

BUCKINGHAM GRAM

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

August:	
Monday & Fri	Closed
Tue/Wed/Thurs	11am - 4pm
September	
Mon & Thurs	Closed
Tues/Wed/Fri	10am-3pm



WEEKLY SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Sunday	Contemporary Service*	9:00am
	Friendship Hour	10:15am
	Traditional Service	11:00am
	*Kid's Church available during 9am service	
Monday	Share & Care	6:30pm
Thursday	Bible Study	6:00pm
	Choir	7:30pm

PASTOR NOTES FOR FALL 2024:

YOU STAY INSPIRED, SAN DIEGO! (OOPS, I MEAN... BUCKINGHAM!)

In the classic comedy "Anchorman," Will Ferrell's TV news anchor character Ron Burgundy always ends his nightly broadcast with the words "You stay classy, San Diego." After they've received the news from him, he holds them – and invites them all to hold each other - to a higher standard.

As the summer ends, so does our worship series **SPIRIT INSPIRED!** in which we've been looking at the presence of the Holy Spirit in *every part of our liturgy*. As we bring this series (which began May 19 on Pentecost Sunday!) to a close, I'm inclined to say to us all (not "stay classy" - because aren't we always!) but rather: **Stay Inspired Buckingham!** Stay focused. Stay in tune and lifted higher by the presence and the movement of the Holy Spirit every time you worship – whether in a service on Sunday or throughout your life lived in worship.

- LITURGY:** We looked at the structure of our service as a whole and defined "liturgy" as "the work of the people." A church service is our weekly practice session for the work we are called to do in the world as followers of Jesus Christ.
- CALL TO WORSHIP:** The "call to worship" is an invitation to give our full attention to God in worship.
- PRAYER:** Prayer is at "the heart of worship" and it is "the primary way in which we participate in worship." There are many ways to pray: corporately (using words), silently (prayed in quiet) and the all-important confessional prayer in which we stand in grace together.
- WORD(!):** The Word of God is central to Reformed/Protestant worship. The scriptures read and proclaimed help us understand - more and more every time we hear and discern them - the relationship God wants to have with us and desires for us to have with each other.
- SACRAMENTS:** Baptism and the Lord's Supper are visible signs (water, bread/juice) of God's amazing grace. Both mark us and remind us of the power and presence of the Spirit which moves in and through us every day of our lives.
- AFFIRMATION of FAITH:** We take time in most worship services to recite together words from the creeds or confessions of the Church. We do so in recognition that the Holy Spirit has inspired the church since day one in its reformed and always reforming understanding of what it means to follow Jesus and Be the Church. The affirmation of faith is not meant to force someone to say something they may not believe - but an invitation to ask questions and wrestle together with the things that we proclaim as Christians.
- OFFERTORY:** The offertory isn't just about "giving money to the church." It's a time to pray for and practice ways in which we may offer something of ourselves to God in response for God's amazing gifts given to us all. Most especially the gift of God's son Jesus who gave His life for all. Our offertory is meant to extend outward into the lives of the local, national and global community.
- MUSIC!:** What a celebration of worship music we had on Sunday, July 28 on the front lawn – lifting our songs of praise and thanksgiving, lament and trust to God! Let us remember that we worship God with music – but we do not worship the music itself. It's ALL good if it brings our attention to God.
- SENDING:** We come to worship – only to Go!...back out into the world to share the good news of the Gospel and invite others to know its power for their lives. Remember: The best tool for evangelism is personal invitation into the life of the church.

(continued on back)

(Pastor's Notes Continued)

Wow – that's a lot! I know I feel inspired, and I hope you do too by the MANY WAYS the Holy Spirit moves in and through the liturgy, our work as people of faith and our lives lived in worship.

Here's one last Burning Question for you: *How will you continue to focus and feel the presence of the Spirit in worship? Who will you invite to enjoy its presence with us in the life of Buckingham church?* What burning questions might you continue to have that may be answered for you at a weekly Bible study? (We meet most Thursdays at 6:00. All are invited!)

Summer may be over – but our lives lived in Spirit-inspired worship go on and on. I look forward to the fall and all Spirit-Inspired worship with you. I hope to see you soon. (And don't forget - you may always find us Sunday mornings on ZOOM. Check your weekly church email for the link.)

