

Willow's Wisdom

Willow is 5 years old. She believes she can talk to Jesus. Recently she told her mother that she had something to tell Jesus but was frustrated. She kept saying his name but he wouldn't say "What?!" Willow assumes that when Jesus answers her he will do so with the same word and tone her siblings use. The problem is she's not hearing anything. Willow is learning the challenge we all feel when we pray: we don't *hear* anything. God's silence can be deafening. How we wish we could get an audible word from The Lord. What consolation it would be to hear His voice when we long for a miracle, or need direction as we face a decision, or comfort us when our hearts are broken. It would even be reassuring if he just said "What?!"

God does speak, but He chooses to speak to us in ways that bypass our ears. One way that God speaks is through the Bible. Christians believe the Bible is more than an ancient book, it is a living text. Hebrews 4:12 states that scripture is *"living and active"*. God can speak to us through scripture not just when we are reading it, but when he brings it to mind at a moment in time. In a certain situation or experience, God's Spirit can prompt our memories to a verse that speaks God's truth directly to us, helping us make immediate application.

Secondly, God speaks through other people. In a conversation with another believer, or even as we listen to conversations between others, we may sense God communicating with us. It is no surprise that when someone speaks out of the silence in Open Worship that we can sometimes sense the Risen Christ through what they say. This method carries weight when it confirms something we have already been praying about and is in harmony with the Bible.

Another way God speaks to us is through circumstances. It is amazing how often this can happen when you believe the Lord is present and actively working in your life. We can actually begin to discern the hand of God in what looks like a mere coincidence. It is amazing how many more "coincidences" happen when you follow a God who is present and personal.

One more way Jesus may speak to us is through an inner peace. Though no audible words are heard, there can be an unusual yet unmistaken stillness that comes into our hearts. The timing and nature of that inner calm is so profound, if we are listening, that we know it did not come from our own mind. We must be careful with this type of discernment of God's voice. Inner peace can be deceptive if we have not vetted it through scripture and God's people, but it can be the crowning work of God's communication to us when we are attentive to the other ways he speaks.

This brings us back to Willow. The wisdom of her approach to Jesus is that her prayers are conversational and not complicated. Willow hears scripture taught through her church teachers and family. She also takes her struggles in prayer to someone she trusts who is older in the faith than she is. Hopefully Willow will keep asking Jesus questions, and hopefully she will keep leaning into Him through prayer even if she does not hear his voice. Then one day she will be old enough in her life and faith to realize he's been there speaking to her all along.

Randy

P.S.

As we celebrate Independence Day, we do so aware that America has never been more divided and angrier than it is today. More than ever, we need to follow God's voice of peace, wisdom, truth, and love so that we can "be in the world, but not of it". If we do, we can be filled with His power and be instruments of God's work in this broken world. We all need to be praying people.

NOTE: WEARING MASKS IS OPTIONAL. USE YOUR GOOD JUDGEMENT.



Each Sunday: Sunday School at 9:30 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM Options: Inside; Tune in to: FM 88.9; Facebook Live

Submitted By Ginger Holt:

Special Music:

July 3 – Ginger Holt

July 10 - The Choir / Bill Terrell

July 17 – Eric Morri**son**

July 24 - The Choir

July 31 – Hickory Bend Bluegrass Band Choir Practice: To be announced

Nursery Volunteers during Worship:

July 3 – Sarah Ray

July 10 – Olivia Ray

July 17 – Rhonda Moran

July 24 – Maggie Ray

July 31 - Cathy Shore

Submitted by Jay Brendle:

Greeters for the month of July: Jean Hutchins and Michael Ray

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

<u>Thursdays, July 7</u> Children's <u>Camp Creek 9:00 - 11:00 AM</u> and <u>July 14 9:00 - 12:00</u> See Pg. 6

<u>July 10 – Building Fund Sunday</u> Mark your check

<u>July 10 – Monthly Meeting</u> <u>After Worship</u> – Committees, please be prepared to report.

July 17 – Yadkin Valley Quarterly Meeting @ Deep Creek

3:00 PM – Ministry & Counsel 4:00 PM – General Business

*Followed by a MEAL by Deep Creek

Tuesday, July 26 @ 7:00 PM Ministry and Counsel

will meet in Fellowship Hall.

