

the Loop

YOUR MONTHLY CONNECTION TO 



Bachelor Creek



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bachelorcreek.com

MARRIAGES BUILT TO LAST

In light of recent statistics on divorce rates, it's clear that many couples are encountering significant challenges in their marriages. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 690,000 couples reported getting divorced in 2021—a striking number compared to the marriages that took place.

What are the underlying factors contributing to marital strain and ultimately leading to divorce? A Forbes Advisor survey sheds light on common conflicts faced by couples, with career choices emerging as the top issue, cited by 46% of divorced individuals. Other significant factors include parenting differences, division of household labor, relationships with family and friends, and financial pressures.

However, amidst these challenges, there are encouraging insights that highlight the potential for building strong, enduring marriages. The survey reveals that only 5% of divorcees believed their marriage was beyond repair. A remarkable 63% acknowledged that a better understanding of commitment prior to marriage could have prevented divorce, while 54% felt that a deeper understanding of their spouse's morals and values could have contributed to marital longevity.

At Bachelor Creek, we believe that personal growth and spiritual maturity play integral roles in establishing and nurturing healthy marriages. Here's why:

- 1. Commitment Rooted in Faith:** Scripture reminds us in Ephesians 5:25, "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." A strong, enduring marriage is founded on a deep commitment that mirrors Christ's sacrificial love. When couples cultivate a spiritual foundation, they prioritize their commitment to each other as a sacred covenant before God.
- 2. Understanding and Respecting Differences:** Proverbs 19:11 tells us, "A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense." Spiritual maturity fosters empathy, humility, and patience—essential qualities for navigating differences in career aspirations, parenting styles, household responsibilities, and relationships with extended family and friends.
- 3. Shared Values and Morals:** Amos 3:3 asks, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" By aligning their lives with biblical principles and shared values, couples establish a solid foundation that guides their decisions and behaviors within the marriage.
- 4. Continuous Growth and Learning:** Philippians 1:9-10 says, "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best." Marriage is a journey of growth and discovery. Couples committed to personal and spiritual growth are equipped to address challenges, communicate effectively, and seek solutions together.

Continued on the next page...

A word from Joel



5. **Community Support and Accountability:** Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 reminds us, "Two are better than one... For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion." Being part of a faith community provides invaluable support and accountability. Couples can seek guidance from seasoned mentors, participate in marriage enrichment programs, and receive prayer and encouragement from fellow believers.

Let's remember that God's design for marriage is one of love, mutual respect, and lifelong commitment. As we strive to deepen our personal walks with God and grow in spiritual maturity, may we also invest in our marriages with intentionality, grace, and perseverance.

If you or someone you know is facing marital challenges, please reach out to our pastoral team for guidance and support. Together, let's uphold the sanctity of marriage and celebrate the transformative power of God's love in our lives.

In Him,

Joel

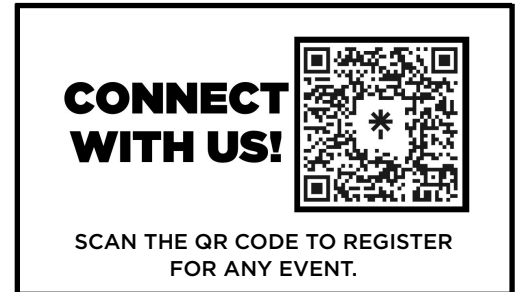
MADE KNOWN BALLOON RELEASE

Since 2019, we have felt passionate about providing a space for individuals who have been impacted by pregnancy or infancy loss. We recognize that babies are made by God and known by their parents. During the month of May, we set aside time to acknowledge these precious babies and the impact their short, but significant lives have had on those around them.

This year, we will be hosting a balloon release on May 5 at 2:00pm. Our Made Known Memorial Garden is located on the west side of Bachelor Creek. It is open for anyone to visit at anytime. We have over 20 pavers that represent the loss of a pregnancy or infant. We pray that this garden and the continued offering of memorial services and balloon releases gives families an opportunity to be comforted and reassured of the hope we have in Jesus.

