

Pray More- Worry Less!

Philippians 4:6-7 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. As we have entered 2023 there are many uncertainties that we all face and if we are not careful these uncertainties can turn into worry that will steal our future away from us.

The Apostle John writes in I John 4:18 there is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear. We must settle in our hearts that God's love is greater than fear and all its cousins - depression, anxiety, panic and worry. The essence of winning the war on worry is knowing that you can't do it on your own. Like most attacks of the Enemy, when we battle worry, we can't make or muster a strong enough defense by ourselves. It is only by the might of God and the love of Jesus that we can stand firm, take ground, and win this fight.

A 2019 study from Penn State showed that roughly 91 percent of the things we worry about never even happen. But worry wants to convince you of what feels like the inevitability of every possible negative outcome. It tries to guarantee that your situation will end in the worst-case scenario.

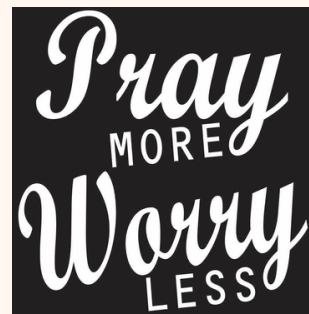
Frenchman Michel de Montaigne wrote: "My life has been full of terrible misfortune, most of which never happened."

I am not suggesting that bad things don't happen in our lives. Obviously, your story and mine affirm that they do. Pain, suffering and loss are a part of our journey on a broken planet. Jesus underscored this when He said in John 16:33 In this world you will have trouble..." The power to deflate worry, though, is found in how Jesus finished that sentence: but...I have overcome the world."

Your best bet for being prepared for tomorrow is to lean in and trust God with what He has put in your hands today. And when the day turns over, repeat. One of the greatest tools to help counter the temptation to worry is recalling the faithfulness of God. In every situation, worry wants you to think, "This is the one when everything is going off the rails." But the faithfulness of God tells you otherwise. It says, "Today, I will do for you what I did yesterday and the day before and the days before that." Faithfulness is the fuel of peace for today, while worry pushes you past today and into tomorrow.

Worry keeps you up at night. It convinces you that if you work at it, you can solve every problem. But in the end, peace comes by admitting that you are not God. I am not God. Therefore, I am not in charge. I am not in control. I don't run the show. I am simply a part of God's plan. Yet, I know He loves me, so I can trust and obey Him.

Jesus can carry what is worrying you because He has already carried what was meant to kill you, sin. I Peter 5:7 casting all your anxieties, burdens, and worries upon Him (Jesus), for He cares for you. He has already carried your sorrows and buried them in His grave so that you can be resurrected in His likeness. Let's make one of those New Year resolutions this year and keep it: Pray More - Worry Less!



CALENDAR

EDGE will begin
January 11th

Congregational Meeting
Sunday January 15th
After Service
(Selecting 2 New
Council Members)

Church Council Meeting
January 16th @ 7 PM

Sunday January 22nd
Church Sledding Day
Cone Park
2:30-5:30 PM

Pizza to follow at church

BIRTHDAYS

Stan McAfee- 2
Dave Finseth- 5
Mark Chytka- 6
Cooper Curry- 11
Tucker McGill- 18
John Harding- 18
Jacque Spring- 23
Gwen McGhee- 24
Seth Taylor- 24
Haley Etter- 24
Casey McGhee- 27
Wyatt Tremayne- 28
Mike Paden- 29

ANNIVERSARIES

Deric & Shawna Anderson- 14

CKCC

Get Involved

- Worship Team practice-Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
- EDGE Youth Group
 - 4-6th Grade Wednesdays 3:30-5 PM @ CKCC
 - Jr. & Sr. High School Wednesdays @ 7 @ Community Center
- Men's Fellowship Friday will start again February 3rd

Be in Prayer for...

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- *Lori Harding for complete recovery from surgery.
- *Harold Curry and his continued progress in recovering from a stroke.
- *Carla Taylor from a bout with pneumonia.
- *For divine health during these winter months for our families.
- *That CKCC will reach new heights for the Lord in 2023.
- *For a breakthrough in the acquiring land for a new building.
- *For a mighty harvest in the lives of those who have so faithfully supported CKCC with prayers, attendance and finances.

PRAISE:

- *For the faithfulness of the Lord in directing and supplying all the needs of the body of Christ at CKCC.

CKCC

121 Iowa St
PO Box 547
Ponca, NE 68770

Need us to Pray? Email us!

pastorjeff.ckcc@gmail.com

Monthly Needs

\$15,916.67

Last Month

\$29,846.57

Average for 2022

\$22,757.26

Attend. last month

595

LEADERSHIP

- Pastor Jeff Peters
 - John Harding
 - Ross Lund
 - Reed McGill
 - Doug Spring
 - Don Taylor
 - Tom Walsh
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HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE

Gage McGill

Reid Cumming

Send updated prayer
requests to
pastorjeff.ckcc@gmail.com