

# CHURCH OF CHRIST MEETING IN CLEVELAND, MN

January 2015  
Vol.33 No.01



## A GOOD FORGETFULNESS

By John Kester, Pastor

A strange thing has happened to my memory over the years. The older I get, the harder it gets to hold on to the things that I need to remember. I left town one Saturday to go to one of my daughter's events without unlocking the church for a bridal shower that was to be held that day. Much to my relief, the person using the building knew our congregation well enough that they were able, after several attempts, to find someone at home with a key to let them in. I forget the names of people I have known for decades and I forget the names of people who just told me their name 15 seconds ago. I have a tough time remembering appointments if I do not write them down. It is hard to remember.

Except there are some things I would like to forget that I just can't get out of my head. Lines from songs like "who knew we had 8,000 salad plates?" (from the movie 'Frozen') or "losing feeling in my toes" (from a Geico commercial) are stuck in my head. I can't seem to forget that time that someone said something that hurt my feelings. If someone criticized me I probably can remember the conversation word for word. Somehow my mind holds on to past hurts and slights and mistakes, but it seems incapable of remembering the things I need to do.

Scripture suggests that there are times when we need to be intentional about forgetting things. Paul said, "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."

Perhaps you are thinking that you can't just forget things that have happened. You feel like you are stuck in the past. Paul says the way that we forget the past is that we strain towards what is ahead. We intentionally shift our focus from what has taken place in the past and move our focus to the goal that lies ahead of us. Many of the people I know who struggle with letting go of the past are people who are not straining forward towards what lies ahead. They live in the past and so they cannot forget the pain of the past.

My goal for this year is to forget the things that try to pull me down and hold me back. I want to forget them by being so engaged in what is yet to come, by being so consumed by the good things God has in store for me and all those who honor Him, that I just forget the negative because there are so many good things to devote my time and energy to. I want to be forgetful this year – in a good way. I want to forget the negative and cling to the positive. I want to press forward and not be held back by the past. I want to reach the goal that Christ has laid before me. Let's be forgetful together this year.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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](http://www.clevelandchurch.net/index.php?p=1_212)



# Happy New Year

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JANUARY 2015** Updated 1-1-2015

All events are at the church building unless otherwise noted.

\* Indicates an article is elsewhere in this newsletter.

- Jan 1 – New Year’s Day
- Jan 1 – Annual Reports due
- Jan 4 – Choir practice at 9:30am
- Jan 4 – Music Team will sing for worship
- Jan 4,11,18,25 – Choir practice at 9:30am
- Jan 11 – Bible presentation to 4th graders
- Jan 11 – Monthly Building Offering
- Jan 13 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm
- Jan 13 – Church Board Meeting at 7:30pm
- Jan 18 – Congregational Annual Meeting \*
- Jan 22 – February newsletter articles due

### LONG RANGE PLANNING

- Feb 1,8,15,22 – Choir practice at 9:30am
- Feb 1 – Music Team will sing for worship
- Feb 8 – Monthly Building Offering
- Feb 10 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm
- Feb 10 – Church Board Meeting at 7:30pm
- Feb 19 – March newsletter articles due

**BIRTHDAYS:** January 1- Ethan Muell; 2- Ryan Chadderdon, Lois Lloyd, Patti Zuelch; 3- Adam Robinson; 7- Evan Will; 10- Kelsey Homeier, Bill Morsching; 12- Ciara Guentzel; 13- Jarrett Duciaume, Mary Meyer; 16- Clint Godden; 18- Jolene Christensen, 19- Laura Dickie, Art Poll; 24- Kevin Gibbs, Troy Miller; 25- Sam Samuel (missionary son in India); 29- Selena Ely, Ben Strand

**ANNIVERSARY:** January 8- Dale & Liz Rogers

### OUR WINTER STORM POLICY

The Cleveland Church of Christ services will be held in spite of inclement weather. We ask that people use their best judgment about coming to services if the weather is not good.



