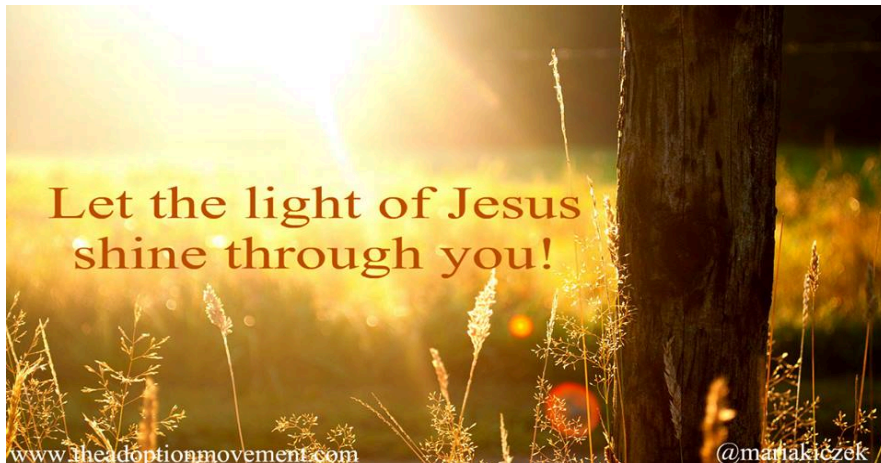




Christ Community Church Newsletter

Staying Rooted in Jesus and in God's Word

Welcome to our Newsletter where we can keep you up to date on all the exciting happenings at our church.



Holy Thoughts with Pastor Jacob Sandholm

"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life."

John 8:12

As I am writing this newsletter article for the month of May, I am sitting in my office typing, while the rays of the sun beam in from the outside. Earlier in the morning, I was woken up by loud roars of thunder and pouring rain. The big shift in weather today is a great analogy to what life is like as believers of Jesus Christ. All of us can agree that everyone has bad days and goes through hard times in this life. Regardless of who

we are, or where we have come from, every single human being has experienced not only physical darkness, but darkness on a mental, emotional, or spiritual level. It is in these moments when we ask ourselves the hard questions like, “Why did this have to happen to me?” Or “What did I do to deserve this?” These are moments in life that we wish we didn’t have to endure, however, there is a sense of peace, though it be small, knowing that we are never the only ones going through the darkness.

One of the biggest similarities of human beings is that we all must endure some hardship. However, how we come out the other side is where we start to go on different paths. Unfortunately, many people will turn to quick fixes like alcohol, drugs, sex, or whatever they can get their hands on to give them instant pleasure and relief. The term for this is hedonism. We as Americans have grown up in a culture that demands instant gratification or pleasure and if we don’t get that, we move on quickly to something that will give us what we seek. The problem is though, with hedonism, is that nothing we try will ever satisfy our longing for true joy and happiness. King Solomon, in Ecclesiastes 3:11, says “He has put eternity in their hearts.” Every single person has a longing and desire for something that lasts forever, which explains why these instant pleasures never do the trick.

Almost 1,000 years later, Jesus Christ would say something to the crowd in John 8 that would give clarity to the “eternity” that King Solomon was talking about. John 1:3-5 states, *“All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shined in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”* At the beginning of the gospel of John, we see another place where it is mentioned that this “light” can outshine any depths of darkness. This light would come to be known as Jesus Christ, as was said by not only John, but first and foremost by Jesus Christ Himself. Perhaps this is where John got his idea to begin his gospel account as such.

There has been a lot of sorrow and hardships all around the world and in our personal lives since the last newsletter I wrote in March. As we move forward into the season of Pentecost and Summer, may the Light continue to shine in our lives through the grace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ rose from the grave to show us that there is never a darkness that the Light won’t overwhelm. When you turn on a light in a room, all the darkness goes away. When you accept Jesus Christ into your life, though we may walk through the valley of the shadow of death, Jesus Christ is there with us to light the way through the valley until we climb out of it.

May Christ’s blessings be on you all in the month of May. Thank you for reading.

-Pastor Jacob Sandholm

***If you would like to connect with Pastor Jacob, please know that his office hours are**

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 Am-3:30 Pm. You can also contact the church email to connect with him: christcommunitydc@gmail.com

March's Ministries



Motherhood Ministry

On May 1st, we had the privilege of partnering with a local women's Bible study group to host a best-selling author as our keynote speaker. This event welcomed all mothers and provided valuable advice along with resources available within our community. We were also grateful for the opportunity to share about our Motherhood Ministry, Vacation Bible School, and children's church programs. It was a meaningful time spent with like-minded women—a moment that felt thoughtfully orchestrated by God to remind moms that they are not alone in their motherhood journey.

