



The BCC Connection

February
2023

Bancroft Congregational Church
Pastor Todd Evans

217 S. Shiawassee St., P.O. Box 98, Bancroft, MI 48414 989-634-5724

Sunday Worship Hours

Christian Education Hour 9:45 am

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

There are Nursery and Jr. church programs available for children during our worship service.

I always thought love was
shaped like a



But it's actually like a





From Your Favorite Pastor



Last month we saw Jude (v.11-13) rip the apostates and heretics in the first century church. He used several examples to show what happens to those who lead people away from God and His Word and that we are to fight for His Truth. There is a significant lesson and understanding to have in all of this- there is judgment and punishment from God for wrongs.

Hell and the idea of punishment is far from a popular concept in Western society. In this age of tolerance and acceptance, the topic of eternal punishment is taboo with the very mention of it considered unloving. Postmodern culture believes that everyone is basically good and expects that life after death, if it exists at all, includes heaven for all but the most evil people. This political correctness and doctrinal ambiguity has permeated the church, even among those that call themselves evangelical. We find churches that are embarrassed to teach about hell and eternal destruction and these ideas are explained away, softened, or ignored. Thus, many in the church are not getting the idea of the holiness of God which brings wrath and judgment to those who are not holy.

God's Word is in stark contrast to these ideas about the reality of judgment and they come through in the Old and New Testaments, being extremely clear about eternal retribution and punishment. The New Testament is especially clear about this whole idea. There are seven primary features in the New Testament about this judgment and eternal punishment. First, the final aspect of God's divine wrath relates to a specific future event-Christ's Second Coming- where He will return and execute judgment (Acts 17:31; Matthew 24:29-30; Romans 2:5-8). Second, this judgment will be general and public-Christ will call all the nations to account (Matthew 25; Mark 4; Revelation 20). Third, God's judgment will be just and impartial- no one will be able to escape the judgment of God (Romans 2, 1 John 5, Matthew 16). Fourth, the promise of divine judgment is intended as a warning and fear to bring people to Him (Hebrews 10, 11; John 19; Acts 24). Fifth, God's judgment is based on His law (Deuteronomy 27; Romans 2, 3; Galatians 3; James 2). Sixth, God's final judgment will occur in specific stages. Finally, God's retribution ultimately results in eternal damnation in hell (Matthew 13, 24; John 5).

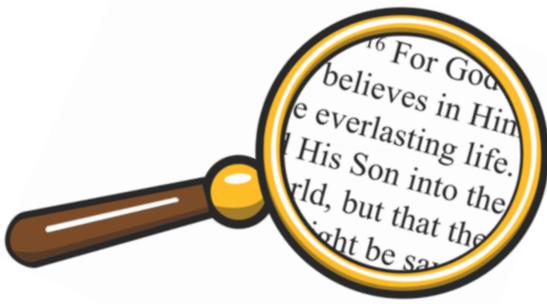
This doesn't make people feel good about themselves or the world around them, yet Jude clearly tells us that those who lead people away from God will experience these judgments. If we claim to be true Believers in Jesus the Christ, then we are acceding to the reality of judgment and punishment. As we will see in our Sunday morning study of the Revelation of John, all will be judged, the Believer and non-Believer. We fight for God's Truth because it offers the hope of escaping the eternal judgment that awaits every non-Believer because it is everyone's only chance (John 5:24). I encourage you to cling to this hope and to use it to share with those around you, as the Believer's judgment will be over what we did with what God gave us.

Next month we will look more thoroughly through v.14-16 to see what Jude says is coming for these heretics and for the Church.

Scripture work this month: 1 Peter 3:15-16; Jude; John 5

Be blessed & be a blessing

PT



Apologetics

What Is Heaven Like?

*By Daryl Rodriguez
Apologetics Bible pg. 1399*

Imagine a place where the temperature is absolutely perfect...a place surrounded by beauty and splendor everywhere you look...a place where you continuously feel peace, joy, and safety. If you are a Christian, you will not imagine in vain, for the heaven that awaits all believers will be a perfect place. Though there are many beautiful places in our world, none compare to the new heaven and new earth that God will unveil in eternity.

