



Perry Christian Church

The Crier—April 2017

Volume 9, Issue 4

It's Spring – Time for New Beginnings

I receive a daily devotion from Rev. Max Lucado each day. Most days I'm too busy to read them, but this Lenten season I have been diligent to read each one.

As anxiety creeps into every church in every denomination, there are two devotionals the world really needs to hear this year. It seems there are so many distractions that pull at us in many directions, **we can't seem to think straight.**

This first devotional reminds us as Christians we have a responsibility to lead the world, we are not to be led by the world. Both Excerpts are from the book Just Like Jesus by Max Lucado.

How could we ever hope to have the heart of Jesus as the Bible promises? Ready for a surprise? If you are in Christ, you already have the heart of Christ. Paul said it succinctly in Galatians

2:20...“Christ lives in me.” And Paul explains it with these words, “Strange as it seems, we Christians actually do have within us a portion of the very thoughts and mind of Christ” (1 Corinthians 2:16 TLB).

Strange is the word! If I have the mind of Jesus, why do I still have the hang-ups of Max? God is willing to change us into the likeness of the Savior. Here's my suggestion. Let's imagine what it means to be just like Jesus. How did he forgive? When did he pray? Why didn't he give up? Let's “fix our eyes on Jesus” (Hebrews 12:2 NIV). Perhaps in seeing him, we will see what we can become.

Too often we get caught up in the “drama” of life. We waste our time and energy on what might happen, instead of going to God and asking for what is needed.

Those of us who are Christian have a direct line to **the Father in Jesus' Name.** Jesus stole away privately to talk to his Father seeking guidance, help and **comfort. Why don't we? Instead too often we find ourselves triangled in other people's misunderstanding, misconceptions, or outright lies.**

There is only one way to untangle ourselves from this burdensome situation. **Read on...**

Our Savior kneels down and gazes upon the darkest acts of our lives. But rather than recoil in horror, he reaches out in kindness and from the basin of his grace, he scoops a palm full of mercy and washes away our sin. Jesus said, “If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash each other's feet. I did this as an example so

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Special points of interest:

- Bible Study
- CWM Announces 2017 Events



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that you should do as I have done for you” (John 13:14-15).

Those in the circle of Christ had no doubt of his love; those in our circles should have no doubts about ours. More often than not, if the one in the right volunteers to wash the feet of the one in the wrong, both parties end up on their knees. Please understand. Relationships don't thrive because the guilty are punished, but because the innocent are merciful.

Jesus said it best when he told his disciples the way to peace and joy was through forgiveness.

“He reaches out in kindness and from the basin of his grace, he

scoops a palm full of mercy and washes away our sin.”

Max is recounting what happened that night we know as Maundy Thursday where Jesus washes his disciples feet. He said they didn't understand then, but soon they would understand. Well Max said it, Jesus was washing away all their sins with kindness, grace, and mercy. Jesus was forgiving them. Just like Jesus when we forgive it frees us to be all God created us to be.

When Jesus forgave it freed Jesus from a bitter attitude, and gave Jesus the strength to complete the work his Father sent him to do. That work was to take away the sin of the world, and to give each of us the opportunity to accept freely salvation by following

Christ.

This Lenten season, from what triangles do we want freedom? Will we go to God the Father in Jesus' Name and ask to be forgiven and released from a bitter attitude that has tied us in knots and kept us from living in peace? I pray we will do just that.

The Lenten season is the time to unburden ourselves and to be refreshed. Come to the Christ, drink deeply from the well of living water that washes us clean, refreshes our spirits, and brings new life to all who drink from the waters Jesus will give us.

Blessings this Easter to you and your families,

Pastor Janet



PALM SUNDAY CANTATA

The Lord's Community Choir will be presenting the Easter cantata, "Lead Me to the Cross" Sunday, April 9th at 3p. Please Note there is only ONE performance this year. Each year churches are asked to bring cookies for the fellowship time following the performance. For those who are willing to bring cookies, please let Laurie Martin know.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

At 7:00p on Thursday, April 13th we

WORSHIP

will be re-enacting "Remember the Upper Room." It is a re-enactment of the time Jesus spent with his friends and disciples in the upper room. This evening involves all who come to worship, even if you don't have a specific speaking part. If you would like to participate in this remembrance, please speak to the pastor. Men are needed to enact the scene, women to read and possibly to play a servant role or two. The service will be a time of reflection as we view the Last Supper through another's eyes. Everyone who attends will be transported back in time to the "Upper Room."



EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 16TH

...begins with Easter Breakfast at 8:00a and Worship at 9:30a. This year we have been exploring the last hours of Jesus life with us on earth. This Easter will be a celebration for Christ's Resurrection. It is the perfect time to invite someone who needs to know that God loves them. Easter breakfast & worship invitations are available for you to invite your family and friends. Please pick one up and invite someone to Easter Sunday.

FELLOWSHIP

SOUPER SUNDAY!

April 9th before the Easter Cantata we will have our traditional Souper Sunday. If you would like to donate soup, sandwiches, or dessert, please let Sherry Smith know.



FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 21, 2017 for our next Family Fun Night from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. We will be watching a movie that everyone

will enjoy. We will probably have some popcorn, too. After the movie, we will play some board games or just visit. Please call the church (259-4821) and leave a message if you are coming and how many kids and their ages. Or

you can call Carole Martin (259-2257) to reserve a spot. Hope to see you there! Carole Martin



MISSION

PROJECT HOPE

We will be meeting on Thursday, April 13th at 6:00p to prepare Fruit Salad and sack lunches for delivery to Project Hope on April 15th at 6:45pm.

