

Cridersville Chronicle
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APRIL 2017

From the desk of Pastor Casey Irwin

Halleluia!
Jesus is risen!
He is risen indeed!

May this declaration
resound not only in these walls
but touch the lives
of all we meet
and forever be
the truth of which we speak.
Your love,
once sown within a garden,
tended for your own people,
neglected and rejected,
now spreads its sweet perfume
in this place
and wherever it is shown.

Halleluia!
Jesus is risen!
He is risen indeed!

- faithandworship.com/prayers_Easter

May the hope of resurrection, the new life in Jesus Christ restore you to joy and life abundantly. However you can join us this Easter, take the time to celebrate all God has done for us and for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

As a part of Holy Week remembrances, the worship committee has chosen to hold a Good Friday worship service in lieu of a Maundy Thursday worship. Consider adding this worship to your Easter preparations this year, as we remember Christ's death and prepare to celebrate his resurrection.

Friday, April 14th at 7 PM

Liturgist

- 2) Susie Dailey
- 9) Russ Holly
- 16) Mary Kay Smith
- 23) Youth
- 30) Connie Rees

Nursery

- 2) Marcia Clay
- Jill Wierwille
- 9) Hannah and Julie Smith
- 16) Steve and Margie Humes
- 23) Jerry Johnson
- June Reichelderfer
- 30) Jeff and Mel Reichelderfer

Power Express

- 9) Alyssa Drexler
- 16) Angie Gierhart
- 23) Christy Tomsett
- 30) Josh Conley

Greeters

2) Ernie & Jenny
Numbers

Jean Fox

Jane Bowersock

9) Larry & Bea Musser

Sue Hinegardner

Cindy Weaver

16) George & Kathy
Krites

Gene & Neita

Border

23) Billy & Janet Pack

Linda Nixon

Deb & Frank Oen

30) Jane Gray

Jo Nance

June Reichelderfer

Sandy Spillman

Ushers

Glen & Eunice
Richardson

Kyle & Betsy Wagner

Baker / Mart Scholarship

- Open to Cridersville UMC students who are actively participating in church
- Open to high school students entering college or college students continuing their studies in undergraduate work
- Up to 6 scholarships available each year
- Each scholarship is \$500 with 2 annual \$500 renewal opportunities for a potential total of \$1,500 awarded
- College students winning a scholarship following their first year of college will be eligible for 1 - \$500 renewal for a potential of \$1,000
- A renewal candidate that fails to qualify for a renewal is not eligible for subsequent renewals
- Deadline is May 1 of each year
- Applications are available in the office
- Must have 3 letters of recommendation and 1 page essay

Easter Candy Needed

The Family Life Committee is in need of LOTS of candy for the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt on April 15. They will be collecting candy until April 9. Please be sure the candy is small enough to fit inside a plastic Easter Egg. You can drop off your candy in the Ministry Center. They will be stuffing eggs on Monday, April 10 at 6 pm. Please contact Betsy Wagner if you would like to help.

After is every Christian's middle name. In his autobiography *A Song of Ascents*, missionary E. Stanley Jones tells of an African man who changed his name to After immediately following his conversion. Because all things were new and different and important after he met Christ, the man wanted to reflect that new reality in his name as well as in his thinking.

Easter is what makes us After Christians. After Easter, nothing in life is ever the same again.

Book Notes

Karen White is an excellent author. I thought I had read all of her books until I ran across THE SOUND OF GLASS. Due to the death of her husband, Merritt Heyward inherits a house in South Carolina that her husband had never told her about, as well as a brother-in-law that she never knew about! As she is trying to digest all this information, her step-mother she has never been on good terms with (perhaps due to the fact the step-mother is very nearly Merritt's age!), decides to move in with her bringing along her ten-year old son Owen, who is Merritt's brother! The author weaves a gripping story around this low country setting of a family filled with secrets, strife, and of course, love! But beware, once you start reading this book you will not want to put it down!

EYES ON THE PRIZE, by Sunni Jeffers, is one of the "Tales From Grace Chapel Inn" series. The setting is Acorn Hill in the southern part of Pennsylvania. The three Howard sisters reunite after their father's death and turn the family home into a bed-and-breakfast. One sister, Jane, is training to run a 5K race, another sister, Alice, is dealing with making a fiercely independent woman's last days comfortable, and the third sister, Louise, is growing a giant pumpkin! All in all a very sweet, easy to read book.

THE MISTLETOE INN, by Richard Paul Evans. This story centers around Kim Rossi, an aspiring romance writer who travels to Vermont to attend a writers conference where her favorite author is to be the Key note speaker. While there she meets the handsome, intriguing Zeke and few other creative characters. With Zeke's attention, and through these learning events, Kim learns that she is worthy of love and begins to deal with her feelings of abandonment that began with her mother's devastating choice when she was a child and continued through several difficult relationships. The sensitive subjects of depression and suicide discussed in this story are handled beautifully with grace and dignity throughout this book. Richard Paul Evans has again enthralled his readers with a sweet love story that is as thought provoking as it is touching. This is a Christmas book, but I assure you that you will enjoy reading it in April!

For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth . . .

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

April Birthdays

- 2) Seirs Stanley
- Jeanne Loy
- 3) Sherman Nance
- 5) Jerry Johnson
- 6) Carl Swartz
- 10) Linda Nixon
- 14) Madison Bailey
Drew Bailey
- 16) Zach Chambers
- 17) Boyd Arnold
- Deb Drexler
- 18) Zane Morton
- 19) Hannah Smith
- 20) Sharon Koenig
Matthew Ricker
- 21) Keith Paul
- 22) Jake Tregoning
- 23) Sue Hinegardner
- 24) Tom Mulcahy
Lucas Lightle
- 25) Amanda Morton
- 29) Morgan Stombaugh
Joyce Beecher
- 30) Martha Hinegardner

April Anniversaries

- 18) Brooks & Beth Bush
- 25) Shawna & Jarid
Kohlrieser
- 27) Roger & Sharon
Koenig

Ch-Ki-Lo Food Pantry



We hope everyone is having fun, and setting aside money for missions, with the Change for Change calendar. It is eye opening to see how truly blessed we are!! Thank you for all the items you save that we can use for good for others - pill bottles, eye glasses, grocery bags, etc. From our abundance, many can be helped. CH-KI-LO Food Pantry serves about 100 family units every month. Much of the food that is distributed comes from the West Ohio Food Bank at a very good rate and that is why our major fundraiser, the Souper Bowl Sunday competition, is focused on monetary gifts. There are some items that cannot be purchased at the Food Bank that we would like to include in the Easter distribution. So if you would like to pick up something extra the next time you are at the grocery, that you know would be appreciated for the baskets, we would suggest Chocolate Chips and/or Sweetened Condensed Milk. (Food items and health care items are always accepted and appreciated for the Pantry.)

Knee-Mail is Back

Our email prayer chain is back! Contact the church office to sign-up, or follow the link on our website (www.cridersvilleumc.org). Go to the resources tab on the header of the website and choose Knee mail. Prayer partners will receive a weekly update of our prayer list, as well as urgent prayer requests shared throughout the week.

The list is managed through the program “Mailchimp”, but all email addresses are only made available to the church office. We hope you take this opportunity to pray with us regularly as we bear one another’s burdens and offer our needs to God.

Technology Updates

Thank you for your patience with our technology as we price and plan for some upgrades. We will let the congregation know as soon as we have a final date and total cost for the new projector and associated technology needs.

Pastor Casey, the Trustees, and the Technology Team

March Attendance & Offerings

Date	Attendance	Sunday School Attendance	General Fund Offering	Capital Improvements
February 26	124	37	\$2,738.00	\$45.00
March 5	128	39	\$3,812.00	\$55.00
March 12	118	29	\$2,803.00	\$20.00
March 19	115	33	\$2,844.00	\$0.00

Change for Change

Change for Change Easter Offering- United Methodist Advanced Special Missions

During Lent, all offerings designated for Missions will support our commitment to partner with ministries around the world, through the United Methodist Church. We've included a Change for Change calendar to get creative with our giving and sacrifice. Information is available at the ministry center to learn more about each mission.

All funds collected in by Easter will be distributed equally between the 6. Invest your money in God's ministry at home and abroad!

- Living Gifts: Heifer International- livestock investments
- Church World Services- emergency response and community development
- Anti-Human Trafficking ministries worldwide
- Good Works, Inc of Ohio
- Medicine Box- global medicine distribution
- Water and Sanitation ministries worldwide

The devil knows your name but calls you by your sin.

God knows your sin but calls you by your name.

