

April 2018



"Follow the Bells"



Cortland Christian Church

153 Grove Drive
Cortland, Ohio

officeatccc@gmail.com

CortlandChristianChurch.com

Pastor Curtis Miller

Cell- 330-717-4552
Home--330-652-3625
Office-330-637-4611

Jonathan Gallo
Organist

Joyce Hall
Administrative
Assistant

The Church Bell

Everyone is familiar with John 3:16

*"For God s loved the world that he gave
His only begotten Son that who so ever
believes in Him should not perish,
but have everlasting life,"*

*I love people who are "Cheerful Givers".
They give of themselves and pour themselves out not just
in financial ways but in their work in the church.*

*Yet, When we think about our giving, remember we cannot
out give God, when God gives He gives us Jesus.*

*Today I'm thankful for a God who gives and gives and
gives some more for all creation. Maybe we should
consider that, what we give of our time, talents and our
gifts to the church is "important".*

*BUT, when we realize that God gives His all and we
struggle to give a mere fraction of our time and gifts.*

*Please, prayerfully consider your giving, even a little bit
more will help our church, to continue it's missions and
activities.*

Pastor Curt

Our Worship Leaders

April 1	Curtis Bell and Ron Miller
April 8	Carol Robison and Amy Seger
April 15	Bob Johnson and John Molnar
April 22	Amy Popichak and Linda Swauger
April 29	Jeff Byler and Amy Popichak



Deacons: Terry Swauger —330-72-0346
 Barb Bradford, Judy Hansel, Mackenzie, Jack Hanna,
 Carol Glancy, Cindy Miller, Phyllis Hake

Deaconess: Kay Payne

Organist and Keyboard: Jonathan Gallo

April 2018

Coffee Hour Hostesses

April 1	Ruth, Virginia, Joyce
April 8	Sharon Polakoff and Dorothy Moss
April 15	Judene Ainsley and Friends
April 22	Carol Deemer and Friends
April 29	Pot Luck Dinner



The Church Office is open on

Monday-Thursday

8:00am.-Noon

Phone: 330-637-4611

Thanks to Jeff Byler for all
 of the church snapshots
 and the
 children's message with
 Pastor Curt

March Financial Report

Budgeted monthly expenses — \$10,500.00 — budgeted monthly income \$10,500 needed to maintain C.C.C.

Actual MONTHLY Report

Mar 1 - Mar 31, 2018

Offering	\$13,084.00
Expenses	\$10,739.00
Total	\$ 2,345.00

Actual YEAR TO DATE Report

Jan 1- March 31, 2018

Offering	\$32,253.00
Expenses	\$31,849.00
Total	\$ 404.00

Mortgage Balance \$87,085.31



"Happy Birthday"

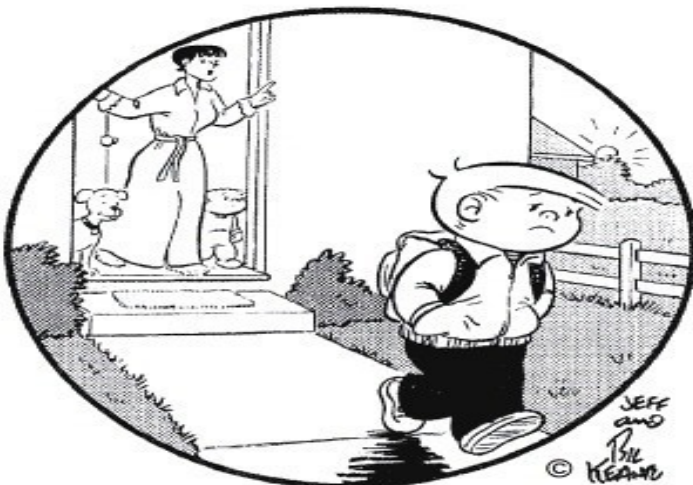
April 4	Jeff Byler
April 9	Dorothy Lazar
April 9	Cole Oriti
April 10	Madison Oriti
April 19	Haylee Rose Tyree
April 25	Peyton Hopkins
April 30	Judy Kuhmer
April 30	Chuck Lucy

