

Evergreen News

A Pastor's Perception

Every time we drive to Myrtle Beach, the return trip takes longer. Not a few minutes - sometimes an hour or more. Same road. Same car. Same family. But that stretch of highway between where we are and where we want to be feels entirely different on the way home.

We just want to arrive.

Maybe you know that feeling. Friday morning before the weekend starts. The days before a celebration. The season of life when you know where you're headed but you're not there yet.

This is the tension of the in between.

What if we've been thinking about the destination wrong?

Jesus didn't come simply to secure our future. He came so we could have life, life to the full - abundant life- now. Emmanuel. God with us. Not waiting for us at the finish line, but present here, in the middle of the ordinary and the unresolved and the not yet.

The destination was never just a place.

The destination is a Person. And He's already here.

In Genesis 14, after a moment of great victory, a priest named Melchizedek met Abram on the road. He did something simple but everything: he helped Abram see what had actually just happened. God Most High did this. Not your sword. Not your strategy. God.

Abram was in danger of misreading his own moment. Melchizedek reoriented him toward the One who had been present and at work the whole time.



What's inside our latest issue:

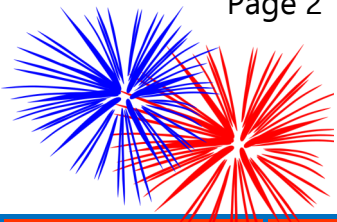
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Weekly Gatherings

- *Ladies Bible Study Mondays at 11 am
- *Men's Bible Study Thursdays at 7 pm & Saturdays at 7 am at Hawthorne's Woods
- *Youth Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
- *Prayer Shawl Gathering Wednesdays at 7 pm
- *Sisters in Christ 7/11 @ 9 am
- *VBS 7/13-7/17 6:30 pm each night
- *Open Prayer 7/28 @ 7 pm

Our Vision Statement:
"To Know, Love, & Follow Jesus by serving All"



JULY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 No Youth VBS Prep Paula Vacation David Vacation	2 Men's Bible Study 7 pm Paula Vacation	3 Office Closed	4 David Vacation
5 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 Large Group Gathering David Vacation	6 WWW 11 am	7 Leadership Team 7 pm David Vacation	8 Youth VBS Prep 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm	9 Men's Bible Study 7pm	10	11 Sisters in Christ 9 am VBS Set Up
12 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 Large Group Gathering Deacon Mtg.	13 WWW 11 am VBS 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	14 VBS 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	15 VBS 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	16 VBS 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	17 VBS 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	18 VBS Clean Up Pastor Shawn Vacation
19 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 Large Group Gathering Pastor Shawn Vacation	20 WWW 11 am	21	22 Youth Adventure Sports Prayer Shawl 7 pm	23 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	24	25 Pavilion & Fellowship Hall reserved for private function Pastor Shawn Vacation
26 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 Large Group Gathering Pastor Shawn Vacation	27 WWW 11 am Youth Mission Trip	28 Prayer 7 pm Youth Mission Trip Pastor Shawn Vacation	29 Prayer Shawl 7 pm Youth Mission Trip	30 Men's Bible Study 7 pm Youth Mission Trip	31 Youth Mission Trip	

A Pastor's Perception (Continued from Cover)

Someone did that for you once. And someone in your life needs you to do it for them now.

This is what it means to know, love and follow Jesus by serving all. Not someday when life settles. But here. In the car. On the long road home.

The in between isn't empty space to survive.

It might be the most alive place you've ever been - if you're willing to recognize who's riding with you.

WGT Youth Mission Trip

The youth are excitedly preparing for the upcoming mission trip to Lancaster PA, and planning is already well underway.

During our recent meeting, the group shared several creative ideas for the enrichment activities that we will lead the children of immigrant and refugee families in as part of our outreach program. It has been encouraging to see the enthusiasm, teamwork, and thoughtful planning that the youth are bringing to this opportunity to serve.

A highlight of the pre-trip process was hearing the testimony of Paul Daigle from Eastern Mennonite Missions, the organization we will be serving alongside. He shared his personal journey of faith and his passion for sharing the love of Jesus with others. His heart for ministry was evident as he spoke about the importance of making sure people know they are loved by Jesus. His message was a powerful reminder that everyone needs to hear the good news that Jesus loves them, cares for them, and desires a relationship with them.

