



Chimes

April 2014
Christ Presbyterian Church

Everywhere, Jesus attended to God's kingdom taking hold in the world. This Lent, we have sought to do the same. Through photographs and songs, poetry and written reflections, many have been picturing instances of God's kingdom in our midst. We are discovering that the world is charged with God's activity, and that the Spirit gives those who would enter it sight of God's kingdom in daily life.

Take, for example, this poem submitted to the Picturing the Kingdom project by Christ Church member Bruce Cline:

Lenten Reflection

The gardener rises, walks to the front door, and examines the spot where the minor bulbs were planted.
Ubiquitous snow—
Questioners query, "Will winter ever lose its icy grip?"
Beneath the hoarfrost lie (dormant, but struggling for freedom)
Crocus, reticulated iris, snowdrop—the first to brave the journey from sub- to super-terrestrial.
Crocus and iris—porphyrean—the color of Lenten vestments and altar cloths.
Snowdrops—Paschal, pristine whiteness.
And all with golden stamens, brassy brightness like lengthening sun
Reminiscent of the trumpet which will waken other sleepers.

The promise of spring is as certain as the promise of resurrection,
The darkness of death as temporary as the darkness of winter.
Botanical first-fruits foreshadow spiritual first-fruits
As seasons progress from glory to glory.

We are coming on Holy Week's progression from glory to glory: the terrible glory of the cross leads to the wondrous glory of resurrection. Those who pass through Holy Week's door examine not only the Lord's life but also their own, especially those spots where there now seems only snow.

The week leading to Easter tells us that at the center of all things—cross and resurrection, our daily life and even our death—there is a "brassy brightness like lengthening sun." He is the everlasting Light who, once extinguished—*because* he was extinguished—now shines as the sun that will never again go out.

As Lent turns to Easter and winter turns to spring, may God grant us vision of Jesus' brightness, that we might daily live toward God's kingdom in which even death must serve life.

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, April 13, 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20, 10:30 a.m.

Childcare will be provided

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, April 13, 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, April 17, 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, April 18, 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, April 20, 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

Lent Adult Sunday School: *Mudhouse Sabbath* Sundays in Lent, 9:30am - 10:15am, Fellowship Hall Led by Lindsey Russell

Based on Lauren Winner's book *Mudhouse Sabbath: An Invitation to a Life of Spiritual Discipline*, this study explores how spiritual practices of Judaism, which were formative for Jesus, can transform the way Christians live with God and in the world. It combines facilitator led group discussions with video clips of Rev. Dr. Winner, a professor of Christian Spirituality at Duke Divinity School, who shares her unique perspective growing up an Orthodox Jew before converting to Christianity.

BREAD AND BROTH

A WEEKLY 6PM LENTEN WEDNESDAY PROGRAM FOR THE BODY AND SOUL.

Bread and Broth will continue each Wednesday in Lent, with a 6:00pm simple meal of soup and bread followed by lessons at the tables from 6:30pm to 7:00pm. Rev. Aland Smith will lead studies on the Transfiguration of Jesus, leading us into what that story reveals about sacrifice, sanctification, humility, obedience, and assurance of salvation.. For details, contact Aland Smith at 440-279-4682 or smithaland@hotmail.com. Childcare will be provided.



The Three Trees
A Lenten Children's Drama
Special performance by grades K-5

April 9 at 7:00 PM
Christ Presbyterian Church
In the Fellowship Hall

Bread and Broth
Nourishment for the Whole Family

"Picturing the Kingdom"

