

## Right Between the Eyes

Nothing says 'children's story' like rocks embedded in someone's face and a gory beheading. Yet, if you grow up going to church the story of David and Goliath is one of the first ones you hear. It's one of those stories that captures your imagination and places you in the story. Who doesn't place themselves triumphantly in front of the armies in that valley? Who doesn't love that the underdog comes out on top? We see young David take on the towering Goliath and we cheer and celebrate the little guy. But when we look more closely at the story, we see that it wasn't even close to a fair fight. There was never any doubt - *Goliath never had a chance!*

Wait a minute. Nine foot Goliath? A trained champion? One-hundred and twenty-five pounds of armor? A huge spear and sword? All against a musical shepherd with five stones and a sling. Is that how you calculate the odds? If that's how we look at it, of course Goliath is the favorite. But, did David have anything more than nice hair and a sling? Of course he did - and he knew it. He was fighting in the power of God for the glory of God. Nine feet isn't very tall compared to all-powerful. 125 pounds is nothing compared to almighty. A huge spear isn't even a toothpick compared to the finger of God. Goliath never stood a chance because he didn't face a shepherd, he faced the only true God.

And this is more than just a good story. It points to the victory we find in our God. In our lives, there are giants that stand before us. Fear, disease, unemployment, mental illness, doubt, self-hatred, grief. They tower over us as their shadow is cast over our lives. In the kingdom of God, there are giants that stand before us. Uncertainty, finances, fatigue, scorn, apathy, habit, comfort. These cast a shadow over the steeples and pulpits. Yet, we follow a God for whom nothing is impossible. No giant is bigger than our God. Even death itself was defeated through Jesus. And now God is not only beside us, He dwells within us through His Holy Spirit. In the power of God, David faced down a giant he could never beat - on his own. Through the salvation of Jesus, we can face down any giant, assured that not one is larger than our Savior. So...LET'S DO IT!!! Let's take this story to remind ourselves that in every fight, in every moment, in every decision, in every opportunity, the victory belongs to God. Not that every giant falls with out landing his blows upon us, but in every case, God can bring life and hope and victory in the face of any giant.

### Praying for Each Other

Each month we list the birthdays and anniversaries. We encourage you to take a moment to pray for these individuals each month as we lift each other up.

### August Highlights

-  Day of Prayer for VBS  
Sunday, August 1
-  Church Dinner  
Sunday, August 1 @ 5pm
-  Saddle Ridge Ranch VBS  
August 8-12 @ 6pm
-  VBS Family Round Up  
Friday, August 13 @ 6pm

## Did You Know?

The church gets cleaned every week by volunteers. Refreshments are provided each week by volunteers at their own expense. Volunteers make sure the lawn is mowed and the weeds are pulled. Volunteers make sure if something is broken in the building, it gets fixed. Volunteers prepare the Lord's Supper each month and ensure the baptistery is filled for baptisms. Volunteers helped setup, cook, and clean up at our annual cookout. And that's just a start. In fact, let's not call them volunteers. Let's call them what they are: they are more than volunteers, they are servants. Servants of God and of people. You may not see them and everything they do, but they make it possible for us to gather as God's people for study, fellowship, ministry, and service. What a joy and privilege to serve with such faithful and loving servants.

### Family Round Up

Come celebrate a great finish to Vacation Bible School by having fun at our **Family Round Up** on **Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.**

Everyone is welcome to come see how much the kids accomplished during the week, celebrate all our workers, and get to meet some of our great neighbors. So come grab a hot dog and say Hi to someone new. **See you there!**



# Round 'Em Up

It's time to round everyone up for Vacation Bible School. We're riding out to Saddle Ridge Ranch this summer beginning **SUNDAY, AUGUST 8 at 6pm**. We're meeting every day, Sunday through Thursday from 6-8pm. All kids from 4 years old to 6<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome. We'll meet to play great games, sing fun songs music, and make cool crafts all while Roundin' Up Questions and Driving Home Answers. What's really great is that it's totally FREE!

Then, on **FRIDAY, AUGUST 13** at 6pm is our **Family Round Up**. Join us for this celebration of all the fun we had and all the things we learned during VBS. Everyone is invited to enjoy a cookout, cotton candy, popcorn, and the *Moon Bounce*.

We're looking forward to an awesome week at *Saddle Ridge Ranch* asking questions and finding answers about living for God and being loved by God.

## Birthdays

Say **Happy Birthday** to:

**Jim Sonich - August 8**

**Sandy Witter - August 11**

**Tammy Goodwin - August 16**

**Terry Taylor - August 25**

**Ian Hallenbeck - August 27**

**Diana Heald - August 31**

## Anniversaries

**Matt & Kristen Hallenbeck - August 10**

**Michael & Kaye Dodd - August 20**

### Our New Youth Ministry Leaders

Hey, they look familiar! Yes, Sarah and Lance Bradstreet, who lead so well in worship have accepted leadership of our student ministry. They'll plan fun activities, service projects, and other events to help our youth draw closer to Jesus and reach the young people in our community for Jesus. Please keep them in your prayers.



445 Church Street at Hamilton Road  
North Syracuse, New York 13212  
315.458.5824 [www.bellewoodchurch.com](http://www.bellewoodchurch.com)



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