



## CREEK COUNTY FAIR

SEPT 21ST | CHURCHWIDE

It's that time again! Dust off your cowboy boots and get ready for our 6th Creek County Fair on Saturday, September 21st! You won't want to miss one of our best church wide events! Join us for an evening full of live music, food trucks, game booths, and fellowship for all ages! For more information visit [curreycreek.com/countyfair](http://curreycreek.com/countyfair).

## VOLUNTEER TRAINING

SEPT 15TH | CREEK COUNTY FAIR

Our volunteer training for Creek County Fair is on September 15th, after the 10:30 service in the Chapel. If you want to serve and haven't signed up, visit [curreycreek.com/countyfair](http://curreycreek.com/countyfair) to be a volunteer! We need help with face painting, game booths, serving food, and welcoming our families!

## DISCOVERY CLASS

SEPT 8TH | CHURCHWIDE

Discovery Class is our 1-hour class introducing anyone to Currey Creek's philosophy of ministry and how to quickly get connected into one of our ministries. If you are looking for an introduction to Currey Creek, this class is for you. Please visit [curreycreek.com/discovery](http://curreycreek.com/discovery).

## PARDON OUR DUST

LOBBY CHANGE

In the coming weeks, the existing Connections desk will be relocated so that crews can create a passageway from our existing lobby into the new one. Thank you for your patience!

## BABY DEDICATION

OCT 20TH | BOTH SERVICES | KIDS  
SAVE THE DATE! Currey Creek has set aside Sunday, October 20th for families with babies and young children who desire to dedicate their children to the Lord and present them to the congregation for support and blessing. Registration will open on September 15th. To register your child visit [curreycreek.com/kidsevents](http://curreycreek.com/kidsevents).

## SMALL GROUPS

BEGINS SEPT 15TH | ADULTS  
Creek Institute Small Groups return on Sunday nights at 4:30pm starting September 15th. Free childcare is available from birth to 5th grade. Register online at [curreycreek.com/small-groups](http://curreycreek.com/small-groups). For placement in a small group, please email [groups@curreycreek.com](mailto:groups@curreycreek.com).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### A MAN AND HIS WORK

BEGINS SEPT 15TH | 7:30AM-8:30AM

Most men work forty hours a week for forty years equaling eighty thousand work hours during their lifetime! It is not uncommon for men to work all eighty thousand hours and not give much thought to the reality that God created us to work for his glory. This semester we will focus on a book titled "The Gospel at Work: How the Gospel Gives New Purpose and Meaning to our Jobs." We would love for you to invite co-workers and friends to learn how we were created for and can find joy in work. Please note our new date and time for men's bible study!

### STEADFAST IN CHRIST

BEGINS SEPT 11TH | WOMEN

Join us this fall for our women's bible study on the books of 1 and 2 Thessalonians, beginning Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:30am on September 11th or Tuesday night, September 10th from 6:30-8pm. Written to a church enduring severe persecution, Paul wanted to not only ground the Thessalonians, but also grow and mature them in their faith in the midst of their suffering. He knew times of tribulation are also times of temptation to give in to compromise or discouragement. By reminding us of the truth about God and what Christ has done for us, Paul encourages us to stand firm and live worthy of our calling – no matter what life throws our way.

### CREEK INSTITUTE CLASS

4:30PM-6PM | SUNDAYS

*Simplicity: Finding Contentment in a Busy Life*—Beginning September 15th, join us for a five-week study on contentment. It's never our plan to complicate our lives, but it happens. We think a plate overflowing with activity, money or possessions will lead to a cup overflowing with joy and satisfaction, but contentment eludes us. When we quit filling our lives with everything else, simplify our lives, and focus on the one thing that matters most, we find the contentment we want, and it's all wrapped up in Christ, trusting and living simply in Him. You can register for this study at [curreycreek.com/creekinstitute](http://curreycreek.com/creekinstitute).



As Christians, we are tasked with being ambassadors of Christ. How do we go about fulfilling this heavenly assignment for the glory of God? How do we grow in our knowledge of and relationship with our loving Savior? How do we walk alongside each other well, to be trained and equipped in God's Word? Two words come to mind as we develop this spiritual muscle: discipleship and mentoring.