Revelation chapters 21 and 22 present the most vivid picture of the eternal state. To begin, what is often described as the final "heaven" will include not only a new heaven but also a new earth. In fact, it is this new earth that is most emphasized in Scripture. It will be covered mostly by land, as there will be no seas (21:1). Crystal-clear water will flow from the river that proceeds from the throne of the Father and the Son (22:1). We will never experience nighttime or darkness again, and we will continuously bask in the light of the Lord's glory (21:33; 22:5). At the center of this new earth will be the heavenly city, New Jerusalem. It will include a surrounding wall inlaid with precious jewels, twelve gates (each made of a single giant pearl), and a "heavenly highway" of pure gold-like transparent glass (21:12, 19, 21). Whatever the exact size and shape (Perhaps a cube or pyramid) of the city, there will be plenty of room for all the saints from every age, nation, and ethnicity to live within it and around it (21:16).

But what will we do there? Will we be bored? Because we will be in a perfected state, we will not worry about boredom, suffering, death, or having bad thoughts (21:4). We will reign with God, worship Him and serve Him (22:3-5; see also Romans 8:17; Hebrews 1:2). It will be a place of complete goodness and safety.

Perhaps one of the best aspects of heaven will be the fellowship! There will be fascinating distinctions between individuals, races, and even nations (Revelation 5:9; 21:24), yet without the strife, these distinctions can be on earth. We will be able to recognize redeemed loved ones, as well as all the saints throughout history. Matthew 8:11 says, "many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven". Imagine what it will be like to talk to some of the Bible characters you have admired all your life! Picture yourself hanging out with Jesus, Adam and Eve, Noah, Job, Esther, and the Apostle Paul.

Together, we will have the ultimate privilege of seeing God face to face, knowing Him more intimately, and experiencing His greatness and love for eternity. For now, we can rest in this eternal hope. And when Jesus comes for us, "we will always be with the Lord" (I Thessalonians 4:17).



KNOW YOUR BIBLE SECTIONS

One way to divide the Bible into sections is to categorize them by type of writing:

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------|---------------|
| A. LAW | D. MAJOR PROPHETS | G. ACTS |
| B. HISTORY | E. MINOR PROPHETS | H. EPISTLES |
| C. WISDOM | F. GOSPELS | I. REVELATION |

See if you can match the section to the details given below.

- ___ 1. The story of Hosea and Gomer
- ___ 2. John's vision of the future from the island of Patmos
- ___ 3. Solomon's great sayings
- ___ 4. The story of the exodus of God's people from Egypt
- ___ 5. The calling of the disciples
- ___ 6. The songs and poems of David and others
- ___ 7. The story of the Babylonian captivity and return to Israel
- ___ 8. The most complete story of the beginnings of the Christian church
- ___ 9. The Beatitudes of Jesus
- ___ 10. The great prophecy of Jesus's birth in Bethlehem
- ___ 11. The story of the creation of the world
- ___ 12. Jonah's adventures in Nineveh
- ___ 13. The details of Saul's persecution and then his salvation
- ___ 14. The promise of a new heaven and new earth
- ___ 15. The story of Abraham moving from Ur to the area of the Promised Land
- ___ 16. The details about church leadership in the Christian church
- ___ 17. Daniel's stories of heroism
- ___ 18. Nehemiah's concern for rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem
- ___ 19. The story of Jesus's birth, life, death, and resurrection
- ___ 20. The rise of the kingdom era of Israel and Judah

Weekly Service Schedule for February

Please Note: *Scripture readings are subject to change as Pastor develops his series!*

Service	5th	12th	19th	26th
Greeter	Brian Reed	Walt Reed	Sally Labadie	Lee Habermehl
Greeter	Karla Reed	Marion Reed	Jr. Love	Cyndy Habermehl
Nursery	Cathy Taber	Brian Reed	Jenny Habermehl	Tracie Zander
Nursery	Laurie Valade	Karla Reed	Paula Wahl	Patty Hewitt
Sound	Matt Post	Jade Evans	Jazz Evans	Matt Post
Computer	Kaylee Siddens	Sarah Bias	Aaron Zander	Maddie Bias
Call to Worship & Prayer	Layne Valade	James Huguelet	Brian Reed	Carl Cooke
Prayer Elder	Carl Cooke	Layne Valade	James Huguelet	Brian Reed
Jr. Church Teacher	Sharon Lewis	Charlotte Adolf	Becky Durling	Paula Wahl
Jr. Church Helper	Amber Bias	Cevin Valade	Cathy Taber	Jenny Habermehl
Scripture Reader Message Prayer	Dan Bryant Revelation 6:15-17	Jordan Owens Revelation 7:1-4	Sandy Braid Revelation 8:13	Carl Cooke Revelation 11:1-5
Benediction	Pastor	Lee Habermehl	Matt Post	Layne Valade
Financial Team	Lee Habermehl	Carl Cooke	James Huguelet	Dan Bryant
Financial Team	Brian Reed	Matt Post	Gary Hammond	Layne Valade
Communion	Layne Valade			

Please remember if for any reason you are unable to meet your scheduled obligation, ***please contact someone from your team to take your place as soon as you know you are unable to fulfill your obligation.***
The changes however, will not be printed in the bulletin.

Thank you for your service to our church!

Weekly Schedule for March 2023

Service	5th	12th	19th	26th
Greeter	Brian Reed	Walt Reed	Sally Labadie	Lee Habermehl
Greeter	Karla Reed	Marion Reed	Jr. Love	Cyndy Habermehl
Nursery	Brian Reed	Layne Valade	Cathy Taber	Jenny Habermehl
Nursery	Karla Reed	Daphne Valade	Laurie Valade	Paula Wahl
Sound	Isaac Zander	Matt Post	Jade Evans	Jazz Evans
Computer	Vaeh Cooke	Kaylee Siddens	Sarah Bias	Aaron Zander
Call to Worship & Prayer	Lee Habermehl	Matt Post	Layne Valade	James Huguelet
Prayer Elder	Layne Valade	Lee Habermehl	Matt Post	Carl Cooke
Jr. Church Teacher	Becky Durling	Diane Lepior	Sharon Lewis	Charlotte Adolf
Jr. Church Helper	Cathy Taber	Shana Post	Amber Bias	Cevin Valade
Scripture Reader Message Prayer	Laurie Valade	Vaeh Cooke	Layne Valade	Jade Evans
Benediction	Pastor	James Huguelet	Brian Reed	Carl Cooke
Financial Team	Brian Reed	Matt Post	Gary Hammond	Layne Valade
Financial Team	Carl Cooke	James Huguelet	Dan Bryant	Tom Wahl
Communion	Brian Reed			

