



**Our Mission: To  
grow fully devoted  
followers of Jesus Christ.  
Matthew 28:19-20**

June/July 2026

# THE APPLE PRESS

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

One of the great themes woven throughout Scripture is the call for God's people to "abide" in Him. In a world filled with distractions, fears, temptations, and spiritual instability, the believer is called to remain firmly connected to Jesus Christ. Recently, as I have been reading through the book of 1 John, I have been reminded how often the Apostle John returns to this truth. John speaks about abiding in Christ, abiding in His Word, abiding in love, and abiding in holiness. The Christian life is not meant to be lived through occasional moments of devotion, but through continual fellowship with our Savior.

Jesus Himself gave us the clearest picture of abiding in **John 15:4-5**:

**"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing."**

Those words are both comforting and convicting. Jesus does not merely suggest that abiding is beneficial; He declares it essential. A branch separated from the vine loses its source of life. It withers and becomes fruitless. In the same way, believers who neglect their fellowship with Christ will find themselves spiritually weak, discouraged, and vulnerable. Our strength, wisdom, peace, and spiritual fruit all flow from remaining connected to Him.

The word "abide" carries the idea of remaining, dwelling, continuing, or staying close. Abiding is more than simply believing facts about Jesus. It is a daily, ongoing relationship with Him. It is the difference between visiting someone occasionally and living with them continually. The Lord desires more than a Sunday morning acknowledgment; He desires that we walk with Him every day.

The Apostle John emphasized this repeatedly in his first letter. In **1 John 2:6** he writes:

**"The one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked."**

Abiding changes the way we live. A true relationship with Christ affects our attitudes, speech, priorities, and conduct. Christianity is not merely a label we wear; it is a transformed life flowing from communion with Jesus. As we spend time with Him, we begin to resemble Him.

John also reminds believers of the importance of abiding in God's truth. In **1 John 2:24** we read:

**"As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father."**

The believer must remain rooted in the Word of God. We live in a culture where truth is constantly challenged, redefined, and ignored. Opinions shift with every generation, but God's Word remains eternal. Jesus prayed in **John 17:17**, **"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth."**

One of the primary ways we abide in Christ is by abiding in His Word. We cannot grow spiritually apart from Scripture. We need more than a quick glance at a verse occasionally; we need regular nourishment from God's truth. Just as our physical bodies require daily food, our souls require daily spiritual nourishment.

Psalm 1 describes the blessed man as one who delights in the law of the Lord and meditates on it day and night. The result is stability and fruitfulness:

**“He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither” (Psalm 1:3).**

What a picture of abiding! A deeply rooted believer is not easily shaken by trials, temptations, or cultural pressures because his life is anchored in God’s truth.

John also connects abiding with holiness and purity. In **1 John 3:6** he writes:

**“No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him.”**

John is not teaching sinless perfection, because earlier he reminds believers that if we confess our sins, God is faithful to forgive us (1 John 1:9). Rather, John is teaching that a believer who truly abides in Christ cannot comfortably live in continual rebellion against God. Abiding produces a growing desire for holiness.

This is an important truth for the church today. Modern culture often promotes a version of Christianity that wants the blessings of salvation without the call to holiness. Yet Scripture consistently teaches that those who belong to Christ are being transformed into His likeness. **Titus 2:11–12** says:

**“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age.”**

Grace does not encourage compromise; grace teaches us to pursue godliness. When we abide in Christ, the Holy Spirit works within us to convict, correct, strengthen, and shape our lives.

Abiding also involves obedience. Jesus said in **John 15:10**:

**“If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love.”**

Obedience is not how we earn salvation, but it is evidence of genuine love for Christ. A healthy relationship with Jesus will naturally produce a desire to honor Him. The believer who abides in Christ increasingly asks, “Lord, what pleases You?” rather than “What can I get away with?”

Another beautiful aspect of abiding is the confidence and peace it brings. In **1 John 2:28** we read:

**“Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming.”**

The return of Christ is not meant to terrify believers, but to encourage faithful living. Those who walk closely with Jesus can look forward to His return with hope and confidence. Abiding keeps our hearts prepared and our eyes focused on eternity.

**So how do we practically abide in Christ?**

**First, we abide through consistent prayer.** Prayer is not merely presenting requests to God; it is communion with Him. Through prayer we draw near to the Lord, seek His wisdom, confess our sins, and align our hearts with His will.

**Second, we abide through Scripture.** Spend time daily reading, studying, memorizing, and meditating on God’s Word. Let His truth shape your thinking and guide your decisions.

