



Our mission is to share the Good News, as
we love everyone unconditionally, serve
anyone selflessly, and live like JESUS.
(1Peter 4:10-11)

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Pastor: Tony Jackson
8:15 am - Gathering Grounds
Coffee Shop
9:00 am - Bible Classes, all ages
10:00 am - Coffee and Fellowship
10:30 am - Worship Service
& Kids Zone Jr. Worship
www.bethaltochristianchurch.org
724 E. Bethalto Blvd.,
Bethalto, IL 62010
618-377-9259
Email - office.bfcc@gmail.com

October 2019

	Page
CEAD & Those to Serve	2
Kids Zone	3
Parent's NOW	4
Women's Ministry & Love First	5
Events & News	6
Calendar	7

A 'God Thing'...

...by Tony Jackson

We were blessed to do campus ministry for 25 years, ministering to and alongside hundreds of university students at SIUE, Washington University and St. Louis University. We got to help them think through their views on life, the universe, God, and everything. We experienced lots of ups and downs as we did life with them.

Often, we would pray for them and with them about situations and people that they were concerned about. Sometimes, when the circumstances or people changed in the ways a student wanted, they would exclaim: "It's a God thing!" I would often respond with: "Maybe...but if it had *not* worked out like you wanted it to, would it still be a 'God thing'?"

I wanted to teach them that faith in God is trust in him...not just saying the magic words (in prayer) or rubbing the magic lamp and having the genie grant wishes. Trust in God means we believe He is with us and that he sees and knows and cares. Faith in Him means we believe this is just as true when our negative or painful circumstances do not change, when He leaves us in them. There is a passage of scripture that I often hear misused and misquoted: Jeremiah 29:11. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

The context of this verse is a letter to the Israelites that have been taken into Babylonian captivity. God, through Jeremiah, is saying to them that they (the original recipients of the letter) are not going anywhere. He tells them to work hard for this pagan kingdom (Babylon) so that it will be successful and since God is not going to rescue them immediately (as most were saying and hoping and false prophets were capitalizing on) that they should settle down, take spouses and have kids because you're going to be staying here for a long time, not being freed and not going back to the promised land. God did not remove them from trouble back into comfort or remove the terrible circumstances they were in.

Some Believers equate God's unwillingness to prevent bad circumstances from happening, or to change them into good circumstances, given his awareness "ahead of time", with his planning, or making them happen. I don't think this accurately reflects his nature or represents clear thinking. Many Christians I have met seem to subscribe to this view, where God orchestrates it all and they are content with viewing him this way. I don't believe this represents great faith.

Our world has been disrupted at every level by rebellion (sin) against God and his created order. This has negatively impacted us and the world in many ways. This is not God's fault, and was not orchestrated by him. People bear the responsibility for using their God-given free will against their Creator. Thank God he does not leave us here! Jesus (who Paul calls "the second Adam") comes to undo what the first Adam did, and to establish himself as Lord and King of God's kingdom. Our savior invites us to follow him and to join him in restoring his father's kingdom and furthering his agenda of calling people back to himself. This is the blessing and work of the church.

The exiles who got Jeremiah's letter were told not to listen to the false prophets that kept telling what they wanted to hear; that God would soon release them and make it all better. He told them at a time in the future (after most of them had died) that God would rescue and restore some of their descendants, but they were called to be faithful and endure captivity by the pagan nation who had taken them away.

God walks with us...is with us always - even when things don't work out or change in the ways we believe they should. It's a God thing either way. I believe this is true of my life, your life, and the life of BCC, regardless of circumstances. You and I are called to be faithful, to trust God and live for Jesus as we serve and seek others together and share the Good News about Jesus with them.



Our vision is to be a body of Christ
where every person is growing
and living the mission.
1 Corinthians 12:4-7

CEAD: Christian Education and Adult Discipleship

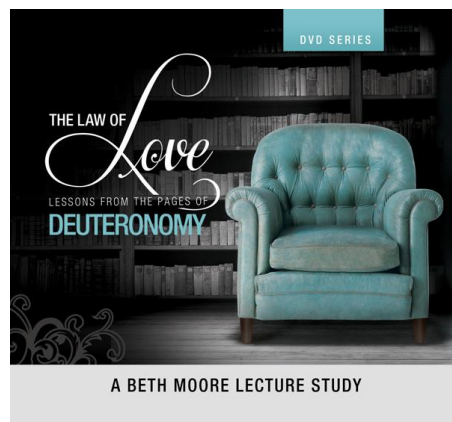
SUNDAY MORNING 9:00 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Prayer - Tony Jackson 's Office

Book of Genesis - Room 113 – Curt Folmsbee

Genesis is the book of beginnings: the beginning of creation, the beginning of man, the beginning of sin, and the beginning of God's plan for the redemption of sinning man. Bring your Bible as we study chapter by chapter, verse by verse.

