

Church Life

at Yellowstone and Mayfield

*Photo by Ron Werman

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So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

2 Corinthians 5:17

April At a Glance...

Palm Sunday April 17:

Worship, baptisms, and fun! see page 5 for details.

Maundy Thursday April 21: *worship at 7:30 pm*

Good Friday April 22: *'7 Last Words' worship at St. Paul's Episcopal from noon to 3 pm. Pastor Kris will be preaching the last word.*

Saturday April 23: *Cleveland Christian Home 5K*

Easter Sunday April 24: *Worship at 9 and 11*

...and looking ahead to May

Sunday May 1: *Puppets perform during Prime Time; Hunger Center Benefit in Fellowship Hall 6 to 9 pm.*

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I'm mid-way through my Lenten discipline in which I pray for each person involved in the life of this congregation. I appreciate when you participate with me to help guide my prayer so it is specific to your concerns and your joys. This has been my practice throughout my ministry, and I make sure that I pray for you on your specific day. Though as I've said in some of my notes to you, it often takes me a few days to write back. What you share with me is confidential of course.

I don't think I'm betraying that confidence by sharing the following. A few of you have written expressing your regret that with two worship services on Sunday morning you miss seeing anyone who goes to the other service. Interestingly I hear this from some of our 11:00 worshippers and not from anyone who attends Connections at 9:00. I'm not making any value judgments here – I am richly fed by and comfortable leading both styles of worship. Both services are vital and relevant. Perhaps the difference is our 9:00 community has started something new. In transformation church work, starting something new takes tremendous energy and commitment to growth. So while our traditional worship has a long-standing commitment to quality and has many who are loyal in attendance, our 9:00'ers must work hard to build such a community.

That said they are doing really good work. As I said in a recent sermon, nearly every single week, 15 children walk forward for Young Disciples Moment. Some of our newest families have perfect attendance since the 1st of the year. Attendance is building again now that the nasty winter weather has eased. The Praise Chorus is adding another voice every week it seems. We are singing out praising God. Visit some Sunday and see for yourselves. I think you'll feel the Spirit moving.

You should know that the number of visitors has increased in **both** services since we added the 2nd worship last fall. And even more importantly, our visitors are becoming regular attendees and making decisions that Disciples will be their new church home. Last evening I held the first of what will be monthly "Learning About Disciples" membership inquiry opportunities with 11 people in attendance, along with 6 children. Even more persons were invited and couldn't attend this time. This is perhaps one of the greatest signs of our growth and transformation.

It's important now and as we move forward to have opportunities for the entire church to be together. We did that on "Fat Sunday" with pancakes between services. It was great fun. We have another opportunity coming up on **Sunday, April 17. Palm Sunday. Baptism Sunday for 5 Pastor's Class kids and one adult.** This year – for the first time – we will have a special service devoted just to baptism. It will begin at **10:15** (following Connections and preceding Traditional). Be there to witness the moment when these persons turn their lives over to God through their professions of faith in Jesus Christ. Be there to remember your own baptism. Be there to support and welcome these newest believers into the fold that is Disciples Christian Church. Be there to experience God's Holy Spirit descending upon them and us.

One more comment from my Lenten prayers. I use this anonymously and with permission of the person who wrote it: *Disciples is becoming the people's church and I am grateful for the freshness and reality of that.*

We are not without our struggles, but neither do we lack for joys!

See you in church –

Pastor's

Ourselfs

Meet Our Newest Member, Michael Arnold! Walking forward recently to unite with Disciples Christian and to reaffirm a previous profession of faith was Michael Arnold of Cleveland Heights. Michael is already an active and involved disciple bringing his food service experience to helping at the community meal each month, and also participated with us at the Homeless Stand-down. Please greet Michael some Sunday soon. *See a photo of Michael on page 7.

Long-time member Betty Zimmer passed away on the morning of March 22. She was 81 years old and had been a member since 1968. She and her husband Robert (d. 2006) moved to Cleveland from Indianapolis when he joined the Cleveland Orchestra in 1966. Betty taught piano at the Cleveland Institute of Music and often performed recitals at the church. A memorial service was held on Monday, April 4.

Notes of Love and Gratitude...

Thank you to the elders and members of Disciples Christian Church, to Pastor Kris, and to everyone who has supported me in my ordination process. March 20th was a marvelous and wonderful day in my life as a minister. I will never forget the ordination service and all of the amazing people who helped to make it happen. It is my honor and privilege to be a member in our community of Christian faith. May God continue to bless us in abundance. Sincerely, *Rev. Mark Rogers-Berry*

**see a photo of Rev. Mark's ordination on page 7!*

I would like to thank the Prayer Shawl Ministries for my gift of a shawl. I feel blessed to know that those around me care. It has been truly a rough winter for our family and we appreciate your prayers and well wishes. Sincerely, *Kara Ladaika*

Beverly and Al Kean would like to express their appreciation for the folks who sent cards and kind wishes to them during their recent illness. They would especially like to thank the Prayer Shawl ministry.

