



The BCC Connection

July
2025

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 9:30am
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

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

**VBS
2025**





From Your Favorite Pastor

Early in the morning on June 6, 1944, nearly 7,000 landing craft loaded with almost 160,000 troops appeared along the Normandy coast. This was Operation Overlord, the start of the battle to take back Europe from evil. It was a costly day, and a very costly next 10 months. But the war was won and people were freed from fascism and evil, and the world was saved. We just celebrated the 81st anniversary of that date, remembering those young men who stepped off those landing craft even as they faced almost certain death. Since the Revolutionary War, our country has had almost 670,000 combat deaths with an additional 670,000+ deaths related to those conflicts. Men and women willing to sacrifice for their brothers and their country. On July 4 we celebrate the birth of our nation, but I think we really celebrate the freedoms that we attained through the Revolution. Those freedoms exist today because of the sacrifices of over 1.3 million people. We experience another freedom in our life, a freedom that exceeds any government or personal situation we may face because of one incredible God.

We experience that freedom when we come to Christ. Christ moves into our lives and starts the sanctification process, working to make us more like Him. I Corinthians 3:16-18 says, "But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. So, all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord- who is the Spirit- makes us more and more like Him as we are changed into His glorious image." The freedom we experience in Christ becomes a lifelong quest to be more like Him, to shine that freedom to the world around us just as our country shines freedom to the world. Let's remember this summer that there is a freedom Christ offers that is even greater than the freedom we experience in this great country!

Be blessed & be a blessing!

PT



Standing on the Promises



July



- Day 1: Deuteronomy 31:6
- Day 2: 1 Chronicles 28:20
- Day 3: Joshua 1:9
- Day 4: Exodus 14:14
- Day 5: Psalm 91:9-10
- Day 6: Psalm 91:11-12
- Day 7: Psalm 91:13-14
- Day 8: Psalm 91:15-16
- Day 9: Isaiah 54:17
- Day 10: Isaiah 43:1-2
- Day 11: Jeremiah 29:11
- Day 12: Isaiah 41:10
- Day 13: Isaiah 41:13
- Day 14: Psalm 27:1
- Day 15: Psalm 34:17
- Day 16: Psalm 50:15
- Day 17: Matthew 6:25-26
- Day 18: Matthew 6:31-33
- Day 19: Matthew 7:7-8
- Day 20: Matthew 7:9-11
- Day 21: Phillippians 4:19
- Day 22: Isaiah 1:18
- Day 23: John 3:16
- Day 24: 1 John 1:9
- Day 25: 2 Chronicles 7:14
- Day 26: Acts 2:21
- Day 27: Romans 10:13
- Day 28: John 14:13-14
- Day 29: Hebrews 13:5-6
- Day 30: Romans 8:28
- Day 31: Revelation 3:5

Kingdom Bloggers



VBS invited the community on Thursday this year to join in the celebration! They had a special speaker: Todd Deering who presented a message and a gospel invitation. There were about 90 people in attendance! What a great way to involve and impact our community! Thanks Shana and Sandy for your work to organize this event.

Weekly Service Schedule for July 2025



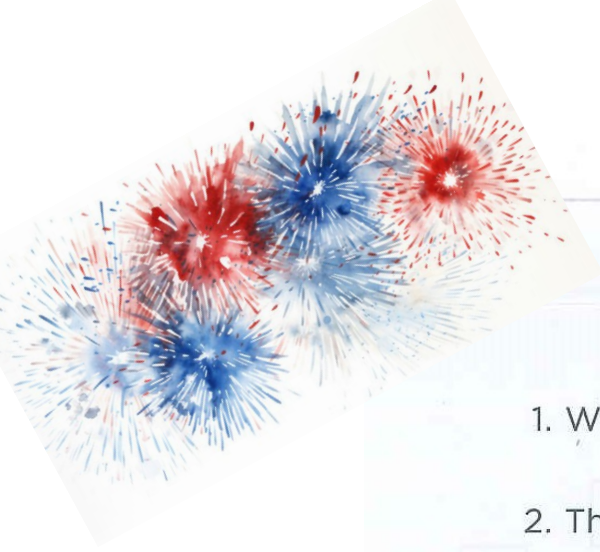
Service	6th	13th	20th	27th
Greeter	Lee Habermehl	Brian Reed	Walt Reed	Tom Wahl
Greeter	Cyndy Habermehl	Karla Reed	Marion Reed	
Nursery	Jenny Habermehl	Patty Hewitt	Layne Valade	Cathy Taber
Nursery	Paula Wahl	Shana Post	Daphne Valade	Laurie Valade
Sound	Aaron Zander	Katie Thompson	Sarah Bias	Aaron Zander
Computer	Matthew Zander	Wyatt Crego	Maddie Bias	Matthew Zander
Call to Worship & Prayer	Matt Post	Layne Valade	James Huguelet	Brian Reed
Prayer Elder	Carl Cooke	James Huguelet	Brian Reed	Layne Valade
Jr. Church Teacher	Becky Durling	Amber Bias	Becky Durling	Paula Wahl
Jr. Church Helper	Cathy Taber	Shana Post	Cathy Taber	Jenny Habermehl
Scripture Reader Message Prayer	Sandy Braid Exodus 27:1-8	Carl Cooke Exodus 28:1-3	Laurie Valade Exodus 29:1	No Reader Needed
Benediction	Pastor	James Huguelet	Carl Cooke	Lee Habermehl
Financial Team	Tom Wahl	Brian Reed	Matt Post	Dan Bryant
Financial Team	Lee Habermehl	Carl Cooke	James Huguelet	Layne Valade
Communion	Carl Cooke			

