

“News From Home”

**Perry Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
302 East Salling Street, PO Box 479
Perry, MO 63462**



March / April 2022

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 51

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. 5 Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. 6 You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. 9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. 11 Do not

cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. 14 Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. 17 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. 18 Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, 19 then you will delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

DEVOTIONAL

“Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.” When I was in high school, we

had a visiting missionary from the Philippines stay with our church for a few months. It was one of those mild winters, with very little snow. The day before our guest was scheduled to leave, we were hit with a blizzard, a total white out. In Northeast Ohio, this isn't anything new. But for our visitor from the Philippines it was an astonishing thing to experience. After seeing snow for the very first time, she said with tears in her eyes, "I finally understand what it means when the Bible tells me that I've been washed whiter than snow."

Lent is a journey that teaches us about the incredible grace of a God, who hears our prayers of confession and washes us clean. We are constantly reminded of the sin that entangles humanity—not just the world around us but the heart within us. As we look forward to the day of resurrection, may we rejoice in the assurance of our salvation. May we journey with joy because God shows us mercy according to God's steadfast love. May we be filled with tears of joy, like my friend from the Philippines, because we have been made clean, washed whiter than snow.

PRAYER

With the psalmist, let us pray, "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. . . . Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, . . ." Forgive what my lips tremble to name, that I may forever dwell in the house of the Lord. Amen.

The
Season
of
Lent



Ash Wednesday Service

Please join us for our Ash Wednesday Service to be held on Wednesday, March 2nd beginning at 7:00 pm.



New Church Printer

As some may already know, we have recently had to purchase a new printer for the church office. Due to rising costs of toner, replacement drums, copy paper, etc., along with the fact that we are no longer part of a “rewards” program offering discounts, we must remind everyone that the printer must be used for church purposes only. Copies for personal use may be made at IGA or at the library in Center.

Updated Church Directory

Our new church directory is near completion and will soon be printed. To ensure that we have correct information for each of our members, we’d like to ask that you take one final look at your individual or family listing. A proof copy of the directory will be placed on the front pew in the overflow area facing the sanctuary. Please take a moment and make sure that the following information is as you’d like it listed. If any changes or additions are needed, please write those on the proof copy or give the information to Nancy Seelow.

- Home Address
- Phone Number – home and / or cell number
- Email Address – if desired
- Birthdates
- Anniversary Dates

The proof copy will be available until March 20th. After that time, the final directory will be printed and distributed to our members.

Thank you for your assistance.

Bake Sale

The Stewardship Committee will be sponsoring a bake sale to be held Saturday, April 2nd from 8:00 – 10:00 at IGA in Perry. Donations of baked goods will be welcomed.

Church Carry In Dinner

We will have a carry in dinner following the morning worship service on Sunday, March 13th. Please bring a dish or two to share and join us for a great time of delicious food and fellowship. Beverages will be provided by the church.



Tuesday, March 1	Prayer Shawl Group from 4-6 pm at Rae Bair's House
Wednesday, March 2	Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm
Sunday, March 13	Andrew Holmes & Friends – Providing Music for the Morning Worship Service
Sunday, March 13	Carry In Dinner Following the Morning Worship Service
Sunday, March 20	Deadline for Revisions to the Church Directory
Saturday, April 2	Bake Sale from 8-10:00 a.m. at IGA in Perry
Friday, April 15	Good Friday
Sunday, April 17	Easter Sunday

March Speakers

March 6 Leanne Reed
March 13 Eric Holmes
March 20 Dr. Billy Strother
March 27 Eric Holmes

April Speakers

April 3 Chuck Blackburn
April 10 Eric Holmes
April 17 Chuck Blackburn
April 24 Eric Holmes



Crazy weather! If you don't like the weather right now, just wait and it will change. It seems like the weather can't make up its mind if it should be winter or spring. The temperature is 70 degrees on one day and 20 degrees the next day. I wouldn't mind a little more snow, but I realize most people don't agree with me. That includes my wife! I think weather is just one of the ways God is checking our patience. The next time you're upset about the weather just open your Bible and read the book of Job.

Job did not learn the lesson of patience, even when one refers to the Patience of Job. Also, he did not learn the lesson of suffering, even though he did suffer a lot. The ultimate lesson learned is that God alone is in control of all things. To even think that God has lost control is to judge according to our human perspective. Doing that we fail to take God's perfect character into account. God doesn't expect one to understand Him; He is more concerned that we trust Him. He sends the weather that He believes we need, and He knows that we will not always understand why.

The Book of Job is short and won't take that long to read the entire book in one setting. One could do that while they're waiting for the roads to be cleared. Perhaps by the time you're finished reading, the weather will be exactly what you're wanting.

