

Bell Tower Erected

Bell tower brings together church's past and present

Have you noticed anything new at Clay Center Christian Church? We are excited to announce that a bell tower -- featuring the brass bell that rang in the original church building for more than a century -- has been erected just south of the playground area on the west side of the current church building.

Many are glad to hear the bell ring again on Sundays to welcome families in for worship.

We thank Doug Livgren and his team for their hard work in designing and constructing the bell tower. Here are some words from Doug on the bell tower:

"Why are the bell tower and church sign the shape and size they are?"



The above question was asked of me -- the designer of both -- by two people recently. So it occurred to me that there may be others in the Clay Center Christian Church family who may be considering the same question.

Initially, a commercial sign was considered from the Love Signs Company in Norfolk, NE. The cost was prohibitive.

The design of the church sign was prayerfully considered for a long time before we began building. The triangle in both the church sign and the bell tower signifies the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The triangle is also the strongest structure known to man.

Of course, we all know what the cross that dominates the very peak of the church sign and bell tower signifies.

God's numbers -- 3, 4, 7, and 12 -- are used extensively throughout both the church sign and bell tower. Both projects are constructed out of 7-by-7-inch square tube. A little overkill, but it is the number 7 that is significant.

The excessive height of both projects is to make us look heavenward, and so the cross will be lifted high.

Here are a few numbers from both projects:

Overall height

- Church sign - 27 feet
- Bell tower - 32 feet

Length of legs

- Church sign - 7 feet
- Bell tower - 21 feet

Leg width

- Church sign - 7 feet
- Bell tower - 70 inches (inside)

The upper part of both projects -- triangle and cross -- are about the same on both projects:

- Length of triangle leg - about 7 feet center to center
- Width of cross - 43 inches
- Height of cross - 61 inches (it is hard to determine where the cross begins)

Originally the plan was to include the bell in the church sign, but to do so would have caused the bell to be inoperative. This was not acceptable for a bell that had rang for our congregation for more than 100 years in the original church building. We wanted it to ring again!

Our bell happens to be brass, cast in the early 1880s by the Buckeye Bell Foundry in Cincinnati, OH. It weighs nearly 600 pounds. Since it was cast about 20 years before our 1903 original church building was constructed, we surmise that it was bought secondhand. We have no record of when it was actually installed at the original church building. It could have even been in the building that preceded the original church building. No one remembers.

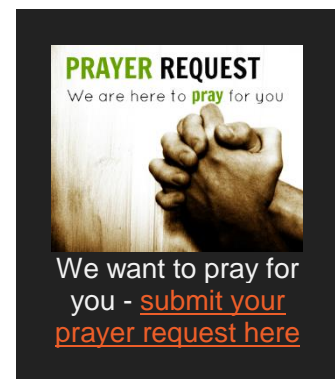
We appreciate the help of Andy Kuehler of Artec on the east edge of Clay Center, along Highway 14, who gave us much advice and aided us in getting and cutting the steel needed for both the church sign and the bell tower. We also thank T&L Irrigation, especially Chance Crawford and Bob Olson, for galvanizing both projects so that we do not have to paint them.

Doug Livgren, Elder of
[Clay Center Christian Church](#)

Upcoming Events



Our weekly Prayer Time has moved to Wednesdays -- everyone is welcome to join us at 10 am on **Wednesday, April 25** -- contact Peggy VonSpreckelsen at 402-469-3707





Guest speaker Luke Kliever of [Miriam's Hope](#), our April Mission of the Month, is giving a ministry update at 9:30 am and providing the sermon at 10:30 am on **Sunday, April 29**

-- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Help us honor our high school and college graduates at 10:30 am on **Sunday, May 6**

-- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Join us at 10:30 am this **Sunday, April 22**, as Pastor Kevin Whitmore continues the sermon series, "Esther: God Remembers You" -- listen to past sermons [here](#)

Ministry Team Leaders

The next Ministry Team Leader Meeting is **Sunday, April 22** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



The C4 Youth Group meets at 6:30 pm this **Sunday, April 22** -- contact Steven VonSpreckelsen at 402-469-1707 or svon2002@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER

appreciation lunch *May 6*



Join us for a Volunteer Appreciation Lunch following the worship service on **Sunday, May 6** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Celebrate Mother's Day with us and enjoy brunch at 9 am on **Sunday, May 13** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Come support the babies being dedicated to the Lord at 10:30 am on **Sunday, May 13** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Help us minister to the Sutton Community Home at 3:30 pm on **Sunday, April 29** -- contact Kevin Whitmore at 719-568-0154

Mission of the Month:



Located in Hastings, *Miriam's Hope* rebuilds families at risk of losing their children to foster care through a Christ-centered residential program

Read the [latest updates](#) from all the missions we support

3 Ways to Give

- In Person:**
put your offering in the plates on Sunday morning
- Online:**
give on a computer at www.cchristian.org/give
- On our App:**
search "ccchristian" download and give

Giving **online** is easy -- thank you for helping people to know and love Jesus!



[Online registration](#) is open for this year's

Pibel Bible Camp:

- * **June 1-2:** Grades 1-2
- * **June 3-7:** Grades 5-6
- * **June 10-15:** Grades 9-12
- * **June 17-20:** Grades 3-4
- * **June 24-29:** Grades 7-8

Early bird registration is due **Monday, May 14** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org



Mark your calendar for our all-day VBS at Manna Camp: **July 23-26** -- contact the church office at 402-762-3824 or office@ccchristian.org
