



# CrossWords

news of Geist Christian Church

May 2019

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## Dessert Auction – May 11/12

Life is short - eat dessert first! On May 11/12, participate in the annual Mother's Day Dessert Auction to support the THREE youth mission trips this summer. This auction is the major fund-raiser that ensures every youth is able to attend one of these transformative experiences. If you can provide a dessert for the auction, e-mail Kyle Brown, kyle.brown@geistchristian.org to let him know you can help. Then, come to church on Saturday, May 11 and Sunday, May 12 ready to buy something sweet and tasty.



## Golf Outing! Save the Date



The annual Geist Christian Church Golf Outing will be held on Sunday, June 9 at the River Glen Country Club beginning with a grilled buffet lunch at 12:30 pm. Scramble format begins at 2:30 pm. Registration fee of \$80 per person includes lunch, soft drinks, green fees, cart and contests. Watch for registration to begin in early May.

## VBS 2019 – Roar! Registration Now Open

July 8-12, Life is Wild- God is Good - Promise Road Campus - 9 am -12 pm - We are excited to again celebrate VBS as ONE church this year. This epic African adventure engages the whole herd. At Roar, kids explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. Register children age 4 (by Sept. 1, 2019) through 3rd grade. Register on-line or pick up a form in the children's halls at either campus.



**VBS VOLUNTEERS recruiting now!** - Children 4th grade on up are invited to help in a variety of roles to assist our "crews". We are looking for LOTS of volunteers of ALL ages to help with this Wildly awesome adventure! Join us as a "Safari Guide" and lead a group or as a volunteer for our game or craft teams. You won't want to miss this! Register on-line or pick up a form at either campus.

Save those toilet paper, paper towel and wrapping paper rolls! WE NEED THEM! You may drop them off at either campus in the children's halls! Thank you!



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## Randy Reflects



Randy Spleth

Resurrection has taken place this week, at the Mud Creek campus. It wasn't Easter. That was two weeks ago. Easter was experienced at both of our campuses and at countless churches around the world.

More literally, resurrection took place on Mud Creek Road and those who have driven on it, thought it would never come. The short stretch of Mud Creek Road from Fall Creek to 86th has been a perfect example of pothole alley. No road in the city could better demonstrate neglect. It was originally scheduled for repaving last fall, but for some mysterious reason, was delayed. Then, additional traffic has been routed onto the stretch with the 82nd street detour. Bad went to worse ; worse became unthinkable.

Then, this very week, the road was resurrected, restored, a smooth path, like all the pain and difficulty of travel was behind us. We know it is, at least for a short while. But wear, tear and winter will beat it down again. There is a cycle which we know too well.

We know it because such is life. Life can feel easy, a smooth road and then, the wear and tear suddenly creates a rough go. The something tough happens. Plans change. Cancer is diagnosed. A marriage is broken, a job is lost, a loved one dies. Bad goes to worse; worse becomes unthinkable.

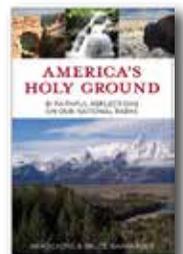
Bad things happen to all of us but Easter reminds us that resurrection is always possible. As Paul wrote about our lives, "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair, persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed...because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also..." (2 Corinthians 4:7-8, 14) Easter reminds us that there is absolutely nothing in this world that cannot be overcome if we have faith in the power of God.

Resurrection is all around us. Daily moments when life breaks through Maybe we can't predict or schedule them. But if we have eyes to see and heart to feel, we can experience them. They may be found in the eyes of someone you love, in the triumph over illness, or God's enduring strength during grief. When we go through hard times, we keep moving forward knowing that with God's help we can overcome. A smooth road will be found again and with it, a resurrection moment.

Blessings,

## Love our National Parks? Save the date!

On Sunday, June 23, 4-6 pm at the Mud Creek Campus, authors Brad Lyons and Bruce Barkhauer will visit Geist Christian Church discuss and sign their book, *America's Holy Ground* which features spiritual reflections and nearly 200 breathtaking photos from our National Parks.



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# CONNECT Adult Ministries

**Education for Ministry (EfM) Now Enrolling** - Are you ready to stretch yourself on your faith journey? Are you looking for exciting fellowship with other believers along the way? Education for Ministry, EfM, has open enrollment for new participants during May and June. For over 10 years, Geist Christian Church has partnered with University of the South School of Theology to bring the EfM program to our members. The lessons are fascinating and the fellowship full of strength and joy. Pick up an EfM brochure at the welcome centers or call Barb Heller, 317-578-1099 or Bill Morris, 317-331-9349 for more information. Classes meet Tuesday evenings September through May. Join us!