No Anniversaries

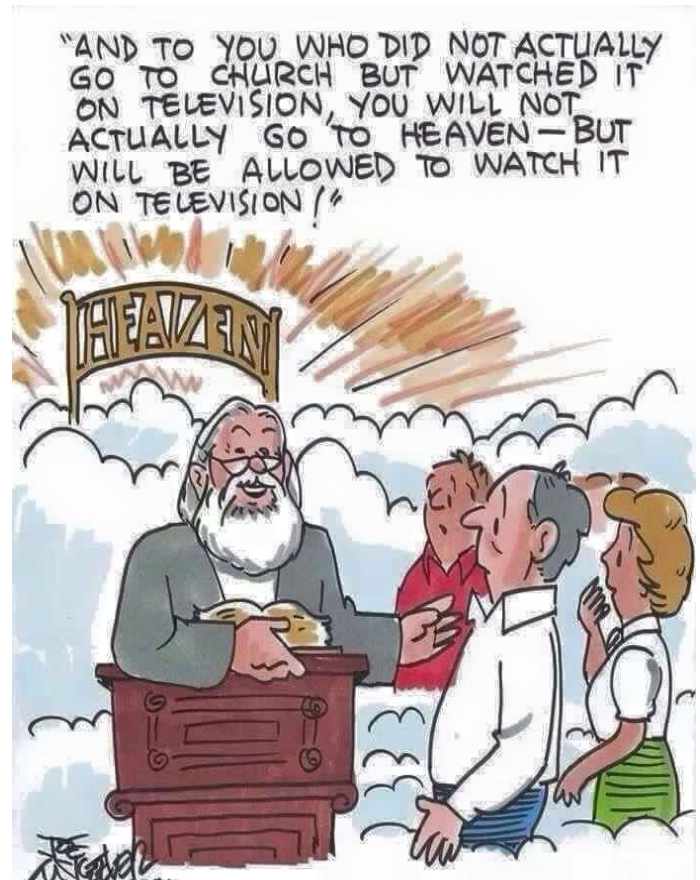
Church Bulletin Funnies:

1. If you would like to make a donation, fill out a form, enclose a check, and drip in the collection basket.
2. Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
3. Don't let worry kill you off – let the church help.
4. Potluck supper: prayer and medication to follow.
5. Applications are now being accepted for 2 year-old nursery workers.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Your day goes the way the corners of your mouth turn. So smile."



A Doer, Not a Spectator

[Christy Britton](#)

Recently, the Winter Olympics

united millions of people around the world. For seventeen days, we watched elite athletes compete for gold medals. Perhaps your family, like mine, spent hours curled up together on the sofa cheering on your favorite competitors.

When it comes to the Olympics, most of us are spectators. Unfortunately, many of us have a spectator theology, as well. Many Christians are content to let others champion God's causes, make disciples of the nations, and live sacrificially.

But when it comes to our faith, we were never meant to be spectators. James writes to the church, "I will show you my faith by my works" (James 2:18). We weren't created for a life on the sidelines. We are active participants in God's redemptive work. We are to be doers of the Word ([James 1:22](#)).

Dear sister, know that God's commands are good, and when He tells you to be a doer of them, it's for your good. You don't want to miss out on the joy of obedience ([John 15:10-11](#)).



What Do We Do?

God tells us plainly what to do in His Word. He says in Deuteronomy 10:12-13:

"And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good?"

In Micah 6:8, He requires us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

We can also follow Jesus' example in being a doer of the Word. He said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise" (John 5:19). Doers must look to our Father and then mirror His actions.

God is reconciling man to Himself, and we join Him in that work by sharing the message of reconciliation with all nations ([2 Cor. 5:19](#)). We know God cares for orphans and widows ([Ps. 68:5](#)), so we do likewise by living compassionately toward them. God forgives us our sins ([1 John 1:9](#)), so we forgive the offenses of others.

How Do We Do Obey?

God's commands are good, but obeying them can feel daunting. We need Christ. Apart from Him, we can do nothing ([John 15:5](#)). We obey our Father, not in our own strength but in His ([Col. 1:29](#)). We are weak, but it's in our weakness that God's power is displayed ([2 Cor. 12:9](#)). He equips us with "everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ" (Heb. 13:21).

Our obedience on this side of heaven will always be imperfect. But God satisfies His demand for perfect obedience through His Son, and He accepts Jesus' obedience on our behalf. Jesus stood before God as our substitute and received His just wrath for our sins, and He stands before God to substitute His obedience for ours ([2 Cor. 5:21](#)). We can only obey as we abide in Christ.

Through the grace of regeneration, we receive new hearts ([Ezek. 36:26](#)) with the ability to obey. Ezekiel 36:27 says, "And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. "God gives us the ability to obey, but why we do His Word matters.

Continued on next page

Why Do We Obey?

