



CrossWords

news of Geist Christian Church

August 2019

Contents

- Building Campaign
- Promise Road Lead Pastor
- Randy Reflects
- Keenagers - Field Trips for Adults
- CONNECT Adult Ministries
- Bread for the World Event
- CONNECT Children's Ministries
- Weekday Ministries News
- CONNECT Youth Ministries
- Outreach
- News Around Geist Christian Church
- Special Events

Building Campaign

In the past three years, the debt held on both the Mud Creek Campus and Promise Road Campus buildings was reduced by \$1,229,000. That is a great accomplishment!

One Church Together is the new building campaign that begins on September 1 to maintain this strong momentum of debt retirement. This campaign seeks to raise \$1 million over the coming 36 months over and above general fund support. Every member and friend of the congregation is invited to make a commitment to One Church Together. Pledge and give online at www.geistchristian.org or look for materials arriving by mail and return the enclosed pledge card to the church office. Campaign chairpersons Andrew and Lynn Lewis invite the congregation in this way, "let's leave a stronger church for the next generation, just like the congregations of the past built for us these great buildings and programs that fill them. We invite you to join us in this important effort that we might continue to strengthen our ministries and build a strong future."



Promise Road Lead Pastor

Geist Christian Church is pleased to announce that Reverend Daniel B. Gulden has accepted the call to be the new Lead Pastor of the Promise Road Campus. He begins on August 12 with his first weekend in worship on August 17/18.



Danny holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of West Georgia and a Master of Divinity from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He was ordained in 2008. Prior to entering the ministry, he was a successful sales executive with CareerBuilder.com. Since June of 2017, Danny has served the wider church as Vice-President of Client Relations with the Pension Fund of the Christian Church. Prior to that, he served as the Senior Minister of Sandy Springs Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) just outside of Atlanta. While at Sandy Springs, worship attendance grew by 38% and the congregation began and completed a successful capital campaign and building renovation.

Danny and his wife, Mary Michael, have two daughters, Bella and Ava.

Geist Christian Church members that had the opportunity to meet with Danny said these things about him. "Last evening was a pure delight. Danny and Mary Michael were inspirational and genuine. Their hearts seemed with and for God and they seemed eager and ready to serve Geist Christian Church."

Welcome Danny, Mary Michael, Bella and Ava!



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Randy Reflects



Randy Spleth

One of my favorite passages of scripture is a snapshot of the first church. It comes from that special moment just after the Holy Spirit descends. An explosion of energy created the first congregation and we are told: "All who believed were together..." (Acts 2:44a). It isn't just a description of geography. It describes their mission and character. They were one church together.

They were together in worship, studying, sharing communion, and offering prayer.

They were together in ministry. No one lacked or suffered. They cared for one another.

They were together in fellowship, spending time together beyond worship.

They were together in discipleship, a movement, modeling Jesus character and behavior.

They were together in witness. They invited others to experience Good News. They grew.

They were together in giving, funding the church and offering generously as needed.

They were one church together. It was the key to their success and it is found beyond the initial launch at Pentecost. Do a word search of the New Testament on "together" and you will find we are "united together" and "heirs together." We are "raised up together," "knit together" and "built together." So we are to be "workers together." We are to be one church together.

It makes sense that our building fund campaign expresses this biblical value. Together. We add value. Share strengths. Overcome challenges. And provide resources to build the church.

One church together doesn't just provide important resources for our building fund. It expresses a core value of the church. I hope you will join me and others in this important campaign. We need your help, whether great or small because we can only be successful if we are one church together.

Blessings,

Keenagers - Field Trips for Adults

The Keenagers will take to the road again on Friday, September 6. This all day trip will journey to Kokomo, Indiana and tour the Kokomo Opalescent Glass studio and factory (and gift shop) followed by lunch at a locally owned establishment. After lunch, the group will tour the Seiberling Mansion, a beautiful Queen Anne home dating to 1889 and now the home of the Howard County Historical Society. Cost of the trip is \$35 and includes lunch, transportation and all admissions. Contact Ryan Hazen, ryan.hazen@geistchristian.org to reserve your spot on the bus.

[Return to Contents](#)

CrossWords August 2019



CONNECT Adult Ministries

Bible Study for Women - Sarah's Sisters will begin a study of Christianity and World Religions on Wednesday, September 4 at 1:00 pm at the Mud Creek Campus. Contact Pat Crampton at pjscrampton@hotmail.com for details.

