



We are in the Lenten/Easter season, which reminds us often to celebrate the wonders of all that Christ has done for us and continues to do! Lent is a wonderful time each year to be reminded to recommit our lives to serve Him in His work here on earth.

In a conversation recently I was asked whether people have quit trying to bring others to Christ. It seems that the mission that Christ calls His followers to accomplish has been either forgotten or laid aside as we struggle with the trials that we face due to the situations happening in the world at this time.

Have you been taking this season to reflect on your own life? Have you been thinking through all the blessings that Christ has provided for you through His ministry, suffering, death, and resurrection? Have you been sharing your love of Christ and His impact in your life with others to make sure that they are aware of who Jesus Christ is and all that He has done and continues to do for each person?

These are questions that we should be asking ourselves on a regular basis. Otherwise we tend to allow Satan to overwhelm us with the darkness that exists in the world, and the celebration for life that we are given in Christ fades in the shadows.

Start each day celebrating Christ and His blessings for you! Celebrate His Resurrection every day, not just at Easter!

Blessings,
Pastor Ruthie Trigg



Set us afire, Lord, Stir us, we pray!
While the world perishes, we go our way.
Purposeless, passionless, Day after day.
Set us afire, Lord, Stir us, we pray!

~Ralph Spaulding Chushman

HOLY WEEK



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**April 14th - (5:00-6:30pm) Maundy Thursday Time of Personal Reflection
with Holy Communion**

Come and Go as you choose!

**There will be readings & slides to reflect on
and communion elements will be provided
for a personal time of communion with the Lord.**

April 15th @ 7:30pm - Good Friday Service

April 17th - Easter Sunday

7:00am Sunrise Service @ Knupp Church

8:00am Breakfast in our Social Hall

9:00am Sunday School classes

10:00am Easter Worship Service

**Welcome to
Preschool!**

We had the Akron Zoo Mobile visit us on March 17th. The children LOVED the surprise! The children were able to learn about a box turtle, chinchilla, and a screech owl. They were also able to touch the box turtle and chinchilla. We talked about what living things need to survive and a couple of the children were able to help demonstrate what different living things need by wearing costumes and using props that were provided by the zoo. We were so pleased with this presentation that we plan on doing this again next school year.

As we look ahead to April, the children will be on Spring Break the week of April 10th. When the children return after Easter, we will only have 4 weeks left with them. We are awaiting confirmation from Wayne County Soil and Conservation to come out for a presentation about trees on April 21st.

Enrollment for the fall is looking very good. All the children who will not be going to kindergarten are planning on returning and we have another 6 children that have currently turned in their registration paperwork.

*What a wonderful God we have,
who so wonderfully comforts and strengthens
us in our hardships and trials.*

~II Corinthians 1:3-4



Joys

Answers to prayers!

Joanna S. & Dick B. - good test results

Springtime!

Safe travels

Birthday celebrations & families together!

Enjoying God's beautiful creation!

Concerns

Traveling mercies

Church Family and others with Covid and other illnesses

Disaster & Violence victims

Ukraine/Russia War

Our country & area communities

Health

Nancy (& Butch) McMillan

Lisa Hartman - recovery from hip surgery

Anita (& Don) Vohar - health

Robin Kirkhart & Pat Meglich

Ana McClain's friend Jaycee - hit by car

Pam Hartman - kidney health

Mary B. (Anne Salyer's friend) - broken hip

Richards family friend, Dale

Church Family and others with viruses

Judy King (Becky's mom) - illness and surgery recovery

Ruthie Schumacher

Dick & Dorothy Gillman

Rod Britton's friend CC - health

Lovell, Bruce Lindenmuth's sister - cancer

Tressa S. - Pastor Ruthie's friend - recovery from brain aneurysm

Debbie Baker (& her husband, Rev. David Baker) - stroke recovery & cancer

Pastor Joyce Williams (& Jack) - cancer

Harry & Nancy Britton

Pauline Rastorfer

Rae Smith

Annibale & Mohr families, Mary Lynn

Melton family - 9 yr. old daughter, terminal brain cancer

**Our sympathy to any family & friends who
have lost loved ones:**

Ukrainians

Our military

Others



Brenda Cook's daughter, Laura Sharp, had a baby girl on 3/15/22.

