



FIRST CHURCH OF GOD CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS

Grow in and Go with the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Activities Center Renovation: “Bettering the Bridge” Pledge Campaign Activities & Dates

We are moving forward! Come this fall our activities center, which is a wonderful bridge to our community, will receive a much-needed facelift. This will enable it to be preserved in good shape and to continue being an effective tool of ministry and community interaction. I, Pastor Kevin, hope you find this exciting!

Details have been finalized for the loan we are receiving from Mercer County State Bank, a loan that was sought and set in place before interest rates recently went up. Now we must bind together and plan for paying this loan back as efficiently as possible, meeting the goal of paying back this twenty-year loan within five years. Yes, this appears to be a big task, especially in the face of our country’s current inflation situation, but we have a HUGE and RESOURCEFUL God! This is no task for Him, especially when we bind together in prayerful dependence upon Him while sacrificially and faithfully giving toward this need. Personally, I am excited to see how God is going to provide as we partner together to work toward this goal of having an updated, welcoming, safe, and energy efficient space that is paid off as we faithfully trust Him. I expect Him to multiply our giving, grow our faith and unity, and even surprise us. Will you join in this journey with prayer and participation?

We have some important events regarding our building renovation preparedness **everyone needs to be aware of and everyone needs to plan on attending.**

Sunday, May 22: First Fruits Offering during the worship service – Before making a three year giving pledge individuals and families can make a one time offering beyond your regular tithes toward this project on this day.

Sunday, May 22: Prayer Gathering in/around the Activities Center— Following the worship service we will spend some time praying collectively and individually over the building, the project, God’s provision, ministries and activities within the building and pavilion (which is also being cemented), etc. We must ground who we are and everything we do in prayer, including a renovation project. **Therefore, this is a vital gathering, and your participation is needed.**

Sunday, June 5: Campaign Banquet following the worship service – We will gather in the Activities Center for a catered meal. We will also have a guest speaker who is well accustomed to successful church building projects, Pastor Ken Hough from Watson Run Church of God. Finally, we will write amounts we pledge to give beyond our regular tithes/offerings toward this project over a three-year

(Continued on the next page.)

timespan. Even if you do not make a pledge, this gathering will be beneficial for everyone to receive information and be on the same page.

Saturday, Sept. 24: 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament Fundraiser – Pastor Kevin is planning to organize and run a 3 on 3 basketball tournament fundraiser as the last event in the Activities Center before renovations begin. This will be a way to notify the community, which uses our facility very much, of our project while providing a good community event. The goal would be to have at least twenty teams and to raise at least \$1,500. We may then have another such event in subsequent years, likely in the spring.



Pastor Kevin is going to have various emphases in Sunday messages over the coming months. May is going to start with a message titled “May I?” on God’s will. While interrupted by a guest speaker’s amazing testimony on May 15, he will then focus for a few weeks on godly giving. The summer months, which likely will include a guest speaker, are being developed around either/or a theme or a particular book of the Bible. By the end of the time this newsletter covers our Sunday messages will likely be covering the book of Acts and how we must follow the first church’s example if we strive to be the CS First Church of God within God’s design.



How about the wonderful performance our children gave us singing and dancing to the song “O Happy Day” on Easter?! Our church is blessed with amazing children! The number of children in our midst is growing, too. For example, on one recent Sunday morning we had 84 people in attendance with 22 of them being in elementary school or younger. Praise God for such an awesome ratio! As a church, we must be providing quality care for and connection with our children. We must be welcoming to young families while coming alongside them and helping them disciple their children. In order to do this we are going to be working toward some goals, including the following:

- ♦ Drywalling the nursery and updating the decorations in it
- ♦ Providing matching laminate flooring in the nursery and current children’s ministry room (likely not until next year for the second room)
- ♦ Removing the barrier between the current children’s ministry room and the kitchen to provide the children with more space
- ♦ Splitting children into two age groups in junior church on Sunday morning, which **requires at least a couple more committed volunteers.**
- ♦ Having a children’s class at 9:30 on Sunday morning, which also **requires another volunteer.**

SPRING/SUMMER SERVING SATURDAYS

Spring/summer serving Saturdays are back in 2022! Here are upcoming dates and details that are currently known. Please be looking and listening for more information in bulletins, announcements, etc. Much participation will be needed to make these efforts a success.

