

Family Connection

June 3, 2019

A Publication of Christ's Family Church

Volume XXXII— Issue # 6

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.

June 7 will mark the 75th anniversary of the day my Uncle, August Olsen Jr. was killed in World War II. He served in the 8th Air Force as a Radio Operator in a B24 Bomber. His aircraft was shot down over France and he perished the day after "D-Day". Before he died, he prepared an "in the event of my death" letter, a letter I now possess. In it he wrote:

"During the course of war many casualties and much suffering are the penalties of waging it, but to wage a war for freedom, for our loved ones and the right to live, work and worship as we please, the reward is greater than the suffering. I was proud to fight and die for my country because I have been greatly blessed with friends and persons I loved and wanted to fight for."

I think we sometimes forget that the freedoms we enjoy as Americans, including the freedom to worship, came and have been maintained through the costly sacrifice of others. As Christians, our first loyalty is to God alone. In Christ, we are brothers and sisters with one another, and with other true followers of Christ around the world. We are united in that relationship and it supersedes all other relationships, including country. We should care deeply about Christians and their well-being in all parts of the world. There is one church.

That does not mean, however that a Christian cannot be patriotic or love his/her country and its symbols, like the flag. It only means patriotism can never be thought of as equal to or stand above our loyalty to Christ and His worldwide church.

Patriotism, in its proper place, manifests itself in ways that are honorable and good. Christian patriotism calls on us to be loyal, self-sacrificing, respectful of authority, advocates for justice, protectors of the weak, laborers for self-correction, morality and hope, etc. all which are very good qualities.

Sadly, I think those that think the Church should minimize patriotism (and its symbols) or otherwise disparage it are misguided. It would be like telling someone who becomes a Christian, but comes from a non-Christian home to distance themselves from their family. While it is true that this person has a new family, the family of God, he or she should never stop loving those who provided food, shelter, support, education and opportunity through the years. This person should love and serve God first, but live gratefully and respectfully for the blessings and opportunities their family provided.

So it is with patriotism. My love of country never is equal to my love for Christ, but in its proper place I can live grateful for the freedoms and opportunities I have enjoyed and enthusiastically honor those who have sacrificed (and are currently sacrificing) that I might enjoy them. For many of us, and especially those of us who are older, the American flag symbolizes this love of country and reminds us (me) how blessed I am and the duty I have to try to maintain those blessings for future generations.

I am thankful today for the courage, faith, and patriotism of my uncle and many others like him

Don Olsen, Elder

Beverly Wolber Memorial Service

A memorial service for Beverly Wolber will be Friday, June 7th at 11:00 a.m. Luncheon immediately following.

June 2 - 8

Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	7:14 GAP
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl
Friday	11:00 a.m.	Beverly Wolber Memorial Service
June 8 - July 7		PB Sabbatical

June 9 - 15

Sunday	11:00 a.m.	VBS Training
	5:15 p.m.	River Bandits Game
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible study
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Jr. High to Waupun

June 16 - 22

Sunday	11:00 a.m.	VBS Training
Monday - Friday		Terri vacation
Monday	3:00 p.m.	VBS Training
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible study
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	7:14 GAP
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl

June 23 - 29

Sunday		VBS Training
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible study
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	VBS Training

Weekly Events

Sunday	- 8:15 Adult class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship
Tuesday	- 6:30-9:00 p.m. Adult Volleyball
Friday	- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

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.

	April	YTD April
General Fund Offerings and Other Income*	54,056	235,205
Total General Fund Actual Expenses	65,892	204,936
Total Surplus/(Shortfall)	(11,836)	30,269
Total Budgeted Expenses	57,848	231,391

* - Year to date General Fund Offerings include \$22,101 of donations received as a restricted gift designated for 2019 expenses

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

Summer Discipleship...

ADULTS: Room 202

8:15 am – The Gospel of Mark

In this video series, author and speaker Francis Chan invites us to trace the steps of Jesus and the Twelve through Israel, exploring the major themes of the Gospel of Mark.

10:45 am – Don't Waste Your Life

Amber Bush will lead a study using John Piper's book, *Don't Waste Your Life*. Piper has a passionate message for followers of Christ: Life is short---make yours count!

SUMMER DISCIPLESHIP 4 KIDS:

During Worship – Children's Ministry area in the Lower Level

Kids will begin by worshipping with their families in the Sanctuary. Following the Children's Message, they will be escorted downstairs for discipleship classes. There will be one class for children ages 3 – kindergarten (in the fall), and one class for elementary ages (1st-6th grade in the fall).

Prayerfully consider volunteering to lead a class for a week or a few. If we do not have two leaders signed up for each class we will have to cancel class for that week.

Give a Sunday to help CFC kids grow as disciples?

In the summer we hold Discipleship 4 Kids during the worship service. **Needed 4 adult volunteers each Sunday** who are willing to help CFC kids grow as disciples of Jesus – two leaders for the Pre-K class, and two for the Elementary class. *If we don't have two leaders for a class, it will have to be cancelled for that week.*

The lessons are VERY easy to lead, and everything will be set up, prepared and ready for you!

Sign up for a week...or a few! There is a sign-up sheet at the information desk, or on Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4ea4aa2daaf85-summer2>

VOLUNTEER TRAINING FOR VBS

ALL who are interested in helping with VBS are asked to attend one training session (*even if you came to a training last year*).

Training opportunities to choose from:

SUNDAYS (June 9-July 7) at 11:00 am

Monday, June 17 from 3:00-3:45 pm

Tuesday, June 25 from 9:30-10:15 am

Monday, July 1 from 4:00-4:45 pm

Training sessions will meet in the Conference Room.

If none of these times works for you, please contact Becky at beckyschuetz6@gmail.com or 563-940-7605.

IF you have been feeling a tug towards volunteering for VBS, but don't know how or where you want to help, just come to a meeting...we will find a great fit for you!

Pastor Brian's 2019 Sabbatical

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. 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. 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. 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. The dates of the Sabbatical will be June 7 through July 7, 2019.

Fellowship Event

Baseball at the Quad City River Bandits, 6/9/2019

The Fellowship Committee invites you to join us **Sunday, June 9** for "**Faith and Fellowship Night**" at The Quad City River Bandits baseball game.

The game is sponsored by Chick-fil-a and Moody Radio. Gates open at 3:30pm. Special events include: meeting the players for pregame autographs, pregame devotion at 3:45, pregame concert by the group J53 at 4:15, and kids will have the opportunity to run the bases. The game will begin at 5:15.

A block of tickets is being purchased so we can sit together. Ticket prices to follow. Mark your calendars, sign up at the desk in the narthex and join us for this family friendly event! Questions about "Faith and Fellowship Night"? See Bill Carter or Sue Kvach.

ANNUAL FAMILY CAMPOUT - August 9th & 10th:

Mark your calendars for camping at West Lake Park! Join us for camping on Friday and Saturday nights. Or simply join us Saturday, August 10, for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship around a bonfire. Dinner will be at 5:30. More details to come.

Camp Scholarships

Forms available on Children's Ministry Table.

Women's Choice Center

Come join us in the Women's Choice Center Chapel (2740 Happy Joe Dr., Bettendorf, IA) on the first Friday of each month. The Chapel will be open from 5-7 PM with structured prayer/reflection from 6:00-6:30 PM.

Each month, a different Pastor from local church supporters will be leading that evening's prayer.

Volunteers Needed

Coffee makers are needed for the 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month.

We also need coffee clean up for the 3rd and 4th Sunday of the month. If you can help w/ either of these, please contact the church office 359-3765.



Wycliffe Bible Translators

One of the missionary families that our church supports is Angi and Rémy Ngumbu with their daughters, Chloé and Clara. They serve with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo as a bridge between the hundreds of Bibleless people groups in the Congo Basin region and donors in the United States. Angi is working with 38 people groups, helping them design and manage their translation projects. Rémy then gives training and mentorship to the partner organizations in finance so that they can manage their projects well and properly account for the funds they've received. Angi also sometimes works with language groups to help them figure out how to write their language. This year, our church is supporting them with a donation of \$4,000.