No Greater Love

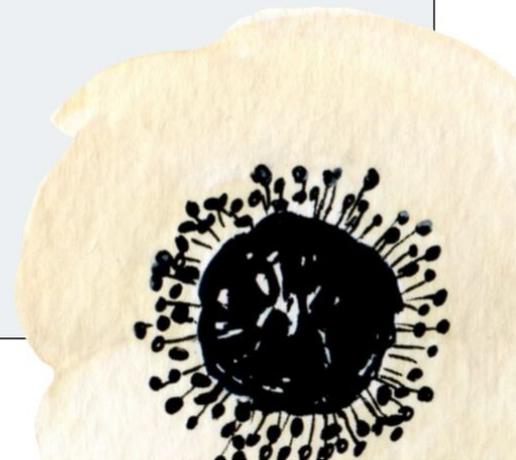
February



- Day 1: John 3:16
- Day 2: John 15:13
- Day 3: 1 John 4:18
- Day 4: 1 John 4:19
- Day 5: Romans 5:8
- Day 6: Ephesians 2:4-5
- Day 7: Romans 8:35
- Day 8: Romans 8:37-38
- Day 9: Psalm 86:15
- Day 10: Psalm 136:26
- Day 11: Deuteronomy 7:9
- Day 12: Zephaniah 3:17
- Day 13: Jeremiah 31:3
- Day 14: Proverbs 10:12
- Day 15: 1 Chronicles 16:34
- Day 16: Luke 6:35
- Day 17: 2 Corinthians 5:14
- Day 18: Ephesians 4:2
- Day 19: Proverbs 17:17
- Day 20: Romans 12:9-10
- Day 21: Colossians 3:12-13
- Day 22: Colossians 3:14
- Day 23: 1 Corinthians 16:14
- Day 24: 1 Peter 4:8
- Day 25: 1 Corinthians 13:4
- Day 26: 1 Corinthians 13:5
- Day 27: 1 Corinthians 13:6
- Day 28: 1 Corinthians 13:7
- Day 29: Nehemiah 9:17

Pastor's suggested scripture work this month: 1 Peter 3:15-16; Jude;
John 5

Kingdom Bloggers



This Month's Cause for Celebration!



- 1st Mandy McDonald
- 2nd Becky Durling
- 7th Layne Valade
- 13th Steve Durling
- 21st Todd Evans
- 24th Jon Love
- 25th Laurie Valade



20th Carl & Jenny Cooke

Kids Corner

Ribbon Bookmarks



The elastic band stretches to accommodate the book pages as you get further into your book. You'll never lose your place in a book again with one of these non-slip ribbon bookmarks!

HERE ARE THE MATERIALS NEEDED FOR THIS PROJECT:

- Decorative Ribbon at least 1/2 in. wide
- Elastic Hair Bands
- Decorative Buttons
- Scissors
- Needle & Thread and/or Sewing machine

HERE'S HOW YOU MAKE THIS PROJECT:

Cut the ribbon into 18-inch strips. (This is for an average-sized book. If you need a bookmark for a large book, you may want to measure around the book first and add length to the ribbon.)

Fold one end of the ribbon over 1/4 inch. Fold it over another 1/4 inch and stitch across. You can do this by hand, or use a sewing machine. I used a zig-zag stitch on my machine for a special touch.

Repeat for the other end of the ribbon, adding the elastic hair band before you start folding to attach it to the ribbon.



Now one end of the ribbon bookmarks done. Halfway there!



Use your needle and thread to attach a button to the other end of the ribbon.



Yay! you're all done!



To use, just wrap your ribbon bookmark around your book and pull the elastic up and around the button to secure it into place.

Grandma's Kitchen

RECIPE



Serves:
Prep Time:

DIY: Cream of Chicken Soup Mix

¼ cup dry bullion (I use Herb Ox low-sodium chicken)

1 cup instant/powdered milk

¾ cup cornstarch

3 Tbls. dried minced onion

3 Tbls. total spices of your choice

Mix all together and store in a zip lock bag or a jar with a tight-fitting lid.

To Use:

Shake the mixture in your storage container before each use.

Mix 1/3 of the above mixture to 1 ¼ cup of water to equal one can of condensed cream of soup.

You can use it dry or reconstituted as needed.

Sweet Onion Sausage Casserole

*Submitted by Diane Lepior (Ask Cevin Valade if he likes this one!)
(this easily translates to gluten-free by substituting different
crackers and gluten-free soup)*

Ingredients:

5 large sweet onions sliced in rings

12 Ritz crackers (crushed)

1 pound of sausage (browned and drained)

1 can of cream soup of your choice (Chicken, Celery, mushroom etc)

½ cup shredded cheddar cheese

Directions:

Put a layer of onions on the bottom of a 9x13" pan

Cover first layer with crushed crackers

Add cooked sausage

Add another layer of onions

Sprinkle on cheese

Bake at 400 degrees for about one hour



Mission News!

