

### **Church Calendar This Week**

Tuesday: Elkhart Pastors Meeting, noon

Friday: AA Meeting, 7pm

Saturday: Guidance Ministries Block Party, 2pm

### **BNF People to Pray For This Week**

September 8: Kevin & Sharon Yoder

September 9: Evan & Lori Hoover

September 10: Seamus Sprow

September 11: James Burks

September 12: Maria Garcia

September 13: Keith Thews

### **Last Sunday, August 31**

Offering: \$1,022

Attendance: 18

### **Next Sunday, September 14**

Meditation: Kevin Yoder

Outward Looking: Acts 13:1-12

### **Announcements**

Kevin and Sharon are out of town this weekend. Kevin will return to the office on Tuesday. If you have a pastoral care need during this time, please reach out to Evan or Sylvia.

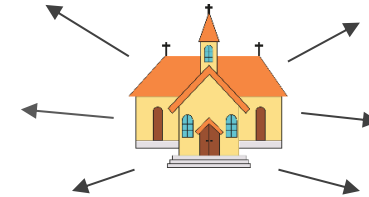
You're invited: Community Block Party on Saturday, September 13 from 2-7pm at Guidance Ministry (216 N 2nd Street in Elkhart). The afternoon will feature free food, games, music, and resource tables. Guidance Ministries provides food and other resources to people in need.

# Belmont Neighborhood Fellowship

September 7, 2025

2025 Focus: "Witnessing to the Ends of the Earth"

Outward Looking: Acts



Welcome and Opening Prayer: Vera

Songs of Worship: Vera

Offering: Vera

Scripture Reading: Acts 12:1-19 Dave

Meditation: "Outward Looking: Faith and Freedom"  
Phil Schmidt

Dialogue and Discussion: Phil

Song of Response: Vera

Blessings and Prayer Requests: Sylvia

Announcements

Sending Song: Vera

Fellowship Conversation in the Gym over a Carry-in Meal

## **Acts 12:1-19 (NIV)**

<sup>12</sup> It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. <sup>2</sup> He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. <sup>3</sup> When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. <sup>4</sup> After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

<sup>5</sup> So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

<sup>6</sup> The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. <sup>7</sup> Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists.

<sup>8</sup> Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so. “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him. <sup>9</sup> Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. <sup>10</sup> They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

<sup>11</sup> Then Peter came to himself and said, “Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod’s clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen.”

<sup>12</sup> When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. <sup>13</sup> Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door. <sup>14</sup> When she recognized Peter’s voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, “Peter is at the door!”

<sup>15</sup> “You’re out of your mind,” they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, “It must be his angel.”

<sup>16</sup> But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. <sup>17</sup> Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. “Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this,” he said, and then he left for another place.

<sup>18</sup> In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. <sup>19</sup> After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.