

January  
2018

# THE LINKLETTER

## OUR MISSION

Connecting People to Christ,  
to One Another,  
and to Service.

## OUR VISION

Leaders making disciples  
who impact their community  
and world for Christ.

**Brian Gilroy**  
Lead Minister

**Bryan Graves**  
Family Life Minister

## **Sunday Services:**

Sunday School—9:00 AM  
Worship—10:00 AM

Phone:

(812)372-1766

Fax:

(812)372-2602

E-mail:

[gccc@gardencitychurch.com](mailto:gccc@gardencitychurch.com)

Website:

[www.gardencitychurch.com](http://www.gardencitychurch.com)

## **The LinkLetter**

Published Monthly by  
Garden City Church of Christ  
3245 Jonesville Rd.  
Columbus, IN 47201-7932

Volume XVII, Issue 1

January is

sanctity of human *life*  
month.

## **Right to Life Annual Signature Ad**

Show your support as a local Pro-Life citizen by participating in the BCRTL annual signature ad drive. A full-page ad will be placed in The Republic on Sunday, January 21, with all the signatures they acquire. The cost is \$5 per line, which goes toward the cost of the ad. A signature sheet will be available at the Welcome Center 12/24 through 1/7/18. Stop by to add your name and show your support!

  
Celebrate  
the  
Human Life

## **Clarity Baby Bottle Campaign Jan. 14 - Feb. 4**



Support Clarity by picking up an empty baby bottle from GCCC beginning January 14. Fill it with change and return it to us by February 4 for delivery to Clarity. Contact the office with questions. To learn more about Clarity, visit them online at [www.claritycares.org](http://www.claritycares.org) or call 812-378-4730. The Clarity facility is located at 2420 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Columbus.

**Kingdom  
WORKERS**

**January  
Kingdom Worker  
Opportunity**

See page 3 for details.

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# HIS STORY FOR THE WHOLE WORLD!

## MISSION EMPHASIS WEEK IS FEBRUARY 11-18

Those of us who attended the Perspectives Class in January 2017 can testify to the blessing we received in hearing James Cha speak of how God has been glorified through believers reaching out to Muslims!

**Mark your calendars now for Sunday, February 18, 2018 when James Cha will join us as our guest missions speaker! You won't want to miss hearing him speak during the Sunday School hour and preach from God's Word during worship!**

**Your faith will increase. Your prayer life will improve.  
Salvation will come to Muslims. God will be glorified!**

Meet James Cha, Washington, DC Area Coordinator, *Crescent Project*.



James Cha was born in Korea, but grew up in the US. He studied electrical engineering at Cornell University, and worked ten years as an engineer. In 2000 he and his wife, Faith, went to Central Asia (in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan) where they served ten years as church

planting missionaries. They are now back in the US reaching out to the Muslims in the Washington, DC area. James is the Washington, DC Area Coordinator for Crescent Project. Faith is the ESOL Director in Leesburg, VA. They are happily married and have three grown children: Joniel, Josiah, and Karis.

From the following source, we read a testimony to the benefit of hearing James Cha: <http://ctpchurch.org/english/2012/10/introducing-muslims-to-jesus-christ/>

“On Sunday morning before service we had an opportunity to hear from pastor James Cha, talking about ways to introduce Muslims to Jesus Christ. James is a representative to the DC area for the [Crescent Project](#), whose mission it is to inspire, equip and serve the Church to reach Muslims with the Gospel of Christ for the Glory of God.

*Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made – Isaiah 43:6-7.*

Pastor James, and even his wife Faith, shared inspiring stories with us about their experiences in Uzbekistan and NoVA as they’ve boldly shared the gospel with Muslim communities. Pastor James supplied us with many additional resources including pamphlets that illustrate a comparison between Jesus and Muhammad and Jesus’ role as a savior in our lives. With many of us having Muslim friends and neighbors in our communities, Pastor James’ message highlights the importance of truly knowing what we believe in so that we can be Jesus’ hands and feet to serve and show Christ’s love to the communities in need around us – especially those who are already so desperately seeking God.”

