

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

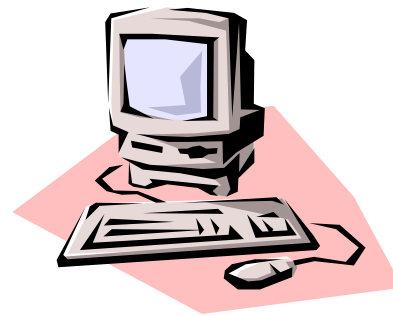


LIFE OF CHRIST

4/1 - TRIUMPHAL ENTRY
4/8 - RESURRECTION

LIVING PROOF

4/15 - MARY MAGDELENE
4/22 - ROAD TO EMMAUS
4/29 - THOMAS
5/6 - PETER
5/13 - MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS
5/20 - ASCENSION



Check us out online:
www.fccmtncty.org

Daily Scriptures:

Week of 4/1:
Mon – Isaiah 42
Tues – Isaiah 43
Wed – Isaiah 51
Thur – Isaiah 52
Fri – Isaiah 53
Sat – 1 Corinthians 15

Week of 4/8:
Mon – Luke 8:1-21
Tues – Matt 27:45-66
Wed – Matthew 28
Thur – Mark 16
Fri – John 19:16-42
Sat – John 20:10-18

Week of 4/15:
Mon – Luke 24
Tues – Exodus 19
Wed – Luke 9:1-27
Thur – Luke 9:28-62
Fri – John 2:1-12
Sat – Luke 24:13-22

Week of 4/22:
Mon – John 1:9-18
Tues – John 9
Wed – John 11:1-44
Thur – John 14:1-14
Fri – John 16:16-24
Sat – John 20:24-31

Week of 4/29:
Mon – Matt 4:12-25
Tues – Mark 1:16-39
Wed – Matt 14:22-33
Thur – Matthew 16
Fri – Luke 22:31-62
Sat – John 21

Spring has sprung and an exciting month is here!

What better way to start off the month of April then with celebrating the Messiah?

Palm Sunday on April 1, Easter on April 8, starting a new video series on Sunday nights beginning April 15, this is going to be an exciting month!

We are also gearing up for our VBS so be sure to watch out for ways you can help!

We are beginning a new sermon series this month on the life of Christ. We are starting with the Triumphal Entry and ending with the Ascension.

The series will be somewhat chronological as we follow the footsteps of Jesus through His appearances after the Resurrection had taken place.

I am also going to be in Cincinnati from April 11-13 for another class, and later in the month, we will be taking a short vacation on April 23-25 to celebrate my birthday!

Let's grow together!

-Earl Winfrey
Earl@mkdisciples.org

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”
(Matthew 25:40 ESV)

The Boy Scouts of America began as a movement grounded in faith that promoted the idea of serving the community around us. They have always been focused on serving others and being good citizens in this great country of ours. In many ways, the Boy Scouts were designed much like the early church was in the book of Acts. When the Apostles began organizing the people, they also created ministries to help those less fortunate than others.

In Acts 2:42-47, we see the first recorded activities of the church after its initial sermon preached by the Apostle Peter on the day of Pentecost. Our churches have done well with including the activities in our weekly services, but it seems that at times, we may have overlooked verse 45. This verse states that the people were “selling their possessions and belongings” and giving the proceeds to those who had need. Benevolence has been a part of the church since the very beginning, so we should keep that in mind while we are working to rediscover the original church.

Serving our community is something that is not reserved exclusively for the Boy Scouts or any other civic organization. As God’s church, we should be looking for ways we can improve our community instead of waiting for somebody else to step in and help.

Special Communion Service!!

On Thursday, April 5, we will have our meal that is normally on Wed, and a special communion service after the meal to commemorate the Lord’s Supper on the night Jesus was betrayed.

There will be no Wed night activity because we are moving everything to Thursday for that week only!

“9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” (Galatians 6:9-10 ESV)

Heaven’s Grocery Store

I was walking down life’s highway a long time ago. One day I saw a sign that read Heaven’s Grocery Store. As I got a little closer, the door came open wide, and when I came to myself, I was standing inside.

