

FCOConnect



Learning ▪ Growing ▪ Living

By Pastor Monte Knudsen (Email: pastor.monte@fcoc.net)

From childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for **teaching reproof**, for **correction** and for **training in righteousness**; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. 2 Tim. 3:15-17

One of the biggest dysfunctions in the American Church is that it's untaught. We are often ignorant of the elementary teachings of original sin: God becoming human, atonement for sin, justification through faith, etc. We often cannot even answer the simplest of questions concerning God's existence or why we are here.

The Holy Scriptures are not simply a good idea when I get around to it, or if I have time. For a believer in Christ Jesus, God's Word is our life, our priority, our hope, it is a "lamp to our feet" and a "light to our path." *Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven.* Ps. 119:89

The Bible is unchangeable. *It is true from the beginning and every one of God's righteous judgments endures forever.* Ps. 119:160

Nothing we put our trust in lasts forever, except God's Word. Not one dot will go unfulfilled. God watches over His promises to do them.

If we love God, then we will love His Word. If we are casual, apathetic, or disinterested in the scriptures, that is our attitude towards God.

This is why, as your pastor, I am reaching out to you in 2012 to read the scriptures daily. I am encouraging you passionately to read through the Bible with me this year. I'm not suggesting that it is easy or convenient, but I am imploring you to find a way.

We have provided a pamphlet that has a daily reading schedule in it. Use it. Or you can buy a "Through The Bible in a Year" Bible. It's laid out to help you accomplish just that.

Rom. 10:17 says: *Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.* Christians who are deprived of knowledge from the Holy Bible are doomed to fear, unbelief and hopelessness. Their ignorance of the scriptures will leave them anemic, dysfunctional and defeated. They remain untaught, are never

corrected and are in need of training. How can we live for God with all our heart, mind and strength if we remain uninterested in God's Word? That's why your church is taking active steps to ensure a fresh motivation and active plans to see that God's Word is:

A lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path. I made an oath that I will perform it. I will keep His righteous judgments. I am afflicted much. Lord make me alive according to your Word. My soul is continually in Your hand. I will not forget Your Word. The wicked lay a snare for me. I will not err from Your Word. Your testimonies I have taken as an heritage forever. Your Word is the rejoicing of my heart! Ps. 119:105-107, 109-111

Let's go Church! We are to be overcomers by holding fast to God's Word. May we, like David, fall in love with God's Word. Let's pant for God's Word like a deer pants after the water.

My love to you,

Welcome
To
The
Family

Congratulations to the following individuals who were received into membership on January 15, 2012

Josh & Allison Cody
Parnell & Norma Davis
Martha Lee
Jan Matsumoto
Yvette Miclette

FCOC
Mt.
Pleasant



Jean Van Den Broek
Jerry Usovsky

FCOC
Fairfield



2011 Workers of the Year presented January 8, 2012



Denise Balchunas
Nursery/Toddlers



Tresa Zaragoza
WWK/Bible Class/Agapeland



Garth & Amy Bock
Awana Club



Steve & Shirley Williams
Ushers/Greeters/Parking



Bob Glade
Prayer Partners



Rick & Becky Van Winkle
Volunteers of the Year



Dick & Linda Wilkerson
Lifetime Achievement Award



Sherry Higdon
Youth



Ann Hayward
Info Desk/Bookstore/Hospitality



Diana Juntunen
Connect Leaders/Prison/
Nursing Home Ministry



Dyle & Linda Van Fleet
Lay Ministers/BASIC Training/
Altar Counselors



Courtney Cummings
Music/Audio/Visual

World Wide Kidz by Pastor Rick Bunnell (Email: pastor.rick@fcoc.net)



God's Word Gives Light

This past November during the technology fast, our family worked through devotions together. We were amazed and impressed at the involvement of our children and the discussions we had. So, when Pastor Monte encouraged the church in early January to read through the Bible in a year, we decided to jump in as a family.

There are many benefits to this daily time in the Word that we could emphasize: quality-time spent together, reading practice for our kids, more time in the Bible. However, our Bible time each evening is so much more than all of that. Psalm 119:130 says, "The entrance of Your words gives light; It

gives understanding to the simple." The time spent in the Word is giving revelation to our family. Every time we go to the Word, our kids are asking us questions about what verses mean. They are seeing connections that we ourselves could not have coordinated between Sunday school and verses they are learning though school and AWANA. Recently when we read in Exodus about Pharaoh hardening his heart, they saw the connection with Sunday's lesson about keeping your heart open and listening for the voice of the Holy Spirit. God's Word brought light to that connection!



When we give time and priority to the Word, God does give understanding and light to our way. He answers the questions in our hearts and minds.

Children have these questions, too. Jesus is able to bring light to their questions. Mark 10:14 said that Jesus called the children saying, "Let the little children come to Me." What better way for them to come to know Jesus but by coming **with** them to the Word?! Let's lead them to the best entrance to life: the Word of God. How can you lead your kids to the door of His Word?



Getting To Know You!

Allison and I have had a great couple months getting to know the youth and all of the great people here at FCOC. We are so excited for this coming year. Our heart is to see our youth, our leaders, and our church grow closer in their relationships with God and have a fun time doing it. We are so thankful to be here in the midst of all the fantastic things that God is doing here in Iowa! Thank you for all of the love and support that everyone has shown us!



