



Chimes

May 2012

Christ Presbyterian Church

We've been having fantastically windy days! Yesterday the flowerpots at the manse were on their sides and the doormat in the driveway. A ten-foot metal piece of siding blew off the north end of the church. One person told me he's been walking with bricks in his pocket, just in case.

In Scripture *wind* is often synonymous with *Spirit*. "The wind blows wherever it pleases," said Jesus. "You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit" (Jn 3:8). Luke's witness to Pentecost is that "a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and...all of [Jesus' followers] were filled with the Holy Spirit" (Ac 2:2-4). In John's account of Resurrection Day evening, Jesus appeared to the disciples and said, "'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he *breathed* on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'" (Jn 20:21-22).

Easter pushes toward Pentecost, resurrection toward the Spirit's blowing through the church. Resurrection makes us new life people, and this life can't be bottled up any more than you can bottle a windy day. Each in their own way, Luke and John tell us that the resurrection of Jesus is an unstoppable force. It can be variously experienced as the comfort gradually blowing in as time passes after a loved one's death, or as holy gusts stripping sin-shingles that protect us from exposing our selves or our church to God. Just as there is no such thing as still wind, neither is there stagnant resurrection life.

Scripture is spare in its witness to exactly what Jesus did in his 50 post-resurrection days. One thing he didn't do, however, was sit around. Neither did his disciples, either in the days before Pentecost or after the Spirit blew in. They went to Galilee to meet Jesus, and took to their boats and fished. They gathered at Temple to worship and tended to the needy. They took up ministries of healing and proclaimed the Word. More than a victory party, Jesus' resurrection was God's wind at their backs, pushing them into the world to live in God's power.

Wind can't be captured or tamed, but it can be harnessed. God grant us adventurous spirits to ride the wind of the risen Christ.

The Lord be with you all,

Matt

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Upcoming Fellowship Events
- VBS Information
- Pilots For Christ
- Mexico Mission
- Pastor Matt's Doctor of Ministry program



Progressive Dinner

Saturday, May 19th

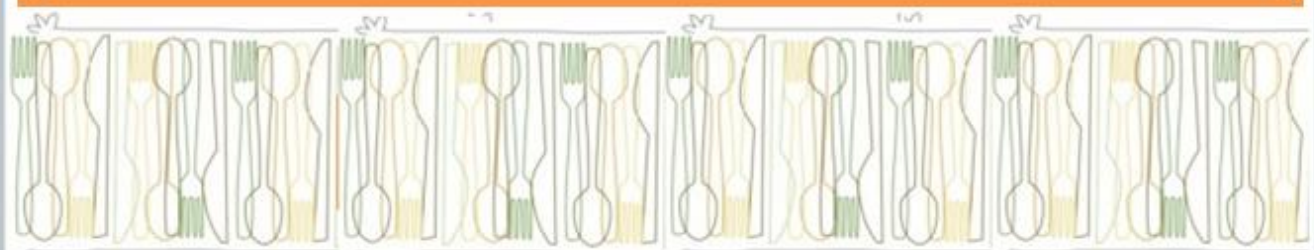
Evening Schedule

- Appetizers 5pm
- Main Course 7pm
- Salad 6pm
- Dessert 8pm



Each course will be hosted in different homes of members from Christ Presbyterian Church. A sign-up sheet is available in the Fellowship Hall for people to supply the food for each location. If you will be attending, please be sure register by **May 6th**. **Reservations will not be accepted after May 6th**. If you have questions please contact

Linda Russell at wwr549@yahoo.com or call 729-3547.



UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:

June 1 Lake County
Captains Game
7:00pm. Tickets are
\$9.00 Call Bill Gripp
for details at 440.729.9539



Church Picnic
and Golf Outing.
July 29th



GOLF SEASON IS UNDER WAY,

but it's not too late to join us! This will be the fifth year for our CPC Golf League. We are open to men and women, young and old, with all ranges of skill levels.

We continue to have a great relationship with Berkshire Hills Golf Club on Mayfield Road. By popular consensus, we will be playing there on Mondays again. Our tee times run from 4:00pm to 4:45pm. As in the past, arrive whenever you can. If you come early, you can get in some putting and driving range practice. (It does help to warm up—surely the pros do it!) There are no other leagues in front of us, so if you want to get a group off early, that is fine with Berkshire Hills as long as the tee is open.

The league entry fee is \$20 per player. This will pay for the weekly prizes and for our year-end dinner. Contact Bill Gripp if interested in joining, 440-729-9539.

