

Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE CHRONICLES MARCH 2021

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PASTOR'S LETTER

Dearest Church Family,

February 17th, 2021 was the anniversary of the Lent season that never ended. Last year on Ash Wednesday, I smudged ash on your foreheads and hands. This year we observed the service online at a distance. For many of us, 2020's Ash Wednesday service was one of the last times we made intentional physical contact with people outside of our immediate families. A year later we still find ourselves living in a strange time of pandemic, protest, and partisan politics. I guess the idea that Lent never ended last year is appropriate.

Lent is a season in which we are invited to turn inward a bit and recall the gravity of Jesus' journey to the cross. We often focus on our own mortality and finitude. We tend to take this time very seriously and change our behaviors to align more closely with Jesus. Often when the season ends, we forget, and we need reminders of Lent once more. On Easter Sunday we plant our boot on death's corpse, but things remind us time and time again that death still stings.

Last year on Easter morning I went for a run because worship was prerecorded. I remember seeing a blue surgical-style face mask on the side of the road, which immediately sobered me to the reality that the powers of death were very much still alive despite my declaration that the resurrection had stripped death of all its power. All of this is to say that little by little, we are reminded that death does still reign and does have very real power over our lives.

This Lent we are reminded again and again, that suffering, and brokenness find us. We doubt again. We lament again. We screw up again and again and again. But again, and again-- the story of Christ on the cross repeats. It is as if Lent never truly ends even if it ends as a church season, because every time lives are taken unjustly, every time the powerful choose corruption and violence, every time individuals forget how to love, we cry out: "Again? How long, O God?!" But God reminds us, again, and again, that God chooses us, names us, and claims us as God's own. God breaks the cycle and offers a new way forward.

Our sermon series for Lent is titled *Again and Again*. I am hopeful that it can bring insight to you and your families during this time of pandemic, protest, and hyper partisan politics. Although we find ourselves in the Lent that never ended last year at this time, I believe we journey together and with God.



This year our services for Lent and Holy Week will be entirely online. Much like we did when we celebrated Christmas Eve, I am hopeful you can take advantage of our Holy Week Kits, which consist of a candle, communion, and directions for how to observe and celebrate our services online.

Again and again, we find ourselves on the journey to the cross. Again and again, God walks with us along the way. May the journey be meaningful and worshipful for you and your families.

With gratitude,
Pastor Dan



PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

I recently had my annual physical examination and after the doctor finished writing all his notes in my chart he turned to me with a smile and simply said "Well Dean, it looks like God still has work for you to do here". While that made me smile too it made me think about what I do still need to do. I realize that one day the doctor may not be smiling when he talks to me. Not only will that day be a very sad day health wise, but it may also signal the end of my ability to do what I should've been doing all along in this world. I have been given the immeasurable gift of many years of wonderful health and what have I done with them?

We've all had anxiety over things we've done and things we've left undone. For the things that we've done we can only hope that we are understood and forgiven for them. That helps see us through a little but the things that we've left undone are the real heartaches aren't they? The missed opportunities to do something good or help someone. To make a situation better, to help someone who cannot possibly help themselves or ever pay us back. To give without the expectation of receiving.

I guess it's our human nature to think we always have a tomorrow, just like it's our human nature to always expect a doctor's smiling face saying everything's OK. I've learned something in my life and that's for every summer Friday afternoon there's a winter Monday morning waiting. If we don't treasure, respect, and use our summer Friday afternoons wisely those winter Mondays are almost intolerable.

We all have some extra time these days as our lives have slowed down. Let's take advantage of that time to reflect on where we have been and where we want to be on our journey in this life, and the next. It's easy to let each day slip by being consumed by the trivial problems (or as Chelsea Clark says "fist world problems") that confront us and not be concerned over the reason why we are on earth and what we should be doing here. I'd be willing to bet all I had that on the day the doctor says to me, or you, "we've got something serious to discuss" that we won't be lamenting overpaying .10/gallon too much for gas, or that neighbor who doesn't cut his grass regularly, or even that that fellow at church who sings funny and only shows up 3 weeks out of the year. No, on the day the doctor and I have a more serious chat I'll be much more interested in what I have left undone and what can I do with what I have left. So why would I wait for the doctor to start me thinking that way? I have today, I have health, and I have a guidebook (Bible). Why would anyone wait for the doctor to start them thinking? Because we have tomorrow, right? To answer that we'd better check with Jesus first, then the doctor.

