

Princeville Presbyterian Church

June 2018



A Word From Pastor Baker

Ahhhhh!! Summer vacation!! There is something about playing in the sun, skipping rocks on the water, lounging around and reading a good fantasy or mystery novel, playing Frisbee or a round of golf, pretending to fish while laying back in the boat with your fingers dangling in the cool lake. Summer vacation! Getting up in the morning is different because you don't have to, but you don't want to miss a single minute of it so you rise up with the sun, with a cup of coffee, the song of a robin, with the fragrance of dew-laden flowers and a cow lowing in the distance. You go to bed later because you can, and because the moon lures you to wander and watch the bats silhouetted in its light, and the stars beckon you to come explore the night sky in anticipation of a meteor or two.

The whole point of vacation is *to vacate*. To abandon the work-a-day routine and get an extended rest. It is to let go of the labor with your mind as well as your body and enter into a Sabbath anticipation of the great Sabbath held in reserve for us after the days of this earth are complete.

But what if God took a vacation? What if he decided he was going to vacate for a week? Or two weeks? Or a month? When we think about the nature of his providence, the idea of his taking a vacation should horrify us. That sun that we want to play under? - would stop shedding its light on the earth. The water we wish to play in? - would become poison or disappear altogether. The birds?, flowers?, cows? - all gone, their atoms and molecules disintegrating into nothingness in a moment. We would cease to exist. If God took a vacation, everything would cease to be. "He upholds the UNIVERSE by the word of his power." (Hebrews 1:3) "In him ALL THINGS hold together." (Colossians 1:17).

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June Birthdays

3rd – Andrea Powers

11th – Denise Elwell

Amanda Keighin

14th – Ethan Peterson

15th – Teresa Snodgrass

23rd – Cody Peterson

26th – Suzi Noonan

27th – Connor Freres

28th – Justin Litwiller

30th – Doug Litwiller

June Anniversaries

2nd – Ron & Joyce Basehoar

Chad & Jennifer Freres

8th – Tater & Robin Harwood

15th – Doug & Holly Litwiller

16th – Chuck & Kathy German

19th – Chris & Suzi Noonan

20th – Bret & Rachel Williams

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion	Prayer Group @ 9:30am			Food Pantry @5pm		Food Pantry @5pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Ladies Tea @ 2-5pm	Prayer Group @ 9:30am					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Prayer Group @ 9:30am	Deacons @6:30pm Session @ 7pm		Food Pantry @5pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Worship In the Park @10am (No Sunday School)	Prayer Group @ 9:30am					
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9AM-NOON @ PRINCEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH						

If God took a vacation, there would no longer be a Covenant, salvation would no longer be guaranteed, there would be no church, there would be no fellowship. All blessings would cease.

Let us rejoice that God does not take a vacation!! Let us dance and sing and praise that he continues his great mercies and lovingkindness every moment of every day!! The very vacation that we enjoy, that refreshes us as finite and weak creatures is a Grace bestowed by our Heavenly Father through our Lord Jesus Christ. He knows our need and provides it to us. And when we have a vacation we should enjoy it to the fullest. But while we take our vacation and enjoy it fully, let us be careful never to take a vacation from the Lord. Though others take plenty of time off in the summer, let us not take any kind of "break from God" during our summer. God does not take a vacation from his promises or his good providence and we should be as devoted to walk with him and worship him daily (and especially on Sunday) keeping in mind that our ultimate vacation, our real Sabbath is fully wrapped up in him.

And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, "**My Father is working until now, and I am working.**"

John 5:16-17

Taking Every Thought Captive to Christ,

Chris



Titus 2 Discipleship Ministry

In the book of Titus the church is given the biblical model for women to disciple other women.

You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine . . . teach the older women . . . Then they can train the younger women . . . so that no one will malign the word of God.
(Titus 2:1, 3-5)

The Women's Ministry is committed to this gospel imperative. This is the strategy that God has given to His church for women to pass the legacy of biblical womanhood to the next generation.

The Session has given approval for us to begin a Titus 2 Discipleship ministry. The purpose of this ministry is:

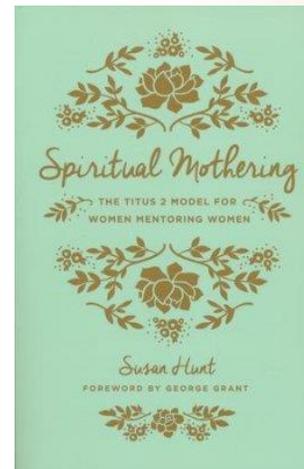
To help women glorify God as they learn to think biblically and live covenantally as women.

This will be a small group ministry. We are currently training Titus 2 group leaders.

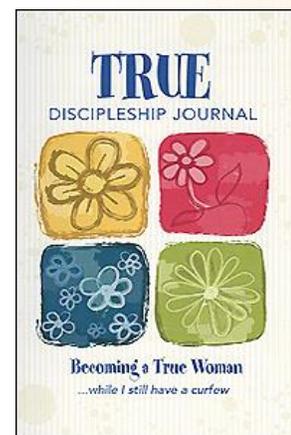
We are grateful for the women who are already involved in Titus 2 relationships, but we know that there are others who need help in finding a spiritual mother and there are women who would like to be equipped to be a spiritual mother. This ministry will help to connect those women.

We ask our church family to pray that the Lord will use this ministry to equip women to think biblically and live covenantally. We encourage women to prayerfully consider signing up for one of our Titus 2 groups.

Watch for more information in your July newsletter!!



