



Chimes

February 2013
Christ Presbyterian Church

The church keeps time by marking days. Christmas and Jesus' birth push toward Lent and his death, which turns toward Easter and resurrection, which sends us into Pentecost and the Spirit's coming. The sanctuary's liturgical colors help with this timekeeping. Advent blue deepens to Lenten purple, which rises to Easter white, which exhales Pentecost red, which grows into Ordinary Time green for the regular growth and vitality of Christ's Church.

The church isn't alone in keeping time like this. Alongside our national days—Memorial Day, The 4th, Thanksgiving and the like—sit family days like birthdays, anniversaries, and notable community days. Sadly, not all kept days are celebrations. Good Friday doesn't celebrate Jesus' death, but more *observes* it, just as we *mark* our anniversaries not of weddings, but things like spouses' and children's deaths.

For our community, February 27 is such a marked day. This day on which the shooting at Chardon High School took place falls one day before a birthday in my family, which shows us something about life: celebration and sorrow aren't oil and water but, rather, come mixed in together. Good Friday and Easter hold hands. Evidence of our wholeness and joy sit alongside that of our brokenness and struggle.

Such realities are why this February will include two special days of worship. We will begin the season of Lent with an **Ash Wednesday Service, February 13 at 7:00 p.m.** As we remember our mortality, imposing ashes on the forehead, we will turn toward our God who makes us new through Jesus' cross and resurrection.

Then, on **Sunday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m., a Service for Wholeness** will be time for giving our families and ourselves, our friends and community, our nation and the world into the hands of our Jesus. Our Lord who knows the wounds of our humanity is also the God who heals us. This service, not accidentally, falls close to the date of the shooting in Chardon. Yet it will not be a "service about Chardon." More, it will be about God keeping time with us, entering our hearts and struggles and days to know them, redeem them, and fold them into his new-making purpose in Christ.

The good news of Jesus is that each day is marked, above all, by grace that restores us and heals the world. Perhaps Paul said it best: "I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:1). Blessed is the one—the church—that keeps time by this.

The Lord be with you all,

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Lent 2013



Lent, which comes from an Old English word meaning *spring*, has a long history in the church as a time for deepening life with God. A forty-day season that begins on Ash Wednesday, Lent moves with Jesus toward cross and grave, and then to resurrection life.

In the ancient church Lent was a period of instruction and spiritual preparation for *catechumens*, people making ready for profession of faith and baptism at Easter. These would learn and reflect the church's prayers and creeds, filling their hearts and minds with the core things of faith in Christ.

Christ Church will do such things this year. A preaching series on the Apostles' Creed will speak to the heart of Christian faith. An adult class will look at how Christian belief touches life's most important questions. Two evening worship services will be time for honest coming to God in repentance and for wholeness. A workshop will help us live with Christ's healing, compassionate love at the center of our heart.

Make this Lent a holy time. Receive Lent as weeks set apart for living more open to God, looking deeper into yourself, and seeing a fuller picture of who you are with God in Christ. May this Lent be a time of transformation by the God of the cross and of Easter hallelujahs.

Worship

Ash Wednesday

February 13, 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday is the trailhead to the Lenten journey. This prayerful, reflective service brings us to the God who finds us in our sin and mortality, and leads us into the freedom of salvation by grace. Ashes imposed upon our foreheads mark us not only as people who return to dust, but also, especially, as those signed by Jesus' cross and mercy.

Service of Wholeness

February 24, 7:00 p.m.

To be human is to know hurt—physical and emotional, from the world and others, and even from ourselves. But through Jesus' cross and resurrection, God is making the world new and whole. Through our praying and singing, as well as through others' prayers for us, we give our world, our loved ones, and ourselves into the hands of our whole-making God.

Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Sermon Series: *What Do You Believe?*

"Christian, what do you believe?" asks the question that traditionally starts the Apostles' Creed. Six weeks of sermons on the Apostles' Creed will explore what it means to believe something, and specifically what it means to believe with the church in God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, March 24, 10:30 a.m.

With palm branch processional and children's singing, we will remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem to crowds shouting hosanna and blessing. Palm Sunday also begins our weeklong journey with Jesus to the Supper Table, cross, and tomb.

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.

On the night before his arrest, Jesus took Passover bread and wine and made them signs of the life he would give for us. In this intimate service, we continue the drama of Holy Week by sharing the Lord's Supper in the presence of Jesus, the Lover who commands us to love.

Good Friday, March 29, 7:00 p.m.