Miss Eleanor O'Connell Sharp weighed 7# 11oz. & was 20 ½" long

Congratulations!

Fireside Chat



Fireside Chat with the Finance Chair

Dear Friends,

Shortly after writing my last article for Points to Ponder, I was able to catch a few days without snow when the roads were clear of ice and snow and none was expected between here and my daughter's home in Illinois so Missy and I could make a mad dash to help her with her local school's solo and ensemble contest the 2nd weekend in March. I was her chief cook and bottle washer and laundry maid for the next three weeks. I rested up from the time change on Saturday night and Missy and I headed home on the following Monday, March 14. I've had a week to catch up with things here and see where we stand as a church financially.

On line attendance on our Facebook page was about the same but our in person attendance was down probably because of weather in February and early March and the time change in March. Now if we can get over our winter doldrums and spring forward with our giving after the time change we can be caught up with where we are supposed to be in our giving time clock as we head into the Easter celebrations.

I thank God that He is faithful and pray that you will be also.

Blessings,

Martha Baillis, Finance Chairperson

Trustee's Corner



Items since last month:

- Skunks tunneled under parsonage chimney and sprayed twice. Wildlife service trapped two skunks, \$445. Placed chicken wire and bricks around chimney to prevent reentry. Trustees will bury hardware cloth around chimney after spring thaw.
- Treasurer's new laptop/software cost \$799. Treasurer will contribute \$300 toward cost. Balance to be split between Trustee's and General fund.



We had another great turnout for March's Food Pantry. We had 20 Families, 68 People (New - 3), and 29 sets given out. We will begin having our Community Dinner/Food Pantry with our April 20th Food Pantry. Food pantry set-up will be Tuesday, April 19th @ 6:00pm. We always need help for set up and for the Community Dinner/Food Pantry. Sign-up sheet for food for the Community Dinner will be available April 10th & 17th. Thank you again for everyone who helps.



Bible Studies

Men & Women, come join us in these groups!
There is always room for more!

The men meet on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm
led by Pastor Don Trigg, currently studying the Book of John.

The women meet on Thursdays at 6:30pm, and are led in various
studies by Betty Winchell and Sara Ullman.

Pastor Ruthie will lead a group at 10:00 or 10:30am on
Thursdays for any who prefer a daytime study.

We will be finishing The Epic of Eden through April 28th.

Our new studies have been selected.

5/12th - 6/30th Nehemiah: A Heart That Can Break

7/14th - 9/1st Surrendered: Letting Go and Living Like Jesus

9/8th - 10/27th The Longing in Me: Studying the Life of David

11/3rd - 12/29th Jude: Contending for the Faith in Today's Culture

1/12th - 2/23rd Numbers: Learning Contentment in a Culture

3/9th - 4/20th What Love Is: Letters of 1,2,3 John



April

3rd - Heather Richards

6th - Brooke Britton

19th - Don Trigg

23rd - Zachary Richards

27th - Mickey Shankland

Lucinda Yoss

5th - Andy Baillis

11th - Joanna Shankland

20th - Ruthanne Lindenmuth

24th - Emily Cook

Chad Gasser

Sheila Stoll

29th - Bryan Yoss



April

5th - Dale & Nancy Booth

Chad & Sandy Gasser



Morning Song

Give me a song, dear God in the morning,
Give me a song at the break of the day,
Give me a song lest the hours grow weary,
Give me the lift of a song on the way.

Days are so long and burdens so heavy,
Tired are the faces I see passing by;
They seem so hungry, dear God and so helpless.
O how they need some song from on high!

So, if I covet one gift in the morning,
It is the shine of the heavens in my face,
Banishing gloom for the worn and the weary,
Telling the story of infinite grace.

~Ralph Spaulding Cushman



"Have faith in you journey.
Everything had to happen exactly
as it did to get you where you're
going next."

