

# THE CHANNEL

flowing from . . .



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Volume CLI

## Which Stage Are You In?

Submitted by Rev. Julia Schwert

There are three separate stages in our relationship with God. Many may think of the words found in Romans 12:2 – *“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”* This shows three distinct stages: good, acceptable, and perfect; however, I will be looking at three other words that may also be interchanged for these three. I want to focus on dependent, interdependent, and independent.

**Stage 1: Dependent** – We each began our life in a dependent state. As we were being formed in our mother’s womb, we were totally dependent upon our mother. In fact, we were only dependent upon one individual! We received nourishment from her. We received our breath from her. We received life through the blood from her.

**Stage 2: Interdependent** – Once we were born into this world we automatically became interdependent upon others. At first we were interdependent upon our mother and father and anyone else who wanted to take care of us. Some would say, ‘No, we were dependent upon them.’ I beg to differ because there were some things we did on our own. We breathed on our own. Our bodies functioned on their own although we were limited in what we could do by ourselves. Gradually we changed and could do more and more on our own; but we still remained interdependent. Growing up we needed others in our lives to help us but were constantly encouraged to move on to the next stage in life. Sad to say, many people choose to stay in this interdependent stage. Maybe they are unsure of the path to take to get to the next level; however, we need to encourage them as they grow to strive to get to the next stage.

**Stage 3: Independent** – We finally arrived! We can do everything on our own. We have a job, an apartment or house, a car, etc. We pay our bills on our own and are no longer interdependent upon anyone for our life source.

### Spiritual Awakening

**Stage 4: (Stage 3 in Reverse) Independent** – It is usually somewhere in this last stage that many of us realize that something is missing in our life. We learn that even though we are independent there are some things we cannot do on our own: We can’t change our desires, wants, or actions by ourselves. We need help! So what do we do? We reach out to someone – hopefully we reach out to God!

**Stage 5: (Stage 2 in Reverse) Interdependent** – In this new stage where we are finding our way spiritually, we discover that along with God we need a pastor, teachers, a church, and fellow Christians to help us in our struggle to change those areas of our life that we do not like. We learn we cannot survive by ourselves. There was a popular song when I graduated from high school – ‘No Man is An Island.’ That is so true. No one can do it by themselves. We become interdependent in our spirit realm. Interdependent upon God and our fellow men and women, who are leading us toward a closer walk with God Himself.

**Stage 6: (Stage 1 in Reverse) Dependent** – The safest place to be in our life is to be totally dependent upon God for everything! Allow God to make His plan in our life come to fruition – that is total dependency! We can only be dependent upon one individual – God to become all that we can be in the spiritual realm. We realize that only He can make it happen. My mind goes to the best place we can find in God: “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty”. Psalm 91:1 – The perfect place to be!

The Amplified Bible reads: “He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and

fixed under the shadow of the Almighty (Whose power no foe can withstand)." – What a wonderful, secure place to continually dwell!



### Thank you!

A big thank you goes to everyone who helped to make our visit to the Newport Aquarium a success! The children and adults who were blessed to go really enjoyed themselves. Thank you for supporting our youth.



### YOUTH FUND RAISER

Have you seen our pop bottle? The children are having a **DIME Fund Raiser**. Our youth are continuing to raise money for their next trip in September. You may place larger coins and dollars into our pop bottle if you desire.

### Wednesday, September 13

Our Youth will be exploring **"The Wonder of Science."** The Youth will be making slime as they see the chemical reaction when different substances are combined. We are asking that they wear older clothes since they may get messy.

### Wednesday, September 20

This will be a **"Praise Night in Songs"**. We will be focusing on Psalm 98:4 & 5: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise. Sing unto the Lord with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm."

The Youth will be learning songs your great grandmother may have sung. This is open to anyone who would like to join us for a night of music unto the Lord.

