

3timbers CHURCH

ISSUE 6

SEPTEMBER 2021

*Connecting
people to the
transforming &
redeeming love
of Jesus Christ
through*

**PASSION,
POWER,
and
PRESENCE**

~~~~~

**WORSHIP WITH US!**

**SUNDAY 10 A.M.**

**In the Upper Room at  
NATE'S STUMBLE INN**

**15409 S 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET**

**BENNINGTON, NE**

**OR**

**FACEBOOK**

**SEARCH FOR**

**THREE TIMBERS CHURCH  
THEN 'VIDEOS'**



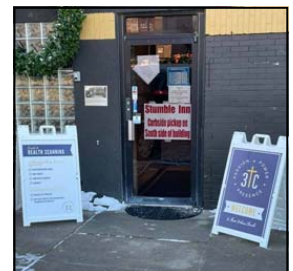
## God's Faithfulness

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the Lord has helped us."

**1 Samuel 7:12**



God's Faithfulness has been evident all along 3tc's journey... from the humble beginnings in the original office, to the new, roomy Ministry Center... from the origins in the Elementary School to our current meeting place in the upper room at Nate's Stumble Inn - God has provided when we had no idea where we would go. How exciting to see where God leads us next!



Our future home???

To be revealed in God's perfect time!



Take a look at the series of quick videos from Pastor Jeff regarding God's Faithfulness: they're on Facebook (8/4, 8/5, 8/7, 8/12).

You don't have to be 'on' Facebook, just go to [www.facebook.com/threetimberschurch](https://www.facebook.com/threetimberschurch) & scroll down to the dates of the videos.



## UPCOMING EVENTS - starting Sunday!



### NEXT STEPS...

#### Are You Looking to Learn More about 3TC?

*Join us this Sunday, September 12th*, for our Next Steps program.

Next Steps is a great program designed to help those that have recently joined us to learn more about what's going on in the church and how to get involved. It's also a great way to get to know more people from the church and to hear what it is like serving in different ministries. We can't wait to see you there!

Next Steps will meet for approximately 30 minutes this Sunday, September 12th, at the Ministry Center immediately following the service. Learn about the vision of the church and meet the staff and elders.

*This Sunday!  
New Times!  
New Place!*



### Pursuit

Pursuit Middle and High will begin meeting September 12th at the Ministry Center.

Pursuit Middle 4:30-6:00  
Pursuit High - 6:30 -8:00



### Branches Update!

### THIS MONDAY!



### Save the Date!! NIGHT OF JOY

*Celebrate & Worship God's Faithfulness*

Thursday, October 7th

5:30 pm - Ministry Center ribbon cutting, followed by an Open House

6:00-7:00 pm - Free Worship Concert in the park featuring A Band Called Hemingway (this is Grant's band!)

### Men's Ministry Pancake Breakfast



Saturday, October 16th

8:00 a.m.

at the Ministry Center

### TRUNK OR TREAT

(In partnership w/ the Bennington Jaycees)



Sunday, October 31st - 1:00-3:30 pm

On 2nd Street in Bennington

Bounce House! Hot dogs! Games!

**COMING SOON: Sign up to decorate your trunk &/or bring candy!**



## Welcome our new Youth Director...



Hi everyone, I'm Britney Scheetz, and I am so excited to not only be the youth director, but to also join you at Three Timbers Church. I was asked to write a bit about me, so what would you like to know?

I grew up in Fairbury NE; its a small town located in southeastern Nebraska. I have one brother who is still in high school, then I have two siblings who are deceased, and I have a total of five birth siblings. My dad works for a power line company, and my mom is a nurse.

I studied youth and pastoral ministry at Manhattan Christian College, and just graduated this last spring. I hear that a lot of you are sports fans, so I guess I'll tell you what I've played. In high school I played volleyball, basketball, track and field, swim team, and my senior year I did cross country to strengthen my leg after an ACL injury. In college I played soccer; the girls had to tell me the rules the night before we played our first game, but in time I got the hang of it, and some people were surprised that I had never played before. I also filled in for the basketball team when they needed another player for a few games. I would say that my favorite sports are volleyball and soccer.

