



Encouragement

Here we are, the ragamuffins from the Cleveland Church, striving to move forward when it is difficult to do so. Things are not the same. But we do press on. We are encouraged by the example of our late pastor, David Kester, to reach for the promised prize. We have seen him live out the following words we all committed to memory:

Philippians 3:12-14. (NIV) "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

We find hope in the promises of God's Word. We are strengthened by the many prayers from all over the world for the Cleveland Church. We are encouraged by fellowshiping, meeting together, praying together, and serving together with our brothers and sisters. Volunteers are willing to offer their areas of giftedness to meet specific needs of our congregation and community including the prayer chain and food shelf. We have been motivated and challenged by the messages from those who have graciously filled our pulpit these past weeks.

We are uplifted by the news we received from our camp, Pine Haven Christian Assembly. A camp scholarship in David's name will provide opportunities for life changing experiences to young campers. Money has been given in David's memory to pave the path to the new handicap accessible bath house.

Babu Samuel of Grace Christian Ministry in Kerala, India, tells of the impact David had on the mission in India. Although David was in India just a short time, Babu and the GCM family will never forget the love and support he offered to them. To show their love for him, the new building being constructed at the Bible College in India will be known as the Pastor David Kester Memorial Building.

The family of David continues to be blessed by the love shown through thoughtful cards and prayers, monetary donations, meals, sharing of memories and hugs. It is what Christian community is about.

Encouraged by our friends and fellow believers, here in Cleveland, throughout the state, throughout the country, and throughout the world, we advance toward the goal. We are assured and comforted to know that Jesus died and rose, that He is coming again and that the dead in Christ will rise first. 1 Thessalonians 4:17 and 18 gives us this promise: **After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words.** (NIV)

And so, the ragamuffins press on.

— M Howells, Elder of the Cleveland Church

Congratulations to Kaylin S for her baptism on Sunday, August 31, 2008! Guest speaker Brad Dewing baptized Kaylin and we rejoice for her decision. Please encourage Kaylin by walking in the Lord with her and in prayer.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for SEPTEMBER 2008

(* indicates a fuller announcement is also posted in this newsletter)

- Sunday, Sept 7 — Sunday guest speaker - Aaron Jones, Rochester, MN
- Monday, Sept 8 — 34th Annual Crossroads College Golf Tournament
- Monday, Sept 8 — Viking/Packer Game event at Howells' – 6:00pm *
- Tuesday, Sept 9 — Dorcas Fellowship at church – 1:30pm
- Tuesday, Sept 9 — Church Board meeting at church – 7:30pm; Mel L will host.
- Sunday, Sept 14 — Sunday guest speaker - Kevin White, Hope Summit Church (MP), Rochester
- Sunday, Sept 14 — Building Offering
- Wednesday, Sept 17 — Bible Study & Prayer Time at Betty L's – 6:30pm *
- Thursday, Sept 18 — Ladies Night Out at Le Sueur Pizza Ranch – 6:00pm
- Sunday, Sept 21 — Sunday guest speaker – Randy Hardy, Faribault, MN
- Sunday, Sept 21 — New Orleans Team Meeting, Southeast Christian Church, Mpls – 5:00pm
- Wednesday, Sept 24 — Bible Study & Prayer Time at Betty L's – 6:30pm *
- Sunday, Sept 28 — Our annual Crossroads College Day at church * with Fellowship/Potluck meal at noon; Guest Speaker - Mike Kilgallin, President, Crossroads College, Rochester
- Sunday, Sept 28 — Praise and Prayer event at church – 5:00pm *

COMING LATER THIS YEAR

- October 2 - 3 — Crossroads College Fall Homecoming and President Inauguration *
- October 5 — Fall Educational Kick Off at church *
- October 8 — Soup & Sandwich Supper / Wrap boxes for Operation Christmas Child *
- October 11-19 — New Orleans Mission Trip *
- October 17-18 — Women of Faith Conference at the Excel Energy Center, St. Paul, MN
- October 19 — Congregational Annual Meeting with light lunch provided – 12 noon

VIKING / PACKER FOOTBALL GAME on the big screen, outdoors at M and M Howells' home in Faribault at 6:00pm, Monday, September 8. Food and Beverages will be provided. Bring your voice to cheer for your favorite team.

DID YOU KNOW...?

- On August 11, 22 youth and 3 adults attended the 25th annual Crossroads College Valleyfair Day. We had great weather and a wonderful time was had by all. Included in our group, were two exchange students from Germany and one from Taiwan.
- The August 24th Church Picnic Lake Event at the Guentzels had lots of people attend. (David Kester would have know the actual count ☺) Great food and great weather with great friends made for a great day. Thank You, Guentzels, for hosting us!
- Our monthly church board meeting minutes are available for all to read. They are posted on the foyer bulletin board about two weeks after each meeting.
- A sister church of ours in Rochester, MN, has taken on a new name. Meadow Park Church of Christ officially became Hope Summit Christian Church on September 7.
- 32 campers went from Cleveland to Pine Haven Christian Assembly this 2008 camping season.

BUILDING OFFERING

Our monthly building offering will be received on Sunday, September 14. Thanks to all who have faithfully given to the building fund.

CROSSROADS COLLEGE DAY

Our congregation's annual Crossroads College Day will be held Sunday, September 28. Mike Kilgallin, President of Crossroads College will be speaking. Adoration will be singing. There will be a presentation during the Bible School hour for the Adult classes and Jr. High and Sr. High classes. The morning offering received will go to Crossroads College. Following the worship service, there will be a Fellowship Meal.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

Please join us on Sunday, September 28, at 5:00pm as we praise God. We will sing your favorite songs, read your favorite verse from scripture, and pray together. It is rumored that a trip to the DQ may follow. ☺

BIBLE STUDY

A Home Bible Study & Prayer Time will be held on Wednesdays, September 17 and 24, at 6:30pm, at Betty L's home. We will look at the study topic of "What the Bible says about Grief."

WORKSHOP HERE ON SEPTEMBER 20

We are planning for our congregation a special workshop here on Saturday, September 20. Energizing our Sunday Bible School will be the workshop's theme. Judith Kirk, Children's Pastor of Hope Summit Christian Church (formerly named Meadow Park Church of Christ) in Rochester, MN, will come to present some fresh ideas to enhance, improve, and enliven our Sunday morning education program. This is for US! Parents, class teachers (old & new), classroom assistants, and all concerned about the education of our congregation's young people are encouraged to attend. This event will have a morning session, lunch, and an afternoon session with exact times being announced when finalized. There is no charge for the day, but we ask you sign up on the list on the foyer table. If you are able to help provide food for the lunch and/or help serve the lunch, please sign the appropriate sheets on the foyer table. For more information, contact Mary H.

MUSICAL PRESENTATION

If you are interested in carpooling to the musical "FOUND" by Connie Miller Pease at Southeast Christian Church, Minneapolis, MN, on September 26, please sign the list on the foyer table. Information about the musical is posted on our foyer bulletin board. For more information about carpooling, contact Mark or Mary H, who plan to attend the concert.

CROSSROADS COLLEGE, ROCHESTER, MN FALL HOMECOMING & PRESIDENT INAUGURATION

Thursday, October 2

Crossroads College Heritage Student Center

6:30 - 8:30PM Cookout - Class of 1958 recognition

Friday, October 3

Hope Summit Christian Church (formerly Meadow Park Church of Christ)

8:30 - 9:30AM Continental Breakfast presented by the Crossroads College Cabinet

9:30 - 10:30AM Administration Update

10:30 - 12:00PM Chapel - Distinguished Alumnus and Speaker Charles Boatman

12:00 - 1:00PM Luncheon

1:00 - 2:30PM Faculty / Staff Fair – Get acquainted with faculty and staff

2:30 - 3:00PM Annual Alumni Business Meeting

Dinner - on your own

Rochester International Event Center

7:00 - 8:30PM Inauguration of President Michael Kilgallin

8:30 - 9:30PM Dessert Reception

FALL EDUCATIONAL KICK OFF

We have big plans for Sunday, October 5! Come for the entire morning to celebrate our new fall Bible classes. This is for everyone, all ages. Expect a party – balloons, a fun friend or two, and other surprises !?!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Get ready to pack a shoebox or two or twelve to give to Operation Christmas Child. In 2007, this ministry of Samaritan's Purse collected more than 7.6 million shoebox gifts for poor, sick, and suffering children in over 104 countries. In the past 15 years, more than 61 million boxes have been given out! Last year, our congregation delivered 111 shoeboxes to the Mankato drop-off location. Let's try to top that number this

year! By late September, we will have a display in our foyer giving more details and brochures with packing information. On Wednesday, October 8th, come for a soup and sandwich supper here at church, and help wrap empty shoeboxes for people to pick up later to pack with gift items.

NEW ORLEANS MISSION TRIP UPDATE

October 11-19, Judy L, Graydon D, Laura D, Deb G, Ciara G, Ben T, Pam A, and Patty Z from our congregation will be working in New Orleans to help with the rebuilding efforts following Hurricane Katrina. Please keep these people in your prayers. There are 2 spaces available yet for others to volunteer. Contact Graydon D if you are interested in going. The total upfront cost (for transportation, motel, breakfast and lunch while in New Orleans) is \$410 per person. You would also be responsible for meals on the trip, evening meals, and any incidentals.

ABOUT OUR PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer is an important ministry of the church. We have many people who have volunteers to pray for you and yours as special needs arise. As of this print, nearly 50 family units are involved in our prayer chain. Here is some information about our Prayer Chain at Cleveland.

Prayer Chain Head Volunteers

To call: Carrie M 507-2**-**** (try her first)
Betty L 507-9**-**** (leave a message)

To email both Carrie & Betty in one email: prayerchain@clevelandchurch.net

To Submit a Prayer Request: Contact one of our Prayer Chain Head Volunteers

To Become a Prayer Chain Volunteer: Contact one of our Prayer Chain Head Volunteers. Let them know if you wish to be on the email list or the phone list. Give them your appropriate contact information.

Responsibilities of Prayer Chain Volunteer:

- Email List Responsibilities:**
1. RECEIVE the request;
 2. PRAY for the request.
- Phone List Responsibilities:**
1. RECEIVE the request;
 2. CALL ON to the next name on list until you talk to a live person, while leaving the prayer request message on intervening answering machines;
 3. PRAY for the request.

PRAYER NEED Babu Samuel of Grace Christian Ministry in India has requested prayers for Christians in India. They have come under severe persecution in the last month. In a September 3rd email, Babu reports lists of people who have died, church buildings destroyed, convents, hostels and institutions hit, homes damaged, and innumerable vehicles ruined.

PRAYER NEED Lifeline Christian Mission, through whom our VBS children sponsor Rubens Tyne, reports major losses in Haiti and Cuba due to Hurricane Gustav. We have learned that Rubens' church/school building has been destroyed in Vieux Cayes, Haiti. The Lifeline website reports the following: "We are again feeding about 1500 to 2000 people each day but also need to begin feeding school children again (8000) as soon as school opens next week. Our food supply is nearly gone and the one container in customs has not cleared yet. Another is en route to Haiti and as soon as it docks on the 9th we'll pay the \$7000.00 deposit to get it out immediately. But right now, the fastest way is to buy food since we can wire money to Haiti... Please pray for our Haitian friends, and for our Cuban friends who also got hit by Gustav and we have not heard back from Eduardo since just prior to the storm hitting Cuba. Pray that God will provide the funds and the ability to get what the people need and that our distribution process is effective. Pray that no more loss of life will occur..."

For more updated information, including pictures and donation needs, go to www.Lifeline.org.

SNACKS are needed for the Sunday 10:00am Fellowship Time. Bring 6-8 dozen snack items. Volunteers are responsible for setting up, serving, and cleaning up on your service day. Sign up on the list on the kitchen serving-counter at church.

BIRTHDAYS September 01 – Bill C; 03 – Kim S; 04 – Lenny S, Grace S; 05 – Kayla W, Cody B; 06 – Ashley A; 09 – Vadis R, Melissa W, Ken S, Jr; 13 – Amanda H; 15 – Ardis E; 16 – Michelle S; 18 – Linda B; 20 – Bill A, Joycelyn C; 21 – Del B; 26 – Curt J, 26 – Mike E

ANNIVERSARIES September 05 – Linda & Bill B; 07 – Shon & Michelle S; 09 – Ken & Sandy K; Julie & Tony D; 11 – Bruce & Rose O; 20 – Rich & Becky K; 21 – Roxanne & Eric G; 23 – Brian & Kelly E; 30 – Mike & Selena E

SERVING LIST

A PDF file of our August–November 2008 Serving List Chart may be downloaded from www.clevelandchurch.net. See “Resources,” then click “PDF Downloads.”

CHURCH OF CHRIST

900 State Highway 99

Mail to: PO Box 307

Cleveland, MN 56017

www.clevelandchurch.net

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. – Bible Classes for all ages

10:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please note the email addresses for our church. Make any needed adjustments in your email address book.

Office/General: office@clevelandchurch.net

Secretary: lisa@clevelandchurch.net

Elders: elders@clevelandchurch.net

Prayer Chain: prayerchain@clevelandchurch.net

Email Newsletter: newsletter@clevelandchurch.net

Webmaster: webmaster@clevelandchurch.net