



FIRST CHURCH OF GOD CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS

Grow in and Go with the Gospel of Jesus Christ

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www.csfcog.org



Sept. & Oct. 2021

Happy Birthday

September

Harry Donnell	2nd
Wayne Miller	2nd
Trevor Jimerson	5th
Kathy Perry	10th
Sergey Whitney	11th
Darla Spaid	13th
Sally Anderson	16th
Michelle Hall	22nd
David Perry	23rd
Megan Miles	25th
Jim Davis	30th

October

Laura Wright	6th
Julie Scott	6th
Kevin Myers	9th
Lisa Welker	8th
Tiffany Clark	10th
Elias Carico	18th
Andy Hall	20th
Harold Hunter	20th
Phyllis Gaines	21st
Ezra Myers	25th
Katelyn Lemanski	26th
Heather Whitney	29th
Travis Harned	29th

Anniversaries on page 8

*Jesus is the subject!
The Gospel is our message!*

From the Desk of "PK"

"Greetings, church! If you noticed there are two months on the top of this newsletter instead of one, do not check your vision or tell Barb she messed up. Starting with this newsletter we are not going to be sending a newsletter monthly. This one and the next one (Nov/Dec.) will cover two months. Starting in January the newsletters will be made and sent quarterly. Another change that will likely be made with the new year is that we will not mail a newsletter to every household. Instead, we will email the newsletter as a PDF attachment to everyone who prefers that method. If that is the method you prefer, please communicate that: in person, via phone, email, or communication card. We will also have several newsletters available on the welcome table in the lobby. While a newsletter communication can be important, change to it can be wise.

Why is this change being made with the newsletter? I am glad you asked. There are several reasons. First, sending a newsletter every month is costly. Postage, paper, and ink needed for a newsletter are all expensive. Spending so much on these materials is not a wise use of our funds when there is a cheaper and effective way of communication. Forming a newsletter each month also takes much time, time that often could be used for other important endeavors.

Continued....

Cont...Desk of PK

The news communicated in the newsletter is being communicated in other ways: weekly bulletin, weekly announcements, church Facebook page, church website, prayer/announcement phone calls, flyers. While we can never overcommunicate important matters, being redundant in such a way is not an effective use of time and money. We can communicate upcoming vision, needs, events, and celebrations farther ahead of time in a less frequent newsletter and then communicate in greater detail with the other means as dates approach. This will cause us to plan farther ahead, being strategic as we plan for success. Finally, a less frequent newsletter may help us both write (it often feels like I just wrote for the newsletter when I type messages for it) and receive it with more excitement and anticipation.

Speaking of change and our continual need for it (something you may have heard and read about from me before), I saw an insightful sign in Dollar General that connects change and the time of year we are entering. This sign says, "Fall is proof that change is beautiful." As is the case regarding the church newsletter and all the other changes we have made and will continue to make, we do not make changes simply for change sake. With much thought and prayer, we make changes with purpose, and we ultimately make them with the purpose of faithfully following God's leading and fulfilling the mission He has given us. This needs to always be true of the church. This also needs to be the plan for our individual lives and families.

Here are some things that will never change in our lives and church. God loves us! He loves each of us beyond measure and beyond reason, and He has made us to be with Him for eternity. Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord. He is our subject, and the BEST news of salvation and eternal life with Him (the Gospel) is our message. God fills and guides those following Christ with the person of the Holy Spirit. The Bible, God's infallibly inspired Word, is what we are built upon, ruled by, and communicators of. We are called to be both followers (disciples) of Jesus and ambassadors (apostles) of Him, and we become more like Jesus as we follow Him. We are called to love, wholeheartedly love God and love others, not just as we love ourselves but the higher standard of how Jesus loves us. And, because of what Jesus has done and our identity as God's children from saying yes to Jesus, Heaven is our home and eternal destination. Amen!

COMMUNITY EVENTS cont.

Serving Saturday Car Wash Crew



Thank you to everyone that came out to serve our community.

Happy Anniversary

David & Kathy Perry	September	12th
Chuck & Mary Carol Karcher	October	1st

GROW and GO!



Sunday Services

Growth Studies	9:30 a.m.
Praise Team Practice	9:30 a.m.
Worship	11 a.m.
Youth Ministry	6:00 p.m.

Children & Youth Ministry

Sunday Youth Ministry Gatherings

Calling all jr. and sr. high school students! Our Sunday gatherings will start **Sunday, September 12th and 26th at 6:00.**

Children's Ministry

Our elementary student ministry is the place to be! We just finished our summer studies called Hands on Faith. Each week our students did a simple science experiment to illustrate the power of having faith in God. We learned that our faith gives us strength, allows us to have grace, and is meant to be shared.