May 7 at 8:00: Borough Cleanup Day – Cleaning items out of the church

May 14 at 9:00: Cambridge Cemetery

June 11 & (likely) 18: Drywalling the church nursery, painting the “conference room,” putting blinds up in those rooms, etc. – **Please sign up beforehand.**

Aug. 6: Car wash or serving a church/community member (Tell PK if you have or know of a need)

Aug. 13: CMA’s “Back to School Bash”

Sept. 10: Something with the schools or elsewhere (Tell PK if you have or know of a need)



CS TEACHERS APPRECIATION

Our teachers are invaluable in the lives of our children, families, and community! National Teacher Recognition Week is the first week of May. Our church is again going to have a teacher recognition drive thru on **Friday, May 6** at 7:00 a.m. Teachers will be encouraged to drive thru for donut holes, coffee, and prayer. **Everyone is welcome to help this effort and participate in showing our teachers love during this event.**



Sunday, May 8 (Mother's Day)

Child/parent dedication is an important action with significant biblical precedent that we have not done within the past couple years. Within this activity parents will bring children in front of the congregation for a prayer of blessing over their children while dedicating themselves to godly parenting. The congregation will also pledge to help the parents by holding them accountable and loving the children. Typically, parents bring babies for this, but older children are also welcome for dedication. **Please let Pastor Kevin know by Sunday, May 1 if you would like to participate.**

Jesus is our Subject! The Gospel is our Message!



SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS

Youth camps at Whitehall Camp & Conference Center in Emlenton are full of fun and impact! The church is committed to paying \$150 of the cost for each student in our church who attends, and anyone is welcome to financially contribute toward this very worthy cause. When registering on whitehall-camp.org, please say the church is paying the full amount and then pay the church your portion of the price. Scholarships are also available to help with your portion of the cost, so please ask Pastor Kevin if further assistance is needed. Here are the camp dates and prices:

Sr. High – June 12-17, \$240 until May 30, \$265 until June 10, \$300 after June 10

Jr. High – June 19-24, \$240 until May 30, \$265 until June 17, \$300 after June 17

3rd-6th grades – June 26-30, \$200 until May 30, \$225 until June 24, \$260 after

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

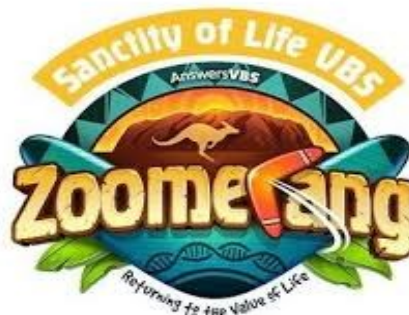
We will be honoring our high school and college graduates on **Sunday, June 5** during the worship service. Please let Pastor Kevin know by May 15 if you or a family member is graduating and information regarding this has not been received.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The Community VBS will be **20-24** for children ages 4 years old. This fantastic week of fun, fellowship, primarily take place at the Cambridge Church. The Friday evening fun night nival grounds or our church's facilities. lies will be offered a free supper at before VBS starts at 5:30. **Our**

providing supper on Wednesday evening, so please contact Sarah Myers if you can help with this. VBS volunteers are greatly needed for each evening, so please talk with Sarah about that as well. Starting May 1 children can be registered for VBS. The registration link and information will be posted on both our church website and Facebook page, as well as the CS Community pages.



taking place **June** through 6th grade. and faith growth will Springs First Baptist will either be in car-New this year, fami-5:00 each evening **church will be**

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE

Churches across Cambridge Springs will again be coming together for a combined worship service on **Sunday, June 26 at 11:00 in the high school auditorium**. We will be having a guest worship band and a guest speaker. Please plan on taking part in this slice of Heaven on earth!



