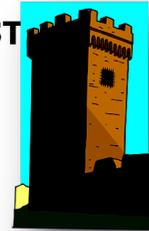


FORT DES MOINES CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

November 2017

A Little Taste Of Heaven

Entertain the thought with me for a few minutes of the ancient tabernacle — that portable tent that served Israel for forty years in the wilderness and for about 500 years thereafter, until Solomon built a temple at Jerusalem. There must be something important for us in the record of its construction, the elaborate furnishings, and the rituals. Otherwise, why did God preserve so many of the details for us? Thirteen chapters of Exodus are devoted to it. If you total up the materials not only in Exodus but in Leviticus, Numbers, and Hebrews, more than forty chapters of the Bible discuss its construction, priesthood, worship practices, and meaning.

The tabernacle or "tent of meeting" was composed of a series of frames and curtains. The frames were built of acacia wood overlaid with gold; the curtains were made of fine linen and colored yarn. The drapes and tapestries had figures of angels embroidered on them. ***"Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twisted linen, and blue, purple, and crimson yarns; you shall make them with cherubim skillfully worked into them"*** (Ex. 26:1). Are you beginning to get the picture? The tabernacle was supposed to be a little taste of heaven for these Israelites.

This visible manifestation of God's relationship with and presence among the people would turn the occasional presence of God on Sinai or in a miraculous rescue into a constant presence with his covenant community. He would no longer be associated with thoughts of a remote presence at the top of the mountain but with a dwelling place in the center of the camp. The divine dwelling place would no longer be a fixed place to visit but a presence on the move with God's people.

Even before the tent itself was constructed, Moses and his artisans were ordered to build its furnishings. The first thing built was the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:10-16). It comes first because it is the single most important artifact that symbolized the presence of Yahweh among the people. When they left Mount Sinai, his glory would go with them by means of this precious vestige of his presence. The top of this beautiful box was covered with the "mercy seat" (or, NIV, "atonement cover," 25:17-22). Cherubim at either end faced each other with their wings outstretched, and the blood of a sacrifice was sprinkled there on the Day of Atonement each year — always in the sign of a cross, by some ancient traditions (cf. Lev. 16:1ff). The ark of the covenant was so holy to the God of Israel that it was never to be touched by human hands.

Then there was a beautiful table on which "bread of the Presence" — see that word "presence" again! — was to be kept before Yahweh (Ex. 25:23-30). There was a light-giving lampstand of pure gold (25:31-39). Between the altar for burnt offerings (27:1-8; cf. 29:38-46) and the tabernacle proper, there was a large bronze basin (30:17-22) for priestly washings. There was also a smaller altar that sat before the entrance to the Holy of Holies and on which fragrant incense was burned morning and evening to God (30:1-10). The artists in Israel had a field day preparing these beautiful things for Yahweh! And they must have been impressive for future generations of Israel to remind them of God's presence with them. It was a little taste of heaven.

Now, we are the "temple of the Holy Spirit." Where we go, what we do, how we talk are all to be outflows of the reality that God is WITH us. We are to be giving anyone we interact with a little taste of heaven. Has heaven left a sour or sweet taste in the mouths of those you have come into contact with lately?

Hello you coffee drinkers! Freedom for Youth has opened their coffee house. Hours are 7 am to 2 pm Monday through Saturday. Please go and see the wonderful facility and support them with their training of troubled youth in the state of Iowa. If you are not a coffee drinker, they do have pop.



Wednesday night Bible Study WILL NOT meet on November 22nd.

Jase is not happy about his listening ears.



P E R S  N H O O D
F o r t D e s M o i n e s

Personhood Fort Des Moines will be meeting on Monday, November 13th at 6:30 PM. We will be blessed by a presentation from the ministry "ParenTeen". ParentTeen ministers to young men and women who have become parents during their teen years. They guide them in Biblical truths and practical life skills through coaching and relationship building. Pro-life people are accused of just wanting to get babies born and then leaving moms and babies to fend for themselves. This ministry debunks that accusation. If you would like to come and hear about this ministry, you are invited!



Patty McMichael was crowned The Fort's Chili Champion!
Congratulations, Patty!

Elder, Deacon, and Trustee nomination forms are on the Information Table. We ask that before you nominate anyone, to the position of Elder or Deacon, you fill out the attached form and pray for wisdom and discernment. These positions are not to be considered lightly!



