

October 2026



Mission

Statement:

"The Bible as our foundation, and the Holy Spirit as our guide, we strive to take up our cross daily and follow Jesus: to live, love, and make disciples with Him at home, in our community, and in the entire world."

Find the app.
Website.
Give online.
Facebook.



Instagram.
Youtube.
Just scan it...
there's more!

Next Steps We Hope Everyone Considers

1. **Decide to follow Jesus** – This is our main hope for every single person. We want everyone to know they can be forgiven for their sins because of what Jesus did for them by dying on the cross and then raising from the dead.
2. **Be baptized** – After deciding to follow Jesus, the Bible calls us to follow His example of baptism. So, if you need to be baptized or have questions about it all, we would love to walk with you through that.
3. **Download the Keystone App** – This is a helpful step to stay connected to the community of Keystone. It is the key to communicating with everyone and knowing what all is happening.
4. **Join the Church** – We are always looking to add committed followers of Jesus to help us guide and build the church. All members go through a 6-8 week class that outlines who we are as a church and what we are doing.
5. **How can you learn more?** – Contact us to learn more.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

October is Pastor Appreciation month. This is a traditional month of recognition that has proved to be so helpful for me and my family as you have been generous and encouraging with acknowledging this time. Having been a pastor at Keystone Church for 20 years now (about 6 of those years as an associate missionary and about 14 years as the Lead Pastor) my role has morphed and changed with the seasons, expectations, and changing landscape of what Keystone Church has become. I love what I get to do!

In the Bible, the words used for pastor as a role are translated as "elder", "shepherd", "overseer", and so on. The tradition that I came from always had one pastor that served in this role and then a few "preachers" that were designated as the speakers to fill in the sermon if it was needed. In Ephesians 4, we get the best idea of what the role that we are trying to nail down here is supposed to be about: "equipping the saints for the work of ministry." The pastor is a minister, but he is certainly not THE minister. The pastor is a preacher (the word means proclaim and is used in the context of the Gospel proclamation), but he is not THE preacher. The pastor's role is way more complex than just preaching and teaching. His role is preaching, teaching, casting vision, and leading the local body of believers with the purpose of "equipping the saints for the work of ministry."

In Acts 20:17, as Paul is saying good-bye to the church at Ephesus, you will notice that he calls together all of the elders. There was more than one. In fact, I don't know of a single place in the Bible where we see only one pastor/elder in a location with the job of what is described above for that role.

My 20 years here is a long time. And I love it. But I can't do it forever. Nor should there not be accountability and sharing in that role. My point in all of this is that Pastor Appreciation is about appreciating those that have taken the role and responsibility at Keystone Church to preach, teach, and cast vision for the purpose of "equipping the saints for the work of ministry." At Keystone Church, I am working on expanding that role to more people. I want to share more of what I have to shoulder. I want to raise up preachers and teachers and burden carriers that are looking to grow the church for God's glory. You should know that my goal and passion is to bring in more pastors and elders, and to train them up for the work ahead of us. Work that will be here in these walls. But also work that could look like starting another church somewhere where God may start to direct us. I know this will be difficult for some people to understand because of the traditions that you were raised in. I would encourage you to join me in searching the scriptures for what this looks like as we go forward!

Pastor Nate



Each week we offer a different style of mid-week groups that promote community, Bible study or application, and prayer. Our goal is to move everyone joining our service on Sunday, into a mid-week group. If your schedule does not work with what we currently offer, we may try and work with you on creating an option.

Service Week – Week 1, To Be Announced

This week's focus is simple: YOU find a place to serve someone or an organization that shares our values. Then, YOU build a team by inviting a couple of people to join you in a service project. We do not want to just accomplish but accomplish things as a group. If you need an idea, we want to help with that, see Pastor Nate.

Bible Study/Special Studies – Week 2, Request Based

Pastor Nate has left this week open for anyone that may have a group looking to study a topic or book together. We will do this based on requests or it will also be used for membership classes, etc. No current study is happening.

Life Groups – Week 3, October 21st

These groups are small groups that meet for the purpose of prayer for one another and for sharing more thoughts from what we have been discussing in the sermons that month. There are currently three adult groups and a teen group. Talk to Pastor Nate to get plugged into one or to see about starting a new one.

Men's Manner – Week 4, October 28th

Women's Worth – Week 4, October 29th

These groups are the highlight of the month for us. The men gather on Wednesday and the women on Thursday, both at 7pm. We pray together, share stories, and study the Bible together.

Prayer Focus

Prayer Requests for October:

- We have seen quite a few people saved in the last few months. Let's pray for them as they are starting their journeys in following Jesus and becoming disciples.
- We have some service opportunities coming up for the Foster and Adoption focuses through Keystone Family Alliance. Let's start praying for our local mission outreaches as that will begin to ramp up.
- We will begin the planning and budget organizing for the 2027 year with our annual meetings soon. There will be lots of meetings and strategy in the days ahead as we look at how God will guide us in 2027.

Monthly Giving Picture

Weekly budgeted amount needed: \$ 3,086

9/6 - \$ 5,348.64

9/13 - \$ 2,601.23

9/20 - \$ 4,055.76

9/27 - \$ 3,827.76

Current Weekly average for September: \$ 3,958.35

Current Weekly average for the **YEAR**: \$ 3,140.71

October Memory Verse:

If we live by the spirit, let us also
keep in step with the spirit.

Galatians 5:25