-Bill Gripp

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

That means that our annual CPC Work Day is at hand! Please join us on Saturday, May 5th from 8:00am till early afternoon as we work together to beautify the Christ Church building and grounds. Bring your work gloves and tools AND your appetite—lunch will also be served! Sign up in Fellowship Hall so we know how much we need to feed the masses. Contact Bill Fischer at: bestfischer@sbcglobal.net

-Bill Fischer



Notes from Session



Glenville New Life Church will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in September and session has agreed to participate with a donation for their program. Glenville has been a great partner in the past, as all of us “saints” can attest. Here’s hoping they have at least another 50 great God-filled years.

Session discussed some of the past mission statements of the church and has decided to include the wording in the bulletin. We may consider a newer statement in the future.

The Session decided to begin the process of evaluating our life on Sunday mornings—what is important to us in that time and whether our current schedule and activities best serve our priorities.

On a personal note, I would like to recall the September day in 1985 that Sue and I, with Brian in tow, first set foot in CPC. We came in through the main door and as we walked up the steps we could hear a conversation going on in a room at the top of the stairs (the old library). When we got there, it was Hal Clyde conducting a Bible study on Isaiah. He invited us in and we have been coming to CPC ever since. Hal was the first person we met when we came here and I have always considered him a good friend and a mentor. He was great in all of our Bible studies on Saturday morning and definitely walked in the Lord. God bless you, Hal. Thank you so much for all that you gave to this Church.

In His service,

Your Clerk of session

Chuck Scott

THANK YOU:

Thanks to all of your powerful prayers and thoughts, Frank has moved from hospital to rehab, where he is slowly making progress toward a return to his normal activities. The hope of playing golf again gets him through his therapy sessions.

What an experience this is, learning how to find our way through the intricate maze of hospitals, rehab units, and multiple medical specialists. Helping to propel me through the maze are your encouraging cards and calls reminding me of our caring, loving, listening God who is always with us. My heart is filled with gratitude to all of you for the way you’re constantly there, propping me up. I’d be helpless without you, and being propped by loving friends certainly feels good.

My love and thanks to you,
Laura Iskra

News from Deacons



The Deacons met on Monday, April 2, 2012. The meeting was opened with prayer by Chairman, Jim Kule, at 7:00 pm and a short devotional was given by Jim entitled "The Power of the Resurrection" from Today in the Word which discussed how the power of the resurrection can make a difference in our lives.

Treasurer's Report – A current Report was prepared for every Deacon. Dan reported that at this time last year we had approximately \$4,700 in our checking account and that this year we have \$900 more.

As Session Representative, Mike Tropf reported that Session is very pleased that our church attendance has increased as well as the giving (income) and that they feel it will continue. Pastor Reeves interjected that Session discussed where they saw God's work in the congregation and that they noticed people want to serve the community. The Men's Ministry is quite active and preparing to help with yard and home projects for those in need in Geauga County through names of families given to us by OJFS.

Committee Reports:

College Students – Beth reported she sent two birthday cards out last month. She was going to write letters to the college students to see if they would be able to help with VBS. Beth also gave us a brief update on VBS and, obviously, she has it well under control, as usual! She will let the deacons know at a later date when she will need their donation/contribution.

Outreach – Marsha and Joy reported that a family from Chesterland with three children need some financial assistance. The husband lost his job and was out of work for eight months. He found a job but is earning much less and has to drive a great distance. Joy and Marsha will make arrangements to meet with the wife and should they feel it appropriate, will give the family a \$200 gift card to Giant Eagle and a \$100 gas card as approved by all Deacons.

Old Business: Beth reported on the various types of camps available for families with needs. OJFS sponsors camps for children and it was approved to donate \$250 towards the camp program.

Respectfully submitted,
Cyndie Tropf

WITH SINCERE THANKS:

Thank You to all who donated dog food and other items needed for the Geauga Dog Shelter on Merritt Rd. They truly appreciated your caring donations this past February.



In His service,
Outreach Deacons

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES AT CPC

Jen Congdon, Director
jen@christpcusa.org



VBS JUNE 11-14, 9AM - NOON

It's an *Amazing Desert Journey* that begins with Adam and Eve and ends with a joyful celebration of the Resurrection and the heavenly home God has prepared for us. As they hear accounts from Scripture of God's forgiveness, mercy, and salvation, children can relate this word from Scripture to their own life of faith. As a bonus, each day's memory verse is a petition from the Lord's Prayer. At the end of the week, children will have learned the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples!

Key Theme: Jesus Leads Us Home

Theme Verse: For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

2 Corinthians 5:1

After the craft glue dries, the decorations come down, and the snacks are gone, the only thing that matters is that the children leave knowing there is a Savior for them named Jesus.

Come be a part of this amazing experience. Volunteers are needed for the various stations. To volunteer, please call Beth Boucek at 440-338-1926.

