



Weekend News and Notes for October 16, 2026

Beginning with Adoration

Adoration is turning our hearts toward God in love, reverence, and praise simply because of who He is. While thanksgiving celebrates what God has done, adoration delights in His character—His holiness, goodness, power, mercy, and unfailing love. It is taking our eyes off ourselves long enough to say, “God, You are worthy of my love and worship.” Scripture invites us to adore Him:

- **Psalm 95:6-7:** Bow before the Lord, our Maker and Shepherd.
- **Psalm 145:3:** Praise His greatness, which is beyond our understanding.
- **Psalm 29:2:** Give the Lord the glory due His name and worship Him in the splendor of His holiness.
- **Revelation 4:11:** Recognize that He is worthy of glory, honor, and power because He created all things.
- **Psalm 103:8:** Reflect on His compassion, grace, patience, and abundant love.

As we invite you into worship this Sunday, we will spend the first few minutes in quiet reflection, adoration, and communion. You will be invited to simply write out a note of adoration and place it on the communion table as you receive your elements. If you choose not to participate, please be respectful with your silence of those who do. We, the worship team, are looking forward to enjoying a great time of worship with you this Sunday!

On the Lighter Side



Discipleship Pathway — From Sinner to Saint

The Christian walk can sometimes feel overwhelming. We know our struggles and shortcomings, and we may wonder how someone like us could ever become a saint. Yet throughout Scripture, God takes ordinary, sinful people and transforms their lives. Sometimes change comes quickly; often, it unfolds over years as they learn to trust and follow Him.

We believe God is still doing that work today. Through His grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, He helps us become more like Jesus.

At LifeSpring, we are developing a discipleship pathway to help each person grow toward spiritual maturity. We are continuing to shape the details as we walk this path together, but our desire is clear: **to help everyone take their next step in following Jesus.**

- 1. Build a foundation.**
Join the Foundations class with Pastor John to explore the essentials of our faith and what it means to follow Jesus. In this class, Pastor will evaluate how best he and the church can invest in your spiritual growth and develop a personal plan for you.
- 2. Develop habits that help you grow.**
Begin a daily rhythm of prayer, Scripture reading, and time with God. Connect consistently with a small group of believers who will encourage you, pray with you, and help you grow.
- 3. Give yourself away in service.**
Discover how God can use your gifts, experiences, and compassion to make a difference in our church, our community, and the world.
- 4. Invest in someone else's faith.**
Share what God is teaching you and walk alongside another person as they learn to follow Jesus.

Where are you on the path—and what might your next step be?
Talk with Pastor John or one of the elders. We would love to help you get connected and keep growing on this journey of a lifetime!

Sunday’s Sermon: Grace Opens the Door

Scripture: Acts 15:1-21

1. Grace _____ never Grace _____
2. The Power of _____ revealed

Conclusion: God sees you!

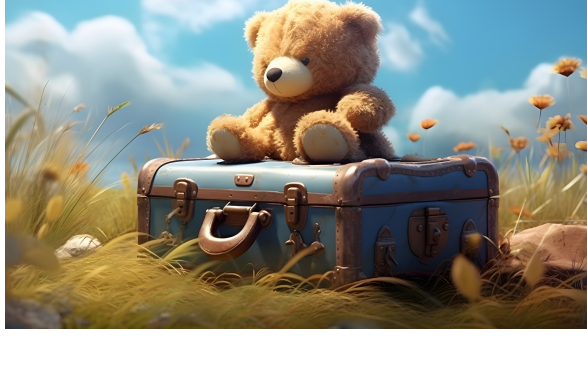
Elder Team is Meeting

After church this morning the elder team of Pastor, Ray Krieger, Charlie Bailey, and Vince Anton will meet for a time of spiritual discussion and prayer. If you have a need you are welcome to share it with us or join us. Also, each of these men are available for you to talk with. You do not have to meet with us but they are each happy to sit and talk over a coffee, phone call, or chat to discuss your spiritual needs and help privately guide you in your spiritual journey.

