

Big Rock Congregational Church Atlanta Michigan

A Community of Grace

CHIPS

Off the Big Rock



May 2024



What Is the Significance of Motherhood in the Bible?

Clarence L. Jaynes J. Contributing Writer to Christianity.com

As another Mother's Day approaches, it is appropriate to show appreciation for all the mothers out there who are taking on this wonderful yet challenging mantle. What is the significance of motherhood in the Bible? I am going to answer this question. We need to consider a few verses in the Bible that talk about motherhood.

Verses That Help Us Understand the Significance of Motherhood in the Bible

Mothers Are to Be Honored

"Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the Lord your God is giving you" ([Deuteronomy 5:16](#)).

When you consider the word honor in the Hebrew, it means to give weight to someone. One way you can honor someone is to give them weight in your life. You do this by giving that person respect or authority in your life. When you are younger, a mother is a central authority figure in your life. The respect and honor you show her often shows up in your obedience. As you get older and become an adult, the role of your mother shifts from one of central authority to one of respect in your life. You may no longer be bound to obey, but you are always bound to respect.

Mothers Offer Comfort

"As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem" ([Isaiah 66:13](#)).

One of the more significant roles a mother has is to offer comfort. This comfort often comes as nurturing. It is highly proper for mothers to nurture their children. Nurturing can involve a word of encouragement or challenging a child to become who God has created them to be. When done properly, nurturing is an essential part of helping a child to grow healthy.

Pastor of BRCC:

Pastor Keith Jones

Moderator:

Gail Fehr

Deacons:

David Bradley
Nancy Mantz

Trustees:

Judy Hoffman
Wayne Isbell

We exist to worship God, to share His love that all might be saved and to become more like Jesus Christ our Lord.

As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort You.

Isaiah 66:13

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Mothers Are Carriers of Life

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb” ([Psalm 139:13](#)).

Perhaps one reason mothers are so nurturing is because, for most mothers, the child they are caring for is the child that came out of their womb. I say most because every mother is not caring for a child they gave birth to. The fact is, God created mothers to be the carriers of life. All of us are here because there was a mother who carried us and helped give us life.

Mothers Are Teachers

“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” ([Deuteronomy 6:6-7](#)).

“Listen, my son, to your father’s instruction, and do not forsake your mother’s teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck” ([Proverbs 1:8-9](#)).

The last thing to highlight is that mothers are teachers. Mothers can teach in a variety of ways. Regardless of how they do it, one responsibility of a mother is to be a teacher in the home.

To all the mothers out there I wish you all a joyful Mother’s Day. Keep being the mother God has called you to be. Don’t worry about being a perfect mom, just be a present mom and trust that God will make up the difference.

Anytime there is a blue italicized work in the digital CHIPS, you can click on it and a page on the internet will open for you.

The Fruit of the Spirit

My mother is a Christian,
In every important way;
The fruit of the Holy Spirit
Is displayed in her every day.
My mother is filled with kindness,
With love and joy and peace;
Her patience and her goodness
Inspire, and never cease.
She follows our Lord Jesus
With faithfulness, and more;
She’s gentle and has self control,
She knows what prayer is for.
Thanks, Mom, for being a Christian,
And showing me how to be;
I’ll follow your example
For all eternity.

By Joanna Fuchs



Missions News



Hi Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May this find you joyfully anticipating the celebrations this weekend of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus!

BUILD CONFERENCE

Jacksonville, Florida, was the site of the Bridges National Staff Conference. It was a blessing to be with fellow staff members from all over the USA and parts of Canada. We were encouraged, challenged, ministered to, connected with old friends, and met many new ones as well. It was also a time of vision casting. Fletcher Maynard, my counterpart National Prayer Champion, led a time of pray for multiplying disciples and we discovered that the places where we currently have fewer multiplying disciples is precisely where we will be sending our staff and international students on summer missions.

The theme was taken from 2 Corinthians 4:7: "But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us." The treasure is the gospel, which is a person, and His name is Jesus. It's a gift given to us from God that is free for us but was very costly for Jesus. This Holy Week we recount all that Jesus went through to obtain our salvation.

