

CHURCH OF CHRIST MEETING IN CLEVELAND, MN

October 2014
Updated Oct 4, 2014
Vol. 32 No. 10



ALL NEW

By John Kester, Pastor

**He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"
Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." (Revelation 21:5)**

The last week has been exciting for me because I have witnessed a whole bunch of new things happening in our church.

Last Wednesday the ladies Bible Study kicked off with a group as big on the first night as we had on any night last year. Enrollment in this group is up by 25% and that is cause for excitement.

On Sunday we saw a new year of kids Sunday School kick off. I was thrilled to see a number of children and adults who have not been part of our Sunday School program in the past come and give it a try.

During the worship hour I had the opportunity to introduce a new initiative that we plan on working together to implement over the next few months. I was thrilled when I had someone tell me after the service that they thought they had taken action in the past week in all 5 areas in which we hope to encourage each other.

Sunday evening we had our first youth group meeting of the year. We had several new teens come to this meeting and we have potential to easily double the size of the group we had last year. I loved the energy and excitement seen in this new group.

On top of all the new things, I have been gratified to have new people step forward and offer their time and effort in ministry. I am convinced that the more people we have that engage in service, the more God will be able to do through this church (in Cleveland).

One of the things that humbles me about all of this newness is that I realize that I am responsible for so little of it. I am not the one who makes things new. John says in Revelation that God makes all things new. He doesn't just come up with new plans and new strategies for ministry, but He renews everything. Revelation 21 promises that He will make a new heaven and earth. He promises He will make new our relationship with Him through Jesus Christ. He will give us new bodies. He will transform our hearts and minds. He will make it all new. On days when it seems like life is just more and more of the same, the promise of God to renew and revitalize everything brings me courage and hope. I trust it will do the same for you.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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PO Box 307 clchurch@live.com
Cleveland, MN 56017 www.clevelandchurch.net

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am – Bible Classes for 4 Years-Adult
10:00 am – Fellowship Time
10:30 am – Worship Service including Junior Church

Link to prior monthly newsletters
for the Cleveland Church of Christ
http://www.clevelandchurch.net/index.php?p=1_212



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2014 Updated Oct 4, 2014

All events are at the church building unless otherwise noted.

* Indicates an article is elsewhere in this newsletter.

- Oct 1,8,15,22,29 – Ladies Bible Study at 6:30pm
- Oct 5 – Elders meeting after worship service
- Oct 5 – 7th- 12th Youth Group at 4:00pm *
- Oct 12 – Monthly Building Fund Offering
- Oct 12 – 7th- 12th Youth Group at Lloyd's at 4:00pm *
- Oct 14 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm *
- Oct 14 – Church Board Meeting at 7:30pm *
- Oct 16 – November newsletter articles due
- Oct 17-18 – Women of Faith Conference at Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul, MN
<http://www.womenoffaith.com/events/revival-2014-st-paul/>
- Oct 19 – Pastor John Kester on vacation; Brad Dewing preaching
- Oct 19 – Operation Christmas Child Presentation
- Oct 26 – 7th- 12th Youth Group at 4:00pm *

LONG RANGE PLANNING

- Nov 2 – Daylight Saving Time
- Nov 5,12 – Ladies Bible Study
- Nov 9 – Monthly Building Offering
- Nov 11 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm
- Nov 11 – Church Board meeting at 7:30pm
- Nov 16 – Crossroads College 'Adoration' (singing group) www.crossroadscollege.edu
- Nov 17-22 OCC Drop-Off Location *
- November 23 – OCC Potluck / Packing Party *
- November 27 – Thanksgiving Day

BIRTHDAYS: October 1- Evan Koppelman; 4- Ellen Dickie; 6- Julie Rogers, Ben Taylor; 7- Art Davis; 8- Rupert Goodrich; 11- Roger Schmidt; 12- Deb Ely; 14- Fanny Nyamutora (missionary to Zimbabwe); 17- Megan Ely, Patrick Ely; 19- Mary Den Herder; 23- Dusty Filter, Brady Schmidt; 24- Allie Rogers; 25- Jacquelyn Heldberg; 29- Karen Gibbs, Josten Schmidt; 30- Jacob Schmidt; 31- Jan Watkins

ANNIVERSARIES: October 12- Jim & Karen Rogers; 14- Peter & Lisa Koppelman; 15- Mike & Kim Wobbrock; 31- Roger & Andrea Schmidt



Our sympathy to the family of Mike Simon who died on September 16, 2014. Remember his wife Sandy (nee Dressel) and family in your prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Stephanie Swedberg and Alberto Rebolledo who were married in Wisconsin on August 30, 2014. Steph's parents are Doug and Annette Swedberg.



