



CROSS STREET JOURNAL

Celebrating 191 Years Serving the Community

March/April 2015

Volume 19, Issue 02

"A Church Where Everybody Is Somebody And Christ Is Lord Of All"



SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

8:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

Sunday Church School
Is a Family Affair

Come Grow with US



March 29 - April 5



HOLY WEEK

The key to many customs and traditions in Lent is what down through the ages

has come to be known as Holy Week, the last week in Lent. It has become a tradition to trace the activities of Jesus that led to the cross of Calvary. Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday** as a reminder of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The people along the roadside waved palms and shouted "Hosanna" the Hebrew word for "save now." (See Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-10, Luke 19:28-40, and John 12:12-19.) Many churches today bless the palms and distribute them in the form of crosses to be worn by the worshippers.



celebrated in the Upper Room at the time of the Jewish Passover. It is the basis for the

establishment of sacrament of Holy Communion. Historically, the Passover marked the Israelites' departure from Egypt when the final plague was cast upon the Egyptians to smite the first born dead (Exodus). The Hebrews received special instruction to kill a lamb the or goat for each household and to sprinkle the blood on the doorpost and the life of the first born would be spared. Every Jew/Hebrew was required to celebrate the Passover, and the Lord's Last Supper was Jesus' observance of the Passover. However, Jesus brought new meaning to this event as it commemorated Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage – all of humanity was delivered from sin.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday lifts up the event of the Lord's Last Supper that was

(Holy Week on page 8)

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Visit our
Facebook page

March 4, 2014

Dear Church Family,

Greetings In the Name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

We give thanks to the Lord for his grace (favor), mercy, and truth. The Lord is blessing us with extravagant and generous grace in 2015. In the mist of the stormy weather the Lord continues to take us from victory to victory. We give thanks for your continued prayers and faithfulness in giving your best in Christian service.



We give thanks to Bro. Chris Ezell and Bro. Carleton Riddick for their labors of love in leading us in the Celebration of Men's Day. Theme: "Kingdom building from one Brother to another." We are blessed to have the Rev. Dr. Nathan A. Proche, pastor of the Tree of Life Missionary Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan and his congregation, as our special guest.

The Men have planned a series of wonderful events:

Saturday, March 14, 8:30 a.m. Men's Heath Conference – Guest Speaker, Curtis D. Robinson, founder of the St. Francis Hospital Men's Institute. The Institute will provide f Prostate Education and Free Testing, Blood Pressure Testing, Diabetes Education, and much more.

Sunday, March 15, 4:00 p.m. Men's Gospel Extravaganza Concert & 100 Men in black

Sunday, March 22, 10:00 a.m. Men's Day Worship Service – Dinner will follow

Please invite your family and friends to share in these spirit-filled events.

We are asking all men and women to give a gift of a \$100.00 and 50 persons to join the pastor in giving \$200.00. Brother John Robinson and others have committed to join with the pastor in giving \$200.00. ***Your gift of any amount joined with others will help us reach the goal of \$20,000. You made it happen last year – let's do it again.*** With God all things are possible. He makes the impossible possible.

Thanking you in advance for your prayers, participation, and loving support. ***Much Love!***

Partners in the Faith,

Moses L. Harvill

***But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
Matthew 6:33***

The fruit of the Spirit abides in us and it is up to us to cultivate it so that we may experience the blessing and the fullness of the Spirit. God is the husbandman...”He prunes, nurtures, waters and protects His own. The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit will energize and control every faculty of our nature when our will joins the will of God. Then the “beauty of the Lord will be upon us” (Psalm 90:17) and “we shall bring forth fruit unto God” (Romans 7:4).”

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: FAITH

Faith: To believe, trust, or hope. **Faith** is an attitude whereby a man abandons all reliance in his own efforts to obtain salvation. It is complete trust in God, of reliance on Him alone for all that salvation means Fidelity. **Faith** is concerned with facts. Holy **faith** must be profitable. In the Book of James he tells us the devils believe “that there is one God”, but this **faith** does not profit them. True **faith** has a firm foundation and that foundation is God. It is not a passing phase, it is a continuing attitude. **Faith** is continuous with a past act of belief. (Bible Dictionary) **faith** manifests itself in being a trustworthy servant.

How do we cultivate the fruit of faith?

- “So then **Faith** cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.” (Romans 10:17)
- When we determine to obey God’s word, we shall be **faithful** in our actions.
- We believe the Gospel and allow it to demonstrate its power through our **faithfulness**
- Prayer and fasting

LOOK FOR PERSON WHO —

- Is a child of God
- Speaks the truth in his heart
- Perseveres even in the midst of trouble
- Whose belief is not shaken even when under persecution
- Is attached to honesty
- Will not sacrifice **faith** even if it interferes with his own pleasures and hinders personal advancement
- Believes and obeys the word of God
- Is steadfast, unmovable in the things of God
- Dependable
- Has spiritual sight

Warning

Be aware of the enemies of faith – infidelity and half-heartedness.

Additional Scripture:

Matthew 17:20, Hebrews 11, Romans 3:27, Roman 4:5, Galatians 2:20, 1 Corinthians 4:2

FAITH

IS TAKING THE FIRST STEP EVEN WHEN
YOU DON'T SEE THE WHOLE STAIRCASE.

