

CONTACT

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

of the Churches of God, General Conference
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May is Here!!

*Thank Offering Weekend
May 2nd & 3rd*



*Mother's Day
May 10th*



*Memorial Day
May 25th*





ELDER'S PAGE



Stepping Out in Faith: Discovering God's Will for Your Life

One of the most common and deeply personal questions believers ask is this: “*What is God’s will for my life?*” It’s a question that often carries both hope and anxiety. We want to honor God, but we also fear making the “wrong” choice—choosing the wrong career, the wrong place, the wrong path. Yet Scripture gently redirects our focus from anxiety about specifics to clarity about purpose. When Jesus was asked which commandment was the greatest, He gave a beautifully simple yet profound answer (Matt. 22:37-39): love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength—and love your neighbor as yourself. Later, before ascending, He gave His followers what we now call the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20): go and make disciples of all nations. If we hold these teachings together, a powerful truth emerges:

God’s will for your life is to love Him fully, love others deeply, and participate in His mission.

That’s it. That’s the foundation.

The Tension We Feel

Even with this clarity, many of us still wrestle. We want more detail. We want direction for the decisions that fill our everyday lives:

- Which job should I take?
- Where should I live?
- Who should I marry?
- What opportunities should I pursue—or walk away from?

We often treat God’s will like a narrow tightrope, afraid that one misstep will take us outside His plan. But Scripture paints a different picture. In Isaiah 43:7, we are reminded that we were created for God’s glory. That truth is both grounding and freeing. It tells us that our ultimate purpose is not tied to a single path, but to a posture of the heart.

What if God’s will is less like a tightrope and more like a wide, open field? Within that field, there are countless ways to glorify Him. You can glorify God as a teacher, an engineer, a parent, an artist, a business owner, or a student. You can glorify Him in a small town or a big city. You can honor Him in seasons of stability and seasons of change. The key is not *where* you are, but *how* you live. Are you loving God with your whole heart? Are you loving the people around you? Are you pointing others toward Christ in both word and action? If the answer is yes, then you are walking in His will.

The Beauty of Your Uniqueness

God did not create us as identical copies. Each person reflects His glory in a unique way. You have distinct gifts, passions, and perspectives. You have likes and dislikes that shape how you engage with the world. You are given opportunities that others may never encounter—and you will walk through doors that only

(Continued on next page)

you can walk through. These differences are not obstacles to God's will—they are part of it. Your personality, your talents, your story—all of these are tools God uses to bring Him glory. What excites you, what burdens your heart, what opportunities arise before you—these are often clues to how you can live out His calling.

Living in God's will doesn't mean having every step mapped out. It means trusting Him enough to take the next step. Faith is not the absence of uncertainty—it is obedience in the midst of it. You may not always know the "perfect" choice, but you can choose to move forward in love, guided by Scripture, prayer, and wise counsel. And as you do, you can trust that God is faithful to lead, redirect, and work through your decisions.

A Simple Answer

So, what is God's will for your life?

Love Him completely.
Love others sacrificially.
Join Him in His mission.
Glorify Him in all you do.

Within that calling, there is freedom. There is creativity. There is room to grow, to explore, and to become who He created you to be. And whatever that turns out to be, we are instructed to do it with gumption. In Colossians 3:23-24 we read: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

So friends, whether you find yourself in the hopeful dawn of youth, the full and often demanding responsibilities of midlife, or what the world calls your "retirement" years, one truth stands firm: God's will for your life does not change with the seasons. For the follower of Jesus there is simply no retirement. Every chapter—every stage—is a fresh invitation to love Him completely, love others sacrificially, and join Him in His mission to make disciples. So wherever you are right now, step forward in faith. Work heartily at whatever your hands find to do, as working for the Lord, knowing that the One who called you is faithful and still writing your story for His glory.

Elder, John Martin



In keeping with the NFL Draft weekend (when this issue was produced) here is something to tickle your funny bone!



"IN SHORT, WE TRADED YOU TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN FOR THEIR ASSOCIATE PASTOR, THEIR CHOIR DIRECTOR, AND A SEMINARY STUDENT TO BE NAMED LATER."



Prayer List:

Debbie Baum
Fred & Virginia Brautigan
Fred Buskirk
Holly Cline
Patti Fox
Don Lehew
Eunice Lohr
Shelley Martin
Jay Morris
Bill Sayre
Gary Wolfe

Church Construction
Military – Cheyenne Howard &
Thomas Norcott
Family of David McKinley

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.
Romans 12:12



And speaking of answers to prayer...



Construction Update!!

GOD IS GOOD!!!

The Blessings just keep on coming! We were recently gifted a \$25,000.00 donation that will help pay for the rest of the floor treatments. Interior doors will have to be installed prior to any additional floor work being completed but what a blessing!!! GOD IS GOOD, ALL THE TIME and ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD!!

