



Opportunity Day Preschool Graduation Friday, May 19, 2017 — 9:30 a.m.



Please join us in the church sanctuary to celebrate this milestone. *All are welcome to attend!*

Graduates Celebration—Sunday, May 21

Plan to join us this Sunday, May 21, to celebrate with our 2017 high school graduates and their families with a reception at 9:00 a.m. in the Bethany Room and special recognition in worship at the 10:15 service. This year's grads include Joshua Ridenour, Alex Salima, Claire Shutters, and Lauren Speer. After years of study, learning and growth we come to this moment. Graduation. New challenges and fun lie ahead. Let's celebrate and support them on their next steps!



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Church Camp Registration Extended to May 24!

Registration this year is online. Camp dates and registration links can be found by going to <http://indianadisciples.org>. Click on CHURCH CAMP link. (NOTE: The camp age group listed based on school grade completed, not the grade a child is entering in the fall.) When registering you can choose to pay the full fee or can pay half the fee and the church will scholarship the rest. (Either way, please let Randy Kuss know you have registered so we have an accurate record of who is going and what is owed to the region.) Contact Randy if you have questions. You can still make a donation to the Campership Fund, too!



Race Week Worship Service Speedway Christian Church Thursday, May 25, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m.



Sunday, May 28, 2017

As a reminder...

No Worship Services will be held at
Speedway Christian Church
(due to the Indy 500 race)



Pentecost Celebration

During our **Thursday, June 1 & Sunday, June 4** we will be celebrating Pentecost. Pentecost signifies when the Holy Spirit descended on God's people and the church was born. Please help us celebrate by wearing something "red" to worship. ~ Marge Graham



Vacation Bible School, June 12-13-14 Rainforest Adventure

Our 2017 Vacation Bible School will be June 12-13-14, 6-8 pm!! Registration cards are available in the church office. RAINFOREST ADVENTURE will take us into God's Word for a faith-filled time on caring for God's wondrous creation and for each other too! We welcome 3 year olds through 5th graders to come grow in Christian faith through crafts, stories, games, and music. Contact Laura Tice or Randy Kuss if you can help in some way with our RAINFOREST ADVENTURE! ~ Randy Kuss



Father's Day, June 18 Special Music 10:15 a.m. Worship Service

Calling all men and children (boys & girls) to join together and sing our worship anthem on Father's Day. More information to follow regarding rehearsal, etc.



~ Marge Graham

Please keep in Prayer

Linda Carter
Liz Foster
Doreen Harper
Charlene Hoyt
Don Strawser
Meredith Morris (Christy Morris' sister-in-law)
Norma Wilson (Lisa Mosier's mother)

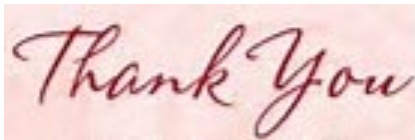


Our Sympathy and prayers are extended to Chuck & Kim Bennett and family upon the death of Kim's father, Sam Dicus, who passed away on Sunday, May 7, 2017. Services were held on Saturday, May 13, 2017.



~ ~ ~

We are so grateful to our church family for the thoughtful preparation and beautiful service of baptism on April 23rd! The service truly expressed the importance of the baptisms, and we appreciate all of the time that Jared and Amy Trullinger and the mentors spent with the kids in preparation for such an amazing day. Brad Mosier, thank you for being a part of Carson's journey! What a gift for Carson to be baptized by his grandfather, too! We so appreciate everyone who was involved in making the baptism service possible. ~ The Rose Family



With Gratitude... My family and I are grateful to the congregation for the many prayers and expressions of care when my mother, Eleanor Rose Slaughter Kuss, passed away in Pineville, SC, Sunday morning, April 23. Thanks to all who covered things here while I was away and to our youth and sponsors who indulged me with patient listening on a Sunday evening as I shared a few stories about my Mom.

In God's Grace, Randy Kuss

June Home-Bound Birthdays

June 1 Hilda Nickles
June 5 Mary McGilliard
June 7 Norma Wood



Thinking Out Loud...

For the past several years, I have had a growing appreciation for poetry. I qualify this by saying *some* poetry, because I find some incomprehensible. But in recent years, I have discovered some poets whose words touch me at a deep level. I have chosen some of their poems as the basis of the sermons for the next several Thursdays and Sundays. The poems will be accompanied by scripture readings that I hope will illuminate the poems and vice versa. Even if you aren't a poetry buff, I think that you will find this series of sermons to be a fun exercise. In order to give you a preview of coming attractions, I include in this month's newsletter article the poems and scripture readings that will be the focus of the sermons for the next three weeks. I hope that you will read the poems and scripture several times to help prepare you for worship. —Scott

The Thing Is (by Ellen Bass)

to love life, to love it even
when you have no stomach for it
and everything you've held dear
crumbles like burnt paper in your hands,
your throat filled with the silt of it.
When grief sits with you, its tropical heat
thickening the air, heavy as water
more fit for gills than lungs;
when grief weights you like your own flesh
only more of it, an obesity of grief,
you think, *How can a body withstand this?*
Then you hold life like a face
between your palms, a plain face,
no charming smile, no violet eyes,
and you say, yes, I will take you
I will love you, again.

2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
(Thursday, May 18, and Sunday, May 21)

The Peace of Wild Things (by Wendell Berry)

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.

And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Psalm 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
(Thursday, May 25, The Thursday before the Indy 500)

The E.D.G.E.

“You’re going to miss this.”

