

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
All activities dismissed this week

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

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

SEVEN WEEK STUDY Jesus Changes Everything *Jesus Calls*

The Point: Following Jesus is a life-changing adventure, and you are invited.

Join us Sunday at 9 AM as we Study **Mark 1:14-20** and discuss these 5 questions

1. What great adventure is on your bucket list?
2. How has the gospel been 'good news' in your life?
3. How should we understand the connection between repentance and belief in the Christian life?
4. What does Jesus' phrase 'Follow Me' suggest about the way we're to relate to Him?
5. What are some practical ways you can follow Jesus more closely?

Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do little.



The Witness

Wes Henson, Pastor

December 3, 2017

Vol. 41, No. 47

The Present of Presence



I was eating a quarter pounder with cheese from McDonalds. Well, I had a gift card and I was craving their new buttermilk chicken strips. However, they are SO popular that they have completely run out and are restocking the supply chain.

Anyway, I got a text from a college friend to give him a call. He told me he was going to be in the area on work and wondered whether I had time to see him. Although we have kept in touch on Facebook, we had not seen each other for about 25 years. We enjoyed a great visit.

When I arrived at Southwest Baptist College in 1977 I had 3 suitcases and knew absolutely no one. I worked in the cafeteria and Dennis was the assistant manager. We quickly became friends. He became the food service director and I, a student manager. He taught me about food ordering and production but mostly he taught me about the value of friendship and passion for what you were doing. I am as grateful for those lessons as any college class I ever took.

We reminisced of course, about trips he and Brenda took with Debbie and me, and different alumni we both knew, but most of our conversation focused on where we were today and how much more fun grandchildren are to raise, than our children.

It is true great friends can pick up where they left off, even when it has been 25 years. It's not yet Christmas, and I am anticipating a lot of great presents. Nevertheless, this gift of presence may be the best present I'll receive this year.

We Labor Together With God, *Wes*

Deacon of the Week:

Jeff Yates

Trustee of the Month

Linda Garlinghouse

In Bible Study and Worship

Sunday School/Small Groups: 131

Worship: 97

God's Tithe and Our Offerings

General Fund \$3,100.63

Debt Retirement 220.00

Wednesday Supper 40.00

Online giving to The Ridge

Church is available 24/7

Scan this QR code Or,
download the Tithe.ly app
from iTunes Or, Google Play



Home Connection

Rosa Spiller

710 N. Allyn
Carbondale, IL
62901

Home
Connections!
Make one
This Week

Please remember
Rosa with a card
or a phone call.

**Lottie Moon Post
Office is Open!**

**TeamKID-Gorham
Gorham community Center**

December 5th

Tuesday's 4:30-5:30

K-6th grade

Please keep this mission
in your prayers.

Pray for the community,
the children who will be
attending, and the leaders.

"The Greatest Story Ever Told"

Presented by the Ridge Choir

Sunday December 17th

10:15 AM

Experience the story of the
birth of Jesus Christ from the
viewpoints of many who
witnessed it firsthand.

Free and open to everyone

**Tickets will be available
after Thanksgiving.**

We are expecting a full house!
Get your tickets early and pick
some up for your friends

Hospitality December 3

Casserole: Heather

Bakery: _____

Fruit: _____

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

**Save the Date
February 24/25**

February 24

SS/Small Group

Workers Banquet

Guest Speaker: Josh Hunt

Details To Be Announced

February 25

Josh will speak during the

SS/Small group hour

and Worship

More Details to follow



**Christmas
On The Ridge
December 2017**

Saturday December 2

6 PM Lights Fantastic Parade

Sunday December 3

6 PM Birthday Potluck

Sunday December 17

10:15 AM Cantata:

