



# THE SPENCER CHRISTIAN



## Dan's Wonderfulness May, 2013

Graduations are times of great celebration and transition. This Sunday, May 5, we'll celebrate the graduations of Taylor Anderson, Jonas Lungstrass, and Sean McCord from Spencer High School. Be sure to congratulate them all on their success. And while we celebrate all they have done, we also recognize that this time is also, in some ways, a little bittersweet. This moment means Jonas will someday quite soon be leaving us, and Taylor and Sean will be entering a new phase of life, exploring educational and vocational paths, some of which may be done among us and some of which may not. No matter what, though, let us not make the mistake churches so often make of looking at the time of high school graduation as a graduation from church. While we have striven to make a place for our young people among us, let our care and attention to them continue; let our ministry to them continue on.

In addition to our high school there are a few other celebrations to lift up as well. Scott McCord is graduating this semester from Nebraska Christian College with a Bachelor's degree in Worship Arts. Andy Kimbell is graduating from the University of South Dakota with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Brent Kimbell is graduating from National American University with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management. And I'm especially proud to mention that my lovely, intelligent wife, Michele, is graduating from Columbia College with a Master's degree in Criminal Justice.

This month also marks a graduation for me, as well, as my Doctor of Ministry studies at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary have been completed. I will present the oral defense of my dissertation on May 16 and graduate on May 18. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your roles in helping me complete it. Some of you participated in focus group interviews and meetings, many of you filled out surveys, and all of it helped me to complete my dissertation. So please, accept my thanks for the blessings you have given me. As you all in some way are participants in this journey, you are, of course, invited to my graduation as well. It will be at 9:30 am on May 18th in the brand new Heritage Center on the University of Dubuque campus (located at the intersection of Bennett St. and McCormick St.). That being said, it is a five hour drive to Dubuque so while the invitation is extended, I certainly understand the inconvenience it would take to attend. I will consider the entire congregation there with me in spirit. And again, thank you all for your help in completing this journey.

Blessings,

Dan

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

You are invited to Liturgy (the holy work), a new worship and spiritual formation experience. Each week you will experience an informal atmosphere and intimate setting of praise, prayer, and communion and scripture study. It will be held on Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m. Come as you are. Leave transformed.

### Sunday Worship:

Praise Team Practice **9:00** a.m.

Church School **9:30** a.m.

Worship Service **10:45** a.m.

Youth Group **4:00** p.m.

**Senior Recognition Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**

### DIRECT DEPOSIT

We now have the capability for direct depositing your contribution. If interested please call Mary on Monday or Thursday's.

### COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND

The Elders will be bringing communion to the homebound on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

### SIGN UP

You will note on the serving schedule that there are opportunities for you to serve. There is a sign up on the bulletin board in the west hallway or give the office a call.

### FOOD PANTRY

The Disciple Women are continuing the food drive for the Upper Des Moines Food Pantry. We invite everyone to participate by bringing any non-perishable food items or paper products. Place your items in the grocery cart provided near the front door. We appreciate all the help!

### CMF MEETING

There will be a Christian Men's Fellowship Meeting on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. All men of the church and guests are invited to attend.

### BLOOD DRIVE

Life Serve Blood Center will conduct a blood drive on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 from 12:30 pm – 5:30 pm in the Maple Conference Room at Spencer Hospital.

### BRIDAL SHOWER

Members are invited to a Bridal Shower for Angela Zech on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 11-1 at the Prime Rib Party Room in Spencer. Jason and Angie are registered at Brendlee's Hallmark and Wal-Mart.

RSVP to Gracie 712-240-2111

### GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS

Dick and Deanna McCord invite members to a graduation open house for Sean on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 5-8 p.m. At their home, 1708 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. S.E. in Spencer.

Barry and Dana Anderson invite members to join in celebration of graduation for daughter, Taylor. A reception will be held at First Christian Church Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

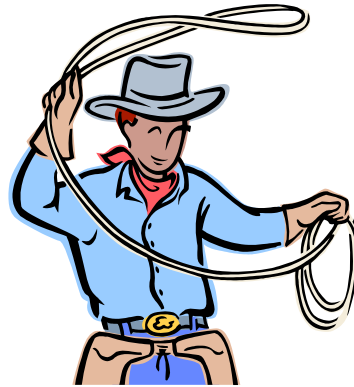


Brian and Sonya Nash with baby daughter Abigail. Abigail was dedicated to the church on April 7<sup>th</sup>.



