

January/February 2022



FIRST CHURCH OF GOD CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS

Grow in and Go with the Gospel of Jesus Christ

From the Desk of PK

“I am making everything new!” – Jesus, Revelation 21:5

Happy new year, church! God is the Author of new beginnings, and He has provided us with a new beginning to embrace with this year. While we are thankful for all God has done and how He has guided and provided in 2021, we must move on while building on His work. And, I believe there is going to be much good building in and through us this year!

We have no way of knowing all we will encounter this year, but we can trust God to work it all for our good and His glory as we faithfully and wholeheartedly seek and surrender to Him. We also know that He will never leave us or forsake us, and we will never encounter more than He can handle. He will equip and empower us as we faithfully trust Him. Praise God! I am excited to see all this year is going to include for us, and I look forward to growing in and going with the Gospel of Jesus Christ together throughout the year! In 2022, let's continue to fix our eyes on Jesus and spur one another on while welcoming others into our mix.

May your will be done in and through us, Lord!

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

Pastor Kevin Myers



Sunday Sermons

January is going to be a little bit of a mixed bag for Pastor Kevin's Sunday messages. Starting with a message piggybacked on the previous series ("Joy Story") titled "Joy in the Journey," Pastor Kevin is going to spend a couple weeks focused on the new year. Then there will be a stand alone message titled "Just Give Me Jesus." The month will likely end with a couple messages focused around parables in Matthew 25. These will connect back to messages to last summer ("The Kingdom of Heaven is Like _____") as we encounter descriptions Jesus gives for what His Kingdom will be like.

In February the plan currently is to start a long series focused on the book of Acts. If we want to be The First Church of God we are called to be there is no better model to look to and follow than the first church, whose beginning and spread is communicated in Luke's "Acts of the Apostles."

Jesus is the Subject! The Gospel is our Message!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Trip to Erie Sea Otters Game

Saturday, January 15th (7:00 start, leaving the church at 5:45 for anyone wanting to carpool, tell will call your name upon arrival, pay Pastor Kevin) Adults: \$14, Under 18 years old: \$12

Winter Blast at Whitehall Camp

Whitehall Camp and Conference Center will again be holding Winter Blast for students in February. This is always an amazing weekend full of fun and connection with both God and peers.

The dates for these events are:

7th-12th Grade: Feb. 4-6

3rd-6th Grade: Feb. 11-13

Payment and registration information will be announced after it is received from Whitehall.

Life in 6 Words/The Gospel

God created us to be with Him
Our sins separate us from God.
Sins cannot be removed by good deeds.
Paying the price for sin, Jesus died and rose again.
Everyone who trusts in Him alone has eternal life.
Life with Jesus starts now and lasts forever.

This acrostic is a helpful tool in remembering and sharing the essence of the Gospel message, which is spelled out from cover to cover of the Bible. Cards with it are available in the church lobby.



Happy Birthday

January

Mary Jo Humes	1st
Aleah Perry	4th
Brenda Wetsell	7th
Gustin Anderson	8th
Donna Davis	10th
Shirley Campbell	14th
Taryn Barnes	17th
Martha Spaid	28th
Justin DeArment	29th
Jessica Luna	29th
James Fullerton	29th

February

MaryCarol Karcher	7th
Lisa Harned	8th
Damien McClelland	8th
Anthony Lemanski	10th
Jessirae Manross	21st

Anniversary

February

Harry & Margie	
Donnell	5th
Jim & Donna Davis	14th

CHURCH DATE NIGHT

Calling all couples (dating, engaged, married, young, less young)! We are going to have a church date night on Saturday, February 26. As of now, the plan is to go out to eat and then enjoy a fun time at “5 Wits” inside the Millcreek Mall. Be looking and listening for more definitive plans and signup information as the date approaches.



MARCH MADNESS BRACKET CHALLENGE

In February we will have signups for our church’s “March Madness” Bracket Challenge, which incorporates picking winners in the NCAA Division 1 Men’s Basketball Tournament. Around twenty-five individuals participated in this last year, and Levi Whitney took home the big traveling trophy. Join in to see if you can snatch that trophy away from Levi!

GRIEF SHARE

The past couple years have been difficult, and many are grieving loss. God is still GOOD, and He wants to lovingly guide us through our loss and use us to comfort each other with the comfort He's given us (2 Corinthians 1:4). With this in mind, Grief Share will again be hosted in our facility **starting Saturday, Feb. 5**. This twelve-week guided group, featuring professionally done and very helpful videos and discussion, will be on Saturdays from 9:00-11:00. Registration for Grief Share can be done on griefshare.org. The cost of the accompanying book is \$20, but the church can help with that cost for anyone in need. If this is not for you, please

GROWTH STUDY FOR COUPLES

(MARRIED & ENGAGED):

“THE ART OF MARRIAGE”

Marriage, ordained God, is the foundation of a family, and families are the foundation of society. We simply cannot expect to foster healthy families fulfilling God’s design without healthy marriages that are centered on and driven by God and His design. I, Pastor Kevin, desire for our church to be a family full of individual godly families that are connecting with each other and spurring on effectiveness in each other. We need to be welcoming to families while setting good examples for incoming families. Furthermore, our marriages will not grow if we are not investing in them. Considering all this and the reality that no marriage is ever perfect, I find it important to provide resources for marital and family growth.