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR

God’s Provision Prayer

Great is your faithfulness, O God, my Father. Morning by morning new mercies I see. I know that your hands will supply all that I need. Thank you, Lord, for your loving care and supply in my life. I claim the promises of your Word today. I believe your Word, and I look forward to all you are going to do in my life.

You are Jehovah-jeer, my provider. You know exactly what I need, when I need it, and how my needs will best be met. Thank you for the delight you experience as you give me the desires of my heart. I love you, and you love me.

Thank you, Father, for your great mercies which are new in my life each morning. Your grace and loving favor are upon me and within me. Indeed, your loving kindness is

better than life to me. Thank you for always providing me with my daily bread, and so much more. I rejoice in you and in the knowledge that you are the God of more than enough.

Thank you, Father, for caring about me and my loved ones. I know you want all needs to be met, and you cannot fail in meeting them. I praise you for the wonderful realization that you do fulfill all your promises in my life.

Thank you for your word which will never return to you void. I claim the promises of your Word for me, my family, and our lives. I take my stand upon the solid promises of your Word, Father. Thank you for meeting my every need. Amen

Great is your faithfulness, O God, my Father. Morning by morning new mercies I see. I know that your hands will supply all that I need. Thank you, Lord, for your loving care and supply in my life. I claim the promises of your Word today. I believe your Word, and I look forward to all you are going to do in my life.

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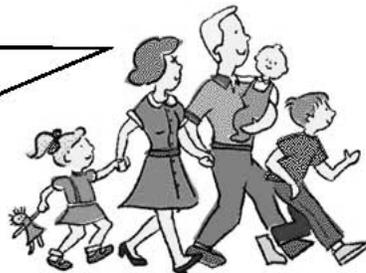
Thank you for your word which will never return to you void. I claim the promises of your Word for me, my family, and our lives. I take my stand upon the solid promises of your Word, Father. Thank you for meeting my every need. Amen



SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

John Aiken Jr.	Sonia De Jesus	Mildred Jenkins	Mary & Carol Owen	Eleanor Stevens
Bruce Andrew	Morris Dillard	Joyce Jones	Greg Parker	Pierre Stewart
Diane Anderson	Cecelia Dodson	Twanda Jones	Jeffrey Patterson	Patrick Lamar Stringer
Dora Anderson	Rich Durrant	Mary Johnson	Linda Pickens	Mia Raye Swabski
Master Samuel Arditto	Tasha Edens	Matrice Johnson	Coreen Patas	Leonara Sweany
Beverly Arter	Booker Edwards	Samantha Johnson	Khadyah Peters	Josephine Teart
Michelle Arrington	Michael Ehot & Family	Eartha Johnson	Quition Perry	Christine Teape
Anaiah Arrington	Debra Ellegard	Ethan Krawiec	Terrez Perry	Gergory Thomas
Elizabeth Ashe	Atlas Elm	Eunice Jackson	Kit' Teryus Perry	Pearl Thomas
Sgt. Ann Barr	Bettie Farrington	Cayla Jones	Canty Polk	Leon Tomlin
Rosa Babcock	Anthony Freeman Jr.	Charish King	Susan Pope	Collie Mae Turner
Carl Banks	Ta'Bron Fields	Zionah King	Rev. Nathan Proche	Leon Turner
Edward Bass	April Ferguson & Family	Zcchariah King	Richard Raynor	Cleveland Tyrone
Sylvio Belval	Paulov Fonesca	Billy King	Darryl Raynor	Vereen Jr.
Erica Dianna Bishop	Kimberly Foye	Frances Lawrence	Denise Raynor	Terri Vickers
Priscilla Bolden	Hazel Fox	Jermaine Lawrence & Family	Willie Raynor	Laura Warcholic
Angela Bolfill	Frank Galluzzo	Margret Harris Leslie	James Raynor	Alfreida Watford
Mary Jo Boone	Guy Garafalo	Grace Larry	Yaretza Pizarro	Linda Watson
Ada Boyd	Joseph Garzone	Yolanda Langlois	Ruby Ready	Adell Weston
Felicia Boyd	Julia Gillian	Wanda Lewis	Herbert J. Reed	Bruce Weston
Lance & Sheila Braggs	Enrique Gonzalez	Rachael Lockhart	Patrick & Jennifer	Mary Wells
Marcus Brown	Mike Gowlok	Doug Loman	Reynolds	James A. Weston
Richetta Brown	Shawn Greaves	Nii Dan Lomotey	Judy Ann Richardson	Christopher D. White
William Byrd	Cornelius Greenway	Isa Martinez	Jason Riddick	Israel White
Bernice Butts	Tracey Haines	Samuel Mention	Kitty Riley	Ronald Williams Jr.,
Ernest Caldwell	Ethel Hall	Raymond Maldonado	Louis Rodriquez	Josephine Williams
Oswald Cameron	Lei Lani Harris	Linda McCue	Crystal Rose	Kirra Wilson
Richard Campbell	Lashawnda Heath	Damion McDonald	Darryl Rucker Jr.	Kyon Wilson
Kathleen Carter	Mark Henneberry	Helena McDuffie	J.R. & Janet Rush	Mary Catherine Wood
Camilli Cecere	Leia Henderson	Evelyn McMillan	Steven Sampson	Richard Wood
Tiffany Chapuet & Family	Hazel Hewitt	Marcus Mickens	Dahu Sansbury	Doreen Wright
Ethan Chief	Geraldine Hickman	Bruce Meggot	Dasani Sansbury	Mildred Wright
Alexa Colavecchio	Johnney Hilton	Brian Tammi Moody	Vanessa Sansbury	Dora Young
Mary Collins	Roy Hill	Ransom Lee Moody	Valarie Sansbury	Robert Young Jr.
Milton Cox	Barbara Ann Holley	Ryoko Moody	Ruby Shelton	
Kevin Costa Jr.	Eric Holley	Gwen Moody	Kat Simmons	
Juanita De Vance	Inez Holmes	William Spike Moody	Maude Simmons	
E.J. Davis	Shawn Holmes	Keith Moore	Claudette Simmons	
Essie Davis	Billy Hyman	Beverly Mungo	Nadine Smith	
Lisa Davis	Trina Jackson	Tony McMillan	Lenard Smith	
Barbara Davis	Betty Jackson	Nina McWhite	Richard Sneed	
Debra David	Stanley Jenkins	Marion Nesmith-Toro	Mary Stearns & children	
			Robbie Stephen	

