

## I love VBS But apparently

I'm at the age where I get exhausted after just 2 days of it. And I'm probably doing less jumping and dancing than past years, but I struggled to get through the groups on Tuesday, so here's hoping the rest of the week goes smoothly. But it's been a good week and I'm really enjoying the theme, even though it's a bit complicated at times. The curriculum we have covers the 7 C's, which are Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross and Consummation. We're not using all of those words with the kids this week because, frankly, I'm not sure I know what all of them mean. But we are using the concepts and how important they are for each one of us.

And it's always difficult to explain the corruption and catastrophe of our history. Often we call it 'The Fall' when Adam and Eve made the choice to disobey God and eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. And it's hard to explain to kids how all of us fall short and the sin each one of us commits.

And it's not just hard for kids to understand, but it can be hard for us adults, too. I mean, though all of us can see the evil in the world around us, we just sometimes struggle with the evil in our own hearts. The memory verse for this lesson at VBS was **Psalm 14.3**, *"They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one."* And that's probably one of the most depressing verses in the Bible, and also feels like an exaggeration, right? I mean, we know there are people who do good in this world. In fact, most of us would say we do some good, right? So how can the writer here say that 'there is none who does good'? But then we look at the world and we can see that there seems to be an overwhelming amount of evil and bad compared to the good and

positive. In fact, our news is filled with negative and destructive stories and very little positive and good being done.

But even despite that, we know that God intended for this world to be much better than it currently is, too. In fact, he intended for it to be perfect. He intended for harmony. He intended for all of it to be good, all of the time.

And so the fact that it isn't means that, in comparison to the perfect harmony he intended, there isn't anyone who does good.

And that's awful news. And that's the corruption and catastrophe of our 7 C's. However, we also know there are two other C's that give us the Good News: Christ and Cross.

And that's what I love about the weeks of VBS where we can walk through the Gospel story. We need to hear the whole story from Creation to Consummation so we know what's happening in our world and how that impacts our life. We need the bad news so that the Good News makes sense and we can know there is an answer, a solution to our problem.

The bad news is only as bad as the solution we have to it and for the problem of sin, death, pain and sadness, the solution is perfect, absolute and dynamic.

And, so, if you haven't looked at the big picture stories of God's work in our world and reflected on the bad news, I encourage you to do so. But don't let the bad news hold you down because the Good News of what Jesus has done on the cross overshadows and overpowers any of the bad news we might have in our lives.

Serving Him and you,  
Matthew

## BaBy Bottle Boomerang

The Rushville Pregnancy Resource Center's annual fundraiser of filling baby bottles begins **Mother's Day (May 12<sup>th</sup>)** and ends on **Father's Day (June 16<sup>th</sup>)**. Bottles will be available in the back of the sanctuary so feel free to grab one and fill it with coins, bills or even a check to help support this wonderful ministry.

## Camp Schedule

There is still time to sign up for camp this summer and is open for 2024 high school graduates down to 1<sup>st</sup> graders. Sign up is available through the camp website ([lamoinecamp.org](http://lamoinecamp.org)) and if you marked that you're registering through our church, we will pay 50% of each camper's registration cost (we can cover more if necessary). Please contact the church office with questions.

If you're interested in **sponsoring a camper** or two this summer, there are still opportunities to do that. There are cards in the back of the sanctuary with prices and dates of our campers, and your sponsorship will help offset the cost of the campers we have going this summer. Contact Matthew with questions.

## Community Service

We will be having a community service on **Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am** in the town square. This will be tied to our VBS, as the kids will be singing some of the songs we learned during the week. Plan now to attend and bring your families.

## Prayer List

Kirsta Anderson-colon cancer spread to liver  
Jerry Armbruster – serious health issues  
Roy Atwood (Angela T's dad) – dementia  
Dorothy Cleavinger – serious health issues  
Pat Clements - procedure  
Mike Grater – cancer  
Graduates  
Eric Hamm – leukemia  
Wendy Kahler – physical issues  
Jim Kinzer – cancer, heart attack  
Chris Lewis – cancer  
Rudy Lewis - dementia  
Butch Maloney – cancer  
Anne Mercer – heart valve replacement  
Bill Palmer – doctor appointments  
Dan Palmer - health issues  
Debbie Opp – chemo treatment, off work  
Eden Thiner – broken arm  
Marion Trone – going to foot specialist  
Becky Watson – cancer treatments started (insurance struggles)  
Ellen Webb – cancer, colon surgery  
Friend of Mary Belville – unspoken  
Unspoken Prayer Concern  
**Condolences**  
Lori Rodriguez family  
Diane Walters family

## May Financials

	Actual Offering	Year-to-Date Offering	Year-to-Date Budget
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	\$1,001.00	\$14,988.39	\$16,767.72
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	\$1,023.00	\$16,011.39	\$17,699.26
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	\$718.00	\$16,729.39	\$18,630.80
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	\$702.00	\$17,431.39	\$19,562.34

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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. June 2<sup>nd</sup> – VBS set-up @2pm

Mon.-Fri. June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> – VBS  
@9-11:30am

Sun. June 9<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting  
@6pm

Tues. June 11<sup>th</sup> – Man Up  
@6:30pm

Sun. June 16<sup>th</sup> – Community  
Worship Service in  
the park @10:30am

Mon. June 17<sup>th</sup> – Camp  
Fellowship, Summum @6pm

Thurs. June 20<sup>th</sup> – Ladies'  
Fellowship @6pm

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



**“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light..”**

**1 Peter 2:9**