**New Prayer Group – Pies & Prayers** - A new small group is forming and meets the first Monday of each month to pray for the congregation and specific requests submitted by members and guests of the congregation on the prayer wall at the Promise Road Campus. The group next meets at the Promise Road Campus on Monday, May 6 from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm and features, of course, pies and prayers. Contact Michelle Latty at michelle.latty@geistchristian.org for more information.

**Outside-the-Box Bible Study** - Gather with a diverse group of folks in a public context to talk God. Come as you are, grab food and drink (or not), and enjoy fellowship while focusing on the One whose presence is beyond the church building. Meets on the third Tuesday of the month, 6-7:30 pm at Aurelio's, 13147 Parkside Dr., Fishers, IN 46038. Childcare is provided at the Promise Road Campus. Contact Kyle Brown with any questions at kyle.brown@geistchristian.org.

**Page Turners** - Page Turners, the bookclub of Geist Christian Church will meet to discuss the following books:

- May 22 - *The Rent Collector* by Cameron Wright
- May 29 - Video showing of *River of Victory*. This is the video documentary of *The Rent Collector* (offsite)
- July 24 - *Follow the River* by James Alexander Thom

The club meets at the Mud Creek Campus on the 4th Wednesday (every other month) at 6:30 pm. If there are any questions, please contact Elena Derbique at 317.823.0173 or elena.derbique@gmail.com.

**Seniors Ministry** - Save the date, May 19. The next Seniors Ministry event will be held on Sunday afternoon, May 19, from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Mud Creek Campus. The event will begin with a pitch-in and the speaker is TBD.

**Company Coffee: Telling Tales from the Bunker and Beyond** - Veterans from WWII to present-day G.I.s are invited to Higher Grounds Coffee Shop located at Promise Road and 126th for a free cup o' joe and safe space in which to share with those who "get it." Come and go 10am-2pm each Tuesday.



**W.E. Group** - The W.E. Group is for women that want to connect with one another. This group meets monthly, usually on the 1st Tuesday of the month in various locations. There are opportunities for fellowship, for outreach and for learning. All women are invited. For more information or to be added to the email list, please contact Carolyn Reed at carolyn@indianadisciples.org.

## Ongoing Groups at Geist Christian Church

- GCC Young Adults - Follow Christian Young Adults on Facebook to find out the latest gatherings. Meets monthly. Contact Kathryn Heman, katelizabeth15@gmail.com
- Mom2Mom - A ministry of moms that provide support to expecting moms in the church community. All upcoming events are posted on the GCC Mom2Mom Facebook page. Contact sarah.dietrich@geistchristian.org.
- Mental Health Support Group - Meets at the Promise Road Campus on the third Tuesday of the month at 7pm.
- Soul Sisters - Women's fitness group meets Thursdays, 7:00 pm at the Promise Road Campus
- The Bridge - Men's group meets Wednesdays, 6:30 pm at the Promise Road Campus. Contact Mike Peck, mike@outsidesource.com.

# CONNECT Children's Ministries

**Summer Family Nights June 3 & June 24 - 6-8 pm at the Mud Creek Campus** - Come celebrate summer together! Join us for some Wild family fun. We will share a meal together then hit the ground running for games community time together. Mark your calendars, bring your family and invite your friends for these free event together.

## G56 – for youth in grades 5 & 6

**Current 4th & 5th graders- G56 Service "Week" – June 18-20, 9am-1pm at the Mud Creek Campus** - This is THE "week" you don't want to miss. Plan to join us for three awesome days of service in our local community. WHY??

- Get to know your fellow G56ers
- Help others
- Have loads of fun!

Registration begins soon.

## Families that Garden Together – Grow Together!

If you and/or your family is interested in helping out with the vegetable garden at the Promise Road Campus, please let Michelle Latty ([michelle.latty@geistchristian.org](mailto:michelle.latty@geistchristian.org)) know. There is planting, weeding, tending and harvesting to be done all spring/summer/fall long! Anyone can help – all ages welcome. Plenty for everyone! You don't have to know what to do – we will show you! Did you know we donate LOTS of fresh produce from our gardens to the Fishers United Methodist Church Come To Me Food Pantry each year? Join us and be a part of helping our neighbors in need!