The Season of Lent, March 5 – April 20

Your eyes are with you everywhere you go, and so is God's kingdom! In the weeks of Lent, peel your eyes for God's gracious activity at work, in your family, at play, in your around town errands and everywhere else. Then "picture" what you see with your smartphone or other camera, by a short written account, or in a poem, painting or drawing. Send what you've captured of God's activity to Pastor Matt (matt@christpcusa.org) for inclusion in the "Look Again" project. Submissions will be displayed at the church and included in Pastor Matt's thesis.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Elizabeth Goodin
Children's Director
440.729.1688

elizabeth@christpcusa.org

I have always appreciated a quote from Teaching Kids Authentic Worship: How to Keep Them Close to God for Life by Kathleen Chapman. It reads, "Do we desire that our kids have lives full of the blessings, healing, empowerment, spiritual protection, peace, and so much more that God makes available to us? Watch what happens when a child knows God". I find it inspiring because it speaks of possibilities left open for God's working in a child's life. Meaningful, effective children's ministry can be the spark that begins a life transformation. To serve in this ministry is to serve this vision. It is both a privilege and an awesome responsibility.

The word *responsibility* can sometimes imply obligation, and I hope our volunteers that serve in children's ministry don't look at it that way. I want them to feel as if they are part of a team that is serving God's Kingdom in response to the gifts and grace that God offers them. Volunteering is about taking action, making a unique contribution, discovering one's abilities and passions, and expressing God's spirit within. It is from this perspective that the most fulfilling work is done and through which God's will truly shines.

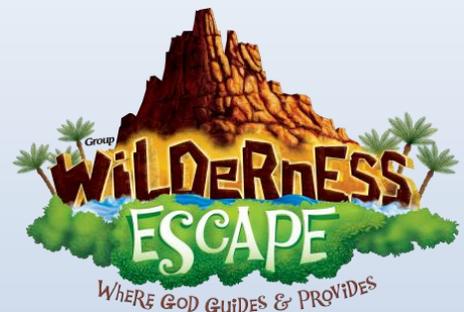
In the near future, I will be holding a Children's Ministry Orientation and Training event to introduce our philosophies, programs, methods, the variety of opportunities available, and the ongoing ways in which volunteers are supported and equipped. It will be open to anyone who is considering volunteering or just interested in learning more. Watch this space for more information, and in the meantime, please prayerfully consider whether God is leading you in the direction of this important and impactful ministry.

God Bless.

Elizabeth

TELLING THE EASTER STORY All Sunday school classes will be reviewing the events of Holy Week and the Easter through their April lessons. Discovery Time kids will re-experience the story with a Treasure Hunt and by baking *Resurrection Rolls* that come with an Easter surprise!

Families will worship together on Easter morning at a special family service. Activity bags will be provided. Nursery care available for children 2 and under.



Join us at Wilderness Escape VBS!

We'll explore what life was like for the ancient Israelites.

June 16th – June 20th
9:00 am – 12:00 pm



Craft cool projects in the Israelite Camp, race through the wilderness as you play games, visit with Moses, and eat some interesting new food. Plus meet lots of new friends!



SAMARITAN'S PURSE COLLECTION FOR APRIL

During the month of April, Children's Ministries will be collecting small toys to be added to this year's Samaritan's shoeboxes. Suggested items include matchbox cars, jump ropes, card games, yo-yo's, jacks, chalk.

CPC ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP

Saturday, May 3rd
8:00am - Noon

It's time for Sprucing up our grounds after this long, snowy winter!
Bring your work gloves and tools.
Lunch will also be served! Sign up in Fellowship Hall.
Hope you'll consider joining us!

Jane Lyon,
Property & Maintenance



DID YOU KNOW?

The food Pantry renovations are almost complete. The number of families served since the beginning of the year has doubled. Beth Boucek has worked diligently to make the CPC Food Pantry more accessible to the community and a success in Geauga County.

Beth would like to acknowledge and thank the following:

- The Betty Addison Memorial Fund – Through this fund, and in memory of Betty, Beth purchased a refrigerator/freezer in order to provide meat, fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs, milk, cheese and butter.
- The Andrew's Spirit of Hope Charity who made a generous donation to the Food Pantry. The charity is in memory of the son of a local family.
- Bill Fischer, Dick Sulc, Mickey Gedeon and Jerry Gibson for moving water lines, installing new electrical plugs, painting, shelving and numerous other improvements to the room.
- Debbie Brooks – for creating the outdoor signs.
- Liz McArthur – for organizing the food cupboards for better visibility of all food item.
- All the volunteers that have graciously given several hours each week to serve families in need: Jayne Fairfield, Mary Goodman, Nancy Kule, Paula Martillotta, Mary Minor, Sue Stamey, Ann Wong, and Marsha Zimmermann.
- The local Geauga churches who deliver canned goods to us on a regular basis.
- Our CPC congregation for your constant support and prayers.

CPC thanks Beth Boucek for all she has done to make this mission such a success! Together, with her help, we are making a difference!

DID YOU KNOW?

The color purple marks the season of Lent. It is also the color for Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. The sanctuary is stripped of paraments at the end of Maundy Thursday, remaining bare until Easter when it dons resurrection white. Eastertide stretches until Pentecost, in June.

MISSION NEWS

MAY 17 "GOSPEL IN THE CITY" RETREAT

Join us this spring as we do in-depth study in the book of Isaiah and spend time in Cleveland witnessing the Good News of Jesus as it is made real in our city.

Led by InterVarsity urban ministry leader Mindy Erdmann, we will partner with friends from Bethany-Covenant Church in Lyndhurst to meet God together as we serve, learn and have fun. Through Bible Study, discussion, and service in the city, we will explore reasons for the difficult circumstances we see in urban neighborhoods, and search the Scriptures to understand what the life, death and resurrection of Jesus has to do with it all. And we will discover that we have a lot to learn from those serving, struggling and surviving in our city.

The experience will consist of:

- Evening Bible studies from **7:00-9:00pm, May 6 & 13** and a study to be scheduled soon after the retreat day.
- A daylong retreat **9:00am-7:00pm Saturday, May 17** at Bay Presbyterian's Family Ministry Center in the Clark/Fulton neighborhood of Cleveland's West Side.
- The retreat will be at no expense to participants.

Find out more or sign up by contacting the church office or Pastor Matt, 440-729-1688 or matt@christpcusa.org.

TRES DIAS - CLEVELAND TURNS 20!

Tres Dias is an interdenominational renewal movement. It encourages people to be in small groups to support each other in their lives as Christians. The Tres Dias weekend retreat is an opportunity for Christians to encounter Jesus Christ, gather with other Christians, and receive inspiration for living life in Christ. Over the past 20 years, many members of our Church have gone to the Weekend retreats. They have developed a closer walk with Jesus. Please consider joining Tres Dias for the next retreat. For more information, take a look at the Tres Dias pamphlet on the Missions board outside of Fellowship Hall or contact Sandy Stumpf at: 440-729-7020.



WOMEN'S RETREAT: APRIL 24-27, 2014

MEN'S RETREAT: OCTOBER 16-19, 2014

Dear Church Family,
I would like to thank you for your prayers, cards and phone calls before and after my pacemaker surgery. Prayers were answered!

Also, Russ and I thank you all for Russ' very successful 90th birthday party. He was very surprised! We both thank you for all the lovely food and cards.

God Bless you all,

Russ and Dorie Wenger

I want to thank my wonderful church family and Matt for all of the cards, phone calls, emails, kind words, and especially the prayers during this time of loss...the death of my mom Ruth Chester. Her passing was peaceful, a true reflection of her life. I am thankful that Pastor Matt was able to be there with her in her final hours. My mom fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith until her last breath. I can't help but think what a glorious Easter season this will be for her to be with her Heavenly Father.

Jane Lyon

DEACON NEWS

Deacons met on Monday, March 3rd with two Session representatives. Chuck Stamey and Nancy Moritz, joined us along with Pastor Matt.