Family Life’s “The Art of Marriage” has been helping to strengthen marriages (97% of participants recommend it) in God’s design for decades, and it is now offered in a small group series. This series is described as a “biblically centered study of God’s design for marriage,” and it includes over 40 expert teachers. The description also says this, “In The Art of Marriage, we weave together biblically-centered teaching, real-life stories, humorous vignettes and more to portray both the challenges and the beauty of God's design.” As the creators of this series say, “Marriage, the way God intended it to be, is a true art form.” All married and engaged couples are invited and encouraged to become better at this art form by taking part in this **six-week series on Thursdays at 6:00 starting February 17**. The weekly sessions include group discussion and couple's projects during weekly dates. Couples who can do so are asked to pay \$15 (40% off) for workbooks. **Please signup by February 6** to ensure we have enough workbooks.



Growth Study



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUN-

While it is only January/February, time for the community VBS this summer will be here before we know it! Even with a very short planning time, we had an amazing and impactful VBS week last year. This year we lessen the stress and provide an even better experience by planning farther in advance. To do that we need commitment from volunteers lined up. Please contact the church office, Pastor Kevin, or Sarah Myers if you are interested in volunteering in any capacity. Also be looking for a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the church hallway and an online signup opportunity. You will not regret serving in this ministry!

BAPTISM

Have you said yes to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of your life but have not followed His instruction to testify to this through baptism? If that is you or if you have questions regarding baptism, you are encouraged to talk with Pastor Kevin about taking this important step in your relationship with Christ. We will be having a time of baptism on Easter Sunday. However, we can always have one sooner if individuals would like.

CHILD DEDICATION

Parents, please talk with Pastor Kevin if you have a baby/child you would like to publicly dedicate to the Lord while also promising to raise your child in a godly fashion. The church would love to publicly declare our support and pray over you and your child during a worship service.

SUNDAY MORNING GROWTH STUDIES

Did you know that we have a few growth studies that meet on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30? The leaders of these are: David and Kathy Perry, Jr. and Margie Donnell, and Martha Spaid. We also have such a gathering available for children during this time. Be looking for a possible addition to this in coming months using videos on apologetics and discussion led by Pastor Kevin.

Growth Study

Jesus is the Subject! The Gospel is our Message!

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed

Praise God, we have had around fifteen elementary students involved in our Jr. Church activities recently! Several of these children have been new with our church, too. We want to provide quality and enjoyable instruction for these children, which is already being done. We also want to provide an atmosphere that is equipped for growth in number of students. Quality instruction and growth potential will both be grown when our number of children's ministry volunteers grows. Yes, a few more teachers are needed to make our vision for these valuable children during this time reality. However, a person (teenager, man or woman, younger or older) does not need to teach to volunteer, as other duties would be helpful. With a team of individuals, you also would not need to volunteer every week. Please talk with Sarah Myers if you would like to discuss a way you can help with this very important ministry.



CMA'S WILD GAME DINNER



March 5 at 5:00

Tickets: \$15 and \$10 for those under 10

Call the CMA office at 814-398-2542 to get tickets.

ACTIVITIES CENTER RENOVATION PLANS

The proposal to obtain funds for doing needed improvements to and around the church's activities center was passed by a wide margin during November's annual church business meeting. Now we get to see how God is going to provide! Plans are now being worked on for where we will obtain funds and for scheduling the work. You can expect to hear an update to plans in the coming months, including in the next church newsletter when it will be focused on. These plans will include a time of prayer and a dinner, likely held in the spring, in which we will talk about our vision and commit to giving toward this endeavor. Please be in prayer over these developments and how God may use you to financially contribute toward these improvements.



Schedules For January/February

NURSERY —

Jan 2nd	Lisa Harned, Finley Rauscher
Jan 9th	Mollie Yanc, Madison Yanc
Jan 16th	Barb Royer, Madison Royer
Jan 23rd	Lisa Harned, Finley Rauscher
Jan 30th	Mollie Yanc, Madison Yanc
Feb 6th	Barb Royer, Madison Royer
Feb 13th	Lisa Harned, Finley Rauscher
Feb 20th	Mollie Yanc, Madison Yanc
Feb 27th	Barb Royer, Madison Royer

PRAISE TEAM-

Jan 2nd	Kim, Madison, Mollie, Makenzie
Jan 9th	Margie, Makenzie, Finley
Jan 16th	Kim, Madison, Mollie, Finley
Jan 23rd	Margie, Makenzie, Finley
Jan 30th	Kim, Madison, Mollie, Makenzie
Feb 6th	Margie, Makenzie, Finley
Feb 13th	Kim, Martha, Madison, Molly
Feb 20th	Margie Makenzie, Finley
Feb 27th	Kim, Martha, Madison, Mollie

JUNIOR CHURCH—

Jan 2nd—	Tentatively Sarah Myers
Feb 27th	

SOUNDBOOTH —

Jan 2nd	Ken Hurst, Hunter Spaid
Jan 9th	Clint Rauscher, Aiden Rauscher
Jan 16th	Kevin Whitney, Hunter Spaid
Jan 23rd	Ken Hurst, Hunter Spaid
Jan 30th	Clint Rauscher, Aiden Rauscher
Feb 6th	Kevin Whitney, Hunter Spaid
Feb 13th	Ken Hurst, Hunter Spaid
Feb 20th	Clint Rauscher, Aiden Rauscher
Feb 27th	Kevin Whitney, Hunter Spaid



CALENDAR 2022

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11 NOVEMBER						
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Pastor Kevin Myers



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE