

the Connection

MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH
28 MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

A NEW CHAPTER

BY KEVIN WILLIAMS

If a book could symbolize your life, then the different stages of life are like chapters. Those students in Grade 12 are about to graduate and enter a new chapter of life. The same is true for those who have recently completed university. A wedding is certainly the beginning of a new chapter. Some chapters are a complete surprise like the diagnosis of a disease or the news of a loved one's sudden death. For God's people, we can look back on the chapters that have been written and see that the Good Shepherd was with us in the green pastures and in the dark valleys.

The Lord is certainly sovereign over all that is written in the pages of your book. But you are not passive. The choices

you make each day influence the direction your life takes. If you walk the path of folly, your life's story will look much different than if you walk the way of wisdom.

Although there have been different experiences throughout the last fifteen months, we have all lived a chapter influenced by COVID-19. Many have suffered physically, socially, mentally, financially, and even spiritually. With announcements about lessening restrictions made by several premiers this week, including our own, it appears that this chapter may end soon, and a new one will begin.

These are some questions I'm asking myself. What should I

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**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:
9:30 AM, 11:00 AM OR 6:00 PM**

In-person services take place in the gym. Services are simultaneously livestreamed in the auditorium, or available to you at home. The evening service will be held outdoors.

This is open to everyone and will allow those who don't wear a mask to worship and fellowship with the church family.



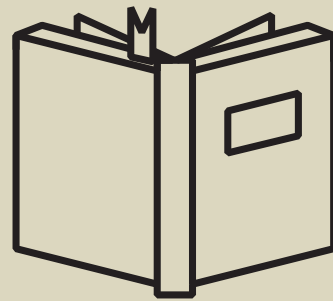
30 MAY

- PSALM 46
- "GOD IS OUR STRENGTH AND REFUGE"
- "FAIREST LORD JESUS"
- PRAYER
- "HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US"
- CHILDREN'S STORY
- "REJOICE, YE PURE IN HEART"
- MESSAGE: "CHANNELS OF GOD'S GOODNESS"
RUTH 2:1-23 PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS
- "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"
- BENEDICTION

**WEDNESDAY PRAYER
& BIBLE STUDY: 7 PM**

This in-person service is held in the auditorium. A [Zoom link is available](#) for as many as would like to participate from home.

**KIDS 4 TRUTH
RESUMES THIS
WEDNESDAY AT 7 PM
FOR THE NEXT TWO
WEEKS, JUNE 2 AND
JUNE 9**



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do in this new stage of life? What are my priorities? How might the Lord use me for His glory in the next couple years? What should be different from how I lived before March of 2020? How can the remaining days of my life count for eternity? I believe this is a good time to evaluate the past and plan for the future.

Many people say they can't wait for life to get back to normal. But is that what God wants? Maybe He want His church to emerge with a greater passion for souls. Maybe He desires a people who are less selfish and more generous. Perhaps our Lord doesn't want us to go back to normal; He wants us to be more holy, more faithful, more hospitable, more charitable, and more prayerful.

I believe we have a great opportunity to have a fresh start as individuals, families, and a church. By God's enabling grace, what might be written in the next chapter? We should not settle for "back to normal." Eternity is near, and life is a vapor. Work for the night is coming when man's work is done!



"Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them."

Psalm 139:16

"To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven."

Ecclesiastes 3:1



Need to contact us?

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GIVING

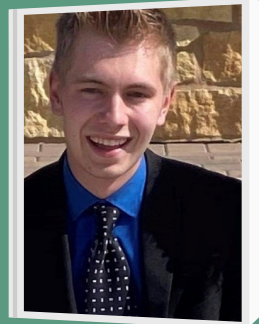
E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com. Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What is the biblical author's intention by saying that Ruth "happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz"? (Ruth 2:3)
2. Three times in chapter 2 Ruth mentions "finding favor in one's sight" (vv. 2, 10, 13). What does she mean by "favor"?
3. In what ways was Boaz a channel of God's goodness to Ruth? (Ruth 2)
4. In what ways was Ruth a channel of God's goodness to Naomi? (Ruth 2)
5. Ruth is identified as "the Moabitess" by the author (Ruth 2:2, 21), and she refers to herself as a "foreigner" (Ruth 2:10). How is Boaz's kindness to a foreigner an example to us?
6. Is the kindness (*hesed*) Naomi received from the Lord or Boaz? (Ruth 2:20) What could be the point of the ambiguity?
7. How does Naomi's attitude change from the end of chapter 1 to the end of chapter 2? Why?

SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Meet Eric Knutson!



Eric is joining the Meadowlands staff for the summer to complete requirements for his degree in the pastoral training program at Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa.

He will be preaching, teaching, and helping Pastor Mark with activities this summer. He is looking forward to fellowshiping with our church and being a blessing in any way he can. In August, he plans to return to Faith to finish his bachelor's degree before continuing to pursue a Master of Divinity degree.

"I appreciate everything Meadowlands has invested in me over the years from friendships and fellowship to financial support as I pursue ministry and the wonderful teaching and discipleship so many men have provided me over the past 12 years here. Most importantly thank you for your prayers and encouragement; it means the world to have a church that so loves its people."

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday, June 10, 7 pm: Vacation Bible School Volunteers' Meeting for anyone interested in helping with VBS

Sunday, June 13: The Lord's Supper will be observed

Sunday, June 20: Father's Day and Mother's Day gifts will be given out!

