



## **DESPERATE TO BELONG**

By John Kester, Pastor

I heard an interesting story last week. A new church had been started out east somewhere. After about six months, a woman who had been attending regularly went and spoke with the lead pastor. She asked him, "Are you going to be talking about Jesus all the time? Because if you are, that is kind of a problem for me. You see I am Jewish." The preacher responded, "Yes, I am going to talk about Jesus all the time. We are a church you know."

Those of us hearing the story kind of chuckled a little. But the story pointed to a significant reality. There are people all over the place who long for a place they can belong. There are people all over the place who would like to find a group of people who will accept them and love them just like they are. They long for a place where they don't have to change or perform before people will love them.

For years we have used a church model that says we will present the truth and when people embrace the truth. They will change their behavior and then we will have a place where they can belong. But that model doesn't work very well with a generation that questions whether truth really exists and believes that behavior is completely personal. It doesn't fly very well with people who desperately want to belong to a group that is bigger than themselves.

I would never suggest that we, as the church, back away from the truth claims that form the core of what we believe. But if we hope to reach a generation that is desperate for relationships, we may have to rethink how we go about reaching people. We need to think about creating entrance points to the church that are focused on relationship building not only on proclaiming truth. We might need to use our homes more and the church building less. We might need to focus on meeting needs more and less on demanding certain behavior before you can belong.

I don't like change very well. I particularly don't like change just for the sake of change. But it seems to me if we are going to be effective in reaching the next generation, we have to think about new ways of doing church. Maybe we need to begin by making our church a place people want to belong.

---

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS** **August 2010**



All events are at the church building unless otherwise noted.

\* Indicates an article is elsewhere in this newsletter.

- Aug 1-5 – Vacation Bible School 6:30-8:30pm\*
- Aug 5 – Bible Study 1:30pm
- Aug 5 – VBS Carnival & Program 6:00-8:30pm\*
- Aug 8 – Monthly Building offering
- Aug 8 – Elders Meeting after church
- Aug 8-11 – PHCA 4th Grade
- Aug 9 – Crossroads College Valley Fair Day\*
- Aug 10 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm at Marilyn Fahning's home
- Aug 10 – Church Board meeting at 7:30pm
- Aug 11 – Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm
- Aug 12 – Bible Study 1:30pm
- Aug 12-15 – PHCA Family Weekend
- Aug 15-20 – PHCA 5th & 6th Grade (Zone A)
- Aug 19 – September newsletter articles due
- Aug 19 – Bible Study 1:30pm

- Aug 19 – Ladies Night Out at Westwood 6:00pm
- Aug 20-22 – PHCA Motorcycle Weekend
- Aug 26 – Bible Study 1:30pm
- Aug 28 – Heart to Heart distribution 10am-Noon
- Aug 29 – Prayer Meeting 12:00-12:45pm

### COMING IN SEPTEMBER 2010

- Sept 3-6 – PHCA Last Chance Camp
- Sept 6 – Labor Day (USA)
- Sept 9-12 – PHCA Scrapbook Weekend 1
- Sept 12 – FRIEND DAY 10:30am\*
- Sept 16-19 – PHCA Scrapbook Weekend 2
- Sept 23-25 – Fall Work Weekend
- Sept 28 – Heart to Heart distribution 10am-Noon
- Sept 30 – [MN Teen Challenge Gala](#) at Verizon Wireless Center, Mankato



### PHCA 2010 CAMP SCHEDULE

Based on grades going into Fall 2010  
Cleveland is in Zone A

Aug 8-11	4th Grade
Aug 12-15	Family Weekend
Aug 15-20	5th & 6th Grade (Zone A)
Aug 20-22	Motorcycle Weekend
Sept 3-6	Last Chance Camp
Sept 9-12	Scrapbook Weekend 1
Sept 16-19	Scrapbook Weekend 2
Sept 23-25	Fall Work Weekend



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

# CELEBRATION PARK

**SUNDAY-THURSDAY, AUGUST 1-5**

Kids, Get ready for a theme park adventure you will never forget. Come to CELEBRATION PARK to learn about celebrating Jesus' love for us. Visit and experience for yourself Thanksgiving Acres, Christmas Country, Valentine Village and Easter Cave. Featured activities include singing, Bible lessons, crafts, memory verse challenges, raising money for our VBS sponsored child in Haiti, and snacks. Earn tickets during the week for our final night CELEBRATION PARK EXTRAVAGANZA CARNIVAL. It's all FREE to attend!!! Invite your friends, neighbors, cousins, and everyone else to come with you to CELEBRATION PARK! See page 4 of this newsletter for more information.