Dean Kothrade

ONLINE GIVING IN LIGHT OF THE CORONOVIRUS

Online giving is essential during this time! You can pay with an existing PayPal account. For first time users just go to the church website and click on the donate button and you can donate with a credit card- www.uccmke.org/donate. Feel free to contact Pastor Dan pastor@uccmke.org or contact the church for assistance at 414-481-3530 or office@uccmke.org. Thank You!



SIGN UP: WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

If you're interested in receiving the *Christ Church Weekly*, please contact Debbie the Church Administrator (office@uccmke.org) to be added to the list (414-481-3530).

CLASSES AND MEETINGS DURING COVID 19

If your group/class would like to return to meeting at the church building, please do the following so we can properly sanitize and prepare the room.

- *Contact the church office to reserve a room for your desired meeting date.
- *You will be assigned a room that will fit the size of your group for proper social distancing.
- *Upon entering the building please wear a mask and use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. entrance.
- *Sign the attendance sheet on the clipboard that will be found in your room.
- *When your meeting is completed please clean all door handles, tables, chairs, and surfaces that were used or contacted during your meeting. Each room has a caddy equipped with wipes/spray, gloves and paper towels.
- *Initial the attendance sheet that the room has been sanitized.
- *Prior to exiting the building, once again, please use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. door.

NEED: BVCC FOOD & INFANT FORMULA PANTRY

You can still donate to the pantry as the Food pantry at the BVCC remains open. The community center is requesting the following donations:

Jams & Jellies, Pasta & Sauces, and Black Beans & Rice.

Monetary donations are always appreciated as well.

Donations can be dropped off at the BVCC @ 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave.:

Tuesdays thru Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm.



NEED: SHARING OUR SUPPERS (SOS) VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Every Friday our church is the food distribution site for 40 restaurant prepared meals, bottled water, and 45 bag lunches. Those who come for food are homeless or referred to us from Bay View Community Center. Since the pandemic, Divine Intervention has been unable to provide face to face services for the homeless in Bay View. Pastor Karen from Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church has coordinated this meal distribution through a variety of church contacts and organizations along with Jim Wick. The restaurant meals are provided through Meals Matter Movement and the lunches are prepared by individuals from churches in the support group for Divine Intervention.

How can you help?

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD GET 2 MORE SETS OF BUILDING REPS SO THAT VOLUNTEERS WILL REPEAT ABOUT EVERY 6-8 WEEKS. JUST 1.5 HOURS ON A FRIDAY EVENING STARTING AT 4:45 PM.

Be the Christ Church building representative. Responsibilities include: Disinfect and set up of the outside serving table, signage and cones for distancing; bring up the water from the refrigerator and coolers for keeping food cold/warm; assist with meal drop off and distribution; Disinfect and return coolers, signage, table, to the basement and sanitize the areas used before leaving the church. The time required is 4:45 PM to approximately 6:15 PM on a Friday night of your choosing.

Donate heavy duty disposable plastic forks and knives. Please drop them off at church during office hours or on a Sunday. They can be left outside of the church office.

If you would like more information please contact Jim or Randene Wick, 414-614-2622,

wickrl.51@gmail.com.



NEED: PLEASE SUPPORT JIM DANDY'S PUB & GRILL FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO DI-SOS

Jim Dandy's Pub & Grill

Address: 8900 S 27th St, Oak Creek, WI 53154,

Phone: (414) 304-8136

WEB: <https://www.jimdandysgrill.com/>

Jim Dandy's Pub & Grill has graciously provided Divine Intervention – Share Our Suppers (DI-SOS) with 45 hot meals each Friday evening, since early July, to be distributed at Christ Church through the DI-SOS ministry. Any support you can provide to this restaurant during these difficult times would be greatly welcomed and appreciated. Consider ordering online for pick up or mask up and socially distance at their restaurant. Also, mention that you are thankful for their support of DI-SOS.

Jim Wick

BVCC DIAPER DRIVE MARCH 6TH THRU MARCH 13TH

In honor of International Women's Day, the BVCC is hosting a drive for donations of diapers, wipes, monthly feminine products and/or monetary contributions. Donations can be dropped off at the center Tuesday-Saturday 9:30am-12:30pm. The center is located at 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave.

EASTER GIFT PACKET

The Worship Committee would like to give you an Easter gift packet for those people who would want one. The gift packet will contain the communion juice and wafer and a little gift. If you would like to receive your gift packet you can come to church during church office hours 8:00 am until 2:00 pm Tuesday thru Thursday starting March 16th. Sunday, March 21st you can come between 10:00 am until 12:30 pm and pick up your packet also. If you would like one of the packets delivered to you, please contact the church office, at 414-481-3530, no later than Maundy Thursday, April 1st. Happy Easter to everyone.

