

From front cover

Let's now look at our devotion. From the very beginning of the church, **sharing** was one of the marks of Christian experience (Acts 2:41-47). In the Greek word *koinonia*, it simply means "to have in common," and refers to our common fellowship in Christ (Gal. 2:9), our common faith (Jude 3), and even our sharing in the sufferings of Christ (Phil. 3:10).

The basic principle of sowing and reaping is found throughout the entire Bible. God has ordained that we *reap what we sow*. Were it not for this law, the whole principle of "cause and effect" would fail. The farmer who sows wheat can expect to reap wheat. If it were otherwise, there would be chaos in our world. We can use our material goods to promote the flesh, or to promote the things of the Spirit. But once we have finished sowing, *we cannot change the harvest*.

But the promise Paul gives us will help to keep us going. "In due season we shall reap." There are seasons to the soul just as there are seasons to nature, and we must give the seed time to take root and bear fruit. Each day we ought to sow the seed so that one day we will be able to reap (Ps. 126:5-6). Christian's good works are a spiritual sacrifice that we give to the Lord (Heb. 13:16). We must remember, however, that we share with other Christians so that all of us might be able to share with the needy world. "May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours do for you" (1 Thess. 3:12). This is how it must be. Amen.

Pray this prayer with Fran and me: O Lord, we pray, You, will sow the seed of Your Word in our hearts, and send down upon us showers of Your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit; and on that **Great Day** of harvest there will be an abundance of reaping. Amen.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Jim & Fran



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August 2025

The Herald

Sharing Blessings

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:9-10).



Before we get started on this month's devotion article; let's look at a few interesting facts about the month of August.

The month of August was named after Augustus Caesar, the first Roman emperor. In the Northern hemisphere, for us, August is the last month of summer and the hottest month of the year. August 11th marks the end of the "Dog Days of Summer", which began on July 3rd.

August 26th is "Women's Equality Day," which celebrates the 1920 ratification of the 19th Amendment, and with it, women's right to vote.

Just for fun: August 1st-7th is international **Clown Week**. August 3rd national "Watermelon Day. August 13th is international "Left-Handers-Day." (I have never heard of that one.) August 25th "**Kiss-and-Make-Up Day.**" (Fran and I celebrate that one every other day.)

Your August babies will be a Leo or Virgo! Leo's are represented by the Lion; Virgo's tend to be the thinkers of the world. More babies are born in August than any other month. (It's too hot to be outside in August, right!)

Continued inside



Welcome, Tesa Morris

Our New Administrative Assistant!

We're delighted to welcome Tesa Morris, who joined our staff on July 14, as Administrative Assistant. Tesa has dedicated the last 26 years to raising her family as a stay-at-home mom. This month, she and her husband, Andy, celebrate 27 years of marriage. They have three children whose ages range from 11 to 26.

A Benton resident and faithful member of Victory Baptist Church in Carterville, Tesa brings a heart for service and community. At church, Andy leads music, while Tesa teaches a preschool class on Wednesday nights.

Tesa is available in the church office from 8:30a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday—Thursday.

Update From the Trustees

Thanks to John D's leadership, the sanctuary projector is now back in action! Anti-bird spikes have been installed to help preserve our building, and the front of the church has been freshly pressure washed. Finally, we're preparing to update church computers in response to Microsoft ending support for our current systems.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

4th Gabrielle Bunselmeyer

5th Lynda Sanchez

5th Thomas and Paula Borgra

10th Bill Carter

11th Leon Sanders

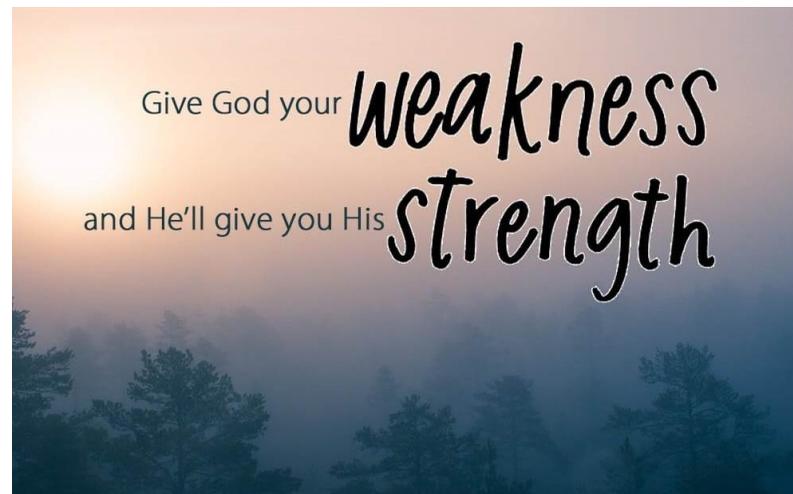
19th Ken Bolen



Come join the fun and fellowship at Sing 'n Share on Wednesday, **August 20th** at **4 P.M.** in the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend

LADIES INVITED TO COFFEE

All ladies are invited to 1st Wednesday Coffee at The Buzz on August 6th, at 9:30 A.M. Bring your prayer requests and a friend.



THIS MONTH

- August 1st 10:00 A.M. Ministry at Heritage Woods
- August 6th 9:30 A.M. Ladies' Coffee at The Buzz
- August 12th 9:00A.M. Trustee Board meeting
- August 13th 10:00 A.M. Bible Study
- August 15th 10:00A.M. Ministry at Helia Health
- August 20th 4:00 P.M. Sing 'n Share
- August 20th 5:00 P.M. Deacon Board Meeting
- August 27th 10:00 A.M. Bible Study

WEEKLY

- Sun. 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. Worship Service



August Offering
Cereal

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Tesa Morris, Administrative Assistant