Church School is a Family Affair,
Come and Grow with US,
Sunday Church School begins: 8:30 a. m.
For Transportation Needs Please call
the Church 860-344-9527



Sunday Church School meets from 8:30 a.m. **sharp** to 9:45 a.m. each Sunday. We have classes for all ages – from age 3 to 103. New Members Class meets at the same time. **Light breakfast is served each Sunday.**

Assurance of Salvation

Topic: Assurance of Salvation

Subject: "How can I dispel all wonder and doubt about where I will spend eternity?"

Scripture: I John 5: 9-13

Purpose: To reassure Christians in their faith and to defy false teachings.

Introduction: Christians can get caught up in wonder and doubt about their salvation. They find themselves asking questions such as these: Is Jesus really God? Did he truly come to save sinners like me? Will I live in heaven eternally if I die today?

The First Epistle of John was written to cast out doubts among Christians and to build assurance by presenting a clear picture of Jesus the Christ. He came into this world- incarnate. Jesus Christ was both God in the flesh and God in focus (physical), who was seen, heard, and touched by the apostle John, the author of this letter.

By the time of the writing of this epistle, John was an elder statesman, who had walked and talked with Jesus during his earthly ministry. John saw Him heal the sick, heard Him preach and teach, watched Him die on Calvary's Cross, after that, John met Him arisen, and finally watched Him as He ascended into heaven.

What an awesome experience for John! However, at this time, false teachers had crept into the church denying the incarnation of God's Word (embodiment or manifestation) of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, John wrote this epistle to correct their serious errors. This epistle is an excellent model for us to follow today, as we combat heresies.

This epistle presents God in three character phases:

1. God is light (Read: I John 1:1-2:27)
2. God is love (Read I John 2:28-4:21)
3. God is life (Read: I John 5:1-21.)

How Can We Have An Assurance?

Today's focus is found in John 17:3 and I John 5:11-15

Vs. 11. And this is the testimony (proof or evidence): God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Vs. 12. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Vs. 13. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Vs. 14. This is the confidence (guarantee, assurance, oath, declaration, or promise) we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he

hears us.

Vs.15. And if we know that he hears us -whatever we ask-we know we that we have what we asked of him.

So we see according to the scripture, we do not have to die to receive eternal life, nor do we have to wait for it, because eternal life began in us the moment we first believed in Jesus Christ, as God's only begotten Son. We don't need to work for it because it is already ours; nor should we worry about it because we have been given eternal life by God himself. Not only did he give it to us, he also guaranteed it.

Some people still hope for eternal life, but John says in the scriptures, we can know assuredly that we have it. Our certainty is based on God's promise that He has given us eternal life through his Son.

Therefore, when you are asked by someone else, or when the spirit of doubt creeps in causing you to ask yourself, you can proclaim, " Yes, I know I have eternal life, because I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son and only plan for mankind's salvation. Eternal life is given to all who believe.

Read: Romans 10:9-10. And John 17:3

For this reason, don't get confused by erroneous teaching based on feeling

(Salvation on page 9)

Pray for all of our children, teens, young adults in this school years that God's hands will be upon them keeping them from all hurt, harm and danger. Also pray for all of our families, friends, and all of God's children.



Fired up to Freely Give Campaign

A One Million Dollars Mortgage Campaign



The Jabez Prayer

And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying,
 “Oh, that You would bless me indeed,
 and enlarge my territory,
 that Your hand would keep me from evil,
 that I may nor cause pain!
 So God granted him what he requested.
 1 Chronicles 4:10 (NKJV)

30 day of Jabez prayer

Pray the Jabez prayer every morning, and keep a record of your daily prayer by marking off a calendar or chart you make especially for the purpose.

Write out the prayer and tape it in your bible, in your day-timer, on your bathroom mirror, or some other place where you'll be reminded of your new vision.

Reread this little book once each week during the next month, asking God to show you important insights you may have missed.

Tell one other person of your commitment to your new prayer habit, and ask him or her to check up on you.

Begin to keep a record of changes in your life, especially the divine appointments and new opportunities you can relate directly to the Jabez prayer.

Start praying the Jabez prayer for your family, friends, and local church.

