

**Gone fishing**

When summer begins, everyone is hopeful that there will be the best three months of the year. As summer approaches, we plan vacations, trips, and outings. We gather over barbecues with friends and families. Fishing trips, camping, horseback riding, and church camps are some favorite pursuits that give us time outdoors to enjoy God's creation.

My family loves the pool. Around 4-5 pm, you will find us in the water up to our necks. That pool is one of our "together places." My extended family often comes to enjoy the pool as our guests. It's a particular favorite of my grown son Jared and my youngest sister Terri. Those two will make at least three pilgrimages to visit during any given summer.

As the heat of summer builds, it doesn't take long until it is time to water our gardens and flower beds. Watermelons, fresh tomatoes, squash, and okra grace our tables as we enjoy the fruits of our labor. The scent of flowers fills the air with intoxicating aromas, drawing butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds to a seasonal feast.

Summer dazzles us with its many-hued shades of green. Week after week, we endure the perpetual cycle of mowing and trimming our lawns. Hopefully, you're not chasing too many moles around the yard. Those little subterranean pests seem to be everywhere.

With spring rains finally behind us, farmers gather wheat, burn stubble, and hurry to get in the next crop. Irrigation pivots begin the season's long circular trek providing moisture to growing fields. Farmers all over the area watch as this year's crop grows and matures, hoping for a good year.

This year we are headed to Sardis Lake with the entire clan. All my brothers and sisters and our nuclear family will enjoy some fishing, swimming, and shared meals. Our families are the people God chose for us; I believe they are a big part of how we see the world and ourselves. We hope this trip is a time to reconnect and build stronger family ties.

Rest and recreation are vital for human well-being. When we attend to those basic needs, we can better cope with challenges and stress when faced with them. Jesus and his disciples were no exception. They need to get away and recharge (Mark 6:31). We all need that same opportunity for time and space.

It is evident that Jesus and his disciples enjoyed the outdoors (John 11:54). Throughout the gospels, we see them in and around the lake. It's apparent that they liked fishing and boating (Mathew 9:1, Matthew 14:29). Peter shows us that he even wanted to take a dip and go swimming every now and again (John 21:7). Jesus liked nature's solitude and found he could connect with the Almighty more resounding way when immersed in the outdoors (Matthew: 14:23).

Remember that once you've had the chance to rest and rejuvenate, return to church and worship with your faith family. Worship is how we build ties of Christian love and unity between members of the Body of Christ. The local church is where vital ministry happens, and people's lives are transformed by fellowship, service, prayer, and discipleship. I hope to see you all in church again soon.

*Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:46-47*

**Pastor Kenny**

**Calendar for the Week**

**Saturday**

Fellowship Hall Rented

**Sunday**

8:45 a.m. Lexa Worship

9:00 a.m. Marvell Sunday School

**Sunday**

10:00 a.m. Marvell Worship

**Tuesday**

12:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

**ATTENDANCE**

Lexa Worship	4
Marvell Sunday School	31
Marvell Worship	45 + 87

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

2022 Budget	\$193,280
Needed each week	3,717
Received this week	2,030
Capital Improvements	150

**MEMORIALS**

**BOBBY CAMPBELL**

**FRED KINDER**

Beth & David Pickler family

**JAY DAVISON**

Mary Nell & Mike Ellenburg

**DAVID REETZ**

Terry & Lisa Fuller

**MEMORIALS**

**GEORGE YAHNKE**

Bruce & Lou Anne Anderson

David & Beth Pickler family

A.B. Thompson Family

**HONORARIUMS**

**LEE GUEST**

**SHELTON GUEST**

David & Beth Pickler family