We will need:

- 4 lg. cans of peaches,
- 4 lg. cans of mandarin oranges,
- 4 lg. cans of pineapple.

For sack lunches we'll need:

- 5 Loaves of bread,
- 55 Slices of Turkey,
- 55 Slices of Cheese,
- 3 Bags of 20 Individual Bags of Chips,
- 8 Boxes of Fruit or Granola Bars,
- 3 Cases of 24 or more Bottles of water.

If you can donate cash for the purchase of fruit, that would be appreciated.

We also need a delivery person on Saturday, April 15th.

The sign-up sheet for all these items is on the bulletin board.

Thanks for "Serving God like Jesus in our Community!"

Susan Callahan and Brenda Carr



EASTER BREAKFAST

Perry Christian Church will be preparing their world famous free will offering Easter Breakfast. Please turn in a reservation, so we know how many to expect. Any men who can help with the setup for the breakfast and worship, cook and clean up please talk to Glenn, thanks.

DISCIPLESHIP

The Youth Group has been reflecting on scripture which is about rest such as Matthew 11:28: *Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest.* This ties in with our pillow case sewing project, led by our life-skills teacher, Mary Hale. They will be working on these throughout the spring. Many of the youth are also looking forward to going to Camp Christian this summer and they truly appreciate the church paying for their tuition!



APRIL 2017



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	3	4	5 9a Community Mission	6 2p Prayer Team 6:30p Bible Study	7	8
9 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:30a Worship 11:00a Souper Sunday 3:00p Easter Cantata at St. Cyprian's	10 7p Trustee Mtg.	11	12	13 2p Prayer Team 6p Project Hope Food Prep 7:00p Maundy Thursday Worship	14	15 6:45p Project Hope Food Delivery
16 <i>Easter</i> 8-9a Easter Breakfast 9:30a Worship	17	18	19	20 2p Prayer Team	21 6-8p Family Fun Night	22
23 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School 5:00p All Daughters Banquet	24 Newsletter Articles are due	25 6p Leadership Team	26	27 2p Prayer Team 6:30p Bible Study	28 1p Barclay Memorial Service	29
30 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School						



April Service Schedules

	Worship Leaders	Elders	Greeters	All Month
2	Sydney Martin	Rick Bartlett Joann Rombough		Deacons *Donna Van Boxel Judy Bartlett *Head Deacon
9	Donna Van Boxel	Earl Johnson Vicki Wakelee		Sacristan Taunya Brewer
16	Joann Rombough	Linda Warfield Carole Martin		Counters Vicki Wakelee Connie Smith
23	Vicki Wakelee	Joann Rombough Rick Bartlett		Hostesses Judy Bartlett Darla Bartlett
30	Sherry Smith	Earl Johnson Linda Warfield		Thurlene Lawson

April Birthdays	
1	
2	
3	Bob Wright
4	
5	
6	
7	Tammy Kidwell-Pierce
8	Graham Polzer
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	Audriana Polzer
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	Pat Johnson
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	Helen Hayes
25	
26	Emily Hinton
27	
28	
29	
30	

CWM

Our CWM mission meeting was well-attended. We enjoyed the program led by Elizabeth Rippin who is an officer in WWIPMM, an organization based in Perry dedicated to helping female veterans. She shared a variety of ways that we as individuals or as a group can help. Also, they will be offering to house up to 4 women temporarily and need beds. If you have one you would like to donate, let me know and I'll give you her contact number.

Bible Study (Go Fish) is continuing to meet on Thursday evenings

from 6:30-8:00. All are welcome even if you haven't been coming as each episode can stand on its own.

We will be taking reservations in April for our All Daughter's Banquet which is Sunday, April 23rd at 5p. See or call me or Penny Harrison to sign up. The men will be preparing a delicious meal. We will be entertained by God's Girls on Wheels, a Christian drama group that has been entertaining audiences of all ages since 2006. Their humorous skit, Old Testament Rewind, is fueled by



audience participation. After they re-enact the entire Old Testament in 30 minutes we will be encouraged and inspired to open our Bibles and check out **God's word for ourselves!**

Yours in Christ,

Laurie Martin, CWM Co-Leader

Our Sincere Sympathy

We express our sympathy to Diane and Roger Lett, along with their family and friends on the passing of Roger Lett, Jr. on March 3, 2017. May God comfort you in your time of grief.



THANK YOU

From Cleveland
Christian Home
2-27-2017

Dear Perry Christian Church,

You are changing lives with your gift of \$200 sent through the Christian Church in Ohio on

February 21, 2017. Together we help children and families overcome mental illness, recover from traumatic experiences and restore purpose and happiness in their lives.

Please know that your generosity makes an immediate and mean-

ingful effect on the lives of our most vulnerable children. We value and appreciate your friendship and support. Thank you for holding our children close to your heart and in your prayers.

With sincere gratitude,

Kate Vinciguerra
Director of Development

Begin Holy Week
with a beautiful reflection on
Christ's great sacrifice for us

Please join the
Lord's Community Choir
as we present

"Lead Me to The Cross"
by Benson Music Publications

under the direction of
Mary Crow

Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 3:00 pm
St. Cyprian's Church
4223 Middle Ridge Rd.
Perry, OH 44081

The presentation is free!

There will be a free will offering
taken, with proceeds donated to
perry center

PERRY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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April 2017 Newsletter

Pastor Rev. Dr. Janet Mers
Worship 9:30am
Fellowship 10:30am
Sunday School 11:00am
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Website www.perrychristianchurch.org