Ephesians 6:10-20 (New King James Version)

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, ^[a] against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Bible in a Year

MARCH

1 Joshua 7-9
 2 Joshua 10-12
 3 Joshua 13-15
 4 Joshua 16-18
 5 Joshua 19-21
 6 Joshua 22-24
 7 Judges 1-4

8 Judges 5-8
 9 Judges 9-12
 10 Judges 13-15
 11 Judges 16-18
 12 Judges 19-21
 13 Ruth 1-4
 14 1 Sam. 1-3
 15 1 Samuel 4-7

16 1 Samuel 8-10
 17 1 Samuel 11-13
 18 1 Samuel 14-16
 19 1 Samuel 17-20
 20 1 Samuel 21-24
 21 1 Samuel 25-28
 22 1 Samuel 22-24
 23 2 Samuel 1-4

24 2 Samuel 5-8
 25 2 Samuel 9-12
 26 2 Samuel 13-15
 27 2 Samuel 16-18
 28 2 Samuel 19-21
 29 Samuel 22-24
 30 1 Kings 1-4
 31 1 Kings 5-7

APRIL

1 1 Kings 8-10
 2 1 Kings 11-13
 3 1 Kings 14-16
 4 1 Kings 17-19
 5 1 Kings 20-22
 6 2 Kings 1-3
 7 2 Kings 4-6

8 2 Kings 7-10
 9 2 Kings 11-14
 10 2 Kings 15-17
 11 2 Kings 18-20
 12 2 Kings 21-22
 13 2 Kings 23-25
 14 1 Chronicles 1-3
 15 1 Chronicles 4-6

16 1 Chronicles 7-9
 17 1 Chronicles 10-13
 18 1 Chronicles 14-16
 19 1 Chronicles 17-19
 20 1 Chronicles 20-23
 21 1 Chronicles 24-26
 22 1 Chronicles 27-28
 23 2 Chronicles 1-3

24 2 Chronicles 4-6
 25 2 Chronicles 7-9
 26 2 Chronicles 10-13
 27 2 Chronicles 14-16
 28 2 Chronicles 17-19
 29 2 Chronicles 20-22
 30 2 Chronicles 23-25

MAY

1 2 Chronicles 26-29
 2 2 Chronicles 30-32
 3 2 Chronicles 33-36
 4 Ezra 1-4
 5 Ezra 5-7
 6 Ezra 8-10
 7 Nehemiah 1-3

8 Nehemiah 4-6
 9 Nehemiah 7-9
 10 Nehemiah 10-13
 11 Esther 1-3
 12 Esther 4-7
 13 Esther 8-10
 14 Job 1-4
 15 Job 5-7

16 Job 8-10
 17 Job 11-13
 18 Job 14-17
 19 Job 18-20
 20 Job 21-24
 21 Job 25-27
 22 Job 28-31
 23 Job 32-34

24 Job 35-37
 25 Job 38-42
 26 Psalms 1-4
 27 Psalms 5-8
 28 Psalms 9-12
 29 Psalms 13-15
 30 Psalms 16-18
 31 Psalms 19-21

Lent

Lent is the period of time to reflect on the events that led Jesus to Calvary. Its begins with Ash Wednesday and covers a period of forty days (excluding Sundays) culminating with Holy Week (including Passion/Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). Lent is a time of fasting, sacrifice, and preparation.

Color: Purple (violet or lilac) is the color used to denote royalty, praying, fasting, and penitence. It represents a symbol of the majesty of Christ, and Jesus’ humanity, suffering, and fasting.

A guideline given by some money managers is as follows: Give 1/10 (tithe of your income to God). Put 1/10 in savings. Put 1/10 in an emergency account until three months of pay is set aside. Live on the remaining 7/10 with freedom to work towards giving as much as possible to God’s work.

Name of God	Meaning	Application
EL SHADDAI	The All Sufficient One, The God of the Mountains, God Almighty	God is the all-sufficient source of all of our blessings. God is all-powerful. Our problems are not too big for God to handle.
IMMANUEL	God With Us “I AM”	Jesus is God in our midst. In Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.
JEHOVAH	“I AM”, The One Who Is The Self-existent One	God never changes. His promises never fail. When we are faithless, He is faithful. We need to obey Him.
JEHOVAH- JIREH	The Lord Will Provide	Just as God provided a ram as a substitute for Isaac, He provided His son Jesus as the ultimate sacrifice. God will meet all our needs.

(Holy Week from page 1)

The Lord's Supper was the last meal that Jesus shared with the disciples before going to Calvary. It occurred on what is called Maundy Thursday. "Maundy" is a variation of the Latin word "mandatum" meaning "commandment" (see John 13:34). The significance of God's love for humanity comes forth in this act because it was and is through Jesus' blood and body that persons are redeemed. Therefore, the new commandment requires persons to love one another just as God loves all persons. The Latin word "Mundo" means to wash, and some claim this is how Maundy Thursday came into being, since Jesus washed the disciples' feet on that day. Some denominations and congregations still carry out the practice of washing feet before Holy Communion, at least on Holy Thursday.

Yet another tradition credits the name to the word "maund" for basket and the practice of giving baskets of goodies to the poor. Whatever the source, Maundy Thursday is practiced in just about every Christian church with either a love feast or Holy Communion being participated in by all. One cannot but help call to mind the celebration of the feast of the Passover by Jews. Christians celebrate similarly, for this is in remembrance of the Lamb of God who willingly shed blood for the sins of the whole world.



GOOD FRIDAY

Most authors agree that the term "Good Friday" evolved from "God's Friday."

