

JOURNEY NEWS

A publication of Journey Church of Clinton, Iowa

THANKSGIVING

BY SENIOR PASTOR TOM LOYOLA

How could we have a “November newsletter” and not talk about Thanksgiving?!

I want to invite you to come to our annual Thanksgiving Program and Dinner. Journey Church has been celebrating Thanksgiving in this way since before I became the pastor ... and that’s 15 years ago this month! But perhaps you have never come one of these Thanksgiving celebrations. Well, this is the year!

This year’s date for our Thanksgiving Program and Dinner is November 24. The program will begin at 4:00 pm and will include singing, praying, and sharing words of thanks to God. The meal will follow at 5:00 pm. The food will be delicious and there will be good conversation around the tables!

Since we are catering the meal, you will need to sign up and pay in advance ... by November 17. We have special envelopes for you to use to do both: sign up and pay. Pick up an envelope from the Connection Point, or from the office during the week, fill it out, place your payment inside, and return the envelope to the office. The cost is \$9 per adult and \$6 for children aged 5-12. Children 4 and younger are free!

You won’t want to miss it! I hope to see you there!

BUSINESS MEETING

BY SENIOR PASTOR TOM LOYOLA

Something else you do not want to miss is our annual business meeting. We will present an amendment to our By Laws. The amendment will not be voted on until the next business meeting; however, it will be presented and discussed in this meeting.

All who consider Journey Church their home church are invited to attend the business meeting. Nonmembers are welcome to attend and observe; only members may vote on the items being decided.

In past years we held our annual business meeting on the first Sunday of November. This year it will be held on the second Sunday, November 10. We moved it to the second Sunday because the first Sunday of November is the time change Sunday ... the Sunday when we “gain” an hour. Those Sundays are difficult on families with young children. Unlike the clock on the wall, the body clocks of these little ones do not reset overnight! Even though Mom and Dad may want to stay for the business meeting, their young ones are in desperate need of a nap at that time.

A light lunch will be provided following worship on November 10 and the business meeting will convene after lunch.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

November

- 3 Communion
GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays
Journey Students: Bonfire
- 7 Parent Night
- 10 Business Meeting and Lunch
- 24 Thanksgiving Program and Dinner

28 Happy Thanksgiving!

28-29 Office Closed

December Snapshot

- 1 Communion
- 14 High School Christmas Party
- 15 Middle School Christmas Party
- 24 Christmas Eve Service
- 25 Merry Christmas!
Office & Church Closed

January Snapshot

- 1 Happy New Year’s!
Office & Church Closed

For a day-to-day calendar go to JourneyClinton.org/calendar

Bible Exposition Training

BY SENIOR PASTOR TOM LOYOLA

In the fall of 2017 I began teaching a course here at Journey Church called Bible Exposition Training. My goal was to equip men to preach and teach the Bible effectively. We have been meeting on Thursday evenings ever since, taking a break during the summer months. After over two years of study, we will finish this round of Bible Exposition Training this month! As a result, two men who have participated in the training will preach in November: Pastor John on November 3 and Ted Ellis on November 10. Please pray for them as they minister God's Word, and pray for me as well in my weekly ministry of preaching. Thank you!



JOURNEY STUDENTS

Parent Night

November 7 • 6:00 pm

Dinner is Included
Fellowship Hall

Navigating all the pros and cons of the internet and technology in the lives of our children is tough, and the landscape is constantly changing! Join us to hear about what to be aware of and some strategies to help keep your children safe while equipping them to use technology responsibly. Come prepared to share what works in your family and lessons learned, so we can support each other! Dinner will be served at 6 and we will begin at 6:30. Contact [Nate Johnson](#) or [Joy Lower](#) with any questions.

M&Ms—50's & Up

November 21 • 11:30 am-1:00 pm • Fellowship Hall

Hi Seniors: 49 and over! Don't forget to come and enjoy good food and fellowship at our next potluck lunch meeting on November 21st! Remember the Lord reminded us to meet and break bread together.

Thanksgiving Donations

The Deaconesses are once again putting together gifts to bless some folks in our congregation with provisions to enjoy a bountiful meal this Thanksgiving. You can be a part of this blessing by placing your financial gift in an offering envelope marked "Thanksgiving Baskets." Contributions can be made through November 17.

THANKSGIVING PROGRAM *AND* DINNER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2019; PROGRAM AT 4:00 PM; MEAL AT 5:00 PM
SIGN UP & PAY BY NOVEMBER 17



TICKET PRICES: *
ADULTS: \$9
KIDS 5-12: \$6
KIDS 4 & UNDER: FREE



ENVELOPES AT THE CONNECTION POINT AND IN THE OFFICE

*IF PAYMENT IS A BURDEN, SIGN UP & COME ANYWAY! JUST FILL OUT THE ENVELOPE AND PUT AN "S" IN THE TOTAL.
IF YOU HAVE BEEN BLESSED THIS YEAR AND WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE SO OTHERS CAN ATTEND, PLEASE DO SO!