God tells us to do His Word, and that's enough reason to obey. But we're doers of the Word for more reasons than the divine "because I said so." We're God's children. Like Jesus, we just want to do what we see our Father doing.

We are to be motivated by love, not obligation ([John 14:15](#)). Every act of our obedience is a declaration of love for Him. Every time I choose not to gossip, I'm saying, "I love You, Lord." When I forgo that new outfit so I can help the family in my local church that lost their job, I'm saying, "Father, I love You and delight to do Your will." We don't submit to His authority because we have to but because we want to. It's our joy to please Him ([Col. 1:10](#)).

We were made to glorify God. Our obedience brings God more glory ([John 15:8](#)). Our Father is busy advancing His kingdom on earth, and we want to join Him in that work ([1 Cor. 3:9](#)). We do His Word "for the sake of his name among all the nations" (Rom. 1:5).

Be a Doer, Not a Spectator

Watching the Olympics on my couch is entertaining, but eventually I turn off the TV and go to bed unchanged. In much the same way, the life of a theological spectator is safe and comfortable, too. This existence will never satisfy. You were made for more, sister. You were given life in Christ for a purpose ([Eph. 2:10](#)). Don't waste it with inaction.

God wants more from you than your attention. He wants your actionable obedience. He wants you to be a doer. Go next door to your sick neighbor and tell her about the God that heals all our diseases. Go to the soccer field and cheer for your child's friend who has no father present and teach him about the heavenly Father who never abandons us. Give sacrificially so that family in your local church can go live amongst an unreached people group to share the gospel.

Doers must be knowers. We must know God as Father. We must know what His Word tells us to do. We need to know His promises. God's Word offers a promise for those who obey. James tells us that "a doer who acts . . . will be blessed in his doing" (James 1:25). Our greatest blessing will come in the form of a beautiful inheritance in Christ. But the blessing is only for the doers.

Let's be doers of the Word.

L.O.A.F. Meeting
April 5 — 10am
Bazetta Christian Church



Sunlight shining ON THE CROSS In the fellowship hall after
Our Last Lenten service.



April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Easter.	2. Aerobics	3.	4. Joyful Noise	5. L.O.A.F. 10am Aerobics	6. Spring	7. Aerobics
8. Sunday Service	9. Aerobics	10. Brownies Finance 6:15pm Board 7pm	11. Joyful Noise	12. Aerobics	13.	14. Repub. Women Card Party
15. Sunday Service	16. Aerobics	17 	18. S/S prep day Joyful Noise	19. Soup and Sandwich Aerobics	20	21. W. O. W "TEA" 11--1:30
22. Elders Meeting 8:15am Service 10pm	23. Aerobics	24. Brownies	25. Joyful Noise	26 Aerobics	27.	28 Aerobics
29. Service 10am Pot Luck Diner	30. Aerobics		Joyful Noise	29 Aerobics		31 Aerobics

Pray for our "Shut-Ins"

Send them a note of encouragement and let them know we care that we care.

Alice Kalas

Champion Estates
Windsor Place
Warren, Ohio 4448
330-307-7583

Phyllis Beer

Lake Vista
41 Heron Circle
Cortland, Ohio 44410
330-637-1456

Frank Zanin

18170 N.91st Ave.
Apt.1210
Peoria, Az. 85382

Edwin Niemi

Lake Vista
Apt. 207
Mecca Street, Ohio

Grace Wagner

175 Wall Street
Cortland, Ohio 44410
330-637-5957

Raymond Kline

502 Arcaro Street
Cortland, Ohio 44410
234-244-4241

Chuck Lucy

73 Lake Vista Drive
Cortland, Ohio





“Our Church Rummage Sale”

at C.C.C.is over!

**Great friends, fellowship and
“sales”.**

**Proceeds go to CCC for missions,
mortgage, etc. .**

**Thanks to all those who donated items, those who
worked to set up and tear down.
And those who stayed with it for 3 days.
It takes teamwork.**

Church Meetings

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Finance Meeting 6:30 pm

Board Meeting 7:00pm

Elders —Third Sunday of Month

Elders meeting 8:00am



Sunday Children's Message with Pastor Curt April 1, 2018

Soup and Sandwich ——April 19, 2017

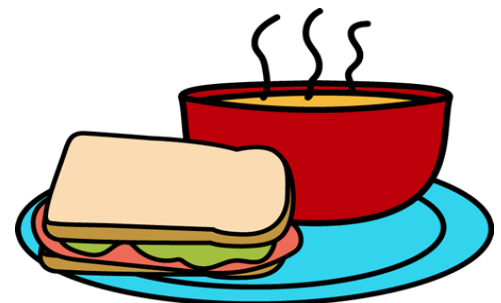
Pies and workers needed

Wednesday April 18 for a few hours of preparation

Thursday, April 19—for Soup and Sandwich Day

Help, us out please! This is for your church..

No Soup until September



The Birdcage

One Easter Sunday morning, a pastor came to the Church carrying a rusty, bent, old bird cage, and set it by the pulpit. Several eyebrows were raised and, as if in response, the pastor began to speak. "I was walking through town yesterday when I saw a young boy coming toward me, swinging this bird cage. On the bottom of the cage were three little wild birds, shivering with cold and fright. I stopped the lad and asked, "What you got there son?"

"Just some old birds," came the reply.

"What are you gonna do with them?" I asked.

"Take 'em home and have fun with 'em. I'm gonna tease 'em and pull out their feathers to make 'em fight. I'm gonna have a real good time."

"But you'll get tired of those birds sooner or later. What will you do then?"

"Oh, I got some cats. They like birds. I'll take 'em to them."

The pastor was silent for a moment. "How much do you want for those birds, son?"

"Huh?!!!! Why, you don't want them birds, mister. They're just plain old field birds. They don't sing - they ain't even pretty!"

"How much?"

The boy sized up the pastor as if he were crazy and said, "\$10?".

The pastor reached in his pocket and took out a ten dollar bill. He placed it in the boy's hand. In a flash, the boy was gone.

The pastor picked up the cage and gently carried it to the end of the alley where there was a tree and a grassy spot. Setting the cage down, he opened the door, and by softly tapping the bars persuaded the birds out, setting them free.

Well, that explained the empty bird cage on the pulpit, and then the pastor began to tell this story.

One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting.

"Yes, sir, I just caught the world full of people down there. Set me a trap, used bait I knew they couldn't resist. Got 'em all!"

"What are you going to do with them?" Jesus asked.

"Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other. How to hate and abuse each other. How to drink and smoke and curse. How to invent guns and bombs and kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!"

"And what will you do when you get done with them?", Jesus asked.

"Oh, I'll kill 'em."

"How much do you want for them?"

"Oh, you don't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, you take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you!! You don't want those people!!"

"How much?"

Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your tears, and all your blood." Jesus paid the price.

The pastor picked up the cage, he opened the door and he walked down from the pulpit.

Dear Amy,

You, your church, & your Wild Chorus 4H children are a huge, beautiful blessing to my life, as well as the lives of my brothers & sisters down range serving alongside me.

Truly, I was at a loss for words from the overwhelming amount of love & generosity put into your wonderful carepackage. From the bottom of my heart, thank you and bless you and your wonderful congregation.

I wish you all could witness the warmth & humor in watching a bunch of grown adults turn to total giddy children laughing and smiling with joy at our stockings and carepackage goodies. Snacks are our favorite thing to trade and fight over (Ha!)

Included in this envelope you'll also find a letter for the children at the church and for your awesome 4H group to be read aloud to them. If you could also please extend our warmest thanks & appreciation for all who was involved. Their love has gone along way!

from all of us in Afghanistan, Thank you! Merry Christmas!

- Jack Ridge, USAF

This is a thank you from Jack Ridge, one of our soldiers that we sent stockings to. It is really a good and very thankful letter. I hope it is legible enough you can read it. It is beautiful.



Quotes

1. It's a helluva start, being able to recognize what makes you happy."
Lucille Ball
2. "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."
Theodore Roosevelt
3. "Life isn't about finding yourself. It's about creating yourself."
George Bernard Shaw
4. "The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing."
Walt Disney

Kids Say the Darndest things....

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, "Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face." "Yes," the class said. "Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position, the blood doesn't run into my feet?" A little fellow shouted, "Cause your feet ain't empty."

