



Buchanan Christian Church

112 W. Third St. Buchanan, MI 49107

BUCHANAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Est. December 17, 1854

112 West Third Street
Buchanan, MI 49107-1229

Electronic Service Requested

The BCC Bugle Newsletter — Volume 44 No. 20 — October 17, 2017

The Buchanan Bugle

Jesus answered Thomas:
"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6

BCC Office

Open: Monday-Thursday, Closed Friday
Office: 269-695-6621
Please leave your name, phone number & a brief message

Tel.: 269-695-6621 Fax: 269-695-6351

Email: office@buchananchurch.com

Web Site: <http://www.buchanan.church>

Office Hours:

Mon & Tues: 8-12 & 1-5

Wed & Thurs: 8-4; Fri: CLOSED

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER: NEWS, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

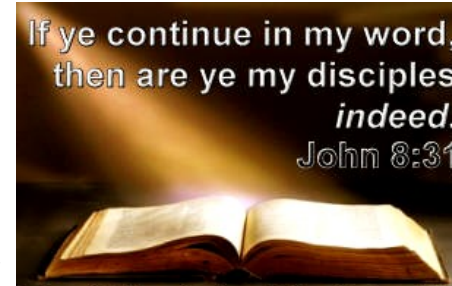
- > Sundays: 4:45 pm - 5:45, **Choir & Heroes**, K-5 gr. Heroes in Youth Room. 5:45 pm, **Small Groups**. Sunday 10/22 & 10/29 meal time starts with a light supper on the 2nd fl. Youth room. Bring a dish to pass, snack, veggies or dessert. There are 4 small groups you may attend.
- > Wednesdays: 5:30p, **Special Prayer Time**; 5:45 - 6:30 pm, **Glorymakers** 6 pm, **Jr. High & Teen Illumination** 6:30-7:30pm, **Adult Bible Study**

OCTOBER

- > 10/18 & 10/25: **NO YOUTH GROUP**
- > 10/19, Thurs: **God bless the Africa Fire Mission Team** leaving for Kenya
- > 10/16 - 11/4: **Sanctuary Renovation** worship in the Fellowship Hall
- > 10/31, Tues: 6 pm - 7:30 pm, **Trunk or Treat**. Volunteers are needed to help with the outreach. Bring your kids to BCC as the town passes out treats to the children.

NOVEMBER

- > 11/2, Thurs: 1:30 pm, **Ladies Fellowship Meeting** at BCC.
- > 11/4, Sat: **Daylight Saving Time Ends** Sunday. Turn your clocks back Saturday night.
- > 11/4, Sat: 10 - 12 pm, **Mission Ministry Team meets**, Cindy Blaine hosting
- > 11/6, Mon: **Annual Reports** are due. Please turn these into the office at: office@buchananchurch.com no later than 11/9. Thank you.
- > 11/7, Tues: **Election Day! VOTE**
- > 11/11, Sat: **VETERAN's DAY**
- > 11/12, Sun: **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION DAY**



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Buchanan Christian Church is to be and to make disciples of Jesus who serve God by serving others.

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Deeper In the Word
Nate Babcock, Senior Minister

Saved by Grace

The fantastic news of the gospel is that we are saved by God's grace, and not by anything we do! Writing to the churches in Galatia the apostle Paul declared:

Galatians 2:15-16 [REB]: We ourselves are Jews by birth, not gentile sinners; yet we know that no one is ever justified by doing what the law requires, but only through faith in Christ Jesus. So, we too have put our faith in Jesus Christ, in order that we might be justified through this faith, and not through actions dictated by the law; for no human being can be justified by keeping the law.

