

Easter Celebrations

We celebrated Easter with an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, two worship services and Coffee Fellowship on Sunday.

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
406 W 7th Street, PO Box 280, Gridley, IL 61744 Phone 747-2299 www.christ-cc.org

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

Pastoral Staff
Andy Huette, Sr. Pastor
Grant Stauter, Associate Pastor

Dear Church Family,

This month we will begin the process of identifying, nominating, training and installing elders to lead and oversee the ministry at Christ Community Church. The groundwork for this transition was put into place last January when the revised constitution was approved, and now it is time for us to begin the process. Below is an outline of the process which will be used to establish qualified elders to lead the church.

1. **Nominations (5/3-5/24):** This month nominations will be taken for the office of elder. All church members are encouraged to make nominations of men who are pastoral leaders in the congregation. Nominations can be made on the Nomination Form available at the Welcome Center and also in the bulletin. Attached to the nomination form will be a document entitled "Who Should Be Nominated to Be an Elder?" which will be helpful in discerning the biblical qualifications for eldership. You may nominate more than one candidate and you may nominate yourself, since those who serve as elders must "aspire" to service (1 Tim 3:1).

2. **Nominees Contacted (End of May):** The Leadership Council will receive all nominations, and those who received more than three nominations will be contacted and asked to prayerfully consider whether or not they aspire to serve as an elder. The names of nominees will be kept confidential at this time in order to afford each nominee the opportunity to confidentially evaluate his calling.

3. **Nominees Evaluated (Summer):** Nominees who confirm their desire to serve as elders will begin meeting over the summer in a group that I will lead through the "Gospel Eldership" workbook by pastor, Bob Thune. The workbook is a helpful tool in self-evaluation, spouse evaluation (if applicable), and peer evaluation in one's calling to eldership.

4. **Nominee Training (Fall):** After completing the Gospel Eldership self-evaluation and discussion group, those who desire to continue pursuing eldership will be given various opportunities to train in pastoral ministry including reading materials relevant to individual strengths and weaknesses and guided ministry experiences.

5. **Congregation Informed of Elder Candidates (December):** In December, the Leadership Council will determine which elder candidates to bring forth for a vote of approval at the Annual Meeting in January of 2016 by the congregation. The congregation will be informed of elder candidates and each candidate will be asked to share a testimony of his faith and calling to lead with the church family. As required in the church constitution, all el-

der candidates must be announced a minimum of 30 days prior to a vote for their approval so that if there remains any reason as to why the elder candidate is not qualified to serve, members can make such reservations known to the Church Leadership Council in writing.

6. **Vote:** At the Annual Meeting in January 2016, elder candidates receiving a 2/3 vote of approval from the congregation will begin serving a three-year term in the office of elder. In accordance with the church constitution, the elders will work along with the current Church Leadership Council until a minimum of three non-staff elders are installed, at which point the Church Leadership Council will be dissolved.

7. **Commissioned Into Service:** Soon after an elder is approved by vote of the congregation, he will be commissioned into service through prayer and the laying on of hands in a Sunday morning worship service (Acts 13:3, 2 Tim. 1:6).

As we saw in Acts 13 last month, the church in Antioch was clearly led when "The Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart Paul and Barnabas for the mission to which I've called them.'" My hope is that the Lord will very clearly lead us in this nomination process so that we have a strong sense of unity and assurance about the calling and qualifications of those will lead the church as elders. Please join me in praying for God's clear leading in this exciting process!

*Grace and Peace,
Andy*

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 - Milestones/Attendance
 - Easter Photos

Name Change To-Do's



Our new sign was installed on April 15.

- New logo
- Signage
- Website updated to Christ-cc.org
- New Facebook page

In progress:
Remembering to say, "Christ Community Church"
New website design
New email addresses

We'll keep you posted as changes are made!

April was a month for pictures

Little Lambs Family Night



Puppies and Guppies was the Veggie Tale theme at the Little Lambs Family night on April 9. The lesson was based on *Luke 16:10*: you must prove you can be faithful with small things (like owning a guppy) before being given responsibility with big things (like owning a puppy). Thank you to

the many volunteers who helped make the evening a blessing for the 25 families attending.

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much." Luke 16:10 ESV

Pancake Day



Our 60th Annual Pancake & Sausage Day was held April 11. We served around 355 people. Proceeds will benefit Salem4Youth in rural Flanagan.

One Another Meals *In Homes*

Our first **One Another Meal *In Homes*** took place on April 26. Of the 179 people who are signed up (so far), 143 people got together on April 26 at 15 host homes.

Richard and Carol Ritter took charge of child-care. They had 11 Sr. and Jr. High helpers and watched 38 kids!

Our next meals in 2015 are on August 9 and November 8. Call our coordinator, Denise Benedict, if you didn't get signed up but want to be at the next meal: 747-3299.

Thank you to our childcare workers:

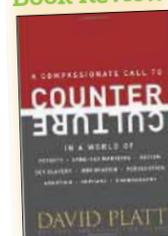
- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Richard & Carol Ritter | Nick Parkhouse |
| Maddie Morrison | Alec Ihlenfeldt |
| Shelby Edwards | Addison Benedict |
| Gracie Feeny | Emma Winterland |
| Tanner Benedict | Hannah Ludy |
| Max Foor | Carlee Stoller |
| Zack Puck | |



The group that met at Dave and Chris Zeller's home took time out for a group selfie. Thanks Bob Wettstein!

Counter Culture: A Compassionate Call to Counter Culture in a World of Poverty, Same-Sex Marriage, Racism, Sex ...

Book Review



"In a world where everything revolves around yourself—protect yourself, promote yourself, comfort yourself, and take care of yourself—Jesus says, 'Crucify yourself. Put aside all self-preservation in order to live for God's glorification, no matter what that means for you in the culture around you.'—Platt (p.xiv)

The newest endeavor by David Platt, the best-selling author of *Radical*, is titled *Counter Culture*. In this book, Platt attempts to tie the truth of the Gospel to many of today's hot button social issues such as poverty, immigration, same-sex marriage, racism, sex slavery, and abortion. A difficult task to say the least, but Platt's ability to use Scripture to directly connect the Gospel to modern western culture is up to the challenge.

It is clear from the beginning that Platt's biggest concern is inaction. His fear is that we (as Christians) are standing on the sidelines hoping these problems resolve themselves instead of being actively engaged in meaningful change. We are allowing political parties, news outlets, and popular culture to influence our thought process instead of being grounded in the words

of Christ. Platt's point is that we are either apathetic or afraid to proclaim the message that only Jesus provides a transformational difference on any social problem. This brought to mind Galatians 1:10 which says, *"For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."*

This book is clearly written with the younger generation in mind but is still a call to anyone who desires to make progressive change in the culture of now. *Counter Culture* forces readers to think about difficult topics and delicate subject matter that will many times leave one feeling guilty or ashamed of previous viewpoints. I found the action plan at the end of each chapter that gives us specific prayers and specific Scriptures essential to clarifying thoughts that I was wrestling with.

—Cory Deckard



Cory is shown here with his daughter, Reese.

May Birthdays

- 01 Teron Fairchild
- 05 Susan Buchanan
- 05 Stacy Ludy
- 06 John Krone
- 08 Cory Cooper
- 08 Max Foor
- 11 Sydney Butikofer
- 11 Todd Palmer
- 12 Paige DeVary
- 14 Cari Schultz
- 15 Brady Sanders
- 19 Collin Buchanan
- 19 Marcia Mool
- 20 Addison Benedict
- 21 Linda Hartzler
- 21 Noah Ludy
- 23 Scott Edwards
- 23 Grant Stauter
- 24 Ian Hall
- 25 Tony Palmer
- 25 Calvin Riggs
- 26 Micah Meiss
- 27 Brad Neal
- 28 Jaykob Kiefer
- 28 Jessica Kiefer
- 29 Logan Mallory
- 31 Mattie Buchanan

Anniversaries

- 04 Kathy & Tom Hany
- 15 Trent & Erin Kaupp
- 16 John & Pat McKey
- 17 Neal & Katie Jeffreys
- 18 Melvin & Ruth Grace
- 27 Michael & Janet Rosenberger
- 28 Todd & Jennifer Morrison
- 29 Charles & Marsha Albritton
- 31 Ron & Marcia Mool
- 31 Brent & Traci Kelly

Attendance & Offering

4/5	#1 240	\$ 8,526
	#2 219	
4/12	295	\$ 8,682
4/19	313	\$ 7,858
4/26	333	\$12,962

GET READY FOR SUMMER READING!

Check out *Counter Culture* and other books from our library. Choose from topics like Spiritual Growth, Missions, Prayer, and Family. We also have a growing Children's section.