Stay inspired, Buckingham and know that God loves you – and so do I.

– Pastor Mark



Please join us for BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, Aug 25 at 10AM

Church parking lot and on the front lawn (or in Taylor Hall if it rains)

Service starts at 10am Food & Games to follow!

Main Dish will be provided, bring your favorite foods to share and a lawn chair for the service. Let's bless the backpacks & the children for a wonderful school year. Invite any and all to join us - ALL are welcome.



SUNDAY, SEPT. 8TH - 9:30AM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR RALLY DAY KICK OFF

Starting with a continental breakfast beginning at 9:30 followed by a combined, youth-led service at 10 AM. After the rest, relaxation and rejuvenation of summer vacations, we RALLY back together and KICK OFF our recommitment to the work of our Buckingham Ministries and Missions!!. Register your children for the new year of Kids Church. Learn what you can do as part of the "Team Buckingham" – inspired and motivated by the Holy Spirit to serve God together.

MISSION



MOMENTS

THE DRESS MINISTRY and SUPPORT for GUATEMALA – On September 15, our friend Barbara Entwistle will invite us all to get in on the action of her long-running Dress Ministry for children in Guatemala. She will also tell us about protein food packets that can be made and sent to help hungry kids. Let's give

Barbara our full attention and look forward to the Spirit's moving through us as we introduce this new mission for our church.



SUMMER 2024 COLLECTION continues through September 1st The Mission Team invites us all to help collect items to send to our troops serving all around the world. A list of needed items is available in the chapel and in weekly bulletins. The collection will end September 1 when we will bless the items and prepare to have them sent to our active troops all around the world.

news from the **DEACONS**

The Deacons continue to participate in fundraising opportunities to generate income to support those in need in the community. Our next event will be **parking cars for the Fiddlers Convention the weekend of Sept 20-22nd**. This is a three day event and many volunteers are needed if you are able to help **please contact Bob Arthur**.

Our most recent fundraiser was the **Peach Festival** and it was a big success! Thank you and God Bless to all those who assisted especially Cecil Tull who continues to lead this initiative.



The community is certainly blessed to have such an amazing congregation that offers so much support to those in need. If you are in need of support or a visit please contact Cathy Leyden.

GIVING ENVELOPE CHALLENGE

Help us feed children each weekend!



You will see in the chapel a display board filled with numbered envelopes. Each number on the envelopes represents a dollar amount. Choose an envelope in the amount you feel comfortable donating. Return that amount, in the envelope, to the offering plate or in the box provided.

Thank you for supporting children in need at Ocean City Elementary.



Join us for **ONE S'more Time with Jesus**

Friday, August 23rd

Come and invite your neighbors to bring the kids for a fun night of outdoor water activities (weather dependent) and let's "dive" into the Bible and find many stories about water! Bring a towel and be prepared to get wet.

Food will be served. We hope to see you at our last S'more Time of the summer!



- August 03 Vernon Davis
- August 03 Brandon Hoffman
- August 05 Grayson David
- August 08 Kade Hoffman
- August 10 David Kohler
- August 13 Dorothy Warren
- August 16 Kayla Hoffman
- August 18 ... Patricia Arthur
- August 27 Dana Tull
- August 27 Karla Davis
- September 02 Ronald Hall
- September 07 Holly Bunting
- September 10 Charles Herpen
- September 10 Susand Todd
- September 13 Kaye Gubosh
- September 17 Steve Davis
- September 18 Jessica Bunting
- September 20 Gloria Gubosh
- September 21 Evan Cook
- September 21 Anne Hastings
- September 23 Mack Ashton
- September 23 Wanda Stricker
- September 23 Bailey Warren
- September 25 Arline Curtis
- September 26 Tracey Trask



- August 23 Fred and Carol Neal
- September 06 Jerry and Michelle Woroniecki
- September 07 Timothy and Emily Vocke
- September 22 Jeremy and Victoria Harsh
- September 27 Ethan and Anne Marie Cook
- September 27 Paul and Debi Cook



G3 IS BACK to meeting every week! Woohoo!
FALL KICKOFF

Tuesday, September 10th from 5:30-7pm

Since fall schedules are still a little up in the air, we are going to start on Tuesdays and then see how it goes. We can switch days if Tuesdays are not working for the majority of the G3 Force! G3 will meet on 9/10, 9/17, 9/24. As always, we will have time for God, Grub, and Games. Looking forward to seeing everyone on 9/10!

