

Volume 14, Issue 7  
July



***From the Pastor's Pen...***



**Pastor's Pen;**

Most of us, especially those of us who are Christian grandparents, grew up with a great appreciation for the country in which we live, especially the freedoms we have to worship in a manner consistent with our biblical convictions.

Sadly, the evidence is mounting that our culture is rapidly moving in an anti-biblical direction. Cancel culture, sexual distortion, critical race theory and other cultural shifts have penetrated our public education system and our society as a whole.

An article in the September '22 Hillsdale College newsletter pointed out that "Sadly, in many of our nation's classrooms, great stories of American achievement are either ignored or presented as evidence of America's history of oppression and racism. The result is a generation of young Americans who have been robbed of a true account of history...."

Who would have thought 15 or 20 years ago that kindergarteners would be told that there are more than two genders, and that you can select your own-- in shocking contrast to the biblical evidence of Genesis 2 and the clear statement of Jesus recorded in Matthew 19:4 and Mark 10:6.

Who would have imagined that, in many cities across America, statues of our founding fathers, including George Washington and even Abraham Lincoln, have either been removed or attempts have been made to remove them.

How did this happen? Of even greater importance, what can we do about it?

The growing drift toward 'woke' in our country has been taking place for decades, but over the past several years it has rapidly picked up speed. In many states teachers have already been indoctrinated with critical race theory and other counterculture philosophies, and students will find many of their classes influenced by these ideologies. In our society, many in the younger generation now identify as "nones," that is those who have no religious affiliation at all. Clearly we are already living in a post-Christian era.

I believe, based on these developments, that we as grandparents have a responsibility to do everything we can to pass along the values of faith, family and freedom which were passed on to us. So how can we carry this out?

For one thing, we can pray for each one of our grandchildren by name. Along with this, make it a point to learn what is taking place in their lives. Are they struggling in school? Have they been bullied? Do they seem to be turning away from the Faith?

Another important action step is to look for opportunities to build a close relationship with them. In our "Grandcoaching" course we emphasize two important strategies: active listening, and asking cultivating

questions. The good news is, while taking the course will sharpen your ability to use these relationship-building tools, you can begin to implement them now. The use of these skills will take that relationship much further than a lecture on “What’s wrong with your behaviors.”

Finally, if you really want to go “all in” on making a difference in the life of your grandsons and granddaughters, enrolling in our 16 week “Grandcoaching” online course will help you understand both the threats to our grandchildren and the strategies that can point them in the right direction and away from the hazards of our day. The course, as well as other resources, can be found at [Grandcoaching.org](http://Grandcoaching.org).

You might say the future of our great country rests in the hands of our grandsons and granddaughters. May we be proactive in influencing them toward what is right!

Don Hawkins D. Min.  
Pastor



### **ENCOURAGEMENT LIVE**

Encouragement Live can be heard Saturday at 7:05 PM central time on American Family Radio (90.5 FM) or ([www.afr.net](http://www.afr.net)) and on [www.theworshipchannel.org](http://www.theworshipchannel.org). Re-broadcast Sunday 9 pm on The Worship Channel.

A worldwide ministry, Encouragement Live is hosted by our Pastor, Don Hawkins, and is currently broadcast from our church. The guests on the show have timely messages for all. The program reaches listeners in 192 countries and is growing.

Our church helps sustain this ministry with prayer and tithes.

### **PODCAST**

Encouragement for You With Dr. Don Hawkins

At [lifeaudio.com](http://lifeaudio.com)

Or wherever you get your podcasts.

New episodes every Wednesday.

**CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING**

The CMF meets every Tuesday at 1:30. They are enjoying the fellowship and discussion of God's word, current events, and, in general, solving all the world's problems.

All men of the church are invited to attend.

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**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

The CWF will meet Tuesday July 25th @ 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

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Board Meeting on June 21st-  
Ministry Safe background check information for people working with children should be sent to Barbara Bates or John Smyder at

[ourlivinghopefellowship@gmail.com](mailto:ourlivinghopefellowship@gmail.com). Information needed includes name, address, email and phone number. A fee of \$15/person is being paid by the Bible Study.

