



September 2025

THE APPLE PRESS

The Importance of Joy in Our Lives

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Introduction: Joy in a Troubled World

We live in a world filled with challenges, uncertainty, and sorrow. Every day the news reminds us of the brokenness of humanity—wars, disasters, divisions, and personal struggles. Our society has grown increasingly distanced from God and from His Son, Jesus Christ. Because of this, the world is desperately searching for something to hold onto—something real, lasting, and unshakable.

That “something” is joy. Not the fleeting happiness that depends on good circumstances, but the abiding, Spirit-given joy that belongs to every follower of Christ. As God’s children, we have a divine purpose, and part of that purpose is to live in and display the joy of the Lord. This joy makes us different from the world, and it is through that difference that the love and power of Christ are revealed.

Scripture gives us repeated reminders of the importance of joy in the Christian life. Scriptures show us that God calls us to embrace joy, and He shows us how joy sustains us in hardship, and how joy is a testimony to the watching world.

The Source of Joy: God Himself

True joy does not come from within us, nor does it come from circumstances. It comes from God Himself. Romans 15:13 says:

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Here we see that joy is a gift from God, poured into us by the Holy Spirit as we trust Him. Notice that Paul doesn’t simply say God gives us joy, but that He *fills* us with it. This is not a half-measure. God intends for our lives to overflow with joy, which then spills into the lives of others.

When we abide in Christ, we are constantly being refilled with His joy. In John 16:24, Jesus Himself told His disciples:

“Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.”

This shows us that joy is not just a suggestion but part of God’s will for His people. Complete joy comes from prayerful dependence on Jesus. The world cannot give this kind of joy—it is only found in Christ.

Joy in our Trials

One of the most radical truths of the Christian life is that joy is possible even in suffering. Romans 12:12 commands us to *“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”* Joy is not cancelled out by affliction. Instead, joy sustains us through affliction.

James 1:2 takes this truth even further:

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.”

To the world, this seems impossible. How can anyone find joy in trials? But James shows us that trials refine our faith, producing perseverance and maturity. Joy in hardship does not mean we enjoy pain—it means we trust the God who is using our struggles to shape us for His glory.

Our joy in suffering becomes a powerful testimony. When unbelievers see Christians rejoicing despite hardship, they see something supernatural at work. This is how our lives proclaim the difference Christ makes.

Joy as the Fruit of the Spirit

Joy is not only a gift—it is evidence of the Spirit’s presence in our lives. Galatians 5:22 reminds us:

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness...”

Joy is a natural outflow of walking with God. Just as a healthy tree produces fruit, a healthy Christian life produces joy. This means that if our lives are marked by constant bitterness, discouragement, or despair, we must return to the Spirit for renewal.

This joy is not superficial laughter or denial of reality. Proverbs 17:22 gives us a practical insight:

“A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.”

God knows that joy is life-giving, even to our physical and emotional well-being. A cheerful heart rooted in God’s promises strengthens us and those around us, while a hopeless spirit only weakens. The Spirit’s joy keeps us healthy in our faith and vibrant in our witness.

Joy as a Command and a Witness

The Bible does not present joy as optional. Philippians 4:4 declares:

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”

Paul repeats this command to emphasize its importance. Joy is not dependent on circumstances but on our unchanging Savior. When Christians live joyfully, it is a visible expression of our trust in God’s sovereignty.

In a world marked by anxiety, depression, and hopelessness, joyful Christians stand out. Our joy testifies that we belong to Jesus and that His power is real. The world is not looking for more empty promises—it is looking for something authentic. When they see joy in us, even in hardship, they see Christ shining through us.

Living Out Joy at Appleton Christian Church

As members of Appleton Christian Church, we are called not only to hold on to joy personally, but to cultivate joy within our congregation and community. A joyful church is attractive to the world. When people step through our doors and sense genuine joy in worship, in fellowship, and in service, they are drawn to the presence of Christ among us.

Practically, this means:

- Encouraging one another with joyful words.
- Worshiping not out of duty but with rejoicing hearts.
- Facing trials together with prayerful confidence in God's plan.
- Choosing to live gratefully, celebrating God's blessing.

Joy should not remain private—it must be shared. The joy we live out at Appleton Christian Church can ripple into our families, neighborhoods, and this Grand Valley. In a world searching for hope, joy is one of the greatest testimonies we can give.

Joy as Our Purpose and Testimony

Brothers and sisters, the importance of joy in our lives cannot be overstated. Joy is both a gift and a command, both a source of strength and a testimony to the world. It comes from God alone, through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

As Romans 15:13 reminds us, when we trust in God, He fills us with joy so that we overflow with hope. This overflowing joy is not for ourselves alone—it is part of our purpose as Christians to reveal Christ's love and power to the world.

In these challenging times, may we at Appleton Christian Church be a people known for our joy. Not a shallow happiness, but a deep, abiding joy that endures trials, lifts up the weary, and shines the light of Christ to a searching world.

So let us take to heart Paul's words once again: *"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again Rejoice!"* (Philippians 4:4).

