

Life Together: Easter Edition

Monthly Newsletter of First Christian Church Wayne City

Sun shines warm on my face. The dogwoods and tulips bloom with a riot of color that announces the wonder of spring's new life and reminds me of the resurrection power of Easter. All that is wrong in the world, economic issues, political tension, and the tragedy of war all burden my heart. And then I remember. Easter Still Comes. During this month, just a few days before Easter, I remember that Jesus died for all of this and more.

Surely our griefs He Himself bore,
And our sorrows He carried;
Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken,
Smitten of God, and afflicted.
But He was pierced through for our transgressions,
He was crushed for our iniquities;
The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him,
And by His scourging we are healed.- Isaiah 53:4-5

Did you know that the Hebrew word for "grief" in this passage extends beyond the hard things that grieve our hearts? The unstoppable joy of Easter is because Jesus bore our malady, anxiety, calamity, disease, grief, and sickness. Even as the entire earth groans under the weight of fear, sickness and injustice, Easter still comes. Nothing and no one can hold back the good news of Easter, the victory over sin, death, and disease that the resurrection of Jesus accomplished. It is finished.

In the shadow of death, we remember and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with fresh faith. Victory over death and new life in Christ. Let's remember what has already been done. Death has been defeated. Eternal life is gifted to us by faith.

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.-Ephesians 2:8-9 NASB

In this moment, celebrate the joy of life in Christ. Recognize God's hand in our lives, His presence in our days, and His power at work in our hearts.

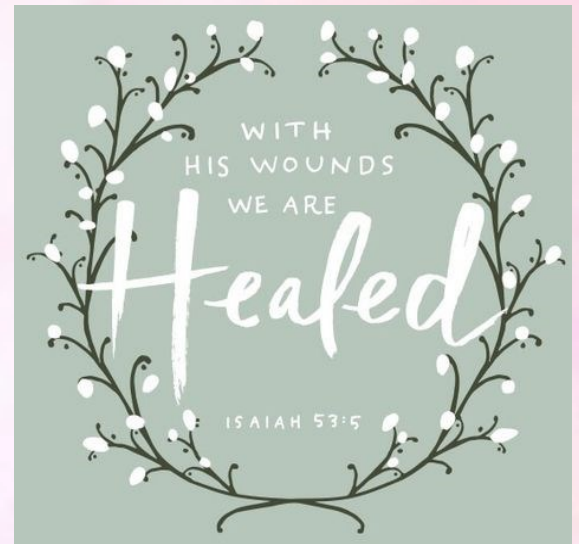


April 2022 Events & Opportunities

- 4.1 Ladies of Grace Meeting 6:00pm/ Host Rachel B
Men's Meeting 6:30pm at Steve Griswold's
- 4.3 Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am
- 4.6 Wed. Morning Fusion Group 8:30am
Wed. Evening Fusion Group 6:00pm
- 4.8 Fellowship Hall Rented 3pm—6pm
- 4.10 Palm Sunday. Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30
Leadership Meeting 3pm
- 4.13 Wed. Morning Fusion Group 8:30am
Wed. Evening Fusion Group 6:00pm
- 4.15 Good Friday
- 4.16 WC Matters Easter Egg Hunt 10:00am WC Park
- 4.17 Easter Sunrise Service (WC Methodist Church)
Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am
- 4.20 Wed. Morning Fusion Group 8:30am
Wed. Evening Fusion Group 6:00pm
- 4.24 Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am
- 4.27 Wed. Morning Fusion Group 8:30am
Wed. Evening Fusion Group 6:00pm
- 4.28 WC Graduation Breakfast @ FCCWC 7:00am
- 4.29 FaithBuilders 6:00pm

April Celebrations

- 4.1 Randa Spell
- 4.3 Heath Desch/Tammy Frazier
- 4.4 Beth & Josh Greene (A)
- 4.6 Logan Auvil/
Gary & Judy Bailey (A)
- 4.8 Ben & Marcie Caldwell (A)
- 4.22 Ferrell Barnard
- 4.29 Kateland Hunt



FCCWC is excited to welcome our new Worship Leader, Ryan Reavill. Ryan and Heather, along with their children have been a big blessing to FCCWC. If you haven't had a chance to welcome them, try to take the time to do so.



Greetings!! It is with great pleasure that I am able to write a small part in our newsletter!

I am Ryan Reavill, I have the great honor to be able to be a part of the church ministry team. I love to worship the Lord with all that I am. I have explained before that worship to me is the way to take a small part of my heart and physically express my love for Jesus.

I look forward to being able to grow with the church and the worship team to better serve the Lord. The goal that I have set with the team and myself isn't to just grow our musical talent, but to grow closer to God. Worship is much more than the ability to sing or play an instrument. Worship is a direct correlation to our relationship with God. I have noticed many times in my own walk with the Lord, that when my worship begins to lack, I start to slip away. It's easy sometimes to not worship the Lord. We get busy, tired, sad, mad, or distracted in one way or another. We need to worship him in the good times and the bad. That is why is it important that we grow closer to God and not fully focus on the gifts He has bestowed upon us. But instead use and grow the gifts He gave us to further His kingdom here on earth. Looking forward to what God has in store for all of us!

I leave you with this scripture in Psalm 22: 1-5

22 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

2 O my God, I cry in the day time, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.

3 But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

4 Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst deliver them.

5 They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded.



Handling the Word!

In our weekly Fusion small groups we are presently studying about God's Holy Word, the Bible. In lesson 2 we find the challenge of Hearing the Word, Reading the Word, Studying the Word, Memorizing the Word, and Meditating on the Word!

The author, John MacArthur speaks that in every life of every believer there must be a daily nourishing in the Word of God! It is critical!

The scripture passage used in lesson 2 is very powerful and challenging.

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the Word of truth."

Three questions for personal inventory:

1. Am I daily reading God's Word?
2. Am I ashamed of the lack of knowledge I should know from God's Word?
3. Am I handling God's Word as a tool in my life right now?

If you feel you are struggling with these issues, begin this week to read a chapter of God's Word each day. The Book of John will teach you the story of Jesus' life. Also consider joining a Fusion small group where you can learn to handle God's truth with so many who are discovering how to handle truth for their lives!

Lastly if you want to join a group and the day/times don't work for your schedule, then call me at 618-553-9648 and I will personally find a way to begin your new small group!

Let's continue to handle God's truth from the Bible so it will cause victory in our personal lives! Don't wait... God is ready to speak to you through His Word today!

Learning together,

Pastor Steve