

# Pilgrim's Progress



# **May 2019**

"The purpose of this church shall be to bind together followers of Jesus Christ, for the object of sharing in the worship of God and in making His will dominant in the lives of men and women, especially as that will is set forth in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ."

Luke 24:50-53 "And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen."

Ephesians 1:19-20 "...and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when he raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,..."

May 30 is the traditional anniversary of the Ascension of the Lord Jesus to heaven, an event that is recorded at the end of the Gospel of Luke and again at the beginning of Luke's sequel, the Book of Acts. The Apostle Paul's commentary on what happened after Jesus was carried up into heaven is recorded in Ephesians. The Lord Jesus, who blessed His people; people who went on to bless Him over and again in the Temple, is seated at the right hand of God the Father, there to intercede for the church. But note that the power that raised Jesus from the dead and then seated Him at the right hand of the Father, that power has not left us. I believe that the person of the Holy Spirit, who resides with us and in us, is that power that makes Christ the head of the church in heaven and then makes us the body of Christ in the world. The same Spirit works in us as we pray for others around the world as He does when they pray for us. I believe that great power is most often involved in our prayers. We often do not see the results of our prayers for others and that can fool us into thinking that God is doing nothing, at least not in our lives or in this part of the world, but I think this promise that the power of God is at work in our lives is always true, even when we see no evidence of it at the moment. Be steadfast in prayer, I believe that is the way to be involved in that power mentioned in the Scriptures about the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus. -Pastor Dan

## Sermons for May



May 5 May12 May19 May 26 Matthew 2:16-23 Pastor out of town Matthew 5:2-12 Matthew 5:17-20 The Problem of Evil Harlan Nuss preaches The Pure in Heart The Perfect Representative



Dave & Paulette Berg	May 6, 1972	47 years
Aaron & Angie Dickey	May 10,1997	22 years
Matt & Amy Dammen	May 20, 2006	13 years
Blake & Sarah Latham	May 26, 2007	12 years
Steve & Alicia Storjohann	May 27, 1983	36 years



May	1 Grant Brintnall, Nichole Wimberly	May 11	Claire Meyer, Libby Meyer,
May 2	2 Kristi Hassler, Paul Packer, Esther Hougham	May 11	Patricia Morrison
May :	3 Sandy Packer	May 13	Kali Banks, Ken Morrison
May 4	4 Whitney Storjohann	May 15	Doug Randall
May (	5 Jennifer Allison, Megan Greenwood	May 19	Levi Storjohann
May	7 Doris McCarty, Chad Pinkston, Tanya Jordan	May 21	Bob Gaynor, Ken Winkler
May 8	B Ashley Beaty, Lisa Beaty	May 22	Lee Brintnall
May 9	Madison Swarts, Eleanor Tjossem	May 23	Raechel McGahuey, Judy Gaynor
May	10 Lisa Gruver, Cynthia Ragland, Jim Clark	May 31	Wendi Stanley
May '	10 Lennny Reeder, Nichole Vellinga	-	



# Please keep our Members in Care Facilities in your thoughts & prayers:

<u>Bickford Cottage</u>: Joanie Smith-Legg #108; Marilyn Rhodes # 123

<u>Grandview:</u> Pattye Morrison #107, Ken Niehouse #413 **IVH:** JoAnne Ainley **Southridge:** Betty Runner #212

Glenwood Place: Loretta Stubbe #150, Jan More #112, Mary Vellinga #117, Mildred Lathrop #145,

Bob Becker #175, Bonnie Pappas # 177, Lenora Brown #147, Esther Hougham #149

Northridge Village-Ames: Willis Fiscus #211 Suites of Ankeny: Don & Romaine Mackaman

The Willows: Lee & Valois Brintnall #317, Sanny Thompson #205



Youth Director: Shelly Speas Contact # 641-751-9868



"Power Hour" Power Hour every Sunday at 9:15am in the LOFT Preschool-4th grade class; 5-8th grade class; 9-12th grade class. We begin together with some worship & then split into classes.



May Youth Night Schedule: Wednesday Activities: May 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>. DOG's 4:30-5:30pm (preschool-5th grade); Jr. PY 6-7pm (6-8th grade); PY 7:30-8:30pm (9-12th grade)



May 22<sup>nd</sup> Let's have a BLAST at the end of the Year Pool party at the YMCA, preschool-12th together 6-7:30pm. More info to come!



YABS (Young Adult Bible Study) Young Adult Bible Study will meet Sunday, May 19th at 7pm at FCC in the Loft. Bible study for adults age 18-35. Currently studying from Andy Stanley's, "Me and My Big Mouth".



Adult Bible Study on Sunday, May 5th at 5:00pm. Meal provided in fellowship hall. Childcare also provided. Study will be in the Loft after dinner. We will begin a new study by Max Lucado, "Before Amen".



**GRADUATION SUNDAY** will be Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>. We will honor our graduates during the 10:30am Service and with a reception during fellowship time. Please join us in congratulating our graduates.

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Midajah Propp, daughter of of David Propp and Barb Jones, will graduate June 2<sup>nd</sup> from Marshalltown High School thru their affiliate school MLA (Marshalltown Learning Academy). The ceremony for the MLA students will be combined with the MHS ceremony. Midajah has been residing with Dan and Jeanne Vellinga and foreign exchange student Anan (Alice) Shen during her final year of high school. Midajah plans to attend a CNA program and desires to work at the Iowa Veteran's Home upon completion.



Mackenzie Moyer, daughter of Tory and Staci Moyer and granddaughter of Ron and Debi Estabrook will graduate from MHS. Future plans include two years at Marshalltown Community College then transferring to University of Iowa to pursue a degree in social sciences and a minor in theater arts. While at MHS she participated in Vocal Music, Drama, Mentors of Violence Prevention (MVP), Student Senate, and Speech (qualifying for state level competition all 4 years). Mackenzie would like to invite you to her graduation open house on June 1 from 11-2 at the American Legion (lower level).



David Dickey, son of Aaron & Angie Dickey, will graduate from Marshalltown High School on June 2nd. While attending MHS he received an Academic Letter and bar and a Band Letter & 3 bars. He will graduate in the top 18% of his class and has close to a 3.5 GPA. He participated in Marching Band, Concert, Jazz, and Pep Band during his H.S. career, which included a band trip to Arizona to march in the Fiesta Bowl Parade his freshman year. He also had art work on display at the Fisher Community Center during Youth Art Month his Junior & Senior year. He hopes to complete his Boy Scout Eagle Project this summer. David plans to attend lowa State University this fall and work towards a degree in Mechanical Engineering.



Madison and Morgan Luther, twin granddaughters of Rod & Kristi Hassler will graduate over Memorial Day Weekend. Madison will graduate from Grinnell High School; track was her sport of choice while in high school and she plans to attend UNI in the fall focusing her studies on Marketing and Design. Morgan will graduate from Ankeny High School; tennis was her sport of choice and she plans to attend DMACC in the fall, focusing her studies on Education.



Patrick Martin, Son of Dawn and Curtis DePauw, will graduate from MHS on Sunday, June 2nd. Patrick has been greatly involved with FCC for the past couple of years. He participated in Cross Country and Football earlier in high school. Patrick plans to work in Marshalltown for the next year and then plans to apply for the United States Air Force.



## Let Us Cook, Friday Event!!

WHEN: Friday May 17th:

WHY: Fundraiser for our Youth Mission Conference!

WHERE: First Congregational Church

(312 West Main St)

WHATS COOKIN'? Baked Spaghetti, Texas toast, Green Beans, Dessert.

Drive-thru pick up under the portico of FCC. Pick up between 4:15 & 6:30 pm.
Please call Shelly Speas 641-751-9868 to order. Deadline is Tuesday, May 14th.
Free-will offering. (delivery available for an additional \$5)

#### **VBS DATES CONFIRMED! TO MARS AND BEYOND**

July 29 to August 2, 5:00-8:30 p.m.



Kids ages 4-12 will blast off with the first VBS to land on the moon! *To Mars and Beyond* will help them discover the wonders of God's universe. They'll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take them. Each night they will be fed a meal before meeting in our Assembly area-an outpost on Mars! They'll lift off to distant planets on special missions to collect power sources. Along the way, they'll learn how God walked with heroes of the Bible, and that God is always with them, too. Add to the adventure with out-of-

this-world fun, learning, and timeless Bible stories that inspire kids to give glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine! Shelly Speas and Jeanne Vellinga will be co-directing this year. Stay tuned for ways that everyone can be involved!

(For one thing.....if you buy eggs in the cardboard containers [not Styrofoam], please save them!)



I would like to thank everyone for your prayers, cards and emails after my fall. They were all so very much appreciated and seemed to come to me at exactly the right time. I was able to remove the boot yesterday and replaced it with an ankle brace. Now it is time to learn to walk again. I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family. Debi Estabrook

### CIRCLE OF FRIENDS MAY MEETING

The last Circle of Friends meeting till fall will be Wednesday May 1 at 6:00 pm in the Mayflower Room. The business agenda includes the annual disbursement of Circle of Friends funds and possible changes in the frequency & format of meetings.

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FINANCES	March 2019	ACTUAL	BUDGET	NET
GIVING		\$35,510	\$46,074	-\$10,564
EXPENSE	S	\$59,205	\$61,052	-\$1,847

## A NEW DISHWASHER for FCC??? ALMOST!



Tired of plastic, paper and dishpan hands? Well, FCC had a new dishwasher installed this week...but wait...??? The dishwasher looks good in its new home but the installation techs say our wiring is too old so it can't be connected to electricity yet...but patience is golden, so in just a short time that will be remedied and then the install can be completed. Thank you all for your patience but most of all, thanks to you Paul Packer our ever-faithful dishwasher. He comes highly trained and he is always there when we need him!







**Marshalltown Christian School Update:** 

News from Marshalltown Christian School:

Spring is bursting forth with color and beauty, and Marshalltown Christian School is vibrant with activity. Students have been hard at work creating bright and vivid

works of art, which were displayed at the Fisher Community Center. Miss Lawrence's class creatively hand-made duplicates of the Tabernacle, complete with each detail. And as part of the science curriculum, Dr. Perry's classroom gathered soil samples from 48 states to examine and study all the various textures and distinctive types of dirt.

Blue skies and bright sunshine made for a delightful field trip as the kindergartners and their teacher, Miss Katy, loaded up and headed south to Miss Katy's farm. Children, chickens, and baby calves are such a wonderful combination for a joy-filled outing.

A Pastors Appreciation Breakfast was held with nearly 30 pastors from the Marshalltown area gathering for breakfast. MCS greatly appreciates our pastors and the relationships they have with the MCS students, as they disciple them in youth groups, Sunday schools, and church activities. We were all blessed by the pastors attending the MCS breakfast.

Coming up is Tech-Free Thursday - a time to leave cellphones and other electronic devices at home (or maybe in the car) as students, families, and staff gather at the school for an evening of fun and good old-fashioned games.

Save-the-date: 3rd Annual MCS Garage Sale, to be held June 21 and 22. Mark your calendars! Thank you for partnering with Marshalltown Christian School, and for praying for our school.

### MISSIONS AND BENEVOLENCE REPORT



### FCC Playing a Big Role in the Building Blitz This Month

The **2019 Building Blitz** (April 23-27) has come to a close, but this is just the beginning of Habitat for Humanity's efforts to restore a total of 100 homes in Marshalltown in 2019 from the ravages of the tornado last summer. FCC Benevolence and Missions Committee plans to share more about the work our church helped to accomplish in the weeks to come. Watch for Cassie Nemmers, Habitat for Humanity Community Outreach Director, to share at our church in May 2019-very soon. She will have before and after pictures and lots of statistics to share. For now, we just want to let you know we are so grateful for our church family and so impressed with your outpouring of support for our fellow Marshalltown citizens.

To the 45+ FCC Volunteers who directly worked to make the Habitat for Humanity Building Blitz a success and to our whole church body for financially supporting Habitat for Humanity in a **BIG WAY**...







**Barry and Cheryl Holmes** were in Marshalltown in early April. The home they still owned here had an electrical fire in it and the home is a complete loss. While they were here, we enjoyed a visit with them at Tannin and celebrated their 21<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary with food and fine wine. It was an enjoyable time. They attended services on Sunday and had great visits with the congregation. They left for home on April 9<sup>th</sup>.



## 2019

## FCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

Sunday Worship Services: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Power Hour Sundays at 9:15am: Preschool - 12th grade in the LOFT

Adult Bible Study: 9:30am

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDA Y	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Monday-Friday 9am-noon 641-752-4239						
color code: youth events Church mtgs Special events Comm. Events Color copy on bulletin boards	Youth Night Times 4:30-5:30pm- DOGS preschool- 5th grade 6-7pm Jr PY 6th-8th grades 7:30-8:30pm PY 9th-12th grades		1 Youth Night 6pm Circle of Friends WW	2 7pm Vision Mtg	3	4
5 Communion Power Hour 9:15 am all grades in the LOFT 5:00pm NOOMA/LOFT	6	7 w.w.	8 Youth Night W.W.	9	10 10-noon FCC Stamp Club meets	11
12 Pastor Dan out; pulpit guest Rev. Harlan Nuss Power Hour 9:15 am all grades in the LOFT	13	14 8:45am BMC	15 Youth Night W.W.	16 6:30 Trustees Meet	17 6pm Let us cook event/Youth Event	18
19Graduation Sunday Power Hour 9:15 am all grades in the LOFT 7pm Young Adult Bible Study/LOFT	20	21 6:30pm Deacons Meet 6:30 BCE meets W.W.	Youth Night: Pool party at Y  Pastor Dan vacation  W.W.	Pastor Dan vacation	24 10-noon FCC Stamp Club meets	25 11am MOW FCC Vol:
26 Power Hour 9:15 am all grades in the LOFT Memorial Day Weekend, No Fellowship	Church Offices closed	28 W.W.	Youth Night W.W.	Ascension Day	31	Page 7



# Office hours 9 a.m. - noon Moon - Fri 641-752-4239 Worship Services: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. TTO Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. All ages in the LOFT gro.nwollsdanschalltown.org

## A member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

