

Sept

Sunday School



Sunday School started on September 13. Classes from top clockwise: 2nd/3rd grade, Sr. High, PreK, and Two Ways to Live adult class.

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 Sundays

Communion served 4th Sunday

Sunday School 10:30-11:15 am

Youth Groups

Wednesdays

Jr. High 5:30 pm Jordan McKinsey, leader

Sr. High 7:30 pm Danny Kaupp, leader

Pastoral Staff

Andy Huette, Sr. Pastor

Grant Stauter, Associate Pastor

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

Prayer



The church family gathered to pray for Dyllan Palmer who left for Air Force Basic Training in September. Dyllan is in the center wearing the red vest.

Little Lambs



3 yr old class



4 yr old class

Little Lambs' first day of school was September 8.

Harvest Party!

Friday, October 30

6-8 pm

Costumes

Adults and children are invited to dress up in friendly costumes!

Food

6-7:30 Light dinner for the whole family

Fun Activities

Games, hayrack rides, giant inflatables!

Treats & Volunteers Needed!

We need cookies, cakes, LOTS of candy! Please bring candy any time in October.

Sign Up

In October to volunteer and to bring cookies and cake.

Questions? See Jonna Strauch.



CHRIST COMMUNITY

CHURCH OF GRIDLEY
October 2015

Inside this newsletter

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Dear Church Family,

Occasionally, I am asked questions about who should participate in the Lord's Supper. Most commonly, the question is asked by parents whose children regularly try to snag some bread and a cup as they are passed. Others, who rightly do not want to make light of communion, have asked about what it means to examine oneself prior to partaking. A brief newsletter hardly plumbs the depths of such an important part of Christian experience. Nevertheless, I want to offer three points of instruction that may help you in understanding your—or your child's—participation in the Lord's Supper.

First, the Lord's Supper is an ordinance. There are two ordinances from the Lord—baptism and communion—which are acts ordered by him as means of signifying one's covenant of faith. Sometimes the word "sacrament" is used to describe the Lord's Supper because the Latin word *sacramentum* was used by early church fathers to mean "mystery," and the Lord's Supper ultimately points to the mysterious union of one with Christ by faith. Most Protestant churches, however, shy away from using the term "sacrament" to describe the Lord's Supper because of the Roman Catholic view that the sacraments are means of receiving God's grace, meaning that God's grace is conferred to the one who partakes simply through the act of partaking. While a Catholic who partakes may very well be a recipient of God's grace, there are numerous Scriptures stating that God's grace is received *through faith*, not through the work of partaking in the Lord's Supper (Eucharist). Thus, the ordinance of the Lord's Supper is a sign of the body and blood of Christ shed for the atonement of sins, which is received by faith in Jesus, not through our partaking in the elements.

Secondly, the Lord's Supper is a memorial of the covenant. When Jesus instituted the new covenant at the Lord's Supper, he said, "*Do this in remembrance of me.*" Jesus invites all of us into a covenantal relationship in which we receive his love, forgiveness, and promise of eternal presence. We enter into this relationship by repenting of sins and believing in Christ as Lord, which is signified in the act of baptism. In the covenant of marriage, the wedding is the public commitment to the covenantal relationship and anniversaries are celebrated to remember and to recommit to ongoing covenantal fidelity. In the same way, baptism signifies entrance into a covenant with Christ, and the Lord's Supper serves as a regular anniversary to remember that one belongs to Christ.

Just as people who are not married do not celebrate wedding anniversaries; neither should those who are not baptized celebrate the memorial of the covenant of grace. In short, parents who are wondering if their child should take the Lord's Supper should consider whether the child has participated in the ordinance of baptism, the sign of entry into the covenant.¹

Thirdly, the Lord's Supper is for sinners. We should take seriously 1 Cor. 11:28-29 which calls every believer to examine himself prior to participating in the Lord's Supper. Yet, in examining ourselves we must not think that if we have sinned we cannot partake. After all, the body and blood of Christ was given for us "*while we were yet sinners*" (Rom. 5:8). If we ever think we are good enough to partake in the Lord's Supper, it is at that point we have nullified the work of Christ on our behalf through our self-righteousness! To examine oneself is to confess one's sin, to remember that the elements represent Christ's body and blood, and to remember one's role in the "body of Christ," the church. The context of this warning comes in 1 Cor. 11 where Paul is rebuking the church for favoritism, segregation, and selfishness in the church family. To partake in an unworthy manner is to have unrepentant sin against others in the church or be in a state of mind in which little care is given to sacrifice of Christ. If prior to participating in communion, one is convicted of repentance that needs to occur with another person, it would be entirely appropriate to wait to partake, confess to the other person after church, and then partake in a worthy manner.