Brady & Timothy Sydney were dedicated to the church on April 21<sup>st</sup> by their parents Brian and Crystal Sydney.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**VBS June 10-14<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-11:30 a.m.**

Mark your calendars for your children to attend !

The theme this year is SonWest Roundup, a Wild West adventure! Children will enjoy singing songs, watching skits, creating crafts and playing games; while they discover Jesus provides what they truly need in every challenge of life.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for volunteers to help with various activities or snacks.



DW/CWF met at 1:30 p.m. on April 4<sup>th</sup> for a delicious dessert luncheon served by the Esther group, Nancy Triggs, Leader.

We have a balance of \$1,809.89 in the treasury. The Easter Meditation offering was \$291 for the Christian Conference Center. Thank you Ruth Kirlin and people who helped do the program. We received a thank you from Church World Service for Blanket Sunday \$545., a thank you from Faith Lutheran for helping serve Lenten community service and a thank you to Coreen Boernsen and the ladies who furnished bars and worked.

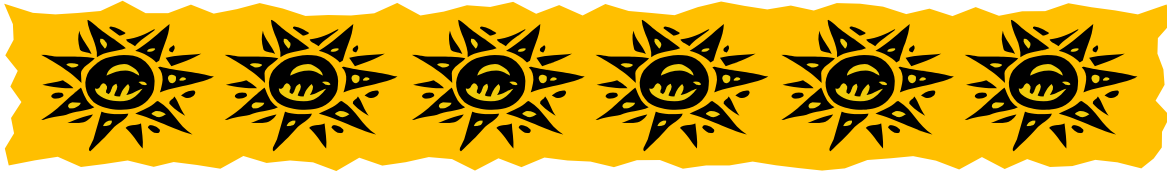
Linda Gaston from the Lydia group did Blessing Box dedication. She gave the definition of blessing from the dictionary and blessing from scripture: Ecclesiastics, James, Ephesians and

Isaiah. Ladies put their blessing gifts in basket and took our blessing scriptures which each read aloud. Meeting closed with CWF benediction.

Dear Lord,  
Help us to serve others and learn that loves grows from giving. Thank you for your steadfast love and that no situation we face is too difficult if you are with us. Give us faith to persevere. Thank you for your blessings in our lives and the gift of your son, Jesus. Give us the spirit of love and let your love flow through us to others.

Amen

Margaret Anderson, Secretary



## FROM OUR MAILBOX

Dear Members,

Thank you so much for your contribution to the Our Path Together plan for The Christian Conference Center. As Disciples Together we can achieve our goals for now and our future generations.

We are also using volunteer help to keep our costs down. The work schedule can be found on the web site, and all volunteers are welcome.

Thank you again for your support to have the next 50 years on Holy Ground as memorable as the last 50 years.

On Behalf of the Our Path Together Team Members,  
Coral Sorenson

(Donations to date from Spencer FCC to Our Path Together:  
Disciple Women \$291, Outreach \$1000, Private member \$50)

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Dear FCC of Spencer,

Thank you so much for the hymnals and your expression of concern and support for us. Our Easter service was glorious! We appreciate your prayers as we rebuild and move forward.

Sincerely,

First Christian Church, Owensboro, KY

First Christian Church,

Thank you so much for caring about making other lives a little easier. Your contribution of food & bread for those in this area who are less fortunate is greatly appreciated!

These past few years have been challenging for so many of our local families. We are grateful for your partnership in our mission of neighbors helping neighbors and appreciate all you do.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Anita Jorgensen, Clay County Director  
Upper Des Moines Opportunity

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First Christian Church,

Thank you for your financial support of ATLAS of Spencer. (\$200) We are blessed by it!

Your support helps us to continue with our two main purposes: to assist those in need by being a supporting friend and guiding them to a better path in life; to provide opportunity for churches to reach out and help someone. Both of our purposes have a single mission: to help people know the love of Jesus Christ!