**Third, we abide through obedience.** Apply what God teaches. Christianity was never intended to be merely informational; it is transformational.

**Fourth, we abide through fellowship with other believers.** God designed the church to encourage, strengthen, and sharpen one another. Hebrews 10:24–25 reminds us not to neglect meeting together, but to encourage one another all the more as we see the Day approaching.

**Finally, we abide by keeping our focus on Jesus Himself.** Christianity is not merely about rules or routines; it is about a relationship with the living Savior. **Hebrews 12:2** tells us to **fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.**

The world offers many temporary substitutes for peace, security, and fulfillment, but only Christ is the true source of life. Apart from Him we can do nothing. But when we abide in Him, our lives begin to bear lasting spiritual fruit — love, joy, peace, faithfulness, perseverance, and godliness.

My prayer for all of us at Appleton Christian Church is that we would not settle for a shallow or distant walk with Christ. Instead, may we remain deeply rooted in Him, grounded in His Word, walking in holiness, and faithfully abiding in the Savior who first loved us.

As Jesus promised in **John 15:11**:

**“These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.”**

True joy is found in abiding close to Christ. I love you all, Dan

**"Abide in Me, and I in you."**

**ROOTED IN CHRIST**  
EST. IN FAITH Camp Christian 2026 Season

"So walk in Christ, rooted in Him and established in the faith." Colossians 2:6

**WORK DAY: MAY 2ND**  
HS CAMP (9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup>): JUNE 8-11  
MS CAMP (6<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup>): JUNE 15-18  
JR CAMP (3<sup>RD</sup>-5<sup>TH</sup>): JUNE 22-25

All Kids & Youth Camps \$180 for registration, T-shirt, & snack cards.

Discounts available for early registration!

Contact Heather DeBolt for more info.

LINK TO REGISTER

[CAMPCHRISTIANCOLORADO.ORG](https://CAMPCHRISTIANCOLORADO.ORG)

CAMP CHRISTIAN EST. 1952

### Prayer Requests:

Please continue to pray that our students' hearts and minds may be prepared to receive God's message for them this year. Ask for doors to open so more students who need it can come, and for leaders to be called to be there and say what God wants them to say. Please also continue to pray for Levi and Carman Willis, Conn Smith, Aimery Gonzales, and Burk and I as we all work together to plan the programming for high school camp this year. We need endurance, clarity, direction, and protection from the enemy's attacks as we continue to finalize plans.

Thanks, everyone! Happy almost summer!

Heather DeBolt



## JUNE 2026

- 4- Clothed in His Love, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- 5- Celebrate Recovery meets, 6:30 PM, Everyone is invited
- 6- Men's Group, "His Project," 8:00 AM, breakfast/Bible Study, workday
- 8-11 High School Camp, 9-12th grade
- 12- Celebrate Recovery meets, 6:30 PM, Everyone is invited
- 13- Meal Prep, 10-11:30 AM, sign up by June 7 (Sun)
- 14- Deacon Meeting, 12:15 PM
- 15-18 Middle School Camp, 6-8th grade
- 19- Celebrate Recovery meets, 6:30 PM, Everyone is invited
- 20- Clothed in His Love, 9-3:00 PM
- 21- FATHER'S DAY
- 22-25 Junior Camp, 3-5th grade
- 26- Celebrate Recovery meets, 6:30 PM, Everyone is invited



### WEEKLY

- Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Worship Service
- Adult Sunday School, 9:30 AM
- Youth Sunday School, 10:30 AM
- Tuesday, 6:30 PM, Family Night Bible Studies, Meal 6:00 PM
- Friday, 6:30 PM, Celebrate Recovery

**NO TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY OR MEALS FOR THE MONTHS OF JUNE OR JULY**

## JULY 2026

- 2- Clothed in His Love, 6:00 PM -8:00 PM
- 3- Celebrate Recovery meets, 6:30 PM, Everyone is invited
- 4- INDEPENDENCE DAY, no men's group
- 9- Young at Heart Camp, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, at Camp Christian
- 10-12 Women's Camp weekend
- 11- Meal Prep, 10-11:30 AM, sign up by July 5 (NO AUGUST MEAL PREP)
- 17- Celebrate Recovery meets, 6:30 PM, Everyone is invited
- 18- Clothed in His Love, 9-3:00 PM
- 24- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM, Everyone is invited
- 31- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM, Everyone is invited



**Office hours are: 9:00 AM—3:00 PM, M-Th.**

For more information on any event, go to our website and click on the calendar. Then click on the event to get more information.

<http://www.appletonchristian.org/calendar>

I recently had a conversation about prayer. The question that prompted the discussion was this, "Why is it so hard to pray sometimes?" The question was basically, why does prayer sometimes feel like such a struggle? You know the time, when there seems to be lots of distractions and your prayer can feel dry. It feels like work. Then there are other times, you may or may not have not experienced these, when prayer seems like a joy, like something you are caught up in rather than something you are doing. These sweet times are amazing. But why can prayer have such dramatically different experiences?

Let me start off with an assumption that I hope is true, most of us desire to have a deeper prayer life. Often the obstacle to this is that we either do not know how to begin or, what I have found most in me and I suspect many others, is how to keep going when it feels like a slow slog.

One of the images I have come back to in my life was written by a person named Teresa of Avila. She is a Christian from a very different background than mine, but when talking about prayer in a book about her life, she used a word picture that I find helpful. She described the prayer life as a garden being watered. More precisely, the stages that a growing gardener goes through as he or she cultivates and grows their garden trying to get water to the plants.

She wrote that there are days when the gardener has no choice but to just do the hard work of hauling bucket after bucket of water to the garden. This is when prayer feels like work. You sit with Scripture, but your mind jumps everywhere. You try to pray, but the words feel dry. It is during these times when we have to trust the promises of scripture, "Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you." Every bucket matters. Every small act of turning toward God is a seed planted.

Then there are moments when prayer begins to find a rhythm. You're not forcing it as much. A verse lingers with you. You find yourself praying in the car or while folding laundry. It's not dramatic—it's steady. Like a small stream beginning to run through a garden bed, God's presence becomes something you notice more often.

And then, sometimes, God brings the rain. A peace you didn't manufacture. A word of Scripture that lands with unusual clarity. A sense of God's nearness that feels like a gift. Paul reminds us that the Spirit "*helps us in our weakness*" (Romans 8:26), and there are days when you can feel that help in a way you can't explain.

But here's the encouragement: **all of it is prayer. All of it is abiding. All of it is God at work.** The buckets, the stream, the rain—each one is part of how Christ forms us. So if prayer feels hard right now, don't quit. Keep showing up. Keep opening the Word. Keep turning your heart toward Jesus in small, faithful ways. God is tending the garden, even when you can't see the growth yet.

How does prayer seem to you right now. Is it sweet or is it work? My encouragement to you is keep going. Enjoy the sweet times, and keep hauling those buckets in the other times. He will never leave you nor forsake you, so every drop of water matters, and all of it is helping you grow closer to our lord.

If you want to do a little study for yourself, then read through these verses and pray that God continues to grow you in prayer.

- James 4:8** – Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.
- Psalm 62:8** – Pour out your hearts before Him; God is a refuge for us.
- Romans 8:26** – The Spirit helps us in our weakness.
- Psalm 73:26** – God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
- Galatians 6:9** – Do not grow weary in doing good; in due time we will reap.
- Psalm 27:14** – Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:17** – Pray continually.
- Colossians 4:2** – Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.
- Psalm 34:17-18** – The Lord hears and is close to the brokenhearted.
- Jeremiah 29:12-13** – You will call on Me and pray to Me, and I will listen.

God Bless,  
Alan

**Next Meal Prep June 13  
(sign up by June 7)**

- 1) Sweet Orange Citrus Grilled Chicken
- 2) Caramelized Pork Chops
- 3) Beef Stroganoff
- 4) Jamaican Jerk Pork Chili
- 5) Slow Cooker BBQ Chicken
- 6) Pizza Burgers



Cost for a set of 6 meals:  
 2 servings of 6 meals - \$40  
 4 servings of 6 meals - \$80  
 6 servings of 6 meals - \$120

Contact Heidi, 970-250-0588 for questions.

**Next Meal Prep July 11  
(sign up by July 5)**

- 1) Mexican Beef Wraps
- 2) Apple Pecan Pork Chops
- 3) Burgundy Beef Tips
- 4) Chipotle Raspberry Chicken
- 5) Orange Chicken Delight
- 6) Chicken Fajitas

Cost for a set of 6 meals:  
 2 servings of 6 meals - \$40  
 4 servings of 6 meals - \$80  
 6 servings of 6 meals - \$120

Contact Heidi, 970-250-0588 for questions.