*If you feel a need to change your Sunday School teaching role, please let Angie Brendle know by July 31.

August 7 – Back to School Bash

See Page 4

THOUGHT from Ginger Holt, Clerk

As July 4th approaches, I am reminded of how lucky I am to have been born an American. It was nothing that I earned, or that I deserved. God doesn't love me more than He does others. It was just by providence that I opened my eyes as an American child on May 7th, 1964.

As I think of our country, and all we are offered, I am reminded of a morning worship service at Quaker Lake Family Camp years ago, when a devotion was read. It went something like this:

If the World Was a Village of 100 People

Today, there are approximately 7.8 Billion people on Earth. If that 7.8 Billion were reduced to a village of 100, keeping all other statistics in place, it would look something like this:

52 Women and 48 Men

30 Children, 70 adults (7 of the 70 would be aged people)

30 White, 70 Non-White

33 Christians, 67 Some other religion, or no religion

9 English Speaking, 91 Speak something other than English

15 would be overweight, 20 would be undernourished, and one would be dying from starvation

6 People would control 59% of the wealth (They would all be from the USA)

74 People would control 39% of the wealth

20 People would share the control of the remaining 2% of the wealth

75 would have some form of shelter

The same 75 would have some form of food and access to clean water

25 would have no food or shelter

17 would not have access to clean water

1 would have a college education

2 would have computers

14 would not be able to read

If you have money in a bank, money in a wallet, and some spare change lying around, you would be among the 8 richest people of the 100.

If you have a car, you would be among the richest 7 of the 100. If you can speak and act according to your faith without fear of imprisonment, torture, or death, you would be more fortunate than the 48 of the 100 who cannot.

If you do not live every day in fear of bombardment by organized armed groups, you would be better off than the 20 of the 100 who do.

(Jackie McMann, Random House Children's Books)

When I think that things are not that great, that prices are getting too high, that violence is on the rise, that someone else has more than me (poor me), I remember the morning vespers reading of the above devotion, and I thank Jesus for his grace and mercy on my sorry soul.

2 Corinthians 9:8 - "And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work".

From Randy:

Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM Bible Study

Continues: Breakthrough! Embracing God's Grace A Study in the Book of Romans
No book of the Bible shows us the wonderful grace of God better than Romans. This letter of Paul reveals the way of salvation that Christ purchased for us, and how God's grace works in our everyday lives.

Throughout church history great followers of Christ experienced the Lord uniquely through the book of Romans. Martin Luther wrote of how he experienced a "breakthrough" in his life when he understood and accepted the message of Romans. Come and join us as we explore this gem from God's Word. You too may experience a spiritual breakthrough!

Sunday Mornings Worship

Spending the Summer with Jesus

A July Sermon Series

Jesus Christ is unquestionably the most significant person in human history, yet He is also the most controversial. The effort to discredit the Biblical, orthodox understanding of who Jesus Christ is has been attempted since the beginning of the church, and today is no exception. By looking at the Gospel accounts we will reaffirm the most basic teachings about who Jesus Christ is, and why it matters to get that right. Join us these next Sundays as we spend the summer with Jesus.

One of the Core Values of Deep Creek Friends Meeting: TRUTH

We believe the Truth is found in our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, as the living Word of God and in the Bible as the written Word of God.

Pray Daily for Ministries, Other Friends Meetings and Leadership:

FCNC Prayer Calendar JULY 2022					"To Know God And Make Him Known"	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
orga use.	anizations or more n men of prayer, me ugh methods, but th	today is not more movel methods, but movel methods, but moven mighty in prayer. The does not anoint plans, but methods. The methods will be not anoint plans, but methods. The methods will be not anoint plans, but methods.	nen whom the Holy S The Holy Spirit does s not come on machi it men, men of praye	Spirit can s not flow Inery, but	1 Bethel Friends Marcus Wall USFW	2 Branon Friends Gloria Simmons Trevor Collins
Cane Creek Friends Cheryl Benson John Teague	Colar Sonare Francis Michael Pulp dr Sterling Brown	5 Centre Friends Tommy Sluder Beulah Guillion	Concord Friends Greg Creed	7 Connection Church Mike Wall FEMAP	8 Deep Creek Friends Randy Quate Jared Warden Sydney Matthews	9 Forbush Friend Mitchell See Kyle Widlicka
10 Goldsboro Friends George Strickland	Amigos de Odre Nuevo Misael Morales QUAKER LAKE	Hood Swamp Friends Lee Lane QUAKER MEN	13 Hunting Creek Friends No Pastor Jamaica Yrly Mtg	14 Kernersville Friends Jeff Barnes	15 Liberty Friends James Moore East Africa Yrly Mtgs	16 Marlboro Friend Ray Luther Terry Linthicum
17 Mar Mac Friends Howard Seymour	18 Mountain View Friends Jeff Stowers	19 Superintendant Mike Wall	20 Randleman Friends Wade Craven	21 Rocky River Friends David Hobson	22 Science Hill Friends John Porter	23 South Plainfield Friends Hugh Spaulding
14 Thomasville Friends No Pastor 31 FDS	25 White Plains Friends No Pastor FCM	26 Social Media Coordinator Jenny Gullion	27 Winthrop Friends Harold Salmons	28 Archdale Friends Rodney Kirby	29 Asheboro Friends David Millikan	30 Back Creek Friends No Pastor

July 31 @ 10:30 AM Worship

Hickory Bend Bluegrass Band will Present a Program of Music

This group plays (and sings) traditional Blue Grass and Gospel music. Made up of residents from two corners of Yadkin County, the name is derived by a merger of the communities they represent, Lone Hickory and East Bend. It is said, "You won't be disappointed with their music." And...Our own Robert Steelman is a member of this group. They have performed at a variety of locations, churches and events.



Mark Your Calendar:



Christian Education Committee Expresses Thanks
And Announces Updates on Sunday School and
Children Programs Soon to Begin

Christian Education Committee would like to say a **Thank You to all Sunday School Teachers**. We believe Sunday School is still a vital piece of our spiritual learning and growth by allowing us to study and discuss the scriptures together. Sunday School is still very important to the nurturing of our youth and children as they grow and learn. We have heard numerous testimonies of how teachers have impacted our lives through the years in ways that are never forgotten. We are very thankful for all the willing servants at Deep Creek who continue to teach our classes.

Every time I think of you I give thanks to God. Philippians 1:3

<u>Sunday, August 21st - Sunday School Appreciation</u> **Day** recognizing all our teachers during worship service

CE is very happy to announce we will bring back the Middler Sunday School class which is students in 3rd through 5th grade. We are filled with much excitement to have kids in this age group and teachers who are willing to serve in this class. Students in this grade/age group will begin in the new class on Sunday, September 11th and will meet in the room across from the youth room.

CE is also excited to announce we will be offering **DOGS meetings twice a month on Sunday afternoons for grades 3-5**, beginning in September. More information to come soon on dates and times!

Any questions, please let Angie know.

Food for the Hungry

I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for Me. Matthew 25:4

YADKIN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Each year Deep Creek chooses a Mission Project of special need for the Vacation Bible School Offering. The children learn that it's important to help people and they get excited about raising funds. This year, the goal was to help Yadkin Christian Ministries meet the needs of two families from Ukraine who have moved to the Hamptonville community. These families need almost everything to start over.

Last Sunday, during Open Worship, Beth Steelman, Executive Director of Yadkin Christian Ministries, stood and expressed great appreciation of the donation.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped the children with the VBS Offering project for Two Ukrain Families now in Yadkin County – Money raised during VBS was \$772.81.

Angie Brendle, CE Committee

Rules to Live By:

The Queries from the Faith and Practice of Friends Church of North Carolina MISSIONARY OUTREACH

Do you use your spiritual gifts in serving humanity as God grants you light to see such service?

You Are Invited July 24 — 2-4 PM to A Baby Shower for Ethan and Kayla Collins



You are Invited
To White Plains
Friends Meeting
Wednesday, July 6th
at 10:00 AM
Rania Maayeh, Director of
the Ramallah Friends School, will be
speaking. She will speak for about an
hour and include time for questions.