About five years ago, as God moved in the hearts and minds of the men and women at Currey Creek, a need for adult discipleship came to the forefront. Through the prayers and discernment of Darla Free and Kelly Hohne, the idea of a mentoring seminar for women's ministry was born. Kelly contacted Shirley Mills, a former Teaching Leader, Area Advisor, and Director of Class Administration for Bible Study Fellowship. Shirley had spent the last 37 years training and equipping and was overjoyed at the opportunity to do so at her home church. "Cultivating Life on Life Relationships" was born and made into a Bible study for the spring of 2015. Throughout that year, God used this study to motivate and challenge a handful of women that Shirley was able to personally mentor and train in homiletics, the art of teaching Scripture.

During the spring of 2016, Suzy Caudill, Ramey Miller, Julie McPhail, Itta McKinney, Kelly Hohne, Julie Harrison, and Angela Brunott worked through the book of Joshua. In the fall of 2016, some of these women were challenged with developing teaching outlines from the information they learned in the spring, and lead two weeks of study during that semester. In 2017 and 2018, discipleship continued with more women attending the discipleship training program, teaching from the books of 1 John, Psalms, Ruth and Colossians.

This past year, we saw our largest attendance in women's Bible study, with teaching from Ashley Langenbahn, Catherine Brock, Nive Burris, Laura Grote, and previous teachers. In April, Currey Creek hosted a workshop on "Women in the Word" where women from all over our community learned the importance of developing their observation, interpretation, and application skills in their personal study of God's Word. Multiplication continues, as God has worked in the hearts of those who have benefited from training. For example, this summer Nive Burris led a study on Psalm 119 in her home, using techniques and skills learned from both training and teaching.

Not only has discipleship training continued over the last couple years in women's ministry, it has also expanded to high school students. In the fall of 2016, Shirley led a study on Romans for about a dozen students, with a few of them attending discipleship training as well. These students are currently in college and are reaping the fruit of learning how to study God's Word deeper.

The fruits of discipleship training have also extended internationally. This past summer, our first translation of the Colossians study was translated to Spanish. Gaby Goodman and Alberto Rodriguez-Baez helped with the translation and speaking portions. This summer, Itta McKinney and Ashley Langenbahn brought copies to Nicaragua and trained 80 women how to study the Bible. Our Spanish version of the Colossians study can be found at [curreycreek.com/womensbiblestudy](http://curreycreek.com/womensbiblestudy).

Shirley's future goal is to equip women how to train other women how to teach the Word of God. This fall, we invite you to attend our study on "Steadfast in Christ: A Study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians." Multiplication continues, to God be the glory!

# women IN THE word



Dear Church Family,

Not long ago we finished up our study of the short book of Jude. Jude writes in verse 20; "But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith..." Jude's intention was to challenge the believers to whom he was writing to prepare themselves through discipleship. He had written to inform the group that they had been infiltrated by false teachers. This begs the question; How? How does a church that has been established on the true gospel ever succumb to heresy? The simple answer is a lack of discipleship, especially an ignorance of the content of the faith. A great question to ask yourselves is, "To Whom do I trust my spiritual development?" Make no mistake, there are many really great Bible teachers around. Their materials are first rate. Their scholarship, impeccable. I encourage you to learn from them! But over the last several years, the Christian landscape has seen several teachers who have abandoned the faith. Their influence at one time or another touched many in the evangelical world. What have they left in their wake? Doubt, anger, and confusion come to mind. Malachi writes of the responsibility of spiritual leaders in chapter 2 when he says; "For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. But you have turned aside from the way. You have caused many to stumble by your instruction." When it comes to building yourselves up in the faith, proper knowledge is critical.

But as we all know, knowledge is merely one component of discipleship. Another component, and a critical one at that, is following Christ. Others can give great instruction. Currey Creek can provide environments that are conducive to spiritual growth both in content and example. But no one can make you grow in your relationship with the Lord. I want to challenge you to commit to spiritual growth and discipleship this fall here at Currey Creek. We provide several avenues for growth that will encourage you and strengthen your faith. Feel free to call the office or visit the Connections desk in the lobby for more information.

This month, we highlight a dear friend of Darla and mine, Shirley Mills. Shirley has been committed to the ministry of Currey Creek since its inception. In her "retirement" she has sought to have a disciple making ministry at Currey Creek through mentoring other women to teach God's Word. Shirley is a great example of discipleship in action and we are blessed to have her. Build yourselves up!

*John D. Free*  
Senior Pastor | Currey Creek Church