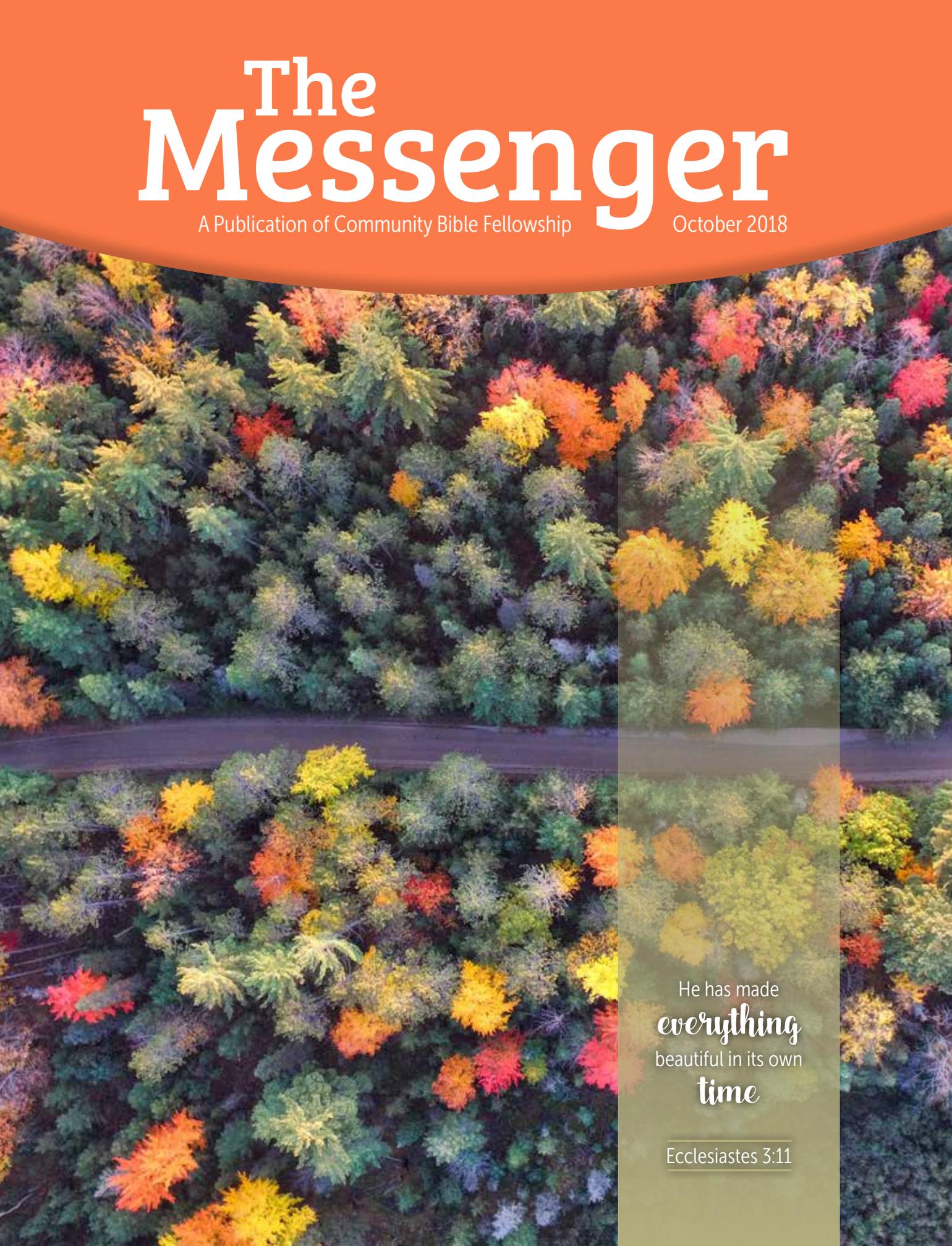


The Messenger

A Publication of Community Bible Fellowship

October 2018



He has made
everything
beautiful in its own
time

Ecclesiastes 3:11

Team Reports and Upcoming Events

FELLOWSHIP ONE ~ CHURCH APP

Work on our FellowshipOne church app has begun! In the near future, you will be able to check-in your attendance and tithe electronically through this app. Other benefits of this app include accessing digital bulletins, registering for church events, linking to our church website, and accessing sermon notes and special announcements. Watch for more information about this app and its readiness in the near future!