For those of you who do not like sports but enjoy reading, music, art, etc, I love those hobbies too! I was on the speech team in high school along with show choir, band, and the fall musical. I can play piano, ukulele, percussion, and a bit of guitar, but I'm only really good enough to play by myself. Reading is fun sometimes, and I wish I was good at art. If there were two things in this world that I wish God would have gifted me with, it would be the ability to be amazing at art and a pro in music. Unfortunately He said I could be just ok at those things, and would gift me in other areas. If you are reading this, and you are amazing in those two areas, just know that I am slightly jealous of you.

Let's see, what else? Occasionally I'll sew or crochet, I love movies and tv shows, and I own a skateboard, but I can't really ride it yet. Coffee shops are one of the best places to go and talk to people, read the Bible, or people watch.

Now you know pretty much everything about me, but feel free to come and ask me questions if there is more you want to know.

I am super excited to be a part of your church and working with the youth. I have a lot of ideas of what we can do throughout the year, and am so thrilled to come alongside all of you who are already cheerleaders and mentors for the students.

Working with youth has always been a passion of mine. I have worked at church camps, interned and volunteered for youth groups, and was a youth director before; I believe that being a youth director is one of the best jobs on the planet. I tell people that I get paid to take students out for ice cream and tell them about Jesus; it doesn't get much better than that! Again, I am so excited to join you all at Three Timbers Church!

*Please welcome Britney into the 3tc family!*







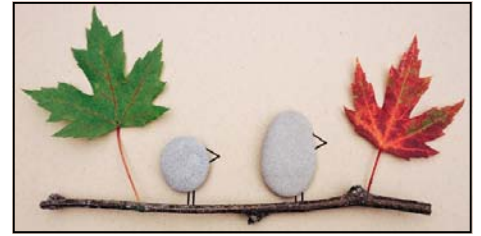
## Children's Ministry

Garrett Worner [garrett@threetimbers.org](mailto:garrett@threetimbers.org)

Hello Treehouse Kids!

What a crazy spring and summer it has been! And God has continued to show His faithfulness to the Treehouse Kids here at Three Timbers!

We finished up our online Wednesday night branches on Zoom. While it was great to see, worship, and learn together on that format, there is nothing like meeting up and being together!



We did just that with three separate Friday Night Flix this summer! Three terrific Friday nights with free popcorn, water, popsicles, a Movie, and even a food truck on the last one this summer!! God is Good!

The summer also included the kids being in the Bennington Daze Parade, riding on a flatbed while giving out candy and smiling and waving and shooting water at our awesome community as we drove by!

Camps were also in full swing this summer with a couple of our kids going to Camp Rivercrest and others in the surrounding communities. For those of you who have never experienced the wonder and amazing blessing that is summer camp with Jesus, please come and talk with me! What an indispensable experience for young ones to not only get a stronger foundation in Jesus but to grow in friendships and memories that will last a lifetime! I was also blessed by being asked to teach at three camps this summer! Being able to witness God working during these weeks is so much more than I could ever ask or even imagine. God is Amazing!

Speaking of God's amazing goodness, **we will be starting up Branches again, in person, at the ministry center on September 8<sup>th</sup>! We are doing something a little different this year!** We will be meeting at 6:00 pm, for those who can make it that early, for a light dinner and then we will start the program at 6:30 and go until 7:30! We are hoping this will help parents by giving them an option to have their kids fed.

Also, this fall we will be starting **something really cool for the kids during Branches!** We all will be putting on our detective hats and studying the evidence of Jesus by going through the curriculum of "Cold Case Christianity." We will go over all the evidence with the help of the writings of a real life cold case detective and at the end of the study, the kids will have the opportunity to earn their very own detective certificate! It is going to be awesome!

Last but definitely not least, God has guided us to partner with the Jaycees this Halloween to put together **one great big, gigantic Trunk or Treat!** It will be in downtown Bennington again this year with 3TC providing bounce houses, hotdogs, cake walk, music and more! This year's Trunk or Treat will be Sunday, October 31st from 1:00-3:30pm. **Please contact me if you would like to volunteer or are willing to set up your trunk with candy for the kids!!**

Questions?

Contact Mr. Garrett at

[garrett@threetimbers.org](mailto:garrett@threetimbers.org)



## Worship & Creative Arts Ministry

Grant Riesen [grant@threetimbers.org](mailto:grant@threetimbers.org)

### ...from Grant Riesen, Worship & Creative Arts Minister

I love clichés. Why? Because they just work. I don't care if they aren't profound anymore. I don't care that they've been done to death. They still effectively communicate points in a simple and memorable way.