It is one the three days that many persons make an effort to attend church, the other being Easter Sunday and Christmas Day. Services in most

churches last about three hours since generally, the seven last words of Jesus are used.

The Seven Last Words are:

- ◆ "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:34
- ◆ "Today, you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:43
- ◆ "Woman, here is your son, ...Son, Here is your Mother." John 19:26-27
- ◆ "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani? My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Mark 15:34 and Matthew 27:46
- ◆ I am thirsty." John 19:28
- ◆ "It is finished." John 19:30
- ◆ "Father, into your hands I commend My Spirit." Luke 23:46

More and more today, however, times and length of services are being arranged to meet the working schedules of most parishioners. Good Friday represents the day of that dreadful crucifixion and is not just a day of mourning. It is a day of remembrance of the events of the day,

especially the time Jesus hung on the cross. It is appropriate to leave the altar bare and use no liturgical color. However, if desired, black may be used. In many countries, the old practice was (and in some instances still is) not to cook on Good Friday. Rather, one drinks some beverage and eat hot cross buns. Like most other customs and traditions, cross buns have pagan origins. According to Rudolph Brasch, it was part of a pagan festival of bread offered to idols at spring time. Horns were stamped on the buns. This, however became the mark of the cross. It not only was a symbol, but served a practical purpose. When these buns were used in love feasts, it was easier to divide one into four pieces.



EASTER

Easter Sunday commemorates the glorious resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It is the other highest point of the Christian Year. Thus, joy and celebration engulfs the season as the Christian Church rejoices in the fact of the resurrection and its meaning to the

Christian faith, hope, and life. Many wonder why Easter occurs on various Sundays from year to year? Easter does not occur on a set day like Christmas because it is determined by the moon and the seasons in nature. Thus, for most Protestants and Roman Catholics, Easter falls on the Sunday near the beginning of Spring, which is also after the first full moon. Because of the fluctuating cycle, Easter Sunday can occur anywhere between March 22 and April 25. Therefore, Easter is a determining factor in the cycle that sets the beginning and end of some of the seasons. The number of days in the season of advent (four Sundays weeks prior to Christmas), Christmas / Christmastide (from Christmas day to the day before Epiphany-January 6, twelve days), Lent (forty days, excluding the Sundays), and Eastertide (fifty days), are constant seasons in terms of length. The Season After Epiphany, The Season After Pentecost, and Kingdomtide experience the variation from year to year.

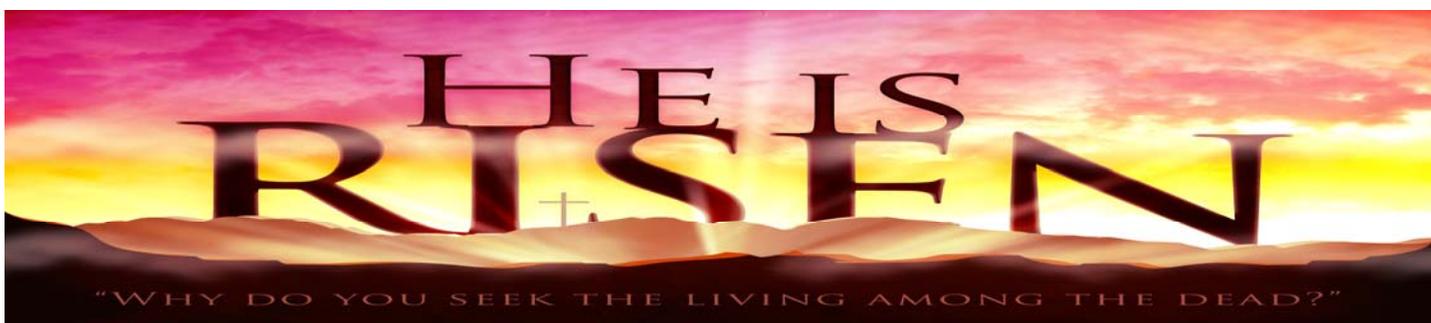
Easter has been described as the oldest festival of the church. It truly is the key to Christianity, since it emphasizes the redemption of humans. Note that in the early Christian Church, the word used for Easter was *Pascha*. This is from the Hebrew word for Passover. The closeness and similarity between the Jewish Passover and the celebration of Lent and Easter should be recalled and remembered. The Jews observed the *Passing Over* of the houses of the Israelites who had the blood of the lamb smeared upon the posts of their houses, by the death angel during their sojourn in Egypt. This was the final plague before Pharaoh agreed to let God's people, the Israelites go.

(Holy Week on page 9)

(Holy Week from page 8)

For Christians, the blood that saves persons from eternal damnation is the blood of Jesus, shed upon the cross at Calvary. Easter, like the word Lent, has nothing to do with the reason for celebrating these occasions. Rather, Easter comes from the name of an Anglo-Saxon spring goddess, *Eostre*, whose festival was observed at the spring equinox. Easter is indeed THE DAY of the days in the church calendar. This is the day that celebrates Christ's resurrection from the grave. Without the resurrection, there would be no Christian Church. This is why many Christians moved their day of worship to Sunday. So, not only is it a day of worship, but a little Easter, when persons remember that Christ rose from the dead. (See Matthew 28:1-7, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12, and John 20:1-10.)

