

Family Connection

February 4, 2019

A Publication of Christ's Family Church

Volume XXXII— Issue # 2

The mission of Christ's Family Church is: to lead people to Christ, to equip them for service in the Kingdom of God, to send them out to reach others with the Gospel that God may be glorified.

February 14 is Valentine's Day. It is the time of the year when we think of big red heart-shaped boxes of chocolates, flowers, stuffed- animals holding a heart, giving and receiving paper valentines, gifts, and LOVE.

Let's take a minute and think about LOVE. God's LOVE. The Bible has a lot to say about LOVE. I will concentrate on just a few verses.

1. In Mark 12:30-31 we read about a religious leader, a teacher of the law asking Jesus, of all the commandments which one is the most important? Jesus answered.

LOVE the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: LOVE your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

How do you best demonstrate your LOVE for God and LOVE for others?

2. I John 4:19 says: We LOVE because He first LOVED us.

God's LOVE is the source of our human LOVE.

3. John 3:16 says: For God so LOVED the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whomever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

Here God sets the standard for true LOVE. God paid dearly with the life of His Son, the highest price He could pay. Jesus accepted our punishment, paid the price for our sins, and offered us a new life.

WOW! What LOVE!

God is LOVE. Real LOVE. Having faith in God you will experience that true LOVE. Be empowered by that LOVE and show your LOVE to others. How? Follow the example of Jesus life, how he served others with actions and a humble attitude.

Right now at Christs Family Church, we have two amazing opportunities to study about God's LOVE.

Adult Sunday Learning: Crazy LOVE video series by Francis Chan. Discuss how God is calling you to a passionate LOVE relationship with Him. Are you listening? Wednesday Adult Discipleship Class: LOVE Like That video series by Les Parrott.

Looking at the life and character of Jesus, giving us a definition to what it means to LOVE like Jesus.

Join us.

Jesus is the greatest "valentine" anyone could ever receive, the LOVE of God.

Go out and share that LOVE.

Mavis Wahlert, Elder

Friendly House Birthday Bags - Thank you for your assistance to provide supplies to allocate and commit 30 bags a month to the pantry at the Friendly House. The stock room is empty and your considerations of necessary supplies or monetary donations are very much in need again. Place any purchases in the plastic tub in the narthex and give or send donations to Sharon Andringa. We are happy to shop for you and replenish the stock room.

| <u>February 3 - 9</u> | | |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Wednesday | 9:00 a.m. | 7:14 GAP |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Prayer Shawl |
| Thursday | 7:00 p.m. | Property mtg. |
| Saturday | 9:00 a.m. | Women's W.O.V.E.N program |

| <u>February 10 - 16</u> | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday | 5:00 p.m. | Trivia Night |
| Monday - Thursday | | Terri vacation |
| Wednesday | | Kids Against Hunger |
| Saturday | 8:00 a.m. | Men's Bible study/breakfast |

| <u>February 17 - 23</u> | | |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| Wednesday | 9:00 a.m. | 7:14 GAP |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Prayer Shawl |
| Thursday | 6:00 p.m. | Elder's mtg. |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Consistory |
| Saturday | 6:15 p.m. | Comedy Sportz food, fellowship |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Comedy Sportz show |

Weekly Events

Sunday - 8:15 Adult class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Learning, 6:30 High School Youth
Tuesday - 6:30-9:00 p.m. Adult Volleyball
Wednesday - 5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Praise & Prayer, Circle of Friends, 6:45 Choir, Middle School, Love Like That
Friday - 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Trivia Night—Sunday, February 10th

Sign up for Trivia Night. Be sure to stop by the information desk to grab your form. We do need forms for everyone, this helps us organize and plan the evening's activities and childcare. We look forward to this event every year and we know you do, too! Consider expanding your teams and inviting friends, neighbors and co-workers. This evening is not only a fundraiser but a really comfortable way to introduce people to your church family.



Fellowship Event

Comedy Sportz—Saturday, Feb. 23

The fellowship committee has organized an evening at Comedy Sportz in Rock Island. The show starts at 7pm and the group rate is \$11 per person. SUNDAY, FEB. 10th IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP AND PAY at the information desk. We are able to enter at 6:15pm and will have pizza delivered. Most of the cost (if not all) of the pizza will be covered by the Fellowship committee. Please indicate on the sign-up if you plan to be there in time for the pizza!

| | December | YTD Dec. |
|---|----------|----------|
| General Fund Offerings and Other Income* | 90,677 | 654,760 |
| Total General Fund Actual Expenses | 66,137 | 646,453 |
| Total Surplus/(Shortfall) | 24,540 | 8,307 |
| Total Budgeted Expenses | 56,300 | 675,602 |

**2020 Vision
 Inspiring Outreach
 Growing in Fellowship
 Serving our Community
 Together**

Sunday Learning...