HAITI MISSION PROJECTS



On October 6th, Angie Rourke and Kim Eskridge will make their second trek to Haiti for mission work. This time, thanks to generous donations from our CBF congregants, they will be able to present the Haitians with some needed items. With the Haiti Mission Projects donations, Angie

and Kim purchased 3 pairs of goats (\$150 each), 5 water filters (\$75 each), 5 solar lights (\$60 each) and 2 trees (\$15 each). Thank you to all who gave to this worthy cause!

FROM THE DEACONS

In the near future, work will begin on the north side of the sanctuary. The Deacons have planned to construct an awning over each of the exit doors on that side of the sanctuary. Hopefully, those awnings will prevent snow from covering those exits and rendering them useless in times of crises. They also hope to finish the walks on that side of the building sometime down the road. Plans are also in the works for a new church sign, and different options are being explored. A digital sign would be nice but very costly, so a more traditional sign is probably the best option at this time. Last, the Deacons need your help. They are looking to add a few people to their sidewalk snow removal team. If you can use a shovel and a broom to remove snow from a sidewalk, you're the person they need! See Roy Langley or Eric Kelly for more information.

FROM THE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastor Search Committee has met several times and work is underway. Several candidates have been contacted, but nothing has arisen from those contacts yet. At this time, the committee is branching further out into other search sites for a broader look.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The YA Bible Study will not meet during the month of October. Look for this study to resume in November.

OCTOBER IS COMPASSION MONTH

The Outreach Team is planning to have a different event each Sunday during the month of October. Subjects to be covered during this time include Mother/Baby, Water, Mosquito Nets and Compassion Sunday – Child Sponsorship.

PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY / CHURCH ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

Sunday, October 14th brings two celebrations. First, we'll celebrate our two pastors. If you'd like to show Cajun and Lynn how much you appreciate their hard work and faithfulness, please give your note or card to Susan Ewing or Roy Langley any time before worship service on Sunday, October 14th. All cards and notes will be placed in a bag and presented to the Pauleys during service. Second, we'll celebrate our church's 22nd anniversary at our annual Church Anniversary Luncheon on this second Sunday of the month; this is a change from the norm this year, as it's normally celebrated every first Sunday of October. Lunch will be provided by the Hospitality Team; you don't need to bring a thing! Be sure to join us!

Coming In November...

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

November 11

Be sure to check your attendance in any Sunday you attend services. To have a voting voice, you must have attended 14 worship services in the six-month period prior to any voting event.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Amanda Voigts



The Voigts family consists of Matt, Amanda, and their son River. They are from Pontiac and Cornell, IL, which are two and a half hours east of Aledo. Matt and Amanda moved to this area in the summer of 2016 when Matt took a job working as Mercer County Assistant State's Attorney.

Amanda worked out of Blessed by Nature as a Licensed Massage Therapist before River arrived in May of 2017 but now stays home to care for him.

Amanda and River started attending CBF in July of 2018. She was drawn to CBF by a need for fellowship and her preference for non-denomination, Bible-believing churches. Amanda has helped out a bit at L'Abris Academy and hopes to get more time in there. She looks forward to helping out more often and in other areas as needed.

The Voigtses have two Great Danes named Homer and Magnus. Amanda also has dairy goats, horses, chickens, and cats living with her parents as they continue to search for a home here to accommodate the whole farm.

The CBF family might be surprised to know that Matt and Amanda came together as a result of their mutual love of rock climbing many years after growing up in the same small school system and attending the same church.