The Greatest Story Ever Told

6:00 PM Children's Program

12 Symbols of Christmas

Dessert social to follow

Sunday December 24

5:30 PM Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service



**All events are free
Bring your friends
and family**

This Week on The Ridge

Sunday, December 3

- 8:30 AM -Coffee and...
- 9:00 AM - Small Groups
- 10:15 AM -Morning Worship
- 5:00 PM - Adult Choir
- 6:00 PM -Birthday Potluck

Tuesday, November 28

- 4:30 PM - TeamKID -Gorham

Wednesday, November 29

- 7:00 AM - Men's Bible Study
- 5:45 PM - Dinner by Reservation **Menu:** meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad and dessert
- 6:30 PM - Adult & Youth Bible Study and prayer time, and children's mission activities

Saturday, December 2

- 10:00 AM Snap Float together
Need about four pair of hands.
Meet at Pavilion
- 6:00 PM - Lights
Fantastic Parade

Information You need

Join us Wednesdays Because of Bethlehem

- 6:30 PM Session 2
"Worship Works Wonders"

Jesus Changes EVERYTHING 7 week small group study

Jesus came to bring us into a relationship with God—and that changes everything.

Join us Sundays at 9 AM

A study on the life of Jesus. He showed us how He cares about every aspect of our lives.

December 3 - Jesus Calls Mark 1:14-20

December 10 - Jesus Teaches Mark 4:1-9

December 17 - Jesus Rules Mark 4:35-41

December 24 Jesus saves Luke 2:4-20

December 31 - Jesus heals Mark 5:22-24,35-43

ThanksGiving 2017



Many Laughs

Thanksgiving in STL



Decorating for Christmas
on Thanksgiving at
The Barrett's



Great Grandkids aren't they.



Filling Family at Denny's



Kids eat outside

The Ridge Church

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 6:00 PM Lights Fantastic Parade (If you want to ride on the float meet on Mill St at 5:45)
3 1st Sunday of Advent 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Sunday School at Century Assisted 10:15 am Morning Worship 5:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Birthday Potluck	4	5 4:30 pm TeamKid-Gorham 6:30 pm Church council	6 7:00 am Men's Prayer 5:45 pm Dinner by Reservation 6:30 pm Bible Study & Prayer 7:15 pm Trustee Mtg	7	8	9 Couples class SS Party "White Elephant" 6 PM At the home of the Wilsons
10 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Sunday School at Century Assisted 10:15 am Morning Worship 5:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm Deacons Meeting 6:00 pm Evening Worship	11	12 12:00 pm Adult 5 Brown Bag Lunch 4:30 pm TeamKid-Gorham	13 7:00 am Men's Prayer 5:45 pm Dinner by Reservation 6:30 pm Bible Study & Prayer	14	15	16 Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Lynette Yates Reserved MP Building
17 3rd Sunday of Advent 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Sunday School at Century Assisted 10:00 am Worship Service @ Prairie Living 10:15 am Christmas Cantata 6:00 pm Childrens Program	18	19	20 7:00 am Men's Prayer 5:45 pm Dinner by Reservation 6:30 pm Bible Study & Prayer	21	22	23
24 4th Sunday of Advent 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Sunday School at Century Assisted 10:15 am Morning Worship 5:30 pm Candlelight Service	25 Merry Christmas Church Office Closed	26 6:00 pm WMU Mission in Action Meeting	27 7:00 am Men's Prayer 5:45 pm Evening Activities Dismissed	28	29	30
31 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Sunday School at Century Assisted 10:00 am Worship @ Prairie Living 10:15 am Morning Worship 6:00 pm Evening Activities Dismissed						

December Birthdays

- 5 Kay James
- 6 Mark Anderson
- 8 Esther Han
- 9 Alan Dover
- 11 Butch Dunn
- 12 Linda Garlinghouse
- 13 Nikki Perschbacher
- 14 Karissa Howell
- 19 Jeff Peterman
Alyssa Leapley
- 20 Jarek Speith
Annie Calhoun
- 21 William Wiseman
- 24 Darline Cochran
- 26 Bobby Elkins
- 28 Ella Moutria
- 30 Arwen Robison;
Ron Marshall
Annie Calhoun



If any birthdays were omitted, please notify the church office.