Our good works and obedience to God's laws can never earn or deserve God's favor. In fact, our human nature is so corrupted by sin that it is impossible for us to obey God's law as we should (Romans 8:7-8). However, because of his great love for us, God sent Jesus his Son to do for us what we could not do for ourselves:

Romans 8:2-4 [REB]: In Christ Jesus the life-giving law of the Spirit has set you free from the law of sin and death. What the law could not do, because human weakness robbed it of all potency, God has done: by sending his own Son in the likeness of our sinful nature and to deal with sin, he has passed judgment against sin within that very nature, so that the commandment of the law may find fulfillment in us, whose conduct is no longer controlled by the old nature, but by the Spirit.

Christ perfectly obeyed the law on our behalf. Then Christ took all of our sins upon himself when he suffered and died on the cross. Then Christ rose from the grave to defeat death and to create one new humanity out of all who will believe in him. Salvation – which is having our sins forgiven, being made right with God (justified), adopted as God's children, and united to God through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit – comes to us through what Christ has done for us. We are saved by God's grace!

This does not mean, however, that no actions are required from us in order to enter into salvation. Indeed, we must believe in Christ (John 3:16), we must repent of sin and be baptized (Acts 2:38, Matthew 28:19), and we must confess that Christ is our Lord (Romans 10:9-10). The key is to understand that these actions *do not merit* salvation. They have no value in themselves. Their value is that together they are how we respond to Jesus Christ and receive what he has done for us. So, salvation is entirely and completely God's work, and it requires our response of faith, repentance, baptism, and confession. When we receive God's amazing grace, we know how truly blessed it is to trust completely in Jesus and not at all in ourselves!

The Protestant Reformation 500th Anniversary:
1517-2017

On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther posted a list of 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. This was a normal course of action for giving notice of disputations (or debates) and at the time Luther certainly could not have imagined what would follow. Luther was a monk within the Roman Catholic Church (which was the only church which then existed in Western Europe). His theses were primarily intended to dispute the preaching and sale of indulgences by the Church. Indulgences were given to the faithful in return for financial contributions to the church, and it was taught that this “could ensure that a person who had died could be released from purgatory (the place of torment) into heavenly bliss.” Luther's twenty-first thesis read “Therefore those preachers of indulgences are in error who allege that through the indulgences of the pope a man is freed from every penalty.”

From Luther's challenge to indulgences arose the Reformation, which was a complex series of events that transformed the religious, political, and social landscape of Europe. The impact of the Reformation was so great that many historians look to it as the beginning of modernity. One result of the Reformation was the creation of the Protestant churches which now existed in distinction from the Roman church, and to some degree, from one another: the Lutheran church (Germany, Denmark, Sweden); the Reformed Church (Switzerland, Hungary, the Netherlands, Scotland, parts of Germany and France); and the Church of England. Some of the most important leaders of these new churches were, in addition to Luther, John Calvin, Huldreich Zwingli, John Knox, Philip Melancthon, and Thomas Cranmer. All of the world's major Protestant denominations – such as the Presbyterians, Baptists, and Methodists – descend from these Reformation churches. Also, the Anabaptist movement emerged during the Reformation and produced the Mennonite and Brethren churches, among others.

Many good things resulted from the Reformation, including most importantly a return to the doctrine of grace alone (humans are saved only by the grace of God; their works do not earn or deserve salvation in any way). However, one of the worst effects of the Reformation has been the ongoing division of the church, as there are now hundreds of Protestant denominations and sects throughout the world. The early leaders of the Restoration Movement in 19th century America – such as Thomas Campbell, Alexander Campbell, Barton Stone, and Walter Scott – were deeply troubled by this division and were passionate about calling Christians to lay aside the man-made walls which divided them and to recover their unity in Christ. Buchanan Christian Church is a congregation which stands in the tradition of the Restoration Movement and therefore part of our heritage is a commitment to biblical and practical Christian unity. We respect much of what Luther and the other early Reformers accomplished, but as we look back over 500 years of Protestant history, we recognize that the church must be “always reforming” because we still have a long way to go to be all that Jesus wants us to be.



NOVEMBER BLESSINGS to CELEBRATE

(Please notify the office if you'd like to have your birthday or anniversary included.)



Birthdays

Melody Pinkston - 1
 Mike Galaske - 2
 Kallah Wheat - 2
 Mia Wheat - 2
 Marcus Mitchell - 4
 Spencer Campbell - 5
 Kathy Kingery - 6
 Phil Brackett - 9
 Karen Pratt - 9
 Tony Anderson - 10

Shirley Peterson - 10
 Lane Roberts - 14
 Tom Entwistle - 14
 Clayton Wetzel - 15
 Doug Weldy - 18
 Marlin Turbett - 27
 Janice Proud - 28
 David Belcher - 29
 Jordan Dempsey - 30

Anniversaries

Darrel & Pat Williams - 6
 Joel & Cara Britton - 23
 Nick & Barb Powers - 26



BCC PRAYER NEEDS

Mission of the Month:

White Fields Overseas Ministries

Please Remember in Prayer:

Our Nation, *BCC Leaders & Teachers
 *Those hurting from loss of loved ones
 *Our shut-ins & home bound
 *Victims of tragedy in our nation & elsewhere
 *President Trump & family, *US Troops
 *Lord to send forth laborers for the Kingdom
 *Africa Fire Mission Team & Trip Oct. 19-28
 Randy & Kathy - unspoken request, N. Bicard's son
 Donald Bumstead Sr - health concerns
 Mary Chadderdon - surgery, recovery
 Cheryl - Praise! no cancer, sister of K. Cornwell
 Lucille Grice - family concern, G. Hopper sister
 Nancy Holmes - health concerns
 Hurricane victims - C. Roberts req.

Prayer Focus:

Missionaries

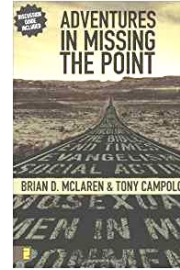
Tilly Mark - back pain, homebound
 Debbie Morse - breast cancer spread to spine, sister of K. Cornwell
 Diahnn Robinson - spiritual need, R. Barbour req.
 Carol Ruff - scleroderma, much pain, P. Brackett req.
 Sadie - many concerns, Kr. Furst's coworker
 Jean Schneider - bad fall
 Catherine Syrette - cont. healing
 Rich Watson - cont. healing
 Ken Weed - home
 Elsie West - spiritual need, R. Meredith req.
 Lindi Williams - pregnancy, C. Roberts req.

**No matter what
 You face in life...
 Don't let go of
 God's Hand.**

Adventures in Missing the Point by Brian McLaren and Tony Campolo

Review by Phil Brackett

Book Review



In their book, *Adventures in Missing the Point*, Brian McLaren and Tony Campolo set out to highlight several situations in which the 21st century Christian church is, well, missing the point. They do this in the book by using a very interesting approach; the two collaborating authors take turns authoring the different chapters in this book. While this might not be interesting in and of itself, the added twist is this: whichever author is not authoring the chapter writes a short afterword at the end of the chapter, thereby getting the final word on the topic.

On the topic of topics, this book covers quite a bit and I learned a lot while reading it. The book is divided into three major areas of discussion: God, World, and Soul. In these three sections, eighteen chapters cover such a variety of topics; my favorite chapters included chapters on the end times, the Bible, environmentalism, world culture, doubt, and truth.

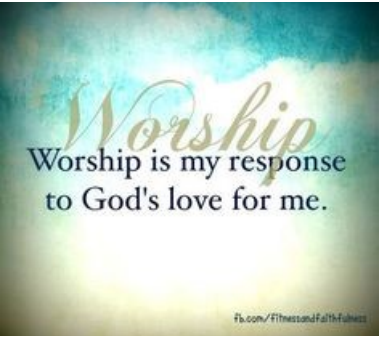
This isn't the first book that I've read that tries to do the job of convincing the reader that we've gone off the tracks as the Western church, but it is one of the best books I've read at making this point and backing it up with Scripture. Still, even though some of the chapters helped me to see things in a different light, other chapters seemed unconvincing in their attempt to get me to part from what I believe to be true. This is probably always going to be the case with books like these, regardless of the reader.