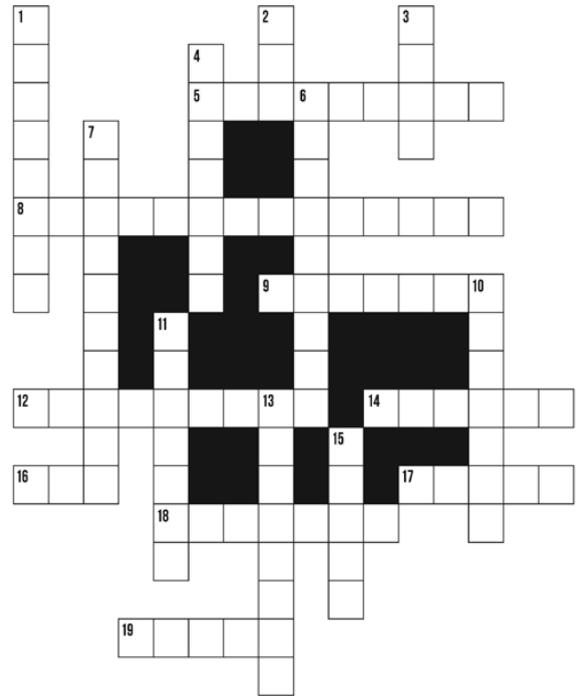
Amanda is a big fan of Ephesians 4:29 & 32 for daily application and strives to live them.

Ephesians 4:29 (HCSB) No foul language is to come from your mouth, but only what is good for building up someone in need, so that it gives grace to those who hear.

Ephesians 4:32 (HCSB) And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

Puzzle!

Psalm 19:1 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God." Complete this crossword that emphasizes the natural phenomena of God's created world.



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. windy snowstorm | 12. mass of snow, earth or rocks sliding down a mountain |
| 2. thick, obscuring mist | 13. the degree of moisture in the air |
| 3. frozen rain pellets | 14. a spring that spews boiling water and steam |
| 4. an area's normal weather conditions | 15. condensed water vapor in the atmosphere |
| 5. sudden electrostatic discharge in the sky | 16. frozen water |
| 6. violent tropical storm | 17. deluge |
| 7. shaking of the earth's crust | 18. when day and night are of equal length |
| 8. northern lights | 19. frozen dew or vapor |
| 9. partial or full blockage of the sun or moon | |
| 10. wearing away of the soil | |
| 11. large mass of snow and ice | |

Answers: 1. blizzard, 2. fog, 3. hail, 4. climate, 5. lightning, 6. hurricane, 7. earthquake, 8. Aurora Borealis, 9. eclipse, 10. erosion, 11. glacier, 12. avalanche, 13. humidity, 14. geyser, 15. cloud, 16. ice, 17. flood, 18. equinox, 19. frost

Member News

A BOUNCING BABY GIRL...

Travis and Rebecca Gregg are the happy, proud parents of a new baby girl! Natalie Rene Gregg was born on Thursday, September 6th, 2018. Her weight was 12 pounds 2 ounces; she was 22.5 inches long. Congratulations to the new mommy and daddy!



A FEW WEDDINGS...

Four of our congregants were married this summer.



Keegan Bryant and Isabel Ewing were united in marriage on June 26, 2018. Theirs was a small, private wedding on Driftwood Beach on Jekyll Island just off the south-eastern coast of Georgia.

Isabel was blessed to

have her Uncle Brian, our own CBF Elder, perform the ceremony.

Keegan has been serving in the Marines since September of 2017 and is now stationed in St. Marys, Georgia. Isabel recently joined him at their new residence and is attending the College of Coastal Georgia in Brunswick. She plans to major in nursing, at this time. They are looking for a church to call home in the St. Marys area.



Jake Ewing and Annika Seidel were united in marriage on August 25, 2018. Theirs was a small, outdoor wedding at the home of George and Susan Ewing. It was probably the hottest and most humid day of the summer with a heat index in the lower 100's. The couple didn't seem to mind, though; they only had eyes for each other!

Jake and Annika plan to live in Aledo for a short time before moving closer to the farm later this fall. Jake is working on the family farm, and Annika has recently started working for the Mercer County Sheriff's Department.

Congratulations to both couples!

A BAPTISM...

We celebrate the baptism of one of our congregants! Amanda Voigts was baptized in a rededication ceremony on September 16, 2108. We give thanks to our Lord and Savior for our sister in Christ!