MYERS ADOPTION FUNDRAISER MEAL

Following the community worship service on **June 26**, please plan on crossing Venango Ave. to our church Activities Center for a delicious meal benefiting the Myers family's adoption fund. Please be looking for other ways to support this fund as well in the coming months.



CHURCH OF GOD WPA MINISTRIES CAMP MEETING

WPA Ministries' Camp Meeting, with the theme "Pass the Faith Along," will be taking place at Whitehall Camp & Conference Center **July 17-24**. This week is filled with amazing opportunities for connection and growth for all ages. While several individuals in our church attend all week, everyone is encouraged to check out this amazing gathering by attending an evening worship service. More information can be found on wpamin.com and whitehallcamp.org.

CHURCH PICNIC

We are going to have a church picnic in and around our pavilion on **Sunday, July 31 from 4:00-7:00**. Please plan on attending this summer fun gathering and bring friends! Each family is asked to bring a covered dish or dessert. You are also encouraged to bring games for fun interaction.

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 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 10:23-25



MEN'S NIGHT

Calling all men 13 and older! We are going to have a men's night at the Spaid's pond on **Friday, August 19**. Activities will include but not be limited to the following: target shooting, disc golf, cornhole, campfire. Please be looking and listening for more information to be announced.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
John 10:10

CHURCH KAYAKING TRIP

Our area is blessed with French Creek, and we are going to explore part of it during a kayak trip on Saturday, August 28. Anyone is welcome to participate in this outing, but individuals under 13 years old must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Please be looking and listening for more information TBA.

Our Mission: Grow in & Go with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (The Great Commission)

CONNECT CARDS & PRAYER CALLS



We cannot connect well with each other if we do not have updated contact information. For several newer families we have no contact information, and our information for others is out of date. Whether you are newer to the church or you have been with us for decades, **please fill out the connect card on a bulletin and put it in one of the offering boxes located in the church lobby**. The connect card is also a good way to communicate praises and prayer requests, questions, and ways you would like to be involved. Please put prayer requests on the altar or give them to Pastor Kevin instead of putting them in an offering box.

Did you know our church uses a **phone messaging system** to communicate prayer requests and praises, along with occasional announcements and reminders? If you do not currently receive these messages and would like to, please indicate that on a communication card.



Our church has been **Share** over the past year, and blessed to host two seasons of **Grief** close to two dozen individuals grieving a loss have been blessed through it. We are again going to be hosting this wonderful ministry of healing community this fall. Grief Share, facilitated by Stacey Walbridge, will be taking place in our facility on Thursday evenings starting in mid August. Please be looking for more information. If Grief Share is currently a need for you, you are highly encouraged to take part. If it is not currently for you, please lovingly encourage others needing it to take part.

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

To Register: Call 814-573-5987 between 8:30-10:30 a.m. Mon.-Thurs.

Food Pickup & Volunteering: 4th Friday of every month (except Nov.) at the CS Carnival Grounds Pavilion from 12:15-1:30

Remaining 2022 Schedule: May 27, June 24, July 22, Aug. 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 28, Nov. 18, Dec. 23

BENEVOLENCE TEAM

Do you like to show God’s love to people going through difficult times? Do you like to do things such as cook, order flowers, send cards, or greet during a funeral/funeral meal? And, do you have some time to give? Then you are a perfect fit for the church benevolence team! This team has not been in operation the past couple years, and it is time to form it again. If God is leading you to serve in such a capacity, please fill out a communication card on a bulletin indicating so or talk with Pastor Kevin or Chuck Karcher.