The Friday Christians strangely call "good" is at the heart of our faith: dying our death, Jesus gives us life. This service of prayerful reflection on Jesus' death brings us into the depths of our rebellion against God, but also the infinitely deeper love and grace God shows in Jesus' cross.

Easter Sunday, March 31, 10:30 a.m.

Christ is risen, and risen indeed! With special music, the Lord's Supper, and the church's hallelujahs we will celebrate God's victory and resurrection life.

Study

Simply Christian

Sundays in Lent, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Led by Rev. Matt Reeves

Does Christian faith still matter today? How does the Christian message speak to our deepest questions? As we take up historic Christianity, present times, and the hopes and troubles of our lives, we will ask how Christian faith speaks today and how God's voice echoes in our world.

Awakening the Heart of Christ

February 16, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Led by Chris Keller & Rev. Matt Reeves

What kind of heart does Christ have for us? What would it mean for our hearts to live from Jesus' love? This workshop in the "Everyday Faith" series will help us learn how to make positive changes in our lives through meditation and contemplation of God's love in Christ. We will think on how deep awareness of Christ's love cultivates compassion for others and ourselves. Register by signing up on a Sunday morning, contacting Chris Keller at 330-283-8299, or visiting www.christpcusa.org.



Children's Ministries on MLK Day



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES SUNDAES & CERAMICS

Friday, February 15th
7:00pm Ceramic painting at:
Spirit of Clay
Mayfield Village
828 SOM Center Rd.

Cost is \$2.50 per child plus cost of pottery.
Bring 1-2 of your favorite toppings. Ice Cream will be provided.

COME JOIN US IN FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR THE SECOND OF A SERIES OF FREE WORKSHOPS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU LEARN PRACTICAL SKILLS THAT WILL DEEPEN AND INSPIRE YOUR CONNECTION TO CHRIST.



AWAKENING THE HEART OF CHRIST
February 16, 2013 from 1:30am-3:30pm

This workshop offers tips on putting into practice living your life from the heart. Learn ways to affect positive changes in your life through God's grace and love. We will work on cultivating compassion for ourselves and our relationships. This workshop is designed to help you gain a deeper awareness and connection to Christ's healing love through the tools of contemplation and meditation. *To register, contact Chris Keller at 330-283-8299 or visit www.christpcusa.org*

CHAPEL CIRCLE:

The group will meet at the church on Wednesday, February 20th at 11:00am. Janet McIntee will lead Lesson 9 pp. 71-79. Barb Kross will give the devotions. Lunch will follow at Danny Boys in Chesterland.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:

If you or someone you know is suffering, and in need of a Prayer Shawl contact the church office at 440-729-1688.

MEN'S FISHING TRIP:

Friday, February 15th - Monday, February 18th
 Three cabins in Hillman, Michigan are reserved on a first-come basis. Make a \$50 deposit by Feb. 3rd. Call Gary Stumpf, 440-729-7020, or Chuck Stamey, 440-897-7579, for more details.

ANNIVERSARIES

Ralph & Donna Hetrick	02/01
Mac & Liz McArthur	02/05
Bill & Tina Fischer	02/13
Dick & Gail Sabo	02/15

BIRTHDAYS

Andrew Marino	02/01
Alex Dawson	02/04
Joy Kule	02/04
Maddox Monsman	02/05
Sharon Schaefer	02/05
Jillian Keller	02/10
Sammy Martillotta	02/10
Howard Schmies	02/12
Patricia Hassett	02/13
Elena Zagarskas	02/13
Joel Gear	02/15
Mary Goodman	02/16
Carmen Elswick	02/19
Madeleine Elswick	02/20
Susan Gear	02/20
Paul McCaslin	02/20
Tina Fischer	02/24
Dolly Carlton	02/26
Victor Bello	02/27
Gareth Reeves	02/28
Cale Zimmermann	02/28

CALLING ALL COOKS!

THE FOOD DEACONS HAVE SOME OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU.

We are looking for people willing to donate a meal to someone in need. A request for a meal comes sporadically, so signing up for a particular week is not necessary. If cooking for someone who is a new parent or recuperating from an illness/surgery is something that interests you, please contact Carmen Elswick, Food Deacon, at 440-286-4904. Thank you for your consideration.

We are also asking for additional help with Coffee Hour.

- Set-up
- Serving
- Clean-up

There are only twelve Deacons who handle this weekly service. Some of them are committed in other capacities on Sundays, such as Choir, Bible Studies, etc. If you are able to help, please call Cyndie Tropf at 440-729-3764.

Deacons greatly appreciate the help!

THE DEACONS would like to thank our congregation for their generosity during the Christmas season.