I love you all, Dan



Family FARMERS MARKET

Join us as we fellowship and enjoy local farmers, artisans, musicians, and more!

SEPTEMBER 18TH, 6-8PM

Meet us at the Buffalo Statue at the corner of 4th St & Main St.

NEED TO CARPOOL? MEET AT CHURCH AT 5:30PM

SHOP LOCAL

ALL PRODUCTS 100% FRESH FROM FARM

Questions?
Contact Heather DeBolt



September 2025

- 1- LABOR DAY, office closed
- 2-Men, women, and children Bible studies, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 4-Clothed in His Love, 6:00 PM
- 5-Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 6-Men's group, "His Project", 8:00 AM
- 6-GriefShare, 9:00 - 10:30 AM
- 8-New Bible Study, 10:00 - 11:30 AM, "Knowing God's Covenant"
- 9-Men, women, and children Bible studies, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 12-Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 13-Meal Prep, 10:00 -11:30 AM, sign up by September 7
- 13-GriefShare, 9:00 - 10:30 AM
- 14-Mission team meeting, 12:00 noon
- 15-New Bible Study, 10:00 - 11:30 AM, "Knowing God's Covenant"
- 16-Men, women, and children Bible studies, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 18-Family Farmers Market, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
- 19-Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 20-Clothed in His Love, 9:00- 3:00 PM
- 20-GriefShare, 9:00 -10:30 AM
- 22-Bible Study, 10:00 - 11:30 AM, "Knowing God's Covenant"
- 23-Men, women, and children Bible studies, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 26-Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 27-GriefShare, 9:00 -10:30 AM
- 29-Bible Study, 10:00 - 11:30 AM, "Knowing God's Covenant"
- 30-Men, women, and children Bible studies, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM

Office hours are: 9:00 AM—2:00 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>

WEEKLY

- Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Worship Service
- Adult Sunday School, 9:30 AM
- Youth Sunday School, 10:30 AM
- Monday Bible Study, 10:00 AM
- Tuesday staff meetings
- Tuesday, 6:30 PM, Family night Bible Studies, meal 6:00 PM
- Friday, 6:30 PM, Celebrate Recovery
- Saturday, GriefShare 9:00 -10:30 AM

NEW MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY!

"KNOWING GOD'S COVENANT"

**10 - 11:30 AM
ACC ARK ROOM**

9/8/25 - 11/17/25

At its heart, Covenant is about God making and keeping promises. This eleven-week study will examine five foundational covenants mentioned in the Old Testament, and the New Covenant established by Jesus with His believers.

Please sign up so we can order the study guides.

Contact Phyllis Bolsinger

Celebrate Recovery



Mission: to offer a safe and supportive space where men and women can find healing and freedom from life's challenges (hurts, hangups, and habits)
Friday evenings from 6:30-7:30 PM.

Contact Roxy Sanger or Dan Baker for more information or if you want to know how you can help.

September Meal Prep is September 13, 2025 Sign up by September 7

The meals are:

- 1) Chicken and Dumplings
- 2) Catalina Beef
- 3) Apricot Orange Pork
- 4) Chicken Burrito Bowls
- 5) Italian Chicken
- 6) Sweet Basil Country Style Ribs



The cost for the meals:

\$40.00 for 6 meals for 2 people,
\$80.00 for 6 meals for 4 people,
\$120.00 for 6 meals for 6 people.

Contact Heidi Waggoner @ 970-250-0588

Average cost of meals per serving is \$3.33



Clothed in His Love Ministry at ACC

Workshops in the Worship Center in September:

CUTTING Workshop

Thursday, Sept 4th – 6pm to 8pm

and

SEWING/CUTTING Workshop

Saturday, Sept 20th – 9am to 3pm

Bring a lunch if you wish to stay all day

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 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 adding tote bags, fleece hats and newborn thru size 1 outfits for **The Pregnancy Center of Grand Junction!**

We are currently looking for donations of:

* Materials (cotton [no flannel] and fleece). The materials cannot be camouflage, military themed, or otherwise inappropriate for children. Please contact us for suggestions on yardages. With Joann's Fabrics closing and our choices limited here in GJ, if you'd like to donate money instead, please donate to ACC and make a notation that it is to go to the **CiHL ministry**.

* Solid-colored t-shirts – CHILDREN'S SIZES: "Onesies": newborn, 3 month, 6 month, 9 month and t-shirts: 1 year, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8, 10 years, 12 years and 14 years. No pictures or words on the shirts, please.

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!

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



Appleton Christian Church supports Operation Christmas Child year round. Each month has a different focus and in **September** we are collecting GAMES such as puzzles, etch a sketch, peg games, cards, etc.