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!





THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

Provide the answers for these facts about the ark of the covenant.

1. What the top of the ark was called
2. The two-dimensional geometric shape of the ark
3. The only right way to carry the ark
4. He died when he touched the ark to prevent it from falling over
5. In the wilderness, the ark resided in this structure
6. Where the ark normally stayed after Solomon's time
7. The people group who once took the ark from the Israelites
8. When this group had the ark, this happened to its people
9. The three things kept inside the ark
10. These angelic creatures were fashioned from gold for the ark
11. This person once danced before the ark
12. On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest sprinkled this on the ark



Answers on page 11

This Month's Cause for Celebration!



BIAS	AMBER	5-Jul
HABERMEHL	CYNDY	8-Jul
SIDDENS	PATRICK	10-Jul
MALLOY	LINDA	11-Jul
RANCOUR	KARLI	21-Jul
BRYANT	ROSE	27-Jul
COMPTON	BARB	28-Jul
COOKE	VAEH	29-Jul

JULY 10

And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6

18
21

Todd & Amber
Patrick & Jill

Evans
Siddens



Kids Corner

MY SALVATION SCAVENGER HUNT

- Something BLACK to represent our sin.
- TWO STICKS to represent Jesus dying on the cross.
- Something RED to represent the blood Jesus poured out for you.
- A ROCK to represent the stone rolled in front of the tomb.
- Something EMPTY to represent that Jesus defeated death.
- Something WHITE to represent salvation in Christ alone.
- Something GREEN to represent that in Christ you are new creation.

Mission News!



Camp Barakel Board Official Statement June 9, 2025

In 1942, Holman “Johnnie” Johnson organized a summer camp we now know as Camp Barakel. The name is Hebrew for “blessing of God” and was suggested by a nine-year-old camper. For the past 83 years, thousands have come to discover that Camp Barakel is truly a place God has blessed.

The Camp Barakel Board of Trustees understands that with great blessing comes great responsibility. Over the last couple of decades, we have endeavored to care for the Resident Missionary Staff (RMS) of Camp Barakel by assessing their well-being and offering guidance and encouragement. In the last two or three years, through our interactions with the RMS we decided to do a health assessment of Camp Barakel.

This assessment reveals we have much to praise God for, especially regarding the proclamation of the gospel! Chapel services are filled with doctrinally rich singing and Bible-based preaching. The Lord continues to bless Barakel with strong numbers of campers, retreaters and volunteers alike. We are so thankful Barakel continues to be a place God is blessing.

Our health assessment did raise some areas of concern. There is overwhelming pressure on our RMS which has resulted in problems like overwork, low morale, conflicts, and communication issues. Many of our RMS are struggling. Some have left over the last few years. Others are considering leaving.

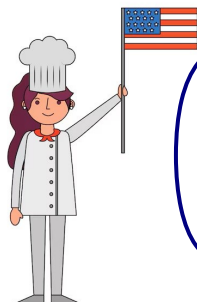
The Barakel Board of Trustees has high respect and deep love for our RMS. This has happened on our watch, and we are deeply grieved. We believe the internal state of Camp Barakel has reached a critical point. We **LOVE** our RMS and are committed to taking meaningful steps to ensure we do not neglect the very people who carry what is most precious to God: The Gospel, the magnification of Jesus, and the joy of His people through this ministry.

We confess that we have not served them well by allowing things to reach this point. With sincere hearts, we have asked for their forgiveness.

