

# Family Connection

November 7, 2019

A Publication of Christ's Family Church

Volume XXXII— Issue # 10

*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.*

I've heard some friends say they know Jesus is the Son of God who died for their sins and therefore they have every expectation that they will have salvation. I too believe the same thing, but is it that simple? I also know people who are well educated, have read all the books, passed all the classes and believe what they learned is true. Yet, these same people who know the facts, don't put them into practice if it is inconvenient for their lifestyle. For example, they know that speeding is illegal, they read the law, they know it is true, and they know there is punishment for not obeying the law, yet they do it anyway. Even after being disobedient and getting a speeding ticket, they go right back to speeding. They seemingly have no intent to change their ways.

Can we be the same with our Christian faith? Will we receive salvation after making a confession of faith if we continue to sin and have no regret and no intention of stopping (repenting). Are we intellectual believers or heart believers? Is our faith genuine if we don't repent?

Lots of churches and denominations in our society have begun to allow some sins as being acceptable and they have no intention to discredit those sins. Light and darkness cannot coexist. 1 John 1:6 says "If we claim to have fellowship with God and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth." We lie? Does that mean our confession of faith was not a true confession? Will we be saved anyway? Luke 13:3 says "I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish." It seems to me that a confession of faith without repentance is not a true confession and will not grant salvation.

We are coming upon a very significant decision in the RCA. You likely have read about Vision 2020 in RCA publications ( you can read more here: <https://www.rca.org/rca-vision-2020-team> ). What is or is not sinful? How should our church and other RCA churches work through dealing with differences of opinions? Are we considering our view or God's view? If we tolerate sinful behavior as being an acceptable way to model our denomination, are we representing God's requirements? Personally, I am concerned, and I hope you are too. For this concern in our church life, I suggest lots of prayer is needed.

Duane Truman, Elder



### Collection for Veterans

Help is needed for homeless veterans transitioning to permanent housing. Collecting the following: full size sheet sets, pillows, body wash or shampoo, shaving supplies, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Items will be collected at the Thanksgiving Meal.

<b>November 3 - 9</b>	
<b>Wednesday-Thursday</b>	PB out of the office
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	7:14 GAP Women's Prayer Group
	10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl
<b>Thursday</b> 5:45 p.m.	BSF Leader's mtg.
<b>Friday</b> 6:00 p.m.	Courageous Movie
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 - 1:00	IGNITE Prayer Event

<b>November 10 - 16</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	Nominations due
<b>Tuesday</b> 1:30 p.m.	Praying the Word
	PB out all day
<b>Thursday</b> 12:00 p.m.	Backpacks due
	6:00 p.m. Elder's mtg.
	7:00 p.m. Consistory
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast

<b>November 17 - 23</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	7:14 GAP Women's Prayer Group
	10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl
<b>Thursday</b>	Terri off

<b>November 24 - 30</b>	
<b>Sunday</b> 5:00 p.m.	Communion
	Thanksgiving Dinner
<b>Mon-Fri</b>	Terri vacation
<b>Tuesday</b> 1:30 p.m.	Praying the Word
<b>Thurs-Friday</b>	Office Closed

### Weekly Events

- Sunday** - 8:15 Adult class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship
- Monday** - 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study Fellowship
- Tuesday** - 6:30-9:00 p.m. Adult Volleyball
- Wednesday** - 5:30 p.m. Family Dinner, 6:30 Circle of Friends Choir, Middle School
- Friday** - 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

	September	YTD Sept.
<b>General Fund Offerings and Other Income*</b>	<b>49,716</b>	<b>469,599</b>
<b>Total General Fund Actual Expenses</b>	<b>59,267</b>	<b>484,801</b>
<b>Total Surplus/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>(9,551)</b>	<b>(15,202)</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>57,848</b>	<b>520,630</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**

## Grow as a disciple of Jesus...

As Paul pointed out in his letter to the church at Philippi - disciples of Jesus are never done growing! **We have discipleship classes on Sunday morning for ALL ages and stages of life.** Come check it out this Sunday!

**Here's what is coming up this month...**

**Nov. 10: The Risen King Forgives and Restores – John 21:1-23**



Jesus revealed Himself to His disciples for a third time after His resurrection. Through this breakfast encounter, Jesus

demonstrated the reality of His restorative power. As Jesus' followers, we trust in the power of His restoration to enable us to move beyond our sins and failures and accomplish great things in His name.

**His Mission, Our Mission:** God calls us to demonstrate our love for Jesus by following Him, no matter where the journey might lead and no matter what happens to other followers.

**Nov. 17: The Risen King's Commission – Matthew 28:16-20**

Before Jesus ascended to the Father, He commissioned His disciples to go into the world and make disciples of all nations. We do not go alone. We go with the authority of the risen King, for Jesus alone has the power to save. We go in His power, not our own, and we trust in the presence of Christ, who promises to be with us on mission.

**His Mission, Our Mission:** God calls us to make disciples of all nations by declaring the truth of the gospel with our words and demonstrating the reality of His love with our actions.

**Nov. 24: The Risen King Ascends – Acts 1:4-14**

After Jesus' death, resurrection, and appearances for 40 days, it was time for the King to ascend into heaven and sit down on His throne at the right hand of God the Father. In His final words on earth until His return. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to empower the disciples for their mission, and He foretold the steps their mission would take as they took the gospel to the ends of the earth. Then Jesus ascended to the Father, where even now He is ruling over all of creation and simultaneously interceding for His people until He comes again.

**His Mission, Our Mission:** God calls us to join His global mission of spreading the fame of Jesus in our city, our country, our continent, and to the ends of the earth.

**Dec. 1: The Spirit Comes – Acts 2:1-4, 22-47**

Not only does God reconcile us to Himself in Christ's death and promise us eternal life in His resurrection, He gives us the greatest gift we can imagine in the Holy Spirit, the gift of Himself. The Holy Spirit comes to indwell every believer in Christ and empower them to spread the gospel. He has come to point sinners to Christ and to strengthen Christ-followers for Christlike living.

**His Mission, Our Mission:** God calls us to rely on the Holy Spirit as we share the gospel, call people to repentance and faith, and live in community.

### WHERE WILL CLASSES MEET?

#### **The Gospel Project for ADULTS**

8:15 am class - Room 202

10:45 am classes – Room 201 & Conference Room

#### **The Gospel Project for YOUTH**

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

#### **The Gospel Project 4 CFC KIDS**

10:45 am – Children's Ministry area —Lower Level & FLC Nursery

**Babies & Toddlers – FLC Nursery**

**Preschool – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Lower Level**

#### **Additional Sunday Discipleship class for Adults:**

##### **The Heidelberg Catechism**

10:45 am – Room 202

Come check out the richness and beauty of the Heidelberg, one of the foundational catechisms that has helped shape and maintain our reformed tradition.

#### **Weekly Fellowship group for Adults:**

##### **Fellowship & Prayer Group**

10:45 am – FLC Room 110 (Lower Level)

This group meets to share conversation and prayer.



## The Christmas Celebration 4 Kids is coming!

This Christmas we are going back to celebrating Jesus' birth with a program that includes singing and costumes. **We're planning to incorporate our program into the Sunday morning Worship service on December 15.**

**We are practicing the songs on Sunday morning!** We'll be practicing at the start of the Sunday Discipleship hour (at around 10:55 am) in the CFC Kids large group area in the lower level (at the foot of the stairs).

**There will also be speaking parts for older elementary kids and CFC Youth.** Becky and Cadena will be asking them about participating to get an idea of how many speaking parts we will need to arrange the program to include. **We will have rehearsals for speaking parts on Wednesday Dec. 4 & 11 at 6:30 pm.** Please talk about this as a family so they know if they are able to participate.

**Costumes will be provided, but optional for most.** We hope to have a lot of angels, shepherds and some wise men as well!

**Please help us tell the good news about what we celebrate at Christmas...and WHY!**

### Praying the Word

A new team of women from Christ's Family has begun gathering to pray for this church. We do not pray personal requests or specific ministry requests; we simply pray Scripture, God's purposes from His very Word! Each comes prepared with passages from the Bible to pray.

A.W. Tozer best sums up our prayer focus for Christ's Family, "...to become individuals whose heart desires have all been reduced to one, knowing and pleasing Him (Colossians 1:10-18) in such a way that Christ might come to have first place in everything."

'Praying the Word' meets biweekly on Tuesday afternoons in the sanctuary. We welcome more women to join us! Please contact Diane Patterson for more information. [dipatt17@gmail.com](mailto:dipatt17@gmail.com)

*"O Lord, I need you, I come seeking you and needing help. Open my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of the word."*  
Psalm 119:18

**IGNITE!** Join us **Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>** anytime between 8am-1pm for a time of individual prayer as we pray for the church and our surrounding communities. Bring the kids and pray with them. Allow the Holy Spirit to IGNITE in you and your family a desire to grow deeper with your relationship with God. Questions, please contact Amber Bush ([amberbush04@gmail.com](mailto:amberbush04@gmail.com)).

## Fellowship Event

### "Courageous" Movie, Pizza, Dessert & Discussion.

**Friday 11/8/2019, 6:00pm**

**Movie Synopsis: Courageous ... honor begins at home.**

Courageous is a Christian drama about four law enforcement officers. When tragedy strikes close to home, these fathers are left wrestling with their hopes, their fears, their faith, and their fathering.

