

# FIRSTCHRISTIANEVANGEL

NOVEMBER 2016



## FIRSTCHRISTIAN

A Church of Praying, Growing, Serving Disciples

### OUR MISSION

We exist to *WIN* people to Christ, *GROW* them in Christ and *SEND* them out on behalf of Christ all for the glory of God.

### OUR STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Mel Workman: Senior Minister  
Matt Davis: Youth Minister  
Chuck Bartlett: Pastoral Care Minister  
Rick Endebrock: Worship Minister  
Jane Baker: Office Administrator  
Cathy Oakley: Custodian

Eldership:  
Doug McClure  
John Letizia  
Joe Briggerman  
Matt Frankie

### STAY CONNECTED

190 E 6th, P O Box 156  
Neoga IL 62447  
www.fccneoga.org

217-895-3930  
office@fccneoga.org

Prayer request and connection cards are available in the pew holder.  
Join the prayer text message group by texting 217-246-7775.

### THIS WEEK

#### SUNDAY (10/30):

Sunday School, 9:00 am  
Worship, 10:00 am  
FCC Prayer Gathering (War Room), 5:00 pm  
Ladies' Small Group (Fellowship Hall), 6:00 pm  
4/14 Small Groups, 6:30 pm

#### TUESDAY (11/1):

Volunteers at Heartland, 9:45am-Noon

#### WEDNESDAY (11/2):

Ladies' Small Group (Fellowship Hall), 9:30 am  
4/14 (641 W 6th, Neoga), 6:00-8:00 pm

#### THURSDAY (11/3):

Potter's Small Group (War Room), 10:30 am  
Community Clothesline, 1:00-7:00 pm  
Community Meal (A Thanksgiving meal)  
5-6:30 pm  
Neoga Community Food Pantry, 5:00-7:00 pm

#### NEXT SUNDAY (11/6):

Sunday School, 9:00 am  
Worship, 10:00 am  
FCC Prayer Gathering (War Room), 5:00 pm  
Ladies' Small Group, 6:00 pm  
4/14 Small Groups, 6:30 pm

# WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us for worship... We are glad you are here. Our desire is that God would bless and direct this time together and that our worship would be in Spirit and in Truth.

## FIRSTTIMEVISITOR

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>COMMUNION</b> | Please join us in remembering the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ with communion celebration. We partake in the juice and bread together as a church after the communion prayer.  |
| <b>OFFERING</b>  | We give tithes and offerings as an act of worship, obedience, celebration, and thanksgiving to the Lord. Please make a note in memo line for designated offerings. <i>If you are a guest, you are not expected or obligated to give.</i> |
| <b>BIBLES</b>    | If you need a bible to read, please take one of the pew bibles.  |
| <b>PRAYER</b>    | If you have a prayer need, fill out the prayer card in your pew and place it in the offering plate otherwise call the church office or a send text to 217-246-7775.  |

## OPERATIONCHRISTMASCHILD

The Amazing Journey of a Simple Shoebox Gift Begins with You and Results in Evangelism, Discipleship, and Multiplication. [How do I get involved?](#)

- **Find a Shoe Box.** FCC Missions team has preprinted shoeboxes from Samaritan's Purse available in the foyer. If you provide your own shoebox (*prayer cards & "How to pack a shoebox" are available on the easel*), please have the lid and box wrapped separately
- **Boy or Girl?** Decide whether you will pack a box for a girl or a boy, and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.
- **Fill with Gifts.** Select a quality "wow" toy such as a doll, soccer ball with pump, or stuffed animal. Then add other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. More suggestions are available in the "How to pack a shoebox" pamphlet located in preprinted box, easel or online.
- **Pray .** Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift. You can also include a personal note and photo.
- **Follow Your Box Labels.** Donate \$7 online and receive a tracking label to Follow Your Box and discover the destination of your shoebox gift. FCC Missions will cover the shipping costs on FCC boxes.
- **Drop-Off.** Take your shoebox gift to FCC by **November 20.**

In the hands of local churches, every gift-filled shoebox is a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship-transforming the lives of children and their families around the work through the Good News of Jesus Christ! Samaritan's Purse includes the storybook "The greatest gift" in each shoe box which shares the good news of Jesus Christ. After receiving shoebox gifts, boys and girls are invited to enroll in the Greatest Journey, our 12-lesson discipleship program where children learn to faithfully follow Christ and share their faith with others. *Learn more about Operation Christmas Child* at [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ)

# PRAYER IS THE BATTLE

Prayer is the primary work of God's people. It is a vital connection to God where we can hear from, listen to, and respond to the Lord.