## CROSSROADS COLLEGE DAY at VALLEYFAIR is MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2010

The cost is your entry ticket and money for food.  
For drivers, add parking \$10-12 depending on vehicle size.

### ENTRY TICKETS:

\$28 per person

(3 - 61yrs AND 48" & taller in shoes)

\$18 for Adults (62yrs & up)

\$18 for Children (3yrs & older AND less than 48" tall)

Children 2yrs & younger are free

Crossroads Group Sales Window is open 9:00am–Noon to buy tickets at above discounted price. Tickets must be purchased at Crossroads College window on day of event. Cash or check only.

Valleyfair hours on August 9 are 10am-10pm. The regular Valleyfair ticket price is \$39.99 / \$18.99 respectively.

Crossroads will be hosting a Worship Service in the Amphitheater at 5:30pm.

Everyone / all ages are welcome to come to Crossroads College Day at Valleyfair. We wish to assure our teens are chaperoned, however. If you wish to go as a family and care for your own children, that is certainly possible. PLEASE sign up on the sign up sheet at the Cleveland Church of Christ located on the foyer table, or call the church office at 507-931-5924. If you would like to chaperone and / or transport our youth, please sign your name in the designated place on the same sign up sheet.

[www.crossroadscollege.edu](http://www.crossroadscollege.edu)

[www.valleyfair.com](http://www.valleyfair.com)

### FRIEND DAY



On Sunday, September 12th, the Cleveland Church of Christ will host our annual Friend Day outdoor service. We delight in this opportunity because it gives us the chance to share what God has given us. We are privileged to share from our material blessings when we share a meal together. We get the opportunity to share the truth of the word of God when scripture is explained. We have the privilege of sharing in the ministry of evangelism that Jesus gave to those who would follow Him. And maybe best of all we have the privilege of sharing the love of Jesus to the people who come to our Friend Day service. I look forward to sharing with all those who attend Friend Day this year. *John Kester*

## ~ NOLA MISSION TRIP ~

We are delighted to again have the opportunity to participate in a rebuilding trip to New Orleans, LA, October 9-17. This year, 9 members and friends of the Cleveland Church of Christ have committed to share the love of Jesus with people in New Orleans who are still struggling with housing issues 5 years after hurricane Katrina. Pam Aanas, Cindy Westerhouse (Pam's friend) Judy Lloyd, David Lloyd, Graydon Dickie, Laura Dickie, Iris Krenik, Gary Kunz and John Kester are planning to take part in this trip. Please keep these people in your prayers. If you are interested in this trip, it is not too late to join the group. There are still 6-8 spots available.

### DID YOU KNOW...

- We received memorial money from the Dale Sapp family.
- Katie Swedberg spent six weeks in India on a missionary trip & shared her experiences with us at Cleveland on July 25th.
- We have eight campers and one faculty person attending Pine Haven Camp on July 25.



We are very thankful to Ellen Dickie for the time and effort she invested in directing VBS this year.

THANKS A LOT, ELLEN!

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

900 State Highway 99  
Mail to: PO Box 307  
Cleveland, MN 56017

Church Web: [www.clevelandchurch.net](http://www.clevelandchurch.net)  
Office Phone: (507) 931-5924  
Office Email: [clchurch@live.com](mailto:clchurch@live.com)  
Prayer Chain: [clchurchprayer@live.com](mailto:clchurchprayer@live.com)

**OUR HEAD:** Jesus Christ  
**PASTOR:** John Kester  
**CHURCH SECRETARY:** Lisa Koppelman

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. – Bible Classes for all ages  
10:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time  
10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

While we greet each other at our worship services, we may not really know each other that well. We'd like to feature someone each month in our newsletter. Please meet Bernice Dickie and Melvin Lloyd.

