

Weekly Update FYI

COLLEGE FIRST
CHURCH OF GOD

Love. Equip. Send.

September 10, 2025

Dear College First family,

It was truly a thrill to share with you on **Vision Sunday**. If you missed it, check out the audio podcast or watch the [video](#). God is on the move and we've all been invited to love, equip, and send for His glory. The FYI is filled with many ways to "get in the game," but I want to highlight a few here.

We are having a **fundraiser lunch** this Sunday at 12:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall (under the sanctuary) to support the Berachah Prayer Hall in India. This growing congregation was started by the father of Simeon Joseph, our Associate Director of Next Gen Ministries. The menu will feature (not spicy) Indian food. The suggested donation is \$15/adults and \$5/children.

Upward Flag Football and Cheerleading have begun. We are serving around 1000 people on Saturday mornings, about 45% of whom are unchurched. Praise God! We have prayed for God to build bridges between us and the community and God has certainly answered. We have 247 kids ready to hear about Jesus, but we need your help. You are invited to

- serve as a Chaplain during practices on Thursday nights. These are pre-written devotions that can be read or summarized. Typically chaplains meet with one or two teams at a time.
- set up and tear down on Saturday mornings. Set up begins around 7:20 AM and usually takes around an hour. Tear down is after the final game and begins at 12:15 and usually only takes about 45 minutes.
- greet/host on Saturdays either between 8:30-10:30 AM or 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Greeters make families and guests feel welcome as they arrive and answer questions.

You can volunteer for one week or several via the signup board in the church lobby, online at bit.ly/3JSWAyN, or e-mail upward@collegefirst.org.

College First 101 (free) lunch and membership class will be held Sunday, September 21 at 12:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Register via kreesse@collegefirst.org.

Alpha begins on Sunday, September 28 at 5:30 PM at Winebrenner. It's a free meal, message, and conversations about life, faith, and meaning. All are welcome. Register via kreesse@collegefirst.org.

Small groups are the heart of College First. You can learn more at collegefirst.org/groups. Register via kreesse@collegefirst.org.

Finally, join us in reading through the New Testament with **the Bible Recap beginning October 1**. You can get a head start now at thebiblerecap.com/start.

Blessings,
Kirk

Jack Jacob 9/1
Marty Terry 9/1
Cathy Harris 9/4
Jeanie Reis 9/5
Geoffrey Day 9/5
Bob Asel 9/8
Craig Tesnow 9/10
Bethany Archer 9/10
Kylee Pontius 9/10
Becky Crawford 9/13
Judy Brandt 9/14
Doug Tipton 9/15



Upcoming Events

9/14: Berachah Church Fundraiser, 12 PM
9/13: Upward Game, 7AM-1 PM
9/14: Bible Quiz Practice, 4 PM
9/21: Membership Class, 12:15 PM
9/21: Youth Family Worship Night, 5PM
9/28: Alpha, 5:30-7:30 PM
10/4: Craft Night, 4-8 PM
10/26: Hymn Sing, 6 PM

TITHES/OFFERINGS....\$20,403.12
ADDITIONAL OFFERINGS....\$200.00
BUDGET.... \$19,738.00

You can now give online via PayPal, in addition to giving on the church website. Please scan the QR Code provided. Any questions, please call the church office.





You are invited to a special lunch as we share about supporting Berachah Prayer Hall in Hyderabad, India. The church is growing, and we are raising funds to support its expansion. If you are interested in learning more and partnering through giving, please join us. Indian food will be served.

- Date: Sunday, September 14
- Time: 12:00 PM
- Location: College First Church – Fellowship Hall

This luncheon is priced; \$15 for adults, \$5.00 for children. Any questions, please ask Missy LaRocco at mlarocco@lawolaw.org.

Caring and Sharing

Come join Caring and Sharing in September and October for this great read!

On Tuesday, September 16 and Tuesday, October 21 at 7PM, the book to be discussed is *What Happens Next*.

According to Amazon.com, "*What Happens Next* is an optimistic, accessible, and non-sensational guide to what the Bible says about heaven's time line that will empower you to face the future with faith.



Max takes you on

a well-researched overview of what God's Word says, exploring the following four big ideas that provide a solid foundation for understanding God's eternal plan:

- We were made to reign with Christ.
- God has made and will keep his promises.
- Heaven has a time line.
- A golden era-the millennium-awaits God's children.

Plus, Max takes you on a journey of the time line of history, examining essential milestones such as the rapture, the seven years of tribulation, and the glory of heaven."



- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| • Linda Bratt | • Missy LaRocco |
| • Christine Cole | • Connie McClelland |
| • Paula Dewey | • Phyllis Miller |
| • Don Dreisbach | • Lee Osmun |
| • Briella Fletcher | • Cindy Sims-Perry |
| • Jill Gordon | • Bill Smith |
| • Ledger Han | • Doug Rosendale |
| • Dorothy Harvey | |

E-MAIL PRAYER GROUP - Praises and prayer concerns for the church body as a whole are sent out via e-mail by Connections Pastor Kimberly Reese. To submit a prayer request or to be added to the Prayer Chain recipient e-mail list please contact Pastor Kimberly at kreesse@collegefirst.org.

COLLEGE FIRST 101: MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Sunday, Sept. 21
12:15 p.m.

Free lunch provided

EXPLORE THE HISTORY,
MINISTRY, AND FUTURE OF
COLLEGE FIRST

To sign up or learn more, contact Kimberly Reese at kreesse@collegefirst.org



IF YOU FIND JESUS - TAKE HIM WITH YOU.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Alycia and Austin Fox, and sister Molly, who welcomed Emily Lynn into the world on September 9. Everyone is doing great!



Please join us in this wonderful event! On February 13, 2026, along with St. Mark's United Methodist and Movement Church, here in Findlay, we will celebrate anyone living with disabilities, ages 14 and older.

According to timtebowfoundation.org, "Each (Night to Shine) event is unique to its location (nationwide), but some cornerstone activities included across all of them are a red carpet entrance complete with a warm welcome from a friendly crowd and paparazzi, hair and makeup stations, shoeshines, limousine rides, karaoke, gifts, a catered dinner, a Sensory Room, a Respite Room for parents and caregivers, dancing, and a crowning ceremony where every guest is honored as a King or a Queen - the way God sees them each and every day."

As you can imagine, this event will need **A LOT** of volunteers. Volunteer sign-up sheets are available in front of the church office and at the welcome table at Winebrenner. You can also you can sign up by scanning this QR Code as well:



For more information about the Findlay Night to Shine please go to: findlaynighttoshine.org. Night To Shine will be held at the University of Findlay Alumni Memorial Union.

With your help, let's make dreams come true and shine God's love! **THANK YOU!!!**

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of conversations about things we all question in life: Why do bad things happen to good people? What's the purpose of life? What's next?

If you're looking for a judgment-free space to ask hard questions and share your own opinion, there's a place for you.

Alpha begins Sunday, September 28 and will meet 11 weeks. Each gathering will be held in Winebrenner, room 254 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. A shared meal is a part of each gathering.

If you'd like to join the Alpha course as a participant, sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BADA82EA0F8C34-58536533-alpha>

If you are interested in serving as a table leader for Alpha or assisting with the meal ministry portion of Alpha, please contact Pastor Kimberly at kreesee@collegefirst.org.

Pastor and Staff Appreciation Month

Dear College First Congregation,

As we do each year, the month of October is set aside as Pastor and Staff Appreciation Month. This is a wonderful time to send cards, messages, and baked goods to our amazing Pastoral Staff. Please reach out to all of the College First Pastors to let them know how much we all appreciate the great work and care that they perform each and every day here at the church and beyond. If you want to give a monetary gift, please save that for the month of December, as we will be collecting monetary gifts for the annual Staff Christmas Gift during the end of the year. As always, please be in prayer for our Pastors and Staff, as they carry out the good work of Christ and building His kingdom.

-Nate Tice
President, Church Council

You're invited to

Craft Night

Sat., Oct. 4, 4:00-8:00 p.m. * Fellowship Hall

Still have that half-way done project you're working on? Craft Night is a chance to set aside time to work on your craft projects while you fellowship with friends and make new ones. Bring your own supplies. A card making option is also available.

Pizza and soda provided

HYMN SING

& DESSERT SOCIAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 / 6:00 PM
Save the date and plan to come.



What Is Upward Sports?

Upward Sports is a non-profit that shares gospel and Jesus while teaching kids the power of positive sportsmanship. Upward has been doing this for well over 20 years. According to Upward.org, "We view sport through the lens of a greater purpose – which means the impact can extend far beyond the game. Sports break down barriers and create a powerful catalyst for churches to build relationships and serve others. All children deserve opportunities to be active, learn and have fun! That's why we value co-creating new and different play experiences with church partners to welcome and reach all children. Based on Luke 2:52 'Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.' Our experiences are designed to equip churches to engage the whole athlete – mind, body, spirit and soul." Upward's games consist of Flag Football players, cheer leaders, coaches, greeters, team chaplains, etc.