By: Sandy Braid



Mission Jar- The Missions Committee would like to give a hearty thanks our Congregation for your support of our Mission projects. We have heard from several of our missionaries thanking us for our generous monetary gift from our "Missionary Christmas Jar". With the news channels carrying so much negative news and bad things happening in our world, it is a breath of fresh air to hear from our missionaries about the good things that are happening. Could you use some good news? Please come join our mission team. We meet at the church on the 2nd Monday of every month at 10 am. We would love to have YOU join us. We would also like to thank the Men's Prayer Breakfast for contributing \$150 to our Missionary Christmas Jar. We fell a little short on our giving this year in this area so, please consider giving to our Missionary Christmas Jar monthly if you are able. We send the checks out the first part of November. That would help us so much, thank you.

Operation Christmas Child - We will soon be putting our collection box out for items that go into our hsoe boxes. If you are a shopper, now is a good time to pick up stuffed animals at discounted prices from Christmas and very soon after Valentine's Day. And if you are not a shopper, we can always use monetary donations, just give to the church and designate it for "OCC". We try to put a small stuffed animal in almost every box. Other shoe boxes may get a soccer ball with an inflation pump, a diecast car, or a doll. We also put an essential pack in every shoe box which consists of crayons, paper, 4 pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, a toothbrush, a comb, [and a hairbrush for the girls]. We also like to include a coloring book, games, small toys, soap, washcloths, drinking cups, colored pencils, tools for the boys, calculators plus other items.

FILL THEM WITH



Garage Sale - At this time we are planning to host a large church-wide garage sale. We plan to do the same thing at this garage sale as we did in the summer of 2021. We will be designating all the money to "OCC" to help cover the cost of items for the shoeboxes and pay for postage. We invite you to donate items to the sale. We have been told the average home has 30% of items they will never use. Would you consider donating them to a church-wide garage sale to help pay for useful items that a child in need could use? The sale will be held at the home of Tom and Sandy Braid. Please talk with Sandy about donating items. A date has not yet been set. We will be attempting to set a date soon that does not conflict with other church activities. Please be thinking about items you can donate, we would appreciate it very much, thank you.

REMEMBER when you give to missions you may never know, this side of heaven, the impact your giving has across this world and our community. Our missionaries are impacting people all around the world and you are having a part in winning souls for Christ. Keep up the good work Bancroft Congregational Church. We are reaching others for Christ in many places we do not even know about.



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 217 S. Shiawassee St.,
 PO Box 98
 Bancroft, MI 48414



Bancroft Church Phone Number:
 989-634-5724
Secretary: Diane Lepior
Office Hours: 9-2 daily
Call ahead please,
most days the office works offsite
Tuesdays by appointment
Please use the church phone or Facebook

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10 am Small Group Bible Study	2 6:30 Small Group Bible Study	3	4
5 	6	7	8 Ladies Fellowship 7pm Elder's 7pm	9 6:30 Small Group Bible Study	10	11 8 am:  10 am All church prayer meeting
12 Young Adults 5 pm Valades 6-8 pm YG Movie Night	13 Missions 10am CE meeting 6:30 pm	14	15 10 Am Small Group Bible Study	16 6:30 Small Group Bible Study	17 YG- Barakel	18 10-Noon Pantry ministry 
19	20	21	22 10 am Small Group Bible Study	23 6:30 Small Group Bible Study	24	25 Euchre Party 6 pm <i>Bring a snack or appetizer to share</i>
26 Young Adults 5 pm Valades	27	28				

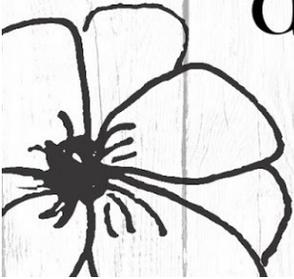
Weekly activities: Tuesdays: Karate
 Wednesdays: 10am Adult Bible Study
 Thursdays: 6:30pm Adult Small Group

Know your Bible Sections [Answers]

1. E 2. I 3. C 4. A 5. F 6. C 7. B 8. G 9. F 10. E 11. A 12. E 13. G 14. I
 15. A 16. H 17. D 18. B 19. F 20. B

When we
put God first,
all other things will fall
into their proper place or
drop out of our lives.

-Ezra Taft Benson



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