



FORT DES MOINES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Love God Love People Serve Everyone

WWW.GODSFORT.ORG



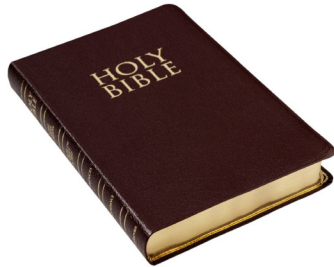
Office:
515-285-1254

Fort Connections

Service Times:
Sunday School- 9 AM
Worship- 10 AM

Mike Demastus

May 2016



God's Word was given to be consumed...

God's Word should be our daily bread. How healthy would someone be if they only drank protein shakes? What if they only ate once a week? Feeding on the Word of God requires meal preparation and biting and chewing. We live in a world of microwave meals.

We want it ready-made, quick and easy. There was a time, not that long ago, if you wanted chicken for dinner, it required actually finding the animal, killing it, preparing it and then cooking it over a wood-fire stove that you had supplied the wood for.

I believe in the same manner that God's Word often requires hard studying, observing, thinking, working. On Sunday mornings I preach a message that has been birthed out of my own study throughout the week from reading and prayer. It is not enough for you to take food from someone else after it has already been worked over and then eliminate some of the harder parts and extract some soft, nutritious bites for yourself.

Occasional or second-hand dining will not cut it. Your soul needs to be fed just like your physical body does. It can only be properly fed from the Word of God. You must feed daily, regularly and nutritiously!

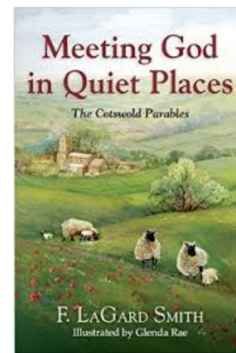
I want to encourage you to begin to take your Bible more seriously than you do. To begin truly studying the Bible. Perhaps you've already tried it without a lot of success. So you don't really "study" but have more of a daily Bible reading time (hopefully).

I remember when I was a little kid and going to the pool. I would be stuck in the wading pool at the kiddie end of the pool. But I always knew there was so much more to the pool than what I was experiencing. I could see it in the faces of the others in the pool. I was envious of those who went deep.

Now it is your time. Go deep! Start working through God's Word. I want to encourage you to come for three weeks on Wednesday nights, beginning on Wednesday, May 11th, to learn how to understand your Bible for all its worth. Don't just sit in the kiddie pool! Don't grab a bag of Cheetos and think you've ate a full meal! Learn how to go deep!

God commands us to learn his Word. "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." (Psalm 119:11) And God tells us we can understand His Word. This does not mean that God will teach us without our doing something. God feeds the birds, as Jesus said, but the birds work hard to get that food. God has promised to feed us on His Word. Our job is to study. The food is there and we can get it. This is one of the biggest blessings in the Christian life. I hope you will join us for this study!

Ordinarily I'm not big on "Devotional" books but "Meeting God In Quiet Places" is a Jewel! It is not preachy, but is a kindly conversation, or a series of them, about the sights and sounds of the author's neighborhood— a gentle, sometimes humorous, take on the world around him in his English home, where history, tradition, human needs and spiritual needs and activities meld together. This book is a "keeper", but don't be selfish—don't forget to return it when through with the author's spiritual observations.



Missions Ministry Update

By Jim Meisch

Central Iowa Bible Camp was founded in 1946 by the Churches of Christ/Christian Churches of central Iowa in 1946. CIBC is celebrating 70 years of bringing people to a closer relationship with Christ.

Eleven cabins and a 140 bed facility with a heated and air-conditioned chapel and dining hall are located on 24 acres of land north of Earlham, Iowa. The facilities are available to outside groups to rent in the spring and fall. CIBC has modernized many of the facilities; however, there are no winterized buildings available for use. A future goal is to provide year round retreats.

The programs offered by CIBC provide youth and adults alike to renew old friendships, make new friends, and study God's Word. A variety of recreational activities, including basketball, horseback riding, water slide, and sand volleyball, are offered.

For information on programs offered or to rent the facilities contact the office at (515) 834-2119 or by email at centraliowabiblecamp@gmail.com. Registration is also available online at centraliowabiblecamp.org.



