

# Family Connection

July 1, 2019

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*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.*

One morning last week, after a night of a window rattling thunderstorm, I woke up early just as the sun was rising. We had our bedroom windows open a crack and I heard a symphony of bird chatter and song as the light and breeze was filtering through the blinds and the morning smelled like—summer! It reminded me of a song my 4th grade Sunday School teacher led for opening every called "This Is my Father's World." This is an old hymn written in 1929 but the verse starts:

This is my Father's World, the bird their carols raise, the morning light the lily white, declare their maker's praise! And it ends with, .....He *speaks* to me everywhere! Was God actually speaking to me through nature? When I 'witness' nature, it is a reminder to me of God's constant blessing. Nature testifies to God's existence...and through it He reveals characteristics of himself.

Psalms 104:24-25 says, "O Lord, My God how great your are! O Lord what a variety of things you have made. In wisdom, you have made them all.

So I thought of what parts of God's character does nature reveal? It certainly could only be through God's unfathomable **wisdom** that the intricacies of nature could have been created. Who else could have created a caterpillar to have 228 separate and distinct muscles in its tiny little head alone? Or think of a tree with its dying, growing, dying, growing phases and that it still produces on an average 6 million leaves each season.

Another characteristics revealed is his **constancy**. He doesn't change! His power though nature occurs day after day, season after season - and it knows no geographic boundaries - it is worldwide!

His majesty and love of beauty sprawls everywhere as one drives through and one of our 58 national Parks.

If we take time to 'see' God around us, it is hard to not know God, as our Creator.

Romans 1:20 says, "For ever since the world was created people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made they can clearly see his invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God."

My dad, who as a naturalist could identify trees in the woods not only by their leaf, but by their shape and bark. He taught me the habits of creatures in the woods and the names of the seasonal wildflowers. I treasured walks in the woods with him. He frequently reminded me, that in life, we can lose much - our health our prosperity, our position, our friends and family, but if we have learned to love and appreciate God's gift of nature and the revelations of Him through it, we can always fall back on this and find contentment and God's presence among us!

I am grateful for these words of wisdom and continue to be in AWE and in THANKS!  
Pam Lundgren, Deacon

## Service in the Park Sunday, July 14th

Join us at 9:30 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park (by the band shell) 1645—23rd Street Bettendorf. There will be a potluck following worship. Chicken and drinks provided. Please bring a dish to share, and lawn chairs.

### July 1 - 6

**Wednesday** 9:00 a.m. 7:14 GAP  
**Thursday** Office Closed  
**Friday** Office Closed  
**June 8 - July 7** PB Sabbatical

### July 7 - 13

**Sunday** No Adult Class  
**Monday-Friday** Vacation Bible School  
7:00 p.m. Women's Bible study  
**Friday** 11:00 p.m. Adults & Youth leave for Costa Rica

### July 14 - 20

**Monday-Friday** Adults & Youth on Costa Rica Mission Trip  
7:00 p.m. Women's Bible study  
**Wednesday** 9:00 a.m. 7:14 GAP  
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl  
**Thursday** 1:00 p.m. Get to know Medicare

### July 21 - 27

**Monday** 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible study

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

\* - 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...

This summer continue to grow as a disciple of Jesus!

Check out the Summer Discipleship Classes for adults and kids...

### ADULTS:

**THERE WILL BE NO ADULT CLASSES ON JULY 7 & 14. Classes start up again on July 21.**

#### 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!

**Both classes meet in Room 202**

### 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 (1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall).

**Please 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.**

**YOUTH: You can grow as you serve...come downstairs to help with one of the kids classes!**

**Help make disciples...volunteer to lead Summer Discipleship 4 Kids!**

**Opportunities to serve in July:**

**July 7** – We need one more leader for the Pre-K's and one more in the Elementary class

**July 21** – We need 2 leaders for the Pre-K's and 2 leaders in the Elementary class

*There are several opportunities to serve in August too!*

**If we don't have two leaders for a class, it will have to be cancelled for that week.**

There is a sign-up sheet at the information desk, or you can sign up to serve on Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4ea4aa2daaf85-summer2>

Discipleship is a year-round adventure! Help kids keep growing in Summer Discipleship 4 Kids!

*Therefore go and make disciples... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:19a & 20*



**VBS 2019  
July 8-12  
9:00-11:45 am**

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN OUR VBS MISSION!**

We still need **6 more guides** to take groups of kids around

VBS. Can you help kids in our community 'Zoom in and focus on Jesus'?

**You can sign up to take part in our outreach adventure** online @ <http://www.christsfamilychurch.org/vacation-bible-school/>, at

the information table, or by contacting Becky at [beckyschuetz6@gmail.com](mailto:beckyschuetz6@gmail.com).



**VBS PRAYER WALK – July 6 & 7**  
Come drop in anytime between 9:00 – 5:00 pm on Saturday, and on Sunday following worship until 5:00 pm to do a prayer walk for VBS! We will have

prayer brochures with prayer suggestions that will guide you as you walk around to pray at the various stations and locations. **Thanks for covering our VBS mission in prayer!**

## Fellowship Event

### Jennie Williamson Concert

Free Concert! For those of you who missed out last year, Jennie Williamson is coming back! Join us, Saturday, August 3rd, for FREE pizza in the gym at 4pm and Jennie's FREE concert starting at 5pm in the Sanctuary. This concert is for everyone. Invite your friends and neighbors--you won't want to miss it!! Questions: Contact Amber Bush ([amberbush04@gmail.com](mailto:amberbush04@gmail.com))

### 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.

Arrive for the Saturday meal by 5pm so food can be set up and dinner will begin at 5:30. Chicken, water, lemonade and s'mores will be provided. Please bring a dish to share and lawn chairs to sit in. Sign up at the Information Desk so we can estimate how much chicken is needed.

