



AUGUST 2026

CHAPEL BELLS

A Letter From The Pastor

BY KEVIN ANDERSON

If it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all!

The origin of that line is from an old television show most of us would not admit we watched! The sentiment, though, may express how we feel from time to time, when it seems like everything that could go wrong- does.

The concluding verses of the often-overlooked Old Testament book of Habakkuk speaks to a faith in God no matter how dire the circumstances become:

*Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines,
the produce of the olive fail, and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off
from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I
will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; he
makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places.
(Habakkuk 3:17-19)*

The book of Habakkuk begins with the prophet being troubled by what he saw around him in his homeland of Judah. Now, at the end of the book, he focuses not on his countrymen's unfaithfulness, or the lack of God's intervention, or on God's answer that judgement is coming, but instead Habakkuk focuses on trusting God, **no matter what.**



A Letter From The Pastor continued...

The descriptions of v. 17 describe a miserable condition for people dependent on crops and animals for food and for their livelihood! It's a description of **EVERYTHING** going wrong at once!

Instead, of singing the lament, ***"If it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all,"*** Habakkuk speaks of his contentment with God. He can do so because his contentment is **not** dependent on outside influences, or circumstances, but instead is based on his trust in God! Even though all of the terrible things happen at once, he will rejoice; he will ***"take joy in the God of his salvation."***

Habakkuk does not say here, ***"what if God allows this to happen,"*** but instead says **"even if this should happen..."**

The change in Habakkuk's perspective is from ***"Take this away, make this stop, do something, God!"*** to now, ***"God, I know you will give me strength to deal with what comes!"***

And Habakkuk uses an amazing metaphor to describe the strength that God gives to endure all things- ***"He makes my feet like the deer's."*** This means God gives a steadiness, a sure-footedness, and the ability to scale heights, without slipping. In saying this, Habakkuk confidently says God will give him strength to go places where he would not have gone before, or places that he did not think he could go! As Habakkuk thought about how God enabled him to overcome all circumstances, he was reminded of a deer's surefootedness among mountainous regions. So, Habakkuk ends with this declaration of a new perspective. God will be his strength allowing him to go places, even thrive in difficult circumstances!



A Letter From The Pastor continued...

May the Lord give us confidence to trust Him no matter what happens, contentment no matter our circumstances, and a new perspective to help us rejoice and praise Him, even in the worst of times.

Faithfully,

Kevin



Coffee For Veterans

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, **August 13th at 10 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. All veterans are welcome!

Coffee - Camaraderie - Connections



Women's Ministry LLCA Teachers and Staff Luncheon



Wednesday, August 5th - 12:00 noon

Women's Ministry will be sponsoring a Back-to-School Luncheon **at Lake Lure Classical Academy** for all teachers, administrators and staff and we need your help! Women's Ministry will be purchasing fried chicken, and **volunteers are needed to sign up for salads, side dishes, and desserts.** We will be providing lunch for 75 teachers, administrators, and staff as they prepare to begin the new 2026-2027 school year.

Food will need to be in **disposable containers** and at the church by 11:00 AM or to the school by 11:30 AM. If you can assist with providing food or volunteering to help with setting up or cleanup, there are **sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.** Your assistance is very much appreciated!



Women's Ministry Summer Birdhouse Craft Afternoon

Friday, August 21st - 2:00 p.m

Fellowship Hall: Cost: \$15

Our craft project will be a wooden birdhouse that we will paint and decorate for summer. All ladies are invited to attend and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and crafts! Please RSVP on the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall so that supplies can be purchased.



Men's Ministry

Breakfast and the Bible, Saturday August 29th at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call the church office to attend. We're looking for volunteers to set up and cook the delicious breakfast and, of course, there is always the cleanup that needs to be done.



***Helping hands Ministry** is intended to help both people in our own congregation and neighbors in the surrounding community with tasks such as moving boxes, cleaning up debris in yards, helping with light maintenance tasks in the home, etc. **Again, we're looking for volunteers that would be willing to perform these tasks.**



If you're interested in taking part in either or both of these ministry opportunities, contact **Mike Clardy** at 828-532-4102 or at mclardy10@gmail.com.




Helene Recovery

HEALTH & VISION FAIR



SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM



**BLOOD
PRESSURE
CHECKS**



**BLOOD SUGAR
SCREENINGS**



**VISION
SCREENINGS**



**BMI
SCREENINGS**



**LAKE LURE CLASSICAL
ACADEMY GYM**

1058 Island Creek Road
Lake Lure, NC 28746

**HEALTH SCREENINGS FOR
CHILDREN *and* ADULTS**

as well as health resources will be provided.

TO REGISTER OR GET
MORE INFORMATION
SCAN HERE



Stronger Together. Healthier Together.

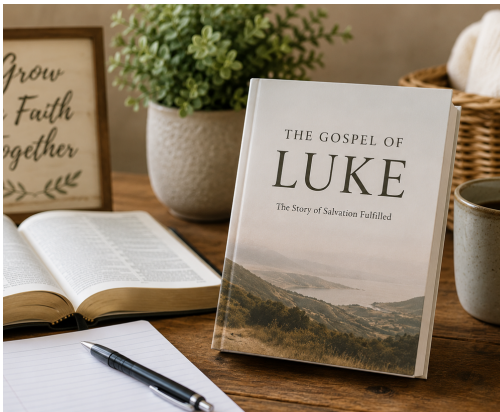


Kairos Prison Ministry Opportunity

"...I was in prison and you came to visit me." (Matthew 23:36)

The next Kairos prison retreat is **October 15-18, 2026**. We are looking for men to volunteer to help. The training begins in late August, so mark your calendar and call **Ken McAlear (828-447-8988)** to answer any questions and get an application.

Adult Discipleship Class



Beginning, **Sunday, September 13th at 9 AM**, and **running through Sunday, November 1st**. This will be a discussion study on the book of Luke. Books will be available in the Church Office. For more information, contact the church office or Tammy Martell. Please come and join us!

Food for Lake Lure Olympiad

The local community is being asked to provide sandwiches, cookies, and brownies for the race participants. Sandwiches should be peanut butter and jelly or pimento cheese, cut in half, and put in ziplock bags. Cookies/brownies should be in ziplock bags with two in each bag. **These food items can be dropped off at the Mountains Branch Library between 10 AM—2 PM Friday, August 14th or here at the Chapel in the Fellowship Hall between 4-5 PM.**



WHERE TO FIND US!



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THANK YOU FOR READING!