The Gospel Project

Jesus is the Word of God...did you know the entire Bible is His Story?

The Gospel Project points kids, students, and adults to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Come discover how God's plan of redemption unfolds throughout Scripture...and continues today!

Feb. 10: The Sower and the Soils – Mark 4:1-20

Christ Connection: Jesus is the Sower who scattered the seed (God's Word) through His ministry on earth. Today, He continues to proclaim the gospel through His disciples, and the gospel continues to bear fruit among those who receive the message.

Our Mission: God calls us to sow the seed of His Word with reckless abandon, trusting that the Lord of the harvest will bring fruit from the gospel.

Feb. 17: The Unmerciful Servants – Matthew 18:21-35

Christ Connection: Though our debt before God was too great to be paid through our good works or effort, we have received forgiveness through the grace of Jesus Christ, who paid our debt through His death on the cross. God has wiped the slate clean with the blood of His Son.

Our Mission: God calls us to model forgiveness in our relationships in order to put on display the nature of God's forgiving heart.

Feb. 24: The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:25-37

Christ Connection: Jesus' story of the good Samaritan shocked His original audience and challenged those who thought they could earn a place in His kingdom. Even more surprising is the story of how God saw us in distress, sent His Son to do what religious observance could never accomplish, and rescued us from destruction through His death and resurrection on our behalf.

Our Mission: God calls us to display the beauty of His compassion toward us by showing compassion to others who are in need.

March 3: The Father of Two Lost Sons – Luke 15:11-32

Christ Connection: The Pharisees and scribes criticized Jesus for His practice of welcoming and dining with sinners. The stories He told in response to their criticism focused on God's joy over sinners coming to repentance. The God who seeks and saves the lost is Jesus, the Savior whose search-and-rescue mission is accomplished at great personal cost to Himself.

Our Mission: God calls us not to resent His grace toward others but to celebrate the Father's goodness in welcoming any repentant sinner home.

Classroom locations:

The Gospel Project for ADULTS

You will be welcomed and blessed by each of these groups...they all use the same material, so feel free to visit any or all of them!

8:15 am class - Room 202: *Mike Senneff, Becky Schuetz*

10:45 am classes:

Room 201: *Reg Shoemith, Bruce McEhinney*

Room 202: *J.T. Andringa, Don Kincaid*

The Gospel Project for YOUTH

10:45 am – Youth Room – Family Life Center – Lower Level

The Gospel Project 4 CFC KIDS!

10:45 am

Babies – FLC Nursery

1 ½ years – **5th Grade** – Lower Level

More classes for Adults at 10:45 am:

Fellowship Time – Room 110. Join *Pastor Brian and Tom Schuetz* for fellowship, a bit of Bible and prayer.

Crazy Love – FLC Conference Room

Video series by Francis Chan, led by Amber Bush

It's crazy, if you think about it. The God of the universe loves us with a radical, unconditional, self-sacrificing love. And what is our typical response? We go to church, sing songs, and try not to cuss. God is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself...are you listening?

Wednesday, February 13th CFC Kids Learning 2 Serve will be hosting a Kids Against Hunger service project.

Kids Against Hunger packages highly nutritious, life-saving meals for starving children and malnourished children and their families in developing countries and the United States.

ALL are welcome to come help make a difference in the life of a starving child! **Please sign up at the information table** so we can have an idea of how many filling stations we need to set up, and about how many meals we need supplies to package. If you would like to help with a monetary donation to help pay for the meals we package, there will be a donation box on the information table. THANKS!

Wednesday Family Nights at CFC

Help is needed planning the menu and checking to make sure all the food items are being provided. Can you monitor the sign ups, and coordinate servers for a Wednesday dinner?

We will send out a SignUp Genius invitation for you, asking for help with providing dinner items and serving. **This is a great project for your small group, a committee or Sunday Learning class!!**

You can sign up to oversee a dinner by clicking on this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4ea4aa2daaf85-2019>
Contact Becky (beckyschuetz6@gmail.com or 563-940-7605) if you have any questions or want to volunteer to oversee a week or two!

Here is what is coming up on the menu:

Feb. 6: Spaghetti, jello, rolls & ice cream cup

Feb. 13: PIZZA!

Feb. 20: Can you or your group plan this dinner?

Come share a meal at 5:30 pm, and then stick around for **something for all ages at 6:30 pm:**

6:30 pm:

Adults & Youth come worship and pray together from 6:30-6:45 pm in the Sanctuary.

Kids in 1st-5th grades will have fun with our Circle of Friends, while those who are Kindergarten and younger will enjoy supervised play in the Nursery.

6:45 pm:

Adults can enjoy singing praises with the choir in the main Sanctuary...

or join a group that will be talking about how loving like Jesus can completely change our relationships, our families and our lives! **'Love Like That'** with Pastor Kurt will meet in FLC Room 202. *Child care will be provided for children kindergarten age and younger.*

Middle School Youth will dive into Bible Study in the FLC Youth Room.