Prayer Ministry: Pies & Prayers – Everyone is welcome to join PIES & PRAYERS on the first Monday of the every month at the Promise Road Campus and pray over the prayers left on the Prayer Wall. It is a wonderful experience to pray for others! ALL ages are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Latty, michelle.latty@geistchristian.org.

Page Turners - Page Turners will meet to discuss the following books:

- September 25 - *Beneath A Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan
- November 20 - *The Noel Stranger* by Richard Paul Evans

The club meets at the Mud Creek Campus at 6:30 pm. Contact Elena Derbique at 317.823.0173 or elena.derbique@gmail.com.

Short-Term Women's Study Begins Sept 16 - This six-session study begins Monday, September 16 from 9:30 am – 11:00 am at the Mud Creek Campus. It's entitled *Fight Back With Joy* and was written by Margaret Feinberg, an acclaimed Bible teacher and conference leader. The cost of the study book is \$15. Register August 25, September 1 and 8 at the Mud Creek Campus or contact Karen Harris at karenharris70@comcast.net.

Mom2Mom - Mom2Mom is a ministry of moms supporting moms within Geist Christian Church. This is a group where moms can grow in faith and friendship with one another. All moms are welcome! Contact Sarah Dietrich for more information – sarah.dietrich@geistchristian.org.

Kerygma – a Mid-Week Educational Opportunity - “Kerygma” is the biblical word from the Greek language that means “proclamation.” That’s the focus of the class led by Pastor Kyle Brown - hearing the proclamation from Scripture. The class will explore the meaning of the scripture, historically and presently. This class, centered around free expression of ideas and opinions, begins on September 11 at 10:30 am in the Mud Creek Campus Library. The first 5-week study will be on the book *Fire by Night: Finding God in the Pages of the Old Testament* by Melissa Florer-Bixter. Melissa has a deep desire to live inside its stories and pronouncements, hoping to better understand God and God's work in the world today.

Annual Men's Hike Date Announced - All men of the church are invited to the annual True North Men's Hike on Saturday, October 19. The group will be hiking at Deam Wilderness Area just south of Lake Monroe in Bloomington, Indiana. Camping is optional at Paynetown Recreation Area on Lake Monroe. Cost is \$30 per person. Contact Dale Billman, dbillman@talktotucker.com for more information.

Senior Adult Ministry Events Resume Sept 15 - The next Senior Adult Ministry event is on Sunday, September 15 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Mud Creek Campus with a pitch-in meal beginning at 4:00 pm. WISH-TV meteorologist, Randy Ollis, will be the presenter. He will share the strengthening of his faith as he journeyed with cancer. All are welcome!



Exploration Bible Study Resumes - Exploration Bible Study, led by Pastor Ryan Hazen, will resume on Friday, September 6 at 6:30pm at the Mud Creek Campus. The first session will be on Ephesians before beginning an extended look at the book of Revelation. The class meets every other Friday.

Bread for the World Event, August 22 - Did you know that Indiana ranks 42nd in infant mortality and one in six Hoosier children are food insecure? An event sponsored by Indiana Bread for the World will be held on Thursday, August 22 at 4:30 pm at Noblesville United Methodist Church to create an urgency to better address child hunger in Indiana and deepen engagement of more Hoosiers in solutions to hunger in Indiana. Senator Todd Young will be among the speakers at the event along with Dr. Wade Clapp of the IU School of Medicine and Dr. Harriet Giles of Auburn University. The event is free but registration is required. Register at www.breadindiana.org.

CONNECT Children's Ministries

Children's Choir - Geist Christian Church announces the return of Geist Christian's Children's Choir, which will rehearse on Sunday evenings from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at the Mud Creek Campus beginning on September 8. Any student from Pre-K to Grade 6 is welcome to participate regardless of experience or church affiliation.

Students will sing in worship at the Mud Creek Campus on October 27, December 24, February 23, and May 10. The choir focuses on performing worship music through singing and instruments. For questions, contact Jordan Murray, GCC Children's Choir Director at jordan.murray@geistchristian.org.

Vacation Bible School Recap - What a wild adventure with the kids and volunteers during ROAR! VBS! The safari served 153 kids with over 90 volunteers helping make the week special for all of them. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make this an awesome week with donations of food and craft items and for the volunteers who gave of their time and energy! As an outreach during the VBS week, just over \$1000 was collected (in pennies, nickels, dimes and dollars) that will be used to help Mama Agnes Special Kids (MASK), a wonderful organization that helps children with special needs in Kenya, Africa. We appreciated hearing from Weekday Ministries' own Alice Rinehart who started MASK in memory of her mom to honor her work with special needs children in Kenya.