~Kristen Andringa, missions committee member

Transportation Assistance Needed

It must be difficult to always have to depend on others for transportation every time you step out the door! As time goes on, there is a growing need for help in getting some of our regular attenders to and from church (mostly on Sundays but occasionally for other scheduled events). We are seeking people who could help with transportation on a long term basis (3-6 months) or on a short term basis (week by week availability). It would require allowing a little extra Sunday morning commute time to pick up someone in our congregation. Some may require walking assistance. Would you be available to help? If so, please contact one of the deacons:

Ron Hessel 309-236-9051

Sara Fossey 563-210-2656

Steve Keller 563-349-6385

Pam Lundgren 563-271-6542

If you are someone in need of a ride, please contact the church office so we can help make arrangements for you.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, Communion 10:45 Adult Sunday Discipleship	3 Newsletter	4 6:30 Volleyball	5 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl	6	7 11:00 Bev Wolber Memorial 7:00 Men's Basketball	8
9 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship PB Sabbatical	10 7:00 Women's Bible study	11 6:30 Volleyball	June		14 7:00 Men's Basketball	15
			Jr. High to Waupun			
16 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	17 7:00 Women's Bible study	18 6:30 Volleyball	19 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl	20	21	22
Terri vacation						
23 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	24 7:00 Women's Bible study	25 6:30 Volleyball	26	27	28 7:00 Men's Basketball	29
30 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	1 7:00 Women's Bible study	2 6:30 Volleyball	3 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl	4	5 7:00 Men's Basketball	6

Day Care News

Prayers:

Phyllis Stachour—mother of Catherine Moss passed away, funeral was Thursday

Pastor Brian & Mary as they embark on a sabbatical Pray for General Synod meeting of the RCA June 6—11.

Pray for Sheryl VerMeer who is attending as a representative of the Classis of Illinois

Glen Hajek - Robin Schaver's step father, acceptance of damage to brain from stroke, currently hospitalized w/ AFIB, sun downers and mental stability

Ginger Cox - recovery and healing from knee replacement surgery

Penni Rohm - recovering at Manor Care room 201 B foot surgery

Billy Moylan - 35 yr. old brother of Kelan, stage 4 colorectal cancer w/ metastasis to liver (intestinal cancer) recent scans show chemo effective at shrinking some of the larger tumors and eliminating some smaller ones.

One of our greatest desires as teachers at Christ's Family Day Care is to encourage children to read their Bible daily. We always have children's Bibles available in each classroom for children to read and when we see them chose the Bible over any Eric Carle book it makes our hearts happy. It also gives us confirmation that the seed we are planting is starting to grow. Of course we LOVE Eric Carle books too! Most of our littles can't read of course, but just the idea they know what the Bible looks like and they can look at the pictures in the Children's Bible and retell the story in their words is the best feeling we can have. Once I had a pastor ask if our day care was successful. My response was, "Define successful." Successful in my mind when talking about a successful Christian based center, isn't defined by the finances. It's sometimes defined by children choosing to read the Bible over "Brown Bear, Brown Bear what do you see?". "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true . . . God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Youth Ministry

A summer of service: Please pray for our Middle School team heading to Waupun this month. We are excited to return the Waupun community to serve their YFC ministry and larger community. Also be praying for our High School trip to Costa Rica, next month, as we prepare for our time in a new community.

With summer here, we are on countdown to Vacation Bible School. Be watching for news on VBS prep, training and decorating. We invite all ages to help design, decorate and transform our building into an exciting and inviting space for our neighborhood kids to hear about God's love and Christ's sacrifice.

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.

VBS 2019 is 4½ weeks away!!!