At the core of our mission is a desire to remind moms that they're not alone. Whether it's through a warm meal or a listening ear, we want to offer encouragement, support, and a sense of community.

If you'd like to learn more about this ministry or explore ways to get involved, we'd love to hear from you! Please don't hesitate to reach out at christcommunitydc@gmail.com.



Outreach Committee

We had a wonderful time participating in the Called to Motherhood event on May 1. It was an honor to represent our church and partner with our Motherhood Ministry to help make this event possible and to let our community know we are here and ready to serve. We're also looking forward to celebrating moms and graduates in May, and then honoring dads in June!

If you're interested in helping organize these activities, we'd love to have you on the Outreach Committee. To get involved, email us at christcommunitydc@gmail.com or text 641-242-2826.

Elevate Youth Ministry



Our youth did a fantastic job leading the 7:30 a.m. Sunrise Easter Service and had a great time doing it. We're so grateful for those who stepped up to celebrate and share the message of Christ's resurrection. After the service, they were eager to continue serving by hosting a pancake breakfast for the community, where they also raised funds in the amount of \$810. A heartfelt thank you to Denise Slimmer and Jill Nelson for helping keep everything organized and making the event such a success.

Throughout May will begin a new sermon series with the youth called Holy Authority where we will dive in on who the Holy Spirit is and how He affects us all. We are excited to bring this to our youth as they navigate growing their relationship with Jesus. Elevate will continue throughout the summer on Sundays from 5:30-7pm on Sunday evenings. Anyone in grades 6th-12th are welcome to come!

**If you are interested in joining us for the Ignite Bible Conference or Winter Jam, please reach out to us on our website, email, or just let me know.*

Blessings,

Pastor Jacob Sandholm



Missions

We are preparing to serve members of our community as the weather begins to warm up. Whether someone needs help cleaning up their yard or planting flowers, the season will be here before we know it.

If you're interested in joining an upcoming mission trip or becoming part of our missions team, we'd love to connect with you. Reach out to us at **christcommunitydc@gmail.com**—we'd be honored to have you involved in this important work!



Children's Ministry

We have one month remaining of children's church before we begin our summer break. Starting May 31, kids' bags will be available for children to pick up as they head into the service. We are incredibly grateful for all the volunteers who made the 2025–2026 children's church such a success. Their willingness to invest in our children makes it possible to guide and teach them about our Savior.

Vacation Bible School will once again be held at the Pulaski Mennonite Church from June 7–11. Times will be announced soon. We are continuing to work with them to create a plan and as we have more information we will pas it on.

A heartfelt *thank you* to those who are already serving and to those prayerfully considering it. If you'd like to learn more or be added to the team, please email Kaitlyn at **christcommunitydc@gmail.com**.



Choir

Choir continues to go wonderfully, and we are honored to share music each and every Sunday. As a congregation, we are deeply grateful for the talented volunteers who bless us through their gifts. If you're interested in joining, you're always welcome to attend rehearsal at the high school on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. This is our final month of choir before we take a break for the summer, and it has truly been a joy to bring this music to you.

Call Karen Spurgeon at 641-208-3202 for more information.

May

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15am Ad Council Mtg 5:30pm Elevate 3	6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 4	Outreach Meeting 6pm 5	6pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Prayer Meeting 6	6:30pm Pathfinders 7	10am Bible Brunch 8	9
9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15am Mother's Day & Grad Celebration 5:30pm Elevate 10	6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 11	12	6pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Prayer Meeting 13	6:30pm Pathfinders 14	10am Bible Brunch 15	16
9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5:30pm Elevate 17	6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 18	19	6pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Prayer Meeting 20	6:30pm Pathfinders 21	10am Bible Brunch 22	23
9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5:30pm Elevate 24	6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 25	7pm Elder Board Meeting 26	6pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Prayer Meeting 27	6:30pm Pathfinders 28	10am Bible Brunch 29	30
9am Sunday School 10am Worship - Palm Sunday 5:30pm Elevate 31						

<https://christcommunitydc.org/>



Christ Community Church
 Bloomfield, IA 52537
christcommunitydc@gmail.com