

“The Next Chapter: Reaching a New Generation” Stewardship Update

On December 3 and 4, this Family in Christ witnessed the faithfulness and provision of God in a special way as we celebrated FirstFruits Weekend. Over \$205,000 was received that day as many of you brought the first gift of your three year commitment on that weekend. Last weekend, December 10 & 11, another \$50,000 was received. As leaders, we have been humbled by such a tremendous response. And we are filled with gratitude to see such sacrificial giving being practiced. To date, commitment cards turned in amount to over \$1.9 million. The plastic box for receiving commitments will remain in the lobby for a few more weeks.

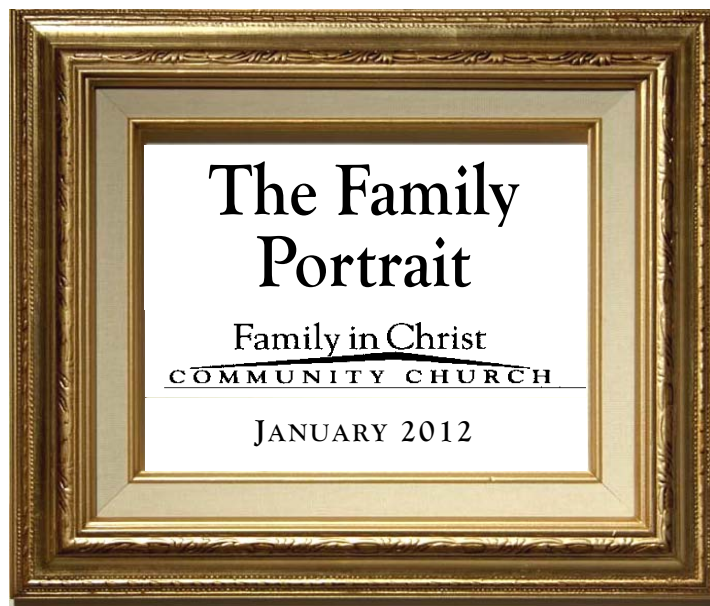
As you begin this new commitment, we want to alert you to a couple things that can make giving more convenient for you and easier for us to accurately track:

If you give by check, it would help us if you EITHER placed your check in one of the new Cream “Next Chapter” envelopes (always available in the fellowship book or on the wall in the lobby) OR if you note that the gift is for “The Next Chapter” on memo line of the check itself.

Of course, the easiest way to give today is electronically. You may wish to set it up with your bank so they mail a check directly to the church OR (even easier!) go to our familyinchrist.com website and click “donate online” under the “Quick Links” column. That will take you to a page where you can set up a draw from your bank account. You can give a one time gift this way or set it up to have your commitment drawn from your account as often as you wish. You can also change this set up whenever you wish.

You can also contribute online using a credit card, but you should know that we pay a 2-3% fee when you do so. If possible, we want to encourage you to have your gift come directly from your bank account so that 100% of your gift can be used for the Campaign.

Over the last couple weeks, our finance team has met with three different lending institutions to see which financing option will be most advantageous to the church. While each of them has their own unique criteria, all of them want us to have between \$600,000-700,000 in the bank before they set up a construction loan. If gifts come in as people have indicated on their commitment cards, we should hit that number sometime in late spring or early summer. However, if you plan to



give one gift each year, getting it to us, sooner rather than later, will speed things up.

We have also set up a Schwab account so that stocks, bonds, and mutual fund can be given to the Campaign without facing capital gains tax. Just call the office if you want more information about giving in this way.

You can keep up with our progress in receiving these commitments by watching “The Next Chapter: Reaching a New Generation Tree” on the south Lobby wall. The 300 leaves on the ground represent the commitments made, with each leaf representing approximately \$6000. As the gifts are received over the next three years, the dark leaves will be replaced with green leaves to provide a visual. Over the next few years, it will be exciting to watch the tree fully “leaf out.”