Returning from the conference I fell while changing planes in Atlanta. One of my co-workers was with me and we were surrounded by airline personnel and medical people to make sure I was OK. I bruised my right forearm and it was quite sore for a couple weeks, but there was no fracture. A couple days later my housemate also fell and her's was a face-plant. She broke her nose, but will not need surgery and actually can now breathe better. God often surprises us with our twists and turns. I have been going through physical therapy for balance issues and that has been good. I've also been walking in our neighborhood and enjoying all the spring flowers.

EASTER WEEKEND

Good Friday evening and most of Saturday, those who serve in Iglesia ECA (the Spanish-speaking church I'm part of) will be at a retreat about 80 miles from here. The drive there and back should be beautiful as the bluebonnets are at their peak. Please pray that God will meet us there and show us all He wants us to learn and how we can serve better for His glory.

Then on Easter Sunday, my Venezuelan daughter in the faith, Celena, pictured here with me will be baptized on stage at Hill Country Bible Church. She is one of many who will be baptized at all four services and on all three campuses. I'm so grateful she has decided to take this step of obedience to make her faith public.

All praise to God for what He is doing. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." (1 Peter 1:3)

May you have a blessed celebration of the resurrection

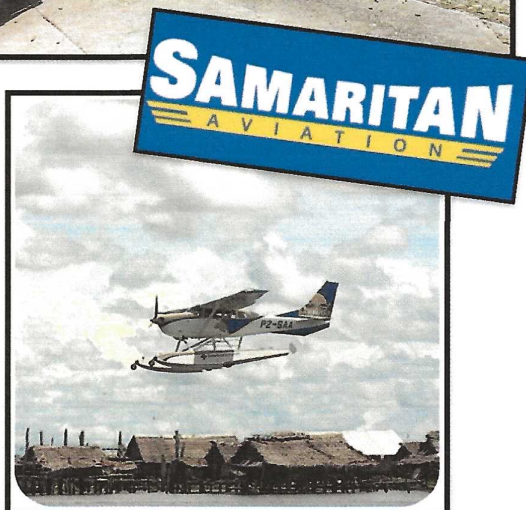
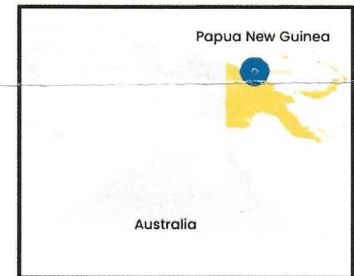
Harriet

I-TEC Update March 2024

Ministering in Papua New Guinea

After many months of prayer and preparation, an I-TEC Team of 8 are helping two ministries in **Wewak, Papua New Guinea** in March. Their main project is to **install an I-TEC PowerPac solar electric system** at a remote mission station run by **Friends In Action International**. This ministry assists missionaries and national pastors as they take the Gospel to those who've not yet heard of Jesus Christ.

The other purpose of their time in Papua New Guinea is to do a **survey for a possible future project for Samaritan Aviation**. This ministry helps bring medical care and supplies to people groups throughout the East Sepik Region of Papua New Guinea.



Prayer Guide for the I-TEC Team of 8

- 1) Pray for **safety** in international travel
- 2) Pray for **good health** as they work in a malaria infected area of the world
- 3) Pray for **wisdom in logistics** at both project sites
- 4) Pray that the team can be an **encouragement** to the missionaries and national pastors who are ministering in this part of the world
- 5) Pray that the **Gospel Message will continue to spread** because of I-TEC's involvement

Follow these projects
@ itec.org

Cumpers April Newsletter



Hello! We're so excited to share that since our last update in February you have helped us move from 60% to 70% in our monthly budget. Because of your generous giving to God's Mission, we are staying at pace to leave for the Philippines in late summer/early fall. Thank You!

We learned last fall that King's Garden needs a new roof. The official quote came in recently at just over \$16,000. On a Wednesday night in February we were able to share with the youth at Northville Christian Church (photo below). We're excited to share that Youth Pastor AJ Spees & **NC Youth** had a fundraiser for the roof and raised

over \$3,000! Praise Jesus!

Would you pray with us that God would quickly bring along donors for the rest of the need for the roof at KG?

In just a few days King's Garden gets to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the founding

of the home by Sister Lois Prater. Please pray that the celebration goes well.

