

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	9:00AM
Morning Worship	10:15 AM
Birthday Potluck	6:00 PM

Wednesday Night is Family Night

Supper (by Reservation)	5:30 PM
Bible Study and Prayer	6:30 PM
Mission Friends	
Children in Action	
Youth Bible Study	

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

The Dark Side
The Paranormal

The Point: Dabbling with evil is destructive; seeking direction from God brings life.

Join us Sunday at 9 AM as we study Deuteronomy 18:9-16 and discuss these 5 questions

1. What movies or tv shows bank on our culture's interest in the paranormal?
2. What have you been taught about the practices mentioned in these verses?
3. How do people still dabble in these kinds of practices?
4. What makes paranormal practices so dangerous and destructive?"
5. What are reliable ways for us to seek out God's plan and purpose in our lives?"

We have a small group for everyone!

#GO Gorham Outreach
September 30th



The Witness



Wes Henson, Pastor

September 17, 2017

Vol. 41, No. 36

Benny's Is Closing



You are probably thinking I spelled the name wrong and how could the Marion restaurant be closing. Rest assured your Bennies salad with their signature garlic dressing is safe... for now anyway.

Benny's is a Southern New England chain of 31 stores that has been in business for 93 years, owned by the Bromberg family. The reason given for closure is the monumental changes in the retail industry and desire of this generation of Bromberg's to retire.

The owners concluded that their business model was no longer viable. Now it wasn't that they couldn't compete. The first R.I Walmart opened in Westerly a few years ago right behind a Benny's. While their business dropped for a time, they figured out how to coexist in the shadow of the box store. The products are always the same but the way to obtain them has changed. However, in order to endure they had to continually innovate and remain fresh and relevant. Ultimately, rather than continue down the road of constant change and innovation the decision to close was made leaving 700 people looking for work elsewhere.

The message of The Ridge Church is always the same, "For God so loved the world he gave his one and only son. Whoever believes in him will not perish but have life everlasting." However, for **The Ridge Church** to remain fresh, viable, and relevant we too must continue down the road of constant change and innovation.

The alternative is playing out before us in the business world.

We Labor Together With God, *Wes*

Deacon of the Week:
Steve Carrington
Trustee of the Month
Josh Dover

In Bible Study and Worship

Small Groups: 111
Worship: 98

God's Tithe and Our Offerings

General Fund \$2,712.00
Debt Retirement 572.58
Wednesday Supper 165.00

Cookies Needed!

We need cookies, brownies, or rice
crispy squares for approximately 150
participants for the Gorham Block
Party. Each treat should be
individually wrapped and at the church
no later than 1:00 pm on Sept. 29. If
you can help, please let Avis Barrett
(687-2131) know no later than Sunday,
September 24th.



Home Connection

Rosa Spiller
710 N. Allyn
Carbondale, IL
62901

Please remember
Rosa with a card
or a phone call.

Home
Connections!
Make one
This Week

Sunday Nights This Fall
"Old Testament Leaders"
6:00 PM

September 17 Genesis 12:1
Abraham: God Calls
Ordinary People

September 24 1 kings 21:1
Isaac: Discover the
laughter of God in Isaac

October 15 Genesis 32:23
Jacob: Limos are
reminders form God

October 22 Genesis 39-40
Joseph: Where is God when
it All Goes Wrong

October 29 Joshua 1
Joshua: Moving
from here to there

November 12 Exodus
Moses: Use What's
in your hand

We will stream Sunday Night
Study on Facebook LIVE

Gorham Outreach #GO
Block Party Saturday
September 30th; 1-3 pm



Games, Hot Dogs,
Cotton Candy
Much More

Featuring Matt Blagg

Volunteers Needed!

- Pass out flyers on September 23.
Leave from The Ridge at 9 AM
- W/ a trailer hitch to pick up and
return Celebration Trailer in
Pinckneyville
- Serve food on the 30th
- Help with the horse rides
- Engage the people of Gorham

For more info see Lisa Hottensen

For Your Information

Online Giving
For Your Convenience

1. Set up giving through
your bank.
2. Scan this qr code
3. Download Free App
"Tithe.ly"



Hospitality September 17

Casserole: Rosie

Bakery: _____

Fruit: _____

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

Illinois Baptist
Disaster Relief Team

Has been called out!
You can help by donating.
Call 217-391-3134; or
IBSA.org/DR

Truth:
Motion produces friction

This Week on The Ridge

Sunday, September 17

8:30 AM -Coffee and...