-Children's Ministries Committee

Children's April Pizza & Pottery



MISSION MINISTRIES AT CPC

CLEVELAND CITY MISSION IN MAY: Men of CPC meet at the church, 5:30pm May 2, for travel to Cleveland City Mission to serve meals to men coming out of homelessness. Sign up in Fellowship Hall. Contact Jim Kule, jaks2@att.net or 440-729-2992.

-Jim Kule

PILOTS FOR CHRIST

On Tuesday, February 21st, 2012 the Northeast Ohio Chapter of Pilots for Christ, successfully completed its first AUTOPILOT mission. PCI-NEO President Tim Stahl & Secretary Eric Milnar met PCI-Alabama President Tommy Lee & Chaplain Fred Kelley at the Burke Lakefront Airport as they arrived in their Piper Cheyenne II. The PCI-Alabama aircraft carried Darrell, a very special passenger who was going to the Cleveland Clinic to meet with doctors to see if they can help with his very rare gastro-vascular disorder. Tim and Eric navigated the streets of Cleveland to get Darrell and his travel companions—his wife and a friend who is a nurse—safely to the Clinic where he can receive the treatment he so badly needs. Tim was able to pray with the family prior to Darrell being admitted at the Clinic, asking for God's blessing upon him and that he would be surrounded by God's love and mercy. A prayer shawl was presented to Darrell that was given by the Prayer Team at Christ Presbyterian Church. Darrell can wrap the shawl around him and be surrounded by God's love and warmth.

The Pilots for Christ N.E. will have an opportunity to take part in the National Day of Prayer on May 3rd. Airplanes statewide will set out in prayer over the state of Ohio.

-Sandy Stumpf



Pilot, Eric Milnar

MEXICO MISSION

Moved by the Holy Spirit, Dr. Alberto Zamacona and his wife Laura began Project Compassion Oaxaca in 1995. In past years, members of our congregation have traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico to help support this medical mission team. In 2011, Project Compassion went on 20 outreaches and treated 2029 patients. Their medical mission team went to villages that have no Christians and others villages with strong churches. Many have come to know our Lord Jesus Christ through "Project Compassion Oaxaca".

This journey filled with joy in the Spirit hasn't been easy; their love for the people they minister to has demanded great personal sacrifice. Their humble hearts are always reluctant to ask for help, but they have a God-sized need that we believe the Lord will supply through His body, the Church.

Alberto's truck has been a faithful warrior, carrying team members and supplies throughout the rough terrain of the Oaxaca countryside, but the roads have taken their toll, and it's time for a much-needed replacement. This outreach effort would diminish greatly, and perhaps even cease to exist without a reliable vehicle. The goal is to raise funds for a 2009 Honda Pilot. Please take just a few moments to pray for them, and if you sense the desire to help financially, they will be so blessed if you act on it. Whatever amount you are able to give will get Project Compassion that much closer to a vehicle that will continue to drive team members.

Donations payable to Christ Presbyterian Church, memo line
Project Compassion Oaxaca
-Mission's Committee



Ethel Prayer Shawl Ministry:

A BIG Thank You to our
wonderful knitters:

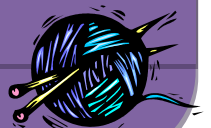
- Joann Babnik
- Rita Elswick
- Marilyn Russell
- Heidi Stark
- Mary Goodman

We began knitting in September 2011. As of April 2012, we've been able to give blankets to 14 people. These blankets help people feel love and hope with their illnesses or other problems.

Thank you also to Pilots for Christ pilot Eric Milnar. Eric passes our prayer shawls along to his passengers that he brings to our area for medical help.

If you know of someone who could use a shawl made with love and prayer, or if you are considering knitting with us, call Sheila McKenzie at 440-729-9620.

God Bless you,
Sheila McKenzie



MAY ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

Anniversaries

John & Dolly Carlton	05/19
Pamela & Matt Lyman	05/20
Robert & Barbara Albrecht	05/22
Robert & Janine Stone	05/23

Birthdays

Peggy Evans	05/02
Kelli Lupas	05/03
Robert McKenzie	05/04
Robert Stone	05/04
Brett Congdon	05/08
Paul Lawrence	05/08
Dave Varner	05/10
Jared Lyon	05/11
Winifred Martinson	05/11
Simon Fischer	05/12
Kirstin Weiss	05/12
Edna Beharry	05/14
Lawrence Elswick	05/14
Kelly McCandless	05/15
Morgan Johnson	05/17
Beth Ann Boucek	05/18
Ronald Schmidt	05/20
Dick Sulc	05/20
Andrea Milnar	05/23
Shirley Balogh	05/24
Gregory McCandless	05/24
Charlene Schmidt	05/24
Kim Welch	05/24
Terry Moore	05/25
Ronald Congdon	05/26
Deloris Cunningham	05/28
Matt Levine	05/29
Robert Brooks	05/30
Miriam Gripp	05/31

Thank you for the cards
and prayers during my
father's illness
and after he passed.
I thank you for the
treasured friendships
that we have.