UPDATE: CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB

We would like to have every reader able to enjoy our book club discussions. We are going to see how the reopening at church proceeds and also small group meetings. While we all miss our time together for now the book club will take a break. When we do resume, we will give you enough notice so you can have time to read the book. Stay safe and healthy!

Carol Dohoney, Debbie Hansen and Mary Ann Mowery

UPDATE: MARCH CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays thru Thursdays 7:30am-2:30pm

SCHEDULES FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP, EVENTS & MEETINGS IN MARCH

Monday March 1st: Tap lessons 5:00pm.

Friday February 5th: DI SOS 4:45pm- Building Reps.: Andy Oren & Sharon.

Sunday February 7th: Worship online.

Monday March 8th: Tap lessons 5:00pm.

Tuesday March 9th: Quilters 10:00am.

Friday February 12th: DI SOS 4:45pm-Building Reps.: The Kothrades

Saturday March 13th: Crochet Class 10:00am.

Sunday March 14th: Daylight Saving Time begins! Spring ahead!

Worship online, One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

Monday March 15th: Tap lessons 5:00pm.

Wednesday March 17th: Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Friday March 19th: DI SOS 4:45pm-Building Reps.: The Wicks.

Sunday March 21st: Worship online.

Monday March 22nd: Tap lessons 5:00pm.



Tuesday March 23rd: Quilters 10:00am.
 Friday March 26th: DI SOS 4:45pm-Building Reps.: Volunteer(s) needed.
 Saturday March 27th: Crochet Class 10:00am.
 Sunday March 28th: Palm Sunday! Worship online.
 Monday March 29th: Tap Lessons 5:00pm.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR APRIL

Thursday April 1st: Maundy Thursday. Online Worship 7:00pm.
 Friday April 2nd: Good Friday. Online Worship 7:00pm.
 DI SOS 4:45pm-Building Reps.: Volunteer(s) needed.
 Sunday April 4th: Happy Easter!! Online Worship 9:30am.



QUILTERS

The Piece and Plenty Quilters will meet at church on Tuesday March 9th & 23rd at 10:00am.
 Randene Wick, Gloria Konkel, Julie Oren and Joyce Ziemann.

CROCHETERS

Crochet class will be held Saturday March 13th & 27th at 10:00am in the music room.
 For information, please contact Ken Klockow.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

3/7	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
3/14	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
3/21	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 5:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
3/28	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29	Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16	Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16, Phillipians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, 40-47

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THESE WONDERFUL FOLKS!

MARCH 1
 Joyce Jakimczyk
MARCH 5
 Neil Feest
 Ezra Misleh
 Jerald Veit
MARCH 6
 Darren Stezala
MARCH 7
 Kenneth Klockow
MARCH 8
 Keira Buell
 Kay Rollert

MARCH 11
 Judy Borkowicz
MARCH 14
 Benjamin Pfeifer
MARCH 15
 Sandra Blackwood
MARCH 16
 Gloria Konkel
MARCH 17
 Gloria Henke
 Jackson Stezala
MARCH 18
 Samuel Rondorf

MARCH 20
 Robert Engstrom
 Brooke Goedel
MARCH 21
 Nathan Scheske
MARCH 23
 Nicholas Wegner
MARCH 24
 Maria Porn
MARCH 25
 Isabelle Berger
MARCH 30
 Dean Mowery



PRAYERS

Hear Our Prayers, O God...For health & healing: *God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.* Ps. 147:3 We pray for:

- ~Ian, husband of Molly Pufall Brown as he navigates the preliminary steps to receive treatments of chemotherapy every 2 weeks for 2 months for stage 2 Hodgkins lymphoma. Prayers also for Molly and their daughters during this difficult process. They are encouraged as this type of cancer has a 90% + success rate.
- ~Melissa Franco as she suffered a miscarriage at the end of last year and is greatly struggling with the loss. She is asking for prayers of peace and comfort, as she is dealing with feelings of depression.
- ~ Kim O'Brien as she recently started chemotherapy treatment.
“Thanks to everyone for their positive thoughts and prayers during her surgery. I will be taking my prayer shall to every chemo treatment so I can stay warm and be wrapped in the love I have from my church family.” Kim O’Brien.
- ~Judy, niece of Ken Klockow as she is on chemo for breast cancer.
- ~Emily, her husband and 2 young children, Andy Oren’s friend as she was just diagnosed with systemic scleroderma, a serious auto-immune disease.
- ~Ken Klockow as he deals with lower back pain and restrictions.
- ~Ken’s sister who was moved to a nursing home and has a serious chronic infection and dementia.
- ~Susie Klockow’s Aunt Evelyn who is in hospice and Aunt Eleanore who had a stroke and is in home hospice, also for her daughters and granddaughters who are taking care of her.
- ~David Rothe, choir friend of John Helt who has been at St. Luke's for the last two weeks, fighting a serious infection, discovered after a fall in his home.
- ~Sally, young friend of Andy Oren who is dealing with a cancerous tumor.
- ~Johnny, friend of the Klockows who has COVID and other health problems.
- ~Continued prayers for Jack and our niece, Dawn, and their three children as Jack continues chemo treatments. They are grateful that he is home, but now he has to be driven twice a day to the hospital for chemo. Prayers of thanksgiving that he is home and prayers for healing. From Dick & Joan Gaeth.
- ~Bill Kroening as he receives radiation treatments.
- ~Bob Kroening as he receives chemo drug treatments.
- ~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie Struck. Prayers for continued healing for wounds as he goes to wound care.
- ~Nick Miller, nephew of Nancy & Brad Charles who has started using heroin again.
Prayers for the whole family.
- ~Dawn, daughter in-law of Laurel and wife of Brad Dayton, as she manages diabetes and dialysis 4 times per week.
- ~Tracy, daughter of Nancy Kaye, who is at home with Nancy awaiting liver and kidney transplants. She is doing well.
- ~Continued prayers for Julene Flanagan’s nephew, who is struggling with mental health issues.
- ~Continued prayers for Julene Flanagan’s family member who is struggling with health issues related to kidney disease.
- ~Dan, friend of Molly Pufall Brown, who is very sick and discouraged with an undiagnosed illness. Prayers also for his wife and 2 young children as the eldest child is being taken care of the grandma and his wife works full time and struggles to also take care of their youngest child.
- ~Kelley, friend of Nancy Charles as she receives radiation treatment for breast cancer.
- ~Bernee, friend of Nancy Kaye who has end-stage lung cancer and is in a nursing home in hospice.

THANK YOU

- ~Thankful that our WI National Guard is back home without incident. Prayers that the peace continues.
- ~We accept with gratitude and appreciation memorial gifts in memory of Howard Fritsch from the Wicks, Simons, Pfeifers, Fritsch’s, Jackie Struck and Sue Steinhauer.

~” Thank you for the generous support! It makes a difference. Your generosity allows us to continue serving those in need. Sincerely Mike Mortell.”

~” Thanks to you, seniors will have more opportunities to lead meaningful lives, and be fully embraced in the community. Your gift of \$600.00 impacts the lives of many of our older adult neighbors in Milwaukee county. Your gift supports services for healthcare transportation, grocery shopping and the delivery of food pantry stock boxes, friendly phone calls during COVID-19, seasonal yard clean up, caregiver support and more. Thank you again for supporting Eras Senior Network. Sincerely, Kathleen S. Gale

Eras Senior Network Executive Director

~Thanks to Brian O’Brien for organizing the setting up the outdoor Lenten crosses. Thank you to everyone who helped to bring them outside and set them up.

~Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success, fun and excitement of the Chinese “Dinners To Go” event! It was as much fun as you can have at a Pandemic church event. Special thanks to Emily, Dick & Joan for the show of such outstanding culinary skills.

From Paul & Doris Mayeshiba

~Thanks to Paul & Doris Mayeshiba for coming up with organizing and hosting such a wonderful and needed event, especially at this time. You brought joy to many people.

~Thanks to the Gaeths and everyone who helped to clean the kitchen, ovens and stoves in preparation for the dinner and how “spic and span” everything was left.

~We accept with appreciation and gratitude donations made in memory of Howard Fritsch from the Wicks, Simons, Pfeifers, Fritschs, Jackie Struck and Sue Steinhauer.

Puzzle!

Find and circle these words associated with the Lenten journey to the cross.

colt	denial	kiss	repent
confess	donkey	lots	silver
cross	forsaken	palms	sins
crown	Gethsemane	penance	suffer
crucifixion	Golgotha	Pilate	thorns
death	hosanna	prayer	vigil

E N A M E S H T E G R L W Y
C L E U X B M T H B U C W B
N R I K Y P A T E T I Y X Y
A V J G A L B R E Y A R P B
N G N L I S N L A I N E D X
E W M P R V R D H B N R D F
P S O G O L G O T H A B S C
D L N R O C O N F E S S I K
O T H T C P E K W U O U N D
M N S H N P W E D R H F S K
U N F O E T K Y C S G F O E
H E C R E V L I S W Q E C M
H V H N C X S O C C J R L O
F Q E S U D S H C A A Y M C
C R U C I F I X I O N S R V

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