Weekday Ministry alumni and current students meet the Easter Bunny at the 2019 Easter Eggstravaganza. In spite of the inclement weather, a good time was had by all.

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# CONNECT Youth Ministries

**Youth Worship : The Table** - We all need a place to plug into our faith. A place where we can sing songs, read scripture, and pray for our world and each other. The worship service for youth is called The Table. The Table is a dynamic worship experience offered three times a month where youth gather to refocus, recharge, and reconnect to God. We hope this opportunity at Geist Christian Church will be a place for the youth to unplug from the world and plug into God and each other.



**Youth Group** - Youth Group is an amazing opportunity to meet new friends and grow in your relationship with God, yourself, and each other. The youth group is a combination of both campuses and meets at the Promise Road Campus on most Sunday nights. Upcoming events include:



- **Indians Game** - Babe Ruth once said, "Baseball was, is and always will be to me the best game in the world." On Sunday, May 5th the youth of Geist Christian Church head downtown to catch an Indianapolis Indians game. The game is at 1:30 pm, so we will be leaving from the Mud Creek Campus at 12:30 pm. The cost is \$10 for the ticket, and youth should bring money for food and snacks. If you are interested in going, please email Kyle at [kyle.brown@geistchristian.org](mailto:kyle.brown@geistchristian.org).
- **Dessert Auction** - It's the Mother's Day Auction, and the success of this auction is largely due to our amazing students and their families along with their dedication to making awesome desserts! This year our auction is May 11 and May 12 and we need desserts at both campuses. Anything and everything is welcomed! So dust off those old family recipes and let's raise some money. Desserts need to be to us by 30 minutes before the service begins.
- **Cookout** - On Sunday, May 19 we will celebrate the end of another school year with a cookout and a surprise event. The time of this event is TBD and promises to be a wonderful celebration as we say farewell to dreaded finals and another school year. I hope you will join us, because it's going to be an epic event to end the school year. Outside dress required, so bring everyone and come celebrate the end of the school year!

## Weekday Ministries News

Shelley Haller is the Zoophonics teacher at the Promise Road Campus. She was nominated by one of our families as an outstanding teacher during the "Week of the Young Child". Fishers mayor, Scott Fadness, recently presented Ms. Shelley with her award when he visited and toured the school.

Spring has sprung in Weekday Ministries. The children are busy preparing for their Mother's Day Teas and the kindergarten class is preparing for graduation! As part of our spring unit, each classroom received a container of caterpillars to

observe and watch the life cycle. They are all in the chrysalis stage now and soon will be emerging into beautiful butterflies for them to release. Hands-on learning is evident in all of our classrooms as the children learn through play and discovery.



# Outreach

**Bread for the World Offering of Letters 2019: Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow.** - What would you do with \$250 million? Would you quit your job? Buy a new house? Share it with family? Give it to the church? Invest it and live off the income for the rest of your life? 250 million is a relatively small sum for the Powerball lottery. Just recently one person won the Powerball jackpot for more than \$750 million. The Philadelphia Phillies recently paid over \$300 million for a baseball player. \$250 million is a very small sum in terms of the U.S. budget.



On May 18 and 19, Geist Christian members have the opportunity to write to our representatives and senators urging them to support H.Res. 189, a bipartisan resolution submitted in the House, to increase funding for global nutrition to \$250 million. This increased funding would save 10,000 children from death due to malnutrition and treat one million who are malnourished. Almost half of all child deaths worldwide are linked to malnutrition. Our faith calls us to have compassion for those who are hungry. It's vital for the U.S. to continue its leadership in the global effort to eliminate malnutrition.

Last year, Geist Christian Church joined with 41 other churches and delivered more than 3,600 letters urging support of the Global Food Security Act. Our efforts paid off. The final federal budget included no cuts to hunger-related programs and actually saw some increases. The final Farm Bill included no cuts to SNAP, and Congress passed the Global Food Security Act with the support of both Indiana senators and 8 of 9 representatives. Your letter made a difference last year and had a greater impact as we joined with our fellow Christians.