Deuteronomy Adult Class - Room 207 - Colleen Jumper



We're finishing up in Romans. Then, we're starting this six week study on October 13.

Wednesday Evenings - Serving meals to people in our Community
Prep time starts at 4:00, Time of prayer at 5 PM, Meal Delivery & Fellowship meal following.

More cooks and servers are needed! Sign up for a week or a month.

*Contact Tony Jackson for information or suggestions for future Bible Class studies.

THOSE TO SERVE IN OCTOBER 2019

Offering Counters & Building Lock Up

October 6 Kevin J. & Dave G.

October 13 Randy B. & Fred G.

October 20 Randy B. & Jim T.

October 27 Kevin J.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."

1 Peter 4:10

In order to accomplish our Mission of sharing the Good News, loving people unconditionally, serving others selflessly, and living like Jesus', we must work together. Your servant's heart and hands are needed each month. To volunteer, please talk to an Elder or contact Anna in the office at 377-9259 or by email office.bfcc@gmail.com and let them know of your willingness to serve.

KIDS ZONE



OCTOBER

9:00 Hour Nursery/Toddlers:
Heather Cummings

10:30 Jr. Worship Hour

Security:

Week 1 Aaron T.
Week 2 Jeff D.
Week 3 Daryl R.
Week 4

Nursery:

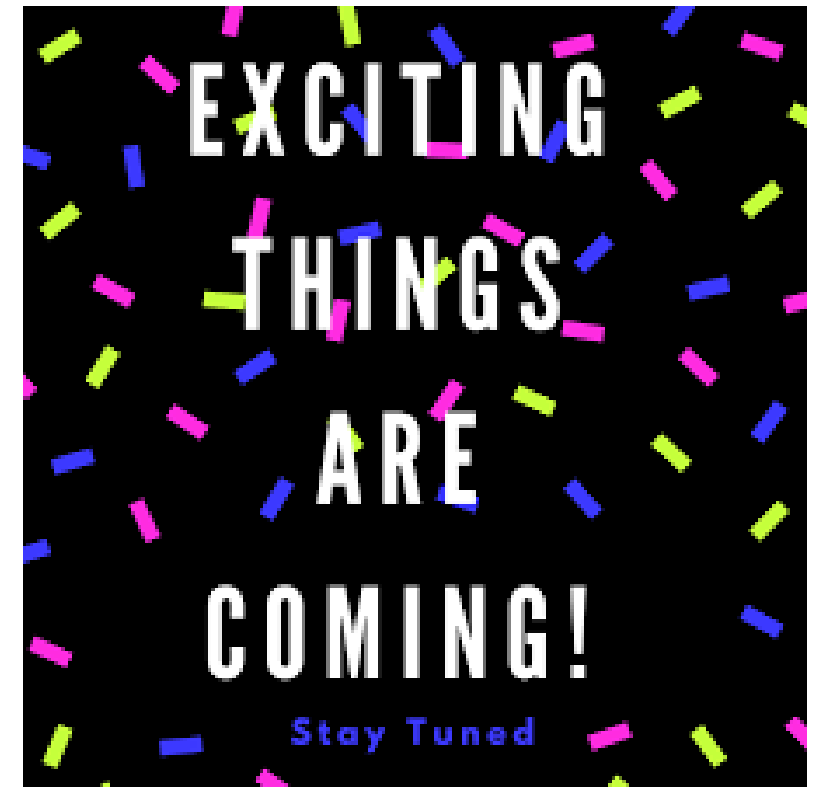
Week 1
Week 2 Betty Jo H.
Week 3 Leah & Paige R.
Week 4 Wendy G.

Toddler Worship:

Week 1
Week 2 Sandy Michel
Week 3 Leah & Paige R.
Week 4

Jr. Worship Hour Leader

Week 1 Seth F.
Week 2 Jennifer D.
Week 3
Week 4



WHO WE ARE

Parents NOW exists to provide parents with an encouraging and loving environment that assists them in becoming successful parents. While attending the program, parents are educated by special speakers, mentored by strong Christian examples, and are encouraged to enrich their lives. They also have the opportunity to earn points to obtain baby clothes, diapers, wipes, personal hygiene and other items from the Parents N.O.W. shop.

PARENT MEETINGS

Friday, October 11 or

Tuesday, October 22

No regular classes in Nov. or Dec., but we do have events planned.

Come to a meeting of your choosing.
Free meal & childcare.

We're up to 97 families and 184 children that have been touched by this ministry and loved on by our volunteers.



Thank You!



...exists to empower young parents to meet their potential in an encouraging, non-judgmental environment.

