

NORTH BENTON CHURCH

NEWS



North Benton Presbyterian Church

Web Site: www.northbentonchurch.org
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July/August 2026
Vol. 52, Issue 7

Summertime greetings to all you Northbentonians, Well, summer is starting on a hot streak—it is summer after all. Too bad we can't store some of this for January!

As I write this, our country is approaching its 249th birthday! Wow! That is something pretty special, for sure. One of the founding principles of our country is that our Creator created each of us. There is no royalty. As it says in the Bible, "**There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**" (Galatians 3: 28). It is nice to read it in the Bible, but that is not where it is supposed to stay. We are to apply it to our everyday lives. I came across a story about Thomas Jefferson that illustrates this: As told by Scott Bowerman, "In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson wanted to make a point. The new British Ambassador had just come to Washington - the representative of the aristocratic government the new Republic had defeated in the War of Independence and the Empire Jefferson still loathed. A few days after Ambassador Merry arrived, Jefferson hosted a reception dinner for him. When it was time for dinner, everyone walked into the dining room - and all the guests were surprised to see a single, very large round table in the dining room. Jefferson took a seat and gave Dolly Madison the seat of honor on his right. Mrs. Merry was given a back-of-the-pack seat a good distance from the President. But Ambassador Merry wasn't escorted to his seat at all. He was left with a crowd of people Jefferson had gathered for dinner - some important Washington personages, but some ordinary citizens who were invited - and that crowd of people headed for the table in what came to be called a "Pell-Mell"- no hierarchy of seating where the important

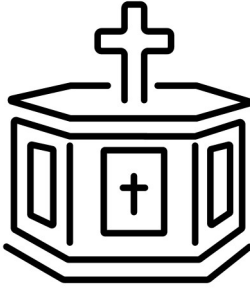
people got seats of honors - everyone headed to the table, jostling one another, and grabbed a seat wherever they could. The Ambassador knew an outrageous insult was in the making, and he had a choice - make a scene or try to grab the best seat he could. So he headed for the seat two down from Jefferson but was cut off by some crude savage who bore the title "congressman" and ended up taking just any old seat, certainly not one befitting his prestigious office as an Ambassador of the British Empire. Jefferson wanted to make a point - because he understood it wasn't enough to write a Constitution that guaranteed freedom from the stifling power of an aristocracy - you had to show you paid no honor and gave no deference to someone just because he had a title and represented a hereditary line of kings. It is said that Jefferson only used round tables in the White House because they removed the aristocratic custom of ranking the importance of guests by how closely to the head of the table they sat."

It is attitudes like that that helped make our country the special country it is for the last 224 years. I pray that it may always be so.

Blessings to you and yours,

Pastor Herb





Let's Celebrate

Here are the sermon titles, themes and scripture basis for our July and August sermons:

July 5, 2026 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. "UNITED!" is the title of the sermon based on Ephesians 2: 11-22. What is the ultimate goal of Christians on earth and how can we demonstrate that to the world?

July 12, 2026. Seventh Sunday after Pentecost. The Lord has some wonderful words for us as recorded in the 55th chapter of the Prophet Isaiah! God never forces anything on us but He does invite us to a special life! It is for all of us.

July 19, 2026. Guest speaker, Gary Diehl

July 26, 2026. Guest speaker, Lisa Wyss

As we move into August, we will be starting a sermon series based the Psalms. The Psalms give God's people words for every season of life. We will be exploring some of the most beloved words that have ever been written.

August 2, 2026. Tenth Sunday after Pentecost. Our summer communion will be held this day with the sermon "Planted!" Psalm 1 will be the scriptural basis for this sermon. A good life does not come by accident.

August 9, 2026. Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost. We look to Psalm 23 for the sermon titled "Guided!" It is good to go on a journey with a guide. There is no greater one than the "Good Shepherd!"

August 16, 2026. Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost. No matter what the world throws at us, we have the assurance that we are "Sheltered!" Indeed, God is our refuge and strength if only we would trust in Him.

August 23, 2026. Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Confession is not hiding in shame. Instead, it is the needed first step in being "Renewed!" Psalm 51 gives us hope for being cleansed but letting our joy shine through.

August 30, 2026. Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Summer often involves very busy schedules. Psalm 121 offers hope for the journey as we move through our schedules and life. The sermon title is "Kept!"

