



## CHRIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

### March 2024 Volume 53 No. 3

#### **FROM A PASTOR'S DESK:**

*"Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work..." Titus 3:1*

As I sit down to write this I am looking forward to a day of travel. We are heading to California to see Jeremy and his family! There's lots to think about: getting to the airport on time, getting all the luggage checked, going through TSA, getting to the gate early enough for them to scan the wheelchair, having time to change Joelle one last time before the flight, getting boarded on the plane ahead of everyone else, keeping Joelle comfortable with the pressure changes, giving her drinks to get her to swallow to avoid earaches, landing at LAX, meeting up with Jeremy, driving home in prime LA traffic, etc.. With all of that in mind, God's Word tells me to "be ready for every good work."

In Sunday school we have been reminded that Jesus' impact in the world was done one person at a time, recognizing individuals and speaking love and truth into their lives. We were encouraged to start our day with this prayer: "Jesus, give me Your eyes for the one and help me to see people the way You see people. Amen."

So, with all that is on my mind for the day today, is it possible to leave all those concerns that I have, trusting Jesus to take care of and for me to "be ready" to see people the way that Jesus does? Ready to respond, in love to whatever need might present itself. As I see it, it is going to take a total effort, purposing to look for the hurts that will expose themselves as we encounter different people. Will it be the person at the ticket counter, the TSA, the attendants at the gate, or the flight attendants? Might it be the person walking Joelle's chair from the gate to the plane, or sitting ahead or behind us, or across the aisle? Might it be the people filing past us as they go to their seats? Will I be ready? Can I let go of all of my concerns to focus on Jesus' concerns that will cross my path today? To be continued...

Short report on how it went: God is so good! Yes, it took effort to focus my attention on others and attempt to be "ready". It really required a concerted effort to let go of the things that I was concerned about and entrust them into God's hands, but God met our every need. Were there a few "bumps" along the way? Yes, but when the attention is on others and I'm ready to see them through Jesus' eyes, the pressure is off, and God comes through. Now the challenge is to learn to "be ready" day in and day out. It's not easy, but I'm convinced that Jesus' love through me will change the lives of hurting people who need to know Him!

## **SEEING GOD AS A PERFECT FATHER**

We are excited about our Lenten study. God wants us to know Him better and one aspect of our relationship with Him is to know Him as our perfect Father. Regardless of how great or difficult your relationship has been with your earthly father, it's important to know that God is not the reflection of your dad, He's the perfection of your dad. You can live under the waterfall of the Father's blessing and walk freely in an intimate relationship with the God of creation. You can know God as a Father who is perfect in all His ways. What's more, you can know who you truly are in Him – a loved son or daughter of a perfect heavenly Father.

He can transform your life through the power of that perfect love so that no matter what you have endured in life, you can live free!

I hope that you will plan to join us as we dig deeper into knowing the love of a perfect Father. We meet on Thursdays through March from 6pm when we enjoy a soup supper together and are promptly done at 8pm.

Soup Supper schedule:

Mar. 7 - Redeemed

Mar. 14 – The Chosen

Mar. 21 – Elders/wives

## **RESURRECTION SUNDAY**

March 31st is the day that we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Otherwise known as Easter Sunday! I hope that you will plan to join us as we begin the day with breakfast served at church from 9-9:45am. There will be no adult Sunday School that day. There is no charge for breakfast, but a freewill offering will be accepted which will go towards our Outreach Food ministry. We hope that you will join us just prior to our victory celebration which will begin at 10:15. If you plan to attend the breakfast, please sign up on the sheet in the rear entry or call the church office and let us know that you are planning to attend.

## **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

- Maundy Thursday – Mar. 28th 7pm
- Good Friday – Mar. 29th Noon
- Resurrection Celebration – Mar. 31
  - Breakfast 9am-9:45am
  - Worship 10:15am

## **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. That means that we lose an hour of sleep, don't forget to plan for that!

## ONE AT A TIME

We all hope that our lives will make a difference. We want to leave a legacy, big or small, we want to know that we fulfilled God's purpose for our lives. So, how did Jesus make such a difference in this world? If we study the story of his life as recorded in the Gospels, there are a number of answers we could highlight, but there's one particular phrase that captures how Jesus had such an impact, and this phrase is how he wants to use us to make a difference: *one at a time*. Making a difference isn't measured by a viral post or a name on a building. It isn't determined by a following or a fan base. Making a difference isn't dependent on what's in your bank account or who's in your contacts. Want to make a difference? Focus on the one. That's it. That's the secret of the way of Jesus. *One at a time*.

*Come join us as we take a look at the impact that Jesus' life had on individuals and seek how to see the opportunities before us as we look at each life one at a time. Our study begins at 9am on Sunday mornings. Please prayerfully consider joining us, you'll be glad you did!*

## CLOTHING MINISTRY

Due to the upcoming construction in the education wing, the clothing ministry will not be accepting any donations until further notice.

## MEIJER SIMPLY GIVE CAMPAIGN

We will once again be a part of the Meijer "Simple Give" campaign. The campaign will run through March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. **Our double match days will be Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.** This campaign we will be partnering with the Meijer Store located at 13000 Middlebelt Road in Livonia, just south of the Freeway 196. If you have any questions about this campaign please see Barb Christopherson.

## EDUCATION WING RENOVATION UPDATE

The project had a small setback when we discovered that we had a moisture problem. This is almost resolved, and we are currently working on the new wiring. After the wiring is complete, the Township will perform an inspection before the drywall can be installed. The windows in the rear-entryway and the education wing are scheduled to be replaced on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your continued prayers!  
What a mighty God we serve.!