The value in books that challenge us is two-fold: 1) very rarely have I read a book of this variety and not learned something, and 2) these books should keep us on our toes when it comes to what we believe and why we believe it. Reading this book is probably not for those who are easily swayed when it comes to what they believe. But, I was challenged in a good way by some of the content in this book. And because the book covers such a variety of different topics, I would recommend it if you are wanting a book that exposes you to things that you may not have thought much about previously.

BCC COMPREHENSIVE SERVING CALENDAR: NOVEMBER

Contact: **BIBLE SCHOOL TEACHERS & CHILDREN'S CLASSES**
 B. Babcock **Birth-2yrs / 3 yrs-Pre K / K-2nd / 3rd-5th / Worship Hr.**

11/05	Bible School V. Metzger	Bible School C. Benson R. Campbell P. Anderson	Bible School P. Brackett	Bible School R. Neal	Birth-2 yrs: J. Ferris / S. Galaske 3 yrs - Pre K: C. Benson/C. Belcher K-2nd Gr.: B. Wesner/M. Clayton 3rd-5th Gr: St. Weldy
11/12	Bible School V. Metzger	Bible School C. Benson R. Campbell P. Anderson	Bible School P. Brackett	Bible School R. Neal	Birth-2 yrs: R. & T. Wheat 3 yrs - Pre K: P. Anderson/T. Mark K-2nd Gr.: P. & J. Brackett 3rd-5th Gr: St. Weldy
11/19	Bible School V. Metzger	Bible School C. Benson R. Campbell P. Anderson	Bible School P. Brackett	Bible School R. Neal	Birth-2 yrs: T. & K. Entwistle 3 yrs - Pre K: M. & N. Mitchell K-2nd Gr.: Family Sunday 3rd-5th Gr: Family Sunday
11/26 Family Sunday	Bible School V. Metzger	Bible School C. Benson R. Campbell P. Anderson	Bible School P. Brackett	Bible School R. Neal	Birth-2 yrs: A. Belcher/R. Campbell 3 yrs - Pre K: B. & C. Schmeling K-2nd Gr.: D. & Kr Furst 3rd-5th Gr: L. Klinedinst



CALL TO WORSHIP

11/05	C. Schmeling
11/12	T. Irwin
11/19	R. Neal
11/26 Family Sunday	Z. & T. Anderson

Meditation Prayer

11/05	P. Weldy	R. Mark
11/12	R. Mark	P. Weldy
11/19	P. Weldy	R. Mark
11/26 Family Sunday	R. Mark	P. Weldy

MUSIC MINISTRY

	Praise Team	Accompanist	Sound Tech	Projection Tech
Contact: 11/05 J. Earnst	N. Mitchell J. Brackett P. Weldy M. Mitchell	M. Kitchell T. Wheat	T. Entwistle	K. Entwistle
11/12	G. Britton K. Entwistle P. Brackett D. Ferris	C. Benson M. Kitchell	Be. Babcock	Br. Babcock
11/19	N. Mitchell D.A. Weldy M. Mitchell P. Weldy	C. Benson M. Kitchell T. Wheat	R. Wheat	Z. Furst
11/26 Family Sunday	S. Weldy D. Weldy P. Weldy D. Ferris	C. Benson M. Kitchell T. Wheat	R. Earnst	G. Brackett

PRAYING FOR THE WORSHIP SERVICE

11/05	T. & P. Anderson
11/12	G. Britton
11/19	K. Pratt
11/26 Family Sunday	D. A. Weldy

SERVING HOME COMMUNION

11/05	L. Brunke	R. Young
11/12	K. Pratt	R. Wheat
11/19	T. Irwin	
11/26 Family Sunday	C. Benson	TBD

BCC SECURITY LOCKUP Contact: N. Mark
 November D. Ferris

COMMUNION PREPARATION Contact: L. Brunke
 November Steph Weldy A. Belcher