I thought about this while watching my son, Paul, at his baseball practice this last week. Someday I’m going to miss watching him learn how to play ball. I’m going to miss sitting with him and hearing him read to me from one of his books. I’m going to miss him being a kid. His little brother Ben, I’m going to miss his 3 year old big belly laughs, I’m going to miss hearing him try out new words. And while I may not believe it right now, I’m likely going to miss the fact that he can’t go a whole night without wanting to sleep in Mom and Dad’s bed.

These thoughts lead me down a path of seeing many things that I will someday miss- loved ones, friends, experiences...hair...I’ll remember the good times and the bad and will still find things about each one that makes me smile.

How many things do we pass over in our everyday lives that we take for granted not realizing one day they will be gone and we’ll look back at them with awe, wonder and love? I believe that nothing happens in our lives that doesn’t have some reason behind it. I know I’m guilty of not slowing down in my daily routine to appreciate these things for what they are now. I hope that when I look back one day that I can only reminisce and smile about the memories and not have any regret for letting them pass without notice.

Slow down. Look around you. Smell the smells. Listen to the sounds. Remember how things feel. Tell those that you care about that you love them. Because someday, you’re going to miss this.

~ Ray Tice, Elder

*Please help those in need by
bringing in food
items to support
St. John’s Food Pantry*



Spirit Newsletter Summer Schedule

Summer publication dates:

June 6, 2017
July 11, 2017
August 15, 2017

Informational updates and announcements will be sent out as needed between publications.

We finished our 2016-17 season of Sunday evening youth groups on Sunday, **May 7**. Though the ministry is so much more than the numbers, still we are glad to report attendance as high as 50 youth (or more) some nights and an average attendance of 35 through the year. Huge thanks to the Chi Rho sponsor team of Bob and Lisa Oeth and Paul and Hannah McDonald, to the CYF sponsor team of Amy DeLisle and Melanie Heaviland, and to all the parents and many others who supported our youth ministries this year. We have had a very fine year with some very fine young people.



As we enter the summer months with camps and vacations and more, you will also see youth stepping into new roles. A number of them will be volunteering time and talent to help with Vacation Bible School, Worship & Wonder, in worship leadership, and beginning training to be sound techs for our worship services.

~ Randy Kuss



Faith Forum @ Robin Run Village Sunday, May 21, 2017

Dr. Leah Gunning Francis, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty at Christian Theological Seminary, will speak at a Robin Run Faith Forum on Sunday, May 21, at 7 p.m. Dr. Gunning Francis is the author of *Ferguson and Faith: Sparking Leadership and Awakening Community*. She interviewed more than two dozen clergy and young activists who were actively involved in the movement for racial justice in Ferguson and beyond. Dr. Gunning Francis' topic for the forum, drawn from her book, is "Ferguson at the Intersection of Faith and Justice." The forum will be in the Community Room. It is no cost and is open to the public.

Stewardship/Finance

2017 Approved Budget: \$497,289

2017 Required to Date (5/14/2017)..... \$ 187,656.23
(to meet approved budget)
2017 Received to Date (5/14/2017) \$ 177,236.68

2017 Year to Date (Shortfall as of 5/14/2017) \$ 10,419.55

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
April 30, 2017	\$ 6,172.90	189
May 7, 2017	\$ 18,000.83	198
May 14, 2017	\$ 8,557.50	305

Speedway Christian Church
5110 West 14th Street
Speedway, Indiana 46224

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***General Assembly Help Needed
July 9—12, 2017***

Your help is needed at the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) coming to Indianapolis in July! We are looking for individuals familiar with Greater Indianapolis, the Indiana Convention Center, and/or the General Assembly to volunteer at the Building & Program Information and City Information kiosk(s) July 8, 9, 10, and 11. If you are interested in one or more shifts, please contact committee chair Jim Schmidt at schmide64@hotmail.com <<mailto:schmide64@hotmail.com>>. SCC member Jared Trullinger also is assisting with the Information Services Committee and can be contacted at trullingerj@gmail.com <<mailto:trullingerj@gmail.com>> or 319-321-7311 should you have questions. ***Remember you do not need to register to attend the worship services.***



The General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be July 8-12 in Indianapolis. There will be workshops, worship, and business sessions, one of which will include voting on our new General Minister and President nominee, Rev. Terri Hord Owens. If you serve as a volunteer, you can register at a reduced rate of \$125, regular registration rate is \$190. Members of Indiana congregations can register online at indianadisciples.org/search/General+Assembly

***SCC Admin Meeting
Thursday, June 15 @ 7:15 p.m.***

All Department Chairs—Please plan to attend.

Church - Emergency on Call Contact

**Friday, May 26 — Monday, May 29
Scott Cox 502-316-3085**

**Friday, June 2 — Sunday, June 4
Marge Graham 317-313-5337**

The Shape of Things to Come

Is it not you who shapes God;
it is God that shapes you.

If then you are the work of God,
await the hand of the Artist
who does all things in due season.

Offer the Potter your heart,
soft and tractable,
and keep the form in which
the artist has fashioned you.

Let your clay be moist
lest you grow hard and lose
the imprint of the Potter's fingers.

Copied from: Singing in the Spirit
By: Mary Kay Beall

**Spirit @ SCC
(USPS 510-220)**

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www.speedwaychristian.org

Bi-Weekly Publication January-December

Periodicals postage paid at Indianapolis, Indiana
Postmaster: Send address changes to
Spirit @ SCC, 5110 W. Fourteenth Street, Indianapolis, IN 46224