**Ron & Pat Morse**  
North Burma Christian Mission  
Chiang Mai, Thailand

**F.A.M.E.**  
(Fellowship of Associates  
of Medical Evangelism)  
Indianapolis, Indiana

**Enoch & Lydia Nyador**  
Ghana Christian Mission  
Ghana, West Africa

**Dr. Zindoga Bungu**  
Mashoko Christian Hospital  
Jereza, Zimbabwe

**Eli & Mandy Garcia**  
Vida Nueva Ministries,  
Piedras-Negras, Mexico

**Gianni & Stephany  
Bruno**  
Italy for Christ  
Francavilla Fontana, Italy

**Jill Shaw**  
The Ark Christian Ministries  
Auckland, New Zealand

**Toby & Amy Hill**  
Merendon Mt. Mission  
Santo Domingo,  
Dominican Republic

**TCM**  
(Training Christians for  
Ministry)  
Eastern Europe

**Jorge & Diana Lugo**  
Team Expansion  
Caracas, Venezuela

**ICOM**  
(International Conference  
on Missions)

# Ministry Moments



The Christmas music was wonderful and a very beautiful tribute to the One who has given us the incredible blessing of Salvation.

We will resume our choir practices for both the KIDZ CHOIR and the PRAISE CHOIR on Tuesday, January 9, 2018. That means we get a week off before we begin our Easter cantata!

Voices are needed in choir for our service celebrating His Resurrection!



**The Kingdom Workers Team invites you to join us in serving a hot meal at Love Chapel.**

Love Chapel serves a hot meal to the community every Wednesday and Friday. Again this year, they have requested GCCC prepare and serve the first meal of the new year on Wednesday, January 3.

Needs:

- ◆ 8 volunteers to cook a casserole at home (recipe provided) and deliver them to the church by 2:00PM on January 3. (Yes, you can bring it the day before.)
- ◆ 8 volunteers to serve at the Love Chapel Pantry on Wednesday Jan. 3 from 4:15-6:30PM.

If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at the Welcome Center, contact Jennie Hoene, or the church office.

## GCCC Food Drive-January 28

The items collected during the food drive will go to the Love Chapel food pantry. A complete list of needed items can be found at the Welcome Center.



**On January 28, bring your donations and leave them by the trunk of your car. GCCC youth will pick them up and sort the items.**

*(In case of rain/ice, take items to the Fellowship Hall.)*



## Balancing Life's Demands

Thursdays • 6:30-8:00PM

Beginning January 18!

10 Sessions

Leaders: Phil & Jane Newton (812-579-6615). Contact them

connection groups if you plan to participate.

Description: Busy, tired, stressed out, and stretched to the limit? Do you need help prioritizing your life? If so, you're not alone. The frantic pace of life is wearing many of us out. Our biggest struggle is balancing all of the stuff we have and do. Every week we juggle a long list of "to do's." Go to work ... church ... school ... gym ... grocery store ... spend time with kids, friends, family, etc. Repeat. But have we ever slowed down long enough to evaluate our priorities or even find out what God's priorities are for our lives? God knows that when the stuff of our life gets out of balance, devastating things happen. That's why He wants to help us get our lives back in balance!

*Most of our Connections Groups are on break for the month of January. Watch the bulletin and next month's LinkLetter for information concerning other Connection Groups!*

## Facts & Figures

### November 2018

	Worship SS	
11/05/2017	229	132
11/12/2017	222	122
11/19/2017	221	98
11/26/2017	188	87

### Offering Totals

General Fund	\$ 28,859.87
Repay	\$ 328.44
Total Offerings	\$ 29,188.31

### General Fund Only

Received	\$ 28,859.87
Expenses*	\$ 39,074.97

*\*Expenses are for general operating only.*

*For more information, contact the church office.*

Online giving is available at [gardencitychurch.com](http://gardencitychurch.com).

Click the "online giving" tab.

Please contact the office with any questions.