Linda Kemp

CHAPEL CIRCLE

This group will meet
at the home of
Barbara Kross on
Wednesday, May 16th
at **11:00am**. **Janet**
McIntee will lead
Lesson 4, pp. 29-35.
Charlotte Wood will
give the devotion. **No**
sandwich needed.



May 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	2 6:30am Men's Bible Study 5:30pm City Mission 7:00pm Worship Meeting	3 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	4	5 8:00am Men's Tres Dias Reunion 8:00am CPC Work Day
6 Communion 9:30am Worship 11:00am HomeBuilders bible Study 5:00pm Youth Group	7 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Deacons 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	8 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	9 6:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Prayer Shawl Workshop 7:00pm Girl Scouts	10 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	11	12 3:00pm Tres Dias Dinner
13 9:30am Worship High School Senior Recognition 11:00am HomeBuilders bible Study 5:00pm Youth Group	14 9:30am Children's Ministry Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Youth Ministries Meeting 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	15 9:30am Prayer Group 7:00pm Session	16 6:30am Men's Bible Study 11:00am Chapel Circle 6:30pm Bootcamp	17 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	18	19 Progressive Dinner 8:00am Men's Sat Bible Study
20 9:30am Worship 10:45am Mission Committee Meeting 11:00am HomeBuilders bible Study 5:00pm Youth Group	21 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	22 9:30am Prayer Group	23 6:30am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Bootcamp	24 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	25	26 8:00am Men's Sat Bible Study
27 9:30am Worship 5:00pm Youth Group	28 CPC Office Closed 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	29 9:30am Prayer Group	30 6:30am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Bootcamp	31 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal		

DONATE GENTLY WORN DRESSES

The saints in the Glenville and Calvary Churches on the East Side of Cleveland are collecting girls' and women's dresses and accessories (handbags, earrings, etc.) for a dollar sale they will hold the day before Mothers' Day. They will walk their neighborhood, inviting people to come in and shop so everyone can look good on the special day. They will also be inviting guests at the dress sale to worship with them on Sunday—even your slightly worn clothes can be used in witness to Christ! Look for a donation box in Fellowship Hall April 29 & May 6.

-Matt Reeves



DID YOU KNOW?

**This year,
Glenville
Presbyterian
Church
celebrates 50
years of ministry.
Congratulations!**

PASTOR MATT'S DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM

I am happy doing many things, but a deep gladness of mine is study. Last January I embraced the call to further learning in ministry by enrolling in a Doctor of Ministry program at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, one of our Presbyterian seminaries in Iowa. Alongside my regular pastoral work the past few months I have been reading, reading, reading—about 4,000 pages—in preparation for a two-week intensive seminar in Dubuque at the end May.

The overall DMin program at UDTs is in congregational revitalization. My cohort emphasizes the renewal of biblical preaching for the 21st century. This year's reading list has my nose in the works of heavy hitters such as Augustine, Martin Luther and Dietrich Bonhoeffer, as well as contemporary thinkers on church, society and the practices of preaching and ministry. After the May seminar a term paper to be written by fall will help me put synthesize lived ministry with the readings and classroom experience. To be sure, my reading is already stimulating my imagination for preaching and the purpose of the church.

A Congregational Resource Team—it's actually the former members of the DPNC—is helping me to think through ways my study might intersect with the church's life. After next year the whole congregation will be involved in my study, as the context for a major dissertation project.

I am grateful for the church's support in this endeavor—part of my terms of call pays the program's tuition—and give thanks that Christ Church is the community among which I am thinking about congregational vitality. Ask me what I'm reading, and don't be surprised if I give an enthusiastic response!

Matt Reeves

**Church office hours:
9:00 am-2:00 pm
Monday -Thursday**

**Contact Information
Christ Presbyterian Church
12419 Chillicothe Rd.
Chesterland, OH 44026
440-729-1688
Fax: 440-729-3733**

**Website:
www.christpcusa.org**

**Church Office e-mail:
office@christpcusa.org
karen@christpcusa.org**

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

ABOUT THE CHURCH WEB SITE:

Our church Web site, www.christpcusa.org, provides a wealth of information regarding our ministries, missions, church forms and even a list of library resources. Listen to Sunday sermons on your computer if you miss a day of worship, or read the message in text format. Check the calendar for upcoming events and meetings. In the coming months, our site will be updated with a new design.

-Sue Congdon