

**“Your sons shall be shepherds for forty years
in the wilderness, and they will suffer for your
unfaithfulness, until your corpses
lie in the wilderness.”**

-- NUMBERS 14:33



Some of the evening assembly
Mahoning Valley Church of Christ
in their new building
near Salem, OH

**“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our
sins so that He might rescue us from this present
evil age, according to the will of our God and
Father, to whom be the glory forevermore. Amen.”**

Galatians 1:3-5

Fully ALIVE in 2025 - "It is the Spirit who gives life..." - John 6:63

July 13, 2025

Christ's Church

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls

Holiday Inn Express — Butte

BOZEMAN - 8:45 - Lance Ashley

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

Prayer med - Herb Burnell

L.S. - Jason Shanahan

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

***KADEN REIJGERS ON "CANON OF THE BIBLE"**

L.S. - Steven Doty

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Steve McDunn

L.S. - Steve Durnan

Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Class

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jay Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

Bozeman

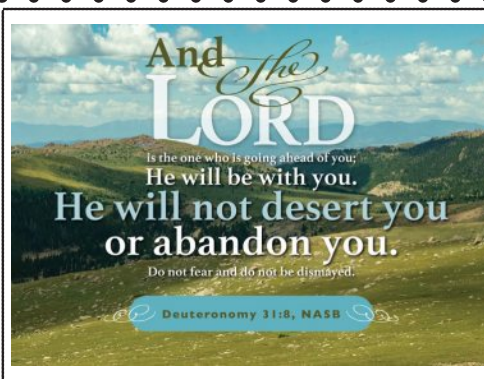
BUILDING WORK DAY! - SAT. JULY 19 8:00

AM TO NOON

August 3 - 4:00 pm - Annual Picnic
in the Park: food, fellowship, and evening assembly (and prayerfully meet some contacts)

Butte

July 20 - Fellowship dinner - 6:30



BOZEMAN -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Luke Wilson

GREAT FALLS -

Wed. night, 7:00 pm:

Jay Wilson

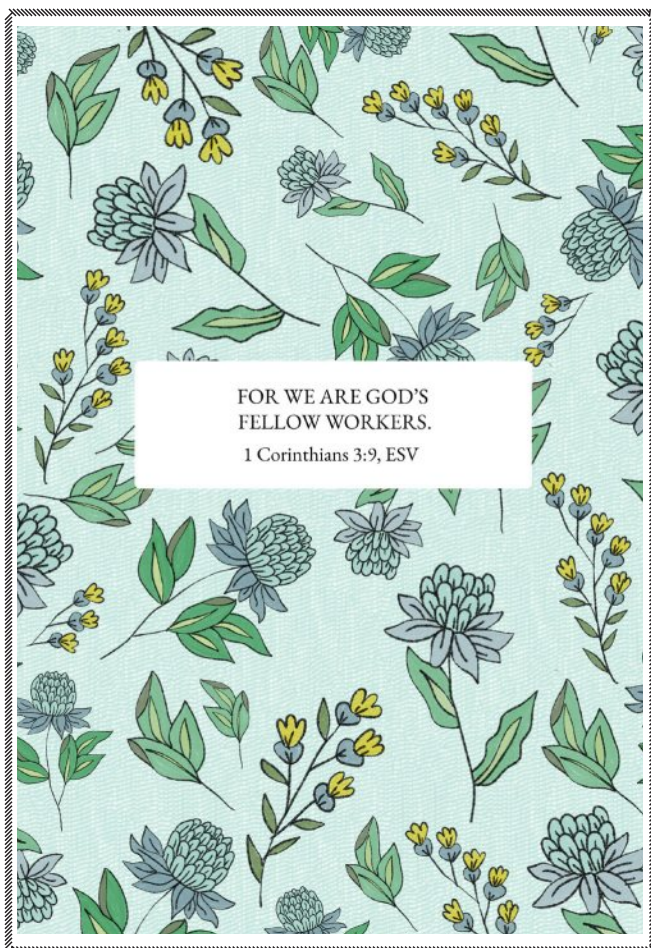
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Men's Peaks - July 24-26, 2025. Theme: "Drawing from Deuteronomy"

Family Camp - Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 2025. Theme: "Instructions from an Elder in Jerusalem"

Great Falls

July 20 - Prayer and fasting for evangelism



Quotation of the week:

"Only God can grant that clean conscience which Jesus purchased with His own blood; no amount of human effort could ever accomplish that spiritual cleansing. That clean or good conscience is therefore worthy of maintaining, regardless of what external pressures might come. Paul is thus exhorting Timothy to 'fight the good fight, keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith' (1 Timothy 1:18,19)." -- *The Epistles to the Evangelists - "Keeping Faith and a Good Conscience"*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 65
Morning Assembly – 112
Evening Assembly – 66

Wednesday Night (7/9) – 64
Butte Lord's Day – 13 (ph: 4)
GF Lord's Day – 63,76 Wed. - 52



Reasonings from Revelation

Persecuting the Woman

Revelation chapter twelve opens with a picture of a woman about to give birth. In the same opening, there is a great red dragon with a gaping mouth, ready to devour the woman's Child, but the Child is caught up to heaven to sit on the throne and "rule all the nations with a rod of iron" (Revelation 12:5). The dragon is the devil, the Child is Christ, and the woman is the people of God (physical Israel in the Old Testament, spiritual Israel or the church in the New). The woman is then pictured in the "wilderness" where she is nourished for 1260 days (which is the same as "a time, times, and half a time," which was established as the entire church age). There was "war in heaven," and the dragon

and his angels were thrown "down to earth" in the vision. "And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child" (Revelation 12:13).

- **The wilderness experience** – Just as Israel according to the flesh experienced its time in the wilderness, even so the church experiences, in this vision, time in the "wilderness." "And the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, in order that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent" (Revelation 12:14). This is a place of refuge in the spiritual realm, but not excluded from the physical maltreatments which the dragon and his agents could inflict.
- **"Like a river"** – Satan is then pictured as sending a flood of oppression on the church. "And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood" (Revelation 12:15). From the author's perspective, this is a representation that the true church described in the New Testament was wiped out or corrupted, so that the church did not exist in any measurable sense in the Old World. (Catholicism or any of its derivatives is not the church.)
- **"The earth helped the woman"** – The vision continues: "And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth" (Revelation 12:16). Between what was called the Old World and the New World is the Atlantic Ocean. While seafarers of all kinds crisscrossed the ocean, it was a significant barrier to government overreach and to the religious persecution that developed in Western Europe. In this author's judgment, this barrier opened the way for the redevelopment of the church and the doctrines found in the scripture, and the reestablishment of true Christianity in a measurable way. "The earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth."
- **The dragon's rage** – It is not a far stretch to imagine the dragon's anger at having his attempt to stamp the true church into oblivion (in terms of its measurable existence on this planet) frustrated. Thus, in the vision, it is recorded, "And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus" (Revelation 12:17). As mentioned earlier, the woman represents the people of God and is therefore "the church" in New Covenant times. "Her offspring" are also Christians and become part of the church by being immersed into the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13).

The frustrated dragon, then, is pictured as unleashing all his pent-up anger against the church of the living God, and this is described as WAR! Modern saints have to realize that they are the targets of this warfare, and it is violent warfare on every front. It is a war for the minds of men, and Satan will use every spiritual and physical weapon in his armament to destroy the church and stop the progress of the gospel.

Modern brethren must therefore "keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus."

*This is
warfare on
every front!*