



## Transformation — Church

For followers of Jesus, there are two very important and powerful words in the world: transformation and church.

We treasure the concept of “transformation,” because radical change is the heart of the Christian message and because the power of the gospel changes everything—lives, churches, and communities. Christians should love and embrace “church,” because God has chosen the community of Christ followers to make known his wisdom.

*God’s purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 3.10 NLT)*

When God *transforms* lives, he doesn’t just build temples of the Holy Spirit in individuals, he builds His *church* by adding more lives to the body. God uses the individuals in the *church* to bring about the *transformation* of more individuals and, consequently, the growth of the church. The church is God’s tool and instrument for His kingdom agenda.

The concepts of *transformation* and *church* involve each other, complement each other, and connect to each other. When you join the nouns *transformation* and *church* together with the actual occurrence of transformation and the community of people called the church, the result is powerful. It’s amazing. *The result is transformation and church the way God designed them to be.* Here at StoneBridge we believe in transformation as something ongoing inside our church walls and outside of our physical church building. Why? Because, we are called to always be God’s church in light of us as individuals continually being transformed. We are being changed from God’s glory unto glory.

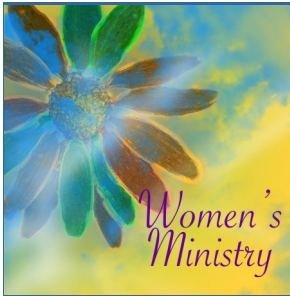
The real truth of the matter is that transformation is non-negotiable for the Christian and the Christian church. It should be the “norm,” not the exception. God’s plan is that...“*we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*” (2 Corinthians 3.18). That means that we (as individuals) and “we all” (as the church) are supposed to see transformation.

Transforming from “glory to glory” should be normal, but too often it is exceptional. Our passion should be to help each other, and in the process the entire church, aspire to and achieve biblical transformation. Transformation is at the heart of God’s mission to humanity. He delights in moving us from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light—and then empowering and directing us as agents of His kingdom. And he has chosen the church as His instrument in this world. We—the body of Christ—are God’s chosen method to deliver the message of transformation to our neighbors both in the local community and around the world. Delivering this message is our message. We are all to be “transformed” and be “transformers” in the hand of God. How are you (we) doing with our spiritual transformation?

I realize it’s still summertime and vacation time. But remember that it’s also TRANSFORMATION time and not time to take off from CHURCH for the entire summer. Keep your spiritual summer body in shape as you continue to Worship, give, and serve as a part of the body of Christ.

May the summertime blues be few.

Pastor Randy & Charlina Reed



**CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONNECTION** will meet Thurs., July 7 at noon for lunch. Please bring a dish to share. Hope Hill work camp presentation. For more information contact Beckie Harp at 419.424.5622.

Wed., July 17-**PAYNE CAMPMEETING** Christian Women's Connection Day. Contact Beckie Harp for details.

**LADIES NIGHT OUT** — Mon., July 18 we will meet at Olive Garden at 6:30 pm. Afterwards we will go to Linda Gruenemeyer's for dessert. Contact Marcene Wallace at marcy4355@aol.com or 419.422.8269 or sign up on the Women's Ministry bulletin board.

**LADIES GAME NIGHT** -Fri., July 22 at 7 pm. Bring your favorite board game and a snack to share, Expect to have loads of FUN:)

**ACTIONEERS** will have a picnic on Thurs., July 21 at the Litzenberg Memorial Woods (Park) on 224 West at 12 noon. Bring your picnic basket of food to share. Drinks and table service will be furnished. Anyone 50 or older is welcome. Contact Marie Jernigan if you are interested at 419.422.7102 or [djernigan@woh.rr.com](mailto:djernigan@woh.rr.com).

**BridgeKids**

**Terrific Tuesdays!**

- ☆ Tues., July 12, 1-4 pm - Water Games in the church parking lot and front yard.
- ☆ Tues., July 26, 6:30 - 8:30 pm - Game Show Night, Minute to Win It and other games in the Youth Center.
- ☆ Super Sunday-Sun., July 31 Guys Night Out to the Toledo Mud Hens Game, meet at the church at 4:15 pm. All little guys must have a chaperone. Drivers are welcomed and needed. Tickets are \$8. Tickets must be reserved ahead of time with Elizabeth Hultz x207 [ehultz@stonebridgechurch.org](mailto:ehultz@stonebridgechurch.org).
- ☆ Interested in drama, worship or media? Love kids? BridgeKids Ministry needs you! Please see Elizabeth Hultz.

## Student Ministries



- ◆ July 6 Youth Center (6 to 8 pm)
- ◆ July 10-16 Findlay Mission Trip / Soak City
- ◆ July 10-15 Performing arts Camp (Grades 9-12)
- ◆ July 20 Capture the flag @ Van Buren State Park (9:30 to 11:30 pm)
- ◆ July 27 Youth Center (6 to 8 pm)
- ◆ July 31 Guys night Mud Hens game meet at the church at 4:15 pm.
- ◆ NEED HELP? The teenagers are doing a MISSION TRIP to FINDLAY July 10-16! Are you in need of yard work, repair, or cleaning around your house? Or do you have neighbor or friend that is in need of help? Please contact Pastor Nate. We have a day or two set aside to help the families in our congregation as well as helping others in our community.
- ◆ MISSION TRIP! If you are a teenager, we want to invite you to be apart of our mission trip during July 10-16. We are going to spend a week helping our church and community and a day at Kalahari. The cost is only \$50. You will never get to go on a trip this cheap. Sign up by July 7 and be prepared to have fun while serving our community. See Pastor Nate.



The Church Office will be closed on July 4

## STARTING POINT

Sun., July 17 at 9:45 am in the Youth Center. Are you new to StoneBridge Church? Curious about what we are all about? You are invited to our Starting

Point with Pastor Randy and Pastor Nate. Starting Point is our basic introduction to our church family and is designed to explain who we are as a ministry. Starting Point allows you to discover: Our History, Our Purpose, Our Process, and Your Involvement. Please sign up at the Welcome Center!