### DORCAS FELLOWSHIP

The Dorcas Fellowship ladies will meet Tuesday, January 13 at 1:30pm at church. All women are invited to come to this.

### CONGRATULATIONS

to Izzy and Drew Johnson who were married December 13, 2014. Izzy’s parents are Dan & Jolene Christensen.



### A FOND FAREWELL



The Cleveland Church of Christ family would like to wish Art Poll a fond farewell. Art made the difficult decision to sell his house in Cleveland so that he could move closer to his family. He will be spending time with his son Donn over the winter and then move into a duplex in Minneapolis next door to his daughter Cindy in July 2015. Art lived in Cleveland as a child when his dad was the pastor here in the 1930’s. He moved back to Cleveland after he married Amy. They made their home here for more than 50 years. Art was a great friend of this church and we will sincerely miss his presence among us.

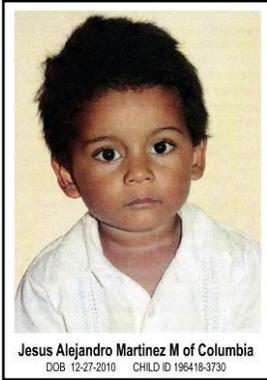
### ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 18, 2015. All Annual reports are due into the office by Thursday, January 8, 2015.



Over the past three months our congregation has been taking part in a project to track our actions in the 5 categories of prayer, study, service, hospitality and witness. It has been an exciting time as we have encouraged each other and spurred one another on to greater efforts in these areas. Some of the highlights of the initiative were seeing over 450 acts of service recorded since October 1. We saw almost 200 separate instances of people sharing their faith about Jesus. We saw that prayer and Bible study are a regular part of the lives of people in this congregation. It was good for each of us to be reminded that the church at work is not just what I do, but what everyone in the body does to honor our Savior. In total over 1550 separate acts of devotion to Jesus were recorded in the past three months. Thank you to each person who gives their lives to Jesus each day. Pastor John K

## Introducing



Jesus of Columbia who is our newly assigned World Vision child supported by our congregation's High School youth.

We received word in 2014 that the child Bleider who we had supported for 1 year will not need our sponsorship any longer because his family moved. We now

welcome 4 year old Jesus to our financial care.

Jesus lives with his parents and 1 brother in Del Sueno A La Reakidad in Colombia, South America. His father is a driver and struggles to meet the family's needs. Not in school yet, Jesus likes to play soccer. He helps at home and is in satisfactory health.

Sponsoring Jesus will help provide him and his community with school fees, scholarships, health care, special-need care and improved nutrition. Our support also provides vocational training to help parents of the community to raise their standard of living. Finally, through Christian witness, Jesus will have a chance to know the love and grace of God. Pray for Jesus and our High School youth as they share with Jesus in his sponsorship.



## 2015 Summer Camp Schedule

Pine Haven Christian Assembly

[www.pinehavencamp.org](http://www.pinehavencamp.org)

Based on grades going into Fall 2015

Cleveland is in Zone A

Work Weekend	May 14-16
Fishing Weekend	May 22-25
Ladies Retreat	June 12-14
11th-12th Grade	June 21-27
Family Week	June 28-July 3
9th-10th Grade	July 5-11
5th-6th Grade Zone A	July 12-17
Adult Weekend	July 17-19
7th-8th Grade Zone A	July 19-25
Deeper Life	July 29-Aug 2
Greenhorns (3rd-4th Grade)	Aug 2-5
Family Weekend	Aug 6-9
Motorcycle Weekend	Aug 14-16
Ministry Leadership Retreat	Aug 16-18
Last Chance Camp	Sept 4-7
Scrapbook/Craft Weekend	Sept 17-20



L-R: Connie Phillips, Gary Kunz, Amy Den Herder



Beginner's Class singing during Worship Service



Our Christmas program "The Letters of Christmas"



Anna, Kortney, Joyce, Annette, Betty at Operation Christmas Child Minneapolis Processing Center