### Saturday, September 23

Our Youth will once again be enjoying an outing. They will be going to the **BibleWalk in Mansfield** and are inviting anyone who would like to go with them to attend as well.

Cost for the trip, includes the museum and meal at Golden Corral, is \$20 for Adults and \$5 for children under 12. Plan to **leave** the church at **8:30 a.m.** and to return to the church by 4 p.m. Please eat breakfast before you come as we will not eat lunch until after we have toured the museum.

The **Youth Department** still has some **school supplies** for those in need. We have crayons, pencils, glue, and writing tablets. Please see Rev. Betty Jones, Youth Director, if you need any supplies for school.

Our **Youth** would appreciate donations of a **hot meal** on Wednesdays **once a month** for approximately 12 children. A lot of our kids are allergic to peanuts, peanut butter, and eggs. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Betty Jones.



**SUNDAY,**  
**SEPTEMBER 17**  
at **4:30 P.M.**

If you desire to bring something to share, feel free to do so. We will be in the book, **The Battle Plan for Prayer**, beginning with chapter 14. Book club meeting is at Sister Theresa Eishen's home, 631 Sunset Lane.



### REGULAR SERVICE TIMES

#### Sunday

10 a.m. – Morning Worship

#### Wednesday

11 a.m. – Breaking Point

6:30 p.m. – Bible Foundation

6:30 p.m. – Youth Services

#### Thursday

6 – 7:30 p.m. – Recovery Outreach Ministry led by Rev. David Tucker. Need help to overcome an addiction? Come to these sessions. Our desire is to help you achieve and experience an abundant life in God.

#### Saturday

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. – Prayer



Feed **your Soul**  
**every week.**

## BROTHERS IN CHRIST

Our men will be hosting the **Good News on the Street** Saturday, September 9, and Saturday, September 30 beginning at 5:30 p.m.



Everyone is encouraged to support this ministry. We will be meeting on May Street.



## Helping Our Brothers & Sisters to Spread God's Word to Others!

### Wanted:

- Pill Bottles (unlabeled)
- Bibles, Sunday School Material, Christian Literature, DVD's (This is a chance to clean your book shelves of Christian materials that you have accumulated over the years.)

A flier is posted on the Bulletin Board with more information. This is a project one of our sister churches, Fremont Trinity United Methodist Church, has undertaken. Let us help them spread God's Word.



## Senior Rides

WSOS has transportation available for seniors. The eligibility requirements:

- 60 years of age
- A resident of Sandusky County
- Not eligible under another funding source such as Medicaid or Title IIIB
- Not a resident of a nursing care facility

Book your own trip by calling TRIPS at 419-332-8091 and ask for information on **Senior Rides**. Additional information is also posted on bulletin board.

## Ribs & Chicken Bar-B-Que

September 15 (Friday)  
September 16 (Saturday)



1/2 chicken dinner--\$9



4-Bone Rib Dinner--\$11  
Rib Sandwich--\$5

11 to 6 p.m. (or sold out)

All dinners will include:  
Choice of 2 sides, bread, & dessert

- Baked Beans
- Green Beans
- Macaroni Salad
- Potato Salad

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Place order ahead by calling the church and leaving a message if there is no answer. Calls will then be returned to get your order.

- All proceeds will go toward church activities

- ❖ **Fliers** for the Bar-B-Que are available to distribution.
- ❖ **Sign-up Sheet** for Bar-B-Que helpers is posted. We need you for this to be a successful endeavor. **Goal:** Make it better than the Spring Bar-B-Que which was great!

**NOTE:** Thank you for giving all **Sunday Morning Announcements** to Sister Charmaine Smith by Saturday evening. She gladly accepts texts with information. If you need her number, feel free to contact her.

Please give all announcements for the **October Channel** to Rev. Julia Schwert or Rev. Natalie Perkins by **September 24** so we can get the September Channel published by the first Sunday. Your help is greatly appreciated. With your timely information, the publication goes smoothly. If your department is not in here, we did not receive anything.