We are so grateful that Kim and Travis Nicholson have agreed to manage the follow-up of the gifts toward this Campaign. If you submitted a commitment card, they will be confirming that commitment by mail. They will also be sending out quarterly updates to those of you contributing so we can make sure our records of giving are accurate.

Again, we want to thank each and every one of you for prayerful and thoughtful deliberation over what it means for you to be a steward of all that you are and all you have. I have heard story after story during this time of how people have seen God at work as they take a new step of faith. May we continue to trust Him to lead us as we take the next steps toward ministering to a New Generation.

Grateful to God for all of you,
Pastor Paul

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REMINDER OF WORSHIP SCHEDULE NEW YEAR'S EVE / DAY WEEKEND:
Saturday, December 31—6:00 pm ; Sunday, January 1—One Combined Service at 10:00 am



Next Sermon Series

It Starts at Home: Raising the Next Generation

This past fall, we looked at the importance of having adequate space at church to minister to the Next Generation. That is all well and good. But what we must never forget is that our greatest opportunity to impact the next generation is by developing healthy, happy, and holy relationships at home. What does it take to build a home where children thrive, where faith is enjoyed, and love is celebrated? If family is the group of people we are closest to, we are all part of some sort of family. Join us this month as we learn how we can enrich that life we share with those who matter the most. It starts at home.

January 7 & 8

A Family is a Place of Blessing
Genesis 27:25-29

January 14 & 15

A Family is a Place of Influence
Deuteronomy 6:4-12

January 21 & 22

A Family is a Place of Intimacy
Genesis 2:19-25

January 28 & 29

A Family is a Place of Conversation
Ephesians 4:25-5:2



Helping at the Operation Christmas Child Warehouse — 2011

Family in Christ Student Ministries - Grades 6 –12

Carrie Evans, Director of Student Ministries — 303-466-7770 Voice Mailbox 205
familyinchriststudentministries@yahoo.com



Middle School
6th - 8th grades

Join us Sunday mornings
at 9 and 10:30 am
AND
Sunday Nights, 4 to 6 pm
(No Sunday Night Meeting 1/1)
NO WEDNESDAYS



9th -12th grades
High School

Our goal:
RESPECT
We will

Reach and
Equip teens to
Serve,
Praise, and
Experience
Christ
Together

Start the New Year Early!

We will be having a lock-in with pizza and 3 games of laser tag on the Eve of New Year's Eve!
Join us Friday, December 30 beginning at 7 pm for a fun New Year's Celebration with us!
Invite your friends for loads of fun games and a great time with us!
Must sign up in the youth room to attend. Event ends at 8 on December 31.

February 3–5 (two nights)
in the beautiful mountains
of Allenspark, CO

WINTER RETREAT 2012

This year's theme :
"The Good Life"

Registration forms are due no later than
January 22 (earlier helps us) and can be found in the youth room starting January 1.
This event will be a great time with live music, powerful messages, hilarious games, dramas,
and loads of FUN! Hope you can join us!

Youth Nights in January

No youth night January 1. Join us January 8 for the winter kickoff of Project 4:19! Taken from Matthew 4:19, we'll start a 3 month drive for numerical and spiritual growth with great incentives. You don't want to miss out on how your team group can be a part of this awesome goal that will make an internal difference. January 15, we'll be doing an outreach night about making our youth room "The Family Room"; and January 22, the night will be entitled "Get that weight off" (referring to negative self image, not extra holiday pounds). January 29, we'll be doing our first Recharge night (small group) for the new year filled with lots of fun community building.

Mission Trip Fundraising and Planning Meeting

If you are currently signed up to go with us this summer to Puerto Rico, join us at noon in the student ministries room on January 22 for an important fundraising and planning meeting. This meeting is for all participants **and their parents**. Thanks!

Sunday Morning Series

We will be starting a new series called "Engage" which deals with how to handle all the influences from our media crazy society. This series will help you learn how to impact the world around you in the name of Christ!