~Mandy Hale

"Life going against your plan might
be the answer to prayer you didn't
even know you needed."

~Caitlin Crosby

"When you're Smiling"

O when you're smiling,
when you're smiling,
the whole world smiles with you.
O when you're laughing,
when you're laughing,
The sun comes shing through.
But when you're cring,
you bring on the rain,
so stop your sighing, be happy again.
Keep on smiling, keep on smiling,
and the whole world will smile with you.



Mary's Meanderings

As we are in the Lenten Season and are approaching Good Friday and the Passion of Christ I thought it would be interesting to look at people's last words. Deuteronomy 33:26-29 gives us the last words of Moses: "There is no one like the God of Jeshurun (Israel), who rides across the heavens to help you and on the clouds in His majesty. The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemies before you, saying, "Destroy them!" So Israel will live in safety; Jacob will dwell secure in a land of grain and new wine, where the heavens drop dew. Blessed are you, Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the Lord? He is your shield and helper and your glorious sword. Your enemies will cower before you, and you will tread on their heights."

King David says in 2 Samuel 23:1-4: "The oracle of David son of Jesse, the oracle of the man raised up as the ruler chosen by the God Jacob, Israel's beloved singer of songs: The Lord's Spirit spoke through me; His word was on my tongue. The God of Israel spoke, the Protector of Israel spoke to me. The one who rules fairly among men, the one who rules in the fear of God, is like the light of morning when the sun comes up, a morning in which there are no clouds. He is like the brightness after rain that produces grass from the earth." And David's final words to Solomon: when David was close to death, he told Solomon his son: "I am about to die. Be strong and become a man! Do the job the Lord your God has assigned you by following His instructions and obey His rules, commandments, regulations, and laws as written in the Law of Moses. Then you will succeed in all you do and seek to accomplish." 1 Kings 2:1-9.

The last words of Jesus on the cross: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. To the thief: 'Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.' To His mother, Mary: 'Woman, behold thy Son.' Then He said to John, the disciple: 'Behold your mother'. My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me? I thirst. It is finished. Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit. "Saint Stephen while he was being stoned to death: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit! Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" When he had said this, he died. Acts 7: 59-60. Paul in 2 Timothy 4:6-8: "For I am already being poured out as an offering, and the time for me to depart is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith! Finally the crown of righteousness is reserved for me. The Lord, the righteous Judge, will award it to me in that day-and not to me only, but also to all who have set their affection on His appearing." "But, according to His promise, we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness truly resides. Therefore, dear friends, since you are waiting for these things, strive to be found at peace, without spot or blemish, when you come into His presence...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the honor both now and on that eternal day." Peter in 2 Peter 3:14-18. The Apostle John: "I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy contained in this book: If anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. And if anyone takes away from the words of this book of prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book. The one who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon!" Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all." Revelation 22:18-21.

Last Words of Atheists

Joseph Coveney, American Atheist: "I die as I live. I disbelieve in God, the Bible, and the Christian religion. Karel Soucek, Canadian stuntman: "There is no Heaven or Hell; there is no God. It is all a myth. You're born, you live, one day you die and that is it." Christopher Hitchens, British-American author: "If I convert, it is because it is better that a believer dies than an atheist does." Thomas Paine, the leading atheistic writer in American colonies: "Stay with me, for God's sake; I cannot bear to be left alone, O Lord, help me! O God, what have I done to suffer so much? What will become of me hereafter? I would give worlds if I had them, that The Age of Reason had never been published. O Lord, help me! Christ, help me! No, don't leave; stay with me! Send even a child to stay with me; for I am on the edge of hell here alone. If ever the Devil had an agent, I have been that one."