There will be an opportunity for you to join in this outreach event on Saturday, December 7. The Christmas Walk will be from 4:00-6:00 pm on Main Avenue. Several people are needed during each 30-minute rotation as we present the Good News of Jesus Christ. [See Pastor John for more information.](#)

Gear Up!

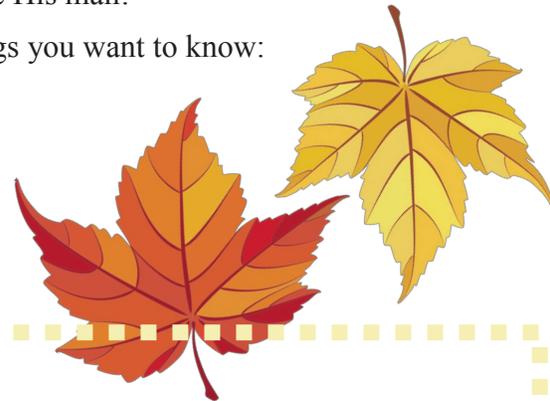
Calling all men! Plan now to be part of “Gear Up!”

Men of Honor and the elders are teaming up to provide a great new equipping opportunity called “Gear Up!” “Gear Up!” will strengthen men to lead where God has placed them. Where does God have you right now in your life? Well, that’s where He wants to use you, where He wants you to be His man!

More specific details will be coming soon, but here are some important things you want to know:

- For all men high school age and older
- Plans to meet every fifth Wednesday
- Starts the end of January
- Includes a simple supper

Gear up!



CELEBRATE OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Happy Birthday!

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Tammy Giddings | 13 | Jim Kramer |
| 4 | Henry Langrehr | 15 | Chris Von Holten |
| | Sue Brown | 18 | Lynn Wiese |
| | Tom McCormick | 20 | Jim Tietjens |
| 5 | Barb Raab | 21 | Jake Bailey |
| | Norma Jones | | Meg Hinrichsen |
| 8 | David Harris | | Pat Danielson |
| | Liliana Traverse | 22 | Christine Johnson |
| 10 | Samuel Sheets | | Joe Duval |
| 11 | Aurora Wanzek | 24 | David Livingston |
| | | 26 | Kathy Tompkins |

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| 29 | Kevin Hansen |
| 30 | Dorothy Obright |
| | Julie Foust |
| | Micah Cewe |

Happy Anniversary!

- | | |
|----|----------------------------|
| 8 | Joe & Marcia Duval |
| 9 | David & Carolyn Livingston |
| 24 | Pete & Meg Hinrichsen |

Missionary Focus

Unity Christian School

Unity Christian School, originally named Fulton Excelsior Christian School, began in the fall of 1921 with 40 students in grades K-8th. Over its nearly 100 years, the school has changed locations and its name a few times, expanded to include preschool through 12th grade, and is now bustling at the seams with nearly 130 students.



A mission lead team reporter (R) has interviewed individuals with an interest in Unity Christian School.

Andy, Amber, and Eli Eslick share their thoughts as students attending Unity.

R: What do you enjoy about attending Unity School?

Eli: As a 5th grader, I think it's a really nice school. I like the teachers, classes are fun, spending time with friends after school, and if someone gets hurt, they're not just left there like the leper, but they get helped.

Amber, a 7th grader, says she likes meeting new friends, having old friends and being able to talk about God there.

Andy is in 9th grade and writes, "I am very thankful for the opportunity to go to this great school. The reason that it's great isn't just because of the good food, great teachers, and incredible staff, but it's the students that really make Unity a fun and educational school to go to.

R: What activities do you participate in?

Amber: I am in band and choir and have played volleyball, basketball, and run track.

R: Unity is a relatively small school. Is this good or bad?

Andy: This is not bad, in fact, this is actually very good and healthy for all of the students at Unity. If one student is struggling with something, they can come and talk to a teacher without disrupting anyone else. One downside is that news travels fast. A secret is known by the whole school in a few days if it is accidentally spilled.

R: To parents, Michael and Julie Faust: Why did you choose Unity School for your children?

M&J: We chose Unity for our children because we wanted their schooling to line up biblically with what we were teaching them at home. We also want our children to have a strong biblical worldview before they go out into the world and encounter overt opposition to that worldview.

R: What are pros and cons of having your children attend Unity?