There will be a Missions Meeting on May 17th at 7:00 at the church building. If you don't currently have a ministry at the church and you care deeply about spreading the Gospel the Missions Team would be a great place for you!



We are having an **all church** picnic on May 22nd at 6:00 pm at Easter Lake (The shelter number has not been established yet. We will get that information to you as soon as it is available)! Please bring a couple of dishes to share. Brisket will be provided.

Fort Facts

Total Income for March: \$13,285.26

Total Expenses for March: \$10,725.83



Sunday School for ages 2yrs-5th grade will be changing this summer! There are some WONDERFUL people at The Fort who have volunteered to teach the kiddos during the months of June, July and August! All the kids will meet together in the room off of the sanctuary during these months and participate in an AWESOMELY fun Veggie Tales curriculum! Kids ages 2yrs-5th grade WILL NOT want to miss out!

The teacher for June is Cleo Meisch!

The teachers for July are Patty and Debbie McMichael.

The teacher for August is Jennie Abel.

While JAM and Kingdom Kids will not be meeting this summer on Wednesday nights, we are planning on having one fun activity each month (including VBS) for the kids in these programs. More information will be available as soon as possible.

CIA is meeting throughout the summer on Wednesday evenings! The teens will be doing some service projects, having some serious study time, hanging out, and going on a few FUN outings!



Mark your calendars...VBS in July 15th, 16th and 17th!

We will have a VBS meeting on May 26th at 6:30!



Mommy and Me will meet at The Fort Des Moines County Park playground area on May 31st from 10:00-11:30! Snack will be provided! Invite your friends and their little ones!

Scripture Memorization for May

Proverbs 13:20

“Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.”



Birthdays

5/3 Sean Bates
 5/8 Natalie Croy
 5/16 Delores Fluharty
 5/29 Myrna Fluharty
 5/31 Parker Watrous

Anniversaries:

5/12 Karl and Diane Kaiser
 5/14 Richard and Patty McMichael

Special Dates to Remember

5/12 Elders/Deacons Meeting
 5/15 Board Meeting
 5/17 Missions Meeting
 5/22 All Church Picnic at Easter Lake
 5/26 VBS Meeting
 5/31 Mommy and Me

If your birthday or anniversary was forgotten, please send an email to secretary@Godsfort.org.

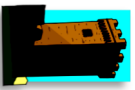
Server Schedule

	05/01/16	05/08/16	05/15/16	05/22/16	05/29/16
Greeters	Charity	Kirk/Ashley	Dan/Cathy	Nate/Deanna	Cameron/Shannah
Scripture	Jacob	Ava	Ben	Doren	Julie
Praise Team	Mike/Mary	Nate/Tlkr	Abels/3:16	Dvd/Tlkr	Mike/Mary
Offering Meditation	Miles	Jaida	Lonnie	Jacob	Nathan S.
Communion Meditation	Doren	Carter	Richard	George	Jim
Server	Jacob	Makya	Miles	Terry	Doren
Closing Prayer	Kirk	Hunter	Jim	Richard	Lonnie
Stewardship	George/Terry	Doren/Bruce	Miles/Dale	Kirk/Jacob	Shawn/Austin
Nursery/Toddlers	Forrest/Ben	Melissa/Tammy	Justin/Lindsay	LeAnn/Miranda	Jacob/Shan
Junior Church	Jennie #21	No Jr. Church	Diane #22	Cleo #23	Lindsay #24
Communion Prep	Vicki	Vicki	Vicki	Vicki	Vicki
Communion to the Sick	Jim	Kevin	Richard	Nate O.	Nathan S.
Security	Doug/Richard	Forrest/Mike	Jacob/Kirk	Jim/Roy	Karl/Doug

**Mowing in May:**

5/6 Doren
 5/13 Nate/Deanna
 5/20 Bruce
 5/27 Richard

The mowing schedules are on the table in the foyer



May 2016



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Bible Study @6			
8 Mother's Day!	9	10	11 Bible Study @6	12 Elders/Deacons Meeting @6	13	14
15 Board Meeting	16	17 Missions Meeting @7	18 Bible Study @6	19	20	21
22 All church picnic @ 6:00	23	24	25 Bible Study @6	26 VBS Meeting @6:60	27	28
29	30	31 Mommy and Me @10				