W.O.V.E.N.

Saturday, February 9th, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.

Deb Gustafson, from the Ken & Deb in the Morning Show will be our speaker. Come learn about one of the outreach ministries Christ's Family Church supports: WDLM Radio—WDLM serves our community, airs programs that proclaim the Word of God in a way that helps people take the next step with the Lord Jesus Christ.

IGNITE! In Ephesians 3, Paul writes his prayer for the Ephesian church. Like Paul, we want the Holy Spirit to IGNITE a desire to grow in a deeper relationship with God. Join us Saturday, March 2nd anytime between 9am-2pm for a time of individual prayer as we pray for the church and our surrounding communities. Parents, bring your kids and allow them to pray for their teachers and classmates. There will be prayer stations throughout the entire church, please enter through the main sanctuary door (door #2). As Paul says in Ephesians 3, God can accomplish infinitely more than we could ever ask, so let us be bold in our prayer. Allow the Holy Spirit to IGNITE in you and your family a desire to be bold and grow deeper with your relationship with God. Questions, please contact Amber Bush (amberbush04@gmail.com)

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|--|
| 3 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Learning | 4 7:00 BSF | 5 6:30 Volleyball | 6 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl 5:30 Dinner 6:30 Circle of Friends 6:45 Choir, Middle School, Love Like That | 7  | 8 7:00 Men's Basketball | 9 9:00 Women's W.O.V.E.N. program |
| 10 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Learning 5:00 Trivia Night | 11  7:00 BSF | 12 6:30 Volleyball | 13 5:30 Dinner 6:30 Kids Against Hunger | 14 | 15 7:00 Men's Basketball | 16 8:00 Men's Bible study 9:30 Consistory Retreat |
| 17 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Learning 6:30 High School | 18 7:00 BSF | 19 6:30 Volleyball | 20 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl 5:30 Dinner 6:30 Circle of Friends 6:45 Middle School, Choir, Love Like That | 21 6:00 Elder's mtg. 7:00 Consistory | 22 7:00 Men's Basketball | 23 6:15 Comedy Sportz food & fellowship 7:00 Show |
| 24 8:15 Adult Class 9:30 Worship, Communion 10:45 Sunday Learning 6:30 High School | 25 7:00 BSF | 26 6:30 Volleyball | 27 5:30 Dinner 6:30 Circle of Friends 6:45 Middle School, Choir, Love Like That | 28 | 1 7:00 Men's Basketball | 2 |
| 3 8:15 Adult Class 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday Learning, 6:30 High School | 4 7:00 BSF | 5 6:30 Volleyball | 6 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl 6:30 Circle of Friends 6:45 Middle School | 7  | 8 7:00 Men's Basketball | 9 9:00 Women's W.O.V.E.N. program |

Prayers:

- Don Downing** - recovery and healing from hip replacement surgery
- Carol Tucker's** - brother David Johnson passed away
- Greta Habak's** - brother passed away
- Linda Shoemsmith**—recovery from knee replacement surgery
- Adelina Pena** - Veronica Lowther's sister, pancreatic cancer, started chemo, pray chemo shrinks cancer so they can operate, she is in a lot of pain
- James Blohm** - son-in-law of Shirley De Wys; rare autoimmune disease
- Karen Rascher** - Don Downing's sister; breast cancer, finished w/chemo

Amazon Smile

When shopping on Amazon, if you use **smile.Amazon.com**, look for Christ's Family Church and a portion of your purchase comes back to CFC. Same products, same prices, it is an easy way to support our Church.

Day Care News

Welcome February. We've had to cancel day care a couple of times in January due to weather, now we are hoping for better weather. It's not an easy decision to close day care for the day. We generally try and follow what the Davenport, Bettendorf, and Pleasant Valley school districts are doing, if they close we close. When the roads are too treacherous for travel and the wind chill is dangerous; frost bite in 4 minutes.....we obviously close. The safety of our children, their families and staff are our number one concern. We understand that parents have to work, we understand some working parents don't have the option to stay home on bad weather days, so we take this seriously and think it through thoroughly. If the center chooses to close on weather conditions we notify parents by posting on KWQC and by contacting them text or call (their choice). We also try to make the call early so parents can make arrangements if possible. "Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe." Luke 2:11

Youth Ministry

This month join us for Trivia Night on February 10. We need all hands on deck, there is a lot of work that happens behind the scenes and there is something for everyone to do. The evening is both a great fundraiser and a super fun evening for our teams to invite friends.

Middle School has started a really great study on prayer. We are hoping that through studying the Bible and reflecting what God desires in our relationship with Him, hearts will be changed and families will be changed.

