

The Ridge Church
7350 Old Hwy 13
Carbondale, IL 62901

Phone: 618.457.0479

Email: RidgeChurch@OnTheRidge.org

Web: www.OnTheRidge.org

Join Us Sunday

Small Groups/SS	9:00 AM
Morning Worship	10:15 AM
VBS Prayer Walk	6:00 PM

Wednesday Night is Family Night

Supper (by Reservation)	5:30 PM
Prayer	6:30 PM

The Witness will not publish next week.

Children and youth activities are dismissed Wednesday.

Follow us on Facebook:

[facebook.com/OnTheRidgeChurch](https://www.facebook.com/OnTheRidgeChurch)

Follow us on Twitter:

twitter.com/TheRidgeChurch1

Our Mission:

The Mission of The Ridge Church is to lead non-believers into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ

Real Relationships
Forge New Friendships

Point: Strong friendships thrive because of shared commitment.

Join us Sunday at 9 AM as we study I Samuel 18,19,20 and discuss these **5 questions**

1. What have you enjoyed most about your friendships over the years?
2. What obstacles can hinder us from forming deeper friendships?
3. What are practical ways we can serve as advocates for our friends?
4. How do you typically respond when a friendship becomes complicated?
5. What can we learn about healthy friendships from the story of David and Jonathan?

Sunday Night
Summer Spectacular
Begins June 25
Church-Wide Picnic



The Witness



Wes Henson, Pastor

June 11, 2017

Vol. 41, No. 23

The Most Important Week of the Year!



Monday morning we begin the most important week of the year for the Ridge Church. It is the week of Vacation Bible School. Is it an effective event? Is it a glorified babysitting event? To be sure, it is a financially costly event. It is a time costly event. It is a physically costly event.

But, is it worth it?

I believe this week of Vacation Bible School is worth it because it is the greatest outreach and evangelistic ministry of The Ridge Church. At no other time and at no other Ridge event will we have as many unchurched families as we will have during the next five days. We will spend 15 hours of time interacting and connecting with children and parents.

I believe this week of Vacation Bible School is worth it because it is a sacred week. God has provided us a tool to reach our community with the Gospel. It is worthy of scheduling our personal activities around this great God provided event!

About 25,000 SBC churches will conduct a VBS this summer. They will enroll about 2.8 million students and workers. If past years are an indication, about 80,000 professions of faith will be made; 2,000 decisions to pursue a vocational ministry; 231,000 prospects will be discovered with about 40,000 added to Sunday School programs.

I believe this week of Vacation Bible School is not only "worth it," it is essential to the life of a functioning, growing church and community.

I came to know Jesus Christ as my personal Savior as an 8 year old boy at VBS. It is extremely important to me. I pray VBS is extremely important to you!

We Labor Together With God, *Wes*

Deacon of the Week:
Steve Carrington
Trustee of the Month
Linda Garlinghouse

In Bible Study and Worship

Small Groups/ SS: 126
Worship: 116

God's Tithe and Our Offerings

General Fund: \$5,976.00
Debt Retirement: 1102.58
Bill Hertter Memorials 960.00
Wednesday Supper: 156.00
Youth Fuge : 160.00

Volunteers Needed!

Specialized Equine Services
and Therapeutic Riding
For more information:
Email: gcshorse@gmail.com
Telephone: 618.529.4110

Home Connection

Phyllis Prowell
1 New Ballas Pl.
Room #122
Creve Coeur, MO
63146

Please remember
Phyllis with a card
or a phone call.



Home
Connections!
Make one
This Week

**SummerTime
on The Ridge**

June 11- VBS Prayer walk

June 12-16
Vacation Bible School
Children -9 am - noon
Youth - 12:30-3:00 pm

THURSDAY June 15
VBS Celebration Night
6:00 PM

June 18 Father's Day

June 25 Baptism

June 25 Church-Wide Picnic

July 2 Patriotic Celebration

July 9 Birthday Potluck

July 16 S.I. Miners Baseball

July 23 Homemade Ice Cream

July 30 Bacon Sammich Nite

August 6 Birthday Potluck

August 13 Show 'n' Tell and
Watermelon Feast

August 20 Sunday Night Movie

August 21 Solar Eclipse Picnic

August 27 Step Up Sunday

Hospitality June 11

Casserole: Betty Wilson
Bakery: Myrtle Huppert
Fruit: _____

**If you would volunteer to
bring food, please sign up in
the hospitality area.**

**Please help us celebrate
Bob Piland's 90th Birthday
Saturday, June 24 2-4 PM**
at The Ridge Church Pavilion.

RSVP to Imogene Piland
618-457-6150
No Gifts Please

**The Ordinance of Baptism
Sunday June 25; 10:15 am**
If you have questions about
salvation, baptism, church
membership see the Pastor.

You're Invited!
**Baby Shower for
Kirstyn Kilpatrick**
Saturday, July 1; 2:00 PM
The Ridge

Family Movie Night:

"Wall-E"

Friday June 23rd 8 PM

Snacks and drinks
provided

Flyers are available
at the Welcome Center

**This is an Outreach
Friendly Event**

Sign Up NOW

S.I. Miners Baseball

Sunday, July 16

At The Hospitality Center

618.457.0479

June Birthday Celebration



Remembering Those Who Died in 2016

Maxine Sprague	January 23	David Cook Jr.	August 5
Julie Weithorn	February 22	William "Bill" Mallam	August 8
Bob Tendergrass	March 31	Dale Cockrum	August 29
Jack Sims Earll	April 21	John Lenini	September 3
Edith I. Kunce	May 7	Lorraine Gray Henson	September 23
Ann Janell Oliver	May 16	JulieCarmen	October 5
Deborah Phillips	May 22	Earl Sandusky	October 11
Richard Logan Klein	May 26	Rose Mary Kline	October 21
Al Horaz	May 26	The Rev. Dorothy Cook	October 25
Paul Plunkett	May 29	Earl "Bud" James	October 26
Lindell Nance	June 3	Carl Choate	November 7
Janice Weber	June 3	Joe Graff	November 17
Franklin Horn	June 6	Bradley Williams	November 15
Mary Stanley	June 15	Tom Wenzel	November 19
James "Jim"	June 23	Earl W. Baskin	November 19
McCurdy		Charles Fisk	November 27
Jill Marie LaVieri	July 4	Jennifer Finney	December 20
Jackie Robinson	July 9	Sam Meyers	December 12
Julia Wood	July 12	James David Spezia	December 21
Marcella Wilson	July 25	Frank Yates	December 30
Matthew R. Robbins	July 30		
Norma Burt	July		
Floyd McGrew	July		

This Week on The Ridge

Sunday, June 11

8:30 AM-Coffee and...
 9:00 AM-Small Groups/ SS
 10:15 AM - Morning Worship
 5:00 PM-Deacons Meeting
 6:00 PM - VBS Prayer Walk

Monday, June 12

9:00 AM-VBS
 12:30 PM- Youth VBS

Tuesday, June 13

9:00 AM - VBS
 12:30 PM- Youth VBS

Wednesday, June 14

7:00 AM - Men's Bible Study
 9:00 AM - VBS

5:45 PM - Dinner by reservation
Menu: subs, potato salad, chips,
 salad and dessert

6:30 PM - Prayer time

Thursday, June 15

9:00 AM-VBS
 12:30 PM- Youth VBS
6:00 PM - VBS Family Fun Night

Friday, June 16

9:00 AM - VBS

Register Now!
Vacation Bible School
June 12-16; 9 - Noon
4 yrs-completed 6th grade

Scan here
to Register



Register Now!
YOUTH VBS
June 12-15; 12:30- 3 PM
Grades 7-12

Scan here to
Register Youth



Join us as we discover that the God who created everything wants a personal relationship with us!