One of my favorite clichés is “life is a highway”. This analogy that's been turned into a song has become exceedingly cliché today. To date it has been covered 21 times (counting the Kidz Bop version) and has seen a bit of a resurgence in popularity thanks to the 2006 cinematic masterpiece that is *Cars*. So why do I say all of this? Because I'm about to use that cliché.

Ready for this? *Ministry, like life, is a highway.*

And if ministry is a highway, then the worship, and tech ministries are hanging out in the far left lane.

Let's start with the technology ministry. In the past year we have been assessing our location and meters, shifting gears, and ultimately (hopefully) heading in the right direction. As all of you are more than aware, technology changes at a rapid pace, and if you aren't looking ahead, you're usually falling behind. Since the beginning of our tenure at the Stumble Inn, we have made some serious changes. We have transitioned our online ministries format three times, adopted and implemented a new sound board, began utilizing a confidence monitor in worship, and have been looking forward to and studying other tech pieces that can enhance the worship experience on Sunday mornings. Luckily for us, God has continued to bless us with incredible volunteers that not only know the tech, but are extremely adaptable.

As for the worship team, we've seen a number of changes as well. In the past year, we have welcomed the incredible talent of Marshall Peterson (bass), Stephanie Olson (vocals/keys), and Sabine Worner (vocals). We've also seen some transition out, an example being Keegan Worner (drums) leaving for college. We truly are blessed to have some incredibly talented people on our team. However, we are always looking for more volunteers to help us out, so if you or anyone you know would be a good addition, let me know!

I said it before and I'll say it again. *Ministry, like life, truly is like a highway.* And we'll continue praying that God shows us his vision. We'll continue to know that he will provide for us along the way. And we'll trust that whether we're in a traffic jam or making great time, God is in control and looking out for the best interest of HIS Church.



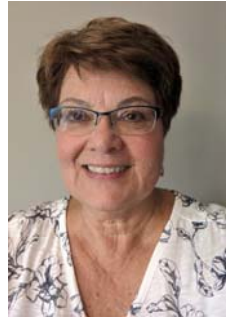


## Be Bold for Christ!

I command you - be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

### Coming Soon: **Be Bold for Christ!**

By Pam Mitchell



The other day I saw a t-shirt that gave me a chuckle. It said: Did I just roll my eyes out loud? Just the words **Be Bold for Christ** can sometimes give us that feeling. We don't really mean to roll our eyes; not literally, anyway. It's more the uncertainty, discomfort, and maybe even fear of what we are being asked to do. And believe me, I understand that feeling; it takes deliberate thought and action each time. But, I can tell you from personal experience, it gets easier every time I do it.

I recently read a devotional from Proverbs 31 Ministries. It stated: "It is easy to remain right where we are, staring at something, unwilling to move our feet and take action because the thought feels overwhelming. God didn't intend for you to only observe life unfold before you. You get to participate, speak up, stand out, and share meaningful experiences with those you are blessed to know on this journey."

To **Be Bold for Christ** is simply to keep our eyes open for opportunities to engage more fully in our faith and do what we are called to do: love and encourage others. All others. And it can be done in the simplest of ways.

Pastor Jeff's sermon series, **Summer Essentials**, has inspired this **Be Bold for Christ** effort. If you want to refresh your memory on the series, the sermons are archived at [www.threetimbers.org/sermons/summer-essentials](http://www.threetimbers.org/sermons/summer-essentials). The topics: Worship; Studying God's Word; Pray; Serving God; Love Others; Do Life Together; Disciple Others.

*Coming soon, we all - adults and children - will see how many ways we, as followers of Christ, can lovingly reach out in a two-week period called Be Bold for Christ. Right now, we're simply asking you to look at the list of possibilities to serve and encourage, both in church and outside of 3tc. Add your own!*

Let's begin now to be in the habit of looking for God Moments...reaching out to others without fear or hesitation.