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH

Middle and High School Youth are invited for a time of conversation and prayer every other Sunday from 10:15-10:45. In September we will meet on Sept. 15 & 29. Bring your questions and prayer requests as we grow in our faith together.

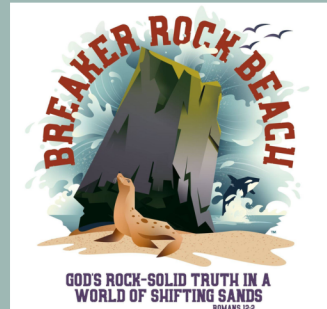
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE YOUTH TRIP

On July 23, 8 youth and 5 adults drove from church to Baltimore to prepare a delicious home cooked dinner and lead an hour of activities for the residents of Ronald McDonald House. With all 13 people working hard, we were able to serve 3 types of chicken, corn on the cob from the garden, salad, warm bread, fruit skewers, mac and cheese, cookies, brownies, and caramel corn. And after dinner the youth led the most amazing Activity Hour for the children staying at the house. Each child in the house received a new pillowcase made by Sewing Seeds of Love. It was an experience none of us will forget. Before we left that night, youth were asking how soon we could return and do it again. The next morning we went to the Zoo where the favorite animal was decided to be the Penguins! We received a grant from the Presbytery for \$750 to help cover our costs and are grateful for their support.



The last week of June the whole church was full of the sounds of children, youth, and adults having fun at Breaker Rock Beach. For five nights, Buckingham was the place to be with games, crafts, stories, science experiments, dinner, snacks, singing, dancing. We learned that God's Truth Never Changes. A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and talents to make this week possible. Each night we had at least 25 volunteers. And we had more than 70 kids who registered from around our area with 55-60 in attendance each night. We raised more than \$350 for the Ronald McDonald House through our offerings and to show their support for the amazing kids and youth Mother Suz, Pastor Mark, and Pastor Susannah all got slimed on Friday night.

VBS Recap





AUG / SEPT



Sundays: 9am Contemporary service with kid's church
 10:15am Friendship Hour and Sewing Seeds of Love
 11am Traditional service

Mondays: 6:30pm Share & Care

Thursdays: 6:00pm Bible Study

7:30pm Choir

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Fri. Aug 23** 6-8pm S'more Time With Jesus
- Sun. Aug 25** 10am Blessing of the Backpacks
- Sun. Sept. 8** 9:30am Rally Day
- Tues. Sept 10** 6:00pm Session
- Tues. Sept 10** 5:30-7pm G3 - God, Grub & Games
- Sun. Sept 15** 9 & 11am Mission Moment - Barbara Entwistle
- Sun. Sept 15** 10:15am Sunday Morning Youth
- Tues. Sept 17** 5:30-7pm G3 - God, Grub & Games
- Sept. 20-22** Fiddlers Convention - Deacon's Parking
- Tues. Sept 24** 5:30-7pm G3 - God, Grub & Games
- Sun. Sept 29** 10:15am Sunday Morning Youth

LOOKING FOR LITURGISTS! Would you like to read scriptures for Sunday worship? A sign up sheet for liturgists is in the chapel. Don't be shy! Sign up & Pastor Mark will work with you to assure you have the readings ahead of time.

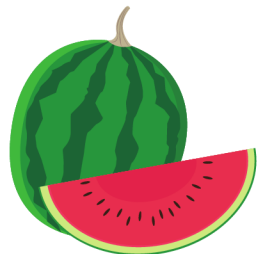
FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY: SUNDAY FRIENDSHIP TIME – Thanks to all who have been providing treats! A new sign-up sheet is now available for anyone who would like to "take" a Sunday and provide simple snacks for the Friendship Time between services (approx. 10:00-10:50) in the chapel.

LOOKING WAAAAAY AHEAD

Congregational Meeting Oct 20 at 10am

Combined Service for the purpose of electing 2025 Ruling Elders and Deacons.

More details to follow but please do mark your calendars now.



BUCKINGHAM GRAM

VISION STATEMENT

*We are a community of disciples,
Who honor all people,
Care for those in need,
Share the hope we receive from Jesus Christ.*