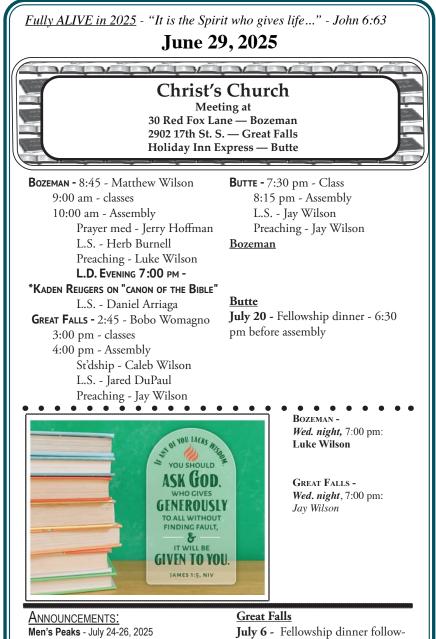
"With his mouth the godless man destroys his neighbor,
But through knowledge the righteous will be delivered."
-- Proverbs 11:9



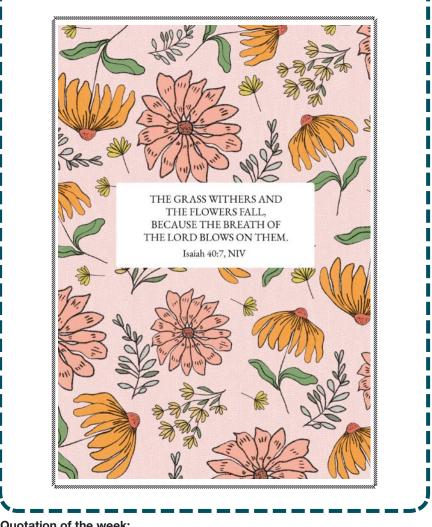
Landon and Hannah Reeves with son Samuel at a get together in The Village, near Oklahoma City, OK

"And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband." *Revelation 21:2*



Family Camp - Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 2025

ing assembly. Picnic in the Park; sandwiches and sides



Quotation of the week:

"Thus it would be clear that if the gospel of God were truly preached, it would be preached openly and without subterfuge. 'For Our exhortation, clarifies the apostle, "does not come from error or impurity or by way of deceit' (1 Thessalonians 2:3). By obvious contrast, those who preach falsely are in error, or attempt to justify impurity, or are just plain deceptive." -- Thoughts from 1 Thessalonians - "Remembering the Beginning"

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: (MONTANA YOUTH CAMP)

Bible School – 54	Wednesday Night (6/25) — 48
Morning Assembly – 86	Butte Lord's Day – 7 (ph: 5)
Evening Assembly – 49	GF Lord's Day – 50,87 Wed 31



Reasonings from Revelation

War in Heaven

Not many details are given about what happened in heaven before Creation, but there are telltale glimpses of rebellion and upheaval in what should have been Paradise. Angels, for example, are created beings, as indicated in Psalms where the angelic beingsjoin the chorus of all creation in praising God. "Praise Him, all His angels," said the Psalmist; "praise Him, all His hosts" (Psalm 148:2). That angels were created before the material realm is shown in the declaration given in Job as God queries Job with questions beyond Job's ken. "Where were you," asked the All Knowing, "when I laid the foundation of the earth?" Where were you, is the continued question, "when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God [angels in this

context] shouted for joy?" (Job 38:4,7). But there was one who was going to be the outcast angel.

As Ezekiel prophesied about the destruction of the ancient economic powerhouse and trading center, Tyre, and her king, he saw something that had to be more than the king of Tyre. "You had the seal of perfection," was the description of this shadowy form, known later as Satan or the devil, "full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God..." (Ezekiel 28:12,13). "You were blameless in your ways," stated the narrative, "from the day you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you" (Ezekiel 28:15). From the record of Jesus' temptations in the wilderness, it is clear that Satan wanted to be worshiped, which is rightly reserved for God alone. In a similarly styled prophecy from Isaiah, the exclamation is made, "How you have fallen from heaven, O star of morning [Lucifer – KJV], son of the dawn...But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God...I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High" (Isaiah 14:12-14).

This majestic being, "the covering cherub" as depicted by Ezekiel, fell and pulled myriads of other angels into his rebellious orbit. These are described by Peter as angels who sinned (2 Peter 2:4), and by Jude as "angels who did not keep their own domain" (Jude 1:6).

 The war-"And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon" (Revelation 12:7). Michael, according to Jude, is an archangel (Jude 1:9). This war took place, not before Genesis chapter three, but in connection with Jesus' resurrection from the dead. "And the It would be fitting that Satan would be cast out in connection with Jesus' resurrection.

dragon and his angels waged war, and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven" (Revelation 12:7,8). That would have been one intense and spectacular war.

- The dragon thrown down "And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of
 old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown
 down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him" (Revelation 12:9). In
 this vision, Satan (the serpent who deceived Eve in the Garden of Eden) and his angels
 are pictured as "thrown down to earth"; in the more literal book of Second Peter, the
 evil angels are described as thrown into "Tartarus," a spiritual realm separate from
 heaven, and also called "the abyss" in Revelation (2 Peter 2:4; Revelation 9:2).
- The kingdom comes "And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night" (Revelation 12:10). Jesus' first action at His ascension was to cleanse heaven (Hebrews 1:3); heaven had to be cleansed because that is where the evil angels sinned. Hence Satan had to be thrown out before the ascension occurred. Jesus' ascension to the power position made the salvation, the kingdom, and the authority of Christ operative. It would be fitting that the casting out of Satan occurred in connection with the Lord's resurrection from the dead!

The devil no longer has access to heaven to accuse the brethren as he accused Job. Saints are emboldened and empowered!

JAY WILSON