I saw a host of angels, they were standing everywhere, one handed me a basket and said, “My child shop with care.” Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store and all you couldn’t carry; you came back the next day for more.

First I got some Patience, Love was in the same row, further down was Understanding, you need that everywhere you go. I got a box of Wisdom, a bag or two of Faith; I just couldn’t miss the Holy Ghost, for it was all over the place. I stopped to get some Strength and Courage to help me run this race. By then my basket was getting full, but I remembered I needed some Grace. I didn’t forget Salvation, Salvation has always been free; So I tried to get enough to save you and me.

Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill, for I thought I had everything to do my Master’s will. As I went up the aisle I saw Prayer and just had to put that in, for I knew when I stepped outside, I would run into Sin.

Peace and Joy were plentiful; they were on the last shelf. Songs and Praises were hanging near, so I just helped myself. Then I said to the angel, “How much do I owe?” He smiled and said, “Just take them everywhere you go.”

Again I smiled at him and said, “How much do I really owe?” He smiled again and said: “My child, Jesus paid your bill a long time ago.”

"I never learn anything talking. I only learn things when I ask questions." - Lou Holtz

The Lord's Prayer

I spent the first 12 years of my life growing up in a Methodist church, and every Sunday, we would recite the Lord's Prayer at the end of the morning prayer. Later on, I have learned that this is a common practice in some of our mainline denominations. For some of us in the Stone-Campbell movement, reciting the Lord's Prayer has been regarded as a "tradition of men" so there seems to be little if any use of this model for prayer. Although I agree that reciting the Lord's Prayer every week can become somewhat repetitious and empty, I do believe that there is value in using this model as a template for our own prayer life.

I have divided the Lord's Prayer into 4 parts for our consideration:

Approaching the Throne: Jesus begins the prayer addressing God as "Father." This is an indication that the prayer is to be personal, as if you are having a conversation with your earthly father. There should also be a familiarity with God that you can open up and trust Him with what you have to say. The phrase "Hallowed be your name" indicates that Jesus is offering praise to God before presenting His request. This should not be misunderstood as an attempt to manipulate God with flattery in order to get something in return. Instead, this is showing that our first step in prayer should be to recognize who we are talking to so we can be confident that our prayer will be answered.

Asking for Needs: One thing to point out here is that Jesus is asking for the basic needs of life. Our daily bread or "the bread for one day" shows that we are to trust God to provide our basic needs on a daily basis. There is no one time request at the beginning of life for all of your needs because God desires for us to have a daily dialogue with Him as we walk through life. I will leave the particular needs being requested to each person to decide, but I do want to stress that Jesus did not treat God like some kind of spiritual ATM, so we should be careful to avoid treating God that way as well.

Accepting Forgiveness: The reason why I say accepting forgiveness instead of asking for forgiveness is because we need to understand that once we ask God to forgive us, it is done. We do not have to keep reliving the past as we are inclined to do. Instead, we should be confident that we are forgiven so we can move beyond our mistakes and live the life God wants us to live!

Avoiding Temptation: I wonder how many times we neglect to ask God's help in avoiding temptation. In a way, temptation is different from sin because with temptation, there is still a chance to avoid the sin. Instead of trying to avoid the sin, we should be trying to avoid the temptation that leads to that sin. We need to ask God to help us avoid those situations that could lead to temptation so we stay as far away from sin as possible.

If we keep in mind the 4 parts of the Lord's Prayer while we pray, we can offer up some prayers that have some meat to them, and that can help us mature as Christians.

"Exercise daily, walk with the Lord."

Beauty Secrets by Gail Marsh

"Let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us" Ps. 90:17

We live in a world obsessed with physical beauty. Evidence of that obsession is all around us. To cite but one example, if you search online for "beauty secrets," over 43 million web pages will pop up!

Do you want to know a secret, a beauty secret? Whether or not we see ourselves as physically beautiful, all of us who know and love our Lord Jesus share His beauty...the beauty of holiness.

Scripture assures us this is true, but it's often hard to believe. We see our inner flaws and imperfections. We know all too well our failures to pray, to forgive, to love. Still, the psalmist prays this Spirit-inspired prayer and in doing so, invites us to pray it, too: "Let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us."