Focused Time of Communion

While we are currently taking communion ever Sunday as a way to prepare our hearts for worship and connect with God, once a month we will take communion as a church together. Next Sunday we will have an extended time of communion during our service in which we “communion” with each other and with Jesus as our center. Come with hearts prepared to meet with Jesus and be in right fellowship with fellow man.

Teddy Bear Adventures at LifeSpring



Teddy Bears—Fishers of Men?

Cuddles had a busy week welcoming Hershey, Honey, Packy, and Lady. We now have two more girls and two more boys ready for training.

“Why is it,” asked Cuddles, “that when new bears arrive, trouble thrives?”
What happened at the celebration for the bears who will be leaving soon? Wasn’t the wiener roast fun?

“Yes, it was—once I finally got it started.” Cuddles replied. “I had all the wieners on sticks and the marshmallows ready for toasting when I looked around and noticed that half of my bear friends were missing. Where did they go?”

Penelope grinned. “They went fishing from the Ark.”

“Those silly bears! Where in the world did they get that idea?” asked Cuddles.

“From your Bible stories, Cuddles,” Mandy explained. “You talked about Jesus Christ wanting to make His disciples better fishermen. Brentley told us there’s a sign in the boys’ bathroom, with a fishing pole beside it, that says men have to be good fishermen. They thought filling their backpacks with fish would be a wonderful surprise for the kids!”

“Oh my, oh my,” said Cuddles. “First of all, there is no water around our Ark—no water, no fish! I said the floodwaters receded, not rose! And the Ark on our playground is for playing, not sailing.

“Jesus said, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.’ The men He was calling were already fishermen. He was inviting them to follow Him and help others come to know Him, too. We share that good news by telling people about Jesus—His love, His death for our sins, and His resurrection.”

With the remaining bears following her, Cuddles walked down to the Ark. Snowball and Carlton stood with fishing poles in hand, looking discouraged.

“Catch any fish yet?” Cuddles asked. Then she told them to look down. “My dear bears, there is no water—only dry land!”

Looking disappointed, they slid down the Ark’s slide and started walking back toward the campfire. But Cuddles stopped them and gathered everyone into a huddle.

“Have you ever looked at the mission statement of the Teddy Bear Ministry?” she asked. “When we bless you and send you out to comfort a child experiencing crisis or trauma, you help us share the love of Jesus. Your soft hugs can be a small reminder that someone cares. That is something to be proud of—and a backpack full of fish wouldn’t help with that!”

“Well, you’re right, as you always are, Cuddles,” said Kobe. “Besides, I wonder how many kids would want a hug from a bear who smells like fish!”



Plan Your Visit to Church Today!

Upcoming Events

- Sunday, October 18** - 11:20 AM - Elder Team Meeting
Monday, October 5 - Pastoral Care, 9:00 AM at the church
Tuesday, October 20 - Calling Study, 6:00 PM at the church
Men’s accountability and Bible study group II - 6:30 PM at the church
Thursday, October 8 - Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM at the church
Worship Practice, 4:30 PM at the church
December 4th - Parents Night Out

We look forward to seeing you in worship this Sunday at 10:00 AM at LifeSpring!

LifeSpring Calendar

Would you like to help support the ministry at LifeSpring?
We have made it easier than ever...



Online Giving is Simple at LifeSpring!

Simply Click to be taken to our online giving portal

From here you can log in or just give a gift. To give a one time gift, simply follow the prompts, enter your card information, click if you would like to cover a small processing fee and you are done. If you want to set up automatic giving or have your gift tracked for your church giving records just add a few simple steps:

- Sign-in (if your name and email match our records) you will be sent a temporary password to set up your account if you haven't already.
- Once your account is up and running just enter your name, email, and password and you will be able to fully enter the online giving and member portal.
- From here you can set up a recurring gift of your choosing and time.
- You can also set up Giving by text (they will text you a giving phone number where you just text back “Giving” and your amount and your gift will be automatically sent.

If you want further help or explanation here is a great video that will walk you through the entire process: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vRZV8oSR84>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF LifeSpring!!

Other Ways to Give

You can always bring cash or a check to church where we will receive our offerings on Sunday morning and you can also give by using Venmo.. Just look up LifeSpring Community Church - Valley City and make sure it has a picture of our church on it.