Lenten Season

We are stating the church season known as Lent, which starts this year on March 2. Lent is a 40-day season of prayer, fasting (abstaining from something to reduce distractions and focus more on God), and alms (giving or charity) that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting.

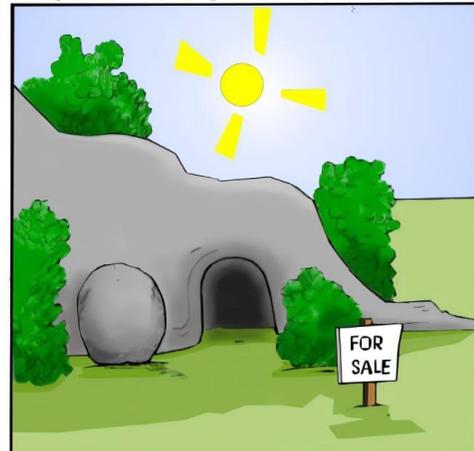
There are four days of celebration during the Lenten Season. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. You may notice people with a smudged, black cross on their foreheads. The ashes symbolize our grief for the things we've done wrong and the resulting division of imperfect people from a perfect God. Maundy Thursday is the day before Good Friday. It commemorates the night before Jesus died, when He shared the Passover meal with His closest friends and

followers. Good Friday is the day Christians remember Jesus' death. The "Good" reflects how Jesus' death was a sacrifice on our behalf so we can receive God's forgiveness for our wrongs, or sins. Easter Sunday is the joyful celebration of Jesus rising from the dead to give us the opportunity of eternal life.

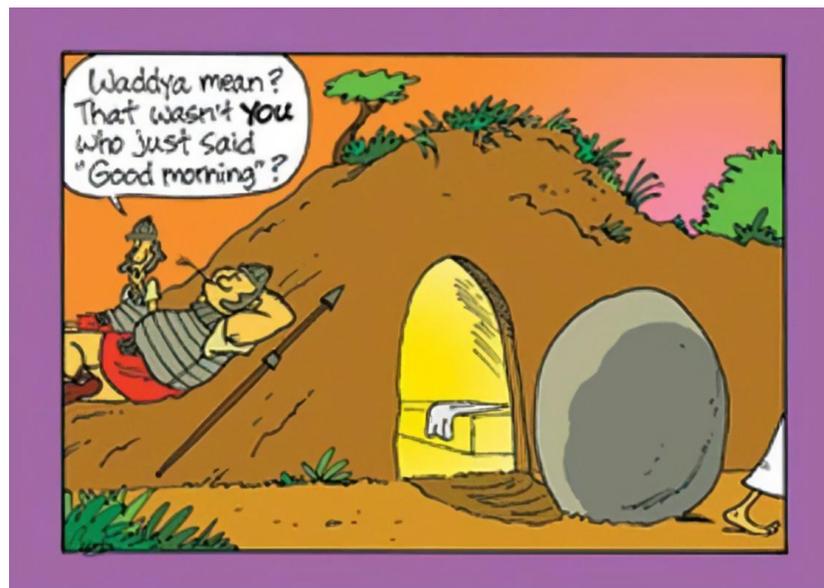
During this year's Lenten Season, the children of the church will be putting out one candle every Sunday. They will be reading something which will help one to think about the behaviors which are putting out the Light of Christ. Thank you to all the children who have helped in this year's Lenten Celebration.



The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



FOR SALE - Single owner tomb. Only used three days, and still has that new tomb smell. Reason for sale.. resident was resurrected.



March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Clayton Birkhead	2 Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm	3 Jeanie Gay Amy Hodges	4	5 Kim Long Sawyer Asbury Nathan & Kim Long
6	7	8 Kennedy Jaspering	9	10 Linda Fierge Caytlyn Provancha	11 Tony Cragen	12
13	14	15	16	17 David Swon	18 Eric Holmes Melburn & Eunice Fisher	19
20	21 Debra Lewis	22 Rylee Eisele	23 Wanda Shoemate	24	25 Amy Wilkinson	26
27	28	29 Trenton Brown	30 Karena Davis	31		

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Brandon Theis	2 Polly Berghager Robert & Kim Norman
3 Nancy Birch	4 Austin Simmons Donnie Schutte	5	6 Bob Kellstrom	7	8	9
10 Annie Hodges	11 Gunnar Long Diane Brooks	12 David Birch	13	14 Bruce Coleman	15 Mikka Wasson	16 Tom & Linda Fierge
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Matt Johnson
24	25	26	27	28 Jacob Asbury Anthony & Zabette Elam	29	30 Terri Anderson