

The Messenger

March 6, 2019



MOMENT'S REFLECTION

Ask me to describe **Ash Wednesday**, and I'd say simply, its something new, something old. Relatively new to us Protestants. Something ancient to the Church.

"Return to me with your heart...." -Joel 2:12



Ask any Roman Catholic. Members of the Catholic church grew up hearing the words on Ash Wednesday as they received a sign of the cross in ashes on their foreheads: "For dust you are and to dust you will return." (Genesis 3:19).

Protestants of my generation likely didn't grow up attending such services.

Yet, in recent years, we Protestants have increasingly turned to the rituals of the Ash Wednesday service as one way to increase spiritual awareness, and as devotional preparation for Easter Sunday (April 21).

Daniel Dunlap, liturgy expert from Houston Graduate School of Theology explains: "There is a trend ... toward more sacramental forms and it is not surprising to see the recovery of imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday." Church history teaches, the rite was generally abandoned by Protestants after the Reformation (circa 1600's). It was thought to be too ritualistically high church, too pretentious. On Ash Wednesday, we reclaim some of the Church's ancient tradition.



To make the typically somber, spiritual introspective, service more palatable, we begin the night with a meal of pre-Lenten levity. With a touch of Mardi Gras-ian festiveness, we prepare for the long, arduous, penitential 40-day season of Lenten sacrifice, by gathering in the Fellowship Hall for a **Pancake Supper**.

Though the pancakes of **Fat Tuesday** are typically celebrated the day before Lent, we join the two in one great evening. At Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper (aka, Shrove Tuesday), we indulge in a meal of good food before going to the Sanctuary to receive an invitation to penitential sacrifice. You might think of this way: The pancakes of Fat Tuesday are like having desert before sitting down to a bowl of spiritual broccoli. We enjoy ourselves a little before engaging the harder, more disciplined work of Lent.

-Dan, Lent 2019

“Walk with Jesus” Children & Family Holy Week Event

Sunday, April 14th—10:30am

We will host a very special Holy Week event for kids on Sunday, April 14th during the Sunday School hour. All kids, youth, families, parents, and grandparents are invited to participate. This will be in place of the Easter Egg hunt, but don't worry—there will still be plenty of surprises and goodies!



Palm Sunday

April 14, 2019—9am

Procession of Palm Branches

“Walk with Jesus” Children & Family Holy Week
Event—10:30am

Maundy Thursday Service

Agape Feast—7:00pm

Good Friday Prayer Service

April 19, 2019—Noon

EASTER

Sunday, April 21, 2019

Service of Worship—9:00am

Continental Breakfast—10:00am

Sunday School—10:15am



DWM LINE DANCE & CHILI SUPPER




March 24th
at 5:00pm




THE PASTOR'S CLASS



The Pastor's Class is scheduled to begin Sunday, March 31st, 10:15-11:15am. Contact the Church Office by March 17th if your child wants to attend the class and/or is interested in baptism.

Lost & Found

There are many items in the church Lost & Found baskets (located in the Avenue A Foyer inside the turquoise cabinet under the stairs). Items not claimed by **April 1st** will be donated to a local charity. If you've lost earrings, eyeglasses, or something else, be sure to check here.



Memorialize or celebrate someone you love with a

COMMEMORATIVE BRICK

Makes a great gift!

Contact Kathleen Yant or Eva McKannan




Don't forget!

Daylight Savings Time ends this Saturday night.

Don't be late for church this Sunday!

Disciples Women's Ministry Monthly Meetings

Morning Circle – Monday Apr. 1st at 9:30am

In the Fellowship Hall

Evening Circle – Tuesday Apr. 2nd at 6:45pm

At Main Street Café

Contact Shirley Miller



Disciples Women Ministry would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to DWM Taco Lunch, Bingo & Bake Sale.

An extra BIG thank you for your contributions to Week of Compassion.



Together, we raised a phenomenal

\$15,609.00. This

represents the largest

donation to Week of Compassion to date.

Well done!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the great success of the **Rusk Music Event** on February 24th. Whether you participated by lending your voice in the choir, by performing as an instrumentalist, by providing refreshment for our members and guests, or by donating to the Rusk fund, all of your efforts contributed to a fantastic service. Very special thanks to Stan McGill and Debbie Fetzer for their work on the scholarship committee.



FUSION DINNER CHURCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 16
6:00PM

We will gather at the church for lively discussion centered around a delicious meal. Following the example of the early church, we share our lives and faith around filled tables, celebrating Jesus' presence among us and growing in our faith with one another.

Childcare is available

RSVP to Rev. Casey



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 6th
10:30am



Youth Progressive Dinner

Here's our great group of Youth, enjoying their last stop on their Progressive Dinner. During a Progressive Dinner, participants enjoy each of the meal courses at a different location. Fun times!

Upcoming Youth Events

- Medieval Times Fun Outing – March 23rd
- Disciples Crossing Camp Promotion Sunday - March 31st
- Chi Rho/CYF Lock-In – April 26-27th
- Mission Trip – June 23-29th

Our Youth Fun Outing on March 23rd will be a trip to:

Medieval Times
DINNER & TOURNAMENT

If you wanna go, RSVP to David by March 6th.



Youth Mission Trip Information

When: June 23-29th!

Where: Springfield, MO

Who: Chi Rho and CYF

The deadline for submitting your deposit is approaching quickly. \$100 Deposit and Confirmation that you will be going will be due by **March 31st!**





Sunday School Lessons CYF/Chi Rho

For Sunday School lessons for CYF/Chi Rho we are learning are going over Christian Action: Social Issues. We will be learning what the Bible, Theologians, and others have to say about our Christian responsibility in approaching social issues. As followers of Jesus Christ we all need to understand the importance of helping those that are in need and those who are oppressed. Social justice was very important to Jesus. Through actions such as healing, feeding, and preaching against the powers that be Jesus fought for justice and it was integral to his ministry. As followers of Jesus, we need to emulate his actions or, better yet, pick up our cross and follow him. We expect to cover a multitude of topics such as immigration, race, poverty, gender dynamics, and other issues in today's society. We have almost finished discussing immigration and will finish discussion in the coming weeks. After this discussion we will move to discussing race.

Scripture:

Isaiah 1:17 *"Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."*

Matthew 25: 35-36 *For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'*

JYF

In JYF, we are learning about Bible stories and biblical basics. It is very important for children (and adults) of any age to learn biblical basics. When we get to learn about the Bible at a young age we open ourselves up to a whole new world of discovery about our creator and our savior Jesus Christ. And what better way to teach about the bible than through stories. Stories are always interesting and fun to hear. Since the beginning of time, we have passed knowledge through stories. Stories are a fun, exciting, and thoughtful way of spreading wisdom to others. In this class, JYF will learn stories from the Bible and gain wisdom.

Evening Youth - Sundays from 5:00pm-7:00pm CYF/Chi Rho

Divine Creativity: Participating with God in Creation – We will be learning about God in the first way God presents God's self: as Creator. We know that in the beginning God created but we do not think God ever stopped. God creates new ideas, justice, nature, peace, and God creates through people. How can we participate with God in creating beautiful things like God does? How can we be instruments of God in creating peace, justice, love, life, and other wonderful things? In this lesson series, we'll discuss creation and how we can participate. We will be having activities such as writing letters to our home group members, planting plants, arts and crafts, watching movies, and doing other creative things.

Scripture

Hebrews 3:34 *"For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything."*

Ephesians 2:10 *"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

JYF

In JYF, we are learning biblical basics such as organization of the Bible. We are learning the order of the books of the Bible. Memorizing is always such a hard thing to do for anyone. We think it is very helpful for faith formation to be able to know the order of the books of the Bible. To better help the JYF kids to learn them we are breaking the books into parts and then eventually working to recite them all at once. Right now we are able to recite Genesis to 2 Kings from memory. Please encourage our JYF kids as they continue to work on memorization.

Mission Trip News

Our Mission Trip this year will be June 23rd through June 29th. We will be partnering with a fellow Disciple's organization called Disciple's Summer Mission for our mission trip this year. Our mission trip destination will be Springfield, Missouri. We are waiting with eager hands and hearts to find out what we will be doing there as plans are still underway with the organization. Please be in prayer for the lives that we may touch and for us as we venture there. Also, as we draw closer please help us as we try to gain funds through fundraisers.

Word from the Youth Minister

To Parents, Sponsors, and Youth: Hey y'all! I hope you are having a wonderful year filled with blessings and love. I pray that as we continue this year that you are richly blessed with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. I pray that the rest of the year that we have fun, learn about Jesus, and love one another throughout. I am in prayer for all of you.

To the Congregation: Thank you so much for being passionate about youth activities. We are beyond appreciative of your involvement in our Dos Banderas Fundraiser, bake sales, and Valentine's Day sale. We, as the youth and sponsors, are very appreciative of the passion that you all show for us. We ask that you continue to be in prayer for us and continue to aid us through whatever means you can.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Circle of Fellowship

Wes Ferrell
Diane Howard
Virginia Stone

Hands of Faith

Michael Armstrong
Mike Whalin

Cup of Life

Mary Helen Shelley

Shepherds

Billirene Donaghey

God's Messengers

Pat Spradley
Nina Wood

The Grapevine

Lynda Simpson

PASTORAL CONCERNS LINE



469-573-1717

A dedicated phone number for your use in contacting a FCCG minister with your pastoral concerns.



115 S. Glenbrook Dr.
Garland, TX 75040

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