Get more info on the web and Facebook

Make sure you check us out on our website www.familyinchrist.com under Students. All the updated information for our events and weekly gatherings can be found there. Also see the latest postings and pictures on our facebook page (search for FIC LiveWire High Voltage or link to it from our webpage).

Sunday Morning Children's Ministry

Susan Faltinson & Sheila Shea 303-466-7770 ext. 209



The WoRM

The WoRM is offered at 9:00 and 10:30 Sunday mornings. This Workshop Rotation Model is a kid-friendly way to teach Bible stories and faith principles. Teachers pick the workshop medium of their choice: drama, video, science, music, computer, cooking, art, and games, and teach the same lesson each week to different age groups. Classes rotate into a different workshop each week, but focus on the same story for 8 weeks. Because of this multi-dimensional environment, children will better remember the Bible truths and have them become part of who they are as children of faith.

Rotation (WoRM) is for children in grades Kindergarten to third grade. Pre-school children have their own special Bible time at 10:30 in room 147.

January / February: The 10 Commandments

March: Easter

April/May: Jeremiah

Children's Ministries are in need of teachers and helpers for the January/February Sunday School program at the 9:00 and 10:30 services. Contact Sheila (303-465-3634) or Susan (720-371-3890) if you can help.

Children's Communion Class

This annual class will begin February 5 and continue all 4 Sunday's in February at the 9:00 service. During these 4 weeks, children will have hands-on experiences to understand the Biblical background for communion and why it's important still. Children will make their own grape juice, have a Seder meal and participate in many more activities. Children in grades 1 to 5 are welcome to attend. No registration is required just show up at the first class.

Questions? Contact Sheila or Susan 303-466-7770 ext. 209.

Wednesday Evening Children's Ministries

from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Cadet Boys' Club

(Grades 1-5)

This is a dynamic youth ministry for boys to help them grow in all areas of life (spiritual, mental, physical and social) through Bible lessons, games, crafts, service projects and earning badges. Each week, the boys will have a hands-on experience to learn life skills and to dig into God's Word. The theme this year is "Prepare Yourself" based on 2 Timothy 2:15: *Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of Truth.*

GEMS Girls' Club

(Grades 1-5)

GEMS is an acronym for Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior. The purpose is to bring girls into a living relationship with Jesus through Bible stories, music, crafts, community service projects and prayer. The girls learn how to love and care for one another, other people and grow in their relationship with God. Their theme this year is "Get Wisdom", based on Proverbs 16:16-17: *How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver! The highway of the upright avoids evil; he who guards his way guards his life.*

Kingdom Kids

(COED, Ages 4-5)

This program helps lay the foundational blocks of faith in the life of a young child. Each lesson is designed to help children know God better and understand that when we know Him, we want to act and behave in ways that please Him. Children have fun with music, crafts, Bible stories, snacks and lots of surprises.

Wednesday Evening Children's Programs will resume on January 11, 2012.

Sunday School Grades 4 & 5:



Buzz is offered at the 9:00 service. This is a hands-on, game-based curriculum with interactive activities that help students dig deeper into God's Word.

Grapple is offered at the 10:30 service.



Children will learn Bible truths through group activities and God-sightings. They will also be able to share with each other through computer activities.



JOIN US!
 Thursday January 5, 2012
 AND
 Thursday January 19, 2012
 9 am–11:30 am (childcare provided)

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) exists to meet the needs of every mom; moms with different lifestyles who all share a similar desire to be the very best moms they can be! MOPS welcomes moms with children from infancy through kindergarten and pregnant moms-to-be who would like to get connected even before the baby arrives. Our group meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 9am to 11:30am. Childcare is provided.

We would love to meet you! Our new semester begins in January so now is a great time to visit and start the New Year fresh.

For more information
 please email mops@familyinchrist.com.

As mothers parent kids in their school years, new challenges and issues arise, and the need for community and hope remains. For this reason MOPS International offers MOMSnext, a ministry to mothers of school-age kids. A MOMSnext group is an open, accepting place for all mothers of school-age kids to come and experience authentic community, personal growth, and spiritual hope in the next phase of mothering.



