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01~Christine Roberts
03~Pat Parker
07~Jennifer Conner
13~Calvin Boyer
21~John Riddle



Have you ever heard of the kid's game, FRUIT BASKET TURNOVER? Players are divided into groups and each group is given the name of a fruit. The purpose is for mixing up groups and encouraging interaction so players can get to know one another better. Sometimes the player in the center can shout "Fruit Basket Turnover!" and when this happens, *everyone* must get up and find a different seat.



During the month of August, your mission (should you choose to accept it) will be to "Turn Over" the sanctuary seating by sitting on a different pew in a different location each Sunday morning! This will encourage you to get to know your fellow church family worshippers better...and what a great way to confuse Pastor Chris! Imagine his surprise as he looks out over the congregation each Sunday morning and no one is in their regular seat!

(Please do not yell Fruit Basket Turnover during the service.) 😊



Meanwhile and as always, we will continue to accept donations of food and money for our ABCCM community missions while we have a little fun in the sanctuary.

God bless you for your generous, loving and fun-filled hearts!



Why not upset the apple cart? If you don't, the apples will rot anyway.
~ Frank A. Clark

AUGUST 2026			
Small Groups meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)			
AUG 02	10:55 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Morning Worship Choir Practice Brief Business Meeting Bible Study / CIA / Youth	
AUG 04	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting	
AUG 09	9:00 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	2 nd Sunday Celebration Choir Practice Bible Study / CIA / Youth	
AUG 11	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting	
AUG 16 ABCCM SUNDAY	10:55 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Morning Worship Choir Practice Family Night Adults on Mission /CIA/Youth	
AUG 18	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting	
AUG 23	10:55 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Morning Worship Choir Practice Annual School Prayer Walk	
AUG 25	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting	
AUG 29	8:00 a.m.	 Men's Breakfast	
AUG 30	10:55 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Morning Worship Choir Practice 5th Sunday Night Hymn Sing	



12-27
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"We learned the fourth commandment:
'Honor thy father and thy mother.'"



NEW BEGINNINGS, SHARED STEPS Walking Together into the School Year

August always brings a unique rhythm. The days are still warm, but there is a distinct shift in the air. The quiet ease of summer gently gives way to the familiar bustle of new backpacks, sharpening pencils, and the anticipation of what lies ahead.

For our community's students, teachers, administrators, and parents, August marks a season of significant transition. Whether a child is stepping into a kindergarten classroom for the very first time, a teenager is navigating the final stretch of high school, or an educator is preparing their room to welcome a fresh group of faces, "back to school" means stepping into the unknown.



New routines can bring a mix of excitement and anxiety. We wonder: Will I fit in? Will I be able to keep up? How will we manage the schedule? In these moments of transition, it is incredibly comforting to remember that we do not walk into new seasons alone. Deuteronomy 31:8 reminds us:

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

As a church family, this season is also a beautiful reminder of our calling. We are called to be the safety net, the cheering section, and the prayer warriors for our community's youth and educators. Our schools aren't just places of academic learning; they are places where our young people grow in character, kindness, and faith.



As the school bells prepare to ring, let us commit to a few simple things this month:

- ♦ **Pray Continuous Blessings:** Keep our students, teachers, bus drivers, and school staff in your daily prayers. Pray for safety, patience, wisdom, and open hearts.
- ♦ **Encourage the Educators:** Teachers and school staff pour so much of their hearts into our children. A simple note of appreciation or a kind word can sustain them through a challenging week.
- ♦ **Be a Source of Grace:** Routines take time to rebuild. Let's extend an extra measure of grace to families navigating hectic mornings and busy evening schedules.

Blessings on the journey ahead!

To every student, teacher, and parent stepping into a classroom or routine this month: know that your church family stands with you, is proud of you, and is praying for you. May this school year be one of growth, discovery, and a deep awareness of God's presence in every hallway and classroom.

Back-to-School Prayer for Our Community

Lord, go before our students and teachers this year. Grant them minds ready to learn, hearts ready to love, and spirits resilient in the face of challenges. Protect them, inspire them, and let your light shine through them in every classroom. Amen.

REMINDER: Sunday evening,
August 23, 2026 is our annual
"Prayer walk of Enka/Candler Schools."

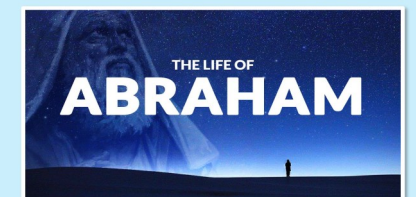
I love being your Pastor,
Chris L. Reese
#GOD'SNOTDONE

A NEW SERMON SERIES FROM
PASTOR CHRIS L. REESE

Join us Sunday Mornings
at 10:55 a.m.

As we embark on a journey in Genesis
and the life of Abraham.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| • His Call | Genesis 12 |
| • God's Promise | Genesis 13 |
| • The Birth of Ishmael | Genesis 16 |
| • The Visit of Three "Men" | Genesis 18: 1-15 |
| • Intercession at Sodom | Genesis 18: 22-33 |
| • Lies About Sarah | Genesis 20 |
| • Isaac | Genesis 22 |



God had told Abram, "Leave your own country behind you, and your own people, and go to the land I will guide you to."
² If you do, I will cause you to become the father of a great nation; I will bless you and make your name famous, and you will be a blessing to many others.
³ I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you; and the entire world will be blessed because of you."
Genesis 12: 1-3 (TLB)



Vacation Bible School 2026!

