

Faith Christian Church

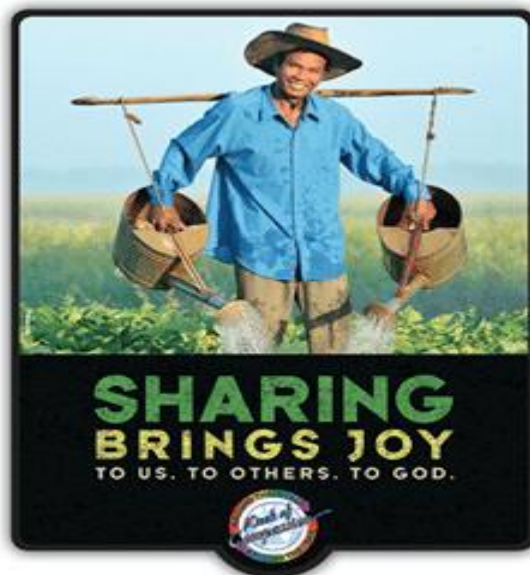
(Disciples of Christ)

WORDS OF FAITH

Vol. 11

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No. 1



WEEK OF COMPASSION

(SPECIAL OFFERING Feb. 19 – Feb. 26)

During a recent meal at a local restaurant, as the waiter refilled my water glass and served me my favorite dish, he asked, "Is there anything you need?" I looked around me, at this huge plate of food, at the basket of warm bread on the table, at the full glass of clear, clean water, at my good friend sitting across from me, at my nice clothes, at my car parked outside the window that takes me from my loving family to my great job and back each day. "Is there anything else you need?" No, no thanks, I've got all I need.

Did you ever think that when you were at this stage in your life you would have all the blessings that surround you? Your parents, your children, your grandchildren, your home, your job, your cars, your friends, your hobbies, your church. Who could have imagined? I'm sure there are times when you dream about having more – bigger house, nicer car, more zeroes in the paycheck. That's only human, and we all do that from time to time. But when we stop and look at our lives, do we have all we need?

Paul reminds the Corinthians not to forget the source of their blessings when he says, "He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness." When we look at how God has provided us the seeds and increased our store and enlarged our harvest, we realize there's nothing we can say to adequately express our feelings for all we have. "Thank you" seems so small in comparison. But we don't have to express our gratitude using only our words. We can also use our lives.

One way we can say "thank you" is by acknowledging that, unlike us, not everybody in this world has all they need. There is an imbalance of resources in the world that should unsettle us to the point of action. People living on less than \$2 a day, lives and homes destroyed by war, whole nations rocked by natural disasters. So many have so much less than they need.

Whose job is it to restore the balance, to harmonize the disparity in the world? Paul says, "God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." In other words, we are made rich in every way so that we can be generous on every occasion. And I think it's fair to say that, as we enjoy our climate-controlled sanctuary, our padded pews, our Herculean-sized meal portions, we have been made rich. There's a circular flow to giving, a natural rhythm to the taking in and sending out that is a part of being in relationship with God and expressing our joy through cheerful giving.

Kory Wilcoxson

Rev. Kory Wilcoxson is Senior Pastor of Crestwood Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Lexington, KY.



PRAYER CONCERNS: as of 2/20/11
Lozell Stephens, Anita Harbison, Dot Taylor



save the date



Commitment Sunday March 4th. Remember to bring your pledge cards.

The Quarterly Congregational Meeting will be Sunday March 18th immediately following worship. Please add to your calendar.



Fellowship with us!! Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.
Please contact Betty Bodry or Janie Hurt if you would like to volunteer
to bring food or drink.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE FEBRUARY 22 at 6:00PM in the Chapel

We will mark the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service, including the imposition of ashes.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 days prior to Easter Sunday. This is a time of anticipation of Holy Week, the crucifixion and the resurrection, and parallel's Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness. It is traditional for people to fast or give up some sort of luxury during this period as a sign of faith.

We have Lenten Devotionals available to help you in your journey to the cross and resurrection. They will be available with the worship bulletins during Lent. We also have a lenten key-chain coin that features the chalice and bread on one side, and a reminder of the Last Supper, the elements representing the body of Christ broken for us, and his blood shed that we might have everlasting life.



Beginning Sunday **March 4**, from 9:30 a.m. -
10:15 a.m. Rev. Pricer will lead Sunday School.

News from the Board of Directors

The church experienced the busiest January in our history. Our new minister, Dr. Scott Pricer delivered his first sermon on January 1. On January 8, it was reported that our church did not need to be in a hurry to move by January 31, as specified in our sales contract. We even discussed the possibility of leasing our church back from the buyer, if the price was "right". The board voted to invest the proceeds from the sale of the church with the Christian Church Foundation. Betty Bodry was approved to serve as the Assistant Treasurer and Janie Hurt was approved to be the Assistant Financial Secretary. Everything was good in the world and everything was going to be all right.

On January 13th we were advised that the church had been leased to another congregation and we would have to vacate the premises in just a little over two weeks. Our plans, which had just been approved, had to be changed immediately. On January 15, a majority of the congregation voted to accept an invitation from Lindenwood to "nest" at their location for up to a year. We met the deadline and completed our move on January 31.

We had our first worship service on February 5 and were welcomed with unexpected music from Lindenwood's 70 plus chorus. Their beautiful music almost brought tears to our eyes. What a joyous reception. Lindenwood has really gone out of their way being nice to Faith Christian Church.

It is now time to resume our normal church activities. On March 4th the Stewardship Team will conduct a 2012 pledge campaign and later will submit a new budget at our first Congregational meeting March 18. Mission Team leaders have been appointed and are seeking church members to assist them. Every member of the church should be on at least one of these teams. Don't wait. Select the team(s) you want to be on and contact the team leader. The chairs of the teams are:

Communications	Doug Southall
Facilities	Bill Kirkland
Healing	Phyllis Southall
Hospitality	Bernie McNeilly
Outreach	Kathy Pruett
Praise and Celebration	Doug Southall
Spiritual Growth	Sara Andreas
Stewardship	Sandra Harper

Praise & Celebration Notes

We've tweaked our order of worship since moving to the chapel at Lindenwood. One major change is that we've added back in a Hymn of Invitation immediately following the sermon. Although we are in temporary digs, we are still Faith Christian Church, an active and vibrant community of Faith, with hopes to continue growing as we seek our path forward.

Also, you'll notice that our worship includes text and hymns related to the Revised Common Lectionary. The RCL follows the Good News story through the Christian year, which began with Advent. We are currently in Year B of the three-year lectionary cycle, which includes readings from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and John as we move through Lent to Easter.



Rev. Pricer welcomes the Pollards to Faith Christian Church

(Next newsletter deadline 3-6-2012) If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail please let us know...thru the churches e-mail Faithccmemphis@bellsouth.net