July & August 2026

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 7/2 Dale & Karen Fay
- 7/5 Rick Kelly
- 7/6 Faith Fay
- 7/7 John & Jennifer Lesko
- 7/8 Chuck Pierce
- 7/15 Adelynn Pierce
- 7/16 Marty & Cheri Martin
Mark & Jessica Bates
Linda Goetz
- 7/20 Harold West
- 7/21 Chris & Alisha Gamble
- 7/22 Liam Turner
- 7/27 Jason & Brandi Pierce
- 8/4 John Finch
- 8/6 John & Nancy Finch
- 8/8 Todd & Marian Gainor
Muirin Lesko
- 8/11 Austin Pierce
- 8/12 Jodi Weibush
- 8/13 Mark Bates
- 8/15 Angela Gossiaux
- 8/16 Barb Franklin
- 8/18 Jessica Bates
- 8/19 Bryan Evans
- 8/21 Thea Fielder
- 8/24 Jim Hilles
- 8/26 Sylvia Hammond
- 8/28 Barb Schenk
- 8/30 Brant Bailey

OFFERING/ATTENDANCE

April 2026

	Offering	Attendance
5/3/26	\$2817.00	42
5/10/26	\$6410.00	51
5/17/26	\$1275.00	43
5/24/26	\$1375.00	62
5/31/26	\$1374.00	33

DEACON GREETERS

July 2026

Cindy Ruffier
Jodi Weibush

August 2026

Karen Fay
Barb Franklin

Coffee & Pastry

None in July & August

CONTINUED PRAYER

Dan Rowe, Denton Herron, James Hilles,
Stan & Sandy Jozwiakowski,
Emily Winters, Maeo Bates,
Carol Schiffler, Chris & Alicia Gamble
Irene Shields

FAMILIES FOR PRAYER BECAUSE WE CARE

July & August 2026



Charlie & Jamie Pierce



Jason & Brandy Pierce

Roger Pritchard



Dan & Lori Rowe



MISSION CAUSE FOR PRAYER

Youth Initiatives/Ireland - Doug Smith
Campus Crusade - Lisa (Smith) Wyss
Vacation Bible School

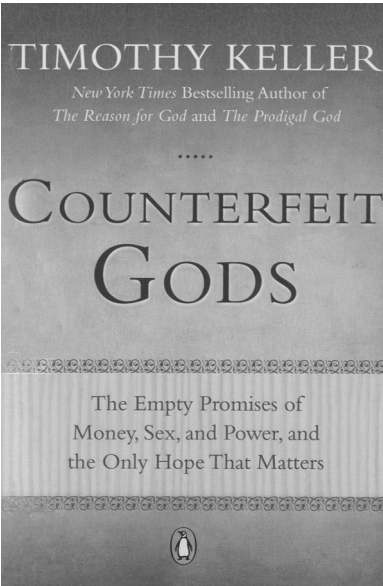


Special Dates for July & August 2026

Independence Day, July 4, 2026
Not much else for July & August

Have a great summer !!!

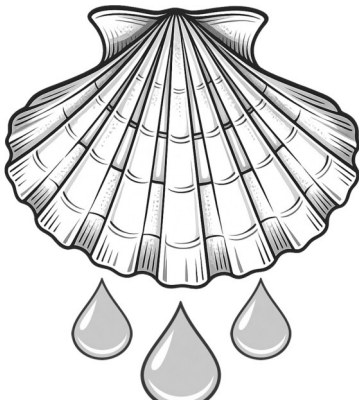
Book Review



Success, true love, and the life you've always wanted. Many of us placed our faith in these things, believing they held the key to happiness, but with a sneaking suspicion they might not deliver. No wonder we feel lost, alone, disenchanted, and resentful. There is only one God who can wholly satisfy our cravings—and now is the perfect time to meet Him again, or for the first time.

In Counterfeit Gods, Timothy Keller shows how a proper understanding of the Bible reveals the unvarnished truth about societal ideals and our own hearts. This powerful message cements Keller's reputation as a critical thinker and pastor, and comes at a crucial time—for both the faithful and the skeptical.

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL



SHELL — A scallop shell, often shown pointing downward with three drops of water falling from it, is a Christian symbol of baptism and the washing away of sin. The three drops of water represent the Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

From the earliest centuries of the church, the shell was connected with baptism because it could be used to pour water over a person's head. In a time when many baptisms took place in rivers, lakes or outdoor settings, a simple shell served as a natural vessel, reminding believers that God uses humble, ordinary things to accomplish sacred purposes. Today, the scallop shell continues to appear in baptismal fonts, church art and Christian design. It quietly proclaims the message of baptism: washed by grace, claimed by God and welcomed into the family of faith.

Favorite Recipes of Old

Recipes are chosen at random from the North Benton Church "Favorite Recipes" cookbook.