- Cyndie Tropf passed out our updated Deacons Handbooks and urged everyone to review them as many of our duties have change based on the current needs of our church.
- Brenda Levine reported that she mailed 18 Valentine's cards and gift cards to our college students and that she has just one birthday for March.
- Larry Evans has developed an honorarium for Easter lilies this year and hopes to have our Sunday school children draw posters advertising the sale of them. The sanctuary will be filled with lilies on Easter Sunday and those who purchased them will be able to take them home after the service.
- Susan Gear was quite busy her first month. She organized meals for Logan and Lindsay Moritz after the birth of their son, Connor. She welcomed Shirley Wood home with muffins after her pacemaker surgery, and she has called others in need as well. Sue has also purchased some new tablecloths for the Fellowship Hall.
- Read below, about a new family CPC is sponsoring during the month of March. Two hundred dollars was approved to help them in March.
- Deacons also purchased and delivered a gift card from Giant Eagle for Womensafe. They currently have a large number of guests and are greatly in need of food. Pastor Matt informed us that the Chester Police Department is also in need of gift cards that they pass out to individuals who come to the police station. The local churches keep the police department supplied with these gift cards. Due to this need, Deacons approved giving them four \$25 gas gift cards.
- Many compliments have been given to our coffee hour deacon, Amy Rau. Not only do the adults like her coffee, the children love her extra special treats, such as *gummy bears*!
- This Deacons Fund balance is \$800 less than it was at this time last year. Funds have been given to support our various missions, such as Beachland Church meals, our outreach family, college students, and coffee hour. Any monetary donations to the deacons at this time would be very much appreciated to support our outreach programs.

In His Service,

Brenda Levine, Secretary for March

OUR OUTREACH TEAM of Joy Kule and Marsha Zimmermann has been contacted By Geauga Job and Family Services regarding a family who needs assistance. The couple has three children: an 11-year-old girl, and two boys, ages five and three. All of the children have severe allergies. The family does some of their grocery shopping at Heinen's because of the large selection of gluten-free products. Gift cards from Heinen's or Target would be helpful. The boys are in need of clothes. The 5 year old wears a 5 slim pant and the younger boy wears a 3-4. If you are interested in contributing a gift card, money, or clothing please contact Joy Kule at: 440-729-2992 or Marsha Zimmermann at 440-338-1898.

April

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	2 6:30am Men's Bible Study 6:00pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Bread and Broth Lenten Study	3 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	4 7:00pm Couples Bible Study	5 8:00am Men's Tres Dias -CPC
6 *Sunday morning schedule 5:30pm Youth Group	7 9:30am Children's Ministries Meeting 7:00pm Deacons 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	8 9:30am Prayer Group 10:00am Evangelism Meeting 6:30pm Bootcamp	9 6:30am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Bread and Broth Lenten Study	10 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	11	12 8:00am Men's Bible Study - CPC 4:30pm Tres Dias Dinner
13 Palm Sunday *Sunday morning schedule <i>Children's <u>Three Trees</u> Presentation during worship</i> 5:30pm Youth Group	14 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Youth Ministries Meeting 7:00pm Adult Ministries Meeting 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	15 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	16 6:30am Men's Bible Study 11:00am Chapel Circle	17 Garden Club 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	18 7:00pm Good Friday Service	19 8:00am Men's Tres Dias -CPC
20 Easter Sunday 10:30am Worship	21 CPC Office Closed 7:00pm Property & Maintenance Meeting 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	22 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	23 6:30am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Worship Meeting MAY CHIMES DEADLINE	24 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	25	26 8:00am Men's Bible Study - CPC
27 *Sunday morning schedule 11:45am Missions Meeting 4:00pm Tres Dias Event	28 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	29 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	30 6:30am Men's Bible Study			

***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

YOUTH MINISTRIES

As we all know, Easter is late this year. Perhaps that's why the weather has been so confused! The youth will continue meeting Wednesday nights at 6:00pm through Lent. Their study is *A Journey with Jesus in the Twenty-First Century*. Sunday nights they meet at 5:30pm for Youth Group. Their topic for that is "The Healing of the Man Born Blind" John 9:1-14, and "Mary Magdalene Discovering the Resurrected Christ" John 20:1-18, 19-25. Both of these studies not only correspond well with one another but they also lend themselves well to Pastor Matt's *Look Again D. Min* project, as we learn to accept Jesus' healing our blindness to better see the Kingdom of God here and now.