## FCC REQUESTS

**Current:** OCC Shoeboxes, Pat Miah, Ivan Cooper, Marge Hall, Anias & Jadon (separation surgery recovery), Clara Elgin, Barry/Ann Conn, Dan Letizia (hospice).

**Ongoing Concerns:** 4/14, Neoga Community Christmas Cantata, Building Project, Lila Bear, Alan/Linda Baker-belize children, North American Christian Convention-Kansas City 6/27-29/2017, AA and Celebrate recovery.

**In Care Facilities:** Ann Conn, Carolyn Gast, Elsie Phillips, Ivan Cooper, Clara Elgin.

**Fighting Cancer:** Ann Conn, Carol Mefford, Christie Wright, Dan Letizia, Denny Mefford, Jr., Elizabeth Weidner, Larry Wheeler, Lila Bear, Lis White, Patty Johnson, Wilfred Good

**In the Military:** Jalen Blazich, Jared Blazich, Tyler Briggerman, Shane Gephardt, Josh Kiest, Wes Letizia, Alicia/ Steve Tordoff

**Missions:** Christian Campus House, Compassion International, Heartland Christian Village, HIS Home for Children, Hopewell, Neoga Community Food Pantry, Oblong Christian Children's Home, Oil Belt Christian Service Camp, Rapha House, Ryan/ Melinda Hicks, Thirst Missions.

## KINGDOM REQUESTS

- That we would grow in obedience and surrender as disciples individually & corporately.
- That we would be united as healthy disciples as the Body of Christ.
- That we would live reflecting Christ as we BLESS people for God's glory.
- That we would hear and follow God's leading in all areas

## DISCIPLES JOURNAL

**My Time with The Savior** is a journal you can use during your daily quiet time. The journal will help you focus on several important disciplines. Character traits, memory verses, prayer journaling and daily bible study. Call or email the office for a copy.

**DAY1:** Colossians 1:3-11

**CHARACTER TRAIT** of the week: GRATITUDE vs. Unthankfulness.

**DAY2:** Romans 12:3

*Expressing to God and others that what they are doing is bringing me closer to Christ.*

**DAY3:** I Corinthians 4:7

**DAY4:** 2 Corinthians 9:13-14

**MEMORYVERSE:**

I Corinthians 4:7

**DAY5:** Ephesians 1:15-17

**OCTOBER** 5 x 5 Reading Plan: 5 minutes a day, 5 days a week.

1: John 14

9: John 20

17: Reflection

25: Reflection

2: John 15

10: Reflection

18: Reflection

26: 2 Peter 2

3: Reflection

11: Reflection

19: I Thessalonians 5

27: 2 Peter 3

4: Reflection

12: John 21

20: 2 Thessalonians 1

28: Jude 1

5: John 16

13: I Thessalonians 1

21: 2 Thessalonians 2

29: Revelation 1

6: John 17

14: I Thessalonians 2

22: 2 Thessalonians 3

30: Revelation 2

7: John 18

15: I Thessalonians 3

23: 2 Peter 1

8: John 19

16: I Thessalonians 4

24: Reflection

## LADIES'SMALLGROUP

Ladies, as we approach our Savior's birth, please consider participating in **The Family of Jesus** study led by Karen Kingsbury (DVD) this November and the first week of December.

- Our study will begin October 30/November 2 with Joseph: Husband, Protector, Servant.
- Other family members we will study in November include Zachariah, John the Baptist, and Elizabeth.
- The week of December 4/December 7 our focus will be on Jesus' mother, Mary.
- We will conclude this study January 8/January 11 with the focus on James.

Karen Kingsbury, with her gift of storytelling, her knowledge of the Scriptures and her biblical historical research will take us deeper into each family member's unique role in God's redemption story through Jesus. Each person has a strength and a struggle all of which is culturally relevant to our lives today. The sessions include discussions, Karen's DVD presentation, group study of scriptures, 12-15 pages of homework for the week, fellowship, and prayer. To provide flexibility, this study will meet on Sunday at 6:00 pm or Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the FCC basement fellowship area for approximately 90 minutes. We encourage you to join us on Sunday evening or Wednesday morning; there is always room for you in the Ladies Small Group. Please sign up at the Welcome Center today.