Notes of Love and Gratitude... continued

Thank you so much for the lovely coffee hour for my birthday. I enjoyed seeing friends I had not seen for many months. I appreciate everyone's efforts who made it possible. Yours in Christ, *JoAnne Humbert*

Our Church

Easter Flower Orders:

It's that time of year again! A variety of Easter flowers are available to grace our chancel on Easter morning. Your choices are Lilies (single stem—\$7, double stem—\$14, triple stem—\$20), Tulips—\$7, Hyacinths—\$7, Mums—\$8, Hydrangeas—\$15, Azaleas—\$14, 5" Begonias—\$5, and 5" Violas—\$5. There are no promises on color requests. You can take your plant home after Easter, or donate it to one of our members at home! Order forms are available in the Sunday bulletins or in the library. The deadline to place an order is April 17th.

DING DONG!

A new door bell/intercom system has been installed on the outside door near the office. Just push the button if the door is locked, and someone in the office will activate the automatic un-locking device. This has been installed for added security when staff members are alone in the building, but the door will typically be unlocked until 4 pm on weekdays.

The 'Meet The Neighbors' Community Meal

The next Community Meal will be Thursday, April 28 at 5 pm. The meal will be chicken and rice casserole with cookies for dessert. Please sign up to volunteer in the kitchen. Your help is always needed and appreciated!

You're Invited to "Learn About Disciples"!

A "Learning About Disciples" Dinner, hosted by Pastor Kris, will be offered during this month's community meal on April 28 from 6 to 8 pm. This is an excellent opportunity for any recent members or current visitors to meet with Pastor Kris to learn more about our ministries, our denomination, how to join, and expectations of our members. Childcare is available. Please let us know if you can come—call the church office or email anne@discipleschristian.org

Upcoming Meetings:

There will be a Property meeting on Wednesday, April 6 at 5 pm in the chapel. The Elders will meet Sunday, April 10 following the 11 am worship service.

A MESSAGE FROM KATHY SMITH:

Needed: Cardboard egg cartons, candy and plastic eggs! Yep, it's that time of year again where we have our upcoming, traditional Easter egg hunt on Palm Sunday. This year with the two services in place, we will be having a slightly different schedule. The hunt will be during the 11:00 Traditional service after Prime Time's service of the sacrament of baptism. Since full immersion is not part of my home church's tradition, I look forward to experiencing this for the first time. I hope that many of you choose to witness this sacred event as well. I was pleasantly surprised as many of our youth attended the Ash Wednesday service to mark the beginning of Lent. As a group, we have continued our Lenten journey by studying various scriptures, participating in our own Lenten candle extinguishing and waiting in anticipation of the celebration of Easter. During this season, all ages will be asked to participate in the 5K Walk & Run for the Kids sponsored by Cleveland Christian Home. If anyone needs information on this event, please feel free to contact me or online at <http://cchome.org/>. Our group of young disciples continues to grow in size and spirit. Keep them in your prayers as they search, question and discover their journey in Christ.

Kathy Smith

Young Disciples Director

Disciples Book Club will have its next meeting on Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00p.m. The selection for the month is *The Tiger's Wife* by Tea Obreht. This sometimes crushing power of myth, story, and memory is explored in the brilliant debut of Obreht, the youngest of the New Yorker's 20 - under- 40 list of exceptional writers. She is an expert at depicting history through aftermath, people through the love they inspire, and place through the stories that endure. Every word, every scene, every thought is blazingly alive in this many faceted and rending novel of death, succor and remembrance.

Prime Time Puppets!

Sunday, May 1, 10:10a.m. Fellowship Hall: *No Strings Attached* Puppet Ministry proudly presents, among other delights, "The Bright Stuff" Radio Show, featuring your host with the most, Fritz T. Hound! Enjoy your coffee and donuts while tuning into this fun and unforgettable Prime Time broadcast at 10:10 a.m.

Musical Notes ♪

Adults: We celebrate that our Lenten Season has ushered in a time of growth for our music program and we welcome new and returning members in our Praise Ensemble and Chancel Choirs. It's not too late to join the preparation for our Holy Week music. Our choirs will lead us with the waving of palms, through the more reflective music of Maundy Thursday, to the joyous celebration of Easter morning. Just check the rehearsal schedule below so you won't "miss a beat!"
Children and Youth: Our Palm Sunday music will be blessed with the voices of our children and youth as they join the Praise Ensemble and Chancel Choir singing on that day. They will practice during their regular activities each Sunday morning. Parents are asked to note that children and youth who are available are urged to join the Chancel Choir for a brief rehearsal on Thursday, April 14, at 7:30 pm.