As preparations continue, we want to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has supported this mission trip! Thank you to those who purchased cupcakes during our fundraiser and to everyone who has generously donated toward the trip so far! Your support, encouragement, and prayers are helping make this opportunity possible, and we are truly grateful for your partnership in this mission.

David Spayde
Youth Coordinator

Attendance & Givings			
	Total Worship	Sunday School	General Fund
May 24	67	48	\$8,149.99
May 31	134	76	\$6,300.37
June 7	166	74	\$6,672.06
June 14	97	69	\$7,748.07



Anniversaries

- 7/6 - Joe & Donna Shoemaker
- 7/11 - Jeff & Dori Schwanger
- 7/26 - Dustin & Dana Youtz
- 7/31 - Dennis & Linda Gerdel

Birthdays

- 7/4 - Karen Bechtel
- 7/8 - Polly Shumate
- 7/12 - Haylee Coble
- 7/16 - Ann Saylor
 - Derwin Thomas
- 7/18 - Kathy Martin
- 7/21 - Marion Hess
- 7/25 - Lisa Shelly
- 7/30 - Xavier Cannon
- 7/31 - Colton Brown
 - Daryl Harnish



Saturday, July 11th @ 9 am



VBS is Coming!!

As with so many things, people are needed to make outreach a success and VBS is no different! Check out the sign up sheets in the lobby to volunteer for VBS this year! Many opportunities from registration to guides to snack donations and many things in between! There is also one prep night left to transform WGT into the epic adventure of Kingdom Quest! Join us Wednesday, July 1st, from 6:30 pm - 8 pm to help decorate! We know you will be a blessing and will be blessed! See Allison Huber or Mike Reem with questions.

Online registration closes July 10th, so register your child now! Go to www.westgreentree.org and click on the VBS image.

This Is My Father's World

As I was sitting at Seasonal Site 97 (AKA my camper/campsite at Camp Swatara), a familiar song came to mind. As I sat and looked out across the field, I watched the tall grass blow back and forth in the wind and watched the trees move as the wind wistfully blew through the branches. It reminded of an old hymn - "This is My Father's World"

Verse 1 *This is my Father's world, And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings, The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas— His hand the wonders wrought.*

Verse 2 *This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.*

Verse 3 *This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!*

I got to thinking about that line - "The music of the spheres" -

Upon research, that line would refer to the idea that all nature operates in divinely order and harmonious way.

But the word "spheres" is the one I cannot shake -

You and I live in spheres each and every day - the spheres at home (our family, our relationships, etc.), the spheres at work (co-workers, team meetings, etc.), the spheres here at WGT (ministry teams, fellowship groups, Bible study options, etc.)

What is the music that we are each individually making in those spaces? Is the music a song of praise to Jesus? The hymn lyrics suggest that all nature and creation sings a song of praise to Jesus.

A contemporary song that we sing from time to time says, "If creation sings Your praises, so will I."

I don't know about you, but if I'm honest with myself, I am not always singing a song of praise to Him. Not in my relationships, not in my attitude, not in my efforts....

Today, friends, let's not be sad - let's look at the spheres we are in each day and find reason to praise Him! "God reigns! Let the earth be glad!"

Your Friend,

Ryan M. Arndt, Licensed Minister/Worship Arts Coordinator

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WEST GREEN TREE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Blessed
is the **NATION**

whose **GOD**

 is the **LORD.**

Psalm 33:12

Sunday Gathering Times:

- ◆ 8:30 am Sunday School/Small Groups
- ◆ 9:45 am Large Group Gathering
- ◆ Live Stream via YouTube
“West Green Tree Worship”

Weekday Activities:

- ◆ Mondays: Ladies Bible Study @ 11 am
- ◆ Wednesday: Youth @ 6:30 pm
- ◆ Thursday: Men’s Bible Study @ 7 pm
- ◆ Saturday: Men’s Bible Study @ 7 am at Hawthorne’s Woods

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