Amber Bowers

Youth Director

330.719.3688

amber@christpcusa.org

Office Hours: Monday 9:30am - 4:30pm

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:

- Easter Sunday (April 20th) - There will be no Youth Group.
- April 27 - Regular Youth Group meetings resume 5:30 to 7:00pm
- May 3 - *NOAH* the movie tentatively scheduled.
- Fall of 2014.....Confirmation is coming!

CHAPEL CIRCLE will meet at CPC on Wednesday, April 16th at 11:00am. Charlotte Wood will lead Lesson 7 pp. 61-70. Nancy Kule will give the devotions. Lunch out to follow.

FELLOWSHIP EVENT

GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELDS TOUR JUNE 25-26, 2014

Mark your calendars for what will be a special time of fellowship, learning and appreciation for a special part of America's heritage – the Battle of Gettysburg.

Greg McCandless will guide us around many of the notable sites of this hallowed ground in eastern Pennsylvania. We will plan to leave the church **early** on the morning of **Wednesday, June 25** and return late the following evening. Final details will be announced in subsequent communications, but the trip will cost approximately \$150 per person, which will cover hotel accommodations, dinner Wednesday evening at the historic Dobbin House, and admission to the Gettysburg museum.

Look for a sign-up sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall and plan to join us. If there are issues, special needs, or questions, feel free to ask Greg McCandless or Sam Martillotta when you see them, or call Sam at 216-310-3367.

STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE CHURCH

Christ Presbyterian Church is online! Be sure to "LIKE" us on Facebook. This is a great way to stay connected with us. It's informative, it's contemplative and its fun! We're **Christ Presbyterian Church**, or simply click here:



Continue to check our website: (Click the link) <http://www.christpcusa.org/> for events, and updates.

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

Contact Information
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Church Office e-mail:
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karen@christpcusa.org

Pastor Matt's e-mail:
matt@christpcusa.org

ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Margie Clapp 04/11
 Skip & Barb VanKampen 04/12
 Charles & Alice Stamey 04/19
 Sam & Paula Martillotta 04/25
 Gary & Sandy Stumpf 04/28

BIRTHDAYS

Bob Russell Sr. 04/01
 Nick Elswick 04/03
 Brad Moritz 04/03
 Frank Mormino 04/05
 Layla Sanchez 04/06
 Brenda Varner 04/08
 Carson McCandless 04/09
 Jen Congdon 04/10
 Haley Coso 04/10
 Stacey Johnson 04/10
 Jane Lyon 04/11
 Evelyn Hammond 04/14
 Jonathan Moritz 04/14
 Christian Chenoweth 04/17
 John Johnson 04/17
 Sue Stamey 04/19
 Frank Lyon 04/20
 Irene Wunderle 04/20
 Mary Keller 04/21
 Luke Russell 04/21
 Lila Latta 04/22
 Karen Perko 04/24
 Glenn Rex 04/24
 Leila Simpson 04/24
 Trish Lawrence 04/26
 Sean Arp 04/30
 Peery Elswick 04/30
 Carol Louis 04/30
 Brinn Maclellan 04/30
 Cyndie Tropf 04/30
 Ann Wong 04/30

CPC FINANCIAL UPDATE - 2014 OPERATING BUDGET

Month	Actual Income	Actual Expense	Difference (Income - Expenses)
January - February	\$39,276.24	\$39,208.08	\$68.16
Reserve as of January 1, 2014:			\$12,415.56
Operating Fund Balance:			\$12,483.72