The Pregnancy Center of Meadville Needs Volunteers

The Meadville Pregnancy Center is a wonderful pro-life organization with strong Christian leadership. They are providing numerous services to help families and expectant parents in our area. Pastor Kevin has been told of a couple ways individuals in our church could help the pregnancy center’s efforts. For example, they need some godly men to simply be in their facility for an hour or so at a time in case a man comes in looking for a man to talk with, as men usually do not come back to their facility for a later appointment. What a great opportunity to simply be available for God to move in and through you! Please talk with Pastor Kevin if you would like to pursue one of the ways to serve with the pregnancy center or call the center’s director, Kendra Durfee at 814-333-6567.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

May

Anna Harned	4th
Kim Hurst	9th
David & Martha Spaid	17th
Mary Hunter	22nd
Kristina Carico	26th
Travis & Lisa Harned	26th
Wendy Machacek	31st

June

Scott Spaid	3rd
Chuck Karcher	6th
Leroy Ruhl	8th
Ted Roudybush	12th
Wendy & Shane Machacek	16th
Levi Whitney	19th
Karissa Welker	21st
Colton Spaid	22nd
D. Roudybush	24th
Ken Hurst	27th

CAMP VENANGO FOR JESUS

Our children/youth between 4th-12th grades have an opportunity for a local summer camp that offers quality Christ-centered programming for a low price, Camp Venango For Jesus. Both the junior camp and the senior camp will take place in mid-July, and registration is only \$25. Brochures are available in the church lobby.

WHO ARE YOU INVITING??

Many excellent opportunities of different varieties are shared in this newsletter. More important than any of these ministries and events, we are all invited to experience salvation through Jesus Christ and relationship with Him! Therefore, a logical question is this, "Who are you inviting?" Who are you striving to bring into our fellowship and, most importantly, into eternal fellowship with God? People usually will not come or respond if they are not first invited. If we truly care, we will share!

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? Romans 10:14

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.

Sunday Schedules For

May – August

**Praise Team, Nursery workers, Jr. Church Leaders,
Welcome Team:**

Please see the schedules on the bulletin board between the church restrooms and the weekly bulletins.

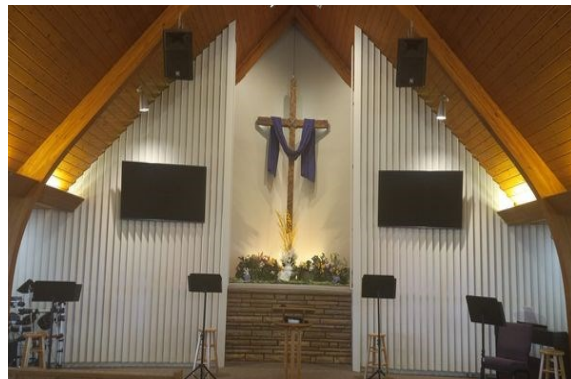
Birthdays & Anniversaries cont.

July

Sandy Fullerton	1st
Eva DeArment	14th
Ken DeArment	16th
Lorene Fosburg	20th
Margie Donnell	21st
Kendall Spaid	21st
Kevin & Heather	
Whitney	21st

August

Nora-Lynn Carico	7th
Mollie Yanc	21st
Jacob Moyer	21st
Ted & Darlene	
Roudybush	24th
Hunter Spaid	24th



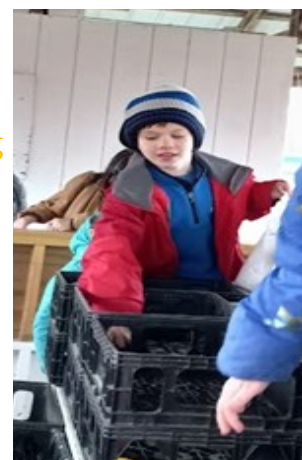
The updated front and back of our church sanctuary: painted walls, new cross hung, old sound room gone, new rows of seats with wheelchair accessibility, camera



New sound room equipment



Donnie Green & Ezra Myers finding eggs during the "Egg-stravaganza Easter Egg Hunt





Part of the crowd at the Easter Egg Hunt



Easter Sunrise Worship Gathering



The three individuals who were baptized on Easter Sunday with PK: Delaine Brown, Aaron Davidson, and Addison Plummer. - Praise God!

First Church of God
634 Venango Avenue
Cambridge Springs PA
16403

814-398-4015
csfcog.org
office@csfcog.org

Pastor Kevin Myers



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Our Mission: Grow in & Go with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The goal is to be and make completely committed disciples
of Christ who are growing and going.

*Jesus is our Subject!
The Gospel is our Message!*