G56 (Grades 5 & 6) Service Days Recap - Fifth and sixth grade students worked in the community in June for the annual G56 Service "Week". The group helped on projects at both campuses, made toys and blankets for the Humane society of Hamilton County, sorted clothes and donated items at The Good Samaritan Network, prepared bags for gleaning with The Society of St. Andrew, and prepared sandwiches for Two Dog Mission. The week was capped off when some of the families helped Two Dog Mission on Sunday afternoon distribute the food and toiletries they had prepared. Thank you to all who attended!

Christian Education - Throughout August, children at both campuses will be looking into the story of David and his family. All students have moved to their fall 2019 grade levels, so come join your friends and worship together! The memory verse for August is, "The Lord sees into the heart."— 1 Samuel 16:7

Weekday Ministries News

There are limited spots open for the 2019-20 school year in our preschool and Kindergarten programs. Please don't miss out on giving your child the gift of a hands-on, age-appropriate education in a loving and nurturing environment! A few teaching positions also remain for this upcoming school year. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining the WDM family, we would love to meet and discuss our program with you. Please inquire about any of these opportunities on our website: geistwdm.org or by calling Valerie at (317) 578-4591.

Weekday Ministries at the Mud Creek Campus is proud to be a part of a Trees for the Future. There will be 75 trees planted in our school's name. The Forest Garden Program is a sustainable agriculture practice where farmers in third world countries, plant a specific variety of crops and trees in phases over a four-year period. Trees for the Future is a direct impact on the earth and lives of the people who need it most. It gives families the ability to transition from unsustainable farming techniques to a Forest Garden system.

[Return to Contents](#)

CrossWords August 2019



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. This worship experience for youth at Geist Christian Church is called The Table. The Table is a dynamic worship experience offered on the 4th Sunday of each month where youth from both campuses gather to refocus, recharge, and reconnect to God. On August 25, we will kick off the new Fall series entitled *Going to the Movies*. We hope this faith and film series will help our youth unplug from the world and plug into God and each other.



Table Talk - Sometimes we need to talk, and what better place to have those conversations than around a table. On the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of each month, youth at the Mud Creek Campus will gather at 10:30 am in the youth suite to talk about their faith. Each week we will explore contemporary issues and experiences to talk logically about what they believe and why that belief is important. Through their language and faith formation, handed down by the church, we will envision the church of tomorrow.

Youth Group - Youth Group is an amazing opportunity to meet new friends and grow in your relationship with God, yourself, and each other. Youth group brings together youth of both campuses and meets at the Promise Road Campus on most Sunday nights. This new year, we are updating the schedule to allow for more small group activities which will complement our large group gatherings.



5:00 pm - Let's go small! Youth will gather in small groups according to their age and stage (Jr. High and High School) as they engage in a Bible study around the topic of Let's Walk... This Fall and Spring, youth will tackle a variety of topics from doubt and service to diving deeper into the Christmas and Easter story. Most Sunday's we will offer a stand-alone discussion that we help our youth mature in their faith.

5:30 pm - We love to eat! Each week we will have a different food option for dinner. These meals will range from home cooked to store bought and will only cost \$5. Coming to the table is biblical, so we hope you will join us for food and fellowship as we break bread together.

6:00 pm - Divide and Conquer! This Fall we have an amazing youth schedule designed around a play-full life. Each month we offer a variety of activities designed for our Jr. High and High School to bring joy and encourage fellowship with our students. Coming events include:

- August 25 – Youth Tubing
- September 1 – No Youth Group
- September 8 – Jr. High Messy Games and High School Color Slip and Slide | Parent Meeting
- September 15 – Romans and Christians
- September 21 – High School Paint Ball
- September 22 – Jr. High Topic Night (Body Image)
- September 27 – Jr. High 7-11
- September 29 – Mission | Operation Find and Feed

Outreach

Society of Saint Andrew - Gleaning Opportunities - Did you know that in 2019, through June, the Indiana region of the Society of Saint Andrew has gleaned 26,596 pounds of fresh produce in 100 events, with 216 volunteers? Food donated by 32 farmers has been distributed to hungry people through 37 feeding agencies. You can be a part of this! There are opportunities every Saturday afternoon and Monday evening in the Indianapolis area. There are also many opportunities that just pop up. Please check the website for more info and to sign up <https://endhunger.org/indiana/>.

Creation Care Tip

For those who recycle in the green and yellow Abitibi bins commonly located at schools and churches including at the Promise Road Campus, here is a list of what they accept:



- Newspaper, school/office papers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, envelopes, fax and copy paper, colored paper.