## FAMILY MATTERS...

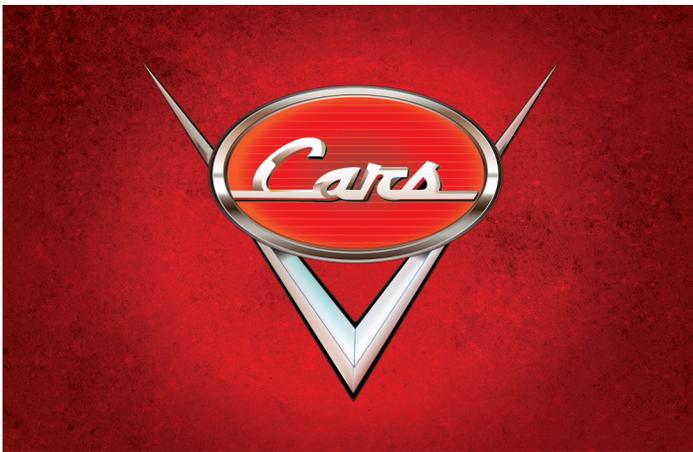
*Connecting Children and Families to Christ, to One Another, and to Service*

“These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children.”  
*Deuteronomy 6:6-7*

# KID CONNECTION

## Children’s Church in January

**Cars:** Vehicles come in all shapes and sizes. Cars, trucks, vans, and SUVs are all used to do many different things. Each of these vehicles can also teach us something about living for God.



**Memory Verse:** “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”  
Romans 12:1 (NIV)

**January 7— Race Car: Go Fast!**

**January 14— Taxi: Go Get Your Friends**

**January 21— Police Car: Go Safely**

**January 28— Tow Truck: Go With Me**



**WINTER RETREAT**  
*JUNIOR RETREAT AT  
(3rd-6th grades)  
In FEBRUARY!*

More info at [www.hilltopchristiancamp.com](http://www.hilltopchristiancamp.com)



**WHO: 4TH-6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

**WHERE: INDIANAPOLIS, IN**

**WHEN: MARCH 2 - MARCH 3**

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIION \$75 BY 1/28**

Luke 11:28 “But (Jesus) said, ‘Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!’”

Imagine your favorite video game. You’re at the moment where everything hangs in the balance. One wrong move and your player could die, but if you play the game just right you’ll make it to the next level and eventually win the game. It’s the perfect time for a “Power Up” – that critical gift or ability that you didn’t have before, that can help you advance and win.

In the game of life, for a preteen it can often seem like the odds are stacked against them, but God tells us that’s not true. He tells us that He’s on our side, and He gives us a tool, a “Power Up” to help us through life.

That “Power Up” is His Word. By exploring Luke 11:28 and plugging into the world of video games, SuperStart’s mission this year is to help preteens understand that through God’s Word, they receive the power they need to navigate and serve in His Kingdom.

See Bryan Graves for more details!



## Sr. High Ministry

### Re-Fuel—High School Students Wednesday Night Gatherings

*Re-Ignite your Faith. Re-Connect with friends. Re-FUEL!*

**Time:** 6:00-8:00PM

**Place:** The Station

**Resumes weekly January 10**

**Topic:** Peter Heck "The Chair"



### Family Game Night & Chili Cook-off January 20 @ 5:00PM



Bring a crockpot of your best chili and your favorite game for game night! Sign up at the Welcome Center!

## HILLTOP Christian Camp

### WINTER RETREATS

*Middle School Retreat  
FEBRUARY 23-24*

*High School Retreat  
FEBRUARY 24-25*

Register at [hilltopchristiancamp.com](http://hilltopchristiancamp.com)



## Jr. High Ministry 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade (Just for YOU!)

### Wednesday Nights!

**Who:** All 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

**What:** Youth Group

**When:** Resumes weekly on January 10 from 6-8PM

**Where:** The Station



...I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS...  
MATTHEW 28:20

WITH

**For 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades  
February 16 & 17  
CINCINNATI, OH**

WITH - it's a common word, but when spoken in the context of a relationship with Jesus it has such a deeper meaning. By focusing on Matthew 28:20 and exploring the idea of a relationship "WITH" Jesus, Believe will help Jr. High Students discover how to worship God through a right and faithful relationship with Him.