Kim and Jason Gravert will take their camper out Tuesday night or Wednesday at lunch to ensure a good base campsite. West Lake Park is first come/first serve so be sure to set up camp Wednesday night or early Thursday to ensure you get a spot. We will be at Gate 1 (the gate where the beach is). They have electric and water hook-ups (no sewer). Tents or campers of all shapes and sizes are welcome. Contact Kim (309-781-5893) or Jason (563-210-5520) to find out what campsite they are at, or with any questions.

### 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

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.

### 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.

### BECOME A TABLE HOST!

Please join us at the Women's Choice Center Annual Fundraising Banquet "**Your Voice Matters**" on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Scott Klusendorf, President of Life Training Institute and author of "The Case for Life: Equipping Christians to Engage the Culture" will be our keynote speaker. To make this year's event a success, we need your help. Become a Table Host and fill a table of 8 with people. All monies raised at this event help us serve women and families in need of medical services including pregnancy tests and limited obstetric ultrasounds. If you're interested in serving as a Table Host, please contact Kathy at 563-332-0475 or [kathym@womenschoicecenter.org](mailto:kathym@womenschoicecenter.org). Thank you!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>30</b> 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, Communion 10:45 Adult Sunday Discipleship	<b>1</b> Newsletter 4:00 VBS Training 7:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>2</b> 6:30 Volleyball	<b>3</b> 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>4</b> Office Closed	<b>5</b> Terri off <b>Kurt vacation</b> 7:00 Men's Basketball	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	<b>8</b> <b>Vacation Bible School</b> 7:00 Women's Bible study	<b>9</b> 6:30 Volleyball	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:00 Men's Basketball	<b>13</b> Youth & Adults to Costa Rica
<b>14</b> 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship <b>Kurt vacation Costa Rica trip</b>	<b>15</b> 7:00 Women's Bible study	<b>16</b> 6:30 Volleyball	<b>17</b> 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>18</b> 1:00 Get To Know Medicare in the gym	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	<b>22</b> 7:00 Women's Bible study	<b>23</b> 6:30 Volleyball	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:00 Men's Basketball	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	<b>29</b> 7:00 Women's Bible study	<b>30</b> 6:30 Volleyball	<b>31</b> 9:00 - 7:14 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 7:00 Men's Basketball	<b>3</b>

**Prayers:**

**Larry** - Judy Getting's brother heart working at 30%  
**Adelina Pena** - sister of Veronica Lowther, started radiation and chemo on Monday, June 10. Prayers that these treatments, with God's grace, shrinks her cancer to perform surgery  
**Ginger Cox** - recovery and healing from knee replacement surgery  
**Penni Rohm** - recovering at Manor Care room 139 from 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.

**Day Care News**

Welcome SUMMER! The heat index reached 107 degrees this weekend. WOOF it was HOT. The children love summer. We try to have days with water play and sometimes we have popsicles outside to try and help "beat the heat". You may be surprised how a little table filled with water and toy boats can cool down a 2 year old and keep them busy for half an hour, or a popsicle can make their day. Those days when we can't take the children outside because the heat index is too high, the teachers have to come up with an indoor activity that keeps the kids active, busy and most importantly they like to do. We are grateful for air conditioning and the large space for children to run and play inside. So bring on the summer we are ready! "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." Colossians 3:23

# Youth Ministry

A summer of service: Please pray for our High School team heading to Costa Rica this month. We are excited to visit a new community and meet our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are excited to share our faith, experience a different culture and see how God is working in the community of Benin.

Our team is: Cadena Trusty, Bruce and Sheryl Ver Meer, Don and Debbie Kincaid, Jim and Becky Muers, Denise Bohr, Terri Fox, Jessie Madden, Emma Minnich, Joslyn Schafer, Grace Schuetz, Alina and Ally Sepanski, Breanna VerMeer, and Logan VanItallie.

This month is also an amazing opportunity for our entire congregation to step in and serve our community. Being present at VBS to help with check in, to connect with parents, to walk about with the young children as they journey through Bible stories, crafts and games, or to help with worship, sound or acting as characters in the gathering time. There is a place for everyone and everyone is needed. We are all called to make disciples, and here we have an opportunity to have many listening ears and open hearts in a space to hear the story of 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](mailto:cadenatrusty@gmail.com).



## **FOLLOW VBS FUN WITH FAMILY CAMP!**

Discover the MOST Amazing Race ever! Invite your friends and neighbors to come enjoy some great Family Time exploring 'What is a Christian' on July 21 or 28 from 5:00-7:00 pm. Dinner will be provided.

## **Membership Class - 7/28**

Have you ever wondered about membership here at CFC? Do you feel God might be calling you to join CFC as a member? If so, we invite you to our Membership Class following worship on Sunday 7/28. Please sign up in the back at the information desk and pick up a "Membership Packet" while you're there, which you'll need to bring with you to the class. This class runs a little longer than the normal Sunday Discipleship time, so lunch will be provided.

**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 to those who donated food, sent cards, and get will wishes and continued to pray for me.

Ginger Cox



**Change of Address**  
**Ken & Merle Berkompas**  
**Ridgecrest Village**  
**4134 Northwest Blvd., N301**  
**Davenport IA 52806**  
**563-388-3530**

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.