

The Joyful Noise



As we travel through the Old Testament there are many accounts of events that seem just too far fetched to have possible ever happened. Here are a few: The Ten Plagues of Egypt; The parting of the red sea; The stopping of the Jordan River at flood stage; Fire from heaven consuming the sacrifice in answer to Elijah's prayer; The jars of flour and oil not running out for the widow; Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego delivered from the fiery furnace; Daniel in the Lion's den; and I could keep going.

Skeptics say these could not possible have happened. But what about you? Do you believe? Really, truly believe?

Consider the ten plagues in Egypt. You have historical fact to help you know that they happened. You join in that history each Sunday in worship at Faith in Christ. You may be surprised to hear that! You ask "when?" I answer, "you receive the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion". Yes, Holy Communion connects us all the way back to Egypt.

When Jesus was in the Upper Room the night he was betrayed, they had gathered to observe the Passover. Jesus, Son of God, was celebrating the Passover Meal which he had eagerly desire to share with his disciples.

¹⁴ When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

Luke 22:14-16 (NIV)

Here is how to make the connection: If there were no plagues in Egypt there would have been no tenth plague, the death of the first born son. With no plague, there would have been no need of the blood to be placed on the door post and lintel of Hebrew homes. There would be need for the blood to be seen by the Angel of death as a sign to Passover that particular dwelling. Then there would be no Passover for Jesus to celebrate with his disciples. There would be no Holy Communion for the Church to celebrate either.

Faith we live each day is a faith based on fact and history. Much more than simple blind trust. Faith is a reality that you can take to the bank. For Faith in Jesus Christ is true in heart, mind, body, and soul and at the same time true as historical fact.

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:30-31 (NIV)

So you can know with complete confidence that you have Life in His Name!

A servant of Christ Jesus,

Pastor Jeff

Prayer Moment:

Gracious God, our lifestyle has often led unbelievers to insult and attack Your very nature and character. We ask You, Lord, to rise up and defend Yourself. Would You awaken Your people to the reality of Your presence in our midst and in so doing transform our lives into the character of Christ that You desire to see in us?

May Your life lived out in Your Church begin to demonstrate to the world Your love, grace, mercy and overwhelming power on behalf of Your saints. Would You allow the kingdom principles that govern heaven to begin to be made manifest on earth? We ask You to revive Your people so that we may rejoice in You and demonstrate in our lives the awesome, transforming power of Jesus Christ in His Church. Amen.

**Walking in the Word – Tuesday
Night Bible Study Will Meet on July
2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th at 7 p.m.**

We meet in Pastor's study and conclude by 8:15 p.m.



**Faith in Christ Summer Creative Arts Mondays and
Wednesdays through the Summer**

A fantastic group of young people have been enjoying the opportunity to learn guitar, drawing, puppetry, and other artistic skills. As of this writing, eleven different youth have participated and six leaders have served them.

Reminder Summer Creative Arts will **NOT** meet during the week of daycamp.

Men's Outdoor Ministry

We are continuing to build the ministry. During the Faith in Christ Family Camp Out at Fairhaven, we will meet together and make plans for the fall and beyond. See you there, and bring your fishing pole.

Sundays in Summer



Coming this Summer!

Great Stories of the Bible

Each Sunday we'll hear from Scriptures some of the great stories we all enjoy. David and Goliath, Daniel and the Lions' Den, Samson and his deeds of strength, Gideon, Joshua and Jericho, Elijah and Fire from the Sky, are just a few.

Summer Travel and Supporting the Mission of Faith in Christ.

As you travel this summer, enjoying vacations with family, friends, and the Lord's creation, please remember your commitment to support God's ministry through the mission of Faith in Christ. Your offering envelop is addressed and only needs a stamp to mail your weekly commitment to ministry and the building fund.



Remember, the expense of providing and doing ministry does not take a vacation.



CORNER PANTRY

Faith in Christ has exercised its option to change to a summer schedule. Unfortunately, hunger doesn't have a summer schedule. We still have people in need of food.

The standard items are always welcome:

Soups of all kinds	Canned meats
Ramen noodles	Tuna fish
Hamburger Helper	Mac and Cheese
Canned vegetables	Canned fruit
Peanut butter	Jelly

And don't forget that "shelter items" are also needed – things like liquid laundrydetergent, fabric softener sheets, dish soap, food handling gloves, paper towels and toilet tissue,

Personal care items like toothpaste, tooth-brushes, combs, deodorant (men's and women's) are always welcome.

If we each do just a little, the result will be surprising.

Pat & Jim Kunce



Thank you so much to **EVERYONE** who contributed to our recent “Undie Sundae Sunday”. With your help we were able to collect:

93 pair of socks

63 undershirts

75 undershorts

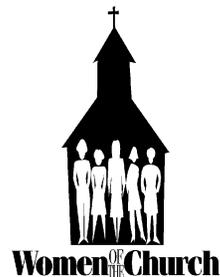
The estimated dollar value of the donations is \$518.00! All items will be delivered to the Hartley House, the IHN Men’s Shelter. And a big thank you to the members of the Women in Service Board (WinS) who provided the delicious ice cream sundaes for fellowship time.

Loyal Followers of Christ - (LFC) -- Will meet on Friday, July 5th in Perkins Restaurant on North Limestone at 12:00 noon for lunch, fellowship, and a brief meeting.

Sewing & Service Circle -- Will not meet again until September.

Ruth Circle --Will not meet again until September

Women of Today – Will meet for their regular meeting on Monday, July 15th at 3:00 in the church.