Our Needs:

- ✓ Diapers size 5
- ✓ Wipes
- ✓ Wrapped Candy for Christmas giveaways
- ✓ Dollar Tree gift cards to purchase needed products

New Phone #: 618-377-9350

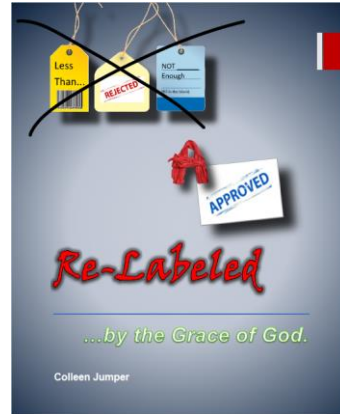
Email: contactparentsnow@gmail.com

Like Us On Facebook: Parents & Families NOW

LADIES BIBLE Study

Friday Mornings
9:00 - 11:30 AM
Childcare provided

We are studying a book called **Re-Labeled...by the Grace of God** by our own Colleen Jumper.



"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." James 5:16 ESV

LOVE
FIRST

The Love First Ministry has been fulfilling the BCC mission, by "...sharing the Good News, loving people unconditionally, serving others selflessly, and living like Jesus."

It's because of your hearts for Jesus that your donations are able to provide food for many families that are struggling. Thank you for all of your donations!



Please bring donations in to help keep the pantry shelves well supplied. Monetary donations are welcome to help purchase food for the pantry. Please give those to Curt.

Here's a list of items that are needed to help restock our food pantry shelves:

Fruit (w/ pop-tops)

Green Beans

Hearty Soups

Shampoo

Spaghetti Sauce & Noodles

Peanut Butter

Ravioli

Beef Stew

Toilet Paper

Jelly

Chili

Mac-n-Cheese

Applesauce

Chicken & Dumplings

Gathering Grounds 8:20- 10:20 AM




**Come early to enjoy free coffee & tea.
Come sit & connect with others.**

We offer homemade and pre-packaged items for donations.

We do this so it is not an added expense on the church.


We are not making a profit, as all money goes back into supplies for the coffee shop.



The Gathering Grounds (Unplugged)







Bethalto Christian Church
724 E Bethalto Blvd, Bethalto Ill.

Join us in front of the Coffee Shop
for a night of acoustic guitar music and singing!
Friday, October 4th from 6 pm to the last note!
This will be a fundraiser to update our coffee maker in
The Gathering Grounds Coffee Shop.



Oh! And if you play a guitar,
feel free to bring it along and join in!

We will be offering food and drinks

 Soda	 Water	 Hot Dogs
 Cookies	 Nachos	 Walking Tacos

~ DONATIONS APPRECIATED ~

Thank you for helping our fund raiser for a new
Coffee Maker!

BCC WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

Gathering Grounds Coffee Shop - 8:15 - 10:20 AM
Classes - All Ages 9-10 AM
Praise & Worship 10:30, Gym
 Jr. Worship in Kids Zone
 0 years -5th grade

TUESDAY

Parent's NOW - Meets 4th
 Tuesday of each
 month 5-7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

Meal Outreach Night 5:00 pm
Ladies Class 6:45 – 8:00pm

THURSDAY

Sisters in Sobriety
 Kids Zone, 7 pm
 *Last Thursday of month is an
 OPEN meeting to all with a
 Potluck at 6 pm

FRIDAY

Ladies Bible Study
 Rm. 114
 9-11:30 am
Parent's NOW
 Meets 2nd Friday of each
 month 5-7:30 PM

SATURDAY

Narcotics Anonymous
 Kids Zone area 7-8:30
 Open meetings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
OCTOBER 2019		Oct 1	2	3	4	5
				7:00pm Sisters of Sobriety AA	9:00am Ladies Bible Class 6:00pm Night of Music GG	7:00pm Narcotics Anonymou...
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:00am Class & Worship				7:00pm Sisters of Sobriety AA	9:00am Ladies Bible Class 5:00pm Parent's NOW	7:00pm Narcotics Anonymou...
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:00am Class & Worship				7:00pm Sisters of Sobriety AA	9:00am Ladies Bible Class	1:00pm PM Event 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymou...
	Columbus Day					
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:00am Class & Worship 2:00pm PM Reservation		5:00pm Parent's NOW		7:00pm Sisters of Sobriety AA	9:00am Ladies Bible Class	7:00pm Narcotics Anonymou...
27	28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2
9:00am Class & Worship				7:00pm Sisters of Sobriety AA	9:00am Ladies Bible Class	2:00pm PM Bday 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymou...



CHANGE

"Change is the essence of life. Be willing to surrender what you are, for what you could become".