We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done... That the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments. Psalm 78:4, 6-7



"The only adequate antidote for the self-image problem is a Biblical knowledge of ourselves."

Women's Leadership Training – Part 2

In part one of my story, I talked about the bookstore. How I knew that the trip home was going to be “heavier” than the trip down. At the time of writing that, I had meant the weight of my suitcase, but as I have reflected of the workshops and plenary sessions, I have realized that this was not just a physical weight that I would carry home, but an emotional and spiritual weight. Now when you think of weight, you may think that I felt burdened and I guess in a sense, I did. However, this was not a burden that brought sadness, grief, or dismay. This was a burden that was light and hopeful and energizing. This is the same burden that Jesus spoke of in Matthew 11:30 when He said, “For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light”. This was a burden to carry the Good News of the Gospel and its transforming power back home to those I love and to all those I could reach. This burden brought me great joy and anticipation as I knew that the Lord had called me to that training for the purpose of handing me this task.

I want to share with you some truths and some wisdom that I was blessed with at the conference. These are just tidbits of what I learned, but they were none the less life changing and I pray that they will make you stop and think. Make you ask questions. Make you long to know the Lord more. I pray that as you read and reflect on them, a desire will be stirred in you as well to know, to grow, and to share...

First and foremost, *No One Loves Our Church More Than God Does!* This was a wonderful reminder, that if I truly believe in the sovereignty of God, then I believe that He is at work in our church all the time. He is working when we are struggling. He is working when we are growing. He is at work in the ministries and the teaching (even when we cannot see the fruit with our own eyes). Knowing that the Lord is at work, I can rest assured that His Will always will be done. I *must* lean into Him and have faith that where the truth of the Gospel is being proclaimed, He is present and lives are being changed.

Secondly, *I Am No One's Savior!* Now, I never said I was out loud and I never really thought that I thought I was anyone's savior. However, my dissatisfaction betrayed me. I expected certain results from the ministry and greater enthusiasm for worship and new ideas from members. When those expectations weren't met, it consumed my every thought and began tainting my view of our church. I had lost sight of the fact that I wasn't in charge of changing people's hearts, opening their eyes, or making them love what changes were going in the church. I was simply called to study the Word, teach other women and children the Word, and then allow the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts and minds of God's children. Because, after all, *no one loves our church more than God!*

This will have to be lastly since I am out of space (I will have part 3 next month). Last, *my desire before the Lord is for our women's ministry to be characterized as covenant relationships and that involves many things.* I want women to come join in the ministry knowing that it will be a safe place that is characterized by grace. That we cannot use excuses to justify sin. That we will always seek to believe the best about other people. We will be known by our bearing of fruit. That we will not and cannot lovingly allow others to live in self-absorption. That we seek to be peacemakers. That we accept one another and will always promote unity among us. That we will share in one another's gifts and graces. Finally, that we will always point each other towards God and back to the Word (even when it's hard).

These are all truths that I take seriously and count a joy as I carry the very light burden of being a child of God. Will you join me as I seek to live this out? Will you come to me when you are hurting? Will you come and grow and fellowship with other women in the church? We love all of you and desperately desire to know you more. Please join us for the Ladies Tea on the 10th for an afternoon of food, fellowship, devotion, and fun.

With Love & In His Service,
Amanda~~



Summary of Session Work from April and May 2018

The Session meetings have continued to open with the Deacons present, with a devotion from Nehemiah, and with prayer. In Nehemiah 3, we observed that as a leader he was able to stir up the population and encourage them to take on the difficult task of rebuilding the wall around the city. In this we learned that leadership is undaunted by a large task if God assigns it, but takes up the task by faith, asking others to join in. The April meeting was taken up with report updates pertaining to the various Christian education ministries as we approach the end of the educational year. Arrangements were made to interview those desiring to become communing members of the church. We also decided to place signs at our parking lot entrances reminding people that they need to exercise "Caution Children Playing" and to be aware that our parking lot is "Private Property". The May meeting heard a report from John Underwood and Chris Baker on activities at the meeting of Presbytery in Sparta, Illinois. In particular, there was a workshop presented by *Pastors In Residence* ministry on the matter of ministerial burnout and how to help keep church leaders from reaching that state. Chuck German presented some ideas as to how a Missions committee could be re-established. A date was set to meet with those who were members of the former Missions committee to bring old matters to a close and to lay the groundwork for a new Committee. A discussion was held on upcoming plans for the "Spiritual Mothering" ministry to begin in June. The elders also discussed various ideas concerning pastoral housing that would be attractive to a new pastor.

At the close of each meeting, the Session spent a season in prayer for the congregation, the search process and the specific needs in people's lives.

The next Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Session meetings are open for congregational members to attend unless there are matters to be discussed that require the protection of personal reputation.

Upcoming Events

- **June 7, 9, 21st – Food Pantry**
- **June 10th – Ladies Tea @ 2-5pm**
- **June 19th – Deacons/Session**
- **June 24th – Worship In the Park**
- **June 25th – 29th – VBS**
- **July 5, 14, 19th – Food Pantry**
- **July 10th – Deacons/Session**
- **July 14th – Women's Day Trip – Varna, IL (Tanna Krey's)**
- **July 15th – Fellowship Meal**
- **July 29th – Rockin' Seniors**





Tea Time

Please join us for afternoon tea
hosted by the Princeville Presbyterian

Women's Ministry

Sunday, the 10th of June

at 2 o'clock in the afternoon

Guest Speaker: Nancy Frantz

Princeville Presbyterian Church
339 S Santa Fe Ave

R.S.V.P Sign Up @ Church or

Text Amanda @ 657-6359

