



Traveling With a Purpose

As most of you know, I have had an eventful month of June. To start things off, on June 10th I officially retired from the grocery store after 28 years at what was originally supposed to be a job to fill in the gap until the next thing came along. Two days later I was stuffing my oversized body into an undersized airplane seat for a trip across the country to sunny (hot, muggy, sweaty) Florida for a time of a lot of walking around, a bunch of standing around and occasionally having my body tossed around, with maybe a little bit of heatstroke thrown in. In other words, I had a great time with friend and family at Disney World. Actually, we had a really good time (except for the heatstroke part).

Now that I'm back and recovered, I got to thinking about all of that travel. And while airplanes aren't the most comfortable vehicles I've ever been in, it sure beats what traveling was like during the first century when the events in the book of Acts were happening. And as we get into the second part of Acts we find that they did a lot of traveling. The apostle Paul took three missionary journeys that are recorded in the pages of scripture and in each one he traveled farther and stayed longer. And the road was long. For instance, the walking from ancient Syrian Antioch to Corinth spans about 1,300 miles depending on the route. Back then, this journey over Roman roads took 2 to 3 months of continuous walking. Distance wasn't the only trouble Paul faced. While defending his ministry he told this to the church at Corinth:

Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

2 Corinthians 11:25-27

It's easy to think that Paul was just nuts and write him off, but as we will see as we get deeper into Acts, he understood what was at stake: the eternal lives of the people he was journeying to see. Sharing the gospel is a privilege that God has given to his servant children. We have the greatest gift that anyone could ever receive and the blessing that comes with sharing Jesus with others is like nothing else. Jesus never said that ministry is only to be done when it is convenient. It can be hard. But when we remember who God is and what He has done for us, hardships are seen for what they really are, temporary inconveniences compared to the joy we have in seeing someone come into a relationship with Jesus.

**Serving Him,
Pastor Karl**

Get Family Camp on Your Calendar

August 28-30

Be sure to save the dates of August 28-30, when we will be joining our sister church in Cove (also Calvary Baptist) for Family Camp at Camp Elkanah. We will be starting things out with dinner on Friday, August 28th, and ending after lunch on Sunday, August 30th. In between, there will be time for fun and games, peace and quiet, food and fellowship, praise and worship. You can come up for the whole weekend (August 28-30), just one night, make it a day trip on Saturday, or come for the worship service and lunch on Sunday. Whatever works for you. We won't be having a service in Baker on August 30th. More details will be coming in the next few weeks. Questions? Asks Pastor Karl. Hope to see you there on August 28-30. Did I mention the dates? It will be August 28-30.

kww



(Pssst-- if you come up, you will be able to see the new stage in person, and not just in this newsletter, that was built in April, by some of our hardworking men, to be used for all campers and enjoyed by all. Remember the dates are Friday, August 28th – Sunday, August 30th this year We do really hope you can make it for as much of the weekend you can, or maybe carpool up with friends for the day, to Camp Elkanah.) tap

The Mouas are Coming & We're Having a Potluck

During **our Sunday service on July 12th**, Kevin and Jill Moua will be here to bring us a ministry update. If you don't know, Jill grew up here at Calvary, and she and Keven are missionaries we support. They have planted a church in the city of Udon Thani in Thailand.

Please plan on being here to hear how the Lord is growing His church in this hard-to-reach city. **Afterwards, we will be sharing a potluck meal with them.** So, plan to bring your favorite dish, and eat someone else's and get to know our missionary family.



Remember NO CHURCH at Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, July 5th so we can enjoy participating with other churches in the park. Worshiping together and eating **a free BBQ potluck**, so bring a side dish to share with others, and enjoy our time in the park. See Box to the right for more information.

33rd Annual Baker County
God and Country
**Community Worship
Service in the Park**
July 5th @ 10:00am
Geiser-Pollman Park

Guest Speaker: Brandon Wolters
Worship led by Blue Mountain Baptist
Everyone is invited! Bring your own Chair or Blanket.
Free BBQ to follow. Please bring a side to share

An offering to support
Northeast Oregon Compassion Center will be taken

Third Quarter Business Meeting
Sunday, July 26th, right after
our Worship Service.



August Newsletter Items
are due Tuesday, July 28th.
Thank you!



July Birthdays

- 1 Laura Damschen
- 2 Angie Refior
- 5 Laurie Wittich
- 14 Jackie Miller
- 20 Mike Popa
- 26 Dan McGuire

A promotional poster for the "Summer of Hope Concert Series" featuring Micah Tyler. The poster includes a photo of Micah Tyler on the left, a sun graphic in the top left, and various sponsor logos at the bottom. Text details the dates and locations of the concerts.

89.5 KTSY **DIAMOND** HEATING • COOLING PLUMBING • ELECTRIC

FREE CONCERT

present

SUMMER OF HOPE
Concert Series

Featuring
MICAH TYLER

July 8
Geiser-Pollman Pavilion
 (Baker City, OR)

July 9
Kleiner Park
 (Meridian, ID)

SPONSORED IN PART BY:

KENDALL cares **Idaho PIZZA** **Joshua Institute** **Mr. Handyman** **Northwest Christian CREDIT UNION** **STANTON healthcare** **GSAA** Gen State Adventist Academy

On Wednesday, July 8th, The Free Concert in Geiser-Pollman Pavilion, kicks off
with a Pre-Party at 5:30 pm, with give-a-ways, venders, & food trucks before the
Concert begins at 6:30 pm, and lasts until 8:30 pm.

It will be a fun time to listen to some great uplifting music, and relax.

Who Was Charles Haddon Spurgeon?