Please continue to pray for all aspects of the construction – the workers/contractors, the finances and, most of all, the ministry of this new facility!!!

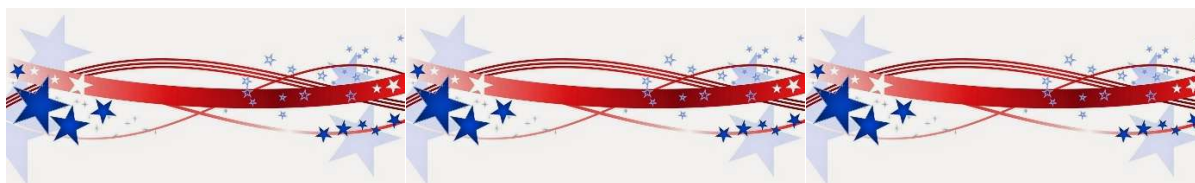


Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry ministry has been busy this month. We were able to help six families/households in April thanks to your continued support. However, our monetary resources are beginning to get low and we could use some help.

Please pray about this vital ministry and help where you are able!

Again, we couldn't do this without you and any help will be greatly appreciated!



Ironmen Bible Study

*As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.
Proverbs 27:17*

The Ironmen Group is quickly approaching the completion of their study on the Max Lucado book "Taming Your Thoughts". Word has it that a new study will begin in a few weeks. The book of Revelation will be the topic and Elder, Dave Fox will be leading this study.

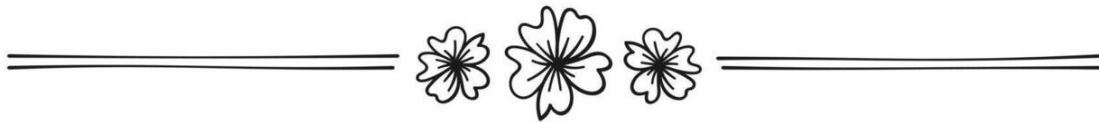
Any man is welcome to join them on Monday evenings at 6:00 pm in the basement of the church.



Titus Women

Join us on Wednesday nights as we begin a new study on “What it Means to Be a God’s Woman.” We will encourage and support each other as we grow to be women who love and serve God.

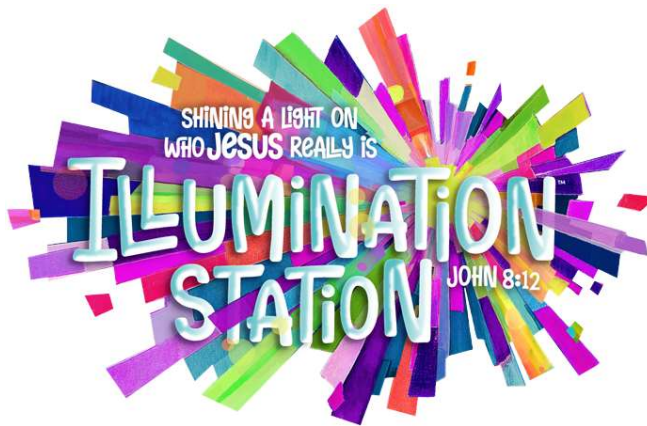
We would love to have you join us!



Vacation Bible School Yes, It's that time again.

We are excited to launch our VBS theme this year: Illumination Station: Shining a Light on Who Jesus Really Is.

More information about dates and ways that you can help will be coming soon.



for

There is a VBS Volunteer Sign Up sheet on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

There will be a meeting on MAY 3rd AFTER CHURCH to discuss finalizing the dates and other items for this year.

Please see Rebekah Martin if you have any questions.





Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday dear...

Happy May Birthday to....

10th Stacey Fox
17th Elizabeth Lehew
19th Tanner Howard
21st Dru Fox
24th Keith Brautigan

Happy Birthday to you!



Happy May Anniversary to....

15th Gary & Beth Wolfe



May, 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Thank Offering Sunday May 3rd Women conducting the Service Mother's Day – May 10th Special Gifts for the women			Hang Out Dinner Group May 12 th at 6:00 pm Buffalo Wild Wings in Moundsville		1	2 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
3 Thank Offering Sunday Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	4 IronMen 6:00 pm	5 Piecemakers Quilt Club / Food Pantry 5:00 pm	6 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am BackPack Ministry at 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	7 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	8	9 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
10 Mother's Day Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	11 IronMen 6:00 pm	12 Piecemakers Quilt Club / Food Pantry 5:00 pm Hang Out Dinner Group at 6:00 pm	13 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am BackPack Ministry at 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	14	15	16 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
17 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	18 IronMen 6:00 pm	19 Piecemakers Quilt Club / Food Pantry 5:00 pm	20 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am BackPack Ministry at 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	21 Articles for the June issue of the Contact are due	22	23 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
24 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	25 	26 Piecemakers Quilt Club / Food Pantry 5:00 pm	27 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am BackPack Ministry at 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	28	29	30 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am						