The observance of Lent would have no meaning if it were not for that victorious first Easter. The crucifixion without the resurrection would not be a victory and would destroy the essence of the Christian faith and God's redemptive act. To be resurrection signifies that something or someone who was dead has return to a living state. Christ's resurrection was a demonstration of that fact and a revelation of God's power over sin and death. Thus, the agony and tragedy of the cross was transformed into a joyous celebration and God's fulfillment of the covenantal promise was affirmed. ALLELUIA! Jesus arose as a "mighty triumph over His foes" and lives forever. The liturgical color for Easter/Eastertide is white, symbolizing purity. Along with white, gold is often used to give emphasis to this most holy day of the church year.



(Salvation from page 5)

instead of fact, or fear instead of faith. You can know you have eternal life if you believe God's truth.

This is the question if you still have doubt: Ask yourself- "Have I honestly committed my life to Jesus Christ, and now accept him as my Lord and Savior?" If so, then you can know by faith, that you are a child of God. **You must be born again.**

The Father Gives Us An Assurance of Our Salvation.

Scriptures To Read, Study, And Commit To Memory: (Scriptures taken from the Life Application Study Bible.)

1 Corinthians 2:12 - We have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

John 10:27-30 – My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no man is able to snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one.

Rules for Holy Living

Colossians 3:1-4 - Since, then you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life appears, then you will also appear with him in glory. (triumph, success, fame, praise, admiration)

John 6:37-40 - All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whosoever comes to me, I will never drive away. For I have come down

from heaven not to do my will, but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.

Finally, as Christians, we should know assuredly that we are welcomed into God's presence, as we are protected by Jesus Christ, whose purpose is to do the will of God, our Father. Since Jesus works in union with the Father, so should our purpose be to fulfill his will in our lives.

Jesus promises that he will not lose even one person whom the Father has given him. Therefore, everyone who makes a commitment to I believe in Jesus Christ as Savior is secure in God's promise of eternal life. Christ will not allow his people to be overcome by Satan and lose their salvation. (Read: John 17:12) Amen.

Jerry's Story

This is a short story that I had to share. It is one of those simple truths that we all have a hard time remembering, when we are in the thick of it.

JERRY, A story to share.

Jerry is a restaurant manager in Philadelphia. He is always in a good mood and invariably has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would always reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!" Many of the waiters at his restaurant quit their jobs when he changed jobs, so they could follow him around from restaurant to restaurant. The reason the waiters followed Jerry was because of his attitude. He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, Jerry was always there, telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation.

Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up to Jerry and asked him, "I don't get it! No one can be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?" Jerry replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, I have two choices today. I can choose to be in a good mood or I can choose to be in a bad mood. I always choose to be in a good mood.

Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I always choose to learn from it. Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I always choose the positive side of life."

But it's not always that easy," I protested. "Yes it is," Jerry said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people will affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. It's your choice how you live your life."

Several years later, I heard that Jerry accidentally did something you are never supposed to do in the restaurant business: he left the back door of his

restaurant open one morning and was robbed by three armed men. While trying to open the safe, his hand, shaking from nervousness, slipped off the combination. The robbers panicked and shot him. Luckily, Jerry was found quickly and rushed to the hospital. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Jerry was released from the hospital with fragments of the bullets still in his body.

I saw Jerry about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins. Want to see my scars?" I declined to see his wounds, but did ask him what had gone through his mind as the robbery took place. "The first thing that went through my mind was that I should have locked the back door," Jerry replied. "Then, after they shot me, as I lay on the floor, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or could choose to die. I chose to live." "Weren't you scared" I asked. Jerry continued, "The paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the Emergency Room and I saw the expressions on the faces of the physicians and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, read 'He's a dead man.' I knew that I needed to take action." "What did you do?" I asked. "Well, there was a big nurse shouting questions at me," said Jerry. "She asked if I was allergic to anything." "Yes," I replied. The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, 'Bullets!' Over their laughter, I told them, "I am choosing to live. Please operate on me as if I am alive, not dead." Jerry lived thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude.

I learned from him that every day you have the choice either to enjoy your life or to hate it. The only thing that is truly yours that no one can control or take from you -is your attitude, So if you can take care of that, everything else in life becomes much easier.

Now you have two choices to make: 1. You can delete this message or 2. You can forward it to someone you care about. I hope you selected #2. I did.

5TH Annual Women's Health Conference

Saturday, April 25TH, 2015

See page 12 for more information

Photos from 2014 Women's Health Conference





5TH ANNUAL

Women's

Health Conference

"A World of Fearless Women"



SATURDAY
APRIL 25TH

8:30 AM -
3:00 PM
REGISTRATION
BEGINS AT 8:30AM

GUEST SPEAKER: HONORABLE TONI HARP, MAYOR OF NEW HAVEN, CT



SARAH CANAVAN, MD
GASTROENTEROLOGIST



STEPHANIE LYNN WINBORNE
HEALTH & FITNESS



YVETTE HIGHSMITH
FRANCES
INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER



SCOT HANEY
LIVING LEAN
WFSB 3



ROB NEVINS
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The Salvation of a Loved One

Key Scripture: *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation'*(Rom. 10:9-10).

Key Thought: God wants everyone to receive eternal life. (See John 3:16.)

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for all your promises. Your Word assures me that you are not willing for anyone to perish, because you want everyone to come to repentance.¹ I claim this promise now in behalf of my loved one: _____ . Draw him/her to yourself through the power of your Holy Spirit.²

Give _____ a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of you, so that the eyes of his/her understanding will be enlightened, and he/she will know the hope to which you have called him/her.³

Help _____ to see his/her need

for repentance. You are near, Lord, to all who have a broken heart, and you save those who have a contrite spirit.⁴ Bring brokenness to _____ so that he/she will see his / her need for you.

Thank you for your promise, Father, that whosoever will call upon your name shall be saved.⁵ So work in my loved one's life that he/she will want to call upon your name.⁶ Right now, Father, on the authority of your Word,⁷ in the name of Jesus,⁸ and by the precious blood of Christ,⁹ I pray that every plan and strategy of the enemy in _____ 's life be stopped and rendered of no effect. Let every plan of the powers of darkness against _____ 's life fail.¹⁰

Send believers who will proclaim the gospel to _____ in the power of your Holy Spirit,¹¹ so that his/her eyes will be opened and that he/she will turn from darkness to light.¹²

Thank you for giving him/her eternal life with you, Father.

References: (1) 2 Peter 3:9; (2) 1 Corinthians 12:3; (3) Ephesians 1:17-18; (4) Psalms 34:18; (5) Acts 2:21; (6) Romans 10:13; (7) Isaiah 55:11; (8) Philippians 2:10; (9) 1 Peter 1:19-21; (10) Ephesians 6:12; (11) Acts 1:8; (12) Acts 26:18.

God's Word

Key Scripture: *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart'*(Heb. 4:12).

Key Thought: The Bible is a road map for your life.

Prayer: Forever, O Lord, your Word is settled in heaven.¹ I bless you because you have given me rest according to all that you have promised to me. Not one word of all your good promises has ever failed.² In light of this truth, I will walk in your Word at all times.

I love your Word, Father, it is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.³ All of your words are pure, O God, and you are a shield to me.⁴ Lord God, your way is perfect, and your Word is tried. You are a shield and a mighty buckler to me as I trust in you.⁵

With your Word you made the heavens, O Lord.⁶ all of your promises are yes in Christ, unto your glory, O God.⁷ you have spoken through your Word since ancient times,⁸ in order to give light to those who sit in darkness, and you guide my feet in the way of peace.⁹

Your Word is quick, alive, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. It pierces even to the dividing asunder of my soul and spirit, and of my joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of my heart.¹⁰

Father, I am thankful for your Word, and I will endeavor to walk in the light of your Word all the days of my life.

References: (1) Psalms 119:89; (2) 1 Kings 8:56; 1 (3) Psalms 119:105, (4) Proverbs 30:5; (5) Psalms 18:30; (6) Psalms 33:6; (7) 2 Corinthians 1:20; (8) Luke 1:70; (9) Luke 1:79; (10) Hebrews 4:12.

COME TO ME

READ: John 20:24-31

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. V.29

Charlotte Elliott wrote the hymn “Just as I am” in 1834. She had been an invalid for many years, and through she wanted to help with a fund-raiser for a girl’s school, she was too ill. She felt useless, and this inner distress caused her to begin doubting her faith in Christ. She wrote “Just as I am” as a response to her doubt. The crux of her distress is perhaps best expressed in these words:

*Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come!*

Three days after His death and burial, Jesus rose from the grave and invited the disciple whom history has nicknamed “Doubting Thomas” to examine the marks of His

crucifixion (John 20:27). When Thomas touched Jesus’ wounds, he finally believed in the resurrection. Christ responded, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (v.29).

As Christians today, we are the ones who have not seen but still believe. Yet at times our earthly circumstances create serious questions in our souls. Even then, we cry out: “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” Mark 9:24). Jesus welcomes us to come to Him just as we are.

JENNIFER BENSON SCHULDT

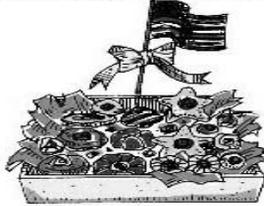
Dear Jesus, help me to trust You when life doesn't make sense. Please take my doubt and replace it with fresh faith in You.

The risen Christ opens the door for you to have fullness of life.

Ministries, Grand Rapids, Michigan,
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Remember Our Military



**and their families
with Prayers, Cards, & Letters**

Crises/Emergency: Cell phone 860-754-4606

Cross Street Recovery Ministry the “Hope Line” is in operation 24 hours per day. Please call 860-754-4606 if you, a friend and/or a family member are in need of counseling and/or are in crisis, **PLEASE** dial the “Hope Line”. All information will be confidential.

CROSS STREET MINISTRY OF RECOVERY

We can't but through God, all things are possible. How might we pull on God's strength to help each other recover?

Let the spirit of God work for you in a Mighty, Mighty Way

For more information contact:
Church office 860-344-9527.or
Rev. Gregory B. Winborne: Days: 860-616-3834

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday

8:30 a.m. Church School

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

2nd Sunday Senior Usher Board Meeting (following service)

Monday

7:00-9:00 p.m. Bible Study, Eddy Shelter

6:00 p.m. Zumba

7:00 Media Ministry (1st and 3rd)

Tuesday *Special Prayer for Pastor Harvill*

6:00—7:00 p.m. Prayer meeting and bible study.