## SENIORS'FELLOWSHIP

**Senior Breakfast (November 29):** All seniors are encouraged to meet the last Tuesday of the month at 8:00 am at The Depot for breakfast. Come enjoy the fellowship and begin the morning with a breakfast of your choice. Note, each one pays for his own meal.

**Coming Event: Senior Fellowship, Thursday, December 8, 2016 11:00 am – 1:00 pm:**

Max Lucado stated "Christmas begins what Easter celebrates. The child in the cradle became the King on the cross. Because of Bethlehem, we have a Savior in heaven." Seniors, put your traveling shoes on as we are going to visit Jerusalem, St Peter In Gallicantu, the Upper Room, Gethsemane, Church of Holy Sepulchre, Garden Tomb, and Bethlehem, via the DVD, with Dr. Jack Hayford as our guide. This session will conclude our visit to the Holy Land. Following this inspiring journey, we will have lunch with the staff; we will also share memories of Christmas past. Meat, drinks, and table service will be provided; each person should bring a vegetable, salad, or dessert to share.

# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The **annual Congregational Meeting of FCC** will be held Sunday, November 13 after worship in the sanctuary. Our tentative agenda is to discuss the 2017 Budget, the new Financial Board, the building project, and Q & A time. Childcare will be provided. Please note the following proposed 2017 Budget and the Financial Board candidates that will be voted on at this meeting.

If you have any specific questions for the financial board, elder or staff, please contact them before the meeting.

**Elders:** Doug McClure, John Letizia, Joe Briggerman, Matt Frankie

**Financial Board:** Jane Baker, Joe Briggerman, Matt Frankie, Jack Gilbert, John Letizia, Doug McClure, Terry Miller, Monte Page, Richard Russell, Don Scoles, Pam Storm, and Jim Wilson.

## FINANCIAL BOARD

### Candidates for Membership Approval

Vickie Erwin

Zach Letizia

Greg Oakley

Tom Tomlinson

Andrea Workman

## 2017 BUDGET

	2016	2017
<b>EDUCATION:</b> Adult ministries, Curriculum, Sunday School, Tuition Scholarships, Women's.	3,779.00	5,140.00
<b>EVANGELISM:</b> Advertising, Back to School, Benevolence, Community Clothesline, Community Outreach, Community Worship.	13,500.00	7,700.00
<b>FELLOWSHIP:</b> Congregational meals, Funeral Dinners, Memorials, Seniors.	1,225.00	1,200.00
<b>MISSIONS</b>	16,860.00	16,860.00
<b>OPERATIONS:</b> Auto, Insurance, Minor Repairs, Services, Supplies, Utilities, Office.	49,068.00	37,100.00
<b>REAL PROPERTY:</b> Major repairs, Savings	12,000.00	6,000.00
<b>STAFF</b>	144,576.00	144,576.00
<b>WORSHIP:</b> Communion, Equipment, Music.	4,100.00	4,000.00
<b>YOUTH:</b> Children (Birth-5th), Student (6th-12th)	13,500.00	18,830.00
<b>BUDGET TOTALS:</b>	<b>258,608.00</b>	<b>241,406.00</b>

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### GIVING LAST WEEK

\$7023.80

### YTD AVERAGE

\$4,703.36

### BUILDING FUND RECEIVED

\$200.00

### BUILDING FUND BALANCE

\$388,242

### DESIGNATED GIVING

\$200.00

### WEEKLY BUDGET

\$4,973.23

Thank you for investing resources

## 4/14UPDATE

4/14 is going great and we are making some changes. I have recently been reading a book called "Herding Cats, Teaching and Leading in a Postmodern World", in reading this book I have come to understand we need to make some changes in what we do. Church is going to change, it will look different than it ever has, we need to embrace these changes and lead people to Christ. Now don't think I am turning into a heretic, some aspects of the church should never change: God is the perfect creator of Heaven and Earth and we are made in His image. We have free will and have sinned against God, separating ourselves from Him. God came to Earth to be born of a virgin, lived a perfect life and died for our sins and raised to life on the third day. He was both fully God and fully man, at the same time and will return for us. The Bible is the perfect word of God, without fault and useful to teach us today.

For years "church" has been based around weekly, large group gatherings. As time progresses those gatherings will still happen but "church" will be when people get together in community. As a youth minister, I notice this, "church" happens for kids in talking with me at lunch, meeting at basketball games or seeing each other out around town and talking. Many of them experience "church" at the park on Wednesdays while they are waiting for youth group to begin.