Jezebel's God

by Cajun Pauley



Ahab was king of Israel and thus was obligated by law to serve the Lord. Yet, he began to forsake the Lord when he married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:31) who worshiped the Phoenician god Melqart. As too often happens in such instances, Ahab soon forsook the Lord completely and worshiped his wife's god. In fact, he even built a shrine to Melqart in the palace! (1 Kings 16:32)

The Bible tells us that Jezebel was the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians, and that she worshiped Baal. But which Baal? There were several false gods that were addressed by this more general title. Coming from Sidon, you'd think that Jezebel would have worshiped Eshmun, which was a god of healing. Yet, the evidence doesn't seem to point that way. Jezebel was certainly not associated with the gentle arts of healing! Melqart was the tutelary god of the Phoenician city of Tyre and was worshiped by both the Phoenician and the Punic cultures, and I think that

he is more likely to be the specific form of Baal that Jezebel and Ahab worshiped.

In 1 Kings 18:27, we get some very good clues. During his miraculous challenge to Jezebel's false prophets of Baal, the prophet,

- 1 Kings 18:27 HCSB ...Elijah mocked them. He said, "Shout loudly, for he's a god! Maybe he's thinking it over; maybe he has wandered away; or maybe he's on the road. Perhaps he's sleeping and will wake up!"

Melqart evolved into Greek god Heracles (Hercules), and it is possible that Elijah was making a mocking reference to the legendary Heracleian journeys and to the annual egerisis (awakening) of the god. As Hercules would later be seen, so Melqart was a powerful mythological figure, known for being the archetype of dominant male, and possessing sexual prowess with both males and females. Now THAT sounds more like someone Jezebel would venerate! It also explains Hashem's particular abhorrence. Not only was Melqart/Herakles a false god, but he was materialistic, power-hungry, and led his followers into bi-sexual license. Small wonder Adonai said through the prophet Jeremiah regarding Baal:

- Jeremiah 2:23-25 HCSB How can you protest: I am not defiled; I have not followed the Baals? Look at your behavior in the valley; acknowledge what you have done. You are a swift young camel twisting and turning on her way, 24 a wild donkey at home in the wilderness. She sniffs the wind in the heat of her desire. Who can control her passion? All who look for her will not become tired; they will find her in her mating season. 25 Keep your feet from going bare and your throat from thirst. But you say: It's hopeless; I love strangers, and I will continue to follow them.



Carew's News...From under the Guava Tree
SEPTEMBER 2018



After a whirlwind trip to the United States, we are back in Sarh, Chad and anxious to get back in the swing of things! It was a short trip for a couple of specific reasons, and what fun they were! Carol's mom, Mrs. Shirley Dannenberg was having her 90th birthday, and an event to celebrate with family and friends was planned at Maranatha Village in Sebring, Florida. Carol and I were able to travel from here all the way to Sebring without her finding out so we could be a surprise gift to her. It was a true joy to see all those that came to greet her and help dispense of the cake and ice cream! Mom received a number of gifts and many cards of birthday wishes. Many thanks to our daughter, Dahnielle, for the awesome decorations for the memorable event.

Another reason we went to the States was to attend our eldest son's wedding. Chad Kristian Carew was marrying Heather Ann Devries. The wedding was to take place in Florida (they live in Michigan) so Mom Dannenberg could attend. They were able to arrange for the wedding at our daughter's church in Brandon, FL, and the new pastor there was to perform the ceremony. However, just a couple weeks before the wedding, the pastor learned he would need to be out of town on the planned date. So, Pastor Dad (Les) Carew came to the rescue. It was a true privilege to be able to officiate the ceremony for our son and new daughter-in-law as they began their life together. An added blessing was that while we were in Michigan, Les was also honored to baptize Heather at our sending and home church where she and Chad attend and have now both become members.