**\$85 EARLYBIRD DEADLINE: 01/14/2017**

*Registration envelopes required.*

**What:** WinterJam 2018 Concert Tour

**Who:** All Interested People

**When:** Saturday, January 6, 4:00PM—?

**Where:** Freedom Hall, Louisville, KY

**Cost:** \$15 at the door for concert (no tickets sold prior to show) *Additional money for supper, snacks, and merchandise! We will leave promptly at 4:00PM as we will need to wait in line to enter the arena! Please dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared to wait! See Bryan Graves for more information.*



**Monthly Fellowship  
Pitch-in Lunch**

Our January Lunch Fellowship will be on Sunday, January 7, immediately following morning worship. Bring a main or side dish, dessert, and a 2 liter to share. It's a great time to meet and visit with others in our congregation. Contact Terry & Roana Huntsman with questions.



Calling all men...join us for fellowship, food, and connection on **Saturday, January 27 at 8:00AM!**



Lessons from the Book of James will equip us to think clearly and choose wisely when dealing with temptation. Get help confronting this pervasive problem with God's wisdom and strength, so you can begin to live an undivided life. Gain new perspectives on the trials and temptations men face, receive new tools to help you overcome automatic human responses to challenging situations, and learn new actions that produce humility and flexibility in God's strength.

**Elders & Deacons Serving in 2018**

<b>Elders</b>	
Dale Marks	Mike Weddle
Colin Martin	Mark White
Andy Murdock	
<b>Deacons</b>	
Robert Bird	Jeff Sharp
Chris Bradley	John Smock
Joe Clark	Brent Strong
Allen Graffa	Dean Wright
Terry Huntsman	Jerry Wright
Phil Newton	

*With Deepest Sympathy to the families of...*



- ♥ Lori Huber (daughter of Nancy Loweth)
- ♥ Bob McDonley (member)
- ♥ Clara Thompson (member)



♥ I want to thank everyone for their support, your prayers, and offers of help. You are a loving family. Thanks for all the cards and for the choir singing at Bob's service. ~Carolyn McDonley



**What to Do in the Case of  
Weather Cancellations**

1. Call the church office, (812) 372-1766, and listen for an updated phone message.
2. Watch the Indianapolis TV stations. We will do our best to post this information on WRTV (6), WISH (8), WTHR (13), and FOX (59).
3. Listen to these radio stations for updates: 101.5FM, 104.9FM, 1010AM.
4. Check The Republic newspaper online at [www.therepublic.com](http://www.therepublic.com).
5. Feel free to call the ministers or elders at home.



Discover GCCC is an introduction to the church and serves to acquaint perspective members with our beliefs, purpose, and personality. This special event will take place in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday afternoon, January 28, from noon-2PM and includes a lunch. Contact the church office to indicate your interest in attending and if childcare is needed.