If you or someone you know would find healing in joining our balloon release, please register at bachelorcreek.com/events or on the church center app. If you would like to purchase a paver for the garden in honor of a baby, you can do so on the church center app or by calling the office at 260-563-4109.

Taylor



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 5 | MADE KNOWN BALLOON RELEASE

MAY 9 | RECONNECT BIBLE STUDY
| RECONNECT CARRY IN

MAY 19 | VBS VOLUNTEER TRAINING

MAY 21 | VBS VOLUNTEER TRAINING

MAY 22 | SECOND HARVEST

MAY 23 | RECONNECT BIBLE STUDY

MAY 24 | NOT ABOUT BINGO

MAY 29 | GROW UP TRIP

JUNE 3-5 | VBS

TEXT MADEKNOWN TO 260-563-4109 TO REGISTER

Made Known

A COMMUNITY GATHERING
FOR PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS

Balloon Release | May 5 | 2:00pm



START THE PARTY! VBS

Join us for our Start the Party VBS this summer!

Times are hard right now, aren't they? Most days, being inundated with bad news feels largely unavoidable. Whether you tend to mindlessly scroll through stories and newsfeeds on social media, or you choose to tune in to your favorite daily podcast or news network, the majority of messages feel heavy. Perhaps, even heartbreaking.

Even though we can be overwhelmed with feelings of anxiety for this next generation coming behind us, I believe the struggles of 2024 aren't actually all that different than they always have been. There's nothing new under the sun, after all. And there has always been a reason to celebrate in the midst of it all!

People who follow Jesus will ALWAYS have a reason to celebrate.

And VBS is, indeed, a celebration! It's an annual opportunity to gather with a captive audience of young ones, pointing them toward the God who loves them and sent His Son to have a relationship with them. But perhaps the piece you may not realize is when you say, "YES!" to volunteering for VBS, the week is actually for you, too. Because just like every single kid who will join us to "Start the Party" during the VBS week, I'm convinced you also need to be reminded of . . .

Friendship
Belonging
Forgiveness
Life
Purpose

This is going to be a week you are not going to want to miss! It's not too late for you to register to volunteer for VBS. Stop by the Connecting Point on Sunday or register online or through the Church Center app. We need you to make VBS happen for the kids in our community, but maybe, just maybe, you need VBS too!

Date: June 3-5
Time: 9:30am-12:00pm
Location: Bachelor Creek

All kids from 3 years old to incoming 5th Graders can attend, and middle schoolers on up are able to serve at VBS.

Tyler



BY THE NUMBERS

	03/31	04/07	04/14	04/21	04/28
Worship	1,054	701	886	913	939
April Group Attendance					219

Weekly Budget Needed	\$31,788.00
Offering Received	\$29,269.95 (03/31)
	\$32,012.85 (04/07)
	\$28,845.60 (04/14)
	\$35,225.18 (04/21)
	\$23,556.18 (04/28)
Easter Offering Received	\$10,380.60

BCCC STAFF

Ministry Admin. Assistant | Rachael McWhirt | ext. 100
Lead Minister | Joel Cogdell | ext. 101
Worship | Evan Sumner | ext. 102
Next Steps/Outreach | Ryan Keim | ext. 103
Women/Admin. Director | Taylor McFarland | ext. 104
Media/Groups | David Diener | ext. 105
ReConnect | Michael Eaton | ext. 106
Next Gen/Elementary | Tyler Leland | ext. 107
Students | JT Canary | ext. 108
Early Childhood/Kid's Hope | Janet Legesse | ext. 109
Financial Admin. Assistant | Karin Brown | ext. 110
Facilities | Kipp Cantrell | ext. 111

TO EMAIL THE OFFICE: office@bachelorcreek.com

TO EMAIL STAFF:
first initial and last name @bachelorcreek.com

TO CALL STAFF:
260.563.4109 + ext.#

Elders On Call
 Todd Schindler.....260.571.4719
 Stan Willmert260.571.1708

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2147 N. State Rd. 15 Wabash, IN 46992
 OFFICE: (260) 563-4109;
 FAX: (260) 563-126

BACHELOR CREEK



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