

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 Morning

8:30 am "Coffee And ..."
9:00 am Sunday School/ Small Groups
10:15 am Morning Worship
6:00 pm Evening Devotion

Wednesday Night Activities

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

Bible Study and Prayer
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

Adult Small Groups meet every week at 9 AM

There is a small group for everyone!

This Week's Study
God is Our Righteousness
Jeremiah 33:3-8,14-16

The Point of the study:

Because God is righteous, He will ultimately make all things right.

Life is just not fair. People with poor character, questionable ethics, and skewed morals seem to get ahead in life, while those who seek to do right seem to be passed by.

In fact, people are often treated badly because of their right actions and character. We might be tempted to think God is also unfair since He allows this to happen.

But God is a righteous God. He is the *Lord our Righteousness*, and He will ultimately bring justice to bear on all things.

Join us Sunday at 9 AM as we study Jeremiah 33 where God revealed Himself as our Righteousness.



The Witness

Wes Henson, Pastor

April 15, 2018

Vol. 42, No. 15

Enjoy and Be Prepared



Rambling on ...
What a beautiful morning **#OnTheRidge!** That large glowing object in the sky is the sun! As I walked into the building, the geese were taking off from the lake. The picture was priceless.

Let me encourage you to enjoy The Ridge Campus. The lake is the home of roaming flocks of geese, some ducks and even a swan or two. Come out and enjoy the scenery. Bring your lunch. Picnic tables have been added at the pavilion.

The fishing is always good, so I am told. Not an angler? What could be better than kayaking all afternoon?

The kids will enjoy the playground as you absorb the warm sun and a few pages of your favorite book. The prayer garden is close by. It too has a beautiful view of the lake and is conducive for meditation and prayer.

Let me change the subject and share with you some recent tools that have been added to assist everyone in preparation for small groups on Sunday. Of course the **Sunday School quarterly** is the ol' standby. It is now available **digitally** if you would like to study the weekly topic from your phone, tablet, or laptop.

In addition, a **weekly study guide is available on the YouVersion Bible app**, simply click on "**events**" and look for The Ridge Event. Also, I prepare a **weekly discussion guide** and it is available usually on **Mondays, by email**. It is certainly true that when all of us are prepared we have better class discussion. These are all available whether you attend small groups or not. Just let me know.

We Labor Together With God, *Wes*

Deacon of the Week:

Alan Dover

Trustee of the Month

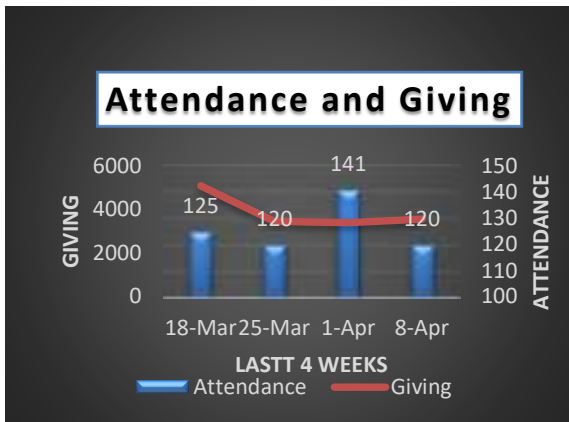
Josh Dover

The Weekly Count

SS/Small Group	110
Worship	120

God's Tithes and Our Offerings

General Fund	\$3,575.00
Debt Retirement	1,747.58
Study Books	10.00
Wednesday Supper	78.00



Home Connection
Richard Stewart
2950 Westridge Place
Carbondale, IL
62901

Please remember
Richard with a card or
a phone call

Home Connections!
Make one This Week

This Week on The Ridge

Sunday, April 15

8:30 AM - Coffee And

9:00 AM Sunday School/Small Groups

10:15 AM - Morning Worship

5:00 PM - Deacons Meeting

6:00 PM - Evening Worship &
Children's Choir

Tuesday, April 17

4:30 PM - TeamKID Gorham

Wednesday, April 18

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Time

5:45 PM - Dinner by reservation

menu: meatloaf, cheesy potatoes,
corn, salad and dessert

6:30 PM - Adult Bible Study and
Prayer Time, Youth Bible Study and
Children's Mission Activities,

Quarterly Business Meeting

Guess Who's Turning 90?

Virginia Holt is turning 90!

Please stop by the Ridge church
on Sunday afternoon, April 22
between 2:00-3:30 pm to help
us celebrate the occasion!

RSVP 618-534-4751



#OnTheRidge

Vacation Bible School

June 11-15, 9- Noon

4 yrs - completed

6th grade

Youth Vacation Bible School

June 11-14 12:30 - 3 pm

Youth grades 7-12



Vacation Bible School

July 9-13 6-8 pm

Grades k-6th

We need a team to
cook and serve a light
supper from 5:30 - 6 PM
See the Pastor if you can assist.