Help save the lives of children all over the world. Please plan to join us after church service May 18 and 19 as we write letters to our representatives and senators urging them to support legislation and increased funding to accelerate progress on global nutrition. Many churches in central Indiana are conducting an Offering of Letters this spring and will again join together in presenting those letters to our Congressional leaders

**Guatemala Mission Trip** - From November 9 - 16, Geist Christian Church will be sponsoring a 7-day mission trip to Guatemala. During this international mission trip, the group will be working in the village of Panajachel, a small town on the edge of Lake Atitlan. Despite the beauty of the area, the Mayan inhabitants live in extreme poverty, many living off on just a few dollars a day. Most live in make shift shacks with dirt floors with no running water. To combat this extreme poverty, Geist Christian Church, will be partnering with Porch de Salomon (<http://porchdesalomon.org>) as we build homes for families in need. On Wednesday, May 22 at 5:30pm, Kyle Brown will be hosting an informational session at the Promise Road Campus. If you have any questions or would like to RSVP your spot for the May 22nd informational session, please contact Kyle Brown at [kyle.brown@geistchristian.org](mailto:kyle.brown@geistchristian.org).

## Creation Care Tip

Experts estimate that 100 million trees are cut down each year to create paper for junk mail. Take yourself off catalog mailing lists at [catalogchoice.org](http://catalogchoice.org).



# News Around Geist Christian Church

## Births

Aiden Joseph Seaitz, parents Spencer & Kim, brother Avery, 3/12  
 Grandparents Steve & Betty Sterrett  
 Great grandparents John & Anna Hall  
 Eliza Diane Ivanson, parents Brian & Olivia, sister Violet, 4/8  
 Grandparents Jeff & Deb Swim

## In Sympathy

Jamie Bacon, aunt Barbara Shields  
 Ann Couch, uncle Ralph Wenning  
 Amy Borzymowski, aunt Nancy Blackwell  
 Cheryl McLaughlin, brother Bill Moore  
 Ashley Shaul, uncle Tim Kerr  
 Mary Ann Yedinak, aunt Geraldine King  
 Martel Plummer, father Charlie Bahn  
 Corrinne Keister, grandfather Charlie Bahn  
 Ann Spleth, brother Jim Updegraff

## New Members

Eric & Jennifer Young, Ian  
 Laurie Blair  
 Debbie Garner  
 Scott & Libby Timmons, Katie & Matt

## 2019 Pastors Class

Addison Abebe  
 Ben Blunk  
 Jack Borzymowski  
 Parker Culp  
 Chase Dietrich  
 Chase Galloway  
 Adam Kiewitt  
 Lindsey Lannen  
 Nolan Salyer  
 Griffin Smith  
 Lizzy Upchurch  
 Mattingly Upchurch  
 Andrew Voight  
 Natasha Wheat

## Memorial Gifts

**In Memory of Paul Dubenetzky**  
 John & Kathy Kopfensteiner  
 Debbie Dubenetzky  
 Bob & Judy Zier

### April Attendance

Service	Apr 6/7	Apr 13/14	Apr 27/28
5:30 pm PR	73	75	76
9:00 am MC	143	167	149
10:00 am PR	164	216	160
Youth Worship PR	14	8	n/a
10:30 am MC	218	247	215
Youth Worship MC	10	8	n/a
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>600</b>

Easter Apr 20/21	PR Campus	MC Campus
5:30 pm	158	
9:00 pm		248
9:30 am	288	
10:00 am		370
11:00 am	204	
11:15 am		208
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1476</b>

# Special Events

**Spring Concert – May 19 at 3:00** – Mud Creek Campus: The music program will present their annual Spring Concert on Sunday, May 19 at 3:00. The program will feature a variety of pieces presented by the Chancel Ringers and the Chancel Choir will perform Rene Clausen's "Te Deum", with orchestra. We hope you will join us as we conclude our regular musical season. Admission is free. Refreshments will follow in Great Hall.

**Keenagers: Field Trips for Adults** - The next adventure for the Keenagers will be on Friday, May 31. The group will travel to Fowler, Indiana and spend the day exploring two very different farms. In the morning, there will be a tour of the windfarms and the group will gain an understanding of how these massive wind turbines turn wind to electricity. After lunch at the historic 100 Mile Rib & Chop House (100 miles from both Chicago and Indianapolis), the group will visit one of the most successful salt-water shrimp farms in the United States. Cost of this day trip is \$30 and includes lunch. Reserve your spot on the bus. Contact Ryan Hazen at [ryan.hazen@geistchristian.org](mailto:ryan.hazen@geistchristian.org).

**Artisan's Table** - This year's Artisan Table will be on Saturday, October 19 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at the Mud Creek Campus. Plan to shop the many vendors that will be present with their unique, hand-crafted items. Those interested in being a vendor should contact Mary Ann Lucas at [bonbonmaryann@gmail.com](mailto:bonbonmaryann@gmail.com).

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