Our new study is called *Road Trip* where we are learning about the Israelite's "road trip" through the wilderness with the focus being on God's "rules" of the road as we travel the paths He has for us. These lessons stress the importance of loving God by putting Him first, choosing to worship Him, and loving our neighbors.

In our Elementary Sunday School class, we finished our series called *What's in the Bible?* This series took us through every book of the Bible as we learned about God's rescue plan for us. Throughout upcoming school year, we will be using material put out by *The Gospel Project* which is, "a weekly Bible study that helps kids dive deep into the big story of the Bible—God's plan to rescue His people through His Son, Jesus Christ."

Prayer for one another is vital in the Body of Christ!

"Prayer band" calls are often made to communicate prayer requests and praises within the church. Please share any requests and praises you would like to have by calling the church. Pat Fullerton (814-734-7550) or Kathy Perry (814-398-4461). Also, let the church office know if you would like to receive these calls, and your number will be added to the list. Thank you.

Church News and Events

Upcoming Sunday Messages

Much of the Sunday worship messages this summer have centered on the "Upside Down Kingdom," an apt description of God's Kingdom in contrast to the kingdom of this world. While talking about God's Kingdom, Jesus often says "The Kingdom of Heaven." He often starts times of teaching by saying "The Kingdom of Heaven is like _____." Several of the messages over the next two months are going to be focused on these statements of Jesus. A guest will share a powerful testimony one Sunday, and a couple messages apart from this series will be shared.

Welcome Team

Receiving a warm greeting and being connected with information and individuals are important needs on Sunday mornings, especially for visitors. Everyone needs to feel welcome, valued, and connected! With this in mind, Pastor Kevin would like to form a welcome team for Sunday mornings within the next couple months. This team will have a few different roles, and they will all positively impact the atmosphere of our worship gatherings. A minimum of six people are needed for this team, which will have at least a few members scheduled to serve each week. If you are looking for an impactful way to serve on Sunday mornings, you are encouraged to notify Pastor Kevin ASAP about the welcome team.

Growth Groups: Info. & Sign Up Coming This Fall

It's all about relationships! Life is about relationships, up and out. The Gospel is about relationships. The Church is about relationships. Discipleship is about relationships. We must come together in corporate worship, but God did not design that to be the end all/be all or the main event for the Church. Pastor Kevin will be sharing this fall about Growth Groups, which will be different from and deeper than periodic Growth Study Gatherings and which will be starting in January. Information and sign up will be coming this fall, most likely late October/early November. More information will also be shared in the November/December church newsletter.

Schedules For Sept. & Oct.

NURSERY —

Sept 5th Barb Royer, Madison Royer
 Sept 12th Lisa Harned, Finley Rauscher
 Sept 19th Mollie Yanc, Madison Yanc
 Sept 26th Barb Royer, Madison Royer
 Oct 3rd Lisa Harned, Finley Rauscher
 Oct 10th Mollie Yanc, Madison Yanc
 Oct 17th CMA
 Oct 24th Barb Royer, Madison Royer
 Oct 31st Lisa Harned, Finley Rauscher

JUNIOR CHURCH—

Sept/Oct Tentatively Sarah Myers

SOUNDBOOTH —

Sept 5th Kevin Whitney, Hunter Spaid
 Sept 12th Clint Rauscher, Aiden Rauscher
 Sept 19th Ken Hurst, Hunter Spaid
 Sept 26th Kevin Whitney, Aiden Rauscher
 Oct 3rd Clint Rauscher, Hunter Spaid
 Oct 10th Ken Hurst, Aiden Rauscher
 Oct 17th CMA
 Oct 24th Clint Rauscher, Aiden Rauscher
 Oct 31st Kevin Whiney, Hunter Spaid

PRAISE TEAM-

Sept 5th Darla, Makenzie, Finley
 Sept 12th Kim, Martha, Madison, Mollie
 Sept 19th Darla, Finley, Makenzie, Margie
 Sept 26th Martha, Madison, Mollie, Kim
 Oct 3rd Darla, Finley, Makenzie, Margie
 Oct 10th Kim, Martha, Madison, Mollie
 Oct 17th CMA
 Oct 24th Kim, Martha, Madison, Mollie
 Oct 31st Darla, Finely, Makenzie, Margie

Church News and Events Cont.

Annual Church Business Meeting

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 14th. After the worship service that day we will be having our annual church business meeting. All annual reports are due to the church office (csfog@yahoo.com is the current email) by October 24th. We will have reports available for everyone to take home on Sunday, October 31. Please read over them ahead of time, and please plan on attending the business meeting. Anyone who is over 18 years old, a regular participant in church ministries, and a financial giver to the church can vote on proposed budget and church board candidates.