These items as well as other items can be brought to the church on Sundays where a special box will be located in the front lobby. One can also bring them to the church office. For any questions, contact Donna Jean @ 970-640-8396

Thanks! Donna Jean



Games

September

#OCCmonth #OCCministry

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5	6
Family Camp	LABOR DAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11:15am Staff meeting6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM6:30pm Women's Bible Study6:30pm Youth Group6:30pm Men's Bible Study		<ul style="list-style-type: none">6pm Clothed in His Love	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5:30pm Praise team rehearsal 5:30 -6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">7am Men's group, "His Project"9am GriefShare Class
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Service 8:00AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10am Bible Study, (Knowing God's C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11:15am Staff meeting6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM6:30pm Women's Bible Study6:30pm Youth Group6:30pm Men's Bible Study		Walk to Emmaus for Women - Levi (music)	meal prep set up	Meal Prep, lower bldg, ARK
Service, 10:30 AM					<ul style="list-style-type: none">5:30pm Praise team rehearsal 5:30 -6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am GriefShare Class
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Walk to Emmaus for Women - Levi (m	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10am Bible Study, (Knowing God's C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11:15am Staff meeting6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM6:30pm Women's Bible Study6:30pm Youth Group6:30pm Men's Bible Study		<ul style="list-style-type: none">6pm ACOXY Family Farmers Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5:30pm Praise team rehearsal 5:30 -6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am Clothed in His Love9am GriefShare Class
Service 8:00AM						
Service, 10:30 AM						
12pm Missions Team Meeting						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Service 8:00AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10am Bible Study, (Knowing God's C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11:15am Staff meeting6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM6:30pm Women's Bible Study6:30pm Youth Group6:30pm Men's Bible Study			<ul style="list-style-type: none">5:30pm Praise team rehearsal 5:30 -6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am GriefShare Class
Service, 10:30 AM						
28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3	4
Service 8:00AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10am Bible Study, (Knowing God's C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11:15am Staff meeting6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM6:30pm Women's Bible Study6:30pm Youth Group6:30pm Men's Bible Study		<ul style="list-style-type: none">6pm Clothed in His Love	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5:30pm Praise team rehearsal 5:30 -6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">7am Men's group, "His Project"9am Last GriefShare Class
Service, 10:30 AM						

Go to our website and click on calendar. Then click on any event to get more information.



Contact Us:

Senior Minister Dan Baker
pastordan@appletonchristian.org

Senior Associate Minister Alan Dyson
pastoralan@appletonchristian.org

Music Minister -Levi Willis
levi@appletonchristian.org

Elders:
elders@appletonchristian.org

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/

OR call

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 or Chris Weber

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

Communion & Offering **Meditation**

First Service September 2025

7-Bob Labig
 14-Alan Dyson
 21-Levi Willis
 28-John Wilson

October 2025

5-Bob Labig
 12-Alan Dyson
 19-Levi Willis
 26-John Wilson

Second Service September 2025

7-Bob Labig
 14-Alan Dyson
 21-Jenny Nichols
 28-John Wilson

October 2025

5-Bob Labig
 12-Alan Dyson
 19-Jenny Nichols
 26-John Wilson

SUNDAY GREETERS

First Service September 2025

7-Keith Kump
 14-Judy Devine
 21-Linda/Dick Mann
 28-Marge/Bob Brown

October 2025

5-Keith Kump
 12-Judy Devine
 19-Linda/Dick Mann
 26-Connie/Tom Fudge

Second Service September 2025

7-Karen Ranville
 14-Joanne Reitz
 21-Cris Hoche
 28-Connie Martinez

October 2025

5-Kathy/Kelly Messamer
 12-Lisa O'Connor
 19-Donna Jean Ganss
 26-Helen Caldwell

SEPTEMBER PRAYER FAMILIES & SCHOOLS

7- Amy and Kevin Smith
 Ann Solomon
 Rim Rock Elementary
 14- Linzy and Roger Sommers
 Alice Strom
 Rocky Mountain Elementary
 21- Saul and Wendy Tompkins
 Karen Troester
 Scenic Elementary School
 28- Casey and Joyce Trump
 Rodney and Linda (Mulder) Updike
 Shelledy Elementary School



APPLETON CARE MINISTRY

Occasionally we have needs that come up in the church. If you have a talent or some time that could maybe help someone out, please contact the office.

- Mechanical skills for small car repairs
- Providing meals
- Visiting (home, hospital, nursing facilities)
- Light exercise (walking)
- Calling on the phone or visit
- Grocery shopping
- Running errands
- Light chores around the house
- Driving to appointments



Our purpose is to **LOVE** on people, let them know we **CARE**, and to see if there is **ANYTHING** we can do for them.

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
970-242-3682 fax

Senior Minister Dan Baker
pastordan@appletonchristian.org

Senior Associate Minister Alan Dyson
pastoralan@appletonchristian.org

Music Minister
levi@appletonchristian.org

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

prayers@appletonchristian.org

To sign up to receive prayer requests, please send an email with
Subscribe in the Subject line.

appletonexchange@appletonchristian.org.
www.appletonchristian.org

Listen to [sermons](#) online
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.



The Apple Press
2510 I-70 Frontage Rd
Grand Junction, CO 81505

SEPTEMBER 2025

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.