April rehearsal schedule:

Praise Ensemble: Wednesdays, April 6 & 13, 7:00 pm

Chancel Choir: Thursdays, April 7 & 14, 7:30 pm

Children are asked to join the April 14th rehearsal in preparation for Palm Sunday.

Holy Week rehearsals: Wednesday, April 20

Praise Ensemble - 6:30 pm

Chancel Choir - 7:30 pm'

The week after Easter - no rehearsals!

Easter Sunday: As always, we will conclude our Easter celebration with the singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus" from the MESSIAH. And, as always, members of the congregation will be invited to join in the singing. If your Easter observance is not complete without this joyful proclamation of Christ's reign among us, plan to join the choir in the chancel at the end of the service. We'll have music waiting for you!

Musically yours,

Linda Walling

Palm Sunday ... April 17, 2011

Palm Sunday worship and events:

9:00 am: Connections worship

Before the baptism service begins, please enjoy a cup of coffee in the library!

10:15 am: Service of Baptisms

Let us celebrate with

Brent Bell, Paige Campbell, Yolanda McWilliams, Evan Ritchey,

Jaide Talmadge and Soilé Talmadge

as they enter into their new life in Christ!

11:00 am: Traditional worship

The palm parade begins the traditional worship service

12:00 pm: Bunny Lunch in Fellowship Hall

All are invited to join in celebration of our newly baptized members!

Maundy Thursday worship service ... April 21 at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary

Good Friday worship service ... April 22 from 12-3 pm at St. Paul's Episcopal
St. Paul's, located at 2747 Fairmount Blvd in Cleveland Heights, will host a 'Seven Last Words of Christ' service on Good Friday, April 22 from noon to 3 pm. Pastor Kris will be preaching on the last word. For more information, call Anne in the church office, or the St. Paul's office at (216) 932-5815.

Easter Sunday ... April 24, 2011

9:00 am: Connections worship

10:00 am: There will be no Prime Time classes scheduled. Please gather in Fellowship Hall to enjoy each other's company, and a tasty treat or two!

11:00 am: Traditional worship

Coming after Lent – Food, Fun and Fellowship

Can you help your fellow church members wake from their winter hibernation by providing a fun, fellowship opportunity? Beginning after Easter we would like to offer a series of fellowship events based on the “Dinners for 8” concept. We are hoping to line up 10 people willing to host an event that church members can sign up for. Unlike Dinners for 8, the event can be whatever you like: a potluck meal followed by conversation, beer and pizza during a televised sporting event, an evening of cards and games, etc. The event, the number of people you are willing to host and what they should bring would be your choice. (Hosts supply the event and location; guests contribute food, snacks or drinks.) Even the time and date are up to you. We just ask that they be scheduled sometime during May and June. Please call the church office or Lauren Wicks if you are willing to host, or if you have any questions. We hope to get sign-up sheets out by the end of April.

Our Community



Mark Your Calendars!

Saturday, April 23, 2011

3900 Wildlife Way, Cleveland, OH

Registration: 7:30-9:00am

5K Run: 8:45am, Walk: 9:15am

Walkers: completion of the 5K

course is optional. Please join us for our annual 5K Walk & Run for the Kids at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo! *This event will include a timed 5K course that winds through the Zoo grounds.* Come run, walk, roll or stroll to benefit the programs of Cleveland Christian Home. Register online or see Bonnie Goldner.

♪ Music for Hunger - Hunger for Music ♪

Who: Ray's Fabulous Out of Tuners and Friends

What: 5th Annual Hunger Center Benefit Concert

Where: Disciples Christian Church Fellowship Hall

When: Sunday, May 1, 6 to 9 p.m.

Requested Donation: A non-perishable food item.

Food will be available for purchase to raise funds for the Heights Emergency Food Center. Come join us for music, food, fellowship and fun and to support the HEFC!

TETELESTAI

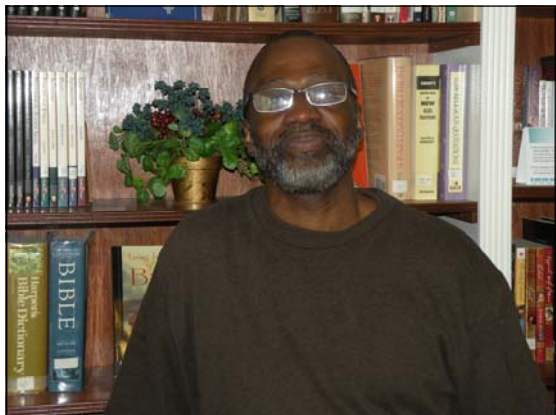
Tetelestai is a passion play of the trial, execution and resurrection of Jesus as presented by the Cleveland Performing Arts Ministries. It is being performed now through April 22 at various locations in the Cleveland area. Disciples member *Chris Ontko* is part of the production team! Admission is free, but donations are accepted. Feel free to meet at church and carpool together. See Chris for other dates and times, or call 440-944-0635 for more information.