YOUTH GROUP

October 7th-12th Youth Group activities include an exciting hayride at Russ and Judy Lloyds and a week off to catch our breath. The schedule for the month of October is given directly below. If any of our families would like to sponsor an event like bowling or a movie and popcorn night or a WOW Zone party or some other event, we would love to hear from you. We would like to have a special event about once a month if we can fit them in.



the month of October is given directly below. If any of our families would like to sponsor an event like bowling or a movie and popcorn night or a WOW Zone party or some other event, we would love to hear from you. We would like to have a special event about once a month if we can fit them in.

Oct 5 – Youth Group at the church, 4:00-5:30pm

Oct 12 – Hayride & Bonfire at Lloyd's, 4:00pm-???

Oct 19 – No Youth Group

Oct 26 – Youth Group at the church, 4:00-5:30pm

THE CHURCH IN ACTION

Showing Evidence of Growth In Christ

Remember to encourage each other by participating in our Church in Action initiative. Help us track of our growth in Christ as we keep track of our Prayer, Study, Service, Sharing and Witnessing habits. Let's take action for the Kingdom of God!

DORCAS FELLOWSHIP

The Dorcas Fellowship ladies will meet Tuesday, October 14 at 1:30pm at church.

CHURCH BOARD MEETING

Members will meet at the church on Tuesday, October 14 at 7:30pm.



IT'S TIME FOR SHOE BOXES!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

PREPARE – Get ready to pack a shoebox or two or twelve to give to Operation Christmas Child. In its 21 years, more than 109 million boxes have been given out to children in over 130 countries! In the 14 years that our Cleveland church family has participated in OCC, we have given 1,178 boxes. Last year, our Cleveland congregation collected 129 shoeboxes – our highest year's total yet! What will we do this year?

BOXES – We will have official OCC shoeboxes you may use for filling.

PICK-UP, SHOP & RETURN – See our OCC display at church which will be in place by October 19. It will have instructions for packing a shoebox and other helpful information. Empty official OCC shoeboxes will be available. Filled shoeboxes need to be returned to our building by Sunday, November 23.

OR DONATE MONEY – Julie Dittrich has again agreed to shop & put together shoeboxes for those who would rather just donate a gift of money. Any amount is welcomed. Julie will buy & pack according to what donations she receives. Money donations can be dropped in the marked black mailbox at church and Julie will go from there. Try to do that by early November, so Julie will have time to shop & pack & return them by November 23.

OR PACK A BOX ONLINE – With a few clicks of your computer mouse, you can build a shoebox online. Choose from a list of gifts; then add a personal letter and photo. With an online donation, the OCC folks will pack your shoebox and sent it for you.

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/>

CLEVELAND CHURCH POTLUCK & PACKING PARTY – A fellowship/potluck meal of soups & bread will be held after our worship service on Sunday, **November 23**, 2014. Following the potluck, anyone who wishes can help pack shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. If you would like to donate items to be packed on November 23rd, put them in the marked boxes in the church foyer. All are invited to join in this OCC party on November 23rd!

If you have any questions about Operation Christmas Child at the Cleveland Church, contact Betty Lloyd or visit www.samaritanspurse.org.

CLEVELAND CHURCH DROP OFF LOCATION –

This will be our 5th year as an official OCC Drop-Off Location. This means community members and nearby churches can bring their filled shoe boxes to us and we will see they get to the next. We need volunteers to run our Drop Off Location from Monday, November 17 to Monday, November 24 at specified times. See our sign up list with needed time slots to fill at church. Questions about our Drop Off Location can be answered by Claudia Essman.

OCC PROSESSING CENTER – We have reserved some spots to volunteer at the Twin Cities OCC Processing Center on Monday, December 8 from 2-6pm. See Claudia Essman if you would like to be a volunteer.



From Operation Christmas Child

Gift SUGGESTIONS

- **SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.
- **TOYS:** Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.
- **NON-LIQUID HYGIENE ITEMS:** Toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.
- **ACCESSORIES:** T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.
- **A PERSONAL NOTE:** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)
- **DO NOT INCLUDE:** Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out- of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

<http://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/#gift-suggestions>



DID YOU KNOW . . .

We held our Friend Day on September 14th — 249 attended the worship service!



Cleveland Church of Christ
Friend Day
September 14, 2014



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Please join us for a day of Celebration on October 12th.

- 3:00 Crossroads College Campus Room 202
PRAYER WALK: Celebration of our 101 years
- 4:00 Alumni Association meeting in Room S102
Vote on bylaws and constitution changes, approve officers, and recruit new Board members
- 4:30 Supper on your own
- 6:00 Celebration of Service- Hope Summit Christian Church 1315 6th Avenue SE, Rochester, MN
Including the presentation of the Distinguished Service Awards to Ruth Picker and Roger Langseth

facebook

Many of the pictures you see in this email newsletter and email newsletters from previous months have NOT been in our mailed printed edition. See them and many others on Facebook at "[Church of Christ, Cleveland, MN, USA](#)." "Like" and "Follow" us for the latest pictures & happenings with occasional "blasts from the past." We have several Cleveland church "alumni" among our FB friends and that has been a neat online gathering of church family.