### **BERNICE DICKIE**

**Birthplace** - Le Sueur, MN  
**Family** - Arlene, Charles, Karen, Norma, Graydon; grandchildren  
**Work** - Retired from State Hospital  
**Education** - High School  
**Hobbies** - Knitting  
**I Will Never Forget** - Our son Paul's death

### **MELVIN LLOYD**

**Birthplace** - St. Peter, MN  
**Family** - Wife - Monie, stepsons Mike (Jen) and Tom (Alexis); grandkids Abby, Julia, Jude and Erin  
**Work** - Schoolteacher for 14 yrs; truck driving, dairy farmer, butterfly farmer and general work  
**Education** - Cleveland High School; B.S. from South Dakota State; Grad school at U of M  
**Favorite Food** - Anything but chili  
**Hobbies** - Carpentry and music listening  
**Fondest Childhood Memory** - Swimming almost daily at "new" LeCenter pool  
**Favorite Bible Verses** - Matthew 7:7 & 8  
**How I Became a Christian** - Mom and dad; Sunday School and camp and discussing with minister Dean Hardy  
**I Will Never Forget** - Working side-by-side with my dad and brothers  
**My Biggest Challenge** - Losing weight  
**A Life Lesson I Would Like to Pass On** - Do the best job possible no matter what the job is!

### BIRTHDAYS:

August 4– Max Miller; 5– Roxanne Goodrich, Jacob Schettler; 6– Mel Lloyd; 7– David Rupe; 8– Tanya Anderson, Nick Compton; 10– Marilyn Fahning, Emily Kern; 11– Brian Schmidt; 12– Judy Lloyd, Andrea Schmidt; 16– Gregg Giersdorf, Gladis Samuel (missionary daughter in India); 17– Lowen Richter; 18– Ann Janovsky, Shane Rogers; 19– Orbbe Chadderdon; 21– Lori Moon; 22– Ava Peterson, George Schmidt; 23– Bev Hesch, Sandor Rozsa; 24– Elias Anderson; 25– Karen Rogers; 26– Wayne Fahning, Gary Guentzel; 30– Jim Rogers; 31– Jim Ely, Peter Menten, Jarod Schmidt

### ANNIVERSARIES:

August 9– Steve & Brenda Davis; 10– Mel & Monie Lloyd; 11– George & Marilyn Schmidt; 13– Fanny & Martha Nyamutora (missionaries in Zimbabwe); 14– Gregg & JoLene Giersdorf; 19– Sandy & Mike Simon; 22– Patti & Bruce Zuelch; 24– Orbbe & Joyce Chadderdon; 25– Greg & Neysa Schettler; 27– Glenn & Cindy Schmidt, Doug & Annette Swedberg

# Vacation Bible School CELEBRATION PARK

Kids, Get ready for a theme park adventure you will never forget. Come to CELEBRATION PARK to learn about celebrating Jesus' love for us. Experience for yourself Thanksgiving Acres, Christmas Country, Valentine Village and Easter Cave. Featured activities include singing, Bible lessons, crafts, memory verse challenges, raising money for our VBS sponsored child in Haiti, and snacks. Earn tickets during the week for our final night CELEBRATION PARK EXTRAVAGANZA CARNIVAL. It's all FREE to attend!!! Invite your friends, neighbors, cousins, and everyone else to come with you to CELEBRATION PARK! Tell your parents to sign you up with the registration form below or register online at [www.clevelandchurch.net](http://www.clevelandchurch.net).

## Sunday-Thursday, August 1 - 5, 2010

**6:30 pm-8:30 pm nightly for VBS  
with optional 6:00 pm light supper**

Thursday night – Program & Carnival for VBS kids, parents, friends

**WHO:** For Kids ages 4 years to 6th grade completed

**HOW:** Complete registration form and mail to or drop at  
Church of Christ

900 State Hwy 99 • PO Box 307  
Cleveland, MN 56017

or register online at [www.clevelandchurch.net](http://www.clevelandchurch.net)



For VBS general info,  
contact our church office at  
507-931-5924 or  
[clchurch@live.com](mailto:clchurch@live.com)

For volunteering to help with  
VBS, contact VBS Director  
Ellen Dickie at  
507-381-0351 or  
[ellenandgraydon@msn.com](mailto:ellenandgraydon@msn.com)

### FAMILY FUN NIGHT PROGRAM ★ THURSDAY AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup> ★ 6:00-8:30 PM



CHRISTIAN  
MAGICIAN  
JEFF SMITH

ARCADE GAMES  
FOOD ON A STICK

KID'S PROGRAM  
WITH SINGING

### Cleveland Church of Christ VBS 2010 Registration Form

Parent Full Name:

Parent Complete Mailing Address:

Parent Phone(s):

Parent Email Address:

Child Name		Birth Mo Day Yr	Age as of Aug. 1	Grade Completed
	→			
	→			
	→			
	→			

My children will most likely come for the optional 6:00pm light supper: YES or NO

Explain any food allergies:

Explain any other health-related needs:

Other comments: