

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“Spring Forward” ought to be our slogan for how we need to approach growth here at Weston Church of Christ. We had the time change happen on March 13th. Another important change happened that day after church. There were over 40 of us that ate a lunch and heard where we are as a congregation. We then broke up into four groups with each group tackling areas that need improvement to see how church growth can get kick-started. We scored very well in the area of *Holistic Small Groups*, but need to see more attention given to *Gift-based Ministry*.

There was great conversation at each of our tables, and all four tables generated a lot of ideas. The elders and I are evaluating how some of these suggestions might be evaluated in the near future. Of course, with all these suggestions, we are only limited by the number of people who might step up and help us implement them. A date will be set fairly soon for us to come back together to put more detail to proposed ideas.

We can live in the past and dwell with Nostalgia, but that does not help us grow as we are designed to do by Jesus. In the New Testament there is both warning and some encouragement for these situations. Listening to Jesus, there appears to be no early retirement plan from kingdom involvement:

Luke 9:62 ESV ⁶² Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

And Paul also adds his point of view that complements Luke’s quote of Jesus’ words:

Philippians 3:13-14 ESV ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

As I related to many of you, I am sick of what we allowed COVID to do to us, and now the excuses to stay isolated don’t ring true. We all need to get back to worshipping and studying together. We have an important Mission to complete before we die, and that is to tell everyone we can about Jesus and how He wants them to be saved.

We have just a few weeks left before the GALA put on by Bowling Green Pregnancy Center. It is April 28th up at the Hilton Garden Inn at Levis Commons. We have two tables full and want to fill up at least one more table. Come along and be blessed and be a blessing.

Morning Worship attendance was up 12% in March. Let’s keep the growth and recovery coming. WORK, PRAY, LOVE. Invite your friends to be a part of our fellowship. If you know anyone, who is not involved with a church, make sure you extend an invitation to them and their parents.

Gary

Stewardship Statistics	2/27/22	3/06/22	3/13/22	3/20/22	3/27/22		Total Money And Average Attendance
Attendance for in-person services.	45	45	52	41	54		47
General Fund	\$1761.00	\$3649.00	\$2005.00	\$1150.00	\$1422.00		\$9987.00
Weekly Budget	\$2464.71	\$2464.71	\$2464.71	\$2464.71	\$2464.71		\$12'323.55
+ or— Budget	(\$703.71)	\$1184.29	(\$459.71)	(\$1314.71)	(\$1042.71)		(\$2336.55)
Designated Giving							
Birthday Money		\$138.00					\$138.00
Rick Bruielly Memorial					\$335.00		\$335.00
Food Bank	\$25.00						\$25.00
TCM/Ukraine Relief/Refugees			\$500.00				\$500.00
IDES Ukraine Relief/Refugees				\$100.00			\$100.00
Total Giving's	\$1786.00	\$3787.00	\$2505.00	\$1250.00	\$1757.00		\$11'085.00

Prayer List

U.S. government leaders
 Krause's-Pacific Rim Ministries
 Duane Rupe (stroke/prostate)
 Doris Rothenbuhler (cancer treatments)
 Shelly Sharp (friend of Peggy's/cancer)
 Norm Murphy (home with health issues)
 Jim Fouts (lung cancer)
 Erin Cooper (Stage 4 cancer)
 Janet Riesenbeck (prayers for health)
 Jeremy Prowant (prayers for health)
 Grace Barnes - 4 yr. old (done with chemo)
 Kevin Roe (prayers to return to health)
 John McKenzie (facial neuralgia)
 Bill Dennis (cancer is back)
 Ukrainians under siege
 Nicholas Nicely (cancer treatments)
 Darryl Krause (right shoulder healing)
 Josh Redford (auto accident)
 David Wackler (needs work)
 Juanita Spaulding
 Lincoln Christian University (restructuring)
 Micky (5 yr. old unable to eat solid food)
 Sandra Metzger (cancer removed from lung, started chemo 3-7-22)
 Becky Repasz (done with treatments for now, pray for regained strength)
 Kim Huffman/Preach (keep praying for strength from cancer and pain therapy)

Prayer list continued

Tammy Kuzio - home now doing better
 John Dubois
 Lori Bolton (throat/swallowing issues)
 Chuck Allen (stroke, home now)
 Family of Todd Liebitois
 Tom Wilson (rehab from back surgery)
 Family of Tom Hillier (service in July)
 Family of Rick Bruielly
 Family of Roland Hunt
 Karen Stanley (Russ's friend, Miguel's mother-in-law, heart surgery recovery)
 Paula Thomas (home therapy for knee)
 Dave Wichman (shoulder surgery went well)
 Mari Ward - MRI and blood work fine
 Crystal - surgery went well

Remember our Shut-ins

Mary Ann Hillier - B. G. Manor #7
 Rose Mary Gensen - Arbors of Oregon
 Peggy Carsey - Brookdale #105
 Richard Saylor - Wood Haven Rehab

Those in Service

Lt. Col. Elijah Ward – Korea
 Ron Burkhart - Stateside
 Jon Walker - 180th TFW Active duty
 Michelle Metzger - Army Nat'l Guard
 Daryl Trail - U.S. Navy
 Luke Millican - USAF
 Walker Polsinelli - Pakistan

- “Christ did not come into the world that we might understand him, but that we might cling to him, that we might simply let ourselves be swept away by him into the immense event of the resurrection.”
—Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- “We are each a God-carrier and a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit.”
—Archbishop Desmond Tutu
- “An effort made for the happiness of others lifts us above ourselves.”
—Robert Schuller



BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 5th
7:30pm

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00PM
AT THE PARSONAGE

We are at lesson 11 in the study
 “Intentional Choices: Discovering
 Contentment in Stressful Times”.



2 Fridays
April 8th and 22nd
6:30-9:00pm

**Bring food to
 share. Games
 are provided.**



Food Pantry Open
2 Saturdays
April 2nd and 16th
10:00am - Noon

Thanks for helping!

April Sermons

April 3	Live for God!	1 Peter 4:1-11
April 10	Suffering as Christians	1 Peter 4:12-19
April 17 (Easter)	Reactions to the Resurrection	1 Peter 24:1-49
April 24	Relationships and Responsibilities Within the Church	1 Peter 5:1-14

Special dates

- Holy Week, *April 10-17*
- Palm/Passion Sunday, *April 10*
- Maundy Thursday, *April 14*
- Good Friday, *April 15*
- Easter Sunday, *April 17*

A Eucharistic Hymn

Bread of the world, in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul, in mercy shed,
By Whom the words of life were spoken,
And in Whose death our sins are dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
Look on the tears by sinners shed;
And be Thy feast to us the token,
That by Thy grace our souls are fed.

—Reginald Heber

April 3 - Mission Moment with Gloria Lehman

Lake James Christian Assembly

- | | |
|---------|----------------------|
| * Dates | * Location |
| * Ages | * Registration forms |
| * Cost | * Other questions |
| * Rules | |



Camp registration is now open! See Gloria for details!

Church Cleaning Day - Wednesday, April 6, 8:30 am - 10:30am **(Time may be extended if needed!)**

Ladies Christian Fellowship met on March 28th and decided to start the spring cleaning! Kay Roe is excited to be able to toss a few things.☺

A list of jobs that need done will be at the church. Feel free to come and help on April 6th or another day if that is better for you.

Thanks for helping!

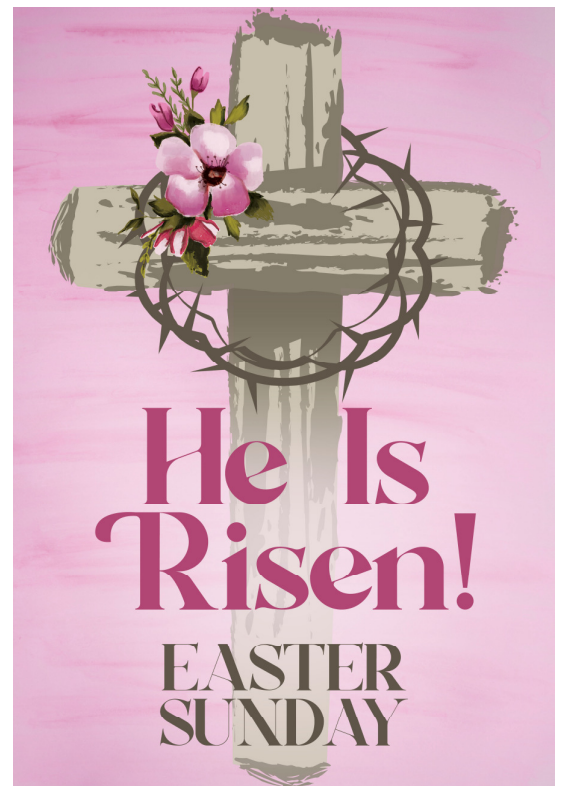


Easter Sunday Services

April 17th

Breakfast 8:30am- 9:20am

Worship 9:30am - 10:45am



We are happy to announce that it's official! Give these new members a warm welcome to the Weston Church of Christ. They transferred their membership.

Seldon Carsey - March 20

Peggy Carsey - March 20

Joan Eckhardt - March 27

Why Christ Calls Us to Worship

Easter services are usually well attended, but what about other weeks? What draws you to worship on an “average” Sunday, and what might Jesus have in store for people in the pews?

Consider this from Pastor Charles Aaron: “Did we come to church this morning thinking it was a safe thing to do? Did we come with some expectation of receiving a blessing, a bit of comfort, but no real challenge? Did we think about the possibility that encountering Jesus would rearrange our lives, explode our priorities, cause us to give more than we ever expected? Did we think we could get a little something from Jesus, a dose of grace to help us through the week? Did we come for the fellowship, the music, the spiritual boost? No one can argue with those reasons.”

He continues: “The risen Christ, however, may have had other plans for this worship service. Christ may want to come under our skins and transform us. Christ may see through us so that something we have well hidden comes to the surface. Christ may kick out from under us the things we use to prop ourselves up but that we don’t really need. Are we ready for that? Did we bargain on that when we walked through the door today?”

—from *The Wired Word*

A Love-Filled Victory

It’s tough to read about Jesus’ agony on the cross, where he felt “forsaken” by God (see Matthew 27:46). But as Philip Yancey explains in *Where Is God When It Hurts?* the Father didn’t desert Jesus — and doesn’t desert us:

“God was not ‘up there’ watching the tragic events conspire ‘down here.’ God was *in Christ*, reconciling the world to himself,” he writes. “If Jesus was a mere man, his death would prove God’s cruelty; the fact that he was God’s Son proves instead that God fully identifies with suffering humanity. On the cross, God himself absorbed the awful pain of this world.

“To some, the image of a pale body glimmering on a dark night whispers of defeat,” Yancey continues. “But another sound can be heard: the shout of a God crying out to human beings, ‘I LOVE YOU.’ Love was compressed for all history in that lonely figure on the cross, who said that he could call down angels at any moment on a rescue mission, but chose not to – because of us.” He concludes: “Any discussion of how pain and suffering fit into God’s scheme ultimately leads back to the cross.”

The Newsletter
Newsletter®

No Greater Love

There never was a greater love than that of God for man.
No more unselfish giving without a limit and no purer motives
than the ones within the heart of He, who said "Love one another"
as I have first loved thee and as the Father loves me, so also I love you.

He saw our faults and weaknesses as only God can do,
and if you have been lied to, forsaken or abused,
so was the Lord deserving not to be so badly used.

No one but He can offer us a life that never ends,
who proved His love by dying for His Friends.



May the love of Christ
always abide with you...

By: Michael Bailey
3-23-22

Submitted by Nancy Roe



1880 W 275 N
Angola, IN 46703

RSVP by calling 260-833-2786
or emailing info@ljca.org



Puzzle!

Using the code, complete this passage based on Ezekiel 34.

CODE

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

"As a looks after his

H S V K S V I W

 when is

H X Z G G V I V W

U O L X P

S V

 them, so will I after my .

D R G S

O L L P

H S V V K

I will them and them.

I V H X F V

K Z H G F I V

I will for the and bring back

H V Z I X S

O L H G

the . I will up the

H G I Z B H

Y R M W

R M Q F I V W

and the . You are my

H G I V M T G S V M

D V Z P

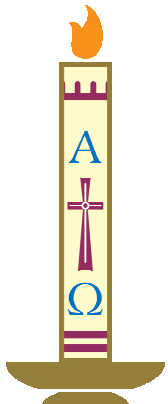
 ... and I am your ."

H S V V K

T L W



Answer: shepherd, scattered, flock, he, with, look, sheep, rescue, pasture, search, lost, strays, bind, injured, strengthen, weak, sheep, God



PASCHAL CANDLE—This large, white candle is an ancient symbol for Christ, the light of the world. The candle contains a cross and/or an Alpha and Omega to symbolize that Jesus is eternal and always present with his people. Also called the Easter candle, it plays a prominent role during Easter vigils and celebrations. Some churches also use the candle during baptisms and funerals.

Held in God's love

We would like to think that once we turn our lives over to Christ, everything will run smoothly. When such is not the case, we might question whether our faith is strong enough or what we are doing wrong. The fact is, we live in a broken world, and sufferings come upon all people.

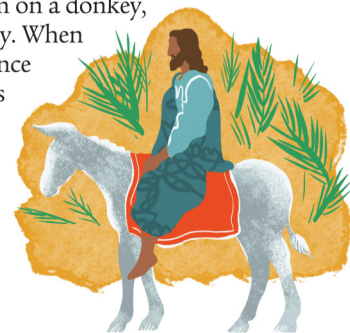
In the words of 14th-century mystic Julian of Norwich: "If there is anywhere on earth a lover of God who is always kept safe, I know nothing of it, for it was not shown to me. But this was shown: that in falling and rising again we are always kept in that same precious love."

We might take comfort in the fact that our struggles are not so different from those experienced seven centuries ago. We are "normal," after all! But the greatest assurance is that no matter what we face in life, Jesus walks with us, the Holy Spirit strengthens us, and "we are always kept in [God's] precious love."

Bible Quiz

As Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, crowds praised him loudly. When Pharisees told him to silence the people, what did Jesus say would shout if his followers didn't?

- A. Stones
- B. Palm branches
- C. Trees
- D. Hillsides



Answer: A (See Luke 19:40.)



Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

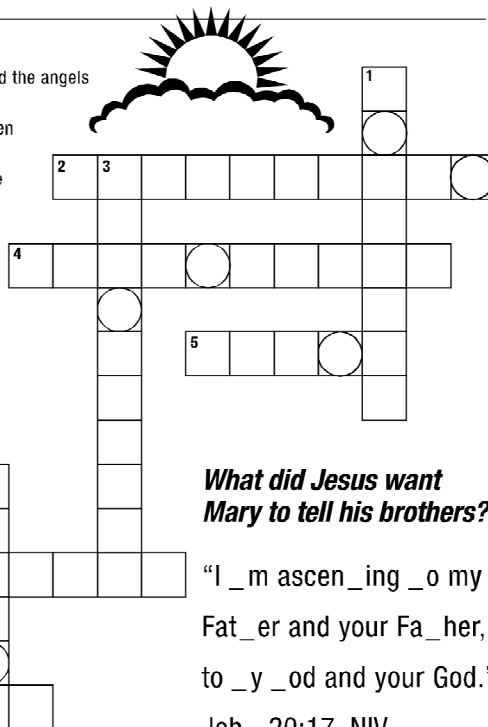
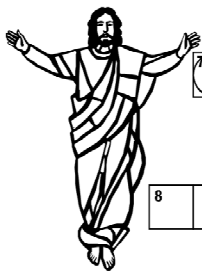
Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

2. The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
4. The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
5. The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
7. Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
8. Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

DOWN

1. At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
3. As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
6. She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I _ m ascen _ ing _ o my
Fat _ er and your Fa _ her,
to _ y _ od and your God."
Joh _ 20:17, NIV

Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen;
DOWN 1. gardener, 3. earthquake, 6. Salome; "I am ascending to my Father and
your Father, to my God and your God" John 20:17, NIV

Thank You

After 77 days in the hospital, I was able to finally go home on March 9th. Your prayers helped! God is good ALWAYS.

To the talented ladies with hearts of gold,

I am still so incredibly honored to be able to cuddle under your prayer quilt #88. When I opened up the box to find that beautiful quilt, it brought tears to my eyes. Happy tears. Its was like getting a big warm hug from you all. The fact that you made it for a complete stranger in Wisconsin, made it even more special to me. All of my caregivers thought your quilt beautiful also.