Thank you for baking, donating gifts and or money to our outreach families. Thanks for your prayers and help. Our outreach families were very appreciative for the gifts given to them at Christmas. In addition to the families, Deacons gave the Prison Ministry 150 decks of playing cards.

Most of our January meeting was devoted to discussing some new projects and goals and orienting our new members to their responsibilities. Our group said goodbye to outgoing Deacons: Jim Kule, Dan Dawson, Beth Boucek, Joanne Graham, and Mike Maclellan, and welcomed new members: Amy Rau, Brenda Levine, Irene Clyde, Mitchell Tropf and Sheila McKenzie. A big thank you to all of them!

We continue to seek those, within the church to help with coffee hours, ushering, greeting or arranging flowers. We keep all in need of healing in our hearts and prayers.

Barb Albrecht
Deacons Secretary



FEBRUARY – YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Feb 3rd : Help our Youth collect canned goods and dollars for the CPC Food Pantry before and after worship.

Feb 11th: Youth Committee Meeting 7pm at CPC

Feb 17th: Whirlyball and Laser Tag fun activity on Sunday afternoon during the President's day weekend more information to come soon. Bring your friends!

Please continue to keep the youth in your prayers.

Frank Lyon
Youth Elder

February 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:00am Men's Sat Bible Study @ CPC
3 *Sunday Morning Schedule Souper Bowl of Caring Collection with CPC Youth	4 9:30am Children's Ministry Meeting 7:00pm Deacons 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	5 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	6 6:30am Men's Bible Study	7 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	8 7:00pm Couple's Bible Study	9
10 *Sunday Morning Schedule 11:45am Mission Committee Meeting	11 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Youth Committee Meeting 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	12 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	13 6:30am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	14 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal CHIMES DEADLINE	15 7:00pm Children's Ministries-Sundaes & Ceramics CPC Men leave for Michigan Fishing Trip!	16 8:00am Men's Sat Bible Study @ CPC 1:30pm Awakening the Heart of Christ Workshop
17 *Sunday Morning Schedule Youth "Whirleyball & Laser Tag" outing following Worship	18 CPC Office closed in observance of President's Day 7:00pm Property & Maintenance 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	19 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp 6:30pm Girl Scout Leaders 7:00pm Session	20 6:30am Men's Bible Study 11:00am Chapel Circle 7:00pm Worship Committee Meeting	21 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	22 7:00pm Couple's Bible Study	23
24 *Sunday Morning Schedule 7:00pm Service for Wholeness	25 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	26 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	27 6:30am Men's Bible Study	28 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal		

*SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:

- 9:30am Sunday School for Adults and Youth
- 9:30am Discovery Time for K-5th grade
- 10:30am Worship
- 10:30am Sunday School for 3 years-5th Grade

HUMOROUS STORIES FROM THE PEW

One Sunday during Children's Moments, Mr. Wunderle was talking to the children about some of the gifts that God gives to different people. He talked about musical talent, like the choir, he talked about friendliness and being able to talk to and get along with people, and how even at a young age Jesus can use children to teach to the people. He then mentioned coordination and how some people are more coordinated than others. One child asked what he meant. He answered, "I will show you." Mr. Wunderle pulled a quarter from his pocket, put it between two fingers and rolled it down his forehead to his chin in a straight line. He did it perfectly. He then said, "Let's ask someone from the church to try it." He summoned Mrs. Rye and she blushingly came forward. He asked her if she could roll the quarter like he did and she answered, "Probably Better!" He handed her a quarter and she rolled it perfectly too. She gave him a smug look! Everyone in the church laughed, especially the children. She thought they were laughing at Mr. Wunderle until she was handed a mirror and saw the pencil line all the way down her face! The quarter she was given had pencil lead on the edge! The lesson went on to talk about teaching others to about Jesus and about putting your trust in Him. Thanks to Mr. Wunderle, the children, and Mrs. Rye, learned a valuable lesson as well, not to trust Mr. Wunderle's pranks!

Remember; give me your funny stories so we can all laugh with you. *Cyndie Tropf (729-3764)*

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Friday, February 15th - Monday, February 18th, in Hillman, Michigan. Three cabins are reserved on a first-come basis. Make a \$50 deposit by Feb. 3rd. Call Gary Stumpf, 440-729-7020, or Chuck Stamey, 440-897-7579, for more details.



Is the weather outside frightful?

Check CPC Website:
www.christpcusa.org

Or call the church office:
440-729-1688
for event cancellations.

**CPC Office is closed when
West Geauga schools are closed.**

Church office hours:
8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Monday - Thursday

Contact Information
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