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FIRSTNEWS



First Church of God
3025 US HWY 92 W
Winter Haven, FL 33881
(863) 956-4601
office@fcogwh.org
pastor@fcogwh.org
www.fcogwh.org



Sharing Jesus with People for Them to Come to Faith

What a joy it is to love God and to love one another. We are so blessed with all the laughter, love, and joy that we share with one another. Our services and small groups that we have throughout the church are special opportunities to connect with God and one another. Yet, we also recall that many of our friends and family don't know Jesus. What can we do about the problem of friends and family that don't know Jesus? Let me share three things we can do to reach the lost for Christ.

First, we need to have urgency to reach the lost. We need to remember that God prioritizes reaching out to the lost, and so should we. Jesus shared God's love to all people. In John 4, we see where Jesus made personal evangelism a priority as he witnessed to a Samaritan woman. Jesus also told us in Luke 19:10, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Jesus told us in Matthew 5:13a, "You are the salt of the earth." He then went on and told us in Matthew 5:14a, "You are the light of the world." May we be the salt and light of God in a lost world!

Second, we can pray for people to come to Christ. We pray for them individually and with our families. We also pray for the lost at our church at our prayer meeting. There are many people we know that do not know Jesus. Our country has turned from the Lord. Is there anything we can do about these problems? Yes, we can pray! We have a special prayer meeting at the church on Thursdays at 11 am. We want to pray for unsaved people to come to the Lord and for America and the world to come to Christ! Everyone is welcome to join us for this important weekly prayer meeting at the church.

Third, we are to seek to be a blessing to those in our community. As we seek to get to know those in our community better, we seek to lead them to Christ. We also seek to be blessing to people in whatever we can. When God's people were exiled into Babylon, God gave them instructions to be a blessing to those who were in their community. As Jeremiah 29:7, "Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." The prosperity of the people of God and the people that they lived with were linked together for everyone to prosper.

To encourage us with these efforts in reaching our community and loved ones for Christ, I am currently leading us in a series of messages from Luke 10:1-24 where Jesus calls His followers to share the good news of God's kingdom while trusting completely in God's care and power for His followers. Jesus is calling His church to continue the work from Luke 10. Join us during the Sunday morning services, as I am leading us in a message series titled, "Jesus Sends Out Additional Disciples for Mission."

Blessings, Pastor Kenny

Happy Birthday

4 Velta Brown
5 Brian Popa
6 Autumn Beeman
6 Evelyn Stiene
6 Damaris Margary
10 Bill Taylor
12 Beverly Cooper
13 Elveda Eby
13 Cassaundra Saullo
15 Paul Ehrgott
15 Rosemary Latham
16 Yo Bellingar-Wolken
18 Carol Wood
20 Barbara Taylor
23 Stan Weisbrod
23 Janet Pell
25 Ken Miller
26 Bill Teal
28 Phillip Greenfield
29 Edie Hanson
30 Carol Whitaker
31 Joe Pepitone

Happy Anniversary

7 Ken & Pattie Miller
12 Fred & Hannah White
13 Bobby & Carmen Miniard
15 Lee Wolken & Yo Bellingar
16 Bob & Janice Chapman
16 James & Beverly Stover
18 Larry & Kay McDonald
21 Ron & Nancy Nagy
29 Stan & Mary Lou Weisbrod

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

October 3rd (Saturday) The monthly men's meeting will be 8:00am at the church. We will have breakfast, meeting, and a devotion.

It's that time again! Now through October 13th, we will be collecting donations to bless children through Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry! The packing party is on Tuesday, October 27th.

October 13th (Tuesday) The October Leadership Council meeting will be on Tuesday, at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall.

HOMETOWN HARVEST VENDOR MARKET will be on Sunday, October 17th from 8am-2pm (rain date is October 24th, if needed). We still have spots available. Each spot is $35 and goes towards missions. If you have any questions, please see Deb Hepler or Doris Covalt

October 20th (Tuesday) The CWC (Christian Women Connection) monthly meeting will be in the fellowship hall at 6:30 pm. All women are welcome to attend.

Ladies Weekend of Fun & Fellowship through crafts, scrapbooking, puzzles and games at the church on Friday & Saturday, October 30th & 31st. The group will be starting at 1pm on Friday and at 9am on Saturday. Please see Deb Hepler if you plan on attending.

October 31st (Saturday) Family Game Night from 5-7pm in Fellowship Hall. Join us for a potluck meal, devotion, and games! Please sign up in the lobby to bring sides or dessert. The church will provide a hot dog cookout.



Youth & Family Ministry Update

It is a privilege to serve our church as the new Youth & Family Director! I am excited to share that our youth ministry is growing, and we are thankful for what God is doing in the lives of our young people and families.

We are also happy to report that we reached our $200 goal for the Pop Can Fundraiser benefiting the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry! Thank you to everyone who donated cans and supported our youth in this project.

Beginning in January, we will be offering Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University to both our church family and the community. This program has proven to be especially helpful for young families as they learn practical, biblical principles for managing their finances. More information will be coming soon!

We are also encouraged by the wonderful attendance at our Family Game Nights and Men's Breakfasts. These are great opportunities for fellowship, building relationships, and reaching others in our community. Please keep inviting your friends, family, and neighbors to join us!

We are excited about what God is doing and look forward to continuing to grow and serve together.

In His Service,
Tom Ray
Youth & Family Director