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Youth Meeting

6:00 p.m. Zumba

6:00 p.m. Ministerial Staff (1st of month)

6:00 p.m. Steward Board (2nd of month)

7:00 p.m. Events Ministry (2nd Thursday) of Each Month

7:00 p.m. Trustee Board (2nd)

7:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Choir rehearsal, Recovery Ministry,

8:00 p.m. Men's Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 7:00 p.m. Unity Choir Rehearsal

Friday *Day of Fasting*

6:00 p.m. Vision Choir (3rd & 4th)

6:00 p.m. Diamonds & Pearl (off resting for summer)

Saturday

11:00 a.m. Men's Ministry (3rd)

10:00 a.m. Pastors Aide (2nd)

12:00 noon Pastors Aide (2nd)

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

March

Thursday, Mar. 26 - Friday, Mar. 27

District Conference.

Varick A.M.E. Zion Church, New Haven.

Saturday, Mar. 28

Mass Meeting.

Varick A.M.E. Zion Church, New Haven.

Sun. Mar. 29th 10:00 am

Women's Choir singing,

Rehearsal dates, 3/17, 3/23, 3/25 Sis. Renita Ezell, Director.

April

Thurs. April 2nd 6:00 p.m.

Women's Bible Study

Thurs. April 2nd 7:00 p.m.

Maundy Service

Friday April 3rd 12:00

Noon Service Good Friday

to be held at Cross Street Church.

Sat. April 4th 9:00 a.m.

Women's Prayer Breakfast.

Sunday April 5th 6:30 a.m.

Sunrise Services

10:00 a.m.

Resurrection Sunday Services

April 18th 6:00 p.m.

Taste of Cross Street.

April 25th 8:30 a.m.

Women's Health Conference

April 26th

Women's Bake sale following service.

Doxology

Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen. Jude 24-25



CROSS STREET A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

Organized in 1823

440 West Street P.O. Box 223
 Middletown, CT 06457
 Phone: 860-344-9527 Fax: 860-344-1740
 crossstreetchurch@snet.net
 www.crossstreetamezion.org

Sunday School — 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service — 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Moses L. Harvill, M. Div.,
 Pastor
 Email: mharvill@snet.net

The Rev. Timothy Howard
 Presiding Elder

Mrs. Lovetta J. Holmes
 Missionary Supervisor

Mrs. Gwendolyn Brumfield
 Associate Missionary Supervisor

The Right Reverend Mildred B. Hines
 Bishop

- Ministerial Staff**
- Rev. Ella Frances Perry
 - Rev. Karen Nesmith
 - Rev. James Battle
 - Rev. Myrtle Turner
 - Rev. Jennifer Cherry-Woods
 - Rev. Gregory Winborne
 - Rev. Joyce Johnson
 - Rev. Albert Bolden
 - Rev. Earlene Grants
 - Sister Felicia Freeman



“I am a Christian”

By Maya Angelou

When I say ... “I am a Christian”
 I’m not shouting “I’m clean livin’.”
 I’m whispering “I was lost,
 Now I’m found and forgiven.”

When I say ... “I am a Christian”
 I don’t speak of this with pride.
 I’m confessing that I stumble
 And need Christ to be my guide.

When I say ... “I am a Christian”
 I’m not trying to be strong.
 I’m professing that I’m weak
 And need His strength to carry on.

When I say ... “I am a Christian”
 I’m not bragging of success.
 I’m admitting I have failed
 And need God to clean my mess.

When I say ... “I am a Christian”
 I still feel the sting of pain.
 I have my share of heartaches
 So I call upon His name.

When I say ... “I am a Christian”
 I’m not holier than thou.
 I’m just a simple sinner
 Who received God’s good grace, some-
 how!

God’s Word

*For the word of God is quick, and power-
 ful, and sharper than any two-edged
 sword, piercing even to the dividing asun-
 der of soul and spirit, and of the joints
 and marrow, and is a discerner of the
 thoughts and intents of the heart”*
 Hebrews 4:12

Prayer: Forever, O Lord, your Word is settled in heaven. I bless you because you have given me rest according to all that you have promised to me. Not one word of all your good promises has ever failed. In light of this truth, I will walk in your Word at all times.
 I love your Word, Father, it is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. All of your words are pure, O God, and you are a shield to me. Lord God, your way is

The Lord’s Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

Our Father which art in heaven,
 Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.



Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.
 Habakkuk 2:2

The Jabez Prayer

And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, **“Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would keep me from evil, that I may nor cause pain!”** So God granted him what he requested.
 1 Chronicles 4:10 (NKJV)

perfect, and your Word is tried. You are a shield and a mighty buckler to me as I trust in you.
 With your Word you made the heavens, O Lord. all of your promises are yes in Christ, unto your glory, O God. You have spoken through your Word since ancient times, in order to give light to those who sit in darkness, and you guide my feet in the way of peace.
 Your Word is quick, alive, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. It pierces even to the dividing asunder of my soul and spirit, and of my joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of my heart.
 Father, I am thankful for your Word, and I will endeavor to walk in the light of your Word all the days of my life.

If you were to die today, do you know where you will spend eternity ???

The Cross Street Journal is published Bi-monthly. If you have an article or information for current and future publications the deadline for this information is the Monday after the 2nd Sunday of each Month. **You may submit your information in the following ways:** place the information on a CD (Window format) and leave it in the Cross Street office with Verna Boyce Or, E-mail Ken Simmons (Ken46@snet.net), or give it to him **Praise God!!!**