Invite your Friends and Family

CHILDREN

From Sydney

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Camp Creek Dates:

July 7 July 14

Children's Church:

July 3rd July 17th

Friends of Jesus:

Pool Party: July 24th @ 3:00 PM

Friends of Jesus Lock-in:

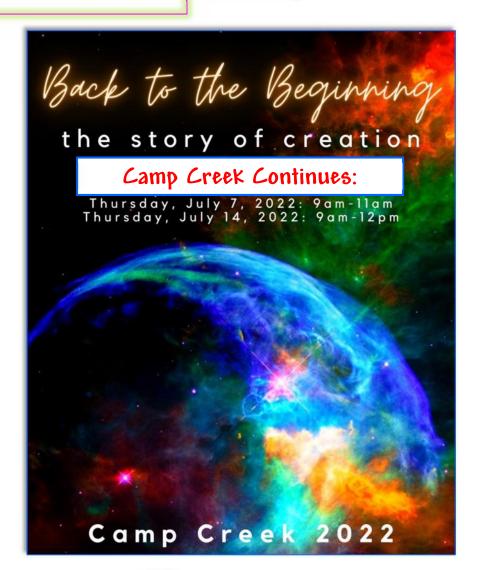
August 5th starting at 7:00 PM until 8:00 AM the next morning

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please let me know! PHONE: (336)469-4376















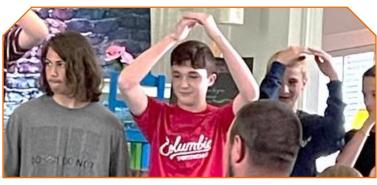
VBS Program















Pie in the Face

Upcoming Dates:

July 3rd - Youth at Deep Creek at 6:00

July 10th - Youth at Union Cross at 6:00

July 17th - Youth at Deep Creek at 6:00

July 18th - Carowinds trip! Leaving Church at 8:00 and cost is \$15. Let Jared know if you want to go.

July 24th - Youth at Union Cross at 6:00

July 24th - LAST DAY TO SIGN UP FOR THE

LABOR DAY BEACH RETREAT

July 30th - One-Day Beach Trip for the Youth. Let Jared know if you plan to go.

July 31st - Youth TBA

August 12-13th - Friends Church Young Friends Annual Sessions at Quaker Lake. Let Jared know if you are attending.

September 1-5th - Annual Beach Retreat at Nags Head. Let Jared know by July 24th.if you want to attend

October 2nd - Combined Friends Church Young Friends Youth Groups Meeting. Hosted by Deep Creek and Union Cross Youth Groups.



June Was A Busy Month with YBS and Impact Yadkin





June 5-10 Impact Yadkin Work Photos by Rhonda Moran Thanks to the Adult Volunteer Workers at the homes and in the kitchen leading and guiding the youth and feeding everyone. Thanks to the Youth for labors of repair





REMEMBER TO PRAY – Prayer changes things!

The following information is included by request. Be specific when you pray and send notes.

*This color indicates an addition or change from last month.

Among those requesting prayer:

Pray for special needs of members, friends and relatives and celebrate God's care.

Contact the editor for information



The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. 'Here's a copy of the service,' he said impatiently. 'But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances.' During the service, the minister paused and said, 'Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up'. At that moment, the substitute organist played 'The Star Spangled Banner.'

And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!



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Deep Creek Friends Meeting





May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the TORD. Psalms 104:34

- Do you have a friend or relative that would enjoy *The Encourager*? Send address (PO or e-mail).
- Please send any change of address.
- Are you receiving *The Encourager* in error or you no longer wish to receive it? If so, let us know.
- Send suggestions, news, information, announcements or materials that you would like included in *The Encourager*.

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue.

Next issue – August, 2022 Deadline for news – July 31

Send Information and Materials to:

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Shelby Shore

Published at Shore House, Ink

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Director of Youth and Jr. Youth Ministries: Jared Warden Director of

Director of Children's Ministries: Sydney Matthews