

March

Chili Cook-Off



Children's Church



Neil Jeffreys and his crew of helpers set up chairs for Children's Church and the 4th & 5th Grade students. They meet on the first and third Sunday of each month.



Ice Camp - Jr. High



Twenty-seven kids and chaperones traveled to Michigan for Ice Camp. Leader, Jordan McKinsey led the group in prayer before leaving.



Our annual chili cook-off took place on March 15. The winners this year: 1st place-Ken Hall; 2nd and 3rd place-Brian Buchanan . . . but he was not the judge. The judges were Shelby Edwards, Scott Edwards, Jason Albritton and Anna Albritton. The Local Outreach (LO) team sponsors the cook-off.

Baptism



Zach Puck made his confession of faith and was baptized on March 22 by his friend and mentor, Wes Crump.

Sunday Worship Services

Morning Worship 9 am-10 am
J.A.M. (ages 3 - PreK) every Sunday
K-3 Children's Church; 4-5th grades 1st & 3rd Sunday
Communion served 4th Sunday
Sunday School 10:30-11:15 am

Youth Groups

Wednesdays
Jr. High 6:00 pm | Sr. High 7:30 pm

Pastoral Staff

Andy Huette, Sr. Pastor
Grant Stauter, Associate Pastor

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CHRIST COMMUNITY

CHURCH OF GRIDLEY

April 2015

Dear Church Family,

A few weeks ago, three men from our Church Leadership Council traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend a "9Marks Weekender" conference. 9Marks is a ministry dedicated to building healthy churches, so the weekend was jam-packed with the opportunity for our leaders to participate in and observe an elders meeting, new members classes, worship services, ministry seminars, a members meeting, and staff meetings. The group came back with dozens of ideas for how we can improve ministry at Christ Community in the days ahead. As Grant Stauter was filling me in on the weekend, he commented that he was impressed with many areas of the ministry at Capitol Hill Baptist Church, the home church of 9Marks, but there was one small take-away that stuck out to him: Though there were 950 members in the church, and hundreds in attendance at the members' meeting and worship services, they all seemed to know each other's names. It was a big church, yet it felt like a small family.

"... growing churches can easily become a place of drive-thru spirituality where individuals miss out on the richness of the fellowship of believers."

A close-knit family culture in a church of almost a thousand members doesn't happen coincidentally. Rather, the church has prioritized loving one another well and has intentionally sought to cultivate relationships over time. The elders of the church regularly visit with members and pray through their church directory, new members are introduced to the congregation through a variety of means, and church members frequently share meals together. Without intentionality, growing churches can easily become a place of drive-thru spirituality where individuals miss out on the richness of the fellowship of believers.

There are thousands of ways to invest in the church family, but there are two simple steps that each of us can take immediately to contribute to the health of the family at Christ Community. First, if you have not done so already, please consider getting your photo taken for the church directory. We've tried to make the directory as simple as possible by regularly having a camera set up in the west foyer for new additions. You can utilize the directory on a Sunday morning before church to learn a new name, after church to remember the name that you've forgotten, or as a means of praying for the church family. Simply access the directory at the church website using the password "*****". Most of all, as you learn the names of others, make an effort during coffee fellowship to branch out and form new friendships in the church family.

Secondly, I want to urge you to sign up for One Another Meals

At Home which will now be occurring quarterly in the homes of various church members. You can sign up at the table located in the main foyer and you will be contacted once a quarter by a meal host. Then you'll gather together with eight to ten others from the church for dinner. Each quarter, names will be reshuffled so that over time you'll get to know a number of different people in the church family of various ages and interests. We'll have childcare available at the church during the meals and your host will also assign you a dish to bring so that everyone chips in on the meal to make the evening as simple as possible. Don't worry about trying to pull off a fancy dish you saw on Food Network or making

sure that your home is impeccably clean if you're hosting. Our goal is not to impress, but to love one another well.

My hope is that with some intentional, yet simple efforts, our church family can be strengthened and that, if the Lord sees fit to grow Christ Community, it will still feel like home.

Grace and Peace,
Andy

Inside this newsletter
Pastor Andy's Letter
Ministries to:
Children, Students, Adults
Milestones/Attendance
March Photos
Insert
Upcoming Events
News & Photos

When	One Another Meals At Home
Where	April 26, August 9, and November 8, 2015, 5-7 pm At the homes of Christ Community members and friends.
Why	To form new friendships and strengthen our church family.
Who	Everyone who attends Christ Community is welcome.
How	Each meal/gathering will include 8-10 people.
Childcare	The host will prepare the main course and will contact others in the group to bring side dishes.
Sign Up	Provided at church for children 5th grade & younger. When you sign-up, list your kids' names and ages. Easter Sunday April 5 during Coffee Fellowship. See Denise Benedict with questions.

"Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor." Romans 12:10 ESV

One Another



Children's Ministries

... tell the next generation
the praiseworthy
deeds of the LORD...
Psalm 78:4

Christ Community Church is committed to teaching the next generation the glorious deeds of the Lord. It's important to us that our youth ministries supplement, but not supplant, the God-ordained role of parents in instructing children in the ways of the Lord.

