

## The Colfax Center Heartline

March-April 2022

Pastor Luke Wolfe

[www.colfaxcenterchurch.org](http://www.colfaxcenterchurch.org)



***Ecclesia Semper Reformanda Est*** - “The Church is Always Reforming” This Latin phrase, dating back to St. Augustine in the 4th Century and popularized by other theology and since, points to the idea that the church must always be reexamining itself both internally and externally. Our church has existed in this same location for over 150 years, and yet the context, the people, the culture, the way of life of the community, has changed drastically in that time. And we must be willing to change as well.

This is not to say we ought to be changing our theology, to which we are fully committed, nor our understanding of God’s Word, which stands true and unchanging through the ages. But instead, it points to the need for the church to always be reexamining it’s *application* of God’s word, both to the context of the day, and to the transforming hearts of the people. Just as speaking a foreign language is ineffective for communication, so speaking as if we’re talking to a different context than the one we’re in would be just as ineffective.

As Theologian Robert Godfrey puts it, there is a great danger in the church which he refers to as “formalism.” As he writes, “The danger of formalism is that a church member could subscribe to true doctrine, participate in true worship in a biblically regulated church, and yet still not have true faith. As Jesus had warned against the Pharisees of His day, citing the prophet Isaiah, “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me” (Matt. 15:8). The part of religion that always needs reforming is the human heart. It is vital religion and true faith that must be constantly cultivated.”

It is my prayer that, by the work and power of the Holy Spirit, our hearts will continue to be reformed and transformed into the likeness of Christ. And as that occurs, as disciples are raised up to carry forth the ministry of the gospel in our community, we will endeavor by any means to preach the truth of scripture and minister to our present context. Would we put no barrier in the way of anyone coming into our church, participating in the worship of the one true God, and hearing the Word of God read and preached. Would we be willing to sacrifice any tradition for the sake of the salvation of human souls. As Jesus directed, would we “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matt. 28:29-20)

Blessings,

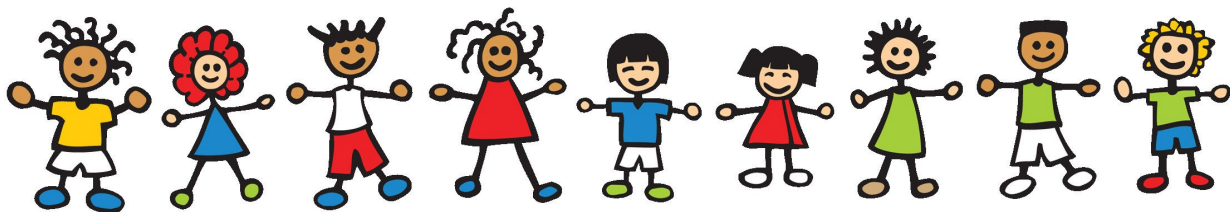
Pastor Luke

# **Christian Education Committee**

## **Christian Education Committee Appointments**

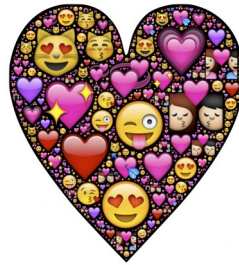
We are pleased to announce the following people have agreed to serve on the Christian Education Committee: Sandy Simms and Victoria Pruin DeFrancisco, co-chairs, Leon Johnson, Elder representative, Blake Stahl, student representative, Britny Eberline, Amanda Everts, Cathy Janssen, Linda Kruger and Paul Smit. We sought to have a blend of experienced CE members and parents of younger children. These are 1-3 year appointments on a rotating schedule. Please thank them for their willingness to serve. Special thanks to Ally Boomgarden for serving as our student representative in 2021. Among the goals this year, the committee wants to continue to work on outreach and to support parents as they care for the spiritual growth of their children.

We are grateful to welcome two new teachers: Leon Johnson and David Barnes. Leon is team-teaching in the Jesus Squad class (ages 6-11) and David is team-teaching in the Bible Buddies class (ages 3-5). Please thank them for their commitment to our children, be in prayer for our Sunday School classes, and for the children who might join us.



## Children's Easter Program Announced

Since last year's Easter program was so well received, the teachers have agreed to present one for this year, too. It will be at the Sunrise Service, 8 a.m. April, 17 Easter morning. To prepare, our Sunday School teachers will be using the program theme: "*The EMJJI Easter Story*," to teach the children more about how Jesus paid for our sins on the cross and his resurrection. They will also be learning some new songs and actions. All children ages 3-11 are invited to participate. They do not need to have attended previously. Rehearsals begin March 6<sup>th</sup>, during regular Sunday School time (11-11:45 a.m.). To help the children and teachers, please make sure they attend classes regularly during this time. A special thank you to our teachers for this extra project and to LuRae Eberline and Sandy Simms for coordinating the music. If you have any questions, contact Sandy (tsimms@gcmuni.net) or Victoria Pruin DeFrancisco (victoria.defrancisco@uni.edu).



## Memories from last year's Easter Program!



## Children's Sunday School Updates

We thought you would like to know what the younger children are studying this spring. Our curriculum is from *Great Commissions Publications*, which is affiliated with the PCA.

### **Spring curriculum for preschool Bible Buddies class**

Our focus this spring is themed “Jesus is the Savior.” Through Bible stories, the children will find out about Jesus love for his people, his death and resurrection, his ascension, the promised Holy Spirit and the Lord’s return one day. Unit one helped the children discover that Jesus is the loving Savior who forgives sinners, like the lepers and Zacchaeus. In unit two they are finding out that Jesus is God’s king, the Savior-king with his entry into Jerusalem, arrest, and death on the cross. And in the third unit, the emphasis is on Jesus the risen Lord, as He came alive again, showed himself to disciples, and returned to heaven with the promise to come again.

### **Spring curriculum for the early elementary Jesus Squad class**

Our focus this spring is on “What it means to become devoted to God’s Word. “ Using stories and passages from the Old and New Testaments, the children are studying the importance of God’s Word – learning about those who followed God’s Word and those who didn’t. We hope they will discover what it means to hide God’s Word in their hearts and live by it. In unit one they studied God as the creator which includes his promise of salvation in his Word – The Bible. In unit two they studied people in the Old Testament such as Asa and Ezra who trusted God and his Word, as well as Eli and his sons who disobeyed God’s law. They are currently in unit three where they are learning how God’s promise in the Old Testament was fulfilled in the New Testament through Jesus Christ. The last unit will address how to live by God’s Word. Throughout this spring the children are learning more about how the Bible is organized and why it is all important.

The children in both classes are memorizing a different Bible verse each month. You can help them memorize and better understand what the verses mean!

February: “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.” Luke 19:38a

March: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

April: [Jesus said] “I am the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive forever and ever.” Revelation 1:18a

May: “I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”

Psalm 119:11

### **Good Friday & Easter Plans @ Colfax**

★ **Good Friday Services**  
7:00 pm at Colfax

★ **Easter will be celebrated right here at Colfax with a Sunrise Service,  
followed by breakfast and morning worship.**  
Please watch the bulletin for more details.

### **Funds Receiving Your Weekly Tithes & Offerings**



★ 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays: **General Fund**

★ 4th Sunday: **Mission Fund**

★ 5th Sunday: **Building/Maintenance Fund**

★ **Deacon, Roof or Air Conditioning Funds - please  
designate any Sunday**





**Galatians 3:26-27 - “So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”**

**Coty Kemper Albers, son of Coty & Kamille Albers, was baptized February 13th.**

**He was surrounded by his Godparents and other family and friends to help us raise him up in the hands of the Lord.**





### **March Birthdays**

- 1 - Sheila Steinmeyer, Ruth Thoren,
- 2 - Beckham Wolfe, Westin Steinmeyer
- 3 - Jim Heeren
- 4 - Kallianne Venenga
- 5 - Rigby Everts
- 6 - Claire Barnes, Heather Lamfers
- 7 - Taylor Launstein
- 8 - Jenny Kruger
- 9 - Beau Arends, Jay Arends
- 10 - Doug Hayungs, Eldon Kruger,  
David Steinmeyer
- 13 - Kamille Albers, Leah Jensen
- 15 - Molly Sherman
- 17 - Taryn Annesley, Alecia Morris
- 18 - Pastor Bill Massey
- 19 - Jim Beninga
- 22 - Dawson Stahl
- 23 - Jean Ralston
- 24 - Steven Eilers
- 26 - Jason Arends
- 30 - Marlene Mennen

### **April Birthdays**

- 1 - Sheryl Johnson
- 4 - Adaleigh Albers, Dale Launstein,  
Cole Norris, Koby Sherman
- 6 - Mary Pruisner
- 8 - Abigail Beck-Brunk
- 9 - Brett Eberline
- 10 - Philip Harberts
- 12 - Sharon Martin
- 14 - Amy Launstein
- 19 - Jim Albers, Jill Borchardt
- 20 - Bryce Eberline
- 21 - Janice Steinmeyer
- 23 - Shawn Samo, Peg Stahl
- 26 - Kiplyn Aalfs, Jensen Nederhoff,  
Staci Schipper
- 27 - Macy Boomgarden, Jesse Willis
- 30 - Kaibree Nisius

### **Early May Birthdays**

- 1 - Samantha Lamfers, Justin Stahl
- 2 - David Pruin
- 3 - Kyle Venenga

## **Need A Ride?**

Please call a member of our  
Transportation Team if you need a ride  
to church, doctor appointments  
or any other transportation need.



#### **In March:**

Chuck/Ruth Thoren 319-824-6521 (home) 319-239-1354 (cell)  
Tom Simms 319-824-6879 (home) 319-404-5272 (cell)

#### **In April:**

Chuck/Ruth Thoren 319-824-6521 (home) 319-239-1354 (cell)  
Sheila Steinmeyer 319-269-1499 (cell)

March 2022

March							April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Collfax Church Chat Morning Worship Sunday School- All Ages	28	3/1	2 12p Lenten Lunch	3	4	5
6 Communion Sunday Collfax Church Chat Morning Worship	7 5:15p Collfax Chairs	8	9 12p Lenten Lunch	10	11	12
13 Coffee Fellowship Collfax Church Chat Morning Worship	14	15	16 12p Lenten Lunch	17	18	19
20 Coffee Fellowship Collfax Church Chat Morning Worship	21	22	23 12p Lenten Lunch	24	25	26
27 Coffee Fellowship Collfax Church Chat Morning Worship	28	29	30 Lenten Lunch @ Collfax 12p Lenten Lunch	31 7p Elders/Deacons	4/1	2



April 2022

April							May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Coffee Fellowship Collax Church Chat Morning Worship	28	29	30 Lenten Lunch @ Collax 12p Lenten Lunch	31 7p Elders/Deacons	4/1	2
3 Coffee Fellowship Collax Church Chat Morning Worship	4	5	6 12p Lenten Lunch	7	8	9
10 Coffee Fellowship Collax Church Chat Morning Worship	11	12	13	14	15 Good Friday 7p Good Friday Worship	16
17 Sunrise Service/ Breakfast Collax Church Chat Morning Worship	18	19	20 Newsletter Articles Due	21	22	23
24 Coffee Fellowship Collax Church Chat Morning Worship	25	26	27	28 Print Newsletters 7p Elders/Deacons	29	30