Pick up VBS
post cards and
hand them out

VBS Celebration Night
THURSDAY NIGHT
6 PM

All sessions are free

Sunday School and Small Group Study June 11, 2017

Preschool (birth-5)	Saul Told About Jesus	Acts 9:19-31
Children (gr 1-6)	Saul Told About Jesus	Acts 9:19-31
Students (gr 7-12)	Forge True Friendship	I Samuel 18,19,20
Adults	Love Like Christ	I Samuel 18,19,20

ONE CONVERSATION™

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

CONNECTION POINT: Love for others grows through the love of Jesus.

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: We are familiar with business contracts and marriage covenants, but we rarely think of our friendships in terms of a covenant. It's not likely a formal agreement, but we often recognize a bond between friends that goes beyond just a shared interest or affinity. In the Book of 1 Samuel, David and Jonathan gave us an example of what such a covenant looks like.

**BIBLE
STUDIES
FOR LIFE**

**1 SAMUEL 18:1-4;
19:4-7; 20:10-13**
Building Friendship

PRESCHOOL



ACTS 9:19-31

LIVE IT OUT: Briefly review the Bible story about Saul telling others about Jesus. Comment that Jesus helped Saul be able to tell others. Give your child paper and crayons. Ask her to draw a way that Jesus helps her.

Before Saul believed in Jesus, he wanted to hurt people who loved and obeyed Jesus. But Saul changed and believed that Jesus was God's Son. Saul wanted others to believe in Jesus, too.

Saul was with Jesus' disciples in Damascus. He was telling people that Jesus was God's Son. The people who heard Saul knew he had hurt people who believed in Jesus. They were afraid of Saul, but Saul kept telling people about Jesus.

Saul heard that some people were going to try to hurt him. The disciples helped Saul escape. At night, they put Saul in a large basket and lowered him through an opening in the city wall.

Saul went to Jerusalem. Some people were still afraid of him. Barnabas became his friend. Barnabas told the people that Saul had changed and now he loved Jesus. Saul continued to tell people about Jesus. Many people decided to follow Jesus.

KIDS



ACTS 9:19-31

LIVE IT OUT: How have you seen Jesus helping your family? Talk to your child about what Jesus has done for her. Encourage her to add to her testimony by telling how being a Christian has changed her life. This is an critical part of sharing a testimony with another person.

In Damascus, Saul began preaching about Jesus. He told the people that Jesus is the God's Son. The Jewish leaders wanted to stop Saul. They wanted to kill him.

The disciples rescued Saul. They hid Saul in a basket and lowered him through a large hole in a wall so that he escaped.

Saul went to Jerusalem. He wanted to work with the disciples there, but they were afraid of him.

A disciple by the name of Barnabas took Saul to the apostles, and Saul described how he had talked to Jesus on the road to Damascus. Barnabas told the apostles how Saul began teaching in Damascus and how the Jewish leaders tried to kill him.

The apostles helped Saul travel to many places to tell people about Jesus. He continued to teach people about what Jesus had done for him.

STUDENTS

THE POINT: Strong friendships grow because of shared commitment.

- What do you enjoy most about your friendships?
- What are some practical ways to demonstrate selflessness in our friendships?
- What risks do we take when we stand up for our friends?
- How do you typically respond when a friendship becomes complicated?

Discuss the following quote: "They are rich who have true friends."
—Thomas Fuller

1. Thomas Fuller, *Crucologia: Adages and Proverbs, Wise Sentences and Witty Sayings, Ancient and Modern, Foreign and British* (London: S. Baker, 1732), 215.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out in the Personal Study Guide.

Here are some ways you can encourage your students to live out their faith with Christ personally, in community, and in their culture:

- **CHRIST:** Spend time with your student discussing his or her relationship with Jesus. Take time to prayer for the relationship to grow between your student and Jesus.
- **COMMUNITY:** Discuss with your student ways that he or she can promote unity and love in the church and student ministry.
- **CULTURE:** Help your student identify lost friends that need to hear the gospel and make a plan that can be put into action.

**We have a small group and a class for everyone.
Join us Sunday at 9 AM**