“Flavors of India” ★★★★★

Restaurant Now Owned By Our Bhutanese Friends!

The eight brothers and sisters of the Pradhan family have launched the first Bhutanese-owned business in the region: “Flavors of India” restaurant in North Olmsted! Of the restaurant, they say, “We are new immigrants to Northeast Ohio, having resettled here in 2008 from the refugee camps of Nepal. For 18 years we were unable to return to our homeland of Bhutan. Today, our family members—eight brothers and sisters, along with our mother, spouses and children—are pleased to share Himalayan culture and cuisine with you, including the new items added to our menu.” If you have the chance to check it out, please support our Bhutanese friends in their new business! Located at 26703 Brookpark Rd. Ext., the restaurant is just a short distance from the 480 Great Northern exit. They are open for lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Call 440-779-5774.

CAMP CHRISTIAN! It's not too early to start thinking about summer camp at Camp Christian! Registration is already open. Junior Camp for children in grades 3, 4 and 5: Otter Camp June 19-25; Chi Rho Camp for youth in grades 6, 7 and 8: Hocking June 12-18, Portahoga July 10-16, Maumee July 17-23, Miami August 7-13; CYF Conferences for youth in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12: Hiram June 26-July 2, Phyo July 3-9, Lakeside July 24-30, Wilmington July 31-August 6. For more information about Camp Christian (schedule, applications, directions, etc) please visit <http://ccinoh.org/camp/schedule.aspx>



Meet our newest member, Michael Arnold!



The 'laying on of hands' at Mark Rogers-Berry's ordination ceremony, 3/20



Miss Kathy and the young disciples enjoying each other's company, both in and out of worship!



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- ✝ Jim Runyon, Hospice Care, Affinity Medical Center, Massillon
- ✝ Avena Jayne, Hillcrest Hospital
- ✝ Barbara Harold
- ✝ Donna Beckner, home
- ✝ Duane Mayhew, lymphoma
- ✝ Vi Radomilovich, Hillcrest Hospital
- ✝ Kristen Walling, Peace Corps Madagascar
- ✝ Clark Hungerford, Judson
- ✝

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

- ✝ Allen Berg, father of Marla Berg, heart surgery recovery, Rockford, IL
- ✝ Sherri Harkless, sister-in-law of Elaine Harkless, chemotherapy
- ✝ Jennifer Kless, daughter of Ed Kidd
- ✝ Skye Marie Kellerman, niece of Thon Alicia-Burlingame

OUR MEMBERS AT HOME

Barbara Seaver, Summerville of Mentor; Barbara Harold, Homewood Residence in Richmond Heights; Louise Consilio, home; Marjia Hehr, home; Barbara Ross, Grande Pointe, Lois Valentine, home.

REQUEST A PRAYER:

Write – use the blue paper near the Prayer Box at the back of the sanctuary

Call – Call the church office at 216-382-5344

Click – email amy@discipleschristian.org



www.discipleschristian.org

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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIALS—THIS ISSUE WAS MAILED ON April 4, 2011

Giant Garage Sale!

Our neighbors at Heights Christian Church (at the corner of Van Aken and Avalon) will be hosting a giant garage sale on Saturday, April 9 from 9 am to 4 pm. Admission is \$1, all proceeds benefit their ministries. There will be over 50 tables of bargains! If you'd like your own table, call the church office to buy a spot for \$25. 216-561-4800.

Employer Matching Gift Programs

Did you know that many companies offer a matching gift program? Gifts that employees have given to a non-profit such as Disciples Christian Church could be matched by their employer. This is an easy way to make your donation to DCC go even farther. A quick call to your Human Resources Department could determine if your employer offers this benefit. Thank you for checking into this.

Fifth Annual



Hunger for Music for Hunger

You are invited to spend
a special evening in support
of the Heights Emergency Food Center.

Sunday May 1st 6:00-9:00 pm



The price of admission is one nonperishable food item.
Additional funds will be raised through the sale of hamburgers,
hotdogs, soft drinks, etc., at the event.
Childcare will be provided.

*Come join us for music, food, fellowship and
fun and to support the Hunger Center!*

Disciples Christian Church
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