Next MOMSnext meeting:
 Monday, **January 23** from **6 to 8 pm**
 Dinner & childcare provided

For more information, contact:
momsnext@familyinchrist.com or
 Christine Geerts at 720-560-0388



Little Lambs Nursery Ministry

infants & toddlers / 0 – 4 years
 Angela Schenk, Director
angela@familyinchrist.com

Nursery is offered at all services for your child. There they will experience an evangelistic, interactive story program that includes reading Bible stories, singing praise, learning through play and experiencing prayer.

The Alpha Course

Is there a God? Why am I here? Who is Jesus? Alpha is a safe place to ask about such things as we tackle these and other questions each week. Alpha, a 10-week course, explores the validity and relevance of the Christian faith to life today. It's a respectful presentation of many facets of Christianity centered around a meal, a talk, and lots of time for discussion. People come for different reasons, from different backgrounds and with different opinions; but at Alpha, those differences only add to the conversation and often lead to greater understanding. This course is enjoyed and appreciated as much by those who have never set foot in a church as it is by regular church-goers.



Alpha

Building relationships is a central part of Alpha. Some of the closest and most long-lasting friendships have been built on this course. They go way beyond the standard "What's your name? What do you do?", so you connect on a more personal level. Alpha Saturday (a time of fun and experiential learning) is a great time to hang out, relax, and enjoy the stimulating talks and one another. It's amazing how much fun it can be!

Come to Alpha where you can share a casual meal, build some friendships, and enjoy lively conversation with no expectations and no strings. Come the first week, it's not a commitment, just a chance to check it out to see if it's for you.

Alpha begins at 6 pm on Wednesday, January 18. If you have children, check out the programs (listed on page 4) also available on Wednesday evenings for them to enjoy while you participate in Alpha. To help us better plan, please sign up on the FIC website, www.familyinchrist.com.

Calling all Cooks! One essential "ingredient" of Alpha is fellowship over dinner. Margie Bessler has been coordinating meals, but could sometimes use help with pre-prep (generally Monday afternoons), or people who are able to come around 4 pm on Wednesdays to warm things up, along with some last minute cooking, salad making and set up, and still others who could come by 6 to help serve the food and clean up. The team enjoys their own time of fellowship over dinner; some great friendships have been formed by serving through this ministry. For more information about the cook team, contact Margie at bessler@comcast.net or 303-431-2988.

Is this the time for you? Have you been considering joining a Life Group and just not sure when to start? With the start of the new year, this is a great time to join a Life Group and begin 2012 with something new.



At Family in Christ Community Church we have several groups that meet regularly to grow, have fun, and just do life together. Each are ready to welcome you as you seek out the group that feels right for you.

Here is a list of some of the groups that you can join. Plan today to check out some of the groups this week and see what everybody is talking about as we grow in community with one another. What are you waiting for?

Sundays:

9:00 AMer's

Description: We are a diverse group that prays together, studies together and serves others together with joyful hearts.

Location: Family in Christ Church – Room 147

Time: 9 am

Contact: Randy Borden 303-469-7540

rjborden@comcast.net

Mondays:

The Ascent, Group for 20's and 30's

Description: The Ascent is a group of young adults (singles/couples, school/career, all are welcome) who grow and have fun together. There are regular social events, opportunities to serve, and a weekly get together to grow and pray with one another.

Location: 11779 Gray Way, Westminster 80020

Time: 6:30-8:45 pm

Contact: Phil Christie 720-212-9135

phil@familyinchrist.com

Adults group

Description: All adults welcome, studies vary.

Location: Westminster

Time: 7 pm, 2nd & 4th Monday of month

Contact: Bruce Hanson 303-420-0864

smudgeyjoel@comcast.net

Single Adults

Description: Single Adults – Approximately 40+

A family atmosphere where single adults can connect with other singles for fellowship and support. Our focus is on learning how to grow in our relationship with God and with those around us. We also strive to support each other in the struggles that are unique to the single adult life.