Join us in the Family Life Center to watch "Courageous". Doors open 5:30pm, pizza at 6pm, movie starts at 6:30pm. Dessert & discussion of the movie's major themes will immediately follow the movie. **\*\*Please sign up at the information desk to help us estimate the amount of pizza needed.** Table chairs provided, or bring your lawn chairs, blankets or whatever is comfortable to watch the movie.

### Thanksgiving Meal—Sunday, November 24th @ 5:00 p.m.

Turkey, potatoes, gravy rolls and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

### Christmas Caroling—Friday, December 6th @ 5:30 p.m.

Come share the music of Christmas with our shut-ins.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>3</b> 8:15 Adult Class 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:00 am-8:00 pm voting in the lobby  6:30 Volleyball	<b>6</b> 9:00 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl 5:30 Family Meal 6:30 Circle of Friends, Choir, Middle School  <b>PB out of the office</b>	<b>7</b> 5:45 BSF Leader's mtg.	<b>8</b> 6:00 Courageous Movie & Discussion	<b>9</b> 8-1 IGNITE
<b>10</b> 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 1:30 Praying the Word  PB out of the office 6:30 Volleyball	<b>13</b> 5:30 Family Meal 6:30 Circle of Friends, Praise & Prayer 6:45 Choir, Middle School,	<b>14</b> 12:00 Backpacks due  6:00 Elder's mtg. 7:00 Consistory	<b>15</b> 7:00 Men's Basketball	<b>16</b> 8:00 Men's Breakfast
<b>17</b> 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, 10:45 Sunday Discipleship  Pastor Kurt's last Sunday	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 Volleyball	<b>20</b> 9:00 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl 5:30 Family Meal 6:30 Circle of Friends, Praise & Prayer 6:45 Choir, Middle School	<b>21</b>  Terri off	<b>22</b> 7:00 Men's Basketball	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:15 Adult Class, 9:30 Worship, Communion 10:45 Sunday Discipleship 5:00 Thanksgiving Dinner	<b>25</b> <b>Terri vacation</b>	<b>26</b> 1:30 Praying the Word 6:30 Volleyball	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Office Closed	<b>29</b> Office Closed	<b>30</b>
<b>1</b> 8:15 Adult Class 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday Discipleship	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b> 6:30 Volleyball	<b>4</b> 9:00 GAP 10:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>5</b> 6:00 Serve @ Davenport Meal Site	<b>6</b> Christmas Caroling  7:00 Men's Basketball	<b>7</b>

**PRAYERS:**

**Dick Kvach** - surgery in Iowa City on Friday, Nov. 8th  
**Sarah** - Reg & Linda Shoosmith's daughter, bit by over 100 deer ticks. She went to infectious disease specialist at Washington University They don't what is wrong. Pray for peace for her and a diagnosis.  
**John & Ethel Hegeman's** daughter in CA motorcycle accident, home recovering w/ broken bones  
**Jan** - Anne Bauer's sister-in-law, recovery from appendectomy  
**Ed Hanssen** - for less pain & healing in his knee and back  
**Pastor Brian** - pinched nerve in his back, Mayo appt. Nov. 6 & 7  
**Bomi** - Steve & Ellen Keller's granddaughter, nerves not working in her intestines  
**James Blohm** - Shirley De Wy's son-in-law, doing infusions and physical therapy, getting around better, nerve pain in torso and legs  
**PRAISE:** A wonderful evening at Trunk or Treat

**Day Care News**

Welcome November! What an October we had. Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup> the day care celebrated Fall with a festival. The children decorated pumpkin cookies, paraded through the center in their costumes and visited Ms Terri upstairs. They also enjoyed playing games like pumpkin toss and corn cob painting. Trunk or Treat was awesome. The day care had a "trunk" themed as "It's The Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown", I was grateful it was inside bRRR. We had an amazing turn out from day care parents, I counted 15 families from the center. Thanks to all who helped put the trunk or treat together, it was wonderful. November is looking like a fun and exciting time for us as well. The David and Goliath story, King Solomon, and Jonah are the Bible stories which all are very exciting and the children love to hear them. We have a lot to be thankful for this November as well, several new families are joining the center. Welcome Elsey, McKinleigh and Waverly. And Rory's little sister, Ruby joined the infant room. Happy Fall.  
 "The Lord is good to all." Psalm 145:9

# Youth Ministry



## Wednesday nights are Family Nights at CFC!

You are invited to **come and have dinner** with our CFC family on Wednesday night from 5:30-6:30 pm in the FLC gym!

