

Grace

Bible Fellowship

SEPTEMBER 2025

God's Attention

One of my favorite lines from a popular comedy show is “You couldn’t handle my undivided attention.” It’s delivered from a character who is intense and rather difficult to get along with. Part of the humor of this line is that the audience finds themselves wholeheartedly agreeing. It would not be pleasant to have his undivided attention! This fictional scenario shouldn’t be taken seriously because no human could ever devote their attention perfectly, not even to one person. There are innumerable distractions that demand at least a portion of our attention. We so often lose focus. God, in his infinite perfection, does not. In his preface to George Swinnock’s *The Blessed and Boundless God* (a book we’ll continue to consider), J. Stephen Yuille says that the boundless God “is undivided, meaning His every thought and every action involve the whole of Him. He simultaneously gives total and undivided attention to everything and everyone.” God’s attention is never distracted, lost, or divided. It is certainly intense, but unlike the character above, God’s attention is perfect and lovingly providential.

In reference to God’s attention, I want to consider two doctrines that Swinnock addresses in his book. The first is the simplicity of God. When we refer to God as simple, we don’t mean the more modern definition from Oxford: “easily understood or done; presenting no difficulty.” We mean an older understanding: “Single; consisting of one thing; uncompounded;

Continued...

September @ Grace...

September 1

Offices Closed

September 3

Bible Study @ 6:30pm

September 15-19

Admin. Office Closed

September 19

Game & Fellowship Night
6:30-10pm

September 14

Prayer @5pm
Elder/Deacon Meeting @ 6pm

September 28

Mission’s Giving (Campos)

October @ Grace...

Wednesday Evenings

Bible Study @ 6:30pm

October 3-4

Men’s Retreat

October 12

Prayer @5pm
Elder/Deacon Meeting @ 6pm

October 18

Women’s Brunch 9-11am

October 26

Mission’s Giving (Detwiler)
Reformation Sunday

unmingled; uncombined with any thing else” (from Webster’s 1828). God is simple in his composition. There are no parts to God. As Swinnock writes, “God is a most simple, unmixed, and indivisible essence. He is incapable of the least composition and, therefore, of the least division. He is most pure – without parts, members or qualities.” As this applies to his attention, we can understand that it can’t be divided. God is fully aware, fully present, and fully active everywhere. He, at once, knows all the birds that fall and the number of hairs on every head (Matt. 10:29-30).

The second doctrine I want us to consider is God’s providence. We know from Heb. 1:3 that Christ “upholds the universe by the word of his power” and from Col. 1:17 that “he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.” In response to the question of how God upholds all things, Swinnock explains that God himself is the foundation upon which they stand, from which they derive their motion, and by which they hold together so that it is “impossible for the creation (or any part of it) to exist even for a moment if God were to deny His concurrence to it.” In relation to God’s attention, we know that if God were to remove his attention from us, then we would cease to exist. God’s providential attention is necessary for life because he is the one who sustains it. The deist belief in God as a watchmaker who set the world in motion and left it to run on its own is erroneous and unbiblical. God cares for his creation with a kind and loving attention, not abandoning it to its own destruction.

Take comfort, brothers and sisters, in the knowledge that God’s attention is undividedly whole, providentially caring, and completely perfect. He loves his children and will pay attention to their welfare. Be reminded of Psalm 8 which reveals God’s careful, loving attention toward us.

³ *When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?*

In Christ, Pastor Nathan

2025 Chicagoland Gospel Network Men’s Retreat

Theme:

***“We Believe: 1700 Years of Doctrine and
Discipleship with the Nicene Creed”***

When: October 3-4

Time: Leave approx. 2pm

Where: Lake Geneva, WI

Cost: \$97-133 (Depending on lodging choice)

Online Registration and sign up in the narthex are required by August 31. Please register today and let the office know you are attending. See Pastor Nathan with any questions.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/chicagoland-gospel-network-mens-retreat>

Game & Fellowship Night

When: Friday, September 19

Time: 6:30-10pm

Where: Fellowship Hall

What to Bring: Game & Snack

Grab a friend and join us Friday, September 19, from 6:30-10pm for an evening of games and fellowship (come and go as you are able). Bring a game and a snack or dessert to share. This is an evening for both adults and kids.

Please see Dan Kleinau with any questions.

Praying for Our Family...

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people."