This inner beauty is not something we can manufacture or create for ourselves, no matter how diligently we try. Instead, it comes to us as a gift from God, a gift won by Jesus Himself on Calvary's cross.

This inner beauty cannot be patented or purchased, nor does it belong to only a select few. Instead, it is our heavenly Father's gift to each and every one of us, His daughters in Jesus, our Savior. That beauty makes a difference in our lives; in fact, it makes all the difference!

See that sparkle in your eye? It's a reflection of your heavenly Father's grace. And that beaming smile? It is evidence of a life redeemed by Jesus. Our beauty comes from our God and Lord because He is truly beautiful and that's no secret!

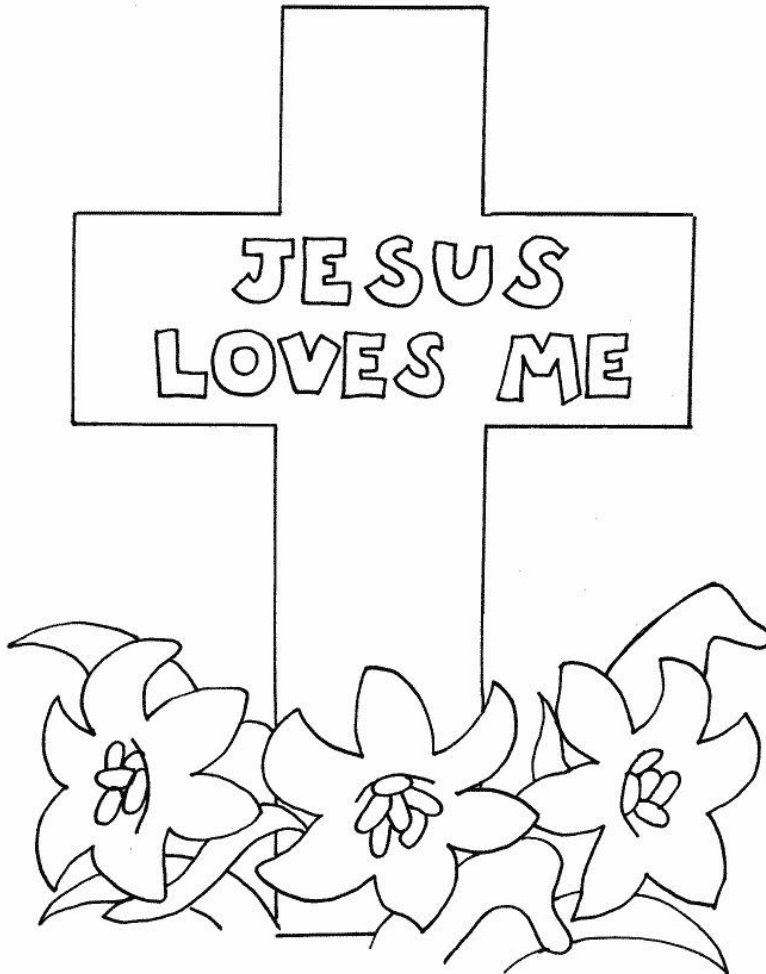
THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF THE TODDLER:

1. If I like it, it's mine.
2. If it's in my hand, it's mine.
3. If it's in your hand, but I can take it from you, it's mine.
4. If I had it a little while ago, it's mine.
5. If I wish I'd had it a little while ago, it's mine.
6. If it's mine, it must never appear to be yours in any way.
7. If I'm doing or building something, all the pieces are mine.
8. If it looks just like mine, it's mine.
9. If I think it's mine, it's mine.
10. If it's broken, it's yours. Unless you want it, then it's mine again.

New Sunday Night Video Series:

Beginning April 15 at 6:30pm, we will have a video led Bible Study for 6 weeks. The video study will be "The Jesus I Never Knew" based on the book with the same title written by Philip Yancey. Here is what he has to say about his book: "In this book I emphasize the relational and personal rather than the scholarly. Who was this man Jesus? What was he like? No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same." You can read more about Philip Yancey at www.philipyancey.com

"But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 19:14 ESV)



Memory verses for April:

Congregation: Romans 5:8

K-2nd: 2 Corinthians 5:21

3-5 y/o: John 11:25

2 y/o: Proverbs 3:5a

I am excited that our kids have been doing very well with the memory verse every month, and now they will have memory verses for SS class too! These verses will stay with you for the rest of your lives so let's keep building on the Word of God!

¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
(2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV)

Do you remember our church memory verse from last month, kids? "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105) What do you think that means?

Is it easy to see in the dark? Is it easy to walk somewhere when you can't see in front of you? If you closed your eyes and tried to walk out of your room you probably would bump into things! Its hard to do those things in the dark, isn't it? So what do you need to see? A light! A night light. Or a flashlight. And if you have one of those, you can see and walk to where you need to go.

In the same way, when we can't see what to do, God's Word can show us. As you grow older, there will be times when you don't know what to do. There will be times when you are confused, or don't want to do what is right. You will need something that shows you the way. And God's Word can show you what to do and where to go. You don't have to be afraid of the dark!

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12 (NIV)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Thursday - Food Pantry 4:30-5:30 pm

April 1 - Fellowship Meal after Worship
Elders Meeting after meal

April 5 - Special Communion Service after the meal at 6 pm (Wed meal moved)

April 11-13 - Earl in Cincinnati

April 11 - Elders/Deacons Meeting 5 pm
Learning Center Committee Mtg 5 pm

April 13 - Women's Bible Study 10:30 am

April 15 - VBS Meeting after Worship
Sunday Night video series begins 6:30 pm

April 20 - Game Night 6 pm

April 24 - Men's Night 6:30pm

April 26 - Deadline for May Newsletter

April 27 - Women's Bible Study 10:30 am

Servers for April:

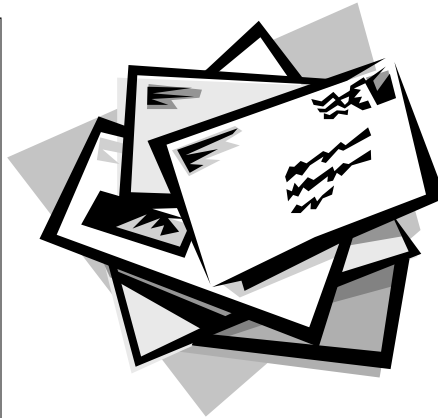
Morning Prayer - Tom Labbie

Offering Prayer - Pat Conrad

Server - Chris Duke

Communion Meditation - Kevin Berg

Communion Preparation - Michael Winfrey



Please keep us informed of any address changes so we can keep our records up to date.

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General Prayer Items for the month:

(Please see the weekly bulletin for the church prayer list.)

Church Leadership

Ministries of the church

Members

Visitors

Lost Souls

Those needing work/Home sales

The persecuted church

Missionaries

Future Kingdom Workers

Those serving in the Military

Government

Schools

Evangelistic Opportunities:

Does your neighbor go to church?

Does your neighbor know that you go to church?

Partners in Ministry

Don't forget to pray for those churches around us and near our hearts!

FCC of Franklin, NC

Toccoa Christian Church

Providence Road Church of Christ (Charlotte, NC)

First Christian Church of Fairburn, GA

Coastline Christian Church (New Smyrna Beach)

Southlake Christian Church (Groveland, FL)

Christian Church at Deleon Springs, FL

Tomoka Christian Church (Ormond Beach, FL)

N. Citrus Christian Church (Citrus Springs, FL)

If anyone knows of any churches that need to be added to this list, be sure to let Earl know.

We are having a VBS volunteer meeting after church on April 15th. We need ALL volunteers to be present for the meeting so that we can discuss schedule, decorations, and supplies needed.

Attention ladies....the 46th Annual Georgia Christian Women's Retreat will be on June 2nd from 8am-4pm. It will be at Point University (formerly Atlanta Christian College). The theme for this year is Power of Hope and Encouragement. The price for the retreat plus breakfast and lunch is \$30 before May 1st. A \$5 late fee will be added after May 1st. If you are interested in attending, please see Michael.