If what I've written above raised more questions than it answered please don't hesitate to contact me or Grant to discuss the Lord's Supper further.

Grace and Peace,
Andy

¹ In infant baptist traditions, confirmation is the means of an individual confirming a personal covenant of faith with Christ. In such traditions, one does not take first communion until confirmation has occurred. Since infant baptism is not practiced at Christ Community Church, those who have been confirmed are free to partake in the Lord's Supper, but those who have not been confirmed nor been baptized, should participate in baptism prior to partaking.

Christ Community's Youth Groups

Our Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups are led by part-time Youth Directors and supported by volunteer adult leaders. Jordan McKinsey leads Jr. High and Danny Kaupp leads Sr. High.

Sr. High: Letter from Danny

What's the purpose of life? Who is God? Who are we? God gives us the answers to these questions and more in the book of Genesis. While developing this year's plan, I asked myself the question, "What books of the Bible should all High School Students hear before they graduate?" Two books stood out right away: Genesis and Romans. These two books will be driving the 2015 Fall and Spring semesters. Needless to say, we are excited!



Danny & Courtney Kaupp

So who are your leaders? My name is Danny Kaupp, I will be serving as the Senior High Youth Director here at Christ Community. I have an all-star team comprised of my beautiful wife Courtney, and my close friends Jake Foor, Wes Crump, Marqui Krone, & Chris Zeller. Nothing brings us more joy than to see the next generation of Christ followers being raised up in the Church.

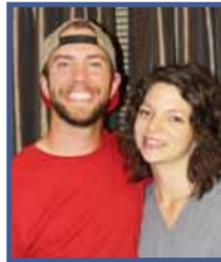
The last thing I would like to share is the key verses that have given our Youth Group its foundation. Ephesians 4:4-5, "Our Identity;" Acts 1:8, "Our Vision;" 1 Corinthians 9:19-23, "Our Task;" Proverbs 21:31, "Our Theme Verse;" Eph. 3:20-21, "Our Prayer". We truly believe that God can do more than we can imagine through the next generation of Christ followers!

All of these verses summarize "Our Heart" as a youth group which is to be "A Fruitful Branch of Christ Community Church, A Fruitful Branch of Christ".

—Danny Kaupp

Jr. High: Letter from Jordan

The Jr High Youth Group enjoyed a trip to Matthiessen State Park on July 24th and a trip to Pekin's Sunset Lanes on August 7th where they played laser tag and bowling. They officially began the semester with the "Annual Messy Kick-Off" on August 26th. It was a night filled with syrup, liquid butter, flour and over 1,000 eggs! The kids had a great time at the Messy Kick-Off and are excited to begin another semester of youth group.



Jordan & Alissa McKinsey

The leaders this year are Jordan and Alissa McKinsey, Seth Foor, Jonna Strauch, Bri Sanders, Max Foor and Rebekah McFarland.

Our youth group takes place on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:30pm at Christ Community Church with a meal provided every week. This semester we're traveling through the book of Ephesians and will be focusing on what it means to be united with Christ and how to live as followers of Jesus. The book of Ephesians begins by praising God for what he has given to those who believe (Eph 1:1-14). It goes on to talk about our position before God as sinners, in need of salvation (2:1-10), and in the last three chapters, Paul shows us how we should respond to the truths laid out in the first half of the letter: he tells us to "walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called" (4:1). Our hope is that these kids will see and savor Jesus Christ for who he is and what he's done and that this will motivate them to live for Jesus everyday.

We are on Facebook (Christ Community Church JHYG) and instagram (c3jhyg) so you can stay up-to-date on events and photos. —Jordan McKinsey

WHO IS JESUS? Jr. High Lock-In: October 16-17

The theme this year is "Who is Jesus?" They will dive into every aspect of who Jesus was and is. Using each of the Gospels, they'll talk about Jesus as *Promised King*, Jesus as *Suffering Servant*, Jesus as the *Son of Man*, Jesus as the *Son of God*.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 16th. Students should eat dinner first. The lock-in ends at 10 a.m. on Saturday morning. Snacks and breakfast will be provided.

Teachers and chaperones: Jordan and Alissa McKinsey, Seth Foor, Jonna Strauch, Bri Sanders, Max Foor, and Rebekah McFarland. Each student must have a permission slip from their parent or guardian. Permission slips are available at Youth Group or from Jordan.



Sydney Butikofer, Teron Fairchild, and Leah Denny are rehearsing before Sr. High Youth Group.

Christ Community's Church Adoption Fund

In 2011, we began an adoption fund for Christ Community families who wanted to adopt but found the financial cost to be a barrier. We partnered with Lifesong for Orphans who administers adoption plans for other churches too.