September Stop & Pray (SSP)

Prayer needs to always be foundational to who we are and all that we do, both individually and collectively. With this in mind, we are going to take a couple days in September to collectively stop and pray. On Thursday, September 9 and 16 we will be gathering in the sanctuary at 6:00. We will also be committing to pray for the twelve hours leading up to those gatherings each of those days. There is a signup sheet for each of those twelve hours in the church lobby. Those who sign up for those times do not need to come to the church at those times, and more than one person can commit to pray during the same hour. **Everyone is encouraged to come and pray together during the evening prayer gatherings.** We cannot say we are a people of prayer if we do not show up and pray with and for each other.

Church Directory

Barb has been hard at work updating church members' contact information and putting it into a new directory book. Please contact the church office if we do not have your information or if the information is not correct. Directory books will be made available this fall.

COMMUNITY EVENTS cont.

Fall Family Fun Night

The Family of God needs to have fun together! We had a great time together last October with the Fall Family Fun Night, so we are going to bring it back. This gathering will take place **Saturday, October 23 from 3:00 – 7:00.** Those coming are encouraged to bring a covered dish or dessert item. Help with activities is also welcome. This is a great activity to invite friends and family to, especially those without connection to a church!



Men of Grace

Saturday, September 18th @ 7:00am Family Revival French Creek Valley Community School 420 North Street Saegertown PA 16433. Taking donations for this even (814) 282-4191
 Facebook-MOGAR-Men of Grace Allegheny Region.
 Tickets available at <http://mogar-revival.org/>

See you at the Pole Rally

Sunday, Sept 19th 5pm-8pm CS First Baptist Church

Just Pray

Wednesday, Sept 22nd 7:30am at the CSHS flagpole.

REDEEM TV

Have you heard of Redeem TV? Redeem TV is a new, **FREE** streaming service for faith building and family entertainment! Visit RedeemTV.com or download the app and stream goodness wherever you go!

Church News and Events Cont.

Wednesday Growth Study Gatherings (GSG) for

Men & Women

Men's and women's Growth Gatherings will be taking place on **Wednesday evenings at 6:00 for five weeks between October 6 and November 3**. Men and women, anyone over sixteen, will meet in the sanctuary for prayer and possibly a worship song. They will then separate for different video series and discussion. The men's study is called "Fight: Winning the Battles that Matter Most," and it will be facilitated by Tony Flagella. Using Samson's story, it will talk about fighting appropriately as a man of God. The women's study is called "Warrior Women," and it will be facilitated



Thirst (State Youth Convention)

Thirst, the Church of God state youth convention, will be taking place November 19, 2021 in Erie. This convention is always a very fun and impactful time for junior and senior high school students! Registration and trip information, along with signups, will be announced in September and October. All students are highly encouraged to take part and to invite friends to go with them!



Operation Christmas Child

Christmas will be here before we know it, in less than four months! For many children around the world a box filled with items and sent by Samaritan's Purse is the only gift they will receive, and they will be thrilled to receive it. We will again be packing boxes for this during a Packing and Pizza Party on Sunday, November 7th after the worship service, and we hope to crush last year's total of 67 boxes packed. Over the next couple of months, we will be collecting items for packing. You can take as many tags as you would like with items noted on them. Then buy the items (most of them are available in Dollar Tree) and put them in the collection box. You can also donate other similar items or homemade items, especially if all the tags have been taken.

Football Game Concession Stand Volunteers Needed

Our church is committed to running the concession stand during the October 1 CSHS football game. We will need as many volunteers as possible to do this with excellence. Let's provide such friendly and fast service that we put Chick Fil A to shame while shining Christ's light!! **Please sign up in the lobby throughout September** if you are able to help.

5th Quarters

In attempt to reach out to youth with a positive and fun time and to take advantage of our facility's good location, we are bringing back a previous church activity. We will be having 5th Quarters after the CSHS football games on Friday, September 17 and October 15. Food and activities will be provided for the junior high and high school students who attend, along with a prayer and possible a very short message. These gatherings will start between 9:30-10:00 p.m., and they will end at 11:00. **These 5th quarters will be a good opportunity for anyone in the church to serve and show love to the youth we attend.** Help will be needed with greeting students, serving food, speaking with students, cleanup, etc.

Grief Share

Our church is blessed to be hosting a Grief Share group right now on Monday evenings until November 22. These gatherings, which are for anyone dealing with the loss of a loved one, go from 6:00 – 8:00. While this has already started, individuals are still able to join in this incredibly important endeavor. To register go to griefshare.org or simply show up on Monday evenings.

Combined Worship With CMA

As we did on April 18, we will be joining with the Cambridge Springs CMA Church for our worship on **Sunday, October 17 at 11:00**. However, this time we will be going to **their facility**. Pastor Kevin will be speaking, and the CMA will be leading the music. Please give your tithes and offerings to our church for this Sunday either the week before or the week after. We will take an offering during this combined service, and it will go to a local ministry organization or endeavor.