9:00 AM - Small Groups

10:15 AM -Morning Worship

5:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal

6:00 PM - Evening Worship

Wednesday, September 20

7:00 AM - Men's Bible Study

5:45 PM - Dinner

By reservation

Menu: sloppy joes, tater tots, relish tray, salad, and dessert

6:30 PM - Adult Bible study and prayer time, youth Bible study, and children's mission activities

Saturday, September 23

Pass our door flyers in Gorham. Leave the Ridge at 9 AM Everyone Welcome!

Sunday, September 24, 6 PM

Gorham Outreach Meeting

If you are unable to attend, contact Lisa Hottensen.

Heads Up!

Thanksgiving Baskets

This year's goal is to provide 30 food baskets for families in need. The cost is \$30/ family. Please see Dennis or Karissa for information.

Sunday Morning

"Coffee And ..."

Casserole: Rosie Hertter

Bakery: _____

Fruit: _____

Good Group Leaders Say,

"I Don't Know"

These 3 words can change the culture of your group. They free the leader and liberate the members.

- We no longer have to be experts. "Let's find the answers together."
- Members realize they could teach the group as well.
- It allows more time for the leader to minister to the group. Bible prep is priority but not our only priority.

Ken Braddy: www.tinyurl.com/trc-idontknow

The Dark Side

Small Group Study Continues

September 17,

The Paranormal

Deuteronomy 18:9-18

September 24,

Fear Not!

1 John 4:1-6

October 1,

Battle Armor

Ephesians 6:10-20

October 8,

Battle Plan

Matthew 4:1-10

Small groups/Sunday school

9 AM Sunday Morning

Arrive a little early for

some "Coffee And ..."

We have a group for everyone

Feed the Murphysboro

Red Devils Football team

3:30 pm Friday October 6th

Collecting in September

Operation Christmas

Child Shoe Boxes of

gifts for children.

Tooth brushes (toothpaste NOT allowed), combs & brushes, wash cloths and bar soap, socks, caps, bandanas, sunglasses, flip-flops, kid sized t-shirts,

Donations for shipping \$9 a box

Birth Pains of the Church

A study in Galatians

Wednesday 6:30 pm

Jesus Creates Holy Living

Galatians 5-6

Back to Church Sunday

October 1, 2017

10:15 am



Contact - Invite - Bring

Annual Church Profile (ACP)

All Southern Baptist Convention churches are required to submit an annual church profile. **The ACP is a statistical snapshot of our church.** Contrary to what you might think, this is one of a very few requirements from the SBC on local churches.

Each SBC congregation is totally and completely autonomous. The SBC does not speak for any congregation. What unites us is our support for missions through the Cooperative Program.

Allow me to share some of the 2017 ACP with you:
(August 1, 2016- July 31, 2017)

- Total **The Ridge Church** Membership - 138
- Baptisms - 14
- Professions of faith - 10
- Weekly worship average attendance - 108
- Total Sunday School/small group enrollment - 187
- Average Sunday School/Small Group Attendance - 126
- Vacation Bible School Enrollment - 152
- New small groups/Sunday School classes started - 2

Total Financial Receipts (<u>January 1-August 31, 2017</u>)	\$198,774.75
Total Financial Receipts year ago	<u>158,037.79</u>
Increase	<u>\$40,736.96</u>

Everyone would agree that this is an excellent statistical picture (ACP).

Just a couple of observations.

1) Sunday School/Small Groups: We are averaging 67% of our enrollment. That is a great number. To continue our growth in attendance we need to average 40% of our enrollment. **Therefore, the challenge is to increase our enrollment by 128 to 315.**

Whom will you invite to Bible study? Bible study does not have to take place just on Sunday morning. If you are interested in a Tuesday morning Bible Study class (Tuesdays at 10?) please contact the Pastor 618.559.7132

2) Total membership reflects those who have decided to join The Ridge Church. No one transferred membership to The Ridge Church.