What an exciting adventure we had as we brought Rainforest Falls to life in our church and community.

Use your imagination and picture kids stepping into a vibrant

rainforest—full of color, sound, and surprises—overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunged into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God, where every moment drew them deeper into discovering who God is. From wild games and sciency-wow experiments that sparked curiosity, to powerful Bible stories that invited them into God's big story, our kids experienced His nature revealed in fresh, unforgettable ways and explored what it meant to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.

The kids enjoyed a meal together (*and by the way...our Rainforest Kitchen Crew rocked the delicious meals each night!*), collected Bible Memory Buddies, formed lasting friendships, made great memories, and most importantly, each night our Bible Buddies taught us that...

- 🦋 God is our creator,
- 🦋 God knows everything,
- 🦋 God is our safe place,
- 🦋 God is love,
- 🦋 and God is forever...Wow God!



Dottie

This year's Vacation Bible School was a tremendous blessing, with attendance ranging from 35 to 41 children each night. It was exciting to see so many kids walk through our doors, eagerly waiting to learn about God every night! On Thursday, God worked through pastor Chris as he presented the Gospel. That evening, 13 kids made decisions for Christ. Of those 13, we are thrilled to announce that we have six new brothers and sisters in Christ! (Wow God!)

The kids also participated in a very important mission project. Throughout the week, we collected an offering that will go toward providing kids in need with Christmas presents through the **Appalachian Backpack Ministry**.

The boys and the girls competed to see which side could raise the most money, with the result being that a representative from the opposite team got a bucket of water dumped on them. Unfortunately for the girls, the boys took home the win, meaning Ms. Rebekah went home soaking wet while Pastor Chris cheered in relief!

While the competition was fun, the ultimate winner was the Appalachian Backpack Ministry. Our kids raised a total of \$465.73. (Wow kids!) And after all was said and done, our total for the Appalachian Backpack Ministry, including your donations, was \$1,082.83! Thank you!

We are beyond grateful for everyone who attended, volunteered, and prayed for this ministry, making it a meaningful and impactful week. We especially want to recognize our "decorators" for the many hours it took to construct our wonderful "rainforest adventure," as well as the fantastic registration team for keeping us so well organized!"

Our final prayer is that the seeds planted at Rainforest Falls will keep growing long after VBS week ends. We have been thrilled to be on this adventure with you!

We loved being your 2026 VBS Directors
Rebekah Reese & Rachel Mann



MORE THOUGHTS ON THE WEEK FROM MISS CHRISTINE, OUR "SCIENCY-FUN" EXPERI-MENTOR"

Throughout the week, I saw our youth and young adults step up to help wherever they could. They are not just the future of this church—they *are the church in action right now*, hungry for a purpose and eager to make a difference.

I also saw adults embrace change, taking on new roles or approaching familiar ones differently. While change isn't always easy, having the freedom to try new methods allows us to reach more people in different ways. Our volunteers demonstrated incredible dedication, coming straight from their exhausting "real life" days, changing clothes in the parking lot, and showing up with smiles to love on the children and adults.

It was beautiful to see the legacy of those we have lost honored and carried forward to the next generation. Children, youth, and adults alike explored, learned, got a little messy, and had fun together.

My favorite part of the week was seeing the moments when the message truly "clicked" for someone. Gospel seeds were planted, watered, and harvested. **"GOD'S NOT DONE."**

Now we invite you to take a peek inside **Rainforest Falls** to witness the fun and excitement the kids enjoyed during the week!



Our sanctuary was transformed into beautiful *Rainforest Falls*, complete with cliffs, waterfall, and happy, singing VBS-ers as Jesus watches over all.



Meet Kayleigh, the real voice of Dr. Flint Flutterby



Kiya and Dr. Flutterby helped kids understand the Bible points.



Mess-making at its finest!



Thanks to Miss Christine, Imagination Station was complete with all the "mess making" lessons needed to learn about the nature of God.



Thanks to our great kitchen staff, the food was yummy good at the Tree Top Snak Shak!



Miss Pat and her puppets taught our Preschoolers about the nature of God, while other leaders helped them craft & play. During Paradise Game time, Miss Polly and Mr. Cliff taught them team-building games. Life can be wild—it's a jungle out there...but we can trust God!

The decorations were over the top with snakes, vines, trees, flower gardens, and all sorts of rainforest critters as the entire education building was transformed into *Rainforest Falls*!



Tia



Howie

Sticky Scripture, taught by Miss Brandy, is where kids dig into the day's Bible verse with a fun video. Each child received a Bible Memory Buddy that has the day's Bible verse written on the bottom. Many kids may not have a Bible at home, and that's why this kid-size bite of the Bible is perfect!

We had our first ever awesome and very helpful youth group!



Seymour

In Rooted Bible Adventures, Pastor Chris helped the kids experience the Bible story and that God loves them and knows every detail of their lives.



When all was said and done, our rainforest was more than just a lush and lively setting! Rainforests are a refuge, rich and restorative. They're life-giving and lifesaving. A bit like God. Yet, for many kids today, God seems mysterious or made-up. He's just someone they've heard about—not someone they know. It's easier to believe in things on screens or rumors from friends. That's why this was the perfect spot for kids to explore who God is. Faith took root as they discovered God is their loving creator who knows everything about them and loves them deeply. They found hope as they explored the rich gift of Jesus and the promise of a home forever. This was a life-changing adventure, *exploring the nature of God*.

A HUGE shout out to our faithful prayer warriors. The mighty prayers being lifted up were felt, received, and answered.
Thank You!