These are things they DO NOT accept:

- Cardboard, cereal boxes, milk cartons, soda cartons, food cartons, plastics, glass.

Travel to Mexico with the Christian Church in Indiana

A couple of spots have recently reopened on a pilgrimage to San Luis Potosí, México, September 28 through October 5, 2019 sponsored by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indiana at Global Ministries. Participants traveling to the city of San Luis Potosí, will immerse themselves in the culture of the area and learn about the work of Mesa Conjunta, Round Table for Mission Development in Mexico, a space of dialogue and mission from various expressions of Disciples of Christ and United Church of Christ congregations in Mexico. Contact the Regional Office immediately if interested – info@indianadisciples.org.

News Around Geist Christian Church

June/July Attendance								
Service	June 8/9	June 15/16	June 22/23	June 29/30	July 6/7	July 13/14	July 20/21	July 27/28
5:30 pm PR	51	58	50	63	75	80	71	75
9:00 am MC	117	117	158	158	134	133	134	152
10:00 am PR	189	172	128	128	124	163	159	143
10:30 am MC	184	152	201	201	217	169	179	207
Baptism	16							
TOTALS	557	499	550	550	550	545	543	577

[Return to Contents](#)

CrossWords August 2019



News Around Geist Christian Church

Births

Kennedy Ann Phillips, parents Josh & Kasey,
brother Collin, 6/4
Grandmothers Carol Phillips & Penny Wilson
Charley Janae Fullenkamp, parents Ty & Courtney,
6/29

New Members

Justin & Anna Renfrow, Logan & Grace
Bonnie Altemus
Teresa Yaney
Mike & Barb Cicholski
Peggy Kincanon

In Sympathy

Leah Madara, father Don Carroll
Andrea McDonald, father Robert "Bob" Hill
Anne Campbell*
Carl Brooks, sister Bonnie Cash
Terry Outt*
Elena Derbique, granddaughter Allie Derbique
Alice Vanarsdall*
Susan Tirtilli, brother Doug Gee

*denotes GCC member

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Sandy Spaug

Women's Prayer Breakfast

In Memory of Anna Hall

Women's Prayer Breakfast
Kay Jackson
Ed & Diane Thompson

In Memory of Terry Outt

Jim & Janet Brothers
Mark & Nancy Hershman
Daina & Pamela Outt
John & Sue Smitha
Max Michael & Dana Conner
Mary Hanseman
Carol Gebhardt
Steve & Cindy Hall
Andrew & Lynn Lewis
Sander & Barb Heller
Craig & Myrna Mullins
Tom Maki
Tae & Becky Sture
Anonymous
Joan Hill
Donald & Erika Smithson

In Memory of Anne Campbell

Mark & Nancy Hershman
Jim & Janet Brothers
Phil & Ann Manship
Nancy Harrison
Robert & Sandra Burns
Louise Faggetti
Donald & Joyce Peterson
Craig & Myrna Mullins
Susan Steva
Andrew & Lynn Lewis
Staff & Directors of DCEF, Hope & NCM
Jubilate Class
Dick & Sarah Getts
Lion's Kid Sight
Tom & Ruth Armstrong
Carol Gebhardt
Steve & Cindy Hall
Gary & Luanne Stover
Harold & Linda Brickner
Norma Nelson
Don & Carolyn Hetzler
Richard & Carol Selby
The Vaughn Family

James & Carol Evans
Tae & Becky Sture
Nolan & Marian Cooper
Jim & Peg Schmidt
Barbara Beamer

Special Events

Save the Date for Geistfest! - Saturday, September 7, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm at the Promise Road Campus. The Flying Toasters in concert. Food trucks and inflatables for the kids. Casual worship at 6:00 pm.

Concert Series: 2019-2020 - This year marks the 5th season of the Geist Christian Church Concert Series. The series features guest artists along with programs presented by the Music Program at Geist Christian Church. A brochure will be coming soon highlighting the entire Series however mark your calendars for these upcoming events.

- September 22 at 3:00 pm – *A Portrait of Faces* with Dr. Karri York, soprano; Dr. Amanda Hopson, piano
- October 13 at 3:00pm – *Dueling Keyboards* with Schuyler Brinson, organ; Ronald D. Maurey, piano

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.

The Mom2Mom Annual Holiday Bazaar - Saturday, November 9th from 9:00 am -1:00 pm at the Promise Road Campus. Visit 40 vendors with a wide variety of products. Find a little something for everyone on your holiday shopping list.

[Return to Contents](#)