



In this newsletter you will find:			
Message from Pastor Ben	Thank you!	Birthdays and Anniversaries	Bible Study Info
August Calendar	UCC Pics	Summer Fun!	CWF News

What do we mean by the word perfect? I often hear Christians say that no human is perfect except for Jesus. Or, the only one who is perfect is God. This comes from a combination of humility and reverence for God and Jesus.

Ancient Greek philosophers talked about perfection as an ideal, outside of the physical realm. Perfection can also be without mistakes, flaws, or doing something exactly right.

I wonder sometimes, though, if our understanding of perfection isn't the same as God's. That in fact it is our definition and understanding of perfection that leads us away from true perfection. Rather than thinking we understand what perfection is and then placing God and Jesus in the box of perfection, what would it look like for us to define perfection by what we see and know about God and Jesus.

For example, in the Gospel of Matthew Jesus tells us, "Be perfect therefore, as your Father in heaven is perfect." Boy does this seem like an impossible commandment. Not only does Jesus tell us to be perfect, but be as perfect as God is. I don't think Jesus is giving us an impossible commandment. Instead, he is telling us to become perfect in the way God is perfect. He only gives the commandment after describing God as one whose rain falls on the good and the evil. Perfection according to Jesus is sharing goodness with everyone without judging them.

This kind of perfection frees us to be ourselves. We can be perfectly imperfect. We no longer have to live lives free of mistakes. We are no longer judged against someone else's abilities. We no longer have to be guided by fear of doing something wrong. We can truly be free to be faithful to who God made us to be, rather than guided by an abstract ideal.

Over the month of August we will be looking at what being perfectly imperfect meant to Jesus' followers, to Paul, Moses, and the sons of Jacob, and what it means to Jesus himself. We can learn from each of these people of faith how to be true to God and ourselves, and free from the oppression of someone else's perfection.

Walking faithfully alongside you,

Pastor Ben

AUGUST SERMONS

8/2 "We Aren't Ready"

Matthew 14:13-21, Isaiah 55:1-5

8/9 "Following in the Footsteps"

Matthew 14:22-33, Romans 10:5-15

8/16 "Transformed by Mercy"

Matthew 15:18-28, Genesis 45:1-15

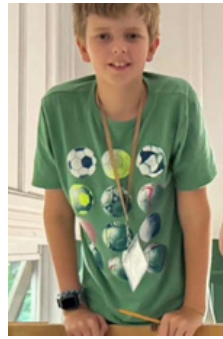
8/23 "Know Yourself"

Matthew 16:13-20, Romans 12:1-8

8/30 "Fabulously Wrong"

Matthew 16:21-28, Exodus 3:1-15

CRAIG SPRINGS CAMPING FUN!



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL! MANY THANKS TO SALLY AND HER TEAM!



UCC will again be participating in Radford Community Fest on August 22nd. East Main Street will be full with over 100 local vendors, five food trucks, a main stage with live music all day, street performers, community engagement, and the downtown Radford merchants you love are hoping to see you as well! Please consider helping with this event, as we REACH OUT to our community! Contact Teresa in the church office.

LOOK WHAT THE LEMMONS HAVE BEEN UP TO! FAMILY VACATION AT TYBEE ISLAND, GEORGIA





August Kids: Thanks to all who contributed to this effort. The CWF gave \$1,190 (\$525 from budget & \$665 from CWF members) with UCC members giving \$283 for a total of \$1,473 from UCC which will help 17+ Radford children purchase new clothes & shoes before the start of school (individual vouchers increased to \$85). As usual, UCC ROCKS!!!

Hollyberry Fair: Saturday, December 5th. Charlotte will be our fearless leader once again so please let her know if you are willing to help. We are in need of new items, gently used items (not clothing), & handmade items. We have a room downstairs (labeled). You may leave your items outside this door or under the coat rack at Welcome area and we will take down. This is our only fundraiser & you help us immensely with your donations!!

Circles are open to ALL women so if you have never attended and are interested in learning what we do, please contact Betty, Gina or Pam. We would LOVE to have you join us!!!