Finally, I want to share a specific need for an incredibly important ministry here in Michigan. Circle of Friends is a special needs ministry that was started two decades ago by my late father-in-law, Pastor Bob Moody. August 5th - 9th Circle of Friends will

have their annual summer camp; however, there is a major shortage of adult helpers &

counselors (especially men). If you, or someone that you know, would be willing to serve and help fill this need in this local missions field, please reach out to Hannah Brannigan (COF Director) @ 231-420-8379.

WE LOVE AND APPRECIATE YOU ALL!

- The Cumpers

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We are a growing association of churches, church members, ministers and ministry leaders, focused on fulfilling God's mission for His Church, working together to bring His love and timeless truth to this generation— across the street and around the world. Join us!



THE CCCC WAY OF LIFE

OUR PASSION—The Irreducible Core(IC)
We obey Jesus' commands to love God, love others, and make disciples.



OUR PATHWAY—Seven Guiding Values

1. A Culture of Believing Prayer & Intercession
2. Healthy Pastors
3. Healthy Disciple-Making Churches
4. Healthy Church Multiplication
5. A Community Living Out Shared Life and Shared Mission
6. A Culture of Peacemaking & Reconciliation
7. A Membership Reflective of the Harvest Field's Diversity



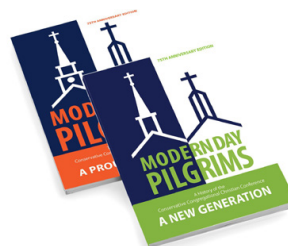
OUR PRIORITIES—

Church Development, Church Multiplication, & Conference Care

CCCC FACTS:

- About 800 member ministers and Christian workers
- About 300 member churches
- 36 states where you can find a CCCC church
- 39 military chaplains credentialed by the CCCC
- 33 churches planted & currently being developed by the CCCC in the 21st century

A multi-dimensional history of the CCCC and the diverse origins of the churches which formed it. Available for purchase at cccusa.com



God has blessed us with resources to assist churches and pastors in ways that we could not in the past. Member churches are healthier and more effective in ministry. New churches are being planted. Our pastors and churches benefit from a growing connection with each other. A new generation of leadership emerging.

—Ron Hamilton,
Conference Minister



MINISTRY PRIORITIES



CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

The Nehemiah Nexus exists to engage churches and pastors in a life-giving developmental process that addresses their unique strengths and needs to improve their spiritual vitality, relational priority, and ministry fruitfulness.

CONFERENCE CARE

Our team encourages member pastors through the development of pastoral communities. Regional Pastors resource member pastors and churches and provide special care in times of transition and change. We provide restorative care to churches and pastors in periods of conflict and difficulty.



CHURCH MULTIPLICATION

The Nineveh Network is a team of CCCC pastors and leaders working to start healthy, disciple-making churches across the nation. Our planters are connected through this Network that recruits, assesses, trains and coaches church planters.

TURNING POINT

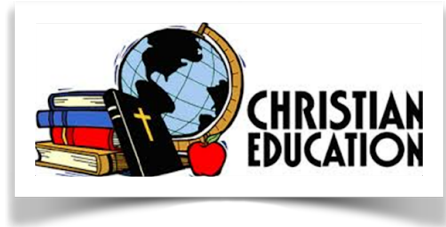
Our three ministry priorities have joined together to come alongside struggling churches to provide viable options for future ministry, assist with a church restart or develop a legacy plan.



Go to cccusa.com for more information

CE&D Update

Adult Sunday School: Come join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:15.**



Small Groups: Small Group will be continuing their study with a book by Carol Ruvolo, "God With Us". This study will accent the purpose for each gospel writer's account of Jesus' life. We will be meeting on **May 8th & 22nd at 5:30** in the fellowship hall. Small group will take a break for June - August.

Library: The library is in need of some volunteers to help sort books and to get the shelves ready for use. If you can help, please let Juli or Gail know.

Children's Sunday School: Michelle will continue with Youth Sunday School at 9:15. Gail and Michelle will hold Children's Church in the month of May.

SonShine Kid's Club: Club is over for the school year. Thank you to everyone who helped with the club this year. We will begin again in October.