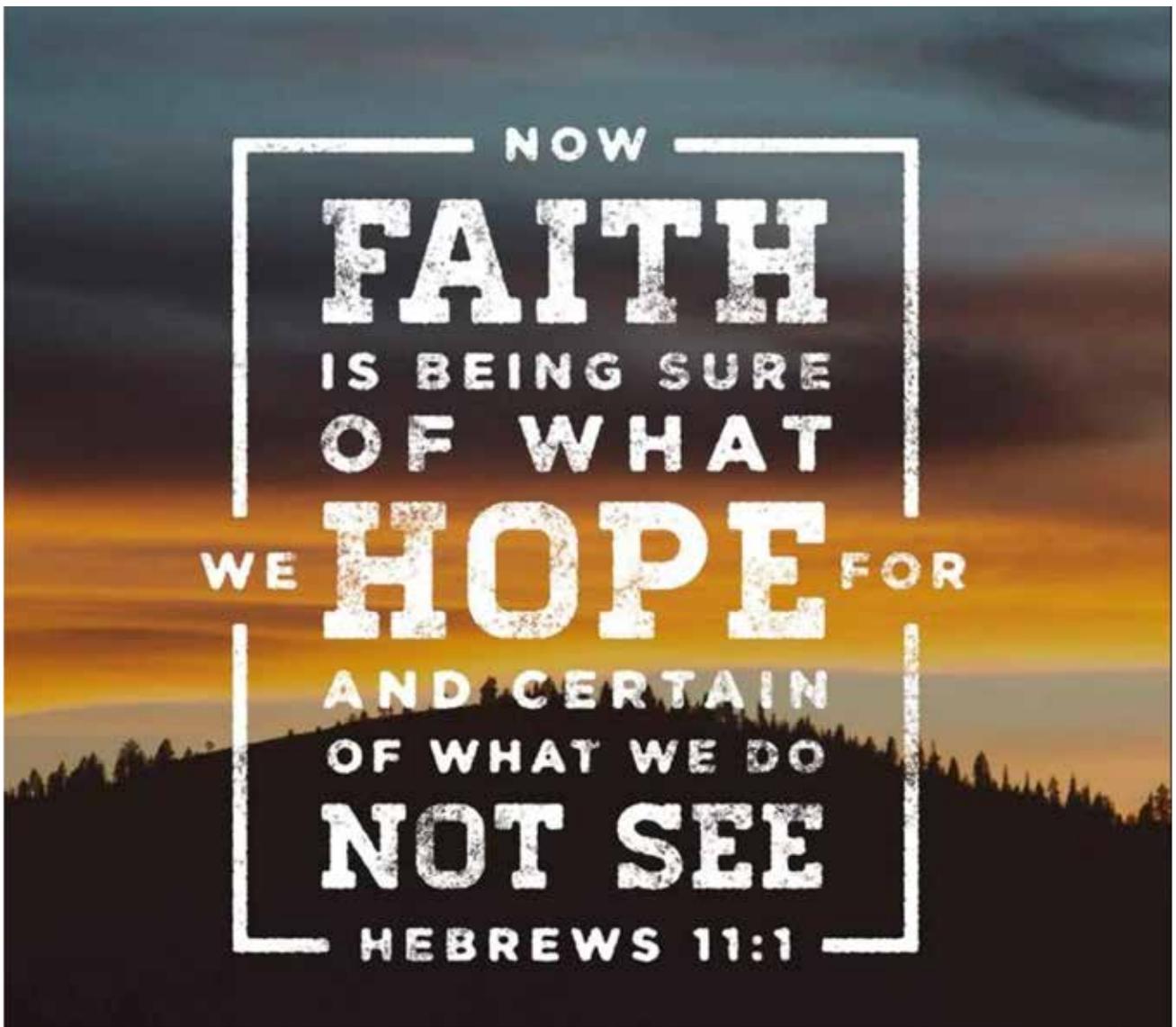
What trip would be complete without seeing family, especially grandkids? There was another wedding on the Carew side that took place in Michigan. While there, we were able to see some of Les' family that we rarely have the opportunity to see. We also saw how fast our grandkids are growing up - Zavier, Jaden, Olivia and Silas in Michigan, and Lae'l and Levi in Florida. Facebook is becoming a tedious string of political and anti-social material, but we're thankful that it is still great for keeping up with all of the family while we are serving in Chad.

For things happening in Chad, we have some important prayer requests. This is the time of year for tribal initiation rites, when young boys are taken into the bush for several weeks for pagan rituals, passing them into manhood. These are demonic rituals riddled with witchcraft. Many of the young boys try to escape having to attend these, but it is difficult as they are severely ostracized if they do. Some of the Baptist churches have become a place of refuge for these boys that have fled to avoid initiation. Some funds have been provided by ourselves, Anna Wivell (BI), and our Chad field fund, as well as by some former Chad missionaries, to help the churches feed and house the boys and even some girls who fled because they were being forced to go and cook for and do other menial chores for the ones in the bush. Please pray that these young people will be able to escape these rites and that they will not be persecuted by those that did participate. Sometimes the persecution extends to the point of killing the ones who fled and can be extended to their families also. Even pastors who speak out against the rituals are often persecuted and at times also killed because of their stance against the tribal cultural/traditional beliefs. These are the rites where the disfiguring body scarring, tattooing, and piercings take place. For girls there are rites of similar nature where these things occur, and they are often subjected to female circumcision. This is a huge prayer need as these things are happening right now, but also pray that hearts will change so these things will soon cease in their culture!