The Sewing & Service Circle will be collecting items for the Health Kits during the summer months. Please check the list below and bring in the appropriate items in the designated months:

- June Bath Size Towels
- July Bath size bars of Soap and Adult size Toothbrushes
- August Large Combs and Metal Nail Clippers

MONTHLY EVENTS

First Sunday of each month is Parish Nurse Sunday. Take a few minutes to stop by the nurse’s table and have your blood pressure taken.

Fourth Sunday of each month is Food Pantry Sunday. Bring in your non-perishable food items and place them in the container in the entrance hallway.

A sign-up sheet is now on the Mission and Ministry Table for you to sign up to volunteer your time to help cut the grass here at FIC. We need your help!



Coming Soon

July 8-12	FIC's Annual Day Camp
August 4	WinS Board Meeting
July 14	Luncheon after Worship
August 6	Feed IHN's Guests
August 6	Special Election - Voting @ FIC
Aug 9-11	FIC Family Camp @ Fairhaven
Aug 11	Outdoor Worship @ Fairhaven
Aug 18	Return to 10:15 Worship Service
Aug 21	Chancel Choir Practice Begins
Aug 18	Return to 10:15 Worship Service
Sept 1	Prayer Partner Meeting
Sept 5	Sewing & Service Circle Begins
Sept 7	LSS Mission Trip to southern Ohio
Sept 15	Church Picnic Following Worship
Sept 19	Ruth Circle Begins
Sept 28	Special WinS Event for FIC's ladies

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is frequently talked about in casual and important conversations in our lives. We pray for it for ourselves and for others. Do we forgive others as our Father forgives us? Matthew 5: 14-15: *"For if you forgive men their sins, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their sins, neither will your Father forgive your sins."*



Prayer

A contemporary Christian singer Matthew West wrote and recorded a song called Forgiveness. I found the words inspiring and helpful. If you can, go to You Tube and listen to this beautiful song.

Forgiveness

By Matthew West

*It's the hardest thing to give away
And the last thing on your mind today
It always goes to those that don't deserve*

*It's the opposite of how you feel
When the pain they caused is just too real
It takes everything you have just to say the
Word.... Forgiveness*

*It flies in the face of all your pride
It moves away the mad inside*

*It's always anger's own worst enemy
Even when the jury and the judge
Say you gotta right to hold a grudge
It's the whisper in your ear saying 'Set it Free'
Forgiveness, Forgiveness, Forgiveness*

*Show me how to love the unlovable
Show me how to reach the unreachable
Help me now to do the impossible
Forgiveness, Forgiveness
Help me now to do the impossible
Forgiveness*

*It'll clear the bitterness away
It can even set a prisoner free
There is no end to what its power can do
So let it go and be amazed
By what you see through eyes of grace
The prisoner that it really frees is you
Forgiveness, Forgiveness, Forgiveness*

Submitted by Beth Brown



Parable of the Streams and Fishes

Now it came to pass that, as the time of vacation drew near, a certain member of the church bethought him of cool streams where fishes were found, and his children thought of sandy beaches by the sea, and his wife thought of the mountains. And this church member spoke and said: "Lo, the hot days come and my work lieth heavy upon me. Come, let us depart and go where fishes do bite, and where cool winds bring refreshment and the land is beautiful about us."

"Thou speakest words of wisdom," said his wife. "Yet three, nay, even four, things must we do ere we go."

"Three things I think of, but not a fourth," said her husband; "that we ask our neighbors to minister unto our flowers, that we arrange for our grass to be mowed and watered, that we have our mail forwarded; but no other thing cometh to my mind."

"The fourth is like unto the other three, but greater than all," said his spouse, "even this, that thou dig into thy purse and pay the church pledge, in order that the good name of the church may be preserved, that the heart of the treasurer be made glad, and that it may be well with thee. For verily, I say unto thee, thou has more money now than thou wilt have when thou dost return."

And the husband replied, "Verily, thou art noble and wise among women." And he did pay his pledge for the summer, and the treasurer rejoiced greatly, saying, "Of a truth, there are those who care for the good of the church." And it was so.

As the Fourth of July approaches it is well for all of us to remember it as **Independence Day**. The first Continental Congress met in 1774, but could not come to a full agreement until July 4, 1776 when a full and formal Declaration of Independence was adopted. It was signed by representatives of the 13 North American colonies announcing the separation of these colonies from Great Britain, making them into the United States of America.

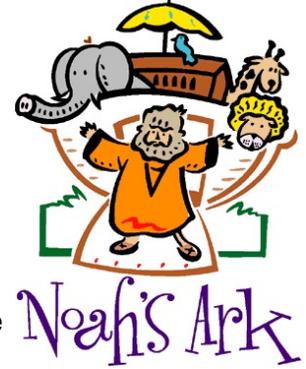


INDEPENDENCE Day

This **Declaration of Independence** is the most important of all American historical documents and became a patriotic holiday par excellence celebrated by fireworks, parades, political speeches and the prominent displaying of our flag of 13 stripes and 50 stars to let all people know it is instrumental of our government and as long as it flies in honor, the hope for freedom for all is not lost.

The day should be put aside for all Americans, would-be Americans and immigrants to celebrate this Independence Day together, first with prayer and thanks to commemorate this great nation under God, putting aside all bitterness, for bitterness is an affront to God.

All I Need to Know I Learned From Noah's Ark



- ◆ Don't miss the boat.
- ◆ Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- ◆ Plan ahead. It was not raining when Noah built the Ark.
- ◆ Don't listen to critics, just get on with the job that needs to be done.
 - ◆ Build your future on high ground.
 - ◆ For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- ◆ Speed is not always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
 - ◆ When you are stressed, float awhile.
- ◆ Remember the Ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals.
- ◆ No matter the storm, when you are with God, there is always a rainbow waiting.