Kids today experience God while they are living life, but they are still flocking to our weekly, large youth group meetings. This got me thinking, "Why are kids coming and how can we better help them live community?" Through talking this over with Jennifer, we realized that many of the kids we have coming to youth group don't have a large community to be a part of, they have small groups of friends and they come to 4/14 because they are seeking that community. So, what can we do to support that community? Pizza!

We have a lot of kids who realize if they ride the bus home on Wednesday, they won't have a ride to youth group, so they walk to the park and hang out there until we open the doors. Many of these kids are not getting supper until they get home that night. Last month I asked how many of the kids were hungry and 75% raised their hands, they are teenagers, but when I asked how many hadn't eaten supper yet about 50% raised their hands. Do you know that Grace's backpack food ministry that provides food for hungry kids over the weekend packs food for 71 kids in our area every week? We have hungry kids.

We have started having a meal every Wednesday night now, it's just pizza, but it matters to the kids. It is easier to hear about Jesus when we have food in our stomachs. It is also easy to live in community while eating together. Papa Johns in Mattoon has stepped up to help us provide this food, through the hard work of one of their managers they are providing us pizza at a very good price.

*Continued...*

# NOVEMBER SERVERS

Tech Team	Greeters	Children's Ministry	Communion	Servers
<b>6</b> <u>Audio:</u> Aubrey <u>Video:</u> Jim	Charlotte Orr Rita Stewart	<u>Nursery:</u> Cathy & Mahayla Oakley <u>Wee Worship:</u> Sheri Coen, Andrea Workman <u>Primary Worship:</u> Zach Letizia <u>Warrior Worship:</u> Joni McClure	Jake Ballinger David Coen Don Coen Barry Conn	Kirby Davis Jack Gilbert Wendell Haws Bill Kenworthy
<b>13</b> <u>Audio:</u> Aubrey <u>Video:</u> Zach	Jim & Martha Wilson	<u>Nursery:</u> Joann Miller, Pam Storm <u>Wee Worship:</u> Louella Drum <u>Primary Worship:</u> Paula & Rory Gentry <u>Warrior Worship:</u> Joni McClure	Doug Moore Monte Page Greg Oakley JR Schisler	Harry Starwalt Tom Tomlinson Art Walk Chad Walk
<b>20</b> <u>Audio:</u> Tom <u>Video:</u> Jim	Tom & Cathy Tomlinson	<u>Nursery:</u> John & Reeni Letizia <u>Wee Worship:</u> Cheryl Gilbert, <u>Primary Worship:</u> Penny Hess <u>Warrior Worship:</u> Jennifer Davis	Doug Baker Jake Ballinger David Coen Don Coen	Barry Conn Kirby Davis Jack Gilbert Wendell Haws
<b>27</b> <u>Audio:</u> Tom <u>Video:</u> Zach	Terry & Joann Miller	<u>Nursery:</u> Judy Starwalt <u>Wee Worship:</u> Katie Hakman, Megan Robinson <u>Primary Worship:</u> Amber & Paul Lake <u>Warrior Worship:</u> Jennifer Davis	Bill Kenworthy Doug Moore Monte Page Greg Oakley	JR Schisler Harry Starwalt Tom Tomlinson Chad Walk

## 4/14UPDATE *Continued...*

What can you do?

Pray, participate, prepare and provide

**Pray:** safety, open hearts, time for volunteers, community, God's word to be heard

**Participate:** Doors open at 5:30; sit, talk, laugh and share Jesus

**Prepare:** I am bringing pizza, consider making a salad or cookies, teenagers eat anything

**Provide:** My schedule is going to get crazy when track season comes, consider volunteering to get the pizza on Wednesdays at 4:30

## WELCOMETO FCC

Noah Matthew Clyde Frankie

Born: 10-21-2016 at 6:05pm,  
22.5 inches, 8 lbs. 14 oz.



## COMMUNITY CLOTHESLINE

### October 6:

46 Families 140 Individuals

### October 20:

9 Families 26 Individuals

The Community Clothesline is in need of Men's jeans, flannel shirts and hooded sweatshirts. We are also in need of girls long sleeve shirts and pants in all sizes.

Donations can be left in the shed in front of the old elementary school

## COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

### October:

52 families, 155 people served  
4 deliveries  
14 volunteers, 27.5 hours

### Items of the Month:

**November:** catsup

**December:** green beans



