

Senior Pastor Report - July 2025

Greetings Leadership Team! Below are some general updates on things I've been working on since our last meeting. If you have any questions prior to our meeting, do not hesitate to send them my way!

Blessings,

Kyle

General Updates

Southwest Entrance Flooding: As I shared with you last month, my plan was to provide a covering for the SW stairwell that leads downstairs and see if reducing the amount of rainfall in that area would aid our flooding problem. Director of Facilities Eric Nance and I spent half a day setting up an angled tarp with the hope that it would direct water away from the building and towards the parking lot. That very afternoon a heavy rain came in and the tarp ripped at the grommets. (I have pictures and video if you desire to join in my misery). I've learned two things: 1) I'm not an engineer and 2) there's a lot of water that lands in that surface area. Unless you desire to proceed otherwise, I'll instruct Eric Nance that addressing the downstairs water issue needs to be a top priority for the Facilities Team. If you would like to pre-approve a set amount the Leadership Team is willing to expend, that would not be inappropriate and would keep the Facilities Team from having to come back for approval. Additionally, know I plan on being at their August meeting.

Policy Updates: You will see in your packet the recommended modifications to our Financial Accounting Controls as submitted by the Financial Team. Updated areas are in red font. If you'd like to see the original let me know and I'll happily provide that for you. Steve Johns plans on being in attendance at our meeting to answer any questions as well. The Servant Foundation has been working to update their bylaws, a number of you have been assisting with updating our building use policies, and our Personnel Team has done extensive work updating the personnel policies. Those have been revised and are being reviewed by the team at this time. I anticipate having items for your modification/approval on that policy at our August meeting.

Church Camps: We had four elementary children and four youth attend camp this month. I joined with our elementary aged children and will be joining with our youth next summer.

Worship Planning: I've heard positive feedback so far from *Praise-Tastic July* and I hope you have as well. Not only has this allowed us to sing some of the congregation's favorites, but it has also allowed our worship planning team to try some new things. We met earlier this month as well to plan out service themes for the rest of the year. I've included on the second page what you can expect.

June Statistics

In Person: 6/1: 302 6/8: 298 6/15: 295 6/22: 301 6/29: 282
2025 Avg: 317

Online: 6/1: 307 6/8: 317 6/15: 274 6/22: 379 6/29: 358
2025 Avg: 323

Childlike Faith (August): As we return from summer vacations and children, youth, and young adults head back to school, we will be examining how we all might adopt the mindset of a child and discover opportunities for new learning and growth in our faith. This series will incorporate a number of stories and practices that, while seen by some as childish, may actually be instructive for all God's children.

Questions God Asks (September): We probably all have questions for God but how often do we stop and consider the questions God has of us? In fact Jesus, God in the flesh, often responded to questions from his disciples and others not with direct answers but with more questions for his listeners to consider. In this sermon series we'll examine stories where God asks the questions and consider just what a faithful response might be.

Naaman: In Search of God (October): In the book of 2 Kings we read the story of Naaman, a commander in the Aramean army. He goes in search of healing for himself but finds much more. In this sermon series we will learn alongside Naaman important lessons on how Faith may be simple in concept, but difficult in practice; anywhere can be Holy ground; and as servants of the Lord we prioritize faithfulness, not prosperity.

Table Manners (November): Many of us can remember being taught table manners as children and hearing family members tell us repeatedly: elbows off the table, chew with your mouth closed, all four legs of the chair on the ground! In the Gospels not only does Jesus often share meals with others, he also uses them as teaching moments. Join us during the month of November as we learn that how we behave around the table can also be an expression of faith.

Christmas Preparations (Advent): It's that time of the year when we all begin to prepare for the upcoming Christmas holiday as we put up the lights, bake special treats, tell our favorite Christmas stories, and turn on the 24 hour Christmas music stations. As we do, we not only prepare ourselves for the holiday, but to tell of and experience the birth of Christ once more this year. Join in during the season of Advent as we consider how our Christmas Preparations truly help us to celebrate, and share with others, the good news of Christ's birth.