Auglaize County Crisis Center Auction

Please join us at the Benefit Auction for the Auglaize County Crisis Center

A family violence program that offers: a window of hope!

Thursday, April 20, 2017 – 5:00pm

Jr. Fair Building, Auglaize County Fairgrounds

All new items, gift certificates, getaway weekends, sports tickets, autographed items & more!

By Myers Auction Service

Lunch stand provided by Lillian Koenig, student at Botkins High School – all proceeds to be donated back to the Auglaize County Crisis Center

A United Way participating agency

Expanding our view of service

We often think of serving in terms of Matthew 25: supplying food and clothing; caring for the sick, incarcerated and other “least of these” members of society — serving Jesus in the process. But we also can serve him with our unique talents and by doing things we love.

For example, Ged King, a barber in England, devotes some of his time off to giving homeless people free haircuts. Imagine Jesus saying, “For my hair was long and scraggly, and you cut it” — or “My heart was lonely, and you played music to lift my spirits. I could no longer read small print, and you read to me. I have to work two jobs, and you invited my child to spend afternoons crafting with you. My car broke down, and you repaired it.” Then the King will say, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father ... *whatever* you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:34, 40, NIV; emphasis added).

Church Work Day—May 20, 9 am—12 pm

The Trustees ask you join us for the Spring Work Day, as we spruce up the church exterior and tackle some projects inside. Work begins at 9 AM. If you can't participate that day, check the Ministry Center for a project list, and sign up to take care of it on a different day. We have projects for any age, so bring the whole family to work on creating a hospitable and welcoming atmosphere.



Prayer Path



The youth are sponsoring a prayer path at the Calvary Campus. It will be open to anyone on Monday, April 10 from 3-6 p.m. If you have never walked a prayer path before we encourage you to try it. Sometimes we become so busy that we forget our Quiet Time with God and this can be a way to do that. If you have any questions, contact Jeff and Mel.

Four Lessons of Good Friday

The Rev. James Martin, S.J., author of *Jesus: A Pilgrimage* (HarperOne), writes that Jesus' suffering and death almost 2,000 years ago are very relevant to our 21st-century lives. He says Good Friday teaches us that:

1. physical and emotional suffering are part of life;
2. suffering isn't always the result of sin;
3. Jesus was fully human — and thus understands our humanity; and
4. suffering isn't the last word.

“The message of Good Friday is incomplete without Easter,” Martin writes. “The story of the Passion is not simply of a man being brutally tortured, nailed to a cross and executed by the Romans. It's the story of a man who turns himself fully over to the Father's will, trusts that something new will come out of this offering and receives the astonishing gift of new life.”

Cridersville Community Garage Sale

Saturday, May 13th starting at 9 AM



Otterbein Spring Choral Concert

Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30 pm. Enjoy Easter music with us!

Nola Heilman will be the accompanist.



4/9- Palm Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

4/10- Prayer Path at Calvary Campus 3-6 PM

Come any time from 3-6PM to the Youth Center in our Calvary building, and walk the indoor prayer path. Prepare your hearts for the struggles of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection with stations for silence, for creativity, for intentional prayers, and simply for worship.

4/14- Good Friday Prayer Walk 11 AM – beginning at Calvary

Walk (or ride on the bus) your way through town, praying for our community, stopping to bless, to pray, and to invite others along the way. We start at Calvary and end at our main sanctuary. . A bus will be available to transport non-walker to each stop. Please contact the church office if you also need transportation to Calvary.

4/14 Good Friday Service - 7 PM

Live through the pain of Christ's death, as we mourn the sins of ourselves and the world, and prepare for the pain of waiting for Easter. Nursery will be provided.

4/15- Preparing the Flower Cross 9 AM

Bring your own scissors to cut flowers and decorate our beautiful symbol of resurrection. Meet in the sanctuary at 9 AM.

Community Easter Egg Hunt (co-sponsored with the Lions Club) 10:30-11:30 AM

Children up to age 10 can hunt eggs, take a photo with the Easter Bunny, enjoy a hot lunch, and share in the story of Easter. Gathering begins in the Fellowship Hall with egg hunts divided by age group on the back lawns.

To volunteer, contact the church office, or speak directly with the Family Life Chairs- Betsy Wagner or Jeff & Mel Reichelderfer.

4/16- Sunrise Service 8:00 AM- lead by the Youth Group

Easter Breakfast 8:30 AM

Easter Worship Celebration 9:30 AM