We approved the membership list at our last business meeting.

3) The Lord is at work at The Ridge Church. We are grateful and joyfully join with God in the work for God's kingdom.

After all,
We Labor Together With God

Sunday School and Small Group Study September 17, 2017

Preschool (birth-5)
 Children (gr 1-6)
 Students (gr 7-12)
 Adults

Noah
 Noah
 The Paranormal
 The Paranormal

Genesis 6:9-8:19
 Genesis 6:9-8:19
 Deuteronomy 18:9-18
 Deuteronomy 18:9-18

ONE CONVERSATION™

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

CONNECTION POINT: People can trust God to provide everything they need.

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: • **CHRIST:** Pray with your student this week for trust in God's promises when we doubt and for when our relationship with God is not as strong as it could be. • **COMMUNITY:** This week we studied a passage in which a father brought his son to Jesus for healing. How can you create a similar relationship ensuring that your son or daughter is at the feet of Jesus when healing or strength is needed?

**BIBLE
 STUDIES
 FOR LIFE**

DEUTERONOMY 18:9-18

Pop Culture Paranormal

PRESCHOOL



GENESIS 6:9-8:19

LIVE IT OUT: Involve your child in helping to care for God's creation. Spend some time outside picking up trash in your neighborhood. Tell your child that he can help take care of God's creation.

Noah loved God. One day God told Noah to build a big boat called an ark. God told Noah exactly how to build the ark.

God said it was going to rain for many days. Noah and his family would be safe in the big boat. God also told Noah to take two of every kind of animal and food for his family and the animals into the ark.

Noah worked hard to get the big boat ready. When the ark was finished, Noah and his family and two of every kind of animal got on the ark. God shut the door.

The rain came down for 40 days and 40 nights, but Noah and his family were safe inside the ark. When the rain finally stopped, Noah waited for all the water to dry up. Noah's family and all of the animals walked out of the ark. Noah thanked God for taking care of him and his family.

KIDS



GENESIS 6:9-8:19

LIVE IT OUT: Help your child think about the ways God cared for Noah and his family on the ark. Then talk about ways God helps your family. Think of different situations in which you knew God helped. Compose a prayer of thanks for God's help.

Noah was a good man. He tried to live as God wanted.

God told Noah that He was about to destroy the earth. God told Noah to build an ark. Noah built the ark like God told him.

God told Noah to go into the ark with his family. God told Noah how many animals to take with him on the ark.

The rain began to fall and kept going for 40 days and 40 nights. The water got deeper and deeper. The ark floated on the water. Finally, the water was deeper than the mountains.

God sent a wind to begin drying the water up. When the ark finally rested on land, Noah sent out birds. Finally one bird found a place to build a nest.

"Come out of the ark," God said. "Bring out your wife, your sons, and your son's wives. Bring out all the animals." Noah did exactly what God said.

STUDENTS

THE POINT: Dabbling with evil is destructive; seeking direction from God brings life.

- What movies or TV shows profit on our culture's interest in the paranormal?
- How does involvement in paranormal activity violate a Christ-follower's commitment to God?
- What are reliable ways for us to seek out God's plan and purpose in our lives?

Discuss the following quote: "We drift toward compromise and call it tolerance; we drift toward disobedience and call it freedom; we drift toward superstition and call it faith."¹

—D. A. Carson

1. D. A. Carson, *For the Love of God: A Daily Companion for Discovering the Riches of God's Word*, Vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2006) 23.

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:** Dabbling in paranormal practices demonstrates a lack of faith in Jesus. Are there any practices you need to give up in order to live a life founded on your trust in Jesus?
- **COMMUNITY:** This week discuss with your student ways that you may have been relying on things other than God and have not measured up to His standards. Commit to relying on God and cutting the things other than God from your life.
- **CULTURE:** Discuss with your student ways you can oppose the accepted pagan practices and communicate to the world what it means to live by faith. Pray together for those placing their faith in materials rather than the Lord.

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