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH

H	F	D	J	Z	A	S	H	W	E	D	N	E	S	D	A	Y	H	R	R
N	O	A	G	O	O	D	F	R	I	D	A	Y	J	E	S	B	O	E	E
G	O	L	P	A	S	S	O	V	E	R	P	A	S	F	O	R	L	S	S
T	T	M	Y	B	M	F	J	E	S	U	A	J	A	C	K	A	Y	U	U
N	W	S	P	S	G	O	L	O	V	E	L	E	C	E	D	N	T	R	R
N	A	G	R	F	A	R	L	P	A	L	M	B	R	A	N	C	H	E	R
J	S	I	A	A	F	T	P	L	Y	E	S	E	I	S	O	J	U	S	E
C	H	V	Y	S	O	Y	U	J	Y	N	U	A	F	T	A	E	R	U	C
J	I	I	E	T	R	D	R	R	M	T	N	S	I	E	H	S	S	S	T
A	N	N	R	I	H	A	P	W	D	J	D	T	C	R	X	U	D	W	I
N	G	G	C	N	O	Y	L	W	E	A	A	E	E	Y	G	S	A	Z	O
W	E	D	N	G	L	S	E	H	O	L	Y	W	E	E	K	H	Y	C	N

Ash	Holy Week	Palm Branch
Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Forty Days
Sacrifice	Good Friday	Jesus
Almsgiving	Holy Saturday	Passover
Prayer	Easter	Foot Washing
Fasting	Palm Sunday	Resurrection
Lent	Purple	Love



Happy Belated Easter

By the time you
get this, Easter
will be over.

But the
significance of
the Easter lives on
in the hearts and
minds of all of us..

He is always there
to talk to, or cry
to, or ask for help
or

forgiveness.

He can comfort us
in the time of
grief. and give us
happiness in the
songs we sing of
Him.

Let the
"sacrifice "He
made for us re-
main with us
always.

Would we make
that same
"sacrifice"
for mankind?

"Spring is in the Air"

Nancy's Tea - 2018

April 21, 2018 11:00am — 1:00pm



Cortland Christian Church

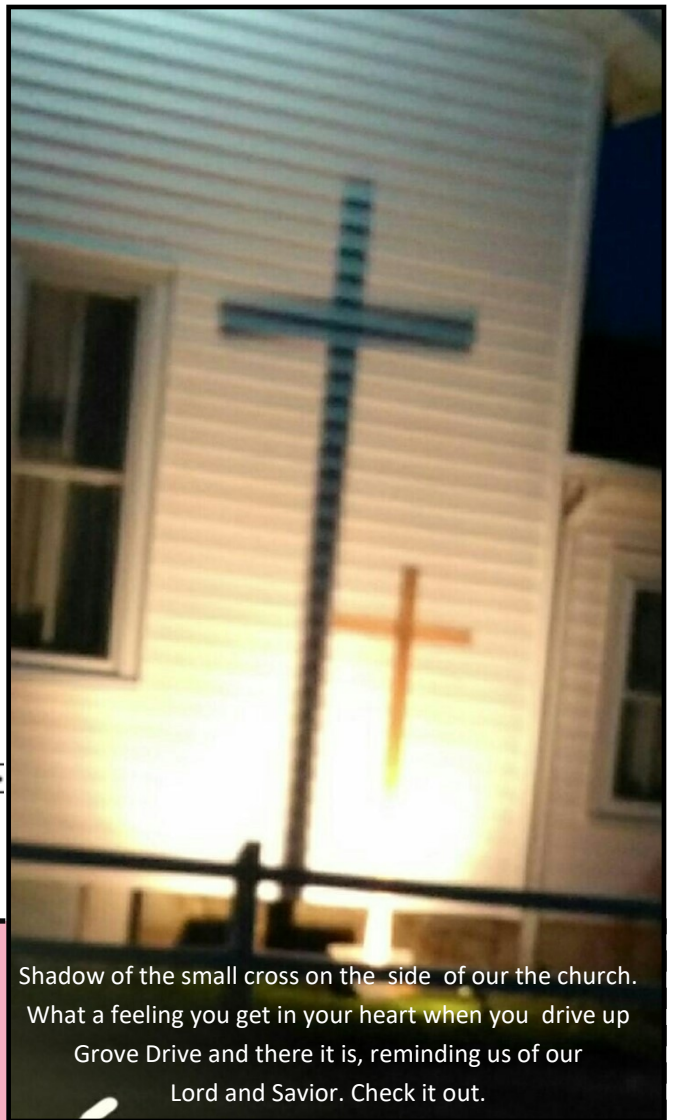
A double header of entertainment.

Dr. Jimmy Sullivan will be speaking on women's health issues.

Refix will present a style show of beautiful gently worn clothing.

A tasty luncheon is being planned.

There will be a donation basket.



Shadow of the small cross on the side of our church.
What a feeling you get in your heart when you drive up
Grove Drive and there it is, reminding us of our
Lord and Savior. Check it out.

