



# Chimes

June 2015  
Christ Presbyterian Church

With the upcoming youth and adult mission trip to McDowell County, WV at the end of this month, I've been thinking about other mission trips I've been part of, particularly a 2005 mission partnership trip with Maya Quiche Presbytery in Guatemala. Two days prior to our departure, Hurricane Stan ravaged parts of Central America, including the village to which we intended to travel. Mudslides washed out roads and swept away homes. The routes to our Guatemalan sisters and brothers became impassible and their attention shifted from giving hospitality to us to assessing damage and cleaning up.

Still, the night before our flight, instead of cancelling or postponing the trip, which would have been a sensible thing to do, we decided to take the trip anyway, in modified form, despite not knowing what we'd find when we arrived or even where we'd stay some nights. We left knowing that mission, which is to say the *purpose*, of the trip had become different from what we'd planned on. We had to receive it again by faith, acknowledging what the trip had been all along: not ours, but *God's* trip, for *God's* mission, dependent upon *God's* provision.

In Mark's Gospel, the disciples hadn't been following Jesus for long when he sent them out in twos to preach the message of God's kingdom, saying, "Take nothing for the journey except a walking stick. No bread, no bag, no money in your belt" (6:8). I have to think that, were it up to them, the disciples would have packed this way for this "mission trip." Jesus clearly wanted them to live continuously with a sense of unpreparedness. In purpose, outcome, and provision, this trip belonged not to them but to God.

So it is for the church. The church is never prepared for the mission God asks us to live. The church is never ready for questions the world gives for us to consider. The church never seems to have all the needed resources for what God calls us to do. The church never seems to know exactly where it is going.

From Jesus' sending instructions, it seems that disciples' sense of *unpreparedness* is actually part of God's plan. The church can only embrace Jesus' mission as we learn, over and over, that we aren't the center of the plans, the strength, and the purpose that God gives us to live. The center belongs to God. The purpose belongs to God. The sufficient strength belongs to God. The wisdom for walking belongs to God. We can only receive all this, and best receive it, as people who journey as disciples did—as though with nothing but a walking stick.

I believe that God is purposing and poising the church to walk by faith into a very exciting time. Committees in the church are collaborating dynamically for ministries this fall. The session is pleased to announce that **September 18-20, Christ Church will host a major conference, Michael Card's Biblical Imagination Conference on "John's Gospel of Wisdom," which will also feature a concert and Sunday worship leadership by Michael.**

I can tell you, this big fall event wasn't in the plans at the start of the year! But this is what happens among those who walk openhanded into God's mission: God gives more than they expected to receive. God grant that, in the Spirit's power, we keep on walking open to God.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP: June 21, July 26 & August 23,  
10:30 a.m. in the Pavilion

# WELCOME! CHRIST CHURCH NEWS

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

6/4

Final Choir Rehearsal

6/8

Joint Adult, Children & Youth Meeting

6/14

Mission Committee Meeting

6/15 – 6/19

Vacation Bible School

6/21

Outdoor Worship  
Father's Day

6/25

Beachland Church  
Dinner

6/28 – 7/2

CPC Mission Trip

### NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS ON PRAYER, 9:30 a.m. May 17-June 7

Even those who have long pursued the life of prayer ask, what, really, does it mean to pray? We will consider one response to this question with a four-week study, "Before Amen," based on a book by Max Lucado. The class will explore prayer as long stretch of road in which God and his people share heartfelt conversation.



### JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> KIDSFEST

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

CPC will join area churches for a day of children's activities and community fellowship at Chesterland City Park. **We need volunteers to take shifts staffing our booth,** which will offer a fun and simple game. To help, contact Shirley Wood at 440-554-6875 or sign up in Fellowship Hall.

MICHAEL CARD  
PRESENTS  
JOHN  
THE GOSPEL OF WISDOM  
THE BIBLICAL IMAGINATION SERIES

SEPTEMBER  
18-20, 2015  
CHRIST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

WEEKEND CONFERENCE  
AND CONCERT EVENT

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Elizabeth Goodin  
Children's Ministry Director  
elizabeth@christpcusa.org

## BEGINNING AT THE END

In the Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Sunday school curriculum, there is a lesson that explains the cycle of the church calendar. We use a string that begins as a line, and then we tie the ends together to form a circle using the words, "Now the ending is the beginning, and the beginning is the ending." To view endings as opportunities for new beginnings is not only necessary for growth, it is the Christian way. This circle of life also enables us to see where we are going from the perspective of where we have been.

