



# Dover First Christian Church



September  
2021



One of the most influential scriptures in my ministry journey has been Romans 12. Paul begins the chapter by calling us to present our lives as “living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God.” This creates the picture of a life fully dedicated to God; a life that is placed on the altar for the purpose of bringing Him glory.

Paul goes on in the later verses to explain exactly what this looks like. Romans 12:4-8 explains:

*Now as we have many parts in one body, and all the parts do not have the same function, <sup>5</sup> in the same way we who are many are one body in Christ and individually members of one another. <sup>6</sup> According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts: If prophecy, use it according to the standard of one’s faith; <sup>7</sup> if service, in service; if teaching, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> if exhorting, in exhortation; giving, with generosity; leading, with diligence; showing mercy, with cheerfulness.*

Paul makes two very important points in this short passage. First, we are all made differently. We have different strengths and different gifts. Secondly, if we are going to live as “sacrifices to God,” then we must use our gifts to serve the church and the people around us. If you are a good teacher, you should be teaching. If you are a natural encourager, then send cards and make phone calls. In other words, figure out what God made you good at doing, and use those gifts for His glory and the advancement of the gospel.

I’ve been thinking about his in the context of Andrew’s recent ordination. It is a holy calling to pursue a life where you make your living by the gospel. It comes with its own unique set of challenges, obstacles, and blessings. But I want to echo something I said during the service. Each of us is called to full time ministry. We should all have our own ministry that builds up the church and glorifies God. Every Christian is a minister of the gospel in their own way.

As we move forward with our new mission and vision of “*being the love of Christ in our community through service and discipleship*,” our success is going to depend not on our paid staff, but on you, the full time ministers of our church. You will need to use your gifts to help advance the gospel. The leadership has a lot of big ideas and dreams we can’t wait to share, but we are going to need to do this together. I can’t wait to minister beside you.

Josh

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## DEDICATION SERVICE SEPTEMBER 12

We are headed to Beneath the Shade on Sunday, September 12 at 6:00pm to pray over the house, dedicate the deck we built, and fellowship with Kathy Neal. We'll also be roasting hot dogs and marshmallows after the dedication service. The house is located at 5916 Middle Run Road.

## CAMPFIRE FAITH SEPTEMBER 15

Our Wednesday night Bible study will resume on September 15th. Dinner will be served at 5:15pm and the Bible Study will be 6:00 - 7:15pm. We will start with a time for prayer and praise then divide into groups. We will have something for Pre-K through adults.

## OPEN GYM SEPTEMBER 19

Open Gym: Starting September 19th from 1:30-3pm, we are going to play basketball at Memorial Hall in Dover. This will last for 6 weeks.

## CRUISE-IN SEPTEMBER 30

Our 14th Annual Cruise-In and Benefit dinner on September 26th from 4:00—7:00 pm. Jim Kelly from WDNP 102.3 will be broadcasting live!

## PRAYER & PRAISE SEPTEMBER 30

Join us on September 30th at 7pm for our Prayer & Praise meeting. This is a time to thank God for all he has done and will do in our church.



**Family Camp**  
Sept 1-6

**Women's Retreat**  
Sept 11

**Family Trail Ride**  
Sept 17-19

**Keenager's Retreat**  
Oct 12

If you are interested in going but don't want to drive, please see Josh. He is considering renting a van. Go to [www.roundlake.org](http://www.roundlake.org) for more info

**Middle School Retreat**  
Oct 29-31

Andrew is planning to attend the Middle School retreat this fall. Please see him if you are interested.

## FAMILY PICTURES



We will begin taking family pictures on September 19th. Meet after worship by the organ to have your picture taken.

## T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER



T-Shirts, Hoodies and Long Sleeve T's featuring the "Be Love" logo and our church name go on sale Sept. 19. All profits will go to our Scott Cecil fundraiser. Order forms will be in the foyer!