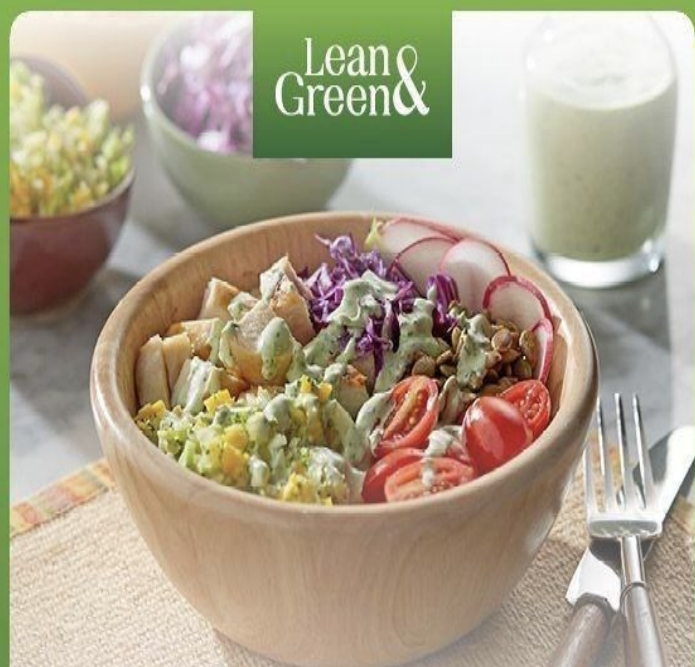
On June 3rd, the Barakel Board met and voted to take the following action steps:

1. Several years ago, the board began to develop a succession plan at Paul Gardner’s request. Paul is encouraging the board to accelerate this process as he continues in his current role. Therefore, we are no longer looking to appoint an Assistant Director who will become Director in the future. Our new goal is to search for a Director.
2. After this 2025 summer season and Labor Day Family Camp, Barakel will take a unique type of sabbatical we are calling: gospel sabbatical. In order to accomplish this, we will suspend all new registrations starting after the summer season and Labor Day family camp.
3. 2025 summer camps will proceed as scheduled. We are confident, with the summer staff at the highest numbers we’ve seen since before COVID, that the scheduled Gospel proclamation ministry for the summer will be done well to God’s glory.

We recognize the magnitude of these announcements as well as the concerns that may be raised. It might help to know this decision was not made lightly, but only after much prayer, consultation and deliberation. For those of you who love Camp Barakel, our hope is that you will continue to pray for and support the camp and our RMS during this season of restoration and hope. When we re-open, please join us again!



Grandma's Kitchen



Lean & Green

Grilled Chicken Power Bowl with Green Goddess Dressing

• Yield: 4 Servings • Per Serving: 1 Leaner, 1 Healthy Fat, 3 Green, 3 Condiments • Total Time: 45 minutes
• Per serving: 300 Calories • 43g Protein • 12g Carbohydrate • 10g Fat

Ingredients

- ☐ 1½ lbs. boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- ☐ ¼ tsp each (or less) salt & pepper
- ☐ 1 cup riced or cubed kabocha squash
- ☐ 1 cup riced zucchini
- ☐ 1 cup riced yellow summer squash
- ☐ 1 cup riced broccoli
- ☐ 8 cherry tomatoes, halved
- ☐ 4 radishes, sliced thin
- ☐ 1 cup shredded red cabbage
- ☐ ¼ cup hemp or pumpkin seeds

Green Goddess Dressing

- ☐ ½ cup low-fat plain Greek yogurt
- ☐ 1 cup fresh basil
- ☐ 1 clove garlic
- ☐ 4 tbsp lemon juice
- ☐ ¼ tsp each (or less) salt & pepper

Directions

1. Preheat grill or oven to 350°F.
2. Season chicken with salt and pepper.
3. Grill or roast chicken about 10-12 minutes until it reaches an internal temperature of 165°F. When done, remove from oven and set aside to rest, about 5 minutes. Cut into bite-sized pieces and keep warm.
4. While chicken rests, steam riced kabocha squash, zucchini, yellow summer squash, and broccoli in a covered microwave proof bowl about 5 minutes until tender.
5. For the dressing, combine all of the ingredients in a blender and puree until smooth.
6. To serve, place an equal amount of the riced veggie mixture into four individual serving bowls. Add an equal amount of cherry tomatoes, radishes, and shredded cabbage to each bowl along with a quarter of the chicken and one tablespoon of seeds. Drizzle dressing on top, and serve.

