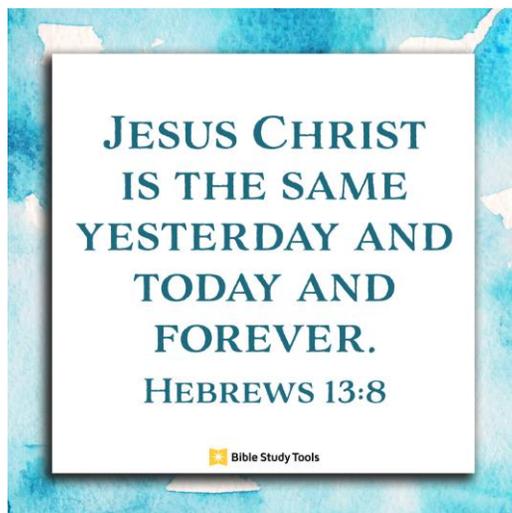


What About God's mission cont'd...

This love should drive our mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ to be about reconciling the World to Him and sharing God's love with all who will listen. The tools, methods, and perceptions will change, but Jesus' mission does not. Hebrews 13:8 reminds us that Jesus is the "same yesterday, today, and tomorrow." Since His love endures forever and His mission does not change, Church, our work continues. We must continue to make disciples who know the "Word of God," speak the truth and are "fruitful" in labor. We must continue to pray for God's Spirit to move in the Church in power so that every human being has the opportunity to respond to the Gospel. We must continue to allow the Spirit to use His gifts through us to edify the Church, to do good works, restore the lost, and draw us into unity so that the World can see the Church as the Radiant Bride of Christ.

This is my prayer as we look forward to where God is leading us in our next steps here at Middle River Friends Church. Would you join me as we pray together this summer?



WEEKLY OPPORTUNITES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LIFE AND HEALTH OF OUR CHURCH

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Sunday | 9:00 am, Sunday School, Adult Class
AND – Pre-K – 8 th Grade Classes |
| | 10:00 am, Worship Celebration, in person
and Live on Face Book |
| Monday | 9:00 am – 9:30 am, Prayer with Pastor Matt |
| Monday | 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, MRF Food Pantry |
| Wednesday | 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, MRF Food Pantry |
| Thursday | 6:00 am, Men's Community Bible Study and Prayer |

CAMP QUAKER HEIGHTS
EST. 1948

2021 CAMP DATES

LITTLE FRY CAMP - JUNE 11-13
ELEMENTARY CAMP - JUNE 24-27
MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP - JUNE 13-17
HIGH SCHOOL CAMP - JUNE 18-23

Lift up our campers, counselors, cooks, directors, teachers, helpers in PRAYER for an excellent camp season at CQH.

CQH is looking forward to a full summer of camps and being able to see everyone again. Middle River Friends covers half of the registration cost in our annual budget for our campers. But the total amount varies according to the number of campers we have going. We would always welcome an additional gift marked for camp to help us meet our budget.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Meeting

June 13, 2021

**Pot Luck Lunch
11:30 am**

**Monthly Meeting
12:00 pm**

**Break into Committees
12:15 pm**

**Reconvene
12:35 pm – 1:15 pm**

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Mornings: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Mid-day hours: 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Afternoons: 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Mornings, Mid-day & Afternoons:
June 16, 21, 23; July 19, 21, 28

Mid-day / Afternoon: August 4 & 9;
September 8; October 6

Thank you in advance for any and
all help you can provide.

Fun "SunDAYS" in JUNE

June 6
National Yo-Yo Day

June 13
National Kitchen Klutzes
of America Day

June 20
Ice Cream Soda Day

June 27
Sunglasses Day

YOUTH GROUP

MEETS WEEKLY

SUNDAY'S

AT 6:00 PM

PASTOR MATT
& BETH

LEADING

YOUTH

CORNER



Exalting Jesus ~ Making Disciples

COUNTRY FRIEND

MIDDLE RIVER FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

June 2021

4057 S23 Hwy, Carlisle, IA 50047

www.MiddleRiverFriends.org

WHAT ABOUT GOD'S MISSION?

Pastor, Matt Smith

Church, where is our role in this fast-changing World? It seems that there are new truths and understandings every day. More and more, the World's population seems to believe we need to abandon everything that brought us to this point and embrace a new way of thinking. I would start with, I agree. Many of their issues come out of the shortcomings and failings of the Church to be effective. Many of them still have a great hope that the World can be a better place. It can. However, failure to fulfill our mission does not mean the mission has been wrong. How can we change the World if our hearts have not truly changed or aligned with God's mission of reconciliation? Have we really been about restoring and reconciling or just trying to put "Band-Aids" in our own lives so that we can ignore the hurts and pains of others? Allowing God to transform us into His ambassadors means that we have to live for a purpose beyond ourselves, and this seems like a big step. Remember, we were never designed to fix this World by ourselves. We have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit and each other, Acts 2:38.

God's mission remains the same to reconcile the World to Himself, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19. Just to help understand what it means to be reconciled by a loving God, He sent Jesus into the hands of sinners (us) to become sin itself to take the judgment for our sins upon Himself. 1 John 4:9-11 reminds us that "We see real love, not in that fact that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to make personal atonement for our sins. If God loved us as much as that, surely we, in our turn, should love each other!"

Continued inside...