Cuddling under your quilt in my hospital bed was very, very comforting. The simple words "Thank You" fall short of what I wish I could do. I'd give you each a big hug if I could. With thanks and appreciation.

Tammy Kuzio

thank you

Church Family,

Thank you for the love and prayers shared with us during our time of loss.

Also thank you to all who cooked and served the wonderful meal after the service.

Love,

The Tolles Family



3 Bertsel Roe III
5 Russell Harshberger
11 Duane Miller
11 Addison Strickland
15 Kay Roe
24 Carolyn Higley
28 Peggy Walker
29 Becky Chamberlain

1 Allan & Gloria Hughes
6 Mike & Bev Murphy
7 Lee & Pat Higley
12 Tyler & Kristin Foster
27 Ray & Vera DeWitt



Life and Light

Easter is the assurance that no matter how hopeless and dark things appear, God is alive and actively working. Our heavenly Father births life out of death, transforms brokenness into wholeness and shines light into darkness.

In the words of the poet Christian Wiman (from *Every Riven Thing*):

When the time's toxins
have seeped into every cell ...
somehow a seed of belief sprouts ...
tugged upward by light ...

Why Friday is Good

To participate in the sacrificial life and death of Jesus Christ is to live already in his kingdom. This is the essence of the Christian message, the heart of the Good News, and it is why the cross has become the chief Christian symbol.



A cross of all things — a guillotine, a gallows — but the cross at the same time as the crossroads of eternity and time, as the place where such a mighty heart was broken that the healing power of God himself could flow through it into a sick and broken world. It was for this reason that of all the possible words they could have used to describe the day of his death, the word they settled on was “good.” *Good Friday.*

—Frederick Buechner

Gratitude, All Year Long

It's not Thanksgiving time. But what if we made a point to practice gratitude all year long?

In her book *Grateful*, theologian Diana Butler Bass writes: “As human beings, we possess an intuitive awareness that we depend on others to survive. We are safer and happier when we care for each other in community, when we do things for each other. ... How we live together in and with gratitude makes all the difference in the world. Indeed, living gratefully makes the world different.”

APRIL 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
			7:00pm Small Group	7:00pm Let It Rise Band Practice		FOOD PANTRY 10AM - NOON  Feeding the Community
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am Worship Fellowship Break Adult S.S. Mission Moment: Lake James Christian Assembly with Gloria Lehman		7:30pm Board Meeting	CHURCH CLEANING DAY 8:30 - 10:30AM 7:00pm Small Group	7:00pm Let It Rise Band Practice	 6:30-9:00PM GAME NIGHT/ FAMILY FUN	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Palm/Passion Sunday 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult S.S. Did you reserve a spot at the Gala?		6:00pm Elders Meeting	7:00pm Small Group	Maundy Thursday 7:00pm Let It Rise Band Practice		FOOD PANTRY 10AM - NOON 
EASTER 17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:30am Breakfast 9:30am Worship No Adult S. S.			7:00pm Small Group	7:00pm Let It Rise Band Practice	 6:30-9:00PM GAME NIGHT	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult S.S.	7:00pm LCF	May news articles due	7:00pm Small Group	B.G. Pregnancy Center Gala Hilton Garden Inn, Levis Commons 6:00pm		

“Trust in God. He will see you through; glorify His Name in 2022!”

Weston Church of Christ
PO Box 344
13355 Center Street
Weston, Ohio 43569



8:30am Breakfast

9:30am Worship

May newsletter articles due Tuesday, April 26

Sunday Worship Times

9:30am Worship Service

10:45am Sunday School



Weston Witness

Minister: Gary L. Wackler, 336-280-5311

Elders: Ed Tolles, 419-409-1622;

John McKenzie, 419-806-5775

Bob Walker, 419-262-8006

Email us at: church@westonchurchofchrist.org

Website: westonchurchofchrist.org

Check us out on Facebook

April 2022

Pat Higley, Editor

Church: 419-669-3895

**The purpose of the Weston Church of Christ is to glorify God by reaching the lost,
strengthening the saved and serving as one body for Jesus Christ our Lord.**