So, where *have* we been in Children's Ministry this program year? We began in the fall with a new purpose and vision: to inspire in our children a lifelong relationship with God. Living into this vision, we created goals, programs and new practices which, among other things, included a new Sunday school curriculum for two of our classrooms. We have brought the generations together and spread our wings some. Now is a good time for us to pause, prayerfully reflect on our answers to two questions, and initiate a conversation about them.

### **"How has it gone?"**

Have your children felt comfortable and engaged in Sunday school and other programs in which they have taken part? Do you feel they are moving closer to knowing and loving God? As parents, do you feel supported in your own mission to raise children of faith?

### **"Where do we go next?"**

Where do you feel we can grow? What would you like to see more of? What can we do to make our program more relevant to your child's and your family's life?

During the Children's Moment on May 17<sup>th</sup>, I reassured the children that God goes with us into our new beginnings. As his followers, we must also continue to remain open to his leading and guiding as we consider both the past and the future. So, this is my prayer as we end one program year and transition into a new one: "Lord, we thank you for your presence, seen through the leaders and teachers and in the hearts of the children we serve on this journey, and we seek your will as you continue to guide us through familiar waters and into new, exciting frontiers. Amen."

God Bless. *Elizabeth*

Check the Sign-Up Table  
in Fellowship Hall  
for events and activities to be  
a part of this summer!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

Strengths: faith, love for children, love of learning

#### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES COMMITTEE MEMBER

Strengths: faith, perspective, enthusiasm, vision

#### SUPPLIES MANAGER

Strengths: organizational skills, attention to detail

#### CHILDREN AND WORSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM CARETAKER

Strengths: interest in Children and Worship program, organizational skills, industriousness

#### MISSIONS DIRECTOR

Strengths: generosity, compassion

#### Miscellaneous Tasks:

##### Create signs, posters, bulletin boards, Sunday school crafts

Strengths: creativity, crafter

##### Shop for supplies

Strengths: diligence, market place familiarity

##### Administrative Assistance

Strengths: computer skills

##### Assistance for Special Programs (Advent, Lent, Family, VBS)

Strengths: flexibility, teamwork

#### 2015 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Still accepting registrations for  
Vacation Bible School  
Monday – Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> – June 19<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. – Noon

Join us as we conquer challenges  
with God's mighty power!

Registration is open for ages:  
3 years to students entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Extra forms are available at the focus table in  
Fellowship Hall or register online at  
[www.christpcusa.org/children.com](http://www.christpcusa.org/children.com)

Questions? Interested in helping?  
Contact Heather Reeves at:  
440-313-7617 or [hatreeves@gmail.com](mailto:hatreeves@gmail.com)



A MAY COFFEE HOUR in honor of Lila Latta and her move to Colorado.

# YOUTH MINISTRIES

Amber Balista  
Youth Director  
330.719.3688  
amber@christpcusa.org

There is so much happening in the life of our church this summer! June has finally arrived! That means eleven members of our congregation, (Beth, Dushan, and Cory Bouchek, Tina and Emma Fischer, Madison Johnson, Jim Kule, Jane Lyon, Carson McCandless, Sam Martillotta, Pastor Matt and myself) will be finalizing plans, packing our bags and heading to Welch, WV (in McDowell County) for 5 days of travel, work projects, and partnering with community organizations.

In addition to simply traveling and doing God's work in another community, Youth Works has a given theme for the summer so we may direct our work with true focus, The Upside Down Kingdom:

It's hard for some to see, yet it's all around us. It's something we are a part of, and it becomes part of us. It's a little like a tiny seed, and it's worth all you have. It's what we pray for, yet it's often beyond what we expect. It's coming, but it's also already here. For two thousand years, God's Kingdom has woven its way through history and across continents to this place and this time. And now it's your turn to participate. But watch out for plot twists! The Kingdom tends to overturn the ordinary and exceed expectations. So this summer, hope for what is coming. Be part of what is here. And expect the unexpected. **Welcome to the Upside-Down Kingdom.**

Already this mission trip has started to do its work. The team and whole congregation has come together in service and fellowship at the spaghetti dinner/silent auction, and we have received many generous donations making this trip possible. We are incredibly blessed by your support and hope you will continue to go with us on this mission trip through prayer. Please pray that we may arrive safely on June 28, pray that God will use us for effective ministry in Welch and that we may come back to you well on July 2 and bring with us enthusiasm and a story to share with you all.