1 Timothy 2:1

- Pray for Pastor Nathan, Eric Bjerkaas, Jeff Schenck, and Don Faux as they continue in faithful leadership of the church.
- Pray for Pastor Nathan as he weekly prepares for the Sunday School class, preaching the Word, and shepherding the flock.
- Pray for Robin Pearson as she continues to recover from shoulder surgery. Pray the Lord would bring pain relief and strength as she begins PT.
- Pray for John Lindenmeyer as he continues PT. Pray that, through this, his body would be strengthened. Pray for his daily pain and for Mary as she cares for him.
- Praise the Lord for the news that Jason is cancer-free! Please pray for his upcoming reversal surgery on October 20.
- Pray for Don Faux as he will have the shunt removed from his brain on September 12. This has been in place for 10 years. Pray for the recovery process and pain relief. Pray for Angie as she walks with him through this surgery and recovery.

Our Missionary Partners...

Sillas & Wanger Campos, Brazil

Karl & Glynn Peterson, South Africa, Mozambique

Destin & Jennifer Detwiler, To Every Tribe

**If you have a prayer request you would like added or one removed, please email the office or place your request in the prayer box at the Welcome Desk.*

Praying for those who serve...

Leadership

Pastor – Nathan Miller

Elder – Eric Bjerkaas

Deacon – Jeff Schenck

Deacon – Don Faux

"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you."

Hebrews 13:17

Ministry Volunteers

Eric & Andi, Paul & Renée, John & Mary,
Dan & Christine, Matt & Rebekah, Jason &
Amanda, Jeff S., Adam & Jill, Don & Angie,
Lori, Aaron, Yessie, Valerie, Patty, Kris,
Kailee, Robena, Jake & Christiane, Jeff W.,
Caleb, Lydia, Marcos

Sunday School Teachers

Pastor Nathan: Adult

Yessie Yanez: Pre-K – 3rd grade

"Blessed are those servants whom the Master finds awake when He comes."

Luke 12:37a

SAVE THE DATES

Women's Brunch

When: Saturday, October 18

Time: 9-11AM

Where: TBD

What to Bring: Brunch Dish

Sign up in the narthex starting September 28 and come and enjoy a time of food, fellowship, fun, and devotion. Feel free to invite a friend and sign them up too.

TGCW26

When: June 11-13, 2026

Where: Indiana Convention Center
Indianapolis, IN

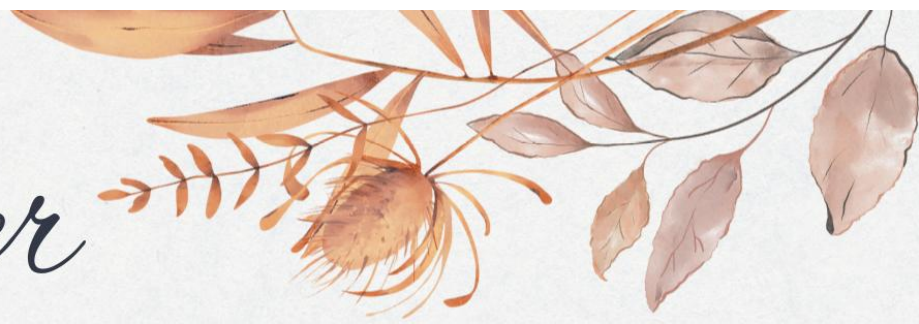
Cost: Dependent on when you register.

Registration opens soon (Sept)!!!

Amanda, Denice, & Kailee will be reserving a 3-4 bed home that will sleep 6-8 ladies. If you are interested in going and would like to split the cost, please see Amanda ASAP so we know you will be staying with us. This makes it much more affordable.

www.thegospelcoalition.org/tgcwomen

September



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 OFFICES CLOSED	2 PASTOR - AT CGN	3 BIBLE STUDY RESUMES @ 6:30PM	4	5	6
7 SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9 WORSHIP @ 10	8	9	10 BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM	11	12	13
14 SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9 WORSHIP @ 10 PRAYER @ 5PM BOARD MTG. @ 6	15	16	17	18	19	20
	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE CLOSED					
			BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM		GAME & FELLOWSHIP NIGHT 6:30-10PM	
21 SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9 WORSHIP @ 10	22	23	24 BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM	25	26	27
28 SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9 WORSHIP @ 10 MISSION'S GIVING (CAMPOS)	29	30			PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: MON. - THURS. 9-5	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

10TH - JAKE & CHRISTIANE CHERNY
15TH - BRAD & PATTY EICHELKRAUT
24TH - JEFF & FELICIA WHITED

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

21ST - REMI EICHELKRAUT
26TH - RENEE KIM
28TH - ALIYAH KEIGHIN
30TH - REBEKAH HAYS