**Operation Christmas Child**

For the months of June/July we will be collecting:  
toys and clothing



*(As always, anything you would like to donate is always appreciated).*

**Missions that ACC supports**

The Pregnancy Center

Memduh & Suna Uysal  
(Internet Evangelism to Turkish speaking people)

Assisting Christian Individuals, Int. - Nancy Hagerman

Mesa County Jail Ministry - bibles

Camp Christian

WCCCM  
(Western Colorado Christian Campus Ministries)

Christ Chapel

Wycliffe - Jennifer Harper

One for Israel

Operation Christmas Child, year round collections

**Celebrate Recovery**



**A Note on Celebrate Recovery**

Celebrate Recovery offers a different approach by providing a consistent fellowship of believers dedicated to personal growth and spiritual strengthening. While we certainly support those navigating any kind of addiction, two-thirds of our participants attend to find help with everyday struggles like anxiety, codependency, anger, work stressors, depression, food and the weight of perfectionism.

The heart of this ministry is based on the Beatitudes delivered by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, which connect us to God's nature, our redemption, and the transformative work that the Holy Spirit has on us.

In Grand Junction, there are opportunities to connect five days a week, with Appleton Christian hosting an open share session every Friday night from 6:30 to 7:30. There is no requirement to commit to a group long term, as our doors are open to anyone, even those who simply had a difficult week and need a safe place to talk. Whether you are facing a temporary setback or a lifelong habit, this community is designed for any adult looking to find freedom and peace.

*"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed."*

*-James 5:16*

## Clothed in His Love Ministry at ACC



**Workshops in June:**  
CUTTING Workshop  
 Thursday, June 4th, 6 to 8pm

and

SEWING/CUTTING Workshop  
 Saturday, June 20th – 9am to 3pm  
 Bring a lunch if you wish to stay all day

All our activities are held in the Worship Center. We would love for you to join us.

We have expanded the ministry beyond the **Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes**, for which we sew jumpers, skirts, pants and shorts for children, size 2 to 14. We are sewing bibs, fleece hats, and newborn to size 1 outfits for **The Pregnancy Center of Grand Junction!**

Please contact Connie ahead of time to let us know that you are planning on attending either or both workshops. **We will teach you to do the cutting** if you'd like to participate but have never done this kind of work before.

We are also offering **beginning sewing lessons** for those interested in learning how to sew while working on simple items for the ministry. Contact Connie or Elizabeth to discuss this.

Come join us, we'd love to have you, and please pray for God's purpose and will for this ministry. It is all to His GLORY!!!

Connie Fudge (fudgeconnie@gmail.com) – (208) 755-2873  
 Elizabeth Kovarovics (ermcbroom@gmail.com) – (970) 361-6778  
 Donna Jean Ganss (donnaganss@yahoo.com) – (970) 640-8396

### Workshops in July:

CUTTING Workshop  
 Thursday, July 2nd, 6 to 8pm

and

SEWING/CUTTING Workshop  
 Saturday, July 18th – 9am to 3pm  
 Bring a lunch if you wish to stay all day

### VOLUNTEER CLEANING FOLKS NEEDED:

Sundays ONLY

**You read that right!**

We are now only asking volunteers to clean on Sundays!



*Looking for an opportunity to serve, get involved or meet new people? This is your chance!*

2-person crews work on light-duty cleaning following the end of 2nd service (12:30 – 3:00 timeframe).  
**It usually takes about an hour!**

Duties: Wipe down tables in Fellowship area and ARK, wipe down buffet counter, brush crumbs and debris from chairs onto floor, put chairs on tables in both areas; pull chairs from wall in ARK; walk through chairs in Worship Center picking up communion cups and any other trash; dust furniture in Lobby, a few areas in Worship Center, and all windows sills; empty all small trashes; check bathrooms for supplies that need restocking.

If we get enough volunteers, we are able to rotate crews and people should not have to work more than once every 4 or 5 weeks. The more people we have doing the work, the less often people would have to work!

# Contact Us:

Senior Minister Dan Baker  
[pastordan@appletonchristian.org](mailto:pastordan@appletonchristian.org)

Senior Associate Minister Alan Dyson  
[pastoralan@appletonchristian.org](mailto:pastoralan@appletonchristian.org)

Music Minister -Levi Willis  
[willis.levi.t@gmail.com](mailto:willis.levi.t@gmail.com)

Kids & Youth Director  
[heatherndebolt@gmail.com](mailto:heatherndebolt@gmail.com)

# 3

three

ways to send

### Prayer Requests:

[Prayer card](#) on Sunday (check the box to be included in the weekly email distribution); OR [email prayers@appletonchristian.org/](mailto:prayers@appletonchristian.org)

OR [call](tel:970-241-0858)

Nancy @970-241-0858 or the church office @970-242-7380

For **shut-in communion**, please call 970-242-7380 during office hours or contact person listed below:



### **SHUT IN COMMUNION**

**Bob Labig 970-216-7659**

**(if you would like to help with this, please contact the office or Bob)**

### Communion & Offering **Meditation**

#### First Service

**June 2026**  
7-Bob Labig  
14-Levi Willis  
21-Dan Baker  
28-John Wilson

**July 2026**  
5-Bob Labig  
12-Matt Herman  
19-Darrell Rule  
26-John Wilson

#### Second Service

**June 2026**  
7-Bob Labig  
14-Levi Willis  
21-Dan Baker  
28-John Wilson

**July 2026**  
5-Bob Labig  
12-Landen Brolien  
19-Bob Dalley  
26-John Wilson

### Sunday Geeters

#### First Service

**June 2026**  
7-Keith Kump  
14-Judy Devine  
21-Linda/Dick Mann  
28-Karla Brown

**July 2026**  
5-Keith Kump  
12-Agnes Ekos  
19-Linda/Dick Mann  
26-C.Ackerman/M. Miller

#### Second Service

**June 2026**  
7-Kathy/Kelly Messamer  
14-Robin Dague  
21-Jenny Nichols  
28-Helen Caldwell

**July 2026**  
5-Jenny Nichols  
12-Helen Caldwell  
19-Donna Jean Ganss  
26-Lisa O'Connor

## JUNE 2026 PRAYER FAMILIES

Please keep these families in your prayers this month

- 7- Matthew & Karen Herman  
Cris Hoche
- 14-Gloria Hollermeier  
Steve & Mindy Jelinek
- 21- Tom & Angie Keenan  
Steve & Elizabeth Kovarovics
- 28- Keith Kump  
Bob & Joyce Labig



## JULY 2026 PRAYER FAMILIES

Please keep these families in your prayers this month

- 5- Joyce Lowe  
Joe Lyons
- 12- Dick & Linda Mann  
Barbara Manzaneras
- 19- Eunice Marsala  
Matt Marsala
- 26- Connie Martinez  
Louis Jr. Martinez

## Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text – right from the directory app.

### It's Easy!

1. Go to your device's App Store.
2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
3. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
4. Enter the assigned password into the app to begin synching.



### You can also access the directory on your computer.

Go to: <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> to create an account using the email address you have listed in the directory. You will receive a confirmation email and once you click on the link, your email address will be validated. You will then need to log in, just as an email account, every time to access the directory. You will be able to view the information, but the phone numbers and email are not hyperlinked as with the smart device app.

## Connect with us:

970-242-7380

Senior Minister Dan Baker  
[pastordan@appletonchristian.org](mailto:pastordan@appletonchristian.org)

Senior Associate Minister Alan Dyson  
[pastoralan@appletonchristian.org](mailto:pastoralan@appletonchristian.org)

Music Minister  
[willis.levi.t@gmail.com](mailto:willis.levi.t@gmail.com)

Kids and Youth Director  
[heatherndebolt@gmail.com](mailto:heatherndebolt@gmail.com)

To sign up for Applets, Newsletter, or Directory, please send an email with Subscribe to Applets, or Newsletter, or Directory PDF in the Subject line.  
[office@appletonchristian.org](mailto:office@appletonchristian.org)

To sign up to receive prayer requests, please send an email with **Subscribe in the Subject line.**  
[prayers@appletonchristian.org](mailto:prayers@appletonchristian.org)

[appletonexchange@appletonchristian.org](mailto:appletonexchange@appletonchristian.org)  
[www.appletonchristian.org](http://www.appletonchristian.org)

Click here for [Calendar](#)

The Bible affirms the power and importance of prayer and we, as a church, are committed to pray for each other. Let us know your request and we will lift you up in prayer.



**JUNE/JULY 2026**

*Our Mission  
To grow fully devoted followers of  
Jesus Christ.  
Matthew 28:19-20*

8:00 AM, 10:30 AM Worship  
9:30 AM Sunday School for adults  
10:30 AM Classes for children

A CORE  
OF  
TRUTH -  
WITH A  
LOT OF  
APPEAL



**Unsubscribe:** If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact us with your address or email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the Subject line. Thank you.