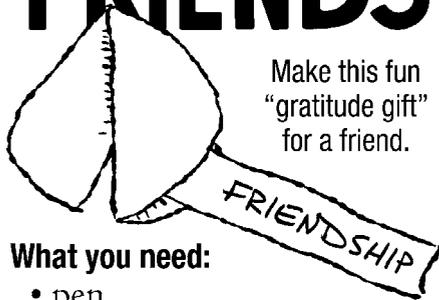


Soon we'll begin teaching again. We're gearing up for teaching our Sunday School teacher course here in Sarh. We're also beginning to plan some kid's games for the Sarh area again. It has been a very successful tool in reaching young people. We are also getting ready for guests in our home again. A young man, Michael (Mikah) from Bangui is coming for a 2-3 month stay with us, and we are looking forward to having him get involved with youth ministry here, too. Pray for him as he seeks what the Lord would have him do with his life. We will also have guests from PEP (Pastors Enriching Pastors) who come to teach higher level theological courses for pastors and deacons. A former Chad missionary, Mark Seymour, will likely be with us for about a month in November, as he comes to teach a course also. Carol is still involved in teaching ESL to a growing number of boys, girls, men and women and also helping to guide the English Club established on our compound. Les is working to develop a secondary course for the ECODIM (Sunday School) teachers and a course for witnessing/evangelism. Please pray for wisdom and guidance as we do our best to train those that desire to become future leaders in church ministries.

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Fortunate FRIENDS



Make this fun
"gratitude gift"
for a friend.

What you need:

- pen
- round object to trace (about 4 inches across)
- lightweight colored paper
- scissors
- ruled notebook paper
- Chinese food takeout box (or small paper gift bag)
- hot glue gun

What you do:

1. Trace circles onto the colored paper and cut them out.
2. Cut strips of notebook paper and write messages to a friend (or Bible verses about friendship).
3. Fold each circle in half without making a crease. Secure the top center edge with glue.
4. Pull the outside edges together by creating a bend in the center of the paper. Undo the bend and insert the fortune.
5. Re-bend the "cookie" into shape and add glue inside to hold it in place.
6. Put all the "cookies" in a takeout box and give to your friend.

Cover image courtesy of
Aaron Burden @ Unsplash.com

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

10/3	Lindy Shaw	10/21	Shannon Van Zummeren
10/10	Mike & Theresa Harland	10/21	Brian Hagens
10/11	Rick Puckett	10/22	DJ & Tammy Stropes
10/13	Steve & Angie Rourke	10/25	Jake Frieden
10/16	Jake & Kandi Frieden	10/27	Jerry Hagens
10/16	Nathan Sipes	10/29	Daryl Stropes, Sr.
10/16	Alexandria Sissel		

Mark Your Calendar

- 10/03, **Wed** | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman | 7:00 PM | Room N2
- 10/10, **Wed** | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman | 7:00 PM | Room N2
- 10/13, **Sat** | Youth Movie Night | 6:00 PM | Sanctuary
- 10/14, **Sun** | Church Anniversary Luncheon | 11:30 AM | Sanctuary
- 10/14, **Sun** | High School Youth Group | 4:00 – 5:30 PM | Activity Room
- 10/17, **Wed** | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman | 7:00 PM | Room N2
- 10/24, **Wed** | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman | 7:00 PM | Room N2
- 10/28, **Sun** | Jr. High School Youth Group | 5:00 – 6:00 PM | Activity Room
- 10/31, **Wed** | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman | 7:00 PM | Room N2

CBF Financial Report - August

	MONTHLY	YEAR TO DATE
Total Income	\$20,261.67	\$140,286.59
Total Expenses	\$16,358.13	\$129,324.95
Net Operating Income	\$3,903.54	\$10,961.64



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