For the month of November our prayer meeting will be on **the 12th.** We will be praying for our Church, the ministries and missions we support, and the Families of The Fort. If you have any questions, please talk to Shannon. Everyone in the church is invited!

Fort Facts

Total Income for September: \$12,188.85

Total Expenses for September: \$11,143.14



Scripture Memorization for November

Psalm 105:1-2

“Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name; make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him tell of all His wondrous works!”



We will be having a Security Team meeting in November. The date has not yet been set due to the availability of a retired Police Officer giving us training. If you are on the Security Team, please make sure you pay attention to your email!



The church is in need of a new security door in the CIA room (off the baptistry), a couple of more security cameras, and a tablet (I-Pad, Galaxy Note, Kindle Fire...). We are starting a new fund to be able to get these resources that are very much needed. We need \$2,000. If you are able to help out, above and beyond your tithe, please consider doing so.



The Security Team is asking that when you come into the church either for Sunday School or Worship that you make your way to your classes, the Worship Area or the Fellowship Hall. Please **DO NOT** loiter in the foyer of the church. It is a security hazard to wait and talk there. There are also people stationed in the foyer to do a ministry and truthfully passing time there gets in the way of their ministries. Please be courteous and abide by this request. You are able to talk **and** have a cup of coffee down in the Fellowship Hall!

ADOPT-A-NEED

Please sign-up to adopt needs that the church has for 2018! The list will be on the Information Table!

Missions Ministry

I wanted to share with everyone that maybe does not buy items for Christmas or have anyone to buy a gift for. Have you ever thought of helping out a mission? IDES offers a gift catalog every year with different money options. Maybe you would like to buy a goat or medical supplies for those in need. The Missions Ministry will have copies of the catalog located on the information table outside of the sanctuary for you to take and pray about how you can help others.

Mary Rowedder



*Offering Help and Hope
to a Hurting World*

Birthdays

Danny Selsor 11-5
 Shawn Kinman 11-6
 Justin Hunerdosse 11-6
 Bruce Peterson 11-11
 Gerald Lester 11-12
 Bob Saylor 11-16
 Macy Croy 11-18
 Sue McMillen 11-21
 Mike Demastus 11-23
 Tina Sieberns 11-23
 Patty McMichael 11-27

Anniversaries:

Cameron and Shannah Ohnemus 11-23

Dates to Remember
 11/9 Elders/Deacons Meeting
 11/12 Prayer Meeting
 Board Meeting
 11/13 PFD
 11/22 **NO** Bible Study!

Server Schedule

	11/05/17	11/12/17	11/19/17	11/26/17
Greeters	Teressa	Doug/Sue	Terry/Bev	Natalie
Scripture	Kevin	Forrest	Moriah	Doren
Praise Team	Mary/2	Jake/1	Abel's/2	Nate/1
Communion Meditation	Lonnie	Doren	Jim	Richard
Server	Nate 2	Mike	Kirk	Jake
Closing Prayer	Kirk	Kevin	Matt	Forrest
Stewardship	Nate 2/Terry	Richard/Doren	Miles/Dale	Jim/Bruce
Nursery	Nate/Melissa/ Tammy	Kirk/Ashley	Jake/Shan	LeAnn/Miranda
Junior Church	Shay 1:27	Jennie 1:28	Lindsay 1:29	No Jr. Church
Communion Prep	Terry/Bev	Terry/Bev	Terry/Bev	Terry/Bev
Communion to the Sick	Jacob	Kevin	Kirk	Lonnie
Security	Jacob/Doug/Justin	Bruce/Shawn/Lonnie	Austin/Nate 1/Kevin	Mike/Miles/Forrest
Offering Security	Miles	Austin	Kirk	Shawn
Van Ministry	Richard	Terry	Nate 2	Kevin
Welcome Wagon	Dale/Sue	Dale/Sue	Dale/Sue	Dale/Sue

November 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 Bible Study @6	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Bible Study @6	9 Elders/Deacons Meeting @6	10	11
12 Prayer Meeting @8 Board Meeting	13 PFD @6:30	14	15 Bible Study @6	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 No Bible Study	23 Happy Thanksgiving!	24	25
26	27	28	29 Bible Study @6	30		