Here are a few ideas for adults and kids to consider, and get our creative juices flowing! In no particular order:

- |                                                                 |                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| *pray before eating in a restaurant                             | *mow a lawn for someone                                                      |
| *roll someone's trash can up the drive                          | *talk to visitors and new people at church                                   |
| *leave a positive note with your tip                            | *participate in an activity at church                                        |
| *send a note to someone or write a letter                       | *volunteer to help collect the offering or stack chairs                      |
| *assist with the children or youth ministries                   | *start a life group/attend a life group                                      |
| *sponsor or (co-sponsor) a Trunk or Treat car                   | *join the music ministry                                                     |
| *share a devotional with a friend                               | *send a thank you note to our staff                                          |
| *compliment a stranger - be genuine                             | *do something special for your child's teacher                               |
| *let someone know you prayed for them                           | *offer financial support to a worthy cause                                   |
| *stop and pray for someone having a bad day                     | *commit to daily Bible/devotional reading                                    |
| *tip a restroom cleaner                                         | *invite somebody new in your class to play at recess                         |
| *let someone ahead of you in line, especially if they have kids | *join the Friday Nite Flix crew (~4 times per summer)                        |
| *forgive someone                                                | *buy lunch for someone you don't know                                        |
| *send a fun gift to someone for no reason                       | *join the Pray & Go ministry                                                 |
| *do something nice for your brother or sister                   | *pay on someone's lunch account at school                                    |
| *look online and make a purchase for the ministry center        | *join the prayer chain at church                                             |
| *coordinate the 3tc Meal Train for those in need                | *participate in a local outreach event                                       |
| *quiet your mind to hear God                                    | *participate in the church newsletter by submitting articles and/or pictures |
|                                                                 | *listen to uplifting music                                                   |



## Financial Corner

Rick Blunk, Business Manager

Year-to-date, as of July 31, 2021:

|          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| Revenue  | \$111,143        |
| Expenses | <u>\$151,678</u> |
| Net      | (\$ 40,535)      |



Historically, we are consistently in a deficit this time of the year. Both expenses as well as giving are running under forecast over the first seven months of 2021. Revenue has been less predictable since the pandemic started, which is consistent with what many churches are experiencing.

Historically, our best months for giving have been October as well as December. We would ask for your prayerful consideration of once again helping Three Timbers to finish the year strong as we have been blessed to experience through the years.

To the many who so generously, consistently support Three Timbers Ministries we thank you.

In His Service,

Rick Blunk  
Business Manager

*<sup>6</sup>Remember this – a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. <sup>7</sup>You must each make up your own mind as to how much you should give. Don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves the person who gives cheerfully. <sup>8</sup>And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. - 2 Corinthians 9:6-8*



AmazonSmile Charity Lists is a meaningful and easy way for you to **shop and donate items directly to charities in need**. Simply find the charities you'd like to support, add items from their lists to your cart, and check out – it's that easy. There is no difference in the price you pay for your purchases!

AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of your eligible Charity List purchases to your selected charity, **at no extra cost to you**.

**Support Three Timbers Church by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)**



**UPDATE!**

As of August 2021, the Amazon Smile deposit to three timbers church:

**\$1,061.36**

Thank you for choosing 3tc!

## Stay Connected...

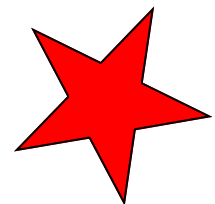
Have you **moved**?

Do you have a **new phone number**?

Have you opened a **new email account**?

Are you **new to 3tc**?

So we can keep you up to date, please keep us up to date!



Let us know if you've had changes to your contact information!  
[rick@threetimbers.org](mailto:rick@threetimbers.org) and [newsletter@threetimbers.org](mailto:newsletter@threetimbers.org)





## Missions... global



The Healing Kadi Foundation is a Christian faith-centered organization that works with the people of South Sudan to provide sustainable high quality healthcare, education for local healthcare providers, and psychological and spiritual counseling.

### Chamomile with Kadi-2021 by Bonnie Boone

On August 21, over 200 ladies and gentlemen gathered together at Covenant Presbyterian Church to honor Peggy Naro and give support to the Healing Kadi Foundation. Peggy and husband, Wayne are some of the founders of the HKF. Inspired by a trip to South Sudan in 2007 with Dr. Joseph Dumba, Wayne became instrumental in helping Dr. Dumba to bring affordable and available health care to his home country.



During a presentation by Dr. Dumba, we learned how the generosity and selfless giving of many volunteers established the Marilyn Meyer Memorial Clinic in Kajo Kejii and the ongoing construction of a future hospital for the South Sudanese. Unfortunately civil unrest sent most of the S. Sudanese to a refugee camp in Northern Uganda, and the clinic closed and construction was halted. But the dedicated S. Sudanese medical personal and the HKF were successful in establishing a medical clinic there to help alleviate the refugee's health issues.