Pray for the community we are going to serve. Again Youth Works offers some specific focus for our prayers based on what is happening there now:

West Virginia has experienced flooding as the result of snow-melt. This not only causes damages to homes, but also contributes to mud slides and sink holes. Be in prayer for safety and for recovery from flooding. Pray for our friends, Five Loaves Two Fishes, as they recover from damage due to flooding. Also pray for those in the community who are affected by being unable to receive food from the food bank at this time. Pray for Reconnecting McDowell, a series of initiatives that are aiming to bring affordable housing, quality teachers, and other valuable resources to McDowell County. Pray for Energy Express, an extension program from West Virginia University that provides children in West Virginia with educational and nutritional enrichment in the summer. Energy Express will have programming in McDowell County this summer for the first time in 5 years.

Thank you for your continued prayer and loving support.

\*During the week of VBS we will be collecting books and school supplies for the elementary students of Welch and McDowell County.





# CPC SENIORS



## **KELLY DOUGLAS**

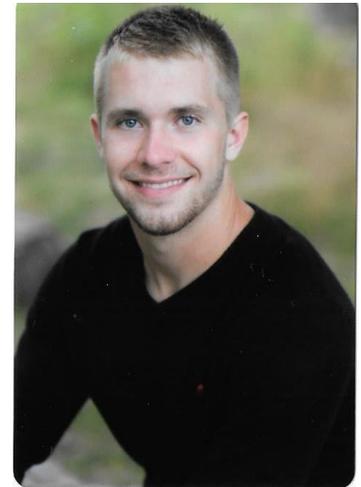
Kelly is graduating with honors from Chardon High School and will be attending the University of Cincinnati in the fall, majoring in Interior Design. Kelly has been involved in many clubs, including NHS and Student Council, and is also a mentor in the CHS Freshman Mentoring Program. She has also spent 4 years running indoor and outdoor track.

Kelly has attended CPC all her life. Being a part of church life is important. She has worked in the CPC Nursery for the past 3 years. She has enjoyed playing with your babies and watching them grow and develop as children of God.

## **DAVID DOUGLAS**

David is graduating with honors from Chardon High School. He will be attending the University of Cincinnati in the Exploratory Studies program, where he will be working toward an Engineering Degree. David has played 4 years of football for Chardon High School and just completed his 2<sup>nd</sup> track season. He is a Mentor to Chardon Freshman and is in NHS where he has done many service projects over the last 3 years.

David says, "I have had many memorable moments at CPC. I have enjoyed being a part of Rally Day and riding the Rocket Car, making crafts at VBS and in recent years, serving as an usher on Sundays. CPC has been the foundation for my Christian childhood and will help me develop into a stronger adult."



## **MONICA GOODIN**

Monica is graduating with honors from Solon High School. She is planning to attend Michigan State University where she will major in chemical engineering. During her 4 years at Solon High School, she was a member of the Track and Cross Country teams. Monica also plays the cello and has served as a soloist and ensemble player in her community and most recently at CPC. She currently volunteers as a youth helper in CPC's Sunday school.

Monica says, "Church has given me the opportunity to grow closer to God through my time working with the children. I have developed my own faith by learning from the simple, pure faith of a child. I get to help them explore the Word of God, and by opening their minds, open my mind as well."

# CPC COLLEGE GRADUATES

*Rejoice with those who rejoice! Romans 12:15a*



## JONATHAN MORITZ

Jonathan graduated from Miami University with a double major in Strategic Communications and History. He will be moving to Chicago next month where he will be working for BMM transportation. This picture of Jonathan was taken when he was studying abroad in Europe.



## ANNE McCASLIN

Anne Graduated from Ithaca College with a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies and Writing. She is currently seeking employment in her field.

Thank you to everyone who came to the Spring clean-up day on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Beds were weeded, mulch spread, limbs cut, wood chips placed, basketball pole painted...and many other tasks accomplished. A delicious lunch was prepared & was greatly appreciated by the "workers". We appreciate all of you who gave up time in your busy schedules to come and lend a hand!