Sir Thomas Scott, Chancellor of England: "Until this moment I thought there was neither a God nor a hell. Now I know and feel that there are both, and I am doomed to perdition by the just judgment of the Almighty." Voltaire, famous anti-Christian atheist: "I have swallowed nothing but smoke. I have

intoxicated myself with the incense that turned my head. I am abandoned by God and man." His nurse said: "For all the money in Europe I wouldn't want to see another unbeliever die! All night long he cried for forgiveness." David Hume, Atheist philosopher" famous for his philosophy of empiricism and skepticism of religion: He cried loud on his death "I am in flames!" It is said his desperation was a horrible scene. Napoleon Bonaparte, French emperor who, like Adolph Hitler, brought death to millions to satisfy his greedy, power-mad, selfish ambitions for world conquest: "I die before my time, and my body will be given back to the earth. Such is the fate of him who has been called the great Napoleon. What an abyss between my deep misery and the eternal kingdom of Christ!"

Gandhi, at his death he said, "For the first time in 50 years, I find myself in the slough of despond. All about me is darkness...I am praying for light."

Last Words of famous Jews

"Die? I should say not, dear fellow. No Barrymore would allow such a conventional thing to happen to him." John Barrymore, American Actor. "I should never have switched from Scotch to Martinis." Humphrey Bogart, American Actor. To the tune of "White Christmas" which he wrote, "I'm dreaming of a live composer, just like the one I'll soon not be." Irving Berlin, American composer and lyricist. "I tell ya I get no respect from anyone. I bought a cemetery plot. The guy said, 'There goes the neighborhood'...My uncle's dying wish-he wanted me on his lap. He was in the electric chair..."Last week I told my psychiatrist, "I keep thinking about suicide. "He told me from now on I have to pay in advance." Rodney Dangerfield, American comedian and actor. "I'm looking forward to being the only one-eyed Jewish African-American song and dance man in heaven." Sammy Davis, Jr. American entertainer. "Do you realize that I'm the only one in the world to whom you can say, 'Nice going, Einstein!' and it's an actual compliment?" Albert Einstein. "Now you see me; now you don't" Harry Houdini, American magician, escapologist and debunker of the supposedly supernatural. "The fashion magazines are suggesting that women wear clothes that are 'age appropriate.' For me that would be a shroud." Joan Rivers, American actress, comedienne, writer, producer and TV host. "Well, I think I've made great progress during this session, but I'm afraid my time's up." Sigmund Freud.

Last Words of famous Christians

Catherine Booth, 1829-1890, Founder Salvation Army: "The waters are rising, but so am I. I am not going under, but over. Do not be concerned about dying; go on living well, the dying will be right." John Bunyan 1628-1688, English Christian Writer, "Weep not for me, but for yourselves. The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, through the mediation of His blessed Son, receives me, though a sinner. We shall meet to sing the new song, and remain everlastingly happy." Adoniram Judson 1788-1850, American Missionary, "I go with the gladness of a boy bounding away from school. I feel so strong in Christ." Lady Glenorchy, 1741-1786, Missionary Scotland, "If this is dying, it is the pleasantest thing imaginable." Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, Anglican Methodist, "I shall be satisfied with Thy likeness. Satisfied!" John Wesley, 1703-1791, the founder of Methodism "The best of all: God is with us!" Martin Luther, 1483-1546, "Our God is the God from whom cometh salvation. God is the Lord by whom we escape death! Into Thy hands I commit my spirit; God of truth, Thou has redeemed me!" Thomas Cramer, Archbishop of Canterbury: "I see heaven open and Jesus at the right hand of God." "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus", Joan of Arc. "I have reached the point of not being able to suffer any more, because all suffering is sweet to me. My God, I love You". Therese of Lisieux. "My Lord, it is time to move on. Well then, may Your will be done. O my Lord and my Spouse, the hour that I have longed for has come. It is time for us to meet one another." Teresa of Avila. "I love you Jesus." Mother Teresa. "Your will be done. Come, Lord Jesus!" Saint Augustine of Hippo. "May God forgive you, brother. (Addressed to his murderer, whom it is thought was his brother). Wenceslaus, Duke of Bohemia, Martyr.

My mother's last words spoken to my father: "I see your mom and dad, I see my parents. I see Jesus. I'm going with Jesus." My husband's last words to me as I was leaving for work: "I love you." And my response to him as I walked out the door "I love you too."