Events and activities subject to change. Go to OnTheRidge.Org/Calendar for the latest updates

Sunday School and Small Group Study December 3, 2017

Preschool (birth-5)	People Told @ Jesus	Isaiah 6-7, Micah 5, Luke 1
Children (gr 1-6)	Prophets Told About Jesus	Isaiah 6-7, Micah 5
Students (gr 7-12)	Jesus Calls	Mark 1:14-20
Adults	Jesus Calls	Mark 1:14-20

ONE CONVERSATION™

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

CONNECTION POINT: God promised to send Jesus to change people's lives.

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: Social media gives us the opportunity to follow individuals and groups. By following them, we can see into their lives or know what they're promoting—but we can do so only from a distance. Jesus invites us to follow Him in a far more intimate way. Following Jesus will require us to change directions, but the journey we take with Him leads us to abundant and eternal life.

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

MARK 1:14-20

Jesus Calls

PRESCHOOL



ISAIAH 6-7; MICAH 5:2-4

LIVE IT OUT: Help your child make an Advent calendar. Draw a grid on a piece of paper and label the squares with the December dates. Let your child put a few simple stickers on the calendar or decorate with crayons or markers. Mark off each day as it passes and read a special book about Christmas.

Long before Jesus was born, God had a plan. God planned to send His Son to be born. God told prophets to tell the people about His plan to send a special baby. Prophets were men who told others what God wanted them to know.

Isaiah was a prophet. God chose Isaiah to tell people the wonderful news. Isaiah wrote that God promised to send a very special child to be born. The special baby would be God's Son.

Another prophet who lived a long time ago was named Micah. Micah also wrote about Jesus. He wrote that God's Son would be born in Bethlehem.

People heard or read the words that the prophets wrote. They knew that God was planning to send His Son. They waited for the day that God would keep His promise.

KIDS



ISAIAH 7:14; 9:6; 11:1-5; MICAH 5:2

LIVE IT OUT: Celebrate waiting for Christmas with your family. Find an Advent devotional book to use each day or week of the Advent season. Involve your child in planning special activities for the family.

When Isaiah was in the temple worshipping, he saw God on a throne. His robe filled the temple! Angels stood around God. They worshiped Him.

Isaiah heard God ask, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for Me." Isaiah answered, "Here I am. Send me!"

Then God gave Isaiah a message for the people. Isaiah went to the king with God's message. The king and the people were very afraid. An enemy army was coming. They did not believe they could win the battle.

Isaiah said, "The enemy will not win. God is with you. God will give you a sign. A virgin will have a son. He will be Immanuel."

Another time, God gave a different message to the prophet Micah. Micah told the message to others. He said that the Savior would be born in Bethlehem.

STUDENTS

THE POINT: Following Jesus is a life-changing adventure and you are invited.

- What great adventure is on your bucket list?
- Why is it essential to believe and also repent to enter the kingdom of God?
- What are some of the ways Jesus calls people today?
- What does Jesus' phrase "Follow Me" suggest about the way we're to relate to Him?

Discuss the following quote: "Sin gets its power by persuading me to believe that I will be happier if I follow it. The power of all temptation is the prospect that it will make me happier."¹

—John Piper

1. John Piper, "50 John Piper Quotes," Christian Quotes, (accessed 15 May 2017). Available from the internet: https://www.christianquotes.info/quotes-by-author/john-piper-quotes/#azcfrYC_AosG.

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:** Discuss with your student ways that he or she has been an example of following Jesus. Then determine how you can each grow in following Jesus this week?
- **COMMUNITY:** Encourage your student to develop relationships with friends that will help them to become better followers of Jesus.
- **CULTURE:** Pray with your student this week for the strength and courage to be an example of devotion to Christ in a worldly culture.

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