

Weekly Update FYI

COLLEGE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

Love. Equip. Send.

September 17, 2025



Dear College First family,

*The **vision** of CF is to become a future-oriented church by 2028 that will see 33% of our congregation made up of kids, students, and young adults.*

On Sunday, we had 79 college-aged students at our 3 worship services and 158 people under 30. Our total attendance was 478...**33% young people!** Praise the LORD!

Obviously we're not done...there are thousands of unchurched people in our community to **love, equip, and send**, but these are exciting days and we give glory to God for the things He is doing.

This weekend is the Great Lakes Conference **Forge Men's Retreat**. There's still time to register at <https://www.glccg.org/event-details/the-forge-mens-retreat>.

College First 101 is a free introduction to CF featuring free lunch and an invitation (not obligation) to church membership. Join us this Sunday at 12:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Register via kreese@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...Christianity 101. All are welcome. Register via kreese@collegefirst.org.

Blessings,

Kirk

P.S. Thanks to everyone who participated in the fundraiser lunch for the Berachah Prayer Hall. You can still contribute by marking "India" in the memo of a check.

Beth Warnecke 9/16
Kevin Rivest 9/16
Eric Wymer 9/16
Phyllis Heffner 9/17
Curtis Cole 9/18
Tim Nichols 9/18
Kerry Teeple 9/18
Maxine Thornton 9/20
Maxine Lauck 9/20
Carter Sapp 9/20
Ken Bertke 9/23
Kathy Marquart 9/23
R. Doyne Frommer 9/24
Kathleen Alfred 9/26
Kathy Hirschfeld 9/29
Sharon Eckenrode 9/30
Jeff Peterman 9/30

Happy
Birthday

Upcoming Events

9/21: Membership Class, 12:15 PM
9/21: Youth Family Worship Night, 5:30 PM
9/27: Young Adult Bingo, 8-10 PM
9/28: Jump Rope Craft Night, 5:30-7:30 PM
9/28: Alpha, 5:30-7:30 PM
10/4: Craft Night, 4-8 PM
10/26: Hymn Sing, 6 PM

TITHES/OFFERINGS....\$23,722.54
ADDITIONAL
OFFERINGS....\$1,305.74
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.



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, con-
tact Kimberly Reese at
kreese@collegefirst.org

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 bit.ly/3JZLRm8

For more details check out:

collegefirst.org/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 kreese@collegefirst.org.

In Sympathy

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the families of

- Mary George of the loss of her son
- The passing of Clyde Althaus yesterday

The POWER of PRAYER

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

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 kreese@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



IF YOU FIND JESUS - TAKE HIM WITH YOU.

A Note of Thanks!

Many thanks to all for the cards, notes, emails, food, flowers and gifts for my 89th birthday. It is all so much appreciated. May God bless you all.

Judy Brandt



October Senior Fun Dinner

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14 / 5:30 PM

Mark your calendars and plan to come to our next Senior Fun Dinner with a side dish, salad or dessert to share. The main course will feature a "Walking Taco. Drink and table service also provided.

A special program will follow the meal. The program will bring a celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the dedication of the College First bethel building in 1950. Learn more about how College First and the church building came to be and hear some interesting stories illustrating the history of our church.

Sign up today.



YOUNG ADULT BINGO NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 27 | 8 - 10 P.M.

@COLLEGE FIRST FELLOWSHIP HALL

WIN PRIZES! SNACKS + DRINKS INCLUDED

HYMN SING

& DESSERT SOCIAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 / 6:00 PM

Save the date and plan to come.



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 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 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, desks, and bicycles. If you have any of these items to donate, please contact Pastor Nancy at nhiser@collegefirst.org.

COLLEGE FIRST YOUTH AND FAMILY WORSHIP NIGHT

Sunday, September 21st

Come praise Jesus with us! Dinner will be served at the College First fellowship hall at 5:30pm, and worship will begin at 6:00pm.

Students in grades 5-12 and their families are welcome!

JOIN US FOR ENCOUNTER!



EVERY WEDNESDAY 6PM-7:30
PRESCHOOL THROUGH 5TH GRADE



JUMP ROPE CRAFT NIGHT



HELP MAKE A TOY FOR A CHILD IN NEED

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

5:30-7:30PM

COLLEGE FIRST FELLOWSHIP HAL

OPEN TO ANYONE 5TH GRADE THROUGH

YOUNG ADULT

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
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Nicky Inman, Director of Kids Ministries
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Simeon Joseph, Associate Director of Next Gen Ministries
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Donald Daboiko, CF Winebrenner Director of Worship
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Alex Miller, Ministry Fellow
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Su Jung, Organist
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SeaHwa Jung, Worship Choir Director
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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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Love. Equip. Send.