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

**5th Sunday Debt
Retirement Offering**

April 29

Loan payoff: \$720,327.xx

Goal \$10,000

Monthly payment

\$3,808.51

"Each One Should Give Some"

Sunday Hospitality April 15

Bakery: Ruby Oberley

Fruit Lynette Yates

Casserole: Myrtle Huppert

Happy April Birthday!



Sunday's 9 AM
Small group topics.

New Study beginning April 22

Stand Up: How to Fight Injustice
A Bible Study in Esther

April 22

Be Ready to Stand
God is always at work
behind the scenes

April 29

Stand with Conviction
It's Always Right
to do the Right Thing

May 6

Stand Down
Surrendering to God
leads to greater things

May 13

Stand with Humility
Humility ultimately wins the day

May 20

Stand Up and Speak
Be bold, but leave the results to God

May 27

Keep Standing
Don't become complacent,
maintain vigilance

May Events

Sunday May 6

Graduate Recognition Sunday.
Help us recognize all of our
graduating seniors

Sunday May 13

Mother's Day

Join us as we honor all of our ladies

May 27

Remembrance Sunday

Join us as we remember those who
have gone on before us during 2017. If
there is someone you would like us to
remember please give their name and
date of death to the Church Office

June Events

Sunday June 3

10:15 am Lord's Supper Service
6 pm Birthday Supper

Sunday June 10

6 pm VBS Prayer Walk

June 11-14 9- til noon

VBS On The Ridge

Sunday June 17

Father's Day

Join us as we honor all of our men

Sunday June 24

6 pm After VBS Blast Of Splash

Youth FUGE camp

Carson Newman University

Jefferson City, Tenn.

June 25-29, 2018

6th to 12th graders

Campers:

Ella Moutria, Levi Moutria

Adam Mays, Jacy Mays

Jakob Wilson, Jillian Wilson

Shelly Wilson, Molly Carrington

Danielle Laughland, Aidon Wilson

Kaitlyn Wilson, Allie Hottensen

Jorge Velasquez, Esther Han, Samuel

Han, Arwen Robison, Andrew Short

Chaperones:

Courtney Griffith, Deb Henson

Mariah Hertter, Bradley Griffith,

Skyler Peterman

Amount still needed:

\$5,321.00

Flamingo Flocking

\$20 - to Flamingo a Friend

OR,

\$30 - for Flamingo Flocking

Insurance against such a request

ALSO, we are still collecting

ALUMINUM.

All proceeds go to camp fund

#SummerSundayNights

#OnTheRidge

July 1, 5 PM

Birthday Potluck 6 pm

Recognizing those with
July Birthdays

July 8 6 pm

BLT Night

BLT fixin's provided. Bring the rest

July 15 6 pm

Homemade Ice Cream Night

Bring a pail of homemade ice cream,
or other, or toppings

July 22 TBA

Movie Night On The Ridge

Multi-Purpose building

July 29 5:05 pm

Southern Illinois Miners Night

at Rent One Park, Marion

August 5

Birthday Potluck 6 pm

Recognizing those with
July Birthdays

August 12 6 pm

VBS Retro Night

Bring VBS memorabilia

August 19 6 pm

Bring a PIE Night

- A Message for Today -

WORRY: A BAROMETER OF OUR FAITH Michael Kelley

www.tinyurl.com/TRC-worry

I'm a bit of a weather nerd. If you ask my wife, that last sentence is an understatement; she gets no end of enjoyment watching me stand on the porch, simultaneously watching the clouds and the weather app on my phone.

But unlike the typical weather nerd, I'm not standing on that porch in the blinding rain out of fascination or enjoyment; I'm standing there out of anxiety.

I grew up in the Panhandle of Texas, right around the dumpster of Tornado Alley.

In the spring and early summer, we would have two to three tornado warnings a week, and I would wake up on a near daily basis and turn on the weather just to see if I had anything to worry about that day.

That anxiety has stayed with me these thirty or so years, and though I do have a "wake me up" app on my phone just in case of a funnel cloud, I still live with that general sense of worry when I know a storm is coming. There are plenty of things in the world to worry about. In fact, as I've grown further into adulthood, I've almost daily found more and more reasons for anxiety.

There might be, then, no more countercultural command than the one we find from Jesus in Matt. 6:25-32, part of the Sermon on the Mount:

"That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? ...

Make no mistake—the issue of worry, to Jesus, is not merely emotional. And his command in this passage carries with it the same weight as any of his other commands in Scripture. We make a drastic error when we think that this command regarding worry is in a different category than his commands regarding adultery, lying, or anything else.

The Son of God, with all the authority of heaven, says that the children of God must not worry. That means the anxiety I feel is more than a momentary feeling; it's outright disobedience to Jesus.