July 8-12

9:00-11:45 am



OUR BIGGEST WAY TO REACH KIDS IS VB

You can help us plan and take part in an incredible outreach event for kids in our community...VBS! It takes all kinds of volunteers to get us ready to share Jesus and His love with kids in our community...and there is a job that fits what you are available to do! **What is God calling you to do?**

There is a job to fit your gifts and talents!

- Pre-K Games needs a leader
- Station leader for Elementary activities during snack time
- Snack Organizers to help plan and oversee the snacks
- Worship rally leaders and skit performers
- Decorators to help transform the building into the 'wild'
- Another important way to serve is leading small groups of kids around VBS.**

Sign up to take part in our outreach adventure online, at the information table or by contacting Becky at beckyschuetz6@gmail.com.

REGISTER online for both Kids AND VOLUNTEERS!

Invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us for a spectacularly FUN adventure *In the Wild!* You can register anytime through the CFC website: <http://www.christsfamilychurch.org/vacation-bible-school/>



PLEASE COVER OUR VBS MISSION IN PRAYER!

To join the VBS prayer team, just begin praying! **Here are our current prayer requests:**

- To fill the needed station and group leader roles with mission minded people
- For the Holy Spirit to lead and guide all planning and preparations
- For God to begin His work on the hearts of all who will come to VBS.
- For wisdom on where the best locations would be for the various stations.

Connor Kincaid Memorial Project Juen 12 - 16

If you are not in Middle School, but are interested in helping with Connor Kincaid's Memorial project in Waupun, WI this year, please contact Cadena at cadenatrusty@yahoo.com or (563)320-3456. We know he impacted many lives and we want you to share in this opportunity to remember him and to make new memories at the Union.

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.

Thank You

Thank you for everyone who called, sent a card, texted, made the trip to Havana and gave us a hug. Your love and kindness during my Mother's hospitalization and passing are deeply appreciated. We are blessed to have such an outpouring of support during this difficult time.

~Denny & Terri Fox

CHRIST'S FAMILY CHURCH

Now that I have your attention, thank you all for having me in your lives. You get me on Sunday, take me to Doctors, send me cards on birthdays, and other occasions, and letters just because your nice people, even to the point of a piece of clothing.

~Guy Lundvall

Invitation to Pray at GAP

Twice a month several CFC women meet to pray. Our prayers are focused on our church and its ministries rather than on personal prayer requests.

This ministry began seven years ago and was named **7:14 GAP**, inspired by two verses in the Bible related to prayer: II Chronicles 7:14 and Ezekiel 22:30. Sometimes we just call it **GAP**.

Some years we break for summer, but this year we will continue meeting through the summer as long as there is interest. It's easy to think that not much is happening then because many of our programs and activities take a much-needed break. But actually summer is the season for planning for fall, VBS needs a foundation of prayer, and Consistory still meets. In the May newsletter our Consistory invited the congregation to pray with them as they seek to discern where God is leading CFC next in growing His kingdom.

GAP meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 9:00 to 10:00 AM in room 202. We begin with reading some scripture. Next we share prayer requests given to us by Pastors Brian and Kurt, Cadena and Becky. The rest of the time is spent in prayer for our pastors and staff, leaders and teachers, for the Holy Spirit to be at work in worship services, and in all gatherings. We pray for spiritual growth in our children, youth and adults, and for our church and congregation as we reach out beyond our walls, into our community and our world. There is so much to pray about! We want to be God's church, doing God's work, not just a collection of our own plans and ideas. *"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain."* - Psalm 127:1a

Summer can be a very busy time. But you are invited to stop in whenever you can. Check the bulletin for GAP reminders. For more information contact Margaret Baxter – 563-323-6332. honor you!

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.

Consistory Corner

The elders put together an on call schedule for Pastor Brian's sabbatical if Pastor Kurt is unavailable.
Week of June 9 – Mavis Wahlert
Week of June 16 – Sheryl VerMeer
Week of June 23 – Don Olsen
Week of June 30 – Duane Truman

A new personnel committee is being formed that doesn't include term limits or exclude members of the congregation who have the gifts to be on the personnel committee. Tom Schuetz has agreed to chair the committee.