



STAYING CONNECTED

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR MCIVOR CHURCH FAMILY

APRIL 23, 2023

*You are a valued member of our church family
and a gift to us!*

PRAYER - EPHESIANS 3:14-21

I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit. Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Now all glory to God, who is able, through His mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to Him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

WORSHIP IN SONG

*Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love
Oh to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart O take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above*

SERMON - SCOTT KOOP

The Church That Christ Builds: Filled to Overflowing (Ephesians 3)

There is a very common issue with the vast majority of people in our society. We like to be busy. In fact, we tend to glorify busyness! So much so that we can often become critical of those who don't work full time or those who choose to stay home with young kids or those who choose to keep life simple, relaxed, who aren't out to make as much money as possible in as short a time as possible. Now, I want to be clear here, there is nothing wrong with being motivated and driven. I'm not criticizing those who work hard. Those things are actually good and one could make the case that they are even Biblical. But our society is often so consumed with being busy that we can become overworked, it is common to be overbooked and we often seem to be overwhelmed!

We are programmed to fill our lives so much that we run out of room, run out of time, or just run out of steam. And too often we fill our lives so full of the non-essential stuff that we leave no room for the more important things.

I want us to be filled to overflowing but I also want us to make sure that the things we fill our lives with are the most important components. I don't want us to miss out on the things that really matter.

The What (vs. 6-7)

God's plan is that there be unity and equality within His body, the church. Regardless of who we are, we are now one in Christ, part of the same body and recipients of the same blessings.

The So What (vs. 10-11)

God's purpose with this church of His is to display His wisdom, not only to the world we know but also, to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

The Now What (vs. 12-13)

Because of what Christ has done and because of our faith in Him, we can now come boldly before our

STAYING CONNECTED • A WEEKLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Heavenly Father--right into His presence.

The 5-Fold Prayer (vs. 14-19)

- **That Christ will empower you** - this empowering comes by way of the Holy Spirit.
- **That Christ will indwell you** - as we place our trust in Christ, He makes His home in our hearts.
- **That you will be rooted in God's love** - as we are rooted in God's love we grow in love. As we grow in love we become strong and better able to demonstrate God's love to those around us.
- **That you understand and experience the love of Christ** - as we grow in God's love, we are more able to understand God's love and experience it more fully. Although we will never understand it completely because it is greater than our finite minds can ever fully grasp.
- **That you be complete with all the fullness of God** - the more God's love fills us, the more we become like Christ.

Conclusion (vs. 20-21)

Do we ever think that our prayers or our dreams are too big for God? Do we ever wonder if He has the ability to answer the really big stuff? These last two verses tell us that God's mighty power, that is at work within us, is able to accomplish infinitely more than we could ask, or even think!

Are the difficulties you are facing too much for you? They are not too much for God. Are the troubles we are currently walking through as a church overwhelming? God is not overwhelmed by them. He is able to do way more than we could ever ask or even think. Scripture says infinitely more! So let's dream big and pray even bigger. Our God is up to the task! Amen.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT MCIVOR

- April 26 - Tying quilts for MCC 9:00-noon
- April 26 - Youth Night 7:00 pm
- April 27 - Food Bank 9:00am and 5:00 pm
- April 27 - Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm
- April 30 - Family Fun Day 12:00 pm
- May 3 - Tying quilts for MCC 9:00-noon
- May 7 - Bridal Shower for Mikayla 2:00 pm
- May 16 - 10:30 am 55+ Ascension Day and pizza lunch

COMMUNITY NEWS



55+ Walk & Talk on Tuesday

Tying Quilts for MCC

We are tying quilts for MCC for the next two Wednesdays, April 26 and May 3, 9:00-noon. Everyone is welcome. No special skills required. Contact Anne Friesen.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, April 27 at 7 pm in the Fellowship Room. All ages are welcome to join us as we seek to discover who Jesus is through the unique perspective of women in the Bible who knew Him. Contact Monica Friesen.

Family Fun Day

As a follow up to our Spring Break Day Camp, we are hosting a free Family Fun Day on Sunday April 30, from noon to 4 pm. Everyone is welcome, so invite your family and friends! There will be a chili lunch, bouncer, coffee house with live music, crafts and more! We hope to see you there!

Bridal Shower for Mikayla

There will be a church bridal shower for our Youth Pastor, Mikayla on Sunday, May 7 at 2 pm at the church. All ladies are invited. We will collect money for a group gift(s). We invite you to sign up in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

WAYS TO GIVE

- Drop-Off Cash or Cheque during office hours Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.
- E-Transfer - Can be set up through your bank and emailed to mcivor@mcivorchurch.com.
- Direct Deposit - Contact church office to request the forms to set up automatic monthly donations