



# THE FAIRVIEW CHRISTIAN CHURCH VISITOR

## Upcoming Events

**April 24**—Bells Practice; G.A.P. (FH); Choir Practice

**April 25**—Northland Clergy Mtg. (Conf. Room); Spring Fling (FH)

**April 27**—Chapel Res. (C.A.); Game Day (FH & Kitchen)

**April 28**—Intercessory Prayer (Chapel); Worship; Koffee Klatch; G.S. Troop 1024 (Cornerstone); Boy Scouts (Family Life); Northland Disciples Youth (Community Christian Church)

**April 29**—Monday Morning Men (FH); Mats Project (Family Life); Micah Ministry; Priscilla Group (Conf. Room/Lounge)

**April 30**—Rotary (FH); Faith In Him

**May 1**—Bells Practice; G.S. Troop 1191 (Cornerstone); G.A.P. (FH); Choir Practice

**May 2**—Clay Co. Clothes Closet Luncheon (FH); Fairview Connect Gathering (FH)

**May 4**—CMF Breakfast (FH); Chapel Res. (C.A.)

**May 5**—Intercessory Prayer (Chapel); Worship; Koffee Klatch; Boy Scouts (Family Life)

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### Who Is My Neighbor?

This Sunday we have an opportunity to join with other Disciples congregations and community organizations to learn at an event called Welcome The Stranger. It's an event designed to help us understand the lives of refugees and migrants, the people at the center of so much of our national conversation.

On May 23rd, we'll host a Ramadan Fast-Breaking meal with our partners at the Dialogue Institute (see page 3 of this newsletter). This is a chance to learn about the holiday and to continue our relationship with Muslim neighbors we've begun this year.

Some have been confused on why we would do these kind of events, so I wanted to offer some guidance on what this kind of outreach means for our congregation. It's not about adopting someone else's beliefs, but about living out our own. I'll start with the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10).

We often talk about this parable as a reminder to do good for strangers, but it's also a challenge to reach across cultural barriers. Jesus is asked by someone, "Who is my neighbor?" asking who do I need to care for and almost asking who do I not need to care for. Jesus describes a situation where religious leaders pass by a man in need, take the safe way around him. But it's a Samaritan who stops, someone who is looked at as suspicious by the religious. The Samaritan is the one who stops, provides care, and will even follow up to make sure it's enough for him.

Jesus ends the story with the question (10:36-37) "What do you think? Which one of these three was a neighbor to the man who encountered thieves?" Then the legal expert said, 'The one who demonstrated mercy toward him.' Jesus told him, 'Go and do likewise.'" At Welcome the Stranger, we have an opportunity to learn what refugees and immigrants need, why they are in such tough situations, and are given ways that we can help. We may not be able to solve the whole issue, but we can be the ones who can show mercy.

Another example of Jesus crossing barriers comes from the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector who was changed through his encounter with Jesus (Luke 19). While others reviled him, Jesus went to his house, ate a meal with him. There were other issues of Justice and wrongdoing present, but it was the meal, the ability to share with one another that broke down barriers. Jesus saw the image of God in his neighbor, and that kindness led Zacchaeus to see that image of God in his neighbors, too.

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## Sunday Services

**8:30 a.m.**  
Intercessory Prayer

**9:00 a.m.**  
Sunday School

**10:00 a.m.**  
Worship Service

Co-Pastors  
Kassie & Travis

**Spring Fling**—Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>

**Music Thru The Years** — Presented by, Martha Haehl

6 p.m. Punch; 6:30 p.m. Dinner & Program



FCC Missions collecting purses and bags for the Clay County Clothes Closet this Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any to donate, please leave them on the card table that is setup in front of the Missions bulletin board outside of the Fellowship Hall.

**Sharing the Good News of God's Love through  
Faith, Worship, Service and Community**



### Who Is My Neighbor?

(continued from page 1)

Jesus often ate with the "other": the tax collector, the shunned, the sinner, the leper, the sick and wounded. His willingness to share meals with those who were deemed "other" showed that no one was outside of God's creation, God's love, God's grace.

To follow his commands to show mercy (Luke 10:37: "Go and do likewise"), to feed the hungry and thirsty and the stranger (Matthew 25), is to live out the Good News.

I've truly enjoyed this last year of opportunities with the Dialogue Institute. Several Families have joined with Muslim families to enjoy meals in each other's homes, too. When Kassie and I did, we spent time with a family that had a young daughter like ours. Those two played together, colored pictures, and had a great time. We had good conversations with each other and left that night each feeling a bit more welcomed in the community, each a bit more aware of who is our neighbor.

Our faith calls us to welcome the stranger, "Jesus, when did we see you as a stranger and welcome you?... I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me" (Matthew 25:38, 40).

Hosting events like this in the Northland is important, as there are many immigrants who do live near us, are part of our schools, our community, and are looking for ways to get to know who they live with. We get an opportunity to live out our own faith and get to break down the barriers of Strangers and see God's grace and creation all around us.

I hope you'll join with us to live out our shared faith.