Location: Family in Christ Church

Time: 7 pm

Contact: Rick Williamson 303-709-3891

rickwil61@gmail.com

Tuesdays:

Adults group

Description: All ages, although mostly empty nesters.

We coordinate Angel Tree Christmas; some have served on Kairos teams; many have attended the *Walk to Emmaus*. We value fellowship, serving together, studying the Bible and other Christian books, and praying with and for each other.

Location: 9492 Saulsbury Ct., Westminster 80021

Time: 6:30 pm

Contact: Terry & Margie Bessler 303-431-2988

bessler@comcast.net

Men's Breakfast

Description: We have breakfast first followed by study. All men are welcome.

Location: Village Inn at 90th & Wadsworth

Time: 7-8 am

Contact: Chuck Hutchcraft 303-428-1568

chutch945@aol.com

North Broomfield Adults group

Description: If you are looking for a safe place to dig into the Bible and explore the deeper truths of God's plan for our lives, for your life, then this would be a good group for you to join. While currently made up of singles and couples whose children are grown, we have not restricted the make-up of the group to people in this same stage of life.

Location: 13641 Fall Creek Circle, Broomfield 80020

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Contact: Mike & Judy VanAbel 303-460-9291

judyvanabel@gmail.com or mlvanabel@aol.com

Wednesdays:

Empty Nesters

Description: Group for Empty Nesters

Location: 2889 Elaine Dr. Broomfield 80020

Time: 7 pm

Contact: Jerry & Carol Chesser 720-887-3572

jerrycarol@hotmail.com or

jchesser@comcast.net

Continued on Page 7

The Life Groups Ministry is here to help you get connected to deepening friendships that have fun and intentionally seek to know God more.

Wednesdays (continued):

The Ascent Families

Description: A family friendly group with young children's schedules in mind. Open to everyone interested. We meet at church with childcare provided. Studies will vary to support spiritual growth and enrichment, striving to bring people together to be in community with each other and God's word.

Location: Family in Christ Church

Time: 6:30 pm, every other Wednesday

Contact: Ian & Jessica Schlesinger 720-490-2174

jessica@familyinchrist.com

Adults group

Description: Adults, singles, or married. We desire to grow in Christlikeness through study, prayer and fellowship together. We are supportive of one another in the good and challenging times of life. All to the glory of God!

Location: 10962 Legacy Ridge Way, Westminster

Time: 7-8:30 pm

Contact: Jon & Polly Lewis 303-469-1022

jplewis6@comcast.net

Thursdays:

Salt & Light, 40's to 60's, mostly married

Description: Our group is committed to pursuing spiritual growth through a variety of studies. We enjoy doing life together, which includes praying for one another, serving together, and frequent opportunities to just enjoy being together and having fun. This group has helped forge many close friendships.

Location: 4990 W. 107th Loop, Westminster 80031

Time: 7-9 pm

Contact: Randy & Wendy Stoddard 303-464-8335

wrstoddard@comcast.net

Thursdays (continued):

Women's Group, Women, 50's & 60's

Description: We are a loving and supportive group of women who talk about the day-to-day challenges we all face using the Bible as our guideline.

Location: 14060 Dogleg Lane, Broomfield 80023

Time: 7-8:30 pm

Contact: Mary Tohill 303-888-4204

mary@nbnm.com

Saturdays:

Parents of Older Children

Description: We are a group of parenting adults with children ages ranging from 7-16. Our focus is to study God's Word together to find the lessons within it to help us to live our lives according to His will. We believe in making our time together fun and relaxing while providing a place for people to gain prayer support.

Location: Contact for directions

Time: 5:30-8 pm, every other Saturday

Contact: Karen Schmidt 303-403-4538

schmidtpk@yahoo.com

Adults group

Description: We are a group of believers of all ages and stages. We enjoy getting together to learn, love, laugh, and listen to each other as we continue on our journey of growing closer to our Lord.