If you've got questions or want to talk about ways to serve our youth, please contact Cadena Trusty, Youth Ministries Director, at (563)320-3456 or cadenatrusty@gmail.com.

Joe & Denise Bohr

no more land line

563-468-9121

Pastor Brian's 2019 Sabbatical

I have served at Christ's Family Church for 16 years and will be 62 in the spring of 2019. I was granted a sabbatical in 2012 centered on being still and knowing God. It was a 3-month sabbatical. In the spring of 2019 it will be 7 years since my sabbatical. As I look at the years since the sabbatical, I can see there was personal spiritual growth and growth in the congregation as a result of that sabbatical. As I look to the future, I see the challenge of ministering to a younger congregation and having the spiritual stamina to keep myself fed and feed the congregation. Barring any healthy issues, I would like to continue in active ministry to age 68. The path I take is in God's hand, but I feel I have the passion and strength to lead CFC for those 6 years. One of my greatest spiritual needs is to step away from the daily demands of ministry for an extended period to refuel my spiritual tank. I would like to spend time in God's word and have rest for my soul. Recently I returned from the Getty Sing conference which renewed my excitement for worship and found I need to have more of that in my daily life. This sabbatical is centered around seeing and hearing God speak to me and carving out a way to make that happen on a daily basis. The seeing God will come through the Creation Museum and the Ark displays which can help stir my mind to bringing God's handiwork to life. My trip to the Holy Land was very moving experience to see and relate God's word to be more real and alive and I feel that these displays will have some of the same influence on my relationship with God. The hearing God speak will come at the Cove, where Billy Graham lived and was built for people to come and be drawn closer to God. At the cove I will hear Mark Yarbrough speak on Esther and even though God is not mentioned in the book of Esther he is still active in her life and using her. I want to hear God speak to me that he is still working even though he may not be the prominent voice in our nation today and be challenged to take a stand for God. Another hearing God experience will be at the Christian Reformed Conference Grounds where we will camp for a week. There are daily Bible studies which can help me as a face my personal challenge of reading God's word to speak to me instead of reading the Bible to speak to those around me which can be a pitfall in ministry. During this time there is time to rest my physical body and I would like to read and journal the book Growing Young which deals with ministering to the younger generation. I plan to have a time of prayer and sending off during a worship service prior to the sabbatical and will share my learnings with the consistory via a written report and with the congregation through messages. The dates of the Sabbatical will be June 7 through July 7, 2019.

Thank You

Thank you, church family, for the cards, prayers and kind words after the death of my sister last November. Elaine and Jerry Phillips.

Angel Tree Christmas Gifts

Thanks to all who helped purchase, wrap and deliver Christmas gifts for the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree ministry. All of your efforts were on behalf of prisoners who suggested the type of gift they wanted given to their children. Prison Fellowship initiated this program in 1982 and Christ's Family Church has been helping since about 2005. In December 2018 we served 16 children in 7 families who not only received the Christmas gifts but also booklets about Jesus. About 292,000 children nationwide, which includes about 300 in Scott County, were given gifts this past Christmas. Byron Baxter

Consistory Corner

Consistory Liaisons 2019

Day Care, Men's Ministry, Emergency Preparedness, Chairman of the Deacons—Ron Hessel

Finance, Nursery, Christian Ed—Sara Fossey

Fellowship, Small Groups—Steve Keller

Serving Our Community, Missions, Hospitality—Pam Lundgren

Personnel, Outreach—Don Olsen

WOVEN, Prayer Shawl, Meal Services Ministry—Mavis Wahlert

V.P., Property—Duane Truman

Worship, Youth, Women's Prayer Group—Sheryl VerMeer

Spiritual Formation—Pastor Kurt

Clerk—Carol Schipper

Consistory has meet for a January meeting and a retreat to discuss the year 2019 and beyond. The consistory in 2019 plans to work on discipleship and leading people to Christ, evaluating and possible restructure of the Personnel committee and how we further serve and meet the needs of our community. We ask you to pray for your leaders and the challenges facing us in 2019.

Food Pantry

The first Sunday of the month is food pantry Sunday. Please bring your contributions of canned, bottled and boxed foods, baby food, as well as household and hygiene items. There is a box in the closet in the lobby. We the deliver your donations to Friendly House. You can bring your donations at anytime.

RightNow Media

If you haven't heard, we're giving all of you a FREE gift! It's our passion to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus and to equip you to help your family grow, and RightNow Media will help you do just that! If you haven't heard about this, or if you haven't received your FREE subscription, please contact Pastor Kurt for more details.

Men's Bible study and Breakfast

Come Sat. Feb. 16 from 8:00 to 9:15 to study "No Matter What You Have Done You Can Be Forgiven" Video series by "Man in the Mirror" Coffee, juice, milk and donuts will be served. No prep need! Just show up hungry for food and the Bible.