In supporting the HKF we can help with current issues: repairing the damage from an August storm that damaged the refuge clinic, retuning S. Sudanese to their homes, continue the care from the clinic, and completion of the hospital.

As we all enjoyed the Tea, we were treated to performances by the Acholi Dancers and were able to purchase merchandise and bid on Silent Auction items. Deb Tomek shared tributes from friends and family to Peggy Naro and a big thank you to Nathalie Hathaway for organizing this successful event.







## Missions.. national

A few weeks ago our High School Mission team was blessed to be able to go to Kentucky and spend a week serving.

They had an incredible experience. Not only were that able to bless others, God used the experience to bless them and teach them invaluable life lessons along the way.

We are so proud of them for going out to help fulfill the Great Commission.

***"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"***



**Back row:**

**Xavier, Mr. Garrett,  
Sabine, Zoe, Jazmyn**

\* \* \*

**Front row:**

**Emma, Katrina,  
Miss Lorrin**

**BLESSED**







## Missions... local



Pray & Go is an awesome ministry opportunity that allows us to cover our community in prayer. Reach out to Van Wrenn or Ginger Blunk to sign up. And don't forget: this isn't a door to door campaign; all you have to do is walk and pray! It's a great way to enjoy God's creation while serving your community!

### How to Pray & Go???

- 1) download the Encounter Outreach app for 3tc - details online at [threetimbers.org](http://threetimbers.org);
- 2) grab a pack of 25 (or more!) door hangers from church or from the ministry center;
- 3) Open the app and chose a street. As you walk down the street, pray for the occupants of the homes. Leave a door hanger on their door to let them know they're being prayed for;
- 4) Touch the house on the app to show it's been prayed for (if you visit with them, touch 'engage').



Current Progress



Life, Interrupted podcasts offer a variety of conversations and Bible studies with regard to experiences of God being in the midst of these interruptions. Members of the Three Timbers staff alongside various guests talk about God's tendency to interrupt lives, both throughout the Bible and still today.

Listen anywhere you get your podcasts (Apple Podcasts, Spotify, etc.). Episodes are also archived at [www.threetimbers.org/life-interrupted-podcast-2/](http://www.threetimbers.org/life-interrupted-podcast-2/)

Each fall, Three Timbers Church members gather at each school in Bennington to pray over the school, staff, and students. This is an awesome ministry that lets us bathe our school system in prayer. We believe that prayer is powerful and that there is no better way to send our kids into the school year than by sending them to a school that has been covered in prayer.



Revitalizing the Inner City



Abide Partners

Lighthouse PROGRAM



*Join in...*

## *Soul Sisters*

All women are invited to join in the fellowship of Soul Sisters. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Ministry Center. Occasionally, special activities will be held instead of or in addition to the book club. Please join us for an evening of fellowship and sharing... whether you read all, some, or none of the book! For additional information, feel free to contact Felicia at [soulsisters@threetimbers.org](mailto:soulsisters@threetimbers.org).

September: *Special activity...* more details to come soon.

October 5: *It's Not Supposed To Be This Way* by Lysa TerKeurst

November 2: *But I Flourish* by Aimee Walker

December: *No Meeting*

January 4: *No book*-We will have a movie night!

February 1: *Flash: The Homeless Donkey Who Taught Me About Life, Faith and Second Chances*  
by Rachel Anne Ridge

March 1: *The Same Kind of Different* by Ron Hall and Denver Moore.

April 5: *Uninvited* by Lysa TerKeurst

May 3: *No book*- We will have a special activity.

## *Men's Ministry*

Are you interested in joining the Men's Ministry? Contact Pastor Jeff at [jeff@threetimbers.org](mailto:jeff@threetimbers.org).

**THIS MONDAY!**



### *Men's Ministry Pancake Breakfast*

*Saturday, October 16th*

*8:00 a.m.*

*at the Ministry Center*







Three Timbers Church  
P.O. Box 282  
Bennington NE 68007

*When finished with your newsletter, please consider sharing it with someone else!*