SEPTEMBER 2019 CTHIM NEWSLETTER

## Upcoming Fall Events

Cleveland Ministry, Mom Coming to Minister, and New Videos to Be Released



ON OCTOBER 6, WE HAVE BEEN INVITED TO MINISTER IN CLEVELAND



MOM IS COMING TO TO SHARE ABOUT SUKKOTH IN OCTOBER



2 NEW SONGS TO BE RELEASED ON CABLE TV DIRECTED BY KERYN MORIYAH

# CTHIM Newsletter



#### SUKKOTH

This year on the feast of Sukkoth, we are looking forward to have mom, Diantha Upham, come to share with our church body about the fall feasts. We are going to attempt to set up a small sukkah in the church to give the people an idea of the experience of what it is like to sit in one, and to help people to understand how the Lord wants to tabernacle with us. Sitting in the small tent (sukkah), which is supposed to be looking up to the air full of stars, it reminds us of how the Lord

came to be with us on the earth and made his home with us. What an amazing reminder of the great God we serve who is near to us, and not far away.

### SUMMER OUTREACH UPDATE

In the summer, we hosted two outreaches. The first was on the night of the big fireworks here in Columbus, called "Red, White, and Boom". Unfortunately, it rained that night, and not too many people came out for the event. However, we did have an opportunity to pray for a young man struggling with addiction to opioids, and some of our leadership ministered to a young couple who received the Lord into their hearts. The second event was combined with a church picnic. Again, we only had a few opportunities, but the Lord did open a door to minister to a young lady who received some prophecy and was very encouraged.

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#### WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism symbolizes the believer's total trust in and total reliance on the Lord Jesus Christ, as well as a commitment to live obediently to Him. It also expresses unity with all the saints (Ephesians 2:19), that is, with every person in every nation on earth who is a member of the Body of Christ (Galatians 3:27–28). We are saved by grace through faith, apart from works (Ephesians 2:8–9). We are baptized because our Lord commanded it: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19).

Water baptism is for believers. Before we are baptized, we must come to believe that we are sinners in need of salvation (Romans 3:23). We must also believe that Christ died on the cross to pay for our sins, that He was buried, and that He was resurrected to assure our place in heaven (1 Corinthians 15:1–4). When we turn to Jesus, asking Him to forgive our sins and be our Lord and Savior, we are born again by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our eternal salvation is guaranteed, and we begin to die to ourselves and live for Christ (1 Peter 1:3–5). At that time we are scripturally qualified to be baptized.

Water baptism is a beautiful picture of what our Lord has done for us. As we are completely immersed in the water, we symbolize burial with our Lord; we are baptized into His death on the cross and are no longer slaves to self or sin (Romans 6:3–7). When we are raised out of the water, we are symbolically resurrected—raised to new life in Christ to be with Him forever, born into the family of our loving God (Romans 8:16). Water baptism also illustrates the spiritual cleansing we experience when we are saved; just as water cleanses the flesh, so the Holy Spirit cleanses our hearts when we trust Christ.

The fact that water baptism is not a prerequisite for salvation is best seen in the example of a saved man who was not baptized in water—the criminal on the cross (Luke 23:39–43). This self-confessed sinner acknowledged Jesus as his Lord while dying on a cross next to Him. The thief asked for salvation and was forgiven of his sins. Although he never experienced water baptism, at that moment he was spiritually baptized into Christ's death, and he then was raised to eternal life by the power of Christ's word (Hebrews 1:3).

Christians should be baptized out of obedience to and love for our Lord Jesus (John 14:15). Water baptism by immersion is the biblical method of baptism because of its symbolic representation of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

From Sermon Notes of Theodore Aluoch

#### BAPTISMS







In obedience to the Scriptures and the prompting of the spirit, some young men attending our church felt led to be water baptized. Jesus commands us to be baptized in the great commission (Matt. 28:19), and as leaders, we want to always be faithful to carry out his command.