
 Mike Grater-cancer
 Connie Gunter – health issues
 Gary Hulett – heart failure
 Danny Jones – more pain, MRI again
 Jon Mummert – cataract surgery
 Clyde Prater-cancer, experimental treatments
 Joe Redshaw – surgery, recovery
 Lori Rodriguez – stage 4 cirrhosis of liver
 Jaylynn Shaw - concussion
 Randy Sorrels – kidney removed, recovery
 LeAnn Thiner – colon surgery, complications
 Sara Trone – blood pressure issues
 Mike Thomas – delayed surgery, complications

June Financials

	Weekly Actual	Yearly Actual	Yearly Budget
June 5th	\$3,215.00	\$25,981.03	\$23,464.37
June 12th	\$2,025.00	\$28,006.03	\$24,484.56
June 19th	\$700.00	\$28,706.03	\$25,504.75
June 26th	\$989.00	\$29,695.03	\$26,524.94

The Astoria Christian

Vol. 46 No. 7 July 6th, 2022

The Astoria Christian (USPS 352-870) is published monthly by Astoria Christian Church, 219 W. State St, PO Box 677, Astoria, IL 61501. Periodicals postage paid at Astoria, IL.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Astoria Christian, PO Box 677, Astoria, IL 61501

You Are Welcome At
Our Services!

Sunday

Morning Worship.....9 a.m.

Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Family Night.....6:00 p.m.

Events:

Sun, July 10th- Board Meeting @ 6 pm

Tues, July 12th- Man up @ 6:30 pm

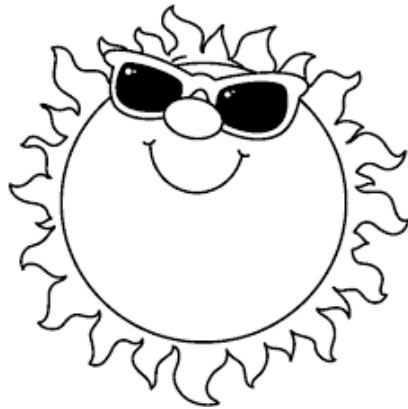
Mon, July 18th- Camp Fellowship at Summum @ 6 pm

Mon, July 18th-22nd- Day camp 9am-3pm

Sun, July 31st-Worship & Prayer @ 6 pm at ACC

Sun, July 31st-Youth Offering

All events are subject to change. Please keep up to date by checking the bulletin, Facebook page or website.



Astoria Christian Church

Blessed
is the nation
whose
GOD
is the LORD.
- Psalm 33:12