This is where I take a bit of offense, because frankly, as an adult, the command to not worry seems a bit unrealistic. Don't worry? Come on, Jesus. You can't really mean that. I mean, look at the level of responsibility I have. And have you looked around the world lately? Imagine trying to raise a kid in these circumstances.

It's a nice idea and all, but it's really not practical. The very suggestion that we should not worry is not only a denial of reality; it's actually irresponsible.

But when we think more deeply about the issue of worry and anxiety, we come to see that worry is really a barometer of what we believe about God.

A barometer is an instrument used to measure atmospheric pressure. Why would we want to measure atmospheric pressure? Certainly not for the fascination of doing so. Atmospheric pressure is really just a checkpoint to help predict short-term changes in weather.

As the atmospheric pressure changes, the actual weather conditions are sure to follow. A barometer, then, is an instrument that gives a good indicator of something else—something much more relevant and important. Such is worry to the life of the Christian.

Worry is more than a negative character trait or a habit to overcome. Worry is a barometer that reveals what we believe to be true—or not true—about God at the deepest levels of our souls

Sunday School and Small Group Study April 15, 2018

Preschool (birth-5)	Peter and Jesus had breakfast	John 21:1-19
Children (gr 1-6)	Peter and Jesus had breakfast	John 21:1-19
Students (gr 7-12)	God is Our Righteousness	Jeremiah 33:3-8,14-16
Adults	God is Our Righteousness	Jeremiah 33:3-8,14-16

ONE CONVERSATION™

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

CONNECTION POINT: People should follow the commands of Jesus because God is righteous.
THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: Life is just not fair. People with poor character, questionable ethics, and skewed morals seem to get ahead in life, while those who seek to do right seem to be passed by. In fact, people are often treated badly because of their right actions and character. We might be tempted to think God is also unfair since He allows this to happen. But God is a righteous God. He is the Lord our Righteousness, and He will ultimately bring justice to bear on all things.



PRESCHOOL



JOHN 21:1-19

LIVE IT OUT: Teach your child to show love to others. Say the verse: "Jesus said, 'Love other people.'" Think of a neighbor and plan a kindness for that person. You could gift some food or give a card drawn by your child. Be sure to share with the person that Jesus loves him.

Peter, John, and some of their friends fished all night. They did not catch any fish.

When the sun rose, they saw a man standing on the shore. He said, "Did you catch any fish?"

They told him no. He told them to put their net down on the right side of the boat. The fishermen threw the net into the water on the right side. When they tried to lift the net, it was full of fish! There were 153 fish in the net.

John said, "That man is Jesus!" Peter jumped into the water and swam to shore. The other men brought the boat to shore.

When the men reached land, Jesus said, "Come and have breakfast with Me." He gave the men bread and fish.

The men were happy to see Jesus. Jesus told them to love and care for other people.

KIDS



JOHN 21:1-19

LIVE IT OUT: Guide your child to read this week's Bible verse, 2 John 1:6. Talk about what commands of Jesus we should follow. Help your child understand that showing the love of Jesus to the world is one of His commands. Discuss ways your child can do that task.

Peter and other disciples fished all night. They didn't catch a thing! As the sun began to come up, the men could see someone standing on the shore.

The man called out, "You did you catch any fish?"

"No," the men answered.

"Throw your net on the other side," called the man.

The fishermen threw the net and caught so many fish they couldn't lift the net into the boat!

Peter jumped into the water and came to shore. The other men brought the boat, pulling the net behind them.

Jesus gave the men bread and fish to eat.

Jesus spoke with Peter. He asked three times if Peter loved Him. Three times Peter said, "Yes." Jesus told Peter to serve others as a way to follow Him.

STUDENTS

THE POINT: Because God is righteous, He will ultimately make all things right.

- When can you remember saying, "That's not fair!"?
- When have you seen a negative turn into a positive over time?
- How have you experienced God's restoration?
- How do the promises in these verses point forward to Jesus?

Discuss the following quote: "No one will ever go to Hell who has put his trust in Jesus Christ, but many will end up in torment who have trusted their own righteousness and reformation."¹ —Curtis Hutson

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:** Ensure that your student is cultivating a close relationship with God by continually confessing, repenting, and pursuing Christ.
- **COMMUNITY:** Ask your student who God has used to help him or her grow in their faith and pursuit of Christ. Pray for those who are committed to helping your student grow.
- **CULTURE:** We present a picture of the gospel to a worldly culture. Talk with your student about being prepared for the criticism that may come from a culture with worldly values.

1. "15 Curtis Hutson Quotes," Christian Quotes (online), (accessed 27 August 2017). Available from the Internet: <https://www.christianquotes.info/quotes-by-author/curtis-hutson-quotes/#quote140894N>.

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