LEAN & GREEN

INSTANT POT CHIPOTLE CHICKEN & CAULIFLOWER RICE BOWLS

YIELD: 4 SERVINGS

PER SERVING: 1 LEANER | 1 HEALTHY FAT | 3 GREEN | 3 CONDIMENTS

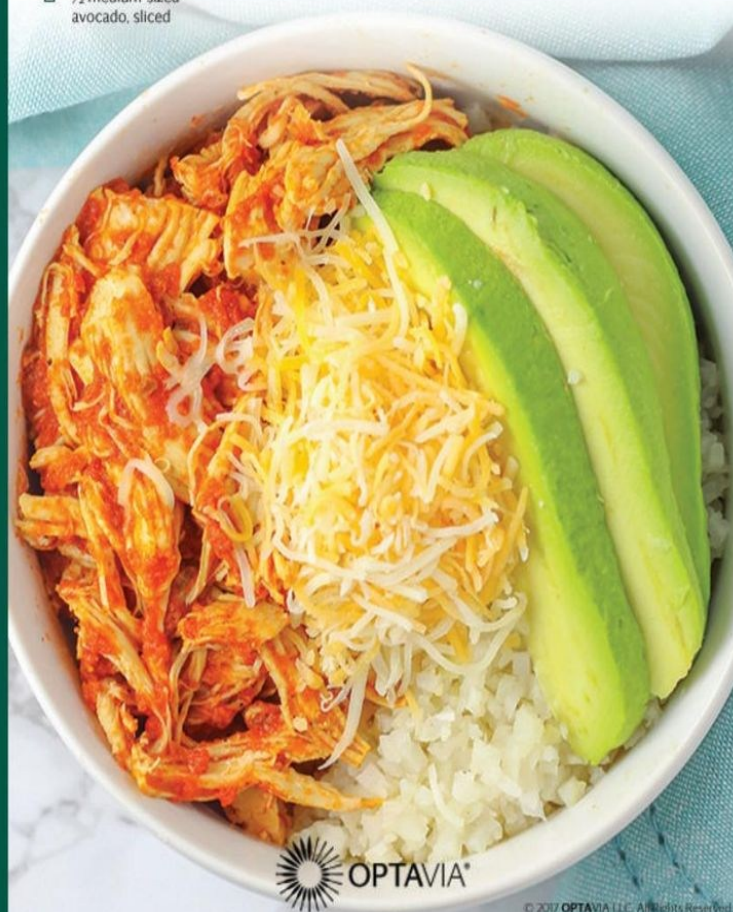
TOTAL TIME: 30 MINUTES

INGREDIENTS:

- ☐ 1, 14.5-oz. can fire-roasted diced tomatoes
- ☐ ⅓ cup salsa
- ☐ 1 canned chipotle pepper in adobo sauce + 1 tsp sauce
- ☐ 1 tsp cumin
- ☐ ½ tsp dried oregano
- ☐ ¼ tsp salt
- ☐ 1½ lbs boneless skinless chicken breasts
- ☐ 4 cups frozen riced cauliflower
- ☐ 1 cup reduced-fat shredded Mexican cheese blend
- ☐ ½ medium-sized avocado, sliced

DIRECTIONS:

1. Combine first six ingredients in a blender, and blend until smooth.
2. Place chicken in Instant Pot, and pour sauce over top. Secure lid and close pressure valve. Set to 20 minutes at high pressure. Allow pressure to release naturally before opening. Remove chicken and shred, and then toss back in sauce.
3. Meanwhile, microwave riced cauliflower according to package directions.
4. To serve: Divide riced cauliflower, chicken, cheese, and avocado evenly amongst four bowls.



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Pastor Todd Evans
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217 S. Shiawassee St.,
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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
to contact the office during office hours.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 	5
6 	7	8	9	10	11	12 8 am  Men's Prayer Breakfast
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 10—Noon  5:15 pm Come Night
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. mercy seat | 7. Philistines | 10. cherubim |
| 2. rectangular | 8. plague | 11. David |
| 3. with poles | 9. Aaron's rod that | 12. blood of a sacri- |
| 4. Uzzah | budded, the Ten | ficed animal |
| 5. tabernacle | Commandments, | |
| 6. temple | manna | |

*Blessed is the Nation
whose God is
the Lord....*

Psalms 33:12

*“It ought to be commemorated,
as the Day of Deliverance by
solemn Acts of Devotion to
God Almighty.”*

-John Adams

Liberty Freedom Justice

One Nation Under God



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