

### Save the Date: Fellowship Lunch



Sunday, July 2nd  
Following Worship.

Oakland will supply the hamburgers & hotdogs. Please sign up to bring a side and/or a dessert to share.

Sign up sheets are in the SS classrooms & vestibule.

### House of Pearls Prayer Request “Knees to the Ground”

The House of Pearls requests the congregation to join them with “Knees to the Ground” in prayer and fasting. Wednesday nights from 7-9 PM. For 12-20 acres to expand their ministry to help women heal and restore from drug and alcohol addiction.



### Ernie Haase & Signature Sound



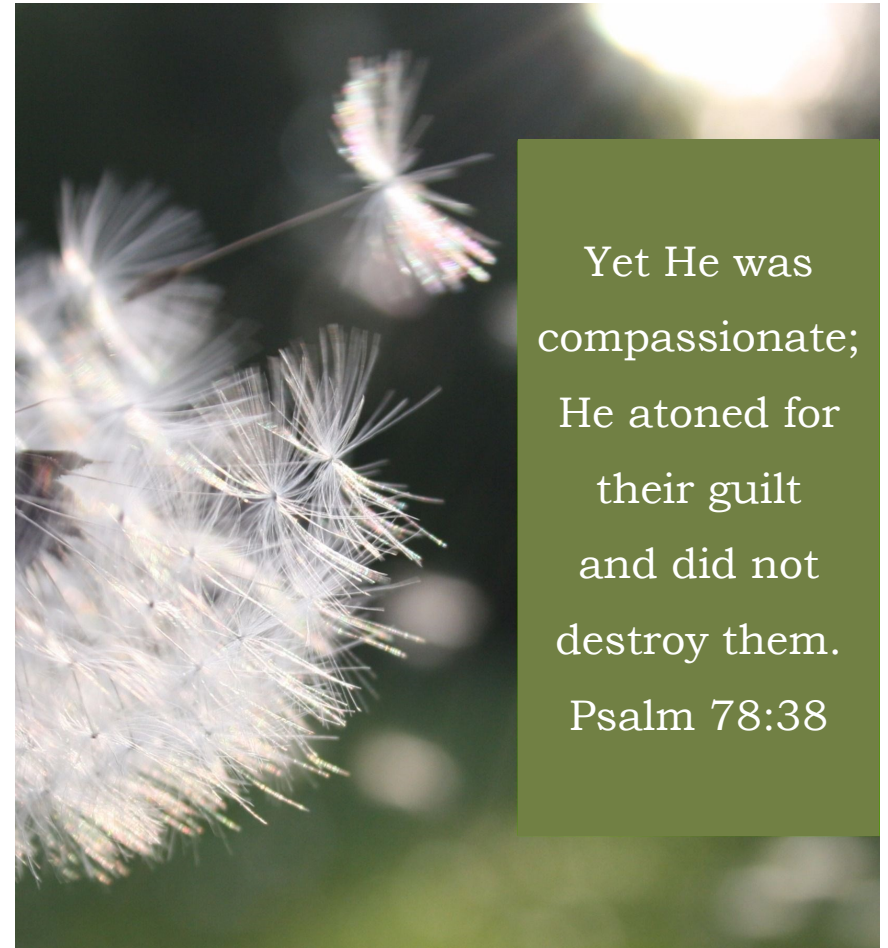
June 17th  
at 6 PM  
120 S Main St,  
Monroe NC

Tickets &  
info at  
gcmacon-  
certs.com

Individual tickets  
range from  
\$20-\$40



## May 28, 2023



Yet He was  
compassionate;  
He atoned for  
their guilt  
and did not  
destroy them.  
Psalm 78:38

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**Sunday, May 28, 2023**  
Avoiding a Critical Spirit  
Numbers 12:1-14

**The Point:** Guard your heart against criticizing others.

**The Bible Meets Life:** It was more than twenty years ago, but I still remember the email. We had announced a difficult ministry decision for the church, and though I imagined some might not be happy, I wasn't prepared for what I received: a long—very long—email from a church member, full of words that would shift a film from PG-13 straight to R. It was full of unbridled fury, even calling into question my credentials as a pastor.

Thankfully, he and I were able to come together and talk through these issues. At the same time, I often come back to that as a sobering reminder of the impact of this kind of criticism. To be clear, it wasn't that I was beyond criticism; rather, the way this person responded could have caused serious damage to our relationship and our larger work for the kingdom of God.

There is a place for honestly confronting others when done in a loving and gracious way. Yet maturity means learning to guard our hearts from an unhelpful critical spirit as we'll learn in this story of Miriam and Aaron's criticism of Moses.

**Live It Out: Be honest with yourself.** Evaluate your own heart for complaints against others. Ask God to reveal where you might be comparing yourself to others. This first step is to see yourself as God sees you.

**Encourage someone else.** When our hearts are prone to criticize, choose instead to find someone to encourage. Intentionally let them know how they bless you. **Confess your criticism to another.** Have you been critical of someone in unhealthy ways? The Lord may be convicting you to ask that person for forgiveness and seek to walk in steps of reconciliation.

### Upcoming Sunday Sermon Series

#### Mentoring: Investing in Others

Sunday, June 4	Jethro and Moses (Exodus 18:9-11, 14-21)
Sunday, June 11	Moses and Joshua (Numbers 27:12-23)



### Opportunities for Ministry & Service

#### Sunday

9:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Indoor Worship  
10:00 AM Online Worship

#### Wednesday

6:30 PM Online Worship  
6:30 PM Youth

#### Thursday

Jail Ministry

#### Office Closed

The church office will be closed  
on Monday, May 29th in  
observance of Memorial Day.

#### Service Attendance

Sunday, May 21

Indoor: 40

Online: 64



Wednesday, May 24

Online: 62

Youth: 11

#### Monthly Budget & Offerings



Budget Needs:

\$17,787.33

May Offering

To Date:

\$7,027.00

#### Prayer Requests

Candy Anderson  
Bridgett Blatz' Family  
Gary Clontz  
Terry Cox  
The Hedgepeths  
Mike Helms  
Christine Hinson  
Lillian Lewis  
Rich Majewski  
Claudette Kay  
Richie Raines  
Robert Skinner  
Global Missions  
Local & NAMB  
Area Schools/Admin  
The Sick & Elderly  
Backpacks of Hope Students

#### Backpacks for Hope Cards

Anyone interested in sending  
end-of-year encouraging cards to  
10 middle schoolers, please drop  
them off in the  
church office.



#### Bible Studies for Life

The new BSFL unit on *Mentoring: Investing in Others* begins  
on June 4. Books are available  
in the SS classrooms  
and in the vestibule.