No July Board meeting. Next Board Meeting August 16th @ 7 pm. With new people in the congregation, the Board will conduct an orientation and business meeting open to all.

Air conditioning systems repairs are being reviewed and bids are being taken. Prayers are always welcome.

Our Living Hope Fellowship will be having a Music Camp July 17th-20th at 6 PM. It is a spin on VBS only with music.

Anyone wanting to know more can go to [www.ourlivinghopefellowship.org](http://www.ourlivinghopefellowship.org).

You can sign up for the camp there.

**LAY LEADERS**

July 2	Jo Murphy
July 9	Betty Moilan
July 16	Barbara Bates
July 23	Viviana Hall
July 30	Mike Hall

**DEACONS**

July 2	Russell Golden
July 9	Jan Klein
July 16	Barbara Bates
July 23	Viviana Hall
July 30	Mike Hall

If you are unable to serve on the day listed, please make arrangements to switch with someone else.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

July 5th Fellowship meal 7 PM

The meat has already been bought & Randy is cooking. Buns, cheese & vegetables for burgers have been bought.

Bring items like chili, beans, potato salad, desserts.

## FCC/OLHF

July 2023

Isaiah 40:31 But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary, they will walk and not be faint.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>Birthdays/Anniversaries</b> Erin Buchholz 7/15 Peter Fomen 7/31						<b>1</b> 9am Yoga 1130 Cleaning
<b>2</b> 8:30am - OLHF 9:30am - Fellowship 9:45 am - Sunday School 10:45am FCC Service	<b>3</b> 10 am Fitness Bootcamp	<b>4</b> <b>Fourth of July Holiday</b>	<b>5</b> 10 am Fitness	<b>6</b> 9am Yoga	<b>7</b> 10 am Fitness	<b>8</b> 9am Yoga 1130 Cleaning
<b>9</b> 8:30am - OLHF 9:30am - Fellowship 9:45 am - Sunday School 10:45am FCC Service	<b>10</b> 10 am Fitness	<b>11</b> 9am Yoga 1:30 pm CMF 6:30 pm OLHF Hand Bell 7:15 pm OLHF Choir	<b>12</b> 10 am Fitness Bootcamp 1 pm Online Bible Study 6 pm FCC Choir 7 pm JointTask Force	<b>13</b> 9am Yoga	<b>14</b> 10 am Fitness	<b>15</b> 9am Yoga 1130 Cleaning
<b>16</b> 8:30am - OLHF 9:30am - Fellowship 9:45 am - Sunday School 10:45am FCC Service	<b>17</b> 10 am Fitness 6 pm Music Camp	<b>18</b> 9am Yoga 1:30 pm CMF 6 pm Music Camp	<b>19</b> 10 am Fitness Bootcamp 1 pm Online Bible Study 6 pm Music Camp	<b>20</b> 9am Yoga 6 pm MusicCamp	<b>21</b> 10 am Fitness 6 pm Wylie Stars	<b>22</b> 9am Yoga 1130 Cleaning
<b>23</b> 8:30am - OLHF 9:30am - Fellowship 9:45 am - Sunday School 10:45am FCC Service	<b>24</b> 10 am Fitness	<b>25</b> 9am Yoga 1:30 pm CMF 6:00 CWF 6:30 pm OLHF Hand Bell 7:15 pm OLHF Choir	<b>26</b> 10 am Fitness Bootcamp 1 pm Online Bible Study 6 pm FCC Choir 7 pm OLHF Board	<b>27</b> 9am Yoga	<b>28</b> 10 am Fitness	<b>29</b> 9am Yoga 1130 Cleaning
<b>30</b> 8:30am - OLHF 9:30am - Fellowship 9:45 am - Sunday School 10:45am FCC Service 6 pm Sing Along	<b>31</b> 10 am Fitness					