



Grace Bible Fellowship

September 2026

September @ Grace...

September

Small Group Bible Study
Every Wednesday @ 6:30pm

September 4-11

Pastor's Vacation

September 7

Offices Closed

September 13

Prayer Service @ 5pm
Leadership Mtg. @ 6pm

September 20

Church Cook-Out Fellowship Meal

September 27

Mission's Giving (Detwiler)

October @ Grace...

October 2-3

CGN Men's Retreat @ Lake Geneva

October 7, 14, 21, 28

Small Group Bible Study @ 6:30pm

October 11

Prayer Service @ 5pm
Leadership Mtg. @ 6:15pm

October 21

Bonfire Following Small Groups

October 24

Women's Brunch 9-11am

October 25

Reformation Sunday
Mission's Giving (Campos)

Preach the Bible: Being Bereans

Last month, we considered the helpfulness of written prayers for teaching us how to pray. Continuing in our key themes of 2026 of *Read the Bible*, *Pray the Bible*, and *Preach the Bible*, my continued goal is to encourage you in our mutual commitment to God and his words. This month, we will look at the theme of *Preach the Bible* by considering three ways to respond to the preaching of the Word. Consider the Bereans of Acts 17:10-11...

The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

Paul and Silas, as per their custom, have gone to teach in the Jewish synagogue upon entering a new region. This time, in Berea, we are given a brief account of how the Jews were responding with a measure of nobility. We can observe at least three ways they respond that we should emulate.

The first response to the preaching of the Word we learn from the Bereans is to receive it with eagerness. As Paul and Silas were preaching, it is easy to imagine the posture and practices of the Jews who were listening. While the text does not reveal the exact ways in which they practice active listening, we should follow their example in the methods we do know. Try to give the preacher your full attention, not giving in to distractions such as your phone or a side conversation. Be sure to show that you are listening through head nods, upright posture, staying awake, and even a hearty "Amen!" or some other vocal response. Especially important is the desire to understand by giving the speaker grace, pondering clarifying questions, or taking notes of the sermon's main and sub points. All of these, and perhaps a few more skills, can help develop the eagerness to receive the preached Word.

Continued...

The second response we learn from the Bereans is to join with others in considering the sermon. Implied in the text is a plurality of individuals who all heard the same message and come from a variety of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives (however similar they may or may not be). Such is often the strength of a group committed to right thinking. When we gather on Sunday mornings, one of the goals is to engage one another in discipleship conversations based on the Word of God. As the preacher finishes his conclusion, does the sermon truly end there? In one obvious sense, yes. However, I can tell you that the hope of most if not all faithful preachers is that the people who hear it will continue to discuss it as the day, week, and month goes on. The community of saints helps us to do that effectively and safely (knowing we won't stray far from the true message).

Finally, the third response we learn from the Bereans is to examine the Scriptures for ourselves. A preacher is only as reliable, truthful, and authoritative as he reflects the right teaching of Scripture. Unfortunately, innumerable Christians have been led astray by false preachers because a single passage or verse (or even a single word) was taken out of context, misunderstood, and misapplied. The right response is always to take whatever is said from the pulpit and to compare it with what is known throughout the whole counsel of God. If we do this, in addition to the first two responses, we are well on our way to being noble listeners like the Bereans.

*In Christ,
Pastor Nathan*

Praying for Our Family...

- Pray for Pastor Nathan, Eric Bjerkaas, Jason Lafferty, Jeff Schenck, and Dan Kleinau as they continue in faithful leadership of the church.
- Pray for Pastor Nathan as he weekly prepares for the Sunday School, preaching the Word, and shepherding the body.
- Pray for Lee McCullough as he continues his rehab from surgery.
- Pray for all those sick in body in the congregation.
- Pray for John & Mary as they press on in the battle with John's pain. Pray for Mary as she cares for John.
- Pray for the CGN Men's Retreat in October. Pray for all the speakers/leaders as they prepare as well as the men who will attend. May they grow in wisdom and faith.
- Pray for our small group Bible studies beginning in September.
- Pray that as we hear the Word preached, our hearts and lives will be changed. Pray that we would be desiring God's Word, growing in our love for one another, and seeking to serve the Lord well in our church and community.

Our Missionary Partners...

Sillas & Wanger Campos, Brazil
Karl & Glynn Peterson, South Africa, Mozambique
Destin & Jennifer Detwiler, To Every Tribe

Praying for those who serve...

Leadership

Pastor – Nathan Miller
Elder – Eric Bjerkaas
Deacons – Dan Kleinau, & Jeff Schenck

Ministry Volunteers

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

Teachers

Pastor Nathan: 3rd grade - Adult
Rylee Miller & Amanda Lafferty: Pre-K – 2nd grade
Dan Kleinau & Renee Kim: Children's Church

2026 Special Events & Dates

September

2: Small Group Bible Study
Resumes each Wednesday

13: Prayer Service

20: Cookout

21: PADS (serve dinner)

October

2-3: CGN Men's Retreat

11: Prayer Service

21: Bonfire After Study

24: Women's Brunch

November

7: PADS (cook/serve)

8: Prayer Service

18: Last Bible Study

22: Christmas Luncheon/Décor

29: Advent Begins

December

13: Prayer Service

24: Candlelight Service

28: Offices Closed (Christmas Observed)

2027 Special Events & Dates

January

4: Offices Closed (NY Observed)

10: Prayer Service

18: PADS (serve dinner)

27: Annual Meeting

February

14: Prayer Service

20: Women's Brunch

28: Cookoff Meal



Kid's Corner...

3rd - 4th Grade:

Ms. Yessie's class continues to sit together with the adult class to discuss the 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith.

Pre-K - 2nd Grade:

Mrs. Rylee has been joined by Mrs. Lafferty in the class, and they continue in The Biggest story with lessons the History Books from 1 Kings to 2 Chronicles. Please try to have kids to class by the start time at 9am. We start right away to make sure we get our lesson, prayer, and craft time in. We are excited to dive into these books with the kids. Check out their coloring page and verse and see if they can tell you about what they learned!

September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 PASTOR @CGN	2 SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM	3	4	5
6 SUNDAY SCHOOL- 9AM WORSHIP- 10AM	7 OFFICES CLOSED	8	9 SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM	10	11	12
PASTOR'S VACATION						
13 SUNDAY SCHOOL- 9AM WORSHIP- 10AM PRAYER @ 5PM LEADERSHIP @ 6	14	15	16 SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM	17	18	19
20 SUNDAY SCHOOL- 9AM WORSHIP- 10AM COOK-OUT FELLOWSHIP MEAL	21 SERVE AT PADS @ 5:30PM	22	23 SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM	24	25	26
27 SUNDAY SCHOOL- 9AM WORSHIP- 10AM MISSIONS GIVING (DETWILER)	28	29	30 SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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