OASIS: Tuesday, August 4th at 10:30 at UCC

Gina Rhea, Leader

M&M's: Tuesday, August 4th at 6:00 in Fellowship Hall

Betty Jones, Leader

CWF: Tuesday, August 4th at 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall

Pam Vicars-Runnals, President

TRULY SERVING OTHERS!



A HUGE thank you to Miss Alora Clark for the incredible lemonade stand she hosted to benefit Little Big Dog Rescue!

Because of her kind heart, hard work, and dedication, she raised an amazing \$356.25 to help the dogs in our care! 🐾 Every single dollar will go toward providing food, medical care, and everything our rescue pups need while they wait for their forever families.

We are so grateful for young people like Alora who choose to make a difference in the lives of animals. Your compassion and generosity inspire us all!

To make the day even more special, one of our adoptable puppies, Andora, stopped by for a visit to say thank you and soak up some love.



Way to go, Alora! We are so proud of you, and we can't thank you enough for supporting Little Big Dog Rescue!





8/1 Griffith Hunter
8/2 Kennedy Davis
8/3 Janet Bratton
8/8 Mel Chrisman
8/9 Jessica Jonas
8/9 Addisyn Altizer
8/15 Jesse Shepherd
8/16 Tammi Jackson
8/18 Mike Jackson
8/18 Brandi Rountree
8/20 Riley Akers
8/20 Wendy Clark
8/21 JC Hamilton
8/24 Heather Akers
8/24 Michael Runnals
8/25 Becky Moore

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

8/1 Rich & Natasha Pappas
8/2 Dennis & Frances Hunter
8/7 Carlton & Nicole Altizer
8/9 Brown & Sarah Akers
8/10 Nick & Mary Lee Gill
8/28 Randi & Jackie Lemmon
8/29 Greg & Charlotte McCroskey
8/31 Gary & Barbara Clay

8/1 Community Table 4-4:30pm Grove Team
8/2 Worship 11am
8/3 Brown Bag Bible Study 12-1pm at UCC
8/4 Oasis Circle 10:30am; M&M's Circle 6pm; CWF 7pm
8/8 Community Table 4-4:30pm Moore Team
8/9 Worship 11am; Backpack Blessing
8/10 Brown Bag Bible Study 12-1pm at UCC
8/15 Community Table 4-4:30pm Cat Towle Team
8/16 Worship 11am
8/17 Brown Bag Bible Study 12-1pm at UCC
8/22 Community Fest 11-6
8/22 Community Table 4-4:30pm VTech Team
8/23 Worship 11am
8/24 Brown Bag Bible Study 12-1pm at UCC
8/26 Lunch Bunch 12 noon at Sal's JR

1. Isaiah 7-9	16. Isaiah 52-54
2. Isaiah 10-12	17. Isaiah 55-57
3. Isaiah 13-15	18. Isaiah 58-60
4. Isaiah 16-18	19. Isaiah 61-63
5. Isaiah 19-21	20. Isaiah 64-66
6. Isaiah 22-24	21. Jeremiah 1-3
7. Isaiah 25-27	22. Jeremiah 4-7
8. Isaiah 28-30	23. Jeremiah 8-11
9. Isaiah 31-33	24. Jeremiah 12-16
10. Isaiah 34-36	25. Jeremiah 17-19
11. Isaiah 37-39	26. Jeremiah 20-22
12. Isaiah 40-42	27. Jeremiah 23-25
13. Isaiah 43-45	28. Jeremiah 26-29
14. Isaiah 46-48	29. Jeremiah 30-32
15. Isaiah 49-51	30. Jeremiah 33-36
	31. Jeremiah 37-39



Brown Bag Bible Study
Mondays 12-1pm

PRAYER GARDEN

A big THANK YOU to Dottie and Ronnie Wheeler for sprucing up the Prayer Garden. Decorative rock was added to the area around the markers. Looks great!



thank you

Dear UCC family,
I wish to express my gratitude for the kindness shown to me in the death of my brother. Thank you for the peace lily cards, prayers, and kind words.
Kathy Mitchell

The phrase "make a difference" means to have a meaningful or positive impact on a situation, person, or the world. This is what our Red Box does every day!

July 14, 2024
Thank you for feeding
our family today!
God Bless You!
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