OUR CHURCH TEA

Help make this a wonderful experience for us and for our community. We may have a problem, so many have called to say they would like to come which is wonderful, however we cannot fit more tables in the fellowship hall, and be to get around. So we may have to quit taking reservations.

It takes many helpers to make this day a success, like any other project this is important for our church. We are reaching out into the community with a "TEA". Tables decorated in an English themed manner, flowers, centerpieces, favors, and smiles.

The food will be an English tea with delicate tea sandwiches and salads, and with all of the special desserts.

The luncheon table will be a thing of beauty, with elevated dishes and decorations. The tables will have special tea cups, most of them donated by one of our church members. A special punch, specialty teas and of course coffee will be hot or cold and ready for consumption.

Our entertainment is extraordinary!

And fun.

"Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who [keeps learning](#) stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young."

Henry Ford

"Every single cell in the human body replaces itself over a period of seven years. That means there's not even the smallest part of you now that was part of you seven years ago."

Steven Hall

"Begin today. Declare out loud to the universe that you are willing to let go of struggle and eager to learn through joy."

Sarah Ban Breathnach

How to Make and Eat (Truly) Humble Pie



[Laura Elliott](#)

Oscar-winners. Professional athletes. Recording artists. Oh, and of course—politicians. Remarks by men and women in each of these groups often have a common theme:

I am so humbled to have been chosen . . .

I'm truly humbled to be among the ranks of such a talented group . . .

I'm infinitely humbled that you would exercise your right to vote on my behalf . . .

We listen, and sometimes we even believe them *a little*. But on the inside, don't we suspect that a more truthful translation of the sentiment behind those words is more like this? I feel pretty stinkin' proud to be standing before you today. I actually really deserve this honor and would have been completely affronted had you chosen someone else. Of course, before we run too far down the Path of Blame and Shame, we should probably examine ourselves. Yesterday I had an experience at the office, which, had I not been preparing to write this post, I might have walked away from saying, "Wow. That was humbling."

Instead, as I look back on the day, while I do believe that I was unjustly reprimanded, my inward response showed that I was far from *humbled* by my supervisor's words and authority. Rather I walked away prideful. Emboldened. Embarrassed perhaps. But humbled? Uh, no.

Meaningful Words:

There is a sense of fluidity in language. That is the understood meaning of a word and the way that everyday people apply it in speech or writing can change over time. Compare, for example, these two dictionary entries for the word "humble." The first is from today's [dictionary.com](#), the second, from [Webster's Dictionary 1828—Online Edition](#).

***humble*—adjective, humbler, humblest.**

1. not proud or arrogant; modest: *to be humble although successful.*
2. having a feeling of insignificance, inferiority, subservience, etc.: *In the presence of so many world-famous writers I felt very humble.*
3. low in rank, importance, status, quality, etc.; lowly: *of humble origin; a humble home.*
4. courteously respectful: *In my humble opinion you are wrong.*
5. low in height, level, etc.; small in size: *a humble member of the galaxy.*

***humble*—adjective [Latin humilis.]**

1. Low; opposed to high or lofty. *Thy humble nest built on the ground.*
 2. Low; opposed to lofty or great; mean; not magnificent; as a humble cottage. *A humble roof, and an obscure retreat.*
- Lowly; modest; meek; submissive; opposed to proud, haughty, arrogant or assuming. In an evangelical sense, having a low opinion of one's self, and a deep sense of unworthiness in the sight of God. *God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble. [James 4:1](#). Without a humble imitation of the divine author of our blessed religion, we can never hope to be a happy nation.*

The differences aren't necessarily glaring, but there is a sense that in modern times we've backed off on the depth of the meaning of humility, and there has been a shift from seeing humble as a comparison of lowly man to holy God toward a comparison of one person to another.

So as we reflect on what it truly means to be humble, let's spend a few moments looking at how the word is used in Scripture and what it might mean in a biblical sense. And just for grins, because I'm a recipe nut (and former *Food Network* addict . . . "former" only because we no longer have cable TV), why not look at the biblical meaning of "humble" through the lens of a recipe? Without further ado, here it is.