Alex DiPrima

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834–92) is widely considered the greatest preacher of the nineteenth century. Few figures in church history enjoyed a wider reach in their day, and few have enjoyed more popularity since their death than Spurgeon. Today, his name is practically synonymous with gospel preaching. He is regularly quoted in sermons, books, articles, and on social media.

Who was this great man, and what is his story?

Spurgeon was born in Kelvedon, Essex, about fifty miles east of London, on June 19, 1834. He was the first of seventeen children, only eight of whom survived infancy. He was born to godly parents, John and Eliza, who raised him in the fear and admonition of the Lord. His mother had an especially strong influence on him.

When Spurgeon was fourteen months old, he was sent to live with his grandparents in the village of Stambourne. He lived there until he was six. His grandfather, James, who was something of an old-fashioned Puritan preacher, played an enormous role in shaping the young Charles. Many of Spurgeon's earliest spiritual impressions were formed while living with his grandparents and sitting under his grandfather's preaching.

When Spurgeon was fifteen, he was powerfully converted. On Sunday morning, January 6, 1850, he set out from his parents' home in Colchester in the midst of a snowstorm to attend a nearby church. He only made it a short distance before realizing he had to move indoors due to the severity of the storm. He turned down a side street and sought refuge in the local Primitive Methodist Chapel. He was greeted by a small band of a dozen or so who had braved the weather. The man who was to preach that day was hindered by the storm, so instead a layperson stood up to preach that morning's message. This humble man became the unexpected instrument God used to save Spurgeon. He preached from *Isaiah 45:22*: "*Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else*" (KJV). As this Primitive Methodist layman pleaded with sinners to look to the Savior for the forgiveness of sins, Charles Spurgeon was born again and embraced Christ by faith.

Not long after his conversion, Spurgeon himself started to preach. Before long, he developed a reputation as the famous "boy preacher" of the countryside. So compelling was his preaching that at the age of seventeen, a Baptist church in the village of Waterbeach called him to be their pastor. At the time the church had only a few dozen in attendance. At the end of his two-year ministry there, the church had grown to over four hundred.

News of the young preacher eventually made its way to London to the deacons of New Park Street Chapel. They invited Spurgeon to preach and eventually extended a call to him in 1854. He was nineteen years old when he agreed to become the church's pastor. He would minister there for the next four decades. When Spurgeon first arrived at the church, the congregation had 232 members. When he died thirty-eight years later, the membership sat at 5,311. The church received a total of 14,461 members over the course of his ministry, nearly three-quarters of whom were added through baptism. In 1861, the church erected a new building to accommodate the congregation's explosive growth and changed its name to the Metropolitan Tabernacle. There, six thousand would gather morning and evening to hear Spurgeon preach.

Spurgeon's preaching took London by storm. Not only did he preach in his church twice on the Lord's Day, but he often preached in halls and auditoriums across the city. Wherever he went, thousands flocked to hear the gospel preached as they had never heard it preached before. Christ was offered to the common people of London with such bold and free expressions of the love of God toward sinners that many could not help but be drawn to it. The old gospel of the blood of Jesus sounded forth with a force and power that made divine grace seem like an almost tangible reality. As Spurgeon preached, grown men wept freely, young and old were caught up in wonder, and hardened sinners became penitent believers.

Alongside his preaching, Spurgeon developed and administrated numerous other ministries as well. By 1884, sixty-six benevolent ministries operated out of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, addressing almost every area of need in London. Two institutions were especially dear to Spurgeon's heart: the Pastors' College and the Stockwell Orphanage. The Pastors' College, established in 1857, was essentially a seminary for young ministers. Over the course of Spurgeon's career, the College trained nearly nine hundred men for ministry. The Stockwell Orphanage, started in 1869, rescued 1,500 children out of poverty and destitution during Spurgeon's lifetime.

Spurgeon was also a prodigious writer. He published more words in English than any Christian ever. His published sermons now span seventy volumes and have reached tens of millions worldwide. Spurgeon published roughly 150 books in less than forty years, including his devotional classics *Morning by Morning* and *Evening by Evening*, a collection of his addresses on pastoral ministry called *Lectures to My Students*, and his commentary on the Psalms titled *The Treasury of David*.

Today, millions still read Spurgeon, and his ministry continues to bear fruit all over the world. Like John the Baptist, it might be said of Spurgeon that he was a "burning and shining light." Nearly a century and a half on, that light is still shining.
(Edited by FS)

July

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9 am Church Body Prayer 10 am Worship	29	30	1	2 5-6pm Community Dinner: BBQ Dogs & Burgers, Chips & Dessert 6pm Celebrate Recovery	3 9 am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral	
5 NO SERVICE HERE 10 am Worship in Park w/BBQ Potluck After	6	7 3-4 pm Ladies' Bible Study in Browning Hall	8 FREE 5:30 pm Pre-Party 6:30 pm FREE Concert in Geiser-Pollman Park	9 5-6pm Community Dinner: Delicious Dinner & Dessert 6pm Celebrate Recovery	10	11
12 9 am Church Body Prayer 10 am Worship With Moua's Potluck	13	14	15	16 5-6pm Community Dinner: Spaghetti & Dessert 6pm Celebrate Recovery	17	18
19 9 am Church Body Prayer 10 am Worship	29	21 3-4 pm Ladies' Bible Study in Browning Hall	22	23 5-6pm Community Dinner: Delicious Dinner & Dessert 6pm Celebrate Recovery	24	25
26 9 am Church Body Prayer 10 am Worship 3 rd Quarter Business Meeting	27	28	29	30 5-6pm Community Dinner: Delicious Dinner & Dessert 6pm Celebrate Recovery	31 Ladies' Retreats at both Camp Elkanah (Near LaGrande) & Camp Tadmor (Near Lebanon)	1