

Shiloh Notes and News August 2026

A Word from the Pastor

Greetings,

August is always a month of transition. Before we know it, school buses will be rolling down our roads once again, students will be carrying backpacks instead of pool towels, and teachers will be preparing classrooms for another year of learning. For some families, the school year begins around the kitchen table as they continue the rewarding work of homeschooling. As a church family, let's remember to keep all of our students, teachers, school staff, homeschool families, and parents in our prayers. A new school year brings excitement, but it also brings new challenges and opportunities. May each one know God's presence, wisdom, and guidance in the days ahead.

August is also an exciting month for our church as we prepare for our annual Car Show. It has become one of the biggest events of the year and provides a wonderful opportunity to welcome friends, neighbors, and visitors to our church. While many will come to admire the classic cars and trucks, our prayer is that they also experience the love of Christ through a warm greeting, a friendly conversation, and the hospitality of God's people. Sometimes the greatest ministry happens in the simplest moments.

Of course, it's hard to talk about this summer without mentioning the weather. The heat has been relentless, and the rain has been hard to come by. Lawns have turned brown, gardens have struggled, and many of us have found ourselves looking toward the sky, hoping to see storm clouds forming. We certainly continue to pray for rain, but these dry days also remind us of an important truth. While we tend to think we know what we need and when we need it, God has promised to provide what we need in His perfect time. His timing is always better than ours, even when we don't fully understand it. Until then, we continue to trust Him, knowing His faithfulness never changes.

One last thing. I'm excited about something coming in September. I'll be starting a weekly video devotional series called **Everyday Faith**. But we'll talk more about that next month. For now, let's enjoy August, pray for one another, and see what God has in store.

Blessings,

Pastor Fred

Activities and Announcements

Please join us for:

Sunday School - 9:45 am

Worship Service – 11:00am

Bible Study – Tuesday's 7:00pm

Methodist Men's Breakfast – 2nd Sunday of each month

Our Food Pantry item for the **August** distribution is **Canned Fruit**.

Saturday 8/1 – 10:00am Car Show preparation. Please meet us near the fellowship hall to help prepare the field and set up supplies to make our car show run smoothly on Sunday. If you know others who would like to help with this event, please invite them to come.

Sunday 8/2 – 20th Annual Shiloh Cruise In & Food Drive

Please check the sign-up sheet up front for items & volunteer needs. We need everyone to help us make this be the best event our community has experienced.

Saturday 8/8– 8-10am Pancake Breakfast fundraiser at Julian Lions Club

Sunday 8/9 - 7:30am MM Breakfast

Saturday 11/7 – 9:30am–2:00pm Blood Drive at Shiloh

Please sign up or contact Lori for an appointment time.

In Every Season, Turn to God



Are you enjoying a happy time? *Praise God.*

Is life becoming difficult? *Seek God.*

Are you experiencing a quiet moment? *Worship God.*

Are you suffering great pain? *Trust God.*

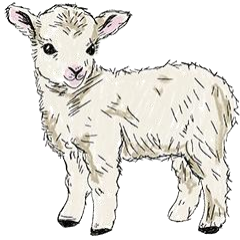
Are you unsure what to do? *Ask God.*

Are you overwhelmed with joy? *Thank God.*

If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded.

—Maya Angelou

Carried and Called to Follow



Jesus the Good Shepherd is one of Christianity's most endearing images. Scenes of Jesus holding a small lamb bring comfort during times of trouble, reminding us of God's tender care when we are weak or hurting. In those moments, we are grateful to be carried.

Yet this image also points to a deeper truth. The Shepherd's role is not only to carry the lamb, but to lead the flock. When we are restored and strengthened, we are called to rise, to walk and to follow where He leads.

God meets us in our need with compassion, but He also calls us forward with purpose. The same hands that lift us up also guide us on the path ahead.

There is a time to be carried, and there is a time to follow.

A Repair for Brokenness

Our lives are marked by brokenness, including broken relationships, broken promises, and broken expectations. Left unattended, these fractures can quietly shape us, hardening into bitterness or resentment.

How do we live with such brokenness without losing heart? We return, again and again, to God's faithful presence. In Him, we find not only comfort but restoration. God does not ignore what is broken. He meets us in it, gently mending what we place in His hands and reshaping what feels beyond repair.

Scripture reminds us, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 147:3, NIV). What we cannot fix on our own, God is able to restore in His time and in His way.

Henri Nouwen, a Dutch Catholic priest, professor and spiritual writer, often spoke of this sacred return, the daily turning back to God where healing begins and hope is renewed. In His presence, our brokenness is not wasted. It becomes the very place where grace takes root and new life begins.

Why Me?

When we're faced with unexpected hardship, our first impulse is often to ask, "Why me, O God? Why me?"

Yet when a blessing comes our way, we receive it with gratitude and rarely ask the same question: "Why me, O God? Why me?"

Accept forgiveness from God and put your sin behind you. It is not our business to remember what God has forgotten.



SUNFLOWER — The sunflower, a symbol of faithfulness and devotion, represents a life turned toward God. Just as the flower follows the sun, believers are called to seek the light of Christ and remain focused on Him.

Its bright bloom reflects the joy and glory of God's presence, while its steady growth points to a life rooted in faith. The many seeds of the sunflower can also symbolize spiritual fruitfulness.

In Christian symbolism, the sunflower reminds us to remain steadfast, to seek God daily and to reflect His light in all we do.

It Is No Secret: A Song Born of Transformation

Billy Graham's public ministry gained national attention at the Rose Bowl in 1949, where a remarkable response marked the beginning of a historic movement. He returned to the same venue in November 2004, 55 years later, to commemorate that milestone.

Before the 1949 event, Billy appeared as a guest on a radio show hosted by songwriter and performer Stuart Hamblen. During the broadcast, Hamblen encouraged listeners to attend the meetings at the Rose Bowl. Before leaving, Billy invited Hamblen to attend as well. Though not a Christian at the time, Hamblen agreed. (His wife, however, was a believer.)

That evening, Hamblen did not go forward with others to profess faith in Christ, but he left deeply unsettled. Later that night, he went to Graham's hotel, where he shared his restless spirit. Through Billy's witness and prayer, Hamblen gave his life to the Lord.

Soon after, actor John Wayne asked him, "Stuart, what's this about you hitting the sawdust trail?"

Hamblen replied, "That's no secret, John, what God has done for me. He can do it for you or anyone else."

Wayne responded, "That sounds like a song. Why don't you write one?"

And so, "It Is No Secret (What God Can Do)" was born.

Hamblen later wrote many Gospel songs, once saying, "I try to write music with a spiritual uplift instead of a moral downbeat."

August 7 is Purple Heart Day It marks the date in 1782 when General George Washington created the Badge of Military Merit, which became the modern Purple Heart. This day honors U.S. service members wounded or killed in combat.