# JANUARY 2018



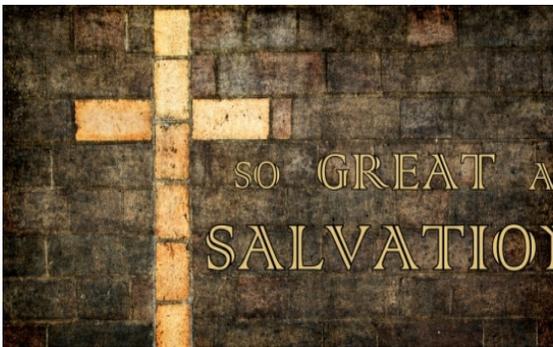
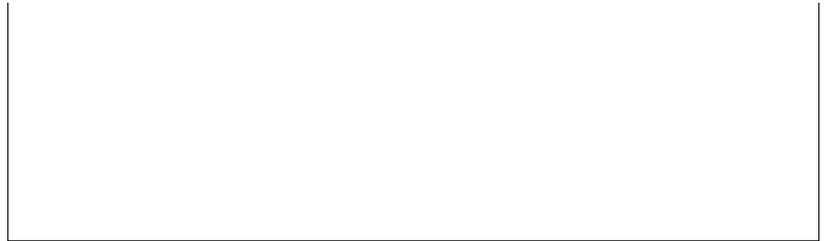
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year!  Office Closed	2  Office Closed	3 4:00PM Kingdom Workers @ Love Chapel	4 4:15PM Women's Ministry Meeting  6:30PM Worship Practice	5	6 4:00PM Leave for WinterJam in Louisville (All ages welcome!)
7 Last day to add your name to the RTL Signature Ad  10:30AM Elder/Deacon Ordination  11:30AM Fellowship Lunch Pitch-in	8 6:30PM Elders' Meeting	9 6:00PM Kidz Choir 6:30PM Deacons' Meeting  7:00PM Praise Choir	10 6:00PM Jr./Sr. High Youth Groups Resume	11 6:30PM Worship Practice  Feb. LL info due	12	13
14 Clarity Baby Bottle Campaign begins	15 8:30AM Life Line screenings @ GCCC	16 5:30PM Missions Meeting  6:00PM Kidz Choir  7:00PM Praise Choir	17 6:00PM Jr./Sr. High Youth Groups	18 6:30PM Worship Practice  6:30PM Study @ the Newton's: Balancing Life's Demands	19 7:00PM Emmaus Gathering	20 5:00PM Family Game Night
21 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday	22	23 6:00PM Kidz Choir 7:00PM Praise Choir	24 6:00PM Jr./Sr. High Youth Groups	25 6:30PM Worship Practice  6:30PM Study @ the Newton's: Balancing Life's Demands	26	27 8:00AM Men's Breakfast & Study
28 Food Drive for Love Chapel  Noon Discover Garden City	29	30 6:00PM Kidz Choir 7:00PM Praise Choir	31 6:00PM Jr./Sr. High Youth Groups	<b><u>Sunday Morning Worship</u></b> <b>9:00AM Sunday School</b> <b>10:00AM Worship</b>		



**gardencity**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
3245 Jonesville Rd.  
Columbus, IN 47201-7932

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***The Christmas season is over, but not the message of Christ!***

By the time you read this, you will probably have taken down the Christmas lights, removed all the Christmas decorations, and put up (or out!) the tree. The season of celebrating the birth of Christ is over on the calendar, but we get to continue to share the message of Christmas with others and find great joy in what it says. What is that all-important message? Here is what the angels declared to the shepherds in the fields that first Christmas day: “I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you: he is Christ the Lord.” What a message! The birth of Christ is the message of salvation. That wonderful message continues far beyond the

season on the calendar. Notice the angel says it is “good news,” this message is a source of “great joy,” and (my favorite part) it is “for all the people.”

Christmas reminds us that we are in need of a Savior. It reminds us that we are alienated (the Bible says enemies) from God because of our sin condition. It also tells us that God, in His love and mercy, reached out to us in our great need by sending us Jesus (Immanuel) to save us. Furthermore, it explains that it is for everyone. The message of salvation is a wonderful message! I like the way that Paul describes the Christmas message in Galatians 4: *But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons...so you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God made you also an heir.* Have you personally received God’s gift of salvation in Jesus Christ? If not, I would encourage you to do so. You do this by admitting that you need Jesus to save you from your sins, turning away from the rebellious attitude we have as people alienated from God and toward Jesus, and trusting Jesus to save you as He has promised to do. As John writes in his gospel, *To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.*

Always remember the Christmas message with great joy! During the month of January, I want to spend some time looking at this great gift of God through salvation. I hope you will join us as we explore the depths and riches of God’s love expressed to us in salvation. We should never get over what God has done for us through Jesus Christ!

See you Sunday! — *Brian*