

Jesus said...

**“DO NOT FEAR,
ONLY BELIEVE.”**

MARK 5:36

First Church of the Brethren
July 28, 2021
730 Church Street
Eden, NC 27288



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This Sunday, I will be preaching about fasting. In my preparations I was reminded of a book on my shelf that I read a couple years ago by Daniel Ryan Day called *10 Days Without*. The subtitle was “Daring adventures in discomfort that will change your world and you.” In the book, Day chronicles his experiences of, you guessed it, spending 10 days without something. In fact, he spent 10 different days without 8 different somethings.

He starts off very simple, but with a purpose. His first 10 days without is without shoes. He literally spends 10 days living his normal life with no shoes on. He sets forth for one, to make a sacrifice – a fast from wearing shoes if you will. But he wants it to be more than that. Surely people on the bus or on the street are going to ask him why he is shoeless in such a shoe filled place. He chose to tell people how easily disease is spread in people, especially in third world countries, that just don’t have shoes.

His other “fasts” included things like media, a coat, speech, and physical human contact, each with a purpose. What purpose do we have behind what we do? Whether it is giving something up, giving something away or buying something. Do we stumble through our lives just doing what comes next, or do we truly set forth to accomplish something? That drive in the car or walk through the store

or stroll through the neighborhood, sure they have superficial goals, but can they have a more profound purpose. Rick Warren's bestselling book was entitled "The Purpose Driven Life." I challenge you to live a life with purpose, one where you serve people, you introduce them to your Savior. I challenge you, to wherever you go, to bring Jesus into the neighborhood.

The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish. John 1:14 (The Message)

Dear Heavenly Father



Open my eyes, Creator of the universe, that I may see your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon, and the stars that you have established; open my ears, that I may hear what the heavens are telling me about your glory, which transcends all material bounds and yet deigns to reside with human beings.

May I ever marvel at your tender care for us and give you thanks and praise forever. Amen.

—Prayer suggested by Psalms 8 & 19

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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Pray Without Ceasing

Eugene Barton, Lucy Bradford, Katherine Bridges, Carolyn Combs, Melissa Dalton, JT Hale, Barbara Janney, Gary Janney, Tania Martin, Salem Nelson, Marie Priddy, Aaron Roach, Jutta Shelton, Roger Shockley, Louise Tudor, Patsy Underwood, Gail Walker, Danny Whitley, Frankie Wilson

Thinking of You - Mike Harmon

District Prayer Request

Pray for Ruoxia Li and Eric Miller, who began as co-directors for Global Mission for the Church of the Brethren on March 8. Let us give thanks to God for the commitment of those who serve the ministry and mission of the church.

Thank you for continuing to honor your commitment to the work of Jesus Christ through your tithes.

Would you rather send your tithes by PayPal?

You can find us listed as Ncbrethren.tithe@gmail.com



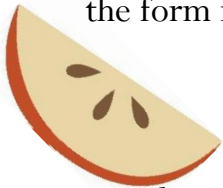
If you cannot attend regular Sunday service do not forget that you can watch a live stream of Sunday Worship service on YouTube. Find us on YouTube as Eden NC Church of the Brethren, where you can view the live stream each Sunday, or watch any of our recent sermons online.



The Witness Commission will continue collecting items for Hospice of Rockingham County during the month July. Please help them keep provide comfort to others by purchasing some items on their wish list. You may place the items just inside the door downstairs or in the container in the narthex. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, make your check payable to the church and put "hospice" on the memo line. You can place all monetary donations in the offering plate.

Thank you for all your help!

Home and Family Life will be making fried apple pies on October 5th. The pies will cost \$3 each and orders will continue through September 12th. To order just complete the form in the narthex or contact a member of Home and Family Life to place an order!



Eden First Church of the Brethren will be hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday, August 18th from 1 pm - 5 pm.

In addition to a need for blood donors, we are also in need of volunteers to work the drive. There are sign-up sheets posted on the bulletin boards to sign up to volunteer or donate blood, and you can also sign up to donate online using the sponsor code Brethren.

If you're able, please help us reach our goal of donors for our drive!

Upcoming Birthdays

August 1: Deborah Whitley

Jordan Houchins

August 7: Yvonne Bateman

Weekly Schedule

Tuesday : 11 am Bible Study

Wednesday: 7 pm Choir Practice

Friday: 10 am Prayer Meeting