M&J: Unity is small and feels like a family. Teachers handle discipline issues in a Christ-like way and the truth of God's Word is taught through every situation. Sometimes we can forget that Unity isn't perfect and get frustrated when we encounter sinful behaviors in the students.

R: What are some expectations of families whose children attend Unity?

M&J: For most Unity families, the tuition is seen as an investment in their children's Christian training. Families at Unity are typically very involved in the school life and are required to volunteer at various events to help keep tuition low.

R: Lisa Balk, school board member of Unity: Families from what communities send their children to Unity?

Lisa: We have students from both sides of the river: Fulton, Clinton, Morrison, Thomson, Mt. Carroll, Bryant, Camanche, Erie, Prophetstown, Fenton, Albany, Port Byron, Low Moor, Sterling, Savanna and Princeton...these families have discovered that Unity is worth the drive!

R: What was the motivation to begin the process of a new school?

Lisa: Due to the deterioration of our former elementary school, Unity merged into one K-12 facility in the summer of 2016 and began looking for a new plot of land on which to build. We continue to grow in numbers each year and the need to move into a larger facility is becoming increasingly urgent. The Lord led Unity to purchase the 20 acres of land in Clinton, Iowa in October 2018. However, due to record rain and snow since then, extreme wet conditions have delayed construction until July, 2019.



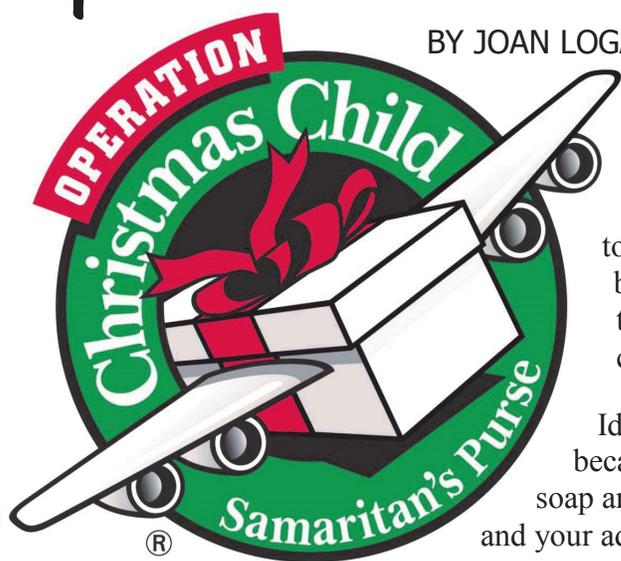
R: What are the school's current needs?

Lisa: We need the support of our Brothers and Sisters in Christ to come alongside us. The Grass Roots Capital Campaign theme is 2gether...2 by2...God &you...We CAN do! If not you...Who? First and foremost, we need your prayers for wisdom, guidance and perseverance, for the Lord to intervene against other setbacks, and for the project to become fully funded in a timely manner. Secondly, help us get the word out about our school, our challenges and our need. Finally, as the Lord leads you, we need a tremendous amount of financial support. Our current fundraising goal is \$2.8million. We accept one-time payments or pledges with a payment plan. Trifold brochures and flyers are available to help you come alongside to support us. Ask anyone you know who is connected with Unity and they can get you as many as you need. You can be a part of the amazing things happening at Unity.

The world often says, "It takes a village to raise a child" but as believers in Jesus Christ, we know that, in order to raise a child in the ways of God, it takes a Body. When the Body works in cooperation with one another, the Head of that Body an "do abundantly more than all that we ask or think...to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

BY JOAN LOGAN FOR THE MISSIONS LEAD TEAM



The Missions Team is once again promoting the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes which are available in the church lobby. **The boxes need to be returned by Sunday, November 17.** A \$9 donation is critical to cover shipping and project costs. An envelope is attached to the pamphlet to put the money in which is then to be placed **inside** the box, or you can give online through Follow Your Shoebox and discover the destination of your box. Please read the pamphlet inside the shoebox carefully to know what you can and cannot put in your box.

Ideas for items to go in your shoebox: School supplies are important because they might not be able to attend school without them. Holders for soap and toothbrushes will help keep them clean. If you include a short note and your address you might possibly receive a response back.

After receiving the shoeboxes, boys and girls are invited to enroll in the Greatest Journey, a 12-lesson discipleship program where children learn to faithfully follow Jesus and share their faith with others. The lessons are taught by locally trained Christians who have participated in the teacher trainings. The Greatest Journey is one of the largest discipleship movements in the world, and we at Journey Church have the great privilege of being a part of it through something as simple as a shoebox. And most importantly, PRAY for the child who will receive your gift.