Lifesong administers the adoption fund for Christ Community. You can learn more about Lifesong at: lifesongfororphans.org

The Church Adoption Fund can be used to help with the costs of adoption, for post-adoption counseling and other orphan care.

Lifesong is not an adoption agency. Rather, they assist families in funding adoptions through matching-grants and interest-free loans. Because the demand for adoption assistance has been so great in recent years, Lifesong began setting up Church Funds to ensure that more financial assistance is available. In a Church Fund, Lifesong does all screening of interested families and makes a recommendation for how the Church can best financially assist the family.

The concept of adoption began with our Heavenly Father who adopts believers by faith in the work of His Son. Therefore, the physical adoption of orphans is a reflection of the spiritual adoption that believers receive from God. With over 147 million orphaned children worldwide, the need is great for children to not only have a family, but also receive the blessing of growing up in a Christian home. The Bible gives a clear mandate to care for orphans.

The Church Adoption Fund is the product of our "Beautiful Feet" core value which emphasizes making disciples of all nations. Partnering with Lifesong offers the added value of working with a local like-minded ministry.

The funds currently available for Christ Community families is \$5,584.36. Our Local Outreach team serves as Christ Community's adoption advocates.

The Hiding Place



"In World War II, Corrie ten Boom and her family risked their lives to help Jews escape from the Nazis, and their reward was a concentration camp. Only Corrie survived to tell the story of how faith triumphed over evil... a story that would touch the hearts of millions."

Women's Fellowship is hosting a book group that is reading *The Hiding Place*.

Women of all ages are invited on October 14 at 7 p.m. for discussion at church. There will be a separate activity for young ladies. Come with your daughters and granddaughters. Snacks and fellowship included!

On Saturday, November 7, a program featuring a woman who portrays Corrie, and tells her story, will be held at church with a brunch.

Reservations are needed for the November 7 program. All ladies are welcome even if you have not read the book.

Are All the Watches Safe? tells Corrie ten Boom's story for young readers. It's in our church library.

Join Our Holiday Choir

Everyone is welcome to join our choir. The choir will sing in our Thanksgiving and Christmas worship services. There will be five rehearsals and three performances with rehearsals before them. The schedule is below. Please see Tammy Sanders with questions.

Nov Rehearsals

Wed, 11/11 7-8:30 p.m.
Wed, 11/18 7-8:30 p.m.
Sun 11/22 9:30 a.m.

No Wed rehearsal the week of Thanksgiving.

Nov Performance

Sun 11/22 10:30 a.m.
Thanksgiving service

Dec Rehearsals

Wed 12/2 7-8:30 p.m.
Wed 12/9 7-8:30 p.m.
Wed 12/16 7-8:30 p.m.
Sun 12/20 8:15 a.m.
Thur 12/24 6:15 p.m.

Dec Performances

Sun 12/20 9:00 a.m.
Thur 12/24 7:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve service



... in the midst of the congregation,
I will praise you. Psalm 22:22

October Birthdays

- 1 Kris Bridgers
- 2 Seth Zeller
- 5 Kenny Kuerth
- 7 Eli Meiss
- 7 Kelly Mool
- 7 Guy Schultz
- 8 Daniel Erwin
- 8 Justin Palmer
- 8 Alan Schoppert
- 10 Steve Carls
- 10 Ella Cooper
- 10 Heather Gentes
- 10 Mercy Huette
- 10 Jordan Krone
- 10 Heidi Welsch
- 12 Eden Stauter
- 13 Joan Smith
- 14 Ron Mool
- 15 Sarah Meiss
- 16 Becky Roth
- 18 Kathy Yergler
- 22 Todd Morrison
- 23 Shelby Finck
- 23 Dyllan Palmer
- 23 Carolyn Raber
- 24 Erin Kaupp
- 25 Betty Hardman
- 26 Dennis Sherrill
- 30 Amanda Krone
- 31 Denise Benedict

Anniversaries

- 5 Guy & Cari Schultz
- 7 David & Chris Zeller
- 4 Chris & Heather Gentes
- 9 Tony & Tiffney Palmer
- 21 Jimmy & Kris Bridgers

September Birth

- 24 Creed Timothy Sanders
- Parents: Brandon, Cass Sanders
Grandparents: Tim, Tammy Sanders

Attendance & Offering

9/6	293	\$ 7,540
9/13	316	\$ 7,456
9/20	308	\$ 6,904
9/27	327	\$ 9,219

One Another Meals In Homes

Sunday, November 8 @ 5-7 pm
Denise Benedict, coordinator
Ph: 309-747-3299
Email: benedict@gridcom.net
Can't Come? Never Signed up?
Please contact Denise