Thank you,  
Scott Timmer, ATLAS

# Happy Anniversary



Ruth & Maurice Kirlin	2
Jim & Jennifer Conard	5
Dave & Deb Kimbell	15
Jerry & Sherry Groenewold	16
Bev & Norm Dudziak	24

## May Birthdays

Tyson Zellaha	3
Julie Kinsley	17
Sean McCord	19
Shayna Zellaha	20
Alice Gaston	22
Kelly Blume	25
Glen Petersen	29
Saige Mayes	30
Coreen Boernsen	31
Heather Feucht	31

Kids First is a ministry of First Christian Church dedicated to helping meet the needs of infants and children in Spencer and the surrounding communities. Through FCC local outreach fund, donations, and help from local businesses, Kids 1<sup>st</sup> offers baby needs (diapers, wipes, diaper creams, baby wash/lotion, etc) for a reduced cost to families once a month. Everyone qualifies (Limit per family) to purchase diapers, wipes and other supplies. Prices are subject to change. The next date is **May 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 pm.** Proceeds and donations will go to replenish the baby items for the next month.

### Prayers and Concerns

**Prayers:** Fernn Steward, John Steward, Alice Gaston, Gerry Griffiths, Betty Hollander, Marie Clarke, Niles Swancutt, Bob & Marge Guerttman, Jim Gelner, Dorothy Veitch, Ken Hicks, Jack Easter, Denise Salton, Harriet Johannsen, Ron Klinsky, Brent Kimbell, Open Source (New Church Start in Rochester, MN)

- **Condolences:** To Linda Zech on the loss of her mother, Marge Fairchild. For Larry Clark on the loss of his mother, Betty Neet.

**Celebrations:**

### May Lectionary Readings

May 5 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter	Deuteronomy 15:1-18	Psalms 129	Matthew 18: 1-14(15-20)	2 Corinthians 9
May 12 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter	Jeremiah 9:23- 24; 24:1-10	Psalms 115	Mark 11:27-33	2 Corinthians 10
May 19 Pentecost	Exodus 4:1-17	Psalms 119:113-136	Matthew 10:9-23	2 Corinthians 11-1;12:1
May 26 Trinity Sunday	1Kings 9:1-9; 11:1-13	Psalms 35	John 15: 18-25(26-27) 16:1-4a	2 Corinthians 12:11-21; 13:1-10(11-13)

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When you or a family member is hospitalized, please let the church office know at 262-2945, so we can have the opportunity to minister to you. The hospital is not allowed to tell us of patient admissions.

**Office Hours:** Financial and Membership Secretary Mary Schomaker will be in the office on Monday's and Thursday's 7:30-3. However, those times may be somewhat flexible, so call first if you need to see her. Custodian's Hours: Linda Zech is scheduled on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you need her to do something, please call



ahead of time. Her hours are flexible, but if she is not at the church, you may leave a message for her with someone else or on the answering machine.



**Newsletter Deadline** will be the Tuesday before the last Sunday of the month with the exception of some months due to the holidays .The next **deadline is February 19<sup>th</sup>**

Send Article information to [news@spencerdisciples.org](mailto:news@spencerdisciples.org).

**Contact information:** Please tell the church office about any e-mail changes, additions and/or deletions. By having your current e-mail address, it will save the church money by reducing paper, printing and postage costs. Plus the addresses will only be used for church purposes. Thanks!

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

Phones: Office, 262-2945; Pastor's Office, 262-1029; Cell, 270-0004

Dan Mayes, Pastor	<a href="mailto:dan@spencerdisciples.org">dan@spencerdisciples.org</a>
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First Christian Church...

...A community journeying together in faith, seeking God's will and being transformed into committed Disciples of Jesus Christ.

As a community journeying together in faith, we covenant to:

- gather around Christ's table,
- listen to the Holy Spirit,
- seek God in prayer,
- compassionately and lovingly serve others,
- live out and share the gospel,
- .. turn our lives and our church over to the lordship of Christ Jesus.



First Christian Church  
701 East 18<sup>th</sup> St  
PO Box 1440  
Spencer, IA 51301



**RECIPIENT NAME**  
**STREET ADDRESS**  
**ADDRESS 2**  
**CITY, ST ZIP CODE**