Humble Pie: How to Make It

Ingredients:

Instruction in Wisdom ([Prov. 15:33](#))
Fear of the Lord ([Prov. 22:4](#))
Gentleness and Patience ([Eph. 4:2](#))
Compassion, Kindness, and Meekness ([Col. 2:12](#))
A Contrite Spirit ([Isa. 66:2](#))
Understanding of Heart ([Dan. 10:12](#))
Childlikeness ([Matt. 18:4](#))
Gentleness ([2 Cor. 10:1](#))
Repentance ([2 Cor. 12:21](#))
Obedience ([Phil. 2:8](#))

Instructions

Before beginning, prepare your spirit with a generous coating of repentance. Neglecting this important step will result in great disappointment with your final product. Add gentleness and patience, then mix thoroughly with compassion, kindness, and meekness. Sift mixture, being careful to remove any of the following: haughtiness ([Prov. 18:12](#); [Ps. 18:27](#)), selfish ambition and conceit ([Phil. 2:3](#)), pride ([Job 22:29](#); [Prov. 11:12](#)), wickedness ([Ps. 147:6](#)), and loftiness ([Isa. 2:11](#)).

Special care must be taken to avoid any self-rising ingredients ([Ezek. 17:14](#); [Matt. 23:12](#); [Luke 1:52](#), [14:11](#), [18:14](#)). Add as much wisdom as you can get your hands on, as this will ensure that your methods are accurate ([Ps. 25:9](#)).

After the mixture is complete, dredge yourself in it ([1 Peter 5:5](#)), doing what you can to ensure that your fellow believers are covered as well. Be as gentle as possible with them, holding their needs above your own ([Phil. 2:3](#)). Season well with justice and an additional sprinkle of kindness; now it's time to walk ([Mic. 6:8](#)).

You will know you are on the path to success when you are contrite in spirit and tremble at His Word ([Isa. 66:2](#)).

Service is a delectable accompaniment to your humble pie ([Acts 20:19](#)).

Please note: You will need to make a fresh pie from scratch daily, and you will likely have many botched attempts. If you find yourself struggling and need further instruction, follow the example of the Master ([Phil. 2:8](#)). Happy humbling!

And Eat It, Too

Friends, true humility is not a quick and easy thing to learn. Just like my grandma's pie crust (which I *still* can't get to turn out after twenty years of homemaking), it will be a learning process for the rest of my life and yours. Thankfully, we have the Word as our guide, the Spirit as our Helper, and a loving Father who is quick to show us our sin and merciful to forgive it. Will you begin another attempt at making humble pie today?

Continued on next page.

This will please the LORD more than an ox
or a bull with horns and hoofs.

**When the humble see it they will be glad;
you who seek God, let your hearts revive.**

For the LORD hears the needy
and does not despise his own people who are prisoners
(Ps. 69:30–33), emphasis added.

The End



This Old Rugged Cross
hanging on the back wall
of our sanctuary was
constructed from old
lumber saved when the
Kitchen and fellowship
hall was added.
It was part of the original
church.

© Randy Glasbergen
www.glasbergen.com



**"Forgive us our debts as we forgive
those who call to harass us
about our debts..."**

Little Lambs Closet Sale



Friday

May 3 — 10am — 7pm

Saturday

May 4th — 10am — 3pm

Set up and registration is
Wednesday 5-8 pm

Volunteers needed to help!

The Lord's Prayer

By a 15 year old school kid who got an A+ for this entry . The Lord's prayer is not allowed in most U.S. Public schools any more.

Now I sit me down in school,
Where praying is against the rule
For this great nation under God
Finds mention of Him very odd
If scripture now the class recites,
It violates the Bill of Rights.
And anytime my head I bow
Becomes a Federal matter now.

Our hair can be purple, orange or green,
That's no offense: it's a freedom scene.
The law is specific, the law is precise.
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.

For praying in a public hall
Might offend someone with no faith at all.
In silence alone we must meditate,
God's name is prohibited by the State.
We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,
And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks.
They've outlawed guns, but FIRST the Bible.
To quote the Good Boo makes me liable.
We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,
and the "unwed daddy" our Senior King.
It's inappropriate to teach right from wrong.

We're taught that such 'judgements' do not belong.
We can get our condoms and birth controls,
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles.
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,
No word of God must reach this crowd.

It's scary here I must confess, when chaos reigns the school's a mess.


So, Lord, this silent plea I make; Should I be shot; My soul please take!

Jesus said,

" If you are ashamed of me,
I will be ashamed of you before my
Father!

[Luke 9:26](#) *Whoever is ashamed
of me and my words, the Son of
Man will be ashamed of them
when he comes in his glory and in
the glory of the Father and of the
holy angels.