**We will need some servers and clean up help each week.** You can sign up to provide some serving or clean up assistance at the information table...or at the next meal. You can also sign up through this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4EA4AA2DAAF85-2019>

### Here is what is coming up on the menu:

Nov. 6: Shredded Pork Sandwiches, Veggies and Dessert  
Nov. 13: Pasta and Garlic Bread, fruit and dessert  
Nov. 20: Tacos and dessert

**Come share a meal with your CFC family at 5:30 pm,** and then stick around...**we'll have something for all ages at 6:30 pm!**

### 6:30 pm:

**Kids** in 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades will have fun joining our Circle of Friends.

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

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

Join us this week for a great night of fellowship and growing!

## Thank You

Thanks Trunk or Treat Volunteers!

*A big THANK YOU goes out to everyone that was involved in this year's Trunk or Treat! The response from the community was overwhelming, even as we had to move the event indoors. We saw so many new friends from the community come in, and we're grateful to God for bringing them! An event like this takes a TON of volunteers; way too many to name. If you volunteered in any way, thank you! This wouldn't have been a success without you! A big shout out too to all the staff that devoted so much time and energy to provide this space for our neighbors to come in and hear the name of Jesus! You made it a special night for everyone that came! -- Pastor Kurt*

Thank you to the congregation for all the cards, gifts and words of appreciation for Pastor Appreciation month. We are blessed to serve such a loving and giving congregation. Pastor Brian and Mary

# Congratulations

Congratulations Emily Doerder and Benjamin Brabant were united in marriage on October 26, 2019



**FAITH + FUN + FRIENDS = Circle of Friends!**

**CALLING ALL KIDS IN 1<sup>ST</sup>-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADES...come join our Circle of Friends!**

What do you get when you mix together fun, friends, games and exploring the Bible? Come join our **Circle of Friends** and see! **We will meet Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:45pm in the Children's Ministry area in the basement.**

### Angel Tree



The Prison Fellowship ministry helps prisoners give Christmas gifts to their children. You may participate by buying & wrapping a gift for \$15 to \$25 or delivering gifts. A Christmas tree will be in the lobby starting 11-24-19 with the names of 17 children from 7 families.

Take the original tag home. Put your name on the tracking copy & leave it on the card table. Also, take a half sheet of details from the card table. Place wrapped gifts under the tree before Monday 12-16-19.

Getting into the holiday season we have some fun events coming up! Join us for open gym and movies on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 10-5pm; bring your lunch, some snacks, homework, friends, napping tools and whatever else you can think of. And then join us for Game Night on November 17<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. Bring your friends and some snacks, we will have open gym, games and Wii.

Don't forget that on Wednesday evenings we enjoy dinner, as a church, starting at 5:30pm and then Middle School meets 6:30pm-8pm.

Please note that we have no activities on November 27<sup>th</sup>, have a great Thanksgiving with family and friends. Take time to reflect on all that you have in your life and what you are thankful for. Tell the people you love how thankful you are for the love and friendship. Think of those without family, and reach out with an encouraging word of love.

If you have any questions or need information regarding Youth Ministry at CFC you can reach Cadena Trusty at [cadenatrusty@yahoo.com](mailto:cadenatrusty@yahoo.com), (563)320-3456. Be sure you are on REMIND for updates and schedule information. Text the phone number 81010 with the message @25c57b.

**College and Career** enjoys a hosted lunch each month and an offsite activity. These are meant to be times to relax, get out of the house or dorm, meet new people and share lunch. Please check the website and bulletins regularly for host addresses.

Make sure you join us for Thanksgiving Dinner on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm! Bring your roommates, friends and coworkers for a wonderful and festive meal.



## It's time to get packing for Operation Christmas Child ...

**Operation Christmas Child** is a program that brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love.

### There are several ways to get involved:

You can fill a gift box and bring it in.

You can donate money to go toward mailing boxes. Each box must be accompanied by a \$9 mailing fee.

You can PRAY for the children and their families who will receive our boxes.

### What Goes in My Shoebox?

Start with a quality "wow" item such as a stuffed animal, soccer ball with pump, or clothing outfit that will capture the child's attention the instant he or she opens the box. Fill the rest of the box with other smaller fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies.

**DO NOT INCLUDE: CANDY or toothpaste;** USED or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

**Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift.** You can also include a personal note and photo.

**The deadline for bringing in OCC gift boxes is Sunday, November 17th.**



## WE HAVE NEW FAMILY TABLE TALKERS FOR NOVEMBER!

The Table Talker theme for November is **THANKFULNESS.**

Pick up your Family Table Talker at the Children's Ministry Resource area in the lobby or downstairs in CFC Kids and **get ready for some great family time!!**

**CFC 2020 Calendars are available on the information desk.**