VBS 2024: VBS 2024 will be held June 18th, 19th and 20th with the 17th being the set up day. The theme this year will be *The Adventures of Daniel and Friends*. Beginning on May 12th, there will be a different prayer card each Sunday on the back table that you can pick up and pray for that week to ask God for his help in making VBS 2024 effective in spreading the Gospel to the youth of this community.

Prayer Breakfast will continue to meet at 9:00 in the fellowship hall on Wednesdays. Join us after for prayer. If you could make breakfast on Wednesday, please sign up on the sheet in the kitchen.

Next Meeting of CE&D will be on **May 16th at 4:30**. If you would like to be part of the planning for VBS 2024, you are welcome to come to this meeting.

Choir News



He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your Praises." Hebrews 2:12

Choir will begin practice on music for the Singpiration at the fair and for Sunday morning call to worship. They will meet on May 2nd, 23rd and 30th at 5:30.

Women's Fellowship News



The Women's Fellowship will be meeting the second Wednesday of the month, **May 8th** and discussing the Barn Sale.

Ladies are meeting at the Full Gospel for craft day on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 1-3 to make items for the Samaritans Purse Shoe Box project.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BARN SALE

May 24 & 25, 2024

Hours: 8:30-4:30

Accepting items beginning mid-April

OK, people...it's that time of year again...that pile of stuff you meant to clear out of your house, garage or barn last year is STILL there, looking at you...speaking to you... saying "get rid of me...PLEASE!"



Here are suggestions for items to bring that have traditionally sold well.

- * antiques, collectibles and curios
- * "Up North" cabin and "man cave" items.
- * Hunting and fishing and firearms related gear -ALWAYS strong sellers.
- * Camping gear - Coleman lanterns, tents, etc.
- * "Practical items" such as kitchen utensils, small appliances, pots and pans, etc.
- * Bedding, quilts, towels, sheets that are CLEAN and serviceable.
- * Small furnishings such as end tables, lamps, book cases, throw rugs.
- * gardening and lawn tools, such as rakes, shovels, brooms
- * power tools (WORKING) and hand tools in usable condition.
- * Automotive related, such as roof racks, trailer hitches, gas cans,
- * portable grills, patio chairs, dog crates
- * children's car seats, toys, furniture
- * New or lightly used clothing.

Please DO NOT drop off the following:

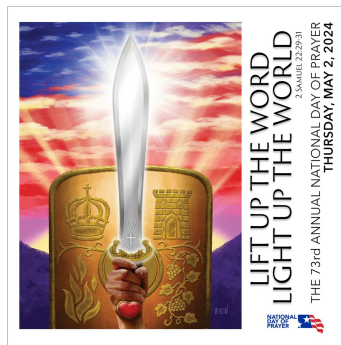
- * Outdated electronics, such as VHS players, cassette players, and cassettes, phones, computers, TV's, etc.
- * ABSOLUTELY NO BOOKS OR MAGAZINES OF ANY KIND!!! We have too many already in the barn.
- * Used shoes, purses, and well worn clothing.
- * ANYTHING that is broken!
- * JUNK, such as tourist trap souvenirs, holiday decorations, schmaltzy girlie-girl gew-gaws, etc.

Nancy Mantz

Congratulations Pastor Keith Jones



A doctorate comes with a great deal of respect from everybody, the respect you have rightfully earned. You are truly inspirational. The hard work and efforts you put into your endeavors are beyond excellent. Congratulations on your PhD. We are all very proud of you Pastor Keith.



National Day of Prayer-May 2, 2024 12:15 at the Court House in Atlanta

2024 Theme

LIFT UP THE WORD - LIGHT UP THE WORLD

Join the community as they gather in prayer on the steps in the front of the Court House at 12:15 on Thursday, May 2nd.

Memorial Day May 27, 2024

Memorial Day honors the brave men and women who have sacrificed their lives in service to our country. These courageous individuals have given everything they had to defend our freedoms and way of life.

Memorial Day reminds us of the high price of freedom and the debt of gratitude we owe to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. It is a day to reflect on their sacrifice and to honor their memory with gratitude.