—Pastor Travis

### NORTHLAND DISCIPLES YOUTH GROUP



Meeting will be taking place at the **Welcome the Stranger** event on Sunday, **April 28 from 2-5 pm**, at the Community Christian Church.

This gathering is to boost awareness of the refugee & immigration crisis at home & abroad. There will be food available for purchase from individuals that participated in the New Roots for Refugees program. Please bring cash if you would like to purchase food tickets (\$5 per person).

Questions, please contact Pastor Travis.



### Game Day

Come join others, young, old, or in-between, at Fairview to enjoy some great card games, such as Uno, Phase 10, Twenty-one, or any games played with a standard playing card deck.

Feel free to bring your own card games, just be ready to teach the rules.

All are welcome, and can come & go as they please.

### Card Games Day THIS Saturday, April 27th 2 p.m. — 7 p.m. FCC Fellowship Hall

### April Meeting

Priscilla CWF meeting Monday, April 29 at 7:00 P.M. in the Family Life Room, to prepare May Day Bouquets for shut-ins and others needing a little spring treat.



### Stewardship

The weather at the beginning of this year was not good to us. Looking at the financial information, we see that our offerings took a "hit" also.

I want to ask everyone to check your pledges to see if you have forgotten to keep those up during the time we missed having Church.

Thank you from the bottom of Stewardship's heart.

—Sandra Y., Chair

### 5th Monday in April

Fairview going to Micah Ministry on **Monday, April 29th.**

If you wanted to volunteer to go to Micah Ministry but have not been able to go on the first Monday of the month, here is your chance.

We will meet up at Fairview at about 4:15 p.m. & then leave around 4:30 to get there.



### Fairview's April Pizza Fridays

Mod Pizza (Antioch Crossing 5315 NE Antioch Rd.)

6 pm. To ?



**OPENING THE DOOR**

Submitted by Bob Howe

It's Sunday. You are comfortably sitting in your favorite pew. Worship service is about to begin. Service proceeds seamlessly. Do you ever marvel about how much preparation it takes? It doesn't just happen.

Preparation for the next Sunday service begins as the congregation is exiting the sanctuary. Somebody is picking up the empty communion cups, paper in the pews, straightening the bibles and songbooks.

Maybe a couple of days reprieve for the pastors before serious thought is given for the next Sunday service, but they are looking ahead at information to put into Kathy's Wednesday's mailing of the church newsletter.

The material for the screen has to be prepared and programmed into the sound system and the projector.

The office prepares the Sunday bulletin and other handouts for greeters at each door.

The music men and pastors select appropriate music, the choir and bells rehearse, Bob and Rex practice the piano and organ, the praise group prepares. The sanctuary is cleaned, is decorated, the proper vestments are placed. Sound system people make final tests. The pastors make last minute checks and perfect their sermon, prayers, and other presentations.

In the meantime, the duty deacons clean the communion plates, fill the cups with juice, get them in place on the communion table. The worship leader prepares comments, two table elders prepare their prayers, a table elder prepares for intercessory prayer service. Three other elders deliver communion to people who are homebound, hospitalized, or ill. Eight deacons sign in with the duty deacon to pass the communion plates and receive the offering. The nursery is cleaned and attendants are there for small children. Candle lighters are readied.

Heating/cooling, restrooms, lighting, other property items are checked. Security team is in place. The parking lot is readied for cars.

Sunday school teachers prepare and present the lessons. Several people make coffee, juice, bring cookies, serve for Koffee Klatch. And, let's not forget, Bob Noble furnishes doughnuts on second Sundays.

And, let's not forget. You could help.

Dear Fairview,

Thank you to everyone for the cards, well wishes & prayers while Jim was sick.

—Willetta & Jim T.



Dear Fairview Family,

Thank you for your prayers, cards and caring offers of assistance during my son, Jim's recovery from hip surgery complications.

He is doing better but has a way to go before he will be able to walk again without using a walker for support. Our family is very grateful for your continued prayers during this time of healing and therapy!

God bless, Debbie B. Family

**CMF MAY BREAKFAST**

Fairview's CMF Breakfast is Sat., May 4th at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Come join the Fairview men for great food & fellowship, bring your friends & neighbors; questions contact Tom S.



**KOFFEE KLATCH**

We are in need of volunteers for:  
May 12 & 26;  
June 9, 23 & beyond.



So please take a minute & look at our sign-up sheet posted in the Fellowship Hall & find a time you can host.

Thank you, Membership Department

**Ramadan Fast Breaking**

Fairview will join with the Dialogue Institute of KC for a Ramadan Fast Breaking on May 23rd.

This is an opportunity to welcome neighbors, learn about what the holiday means for them, and continue a relationship with those around us. Please RSVP with Pastor Travis or through the Church Office.

Ramadan features fasting during the sun-up hours of the day, so the program will start around 7:45 pm and the meal around 8:30 pm. We know that not everyone will be able to do a late night gathering, but we're excited to welcome anyone who can.

Food is provided through the Dialogue Institute, but let Pastor Travis know if you'd like to help with room setup.