Photos 1-3 from E3 Youth Super Bowl Party

Photos 4-5 from recent E3 Youth Service

DON'T MISS OUT ON THESE UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

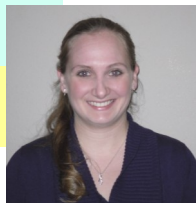
FEB 29
DODGEBALL Tournament for High School and Jr. High!

MARCH 14
Satisfy your hunger with FREE Mac and Cheese Night!!

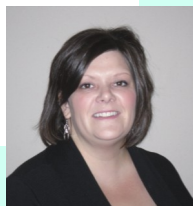
MARCH 28
March Madness 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament! Big Prizes

Workers of the Month

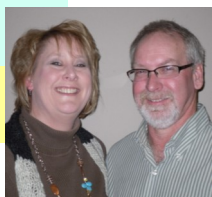
December



Carly Baylark



Robin Kiefer



Dave & Lisa Oetken



Jordan Smith
(Fairfield)

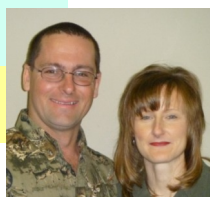
February



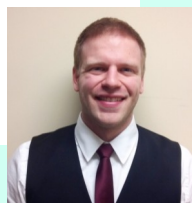
Lisa Hart



Kayla Johnston

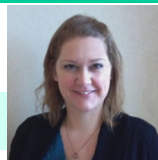


Bill & Laura Simon



Matt Dunbar
(Fairfield)

January



Erin Shriver
(Fairfield)

Nov. 20, 2011 - Feb. 19, 2012

MOUNT PLEASANT STATS

- 450 Average Sunday Morning Attendance
- 313 Average Wednesday Evening Attendance
- 61 Sanctuary Visitors
- 8 Sanctuary Salvations & Rededications
- 19 IgnitE³ Youth Visitors
- 2 IgnitE³ Youth Salvations & Rededications
- 9 WWKidz Visitors
- 2 WWKidz Salvations
- 3 WWKidz Holy Spirit Baptisms

FAIRFIELD STATS

- 145 Average Sunday Morning Attendance
- 35 Sanctuary Visitors
- 8 Sanctuary Salvations & Rededications
- 12 WWKidz Visitors

BIRTHS

- 11/20/11 Jeremiah James, son of Parnell & Norma Davis
- 11/29/11 Evan Uriah, son of Denver & Erin Carlson
- 2/8/12 Devon Lee, son of Jeremy & Tricia Yocum
- 2/9/12 Faye Nicole, daughter of Baoli & Amy (Juntunen) Guo

HOMEGOING

- 11/23/11 Joe Hansen
- 2/9/12 Alton Juntunen

Service Times

MP: Sundays, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
FF: Sundays, 10:30 a.m.

Connect Groups

Week of the 2nd & 4th Sundays
Locations & times in bulletin

Daily Dose of the Word

Monday thru Friday, 8:15-8:45 a.m.

E3 Center Hours - E3 Youth

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
Sundays, 10:30 a.m.

Family Weekend & Workers of the Month

First Weekend of the Month

Nursing Home Ministry

First Sunday of the Month, 2:00 p.m.

Thursday Morning Prayer

Every Thursday
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

The Draw

Young Adults (Ages 18-29)
Bible Study & Fellowship
Every Tuesday Night, 7:00 p.m.

Communion

Last Weekend of the Month

Clip 'N' Keep

Upcoming Calendar Highlights

Feb 2012

2/25 Legacy Builders (Ages 50+) "Taco & Testimony Night", 6:00 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room

March 2012

4 "Welcome To The Family" Membership Class, 12:00 noon-3:00 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room
7 Winter 2 BASIC Classes begin (thru April 18) following Praise & Worship
11 Daylight Savings Time begins - Turn clocks forward 1 hour
17 "Man-Up" Men's Ministry, 6:30 p.m., E3 Center
25 Water Baptism Service, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
31 Prayer Partner Breakfast, 7:30-9:00 a.m., Multi-Purpose Room

April 2012

4 No Wednesday Evening Service
5 Maundy Thursday Family Communion Service, 7:00 p.m.
8 Easter Sunday (See ad below for schedule of events)
13-14 Men's Event in Oakland, Iowa (more info to come)
21 "Man-Up" Men's Ministry, 6:30 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room

May 2012

2, 9, 16 "Welcome To The Family" Membership Class (following Praise & Worship)
13 Cradle of Hope "Change For Life" Baby Bottle Drive begins (thru 6/17/12)
28 Memorial Day, Office Closed
30 Awana Awards Night, 7:00 p.m. (followed by Ice Cream fellowship)



O What a Savior!

Resurrection Sunday - April 8th

What a Savior we have in Jesus Christ! Come celebrate with us on Sunday, April 8th, at Faith Christian Outreach Church in Mt. Pleasant, as the FCOC Easter Choir shares the Good News of Easter in song. This is the testimony of every redeemed soul, a celebration of victory over sin and everlasting life through Jesus' death on the cross and His glorious resurrection . . . **O What a Savior!**

FCOC Mt. Pleasant:

7:30-8:25 am 1st Breakfast
8:30-9:40 am 1st Service
9:30-10:25 am 2nd Breakfast
10:30-11:30 am 2nd Service

EXCITING SPECIAL SERVICES FOR KIDS
AGES 4 & UP!

CHILDCARE FOR AGES 3 & UNDER

FCOC Fairfield invites you to Easter breakfast
from 9:30-10:25 am, followed by a special
Easter service at 10:30 am