

New Basel Church
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echo
New Basel Newsletter

August 2023

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What is the purpose of your life? Ever wonder what God wants you to do? What would happen if you rejected that purpose?

Some time ago, I went to a birthday party for my brother-in-law. You would have to know him to truly understand what that's like, but suffice it to say that life around him is always loud, crazy, and full of joyous laughter. At this party, he shared a story from his youth, when he was a paperboy, maybe in the third grade. There was one part of his route in particular that he hated because there were huge dogs that chased him down the street, and they were always right at his heels as he pedaled furiously down the road. One day, he decided he really didn't want to do that again, so he hid all the papers under his dad's car. Of course, the phone calls started rolling in, and the paper investigated. When confronted by his mom, he said some guy had been following him, and he must have picked up all the papers after he delivered them (ya right). Needless to say, he was summarily fired. This is what happens when you reject your employer's purpose for you!

Luke 7 shows part of the ongoing conflict between Jesus and the Pharisees, as well as the roll that John the Baptist plays in all this, and verse 30 says, "But the Pharisees and experts in the law rejected God's purpose for themselves, because they had not been baptized by John." Clearly, rejecting God's purpose for your life is serious business, but what exactly is that purpose?

One thing we can learn about this purpose is made clear by Luke's understanding of what John's baptism really meant. John taught that there was a different way to be right with God, different than the Temple's sacrificial system. He taught that right standing with God came

through repentance of sin. The Pharisees rejected this in part because they held to the Temple system, and in part because they didn't really think they had a whole lot of sin to repent for!

But more than that, the reason God put the Temple system in place to begin with was so that the people could be close to God and worship Him. Over the years, Temple leaders forgot this purpose and actually made it more difficult! One example is in the story that immediately follows, in verses 36-50. A woman, who knew the Pharisees didn't like her or approve of her, showed up at one of their houses. Predictably, she was insulted and shunned by the owner, and Jesus used the opportunity to teach something about the nature of God and God's purpose for the woman.

You see, the purpose for her life was to repent of her sin, be forgiven, and begin to praise and worship God. This is God's purpose for everyone, from the lowest sinner to the highest religious leader. That's God's purpose for everyone, but if you claim the Lord as your God, your purpose is also to lead others into that relationship with God, through Jesus Christ. The Pharisees rejected both of these purposes. And what happens when you reject your purpose? You get fired, as the Pharisees would soon be.

So what is the purpose for your life? To turn away from sin and, since you're a Christian, to help others do the same. Don't reject that purpose. Love and serve Him!

In His love,
Pastor Jamie

New Basel Church Council

Monday July 10th, 2023

Called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Kenny Chamberlin

Present:

Elders: Kenny Chamberlin, Jen Reiff, Pam O'Neal,

Deacons: Judy Barten, Francis Anderson

Trustees: Drew Snitker, Gary Foltz,

Pastor Jamie opened with a devotion

M/S/C to approve the June minutes

Communications:

*Thank you cards from Farrah Rothchild for the camp scholarship

Reports:

Financial Secretary and Treasurer:

Judy gave the Financial Secretary & Treasures report for June.

M/S/C to approve the Financial Secretary and Treasurer's reports.

Pastor's Reports:

Worship: Preached &/or led 4 Sunday worships & Led 2 Worship at Abilene Place

Administration Meetings: 1 Church Council meeting, 4 Planning Meetings & 1 Ministerial Alliance Meeting

Pastoral Care: 8 Phone Visits, 3 Home Visits

Other: 4 CrossTalk Local meetings, Church Movie Night, met with AC maintenance, met stained glass rep, drove kids to Bible Camp.

Mileage: 43

Elders:

Jen Reiff reported 49 people took communion on July 2nd.

Deacons:

Judy discussed looking into ways to donate the interest from our UCF Endowment Fund.

Trustee:

N/A

Old Business:

*Church Picnic will be July 30th in the parish hall after church. Hamburgers, hotdogs and watermelon provided. Everyone please bring a side dish or dessert.

* Upgraded our telephone / internet plan with TCT for better service.

New Business:

*M/S/C to pay bills that were presented

* Gary discussed options for a new sign out front

Upcoming Events:

July 16th – Church Improvement Fund offering

June 21st - Echo Articles Due

July 30th – Church Picnic in the Parish Hall.

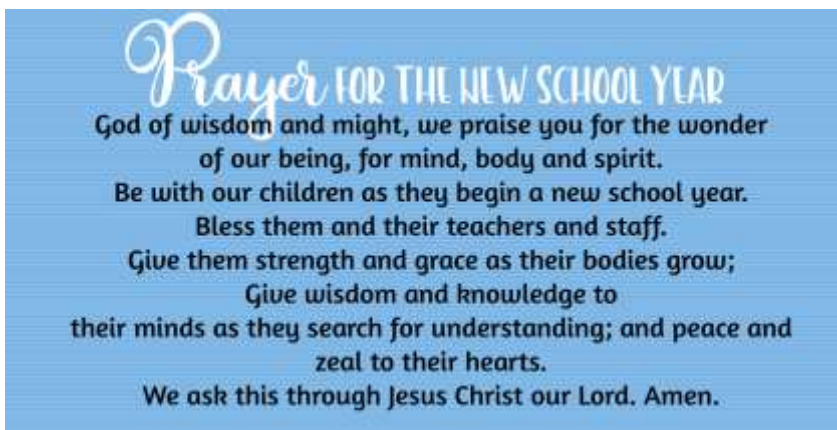
Aug. 1st – 6th – Central Kansas Free Fair

Aug. 7th – Council Meeting 7:00pm

No Other Announcements:

Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm by praying the Lord’s Prayer in unison.

Pam ONeal, Secretary



Elaine Bethe
Naoma Foltz
Dwight Meuli
Cecil Schrader
Bob O’Neal

Kelly Schrader
Tammy Anderson
Rodney Anderson
Judy Lauer
Ed McAdams

AUGUST INFORMATION



1 st Maxine Kauffman	12 th Eric Kamm
2 nd Joleen Beemer	13 th Peggy Meuli
5 th Diane Loftness	22 nd Mark Robson
Deborah Lathan	23 rd Judy Barten
7 th Elaine Bethe	Darren Haney
8 th Stephanie Gfeller	24 th Laurel Kline
10 th Stetson Shrack	26 th Pam O'Neal

Anniversary

9th Gregg & Joleen Beemer

Upcoming September Birthdays

1st Hollv Bethe 9th Dwight Kamm

Life can be busy and making dinner some evenings can add to the stress. Join us in the church kitchen on Saturday, August 19th where we will assemble meals to store in the freezer to be ready to pop into the Crockpot on just such occasions. Sign up in the foyer for the meals you would like to prepare. You pay \$10 per meal, and we will provide the recipes, supplies, and ingredients. If you have questions, talk to Angela Bonnema.

Greeters, Acolytes and Usher for August

Greeters:

Acolytes:

6 th	Gary & Deb Foltz	Sterling Bonnema
13 th	Adam & Alyssa Gantenbein	Savannah Smiley
20 th	Mitch & Kara Cromwell	Owen Cromwell
27 th	Austin & Jessica Murphy	Blake Murphy

August Usher: Gregg Beemer

Thank you to Randy Barten for being the July Usher

