

LIFE creek

JANUARY 2022

◀ 2022 ▶

EXALT | ENGAGE | ENRICH

LOOKING Back

Church Family,

As we look back on the year of 2021, I am most thankful that it was so much better than the year of 2020!! I am joking of course, but I am very grateful for the amazing year that 2021 was for our church.

We were able to relaunch many ministries that had not been fully functioning since the pandemic. 2021 brought us an amazing high school retreat, Breakaway, and middle school camp, Camp Winiwaca. We had other wonderful events like Family Picnic, Splash at the Creek, Creek County Fair, and Movie on the Lawn.

Our church celebrated Easter here on our campus for the first time in over a decade. Though we missed being on the town square for Easter, it was very special to celebrate Good Friday and Easter Sunday together on our campus. Last year was wrapped up with our Christmas Eve Services which are always such a meaningful and God-honoring time for our church.

There are no doubt some amazing highlights worth celebrating from 2021. While these highlights are wonderful memories, what matters most from last year is the worship of Jesus Christ, the studying of His Word, the life transformation of His people, the service to His church, and the evangelism of the lost. Worship, proclamation, transformation, service, and evangelism are all marks of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

We experienced discipleship in a beautiful way in 2021. Our worship team wrote and introduced new songs for us to glorify Christ together on Sunday mornings. Hundreds gathered weekly to study God's Word together and pursue accountable relationships with one another. Many came to a saving faith in Jesus last year and followed in believer's baptism - we celebrated dozens of baptisms in 2021. The people of Currey Creek stepped into new volunteer roles and began using their spiritual gifts to build up His church - we had well over 100 new volunteers in 2021.

Our church proclaimed Jesus to friends, family, neighbors, and strangers. It was a wonderful year and we are so thankful for the many blessings the Lord provided. As most of you know, we planted The Bridge Fellowship in 2020, where Jared Patrick and over 300 from Currey Creek left our congregation to start a new church. I am so pleased to share that the Lord has added several hundred to both their church body and our church body in 2021! What a huge praise and example of what spiritual multiplication truly looks like.

We praise the Lord for 2021 and are excited to see what the Lord has in store for our church in 2022.

Blessings,



Stuart

LOOKING

Forward

There is an axiom

in ranch life that when you are on someone else's property, and you come to a gate, you leave the gate as you found it. If it was closed, close it. If it was open, leave it open. The premise of a closed gate is that it is so because the owner wants to either keep something in or something out!

Inevitably as we look back on a year there are some gates that we are confronted with that we need to either leave open or shut. The things that brought us joy, beauty, holy mirth, or peace we need to leave open for the Master has intended them for blessing. There are other gates that we need to close and keep closed. That, dear friend, is easier said than done. We shut the door at the office, but the office follows us home. We leave a conversation, but the conversation follows us to our beds. We dismiss a thought, but the thought disturbs our sleep. Perhaps this poem will be of help.

*I have closed the door on Fear,
He has lived with me far too long,
If he were to break forth and reappear,
I should lift my eyes and look at the sky,
And sing aloud, and run lightly by:
He will never follow a song.*

*I have closed the door on Gloom,
His house has too narrow a view,
I must seek for my soul a wider room,
With windows to open and let in the sun,
And radiant lamps when the day is done,
And the breeze of the world blowing through.
– unknown*


F.E Boreham relates this closing of gates to the Exodus story where Pharaoh and his army are destroyed. Miriam took up a tambourine and commemorated the event with a song;

*“Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.”*

We need to remember what God had done as a way of closing the gate on the past for his people. Look into Exodus 14:19 and see how the angel of God moved before the people. He went behind them and came between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel! God drove back the sea and the Israelites crossed on dry ground. When the Egyptians pursued, God decisively closed the gate, preventing the Egyptians from pursuing AND effectively closing the gate for the Israelites to return.

Is there something, or several things that you need to close the gate on? Paul says, “Forgetting what lies behind, and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on for the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Shut the gate, and look forward!

In Christ,



John Free

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN'S STUDY

Starting January 19th

Wednesdays at 9:30AM & 6:30PM

Join us this Spring as we study the book of Esther, a shining ray of hope that points us back to the sovereign hand of God always working behind the scenes to accomplish His purposes. Come join us as we marvel at God's providence at work in the life of Esther, God's people, and our own lives today. For details and to register visit curreycreek.com/women.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Starting January 23rd

Sundays at 7:00AM

Join us on Sundays at 7:00am as we study the book of 1 Peter and look at the importance of our witness in this world. For details and to register visit curreycreek.com/adults.

CREEK INSTITUTE

A BEAUTIFUL DESIGN

Starting January 23rd

Sundays at 4:30PM

God's will for man and woman is the ultimate design, and life lived within this beautiful and unchanging design is part of His greater purpose for humanity and leads to our greatest joy. Come join us this Spring as we learn what it means to be God's image bearers in an ever-changing culture. For more information and to register visit curreycreek.com/adults.

CREEK INSTITUTE

MAKING ALL THINGS NEW: A STUDY ON THE END TIMES

Starting January 23rd

Sundays at 4:30PM

Come join us as we walk through Daniel and Revelation and discuss how we as Christians should think about the future. For more information and to register visit curreycreek.com/adults.

SMALL GROUPS

Interested in joining a small group? We have groups that meet throughout the week at different locations and times. Check out all of our open groups at curreycreek.com/adults.

DISCOVERY CLASS

Sunday, February 20th

If you are new and looking for an introduction to Currey Creek and our philosophy of ministry, this one hour membership class is for you. Hear from our pastoral staff and ministry department heads on ways you can get plugged in at Currey Creek. We will meet in the Worship Center right after the second service. Lunch and childcare will be provided. Please register at curreycreek.com/events.

HIGH SCHOOL BREAKAWAY

March 4 – 6

High School Upstream will be heading out to a stunning resort in Utopia called Lone Hollow Ranch. Join us for a weekend of fellowship, fun, and spiritual growth that will leave you refreshed and challenged to live on mission in your community. Register at curreycreek.com/students.

CAMP WINIWACA

June 18 – 22

Middle School Upstream will be heading to Camp Buckner from June 18-22 in Burnett, TX for a week of worship, teaching, fellowship and fun. Camp Winiwaca will be an unforgettable week! Check out curreycreek.com/camp for more information and a highlight video from camp last year.

Jan. 19

WHERE IS GOD IN ALL THIS?

STUDY OF ESTHER

Jan. 23



Feb. 20

DISCOVERY CLASS

Mar. 4-6

