

UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

buffalocov.org/events

KICK-OFF SUNDAY & CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, September 10 // 10 am // South Lawn

9:30 am Live music / 10 am Service / Picnic to follow

Join us as we kick off our ministry season with a special outdoor Sunday worship service followed by a church picnic and celebration. Bring a blanket or lawn chair; seating is available on the patio for seniors or those with limited mobility. Catered church picnic immediately following the service. Pork chops, sides and refreshments provided. Bring a dessert to share. In case of rain, the entire event will take place at regular times, 9 and 11 am, inside the Worship Center.

MINISTRY FAIR

TODAY & Sunday, August 27 // Between services // Commons

Want to get plugged in to BCC ministries? Join a small group? Sign up for a fall class? Come to the commons for our 2023 Ministry Fair where you can meet our ministry staff and leaders and see what's being planned for Fall Ministry. Each ministry group will be represented and you'll have an opportunity to sign up for classes, small groups, or find a way to volunteer at BCC.

STEADFAST FAMILY HARVEST DAY

Saturday, August 26, 10 am // BCC Garden

Bring the whole family out to help with the harvest at the BCC garden - we welcome big and little hands! Produce from the Steadfast ministry will be delivered with hand-written notes of encouragement and a Gospel message to our neighbors who are struggling.

BCC VOLUNTEER TRAINING

August 27, 12:15-2:15 pm (Lunch provided) or August 31, 6-8 pm // Youth Room

Do you volunteer with kids, students or Access participants at BCC? Join us for a free lunch at our annual Volunteer Training! The training is **REQUIRED** for all volunteers as we'll be reviewing BCC policies and other information our insurance requires. Sign up for one of the two options by scanning the QR code.



ENCOUNTER PRAYER & PRAISE

Sunday, August 27, 5 pm // Kidspace

Here at BCC, we seek to be a church of prayer – individually and praying as one. When we get together to unite our prayers and lift our voices in song, we also anticipate powerful results through God's provision. As we join to seek Him through prayer and praise, we hold fast to Jesus' promise: "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20)

COMING THIS WEEK

Prodigal Ministry Informational Meeting: TODAY, 12:15 pm, Room 201



MARRIAGE MATTERS

Pastor Joel McQueen

EPHESIANS 5:22-33

This is an "angsty" passage to preach on in our current cultural climate because:

- A) There are two very different theological interpretations that are often contentious towards one another: egalitarian and complementarian.
- B) The passage assumes a difference between men and women. That men and women are different isn't a popular sentiment, but it is an important truth.
- C) People have a wide variety of experiences of marriage: divorce, widowed, abused, struggling marriage, ok marriage, great marriage, or never married/single.

So, pray for me as I preach, please!

IT'S ABOUT CHRIST AND THE CHURCH!

Let's start at the end of the passage for a clue to the meaning of the whole passage! [Verses 31-33.]

Genesis 2 is the foundational starting point for understanding God's purpose in marriage.

God created marriage to uniquely display something about Him.

"I'm talking about Christ and the Church!" [v.32]

Marriage is the illustration of something greater, not the other way around!

Whatever your marital state is, listen to this passage for what Christ has done for His bride, the Church; and listen for how believers are to respond to what Christ has done for them.

WIVES, SUBMIT

Play the role of the Church, the Bride of Christ [vv. 22-24]

“Submit” is *υπό*, a preposition for “under”, and *τάσσω* “one appointed to a position of authority”, in Greek. It literally means to “come under the authority of” and was used in military contexts for soldiers/commanders.

“Submit” is not a popular concept in America culture, we tend to be proud of our rebellious spirit.

“Submission” to authority is the application of the Gospel in most New Testament letters (see Rom 13:1-7, 2 Cor 13:10, Col 3:18-4:1, 1 Thess 4:12, 1 Tim 5:17-6:2, Titus 3:1-7, Heb 13:17, James 5:13-20; 1 Pet 2:13-3:7 and 5:1-11).

HUSBANDS, LOVE

Play the role of Christ in self-sacrificially giving of Himself for the benefit of His Bride, His body, the Church [vv. 25-30]

“Love” is *ἀγάπη* (agape). It’s self-giving, sacrificial, other-centered, love. It’s humbly serving, giving up power and position, to lift up the other person, putting their interests above yours. (See Philippians 2:5-11).

Jesus died to make His bride, the Church, holy; and to lift us up and seat us with Him in the Heavenly realms. God’s amazing love, led to His greatest gift of grace, giving His Son to die in our place – so that we, by faith, could be the Father’s children, and Jesus’ perfect bride. (See Ephesians 1:3-22).

So, husbands can be a living picture of the Gospel by laying down their power and position to love, serve, protect, and provide, to put selfishness to death, to treat their wives as the precious gifts and co-heirs of eternal life that they are. (1 Peter 3:8).

CONCLUSION

We can only do all this by the grace of God and by being filled with God’s Spirit (Ephesians 5:18 is the main command of this passage, obscured by English translations).

APPLICATION

For everyone: Confess your sin. Repent. Get right with God and allow His Spirit to fill your life. You GET TO respond to what Jesus has done, by turning to Him and submitting to Him in humble, willing, obedience.

For the married: Visit the Commons to find out how to sign up for Grace Marriage Ministry kicking off this fall.

welcome TO BUFFALO COVENANT

NEW TO BCC?

Here at Buffalo Covenant, you can learn, grow and connect in an authentic and biblically-based community. We want to get to know you! Scan the QR code to get connected, or stop by the Welcome Center to meet our friendly volunteers.



GIVE

Offering boxes are in the back of the Worship Center or you can give at buffalocov.org/give.

PRAYER

If you have a prayer request, you can submit it online via the QR code, or enter it on the connection card in the chair back. Drop the connection card off at the Welcome Center for our prayer team. You can also email requests to office@buffalocov.org.

COFFEE & PASTRIES

Start your morning with a free coffee in the Commons. You can also purchase a \$1 pastry from the BCC youth fundraiser.

sunday, august 20 WORSHIP WITH US

TODAY Marriage Matters with Joel McQueen

CHILDCARE Available at 9 am and 11 am service (ages 0-5)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL HELD IN THE GYM AT 10:10 AM
TODAY - No Sunday School (Ministry Fair)
August 27 - No Sunday School (Ministry Fair)
September 3 - BCC Missions

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERMONS MISSIONAL MATTERS WITH PASTOR JOEL MCQUEEN
August 27 - Family Matters
September 3 - Prayer Matters

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