Location: 8069 Jellison St, Arvada 80005

Time: 7-8:45 pm, every other Saturday

Contact: Jim & Kathy Larimore 303-431-5805

jklarimore@q.com

If you would like to know more or have any questions about how to get involved in a Life Group, feel free to contact Phil Christie - phil@familyinchrist.com or 720-212-9135.

Book Club News

The book club will be discussing *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand at it's next meeting on Monday, January 16 at 7:00.

Our book for February is *The Mammy* by Brendan O'Carroll. Contact Sheila @ 303-465-3634 for locations.

Community Sew-In

Join us at Make It Sew (120th & Main in Broomfield behind Burger King) from 10 am - 3 pm and meet others who share a common love of sewing and giving to the community. We make simple quilts; all levels of sewing experience are welcomed. Stay for the whole day or just an hour or two. We meet again on **Friday, January 20**. For more information, call Cheryl Holliday at 303-438-9081.

Family in Christ
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Family in Christ Community Christian Reformed Church

11355 Sheridan Boulevard
Westminster, CO 80020

www.familyinchrist.com
303-466-7770

Office hours: Tuesday - Friday
9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Worship Services:

Saturday, 6:00pm

Sunday, 9:00 am & 10:30 am
Children's Programs, Nursery,
as well as a Family Worship
Room available at all services

Wednesday Evening Programs
for adults and children

Middle & Senior High Youth

Sunday Mornings 9 & 10:30
Sunday Evenings 4:00 to 6:00 pm



For more efficient and environmentally friendly delivery, *The Family Portrait* is emailed to everyone for whom we have an email address. And you get it in color, too! If you have email and would like to receive the newsletter electronically, please email carmen@familyinchrist.com. Hard copies of the latest edition will continue to be available in the Lobby for those without email or for anyone who would still prefer to pick up a copy.

The *Family Portrait* is a publication of Family in Christ Community Church. Articles, contributions, and suggestions are welcome; please submit to familyportrait@comcast.net. A Word or Publisher document is preferred. Editorial license may be invoked based on space or content.

February issue deadline:

January 19

Electronic Distribution

by January 27

Hard copies available in the

Lobby by January 28 / 29



Men's Ministry

Winter Men's Retreat

March 16-18

Mark your calendars now for a weekend getaway into the mountains. This will be a great opportunity to leave behind the normal pace of life and take a moment to hear from God in a refreshing environment. Come expecting what God might bring and ready for a weekend of fun with the guys.

Think about the friends you want to invite with you know and be looking in the bulletin for details about signing up!

For questions contact Phil Christie at phil@familyinchrist.com.

Women's Ministry

Beth Moore Bible Study

"James—Mercy Triumphs"

beginning January 11

from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Char Campbell's home

Contact Char at 303-464-1894
regarding this study.

Women's Connection

January 29 from 4:54 to 7 pm

Join us for a time to re-connect.
Food, fellowship and fun!!!

The Ascent will be taking a brief holiday break on December 26. We hope that everyone has a restful and joyous holiday!



Young Adults at
Family in Christ

We will resume our regular weekly meetings on Monday, January 2. If you are in your 20s or 30s, please join us in the new year as we continue to foster community and dive into Biblical studies to guide our lives. We meet on Monday nights from 6:30 to 8:45 at the home of Phil and Stephanie Christie (11779 Gray Way, Westminster). If you have questions about the Ascent, please feel free to contact Phil Christie (720-212-9135).

Our MISSION

as a Family in Christ:

With Prayer and God's Spirit as our source of power, we will work toward turning the unchurched into attenders, attenders into members, members into disciples, disciples into ministers, and ministers into reproducers.

All to the glory of God.

Our VISION as a Family in Christ is to build a Christian community where others can come to

SEE Christ

KNOW Christ

GROW in Christ

SERVE Christ

SHARE Christ

so that we might fully become a

Family in Christ.