Birthdays and Anniversaries



Rosemary K. 25th

Upcoming Event

- May 2nd:** National Day of Prayer 12:15 @ the courthouse in Atlanta
- May 10th:** 4C's Spring Rally
- May 11th:** Pastor Keith's Graduation
- May 19th:** Quarterly Meeting and Elections
- May 19th:** Carry-in Luncheon for the Twins
- May 24th & 25th:** Barn Sale
- May 27th:** Memorial Day
- June 17th:** VBS set up day
- June 18th-20th:** VBS
- July 14th:** Singspiration at the Fair Grounds
- July 16-20th:** Montmorency County 4-H Fair
- July 26 & 27:** Community Connect



May

Pursuing Humility

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Day 1: Colossians 3:12 | Day 21: Psalms 149:4 |
| Day 2: Micah 6:8 | Day 22: James 4:6 |
| Day 3: 1 Peter 5:5 | Day 23: Mark 9:35 |
| Day 4: Proverbs 16:19 | Day 24: Psalms 8:4 |
| Day 5: Romans 12:3 | Day 25: Proverbs 3:34 |
| Day 6: Philippians 16:19 | Day 26: Philippians 2:3-4 |
| Day 7: James 4:10 | Day 27: Ephesians 4:2 |
| Day 8: 1 Corinthians 1:28-29 | Day 28: Proverbs 27:2 |
| Day 9: Luke 14:11 | Day 29: Mark 10:45 |
| Day 10: Proverbs 22:4 | Day 30: James 3:13 |
| Day 11: Matthew 23:10-12 | Day 31: Proverbs 11:2 |
| Day 12: Psalms 25:8-9 | |
| Day 13: Isaiah 57:15 | |
| Day 14: James 4:14-16 | |
| Day 15: Proverbs 12:15 | |
| Day 16: Romans 12:16 | |
| Day 17: John 3:30 | |
| Day 18: Psalms 115:1 | |
| Day 19: Proverbs 15:33 | |
| Day 20: Matthew 6:2 | |

WWW.THESCRIBESPORTION.COM

Prayers, Praises & Blessings - May 2024

Daily:

Pastor Keith, Marilyn, and family
Big Rock Leaders will serve humbly as godly
examples to all.
Big Rock Congregation
The Ministries of Big Rock
Missions of Big Rock
Our School District, staff & students
Local, State, Country & World Leaders
CCCC Conference (National & Local)
Persecuted Church
First Responders in the community
Maupo H. & Aleina B. (World Relief Y-
Malawi women)
Sari (Compassion Child)
The the church's prayers be infused with
biblical ambition, honesty, and humility.
Nominating Committee and May Elections
VBS 2024

Military:

Curtis B.
Michael C.
Cabria C.
Rachael L.
Beto V.
Megan R.

Missionaries:

Jeremy, Joy & family
Robert, Terry & family
Kurt, Lisa & family
Harriet S.
Susan S.
Caleb C. and family

Homebound:

Theila H.
Jean S.
Rose Mary K.
Bruce A.
Gaye K.
Elaine & Richard V.

Prayers for Healing:

David G.
David B.
Ritch H.
Jan F.
Michelle G.
Jim G.
Joshua K.
Paul K.
Pat and Joanna S.
Asher
Naomi
Ricky J.
Allen P.
Juan
Jerry K.

Prayers

Ritch & Sandy H.
Jessica & Prabhu D. & Family
David and Marilee G.
Nancy M. and Family
Amy J. and family
Dixie, Tony and Cecilia
Andrew H.
Elmie and Daughter

Praises & Blessings:

For the many servants that God has provided
in this congregation
For our church family
For our Prayer Warriors
The health of the congregation
That prayers have been answered for the
twins to come home
God gave you His greatest gift, salvation
through relationship with His son

MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30	29	30	1 Prayer Breakfast 9:00	2 National Day of Prayer 12:15 Board Meeting 4:00 Choir 5:30	3	4 
5 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30 Communion	6	7	8 Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Women's Fellowship	9	10 4 C's Spring Rally	11 Pastor Keith's Graduation
12 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30 Mother's Day	13	14	15 Prayer Breakfast 9:00	16 CE & D Meeting 4:30	17	18
19 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30 Congregational Meeting 12:00 Carry-In Lunch	20	21	22 Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Shepherds Meeting 10:30	23	24 Barn Sale 8:30-4:30	25 Barn Sale 8:30-4:30
26 Sunday School 9:15 Worship Service 10:30	27 Memorial Day	28	29 Prayer Breakfast 9:00	30 Choir 5:30	31	1