

AUGUST 2025

THE ENCOURAGER

Deep Creek Friends

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BACK TO SCHOOL BASH



SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025
5:00PM-8:00PM

YADKIN COUNTY PARK
6600 SERVICE RD.

YADKINVILLE, NC 27055

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
IS PROVIDING SUBS AND
ASKS THAT EVERYONE
BRING A SIDE AND/OR
HOMEMADE ICECREAM
TO SHARE.**



1140 Deep Creek Church Road
Yadkinville, NC 27055

336-961-4404

deepcreekfriends.com

The Driftwood Life

BY JACOB BRENDLE

I recently went to Oak Island, North Carolina and couldn't help but notice the driftwood.

From Washed Up to Repurposed

Driftwood is weathered by the wind and the waves until eventually tossed aside on the beach. At first glance, driftwood seems like useless debris, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Driftwood is known for its texture, beauty, and character, and it is often used by artists to create magnificent sculptures.

We are God's driftwood. We all carry scars and brokenness. For some, life is going well, and they don't feel like driftwood right now. For others, life has been a wave dragging them into the ocean to be tossed about and scarred. No matter our life experiences, brokenness is a part of who we are, but God gives our brokenness purpose. "He has made everything beautiful in its time." [1]

Where we see damaged, God sees unfinished. Where we see washed up, God sees repurposed. Where we see broken, God sees us.

Carried by the Current

Driftwood is carried by the current of the ocean. It does not choose its path, and while it may appear to wander aimlessly, it ultimately arrives to shore. Every bump and bend in the driftwood's journey is a part of its story.

We are God's driftwood. We don't always know where we are headed. To be honest, most of the time we don't. Jobs change, relationships crumble, health deteriorates, and plans unravel. But, even unexpected detours in our lives have direction and purpose because God ultimately controls the current, and He is with us. "The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." [2]

Where we see drifting, God sees direction. Where we see change, God sees new places. Where we see plans unravelling, God sees His plan unfolding.

We Don't Drift Alone

Driftwood starts as a firmly-planted tree. Through exposure to the elements, it becomes the driftwood we recognize.

We are God's driftwood. And Jesus Christ, our Savior, became man so that He could experience the driftwood life. Jesus didn't come adorned in gold and majesty.

Rather, Jesus was born in a manger and grew up subject to the elements of the fallen world. While Jesus was perfect, He experienced the human condition, he experienced temptation, and He experienced suffering. Jesus could have come as an all-powerful king, but instead, Jesus experienced the driftwood life—our life—so we would never drift alone.

"He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on the cross!" [3]

When we experience the human condition, we know Jesus experienced it too. When we experience temptation, we know Jesus experienced it too. When we experience suffering, we know Jesus experienced it too.



Conclusion

We live a driftwood life. We are broken, but God uses our brokenness. We feel like we are drifting aimlessly, but God is in control and gives us purpose and direction. Finally, we don't drift alone because we serve a God who has compassion for us and is with us when we drift.

[1] ECCLESIASTES 3:11
[2] DEUTERONOMY 31:8
[3] PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8

"EVEN UNEXPECTED DETOURS IN OUR LIVES HAVE DIRECTION AND PURPOSE BECAUSE GOD ULTIMATELY CONTROLS THE CURRENT."

Photos from July

VBS, Mission Days, Camp Creek





Announcements

USFW FALL ANNUAL GATHERING

**Sept 13, 2025 Deep River Friends
"Love in Many Languages"**

- 9:00am - Registration and Bookstore
- 10:00am - Welcome, Music, Business and Program -
Speaker: Sarah Loudin Thomas
- 12:00pm - Luncheon \$15.00

See Janet Robbins if you would like to register
336-971-1212

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are interested in volunteering
in our nursery please let the
following people know.

Sunday School - Jacob Brendle /
Rhonda Moran

Worship - Tommy Shore

WALK FOR HUNGER 2025

In Memory of Susan Steelman

Sunday, October 5th, 3:00-4:30 PM

Registration: 2:30-3:00 PM

Yadkinville Community Park

- If you choose, you can walk at your Home Church
- Parking at Yadkin Farmers Market
- Homemade Ice Cream will be served

All Proceeds Benefit Yadkin Christian Ministries

A Memorial from the Luther & Sarah Wooten Family has given a start of over \$2,400. We are so appreciative of this gift of support!

2025 Awards Include

- Most walkers from a church or organization
- Largest Dollar Amount raised by a church or organization
- Random drawing for (2) \$25 gift cards

Sponsored by: Deep Creek Friends and the Susan Steelman family

Yadkin Christian Ministries is supported by the people, churches, and organizations of Yadkin County to assist families in crisis times with food, medication, heat and water. The ministry seeks to do its mission in the spirit of Christ, with a nonjudgmental attitude. We request your prayers and goodwill.



Music by "Anointed by Grace"
West Yadkin Baptist Church

MINISTRY & COUNSEL CORNER

Speakers for August

We are excited to share our speaker line up for August.

- 3 - Mission Sunday
- 10 - Thom Summey
- 17 - Lester Holcomb
- 24 - Alvin Battle
- 31 - Kyle Widlicka

Reach Out

If you have a need please contact Tommy Shore (336/469-2760) or Angie Brendle (336/244-8791)

NEWSLETTER CONTENT DUE		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
AUGUST 17							1	2
GREETERS Angie Brendle Leon Robbins		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Missions Sunday						
		4p - Ignite 5p - Youth			7p - Bible Study			
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Children's Church Thom Summey						
NURSERY: WORSHIP		5p - Back to School Bash at YMCA Park		7p -Ministry and Counsel	7p - Bible Study			
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Newsletter items due						
		Lester Holcomb Monthly Meeting 3p - Choir Practice 4p - Ignite 5p - Youth		7p -Quaker Women	7p - Bible Study			
		24	25	26	27	28	29	30
MUSIC		Alvin Battle Children's Church 5p - Youth						
		31						
		Kyle Widlicka			7p - Bible Study			
FOOD for YOUTH:								
03- Donna Raines								
10- Cathy Shore								
17- Priscilla Shore								
24 - Priscilla Shore								
31 - Priscilla Shore								
03- Ginger Holt								
10- Donna Raines								
17- Janet Robbins								
24 - Jean Hutchins								
31 - Cathy Shore								
03- Emma Pipes								
10- McDonald Sisters								
17 - Walter & Dylan								
24 - Bill Terrell								
31 - Hymns								
03- Brenda / Priscilla								
10- Jean / Rhonda								
17 - Diane / Tracy								
24 - Ginger								
31 - Cathy								