Prayers for Our Church Family

1 God, we commend to your care families in our congregations, community, and world. <i>Gen. 1:26-28</i>	2 God, we pray our families will confess and repent of their sins. Help us to follow in Jesus' footsteps. <i>Acts 8:22</i>	3 God, enable our churches to support families in their faith journey through programs, parenting classes, worship opportunities, learning activities, and prayer. <i>Acts 9:31</i>	4 God, we plead for revival in our marriages and for strong godly families in our church to be a living reality. <i>Lev. 25:10</i>	5 God, we pray that our never-married, widowed, and divorced singles will be loved and cared for by their church, family, and friends. <i>1 Cor. 7:8</i>	6 God, we pray empty nesters and couples without children will grow in their faith, maintain a devotional life, study scripture, and serve their church and community. <i>Luke 17:5</i>	7 God, we pray for couples with children asking that the routines of meal and bedtime prayers open the door to rich family devotional time. <i>Prov. 22:6</i>
8 God, we pray for unity among step-families and single-parent families. Preserve their family devotional time as they juggle commitments and visitation issues. <i>1 Pet. 3:8</i>	9 God, we lift up foster families. May they establish and maintain patterns for sharing their faith as children and youth enter and exit their home. <i>Acts 6:2-7</i>	10 God, may our homes be a place for living in the light of God's love and for daily practicing our Christian faith. <i>1 John 4:7-13</i>	11 God, we pray for those homes where instead of love there is hurt, abuse, and suffering. <i>Isa. 49:13</i>	12 God, thank you for the commandments to love you and to love others. Help us recall your words and demonstrate love in our homes and communities. <i>Mark 12:30-31</i>	13 God, may our families love each other with a deep, unconditional love. Remove anything that might hinder us from loving each other. <i>1 Cor. 13:4-8</i>	14 God, may our families seek to encourage one another and act in ways that help those around us know the true meaning of love. <i>1 Thess. 5:11</i>
15 God, give each family member a hunger for and the ability to hear and obey the Word of God. <i>James 1:21-25</i>	16 God, help our families keep your commandments. Grant us the ability to impress them on our children. <i>Deut. 6:6-8</i>	17 God, we plead for each family member to know Christ. Teach us to have a servant's heart. <i>Mark 10:45</i>	18 God, create in our families a longing to follow Jesus and to faithfully serve in our church and community. <i>Mark 8:34-38</i>	19 God, instill in each family member a burning desire to be still and know that you are God. <i>Ps. 46:10</i>	20 God, may our families seek your presence through regular Bible study, reflection, and prayer time. <i>Ps. 9:10</i>	21 God, grant our families a heart for prayer and a desire to faithfully maintain our prayer lives. <i>Luke 18:1, Col. 4:2</i>
22 God, release a spirit of prayer in our families. May we rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in everything. <i>1 Thes. 5:16-18</i>	23 God, we plead that our church families will introduce others to Jesus. <i>Matt. 28:19-20</i>	24 God, we pray that our families will be witnesses for Christ both with our lives and our lips. <i>Acts 1:8</i>	25 God, give our families boldness in standing for Jesus Christ. Remove anything that would hinder us from being powerful witnesses. <i>Matt. 10:27</i>	26 God, protect our families from the enemy. Help us put on the full armor of God so that we can stand against the devil's schemes. <i>Eph. 6:10-20</i>	27 God, bless our church families as we struggle to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. <i>Luke 12:22-40</i>	28 God, forgive those who hurt our families. Teach us to walk in forgiveness, and to love even our enemies. <i>Luke 17:14</i>
29 God, thank you for the witness of families in the Bible who help us understand that we do not have to be perfect. <i>2 Cor. 12:9</i>	30 God, may your grace and mercy be present in our families. Teach us to bear one another's burdens with a spirit of gentleness. <i>Gal. 6:1-2</i>	31 God, grant us wisdom and courage. May we honor everyone, love the family of believers, and fear God. <i>1 Pet. 2:17</i>				 www.ngumc.org

Dear Church Family,

I want to take this moment to say “Thank You” for letting me be your secretary. I love this job and enjoy coming to work and seeing you.

I also thank you for putting up with my “ERRORS” . I can say that it makes me happy that you are reading what I print. Even I make a mistake, you seem to forgive. And I know you are reading it when you tell me and help keep me on track. “Thank you” for that also.

I try each month to bring interesting articles and fun stuff, pictures etc. And if you would like to contribute pictures, articles, happy fun stories of life, please do. I need your input.

Sometimes I am late with the Bell, but it is because I want to get everything we are doing, possibly with snapshots, donated by you or some I take.

This is our Church Bell, it should be about “US” and friends.

I love you all, Hugs, Blessings and Peace,

Joyce