CHICKEN STUFFED SHELLS

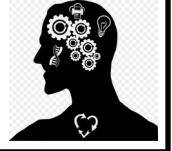
June Peterson

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1 lb. stuffing shells, cooked | 1 cup Miracle Whip |
| 2 cans cream of chicken soup | 1 cup of water |
| 1 box Stove Top chicken stuffing, prepared | |
| 4 cups chopped, cooked chicken or turkey | |
| 1 to 2 cups shredded Velveeta cheese | |

Mix chicken, stuffing, and Miracle Whip together and stuff shells. Put them in a large 9x13-inch casserole or pan. Mix soup and water together and pour over stuffed shells. Bake at 350 degrees for 45-55 minutes covered. Take out of oven and cover with shredded cheese and bake uncovered for about 15 minutes until cheese melts. Serves 8 to 12.



Engage Your Mind



Puzzle!

One of a Kind

The scrambled words and phrases below are all drawn from Scripture. Unscramble each one to reveal the correct biblical term or phrase. After solving them, transfer the circled letters in order to the lines at the bottom of the page to uncover the final message.

- 1) eiVn _ _ _ (○) _ _
- 2) ilLy fo teh elaVly
_ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _ _ _
- 3) abLm fo dGo _ _ _ (○) _ _
_ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _ _ _
- 4) estMar _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 5) eJuss _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 6) okRc _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 7) rdBea fo eiLf _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 8) higLt fo hte dorWl _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 9) voaSir _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 10) doLr _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 11) ishCrt _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 12) ehSprhed (○) _ _ _ _ _
- 13) hTe doWr _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _
- 14) rncPie fo cePae _ _ _ _ _ (○) _ _ _



What do all these words have in common?

Answers: Vine; Lily of the Valley; Lamb of God; Master; Jesus; Rock; Bread of Life; Light of the World; Savior; Lord; Christ; Shepherd; The Word; Prince of Peace; Names of God's Son

NOTICE:

**JULY & AUGUST NEWSLETTERS WILL BE COMBINED,
THERE WILL NOT BE A NEWSLETTER IN AUGUST.
HAVE GREAT SUMMER! GOD BLESS AND KEEP SAFE!**



JOYFUL PSALMS

Psalm 146, 147, 148, 149 and 150 are happy songs of praise. They all begin and end with the same sentence.

Put the words below in alphabetical order in the boxes. Then read down the second column to discover the special sentence from Psalms!



- FEAST
- KHAKI
- MOUTH
- ESSAY
- LLAMA
- ORBIT
- CARRY
- UDDER
- BRUSH
- ITEMS
- APPLE
- LEARN
- CIDER



Answer: Praise the Lord!

**The faces of children
are proof enough of
God.**

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY #250
5 Birthday Sunday 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class 10:45 Deacon's Mtg	6	7	8	9 NO SESSION MEETING	10	11
12 9:00 Coffee & Pastry 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Birthday Sunday Communion 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class 10:45 Deacon's Mtg	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	10	11	12	13 NO SESSION MEETING	14	15
16 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NBC News

North Benton Presbyterian Church
19070 North Benton West Road
North Benton, OH 44449



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Sunday Service: 9:30 am Worship Service

“A church where everybody is somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord”

REMAINING IN JESUS

“A pleasure is full grown only when it is remembered.” These words, uttered by a character in C.S. Lewis’ book *Out of the Silent Planet*, depict the joy one has in reminiscing over cherished experiences in life. Though we rightly delight in the breathtaking scenery along the path of a hike or in sharing an important milestone with a loved one, what we feel might be merely the initial pleasure. Often, later reflection on such moments (and those like them) compound the joy of having experienced them.

Perhaps this is another reason Jesus instructs His disciples to regularly share in what we call the Lord’s Supper. As He shared the Passover meal with them the night before His death, He infused it with a new layer of meaning. When partaking of the unleavened bread and “fruit of the

vine,” Jesus described them as representing His body and His blood (Luke 22:19-20). His disciples were to share this meal regularly, doing so “in remembrance of [Him]” (V. 19).

The Jewish people remember how God delivered them from Egypt through celebrating Passover (See Exodus 12:17). Those who trust in Jesus’ sacrifice retell God’s deliverance from the consequences of sin by partaking of the Lord’s Supper - a somber, yet joyful remembrance. By sharing in it regularly, we practice what it means to “remain” in fellowship with Jesus (See John 6:56) and savor the pleasure of our communion with Him.

How is remembering part of your worship of God? What might you remember about His work in your life today?

PRAYER

Please help me, dear Father, to remember Your good works!

Reprinted from “Our Daily Bread”

July 1, 2026

Our Daily Bread is provided FREE of charge can be found on the information counter in the lobby.