It is also important that we provide a safe and secure environment for children entrusted in our care during the course of our ministry work. We seek to be diligent in finding trusted adults to care for our children while at Christ Community Church. Any adult working in a ministry or church event who has direct oversight for any child under the age of 18 years of age is required to consent to and pass a background screening.

Little Lambs Pre-School



Enrollment for the 2015-16 Little Lambs school year is open. Contact Stacy Ludy if interested in enrolling your 3, 4, or 5 year old child.

Little Lambs Preschool exists to support families in the growth and development of children ages 3-5. Attention is placed on all aspects of child development. This includes learning and development in the areas of:

- Spiritual Growth
- Physical/Motor Development
- Cognitive Development
- Social/Emotional Development

Children are taught from a Christian Biblical worldview perspective. Children learn through play and teaching experiences that are developmentally appropriate and Christ-centered.

Please contact Stacy Ludy, Little Lambs Preschool Director, with questions: 309-747-2778 or 309-310-7186.

COMING UP:
April 9 **Family Night**
5:30-7:30 pm
May 19 **Circus**
6:00 pm
May 22 **Last day of school**

Sunday Mornings

Under Preschool Age

Nursery care is provided during the Sunday morning worship service and during Sunday School. The nursery is available for infants up to preschool age.

There is also a "cry room" available for mothers with babies located behind the sanctuary which allows mothers to see and hear into the sanctuary from a private space.

Kelly Mool serves as our nursery coordinator.



Preschool Age

JAM (Jesus and Me) is for preschool-age children. They meet every Sunday morning during the 9 a.m. worship service. JAM includes singing, Bible teaching, Scripture memory, and other activities intended to foster joyful worship among our children. Becky Roth serves as our JAM coordinator.

Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Children's Church meets on the first and third Sundays of each month. Children from K through 3rd grades meet from 9-10 a.m. where they learn from the Bible, pray together, and sing joyfully to the Lord. Children's Church offers an age-appropriate, easily understandable worship service. John Krone coordinates Children's Church.

The **4th and 5th grades** also meet at 9 a.m. on the first and third Sundays each month. They meet with Children's Church for Praise & Worship and then go to a separate classroom with adult leaders who lead them small group discussions centered on living Biblically at school and at home. Heather Gentes leads the 4th & 5th grades.

Kids & Adults

Our **Sunday School** offers classes for all ages at 10:30. An adult early bird class at 8:30 meets periodically. Nursery is provided for children not yet in preschool. Sunday School follows the local school calendar and provides an opportunity to grow in knowledge of God's Word. Each Spring, we offer a 4-week book study for adults to read and discuss during School School.

Youth Groups

Jr. High Youth Group

Our **Junior High** (6th, 7th, and 8th grades) meets on Wednesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. Students are instructed in Biblical truths and how to apply them to everyday life. The time of learning and worship is followed by activities such as dodgeball, kickball, and a host of other games. The Jr. High is led by Jordan McKinsey and Seth Foor.



Val Winterland cooks dinner every Wednesday so the Jr. High kids have a meal before Youth Group begins.

Sr. High Youth Group

Our **Sr. High** meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm. Our student-led band leads worship and one of the adult leaders teaches. Small groups also meet regularly with our leaders. The Sr. High is led by Danny Kaupp and Jordan Krone.



Seth and Jordan also teach Jr. High Sunday School.



2015 Battle of the Sexes: Girls Rule!

Thanks Marqui Krone for the photo.



Danny Kaupp shares teaching responsibilities with Jordan Krone for the Sr. High on Wednesdays.

April Birthdays

- 01 Anne Wettstein
- 04 Bonnie Sherrill
- 05 Dax Gentes
- 06 Abigail Kelly
- 06 Erica Rosenberger
- 07 Brier Meiss
- 09 Jim Mallory
- 09 Juno Zeller
- 11 Alyie Roth
- 14 Jill Stauter
- 18 Colton Kelly
- 19 Tonya Krone
- 20 Alissa McKinsey
- 20 Eliza Meiss
- 22 Abby Huetter
- 26 Marilee Wenger
- 27 Dusti Palmer
- 30 Sydney Hall

Anniversaries

- 12 Dennis & Bonnie Sherrill
- 20 Steve & Mary Carls
- 28 Jordan & Marqui Krone

Attendance & Offering

3/1	201	\$ 7,342
3/8	209	\$ 6,690
3/15	308	\$ 8,045
3/22	327	\$17,249
3/29	227	\$ 9,199

Adults

Men's Ministry

Men gather on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 7 a.m. for breakfast, fellowship and to study God's Word. This ministry provides a comfortable place for men to grow in their faith and understanding of Christ's teaching. They've discussed topics such as integrity, work, perseverance, devotion, prayer, worship, fatherhood, marriage, and other disciplines of a Godly walk.

Grant Stauter and Tim Johnson lead the men's ministry.



Women's Ministry

Women have a variety of areas to get involved to learn and serve at Christ Community. We have Bible Studies and small groups; special occasions like the Ladies Tea coming up in May; serving church dinners and other meals.

Please see Susan Laiming or Denise Benedict with questions and new ideas.



Susan Laiming, Carrie Dixon, Susan Johnson and Linda Hartzler are planning "Apron Strings" to be held on May 2. RSVP to the office at 309-747-2299.

Mother-Daughter Luncheon

Apron Strings

Saturday, May 2
11:00 am
All ladies are invited.