A Note From Faith

Five years ago I still worked as an assistant Children's director for College First, specifically for the Winebrenner campus. It was right after COVID and we were trying to think of how we could specifically reach families and children in the community. It was truly a God-ordained discussion as I approached Pastor Brandon about this idea, he said he had some other individuals that brought up sports ministry as being an avenue that we have never explored. And therefore, after discussing locations, looking into organizations to partner with, researching what our community could benefit from, and possibly how to use the amazing resource that is the University of Findlay, Upward Flag Football was born! We began with 100 football players and 25 cheerleaders that first year- and it has grown every year! We are passionate about the Word of God and get excited when we hear testimonies of who is hearing the messages being spoken through devotionals to the players, cheerleaders, families, and even the coaches! Through our registration process we have seen a steady percentage of around 45% of kids/families reporting they do not have a church affiliation. Our goal has never to be one to make sure all of these individuals come to College First, but we have a passion that all individuals walk away hearing and experiencing the Word of God at each point of the ministry that is Upward Flag Football at College First. Upward Flag Football is an incredible bridge to our community through the use of sports.

What Opportunities Are Available?

Upward games and practices are going on now. And we need **MANY** volunteers to help out....we have well over 200+ kids involved in Upward this season!

We need **YOU** to help bridge the gap for our kiddos and families in several different ways:

- **Team Chaplains:** We are seeking several individuals to be team chaplains- this means 2-3 people coming to our practices to read a simple devotion (which we will provide). These devotions are just a couple minutes long, but they are an integral part in spreading the Word of God to our kiddos.
- **Set up/tear down crew:** We are looking for 4 individuals to help us set up at 5:30 on Thursday evenings, and/or setting up/tearing down on Saturday mornings around 7:20 am or 12:45pm for about 45 minutes.
- **Hosts:** we love to have 2 people at the field gate on Saturday mornings from 8:30-10:30 or 10:30-12:30 to welcome families, players, cheerleaders and direct them on where to go. This is a wonderful way to show God's love to the family, friends, and participants of this year's Upward Flag Football season.

Sign-up sheets are in the atriums at both College First and Winebrenner! Also you can sign-up online at this link: bit.ly/3JSWAYN. And you do not need to come to every game.....whatever fits *your* schedule.

And this year's newest way to get involved: **Team Sponsors!** In the atriums you will find lists of teams- feel free to grab a paper, hang it on your fridge or mirror at home and aim to pray over the team that you select. This is a wonderful opportunity to help us continue to dedicate this season to showing God's love to the Upward community, equipping the participants and their families with God's message of salvation, and sending God's family into the community to further His Kingdom.

For more information, please e-mail Faith Gingerich, Upward Director, at upward@collegefirst.org.

International Student Ministry Donations Needed

Our international students are in need of space heaters, mattresses, men's winter coats, and desks. If you have any of these items to donate, please contact Pastor Nancy at nhiser@collegefirst.org.

Bible Quiz Season

Bible quizzing season is starting again soon on Sunday, September 14! Any questions or interested in joining Bible Quiz Team contact Pastor Nancy.

Bible Quizzing New Season

Join the team for a fun deep dive into scripture!

Info:

- Sundays, 4-5:30pm
- Grades 5-12

Topic:

1 & 2 Corinthians



Staff Directory

Kirk Schneemann, Lead Pastor
kirk@collegefirst.org

David Welker, Pastor of Worship and Lay Activities
dwelker@collegefirst.org

Kimberly Reese, Connections Pastor
kreese@collegefirst.org

Nancy Hiser, Pastor of Student and Young Adult Ministries
nhiser@collegefirst.org

Nicky Inman, Director of Kids Ministries
ninman@collegefirst.org

Simeon Joseph, Associate Director of Next Gen Ministries
simeon@collegefirst.org

Donald Daboiko, CF Winebrenner Director of Worship
donald@collegefirst.org

Lisa Jolliff, CF Winebrenner Director of Music
ljolliff@collegefirst.org

Alex Miller, Ministry Fellow
millera18@findlay.edu

Su Jung, Organist
crystals7715@gmail.com

SeaHwa Jung, Worship Choir Director
jung@findlay.edu

Jen Miller, Treasurer
jmiller@collegefirst.org

Katie Thomas, Admin Assistant
kthomas@collegefirst.org

Chad Smith, Custodian

Allison Milhoan, Assistant Custodian

Church Elders 2025

Deb Anders, Next Generation

Alvin Trusty, Connection and Discipleship

Nate Tice, Outreach and Missions

Randy Ewing, Property Management

Jon Rupp, Stewardship and Finance

Dave Green, Worship

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM 11:00AM

SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY, 1100 N. MAIN ST.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

10:00AM @ WINEBRENNER
WINEBRENNER TLB AUDITORIUM, 950 N. MAIN ST.

SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE

LIVESTREAM 9:00AM

FACEBOOK PAGE & YOUTUBE CHANNEL
GO TO THE WEBSITE 'ONLINE WORSHIP' PAGE FOR LINKS

1100 N. Main St. Findlay, OH 45840

PHONE: 419-422-7365 FAX: 419-423-9449

E-MAIL: office@collegefirst.org

WEBSITE: www.collegefirst.org

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4 PM, Friday 9 AM-2 PM



church center

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