~ Property & Maintenance Committee



## BATTER UP!

The Lake County Captains are playing the Clinton Lumber Kings on June 12 at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$9.00 per person. There will be fireworks following the game! The ticket deadline is May 24<sup>th</sup>. Contact Chuck Stamey at: 440-897-7579 or Bill Gripp at: 440-729-9539. Sign-up in Fellowship Hall.

### CPC Financial Update 2015 Operating Budget

Month	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Difference (Income – Expenses)
Jan-April	\$ 89,341.37	\$81,376.01	\$7,965.36
		Reserve as of Jan 1	(\$4,340.34)
		Operating Fund Balance	\$3,625.02

Please keep your pledge up to date to support our operating budget.

# June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00pm Deacons 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	2 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	3 6:30am Men's Bible Study	4 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	5	6 8:00am Men's Bible Study - CPC
7 <b>*Sunday morning schedule</b>	8 1:00pm Staff 7:00pm Adult, Children's & Youth Ministries Meeting 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	9 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Evangelism Meeting 6:30pm Bootcamp	10 6:30am Men's Bible Study	11	12	13 8:00am Men's Tres Dias -CPC
14 <b>*Sunday morning schedule</b> 11:45am Mission Committee Meeting	15 <b>VBS</b> 7:00pm Property & Maintenance Meeting 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	16 <b>VBS</b> 9:30am Prayer Group 7:00 Session	17 <b>VBS</b> 6:30am Men's Bible Study	18 <b>VBS</b>	19 <b>VBS</b>	20 8:00am Men's Bible Study - CPC
21 <b>*Sunday morning schedule</b> OUTDOOR WORSHIP <i>Happy Father's Day!</i>	22 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	23 9:30am Prayer Group	24 6:30am Men's Bible Study	25 6:00pm Beachland Church Dinner	26	27 8:00am Men's Tres Dias -CPC
28 <b>*Sunday morning schedule</b> <b>CPC WV Mission Trip departs</b>	29 <b>CPC Mission Trip</b> 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	30 <b>CPC Mission Trip</b> 9:30am Prayer Group	<b>*SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 9:30am Sunday School for Adults and Youth</li> <li>▶ 9:30am Discovery Time for K-5th grade</li> <li>▶ 10:30am Worship</li> <li>▶ 10:30am Sunday School for 3 years-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</li> </ul>			

# June Celebrate

## ANNIVERSARIES

Jason & Shannon Monsman	06/02
Bob & Marilyn Russell	06/02
Pat & Mickey Gedeon	06/10
Larry & Peggy Evans	06/11
Mark & Elizabeth Goodin	06/11
Peery & Rita Elswick	06/12
Bill & Jeanette Mann	06/12
Jay & Jayne Fairfield	06/18
Bruce & Nancy Cline	06/19
Dan & Michele Dawson	06/21
William & Jane Larrick	06/21
Brad & Nancy Moritz	06/21
Dave & Brenda Varner	06/27

## BIRTHDAYS

Ali Martillotta	06/01
Ralph Hetrick	06/03
Karena McCandless	06/03
Barbara Hollingsworth	06/04
Samantha Goodin	06/06
Sam Chenoweth	06/07
Bruce Cline	06/08
Sue Scott	06/08
Christianne Russell	06/09
Ellie Havel	06/13
Nancy Moritz	06/14
Bill Gripp	06/15
Sheila McKenzie	06/16
Logan Moritz	06/17
Mike Tropf	06/20
Pat Schmies	06/21
Dave Starke	06/22
Michael Lyman	06/23
Paula Martillotta	06/23
John Carlton	06/24
Linda Russell	06/25
Meg Zimmermann	06/29
Bryce Newman	06/30

## Chapel Circle

Chapel Circle will meet for lunch at:

**The Welshfield Inn**  
**Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**12:00pm**

If you wish to carpool, please meet at CPC  
 no later than 11:15am

**Church office hours:**

**8:30 am - 3:00 pm**

**Monday - Thursday**

### Contact Information

**Christ Presbyterian Church**

**12419 Chillicothe Rd.**

**Chesterland, OH 44026**

**440-729-1688**

**Fax: 440-729-3733**

### Church Office e-mail:

**office@christpcusa.org**

**karen@christpcusa.org**

### Pastor Matt's e-mail:

**matt@christpcusa.org**

### Website:

**[www.christpcusa.org](http://www.christpcusa.org)**



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