

Christian Church of God Newsletter



The Pastor's Pen

April 2005
Volume 15, Issue 4

Hello My Brothers & Sisters, Linda and I, Joe and Jody Kirkpatrick, spent the first Sabbath of this month in Big Sandy. Joe and I spoke to the Big Sandy Church of God and Linda sang "The Redeemer" for special worship music. We found this congregation welcoming us with warmth. If you're ever in the area, I recommend worshipping with Pastor Dave Havir and his congregation.

Friday evening, April 22nd, disciples of Jesus shall come together to observe the most sacred service of the Christian year, the Christian Passover. Jesus at His last Passover with His disciples established a new Christian Passover.

Mark 14:22 And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body.

23 And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it.

24 And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. (KJV)

As our Passover Lamb He was the fulfillment of the original Passover. The bread, without leaven and broken, is the symbol of His sinless sacrifice and broken body.

Contact the Editor at
jerrydalemc@sbcglobal.net or P. O.
Box 33134, Amarillo, TX 79120

Special points of interest:

- Grapevine
- The price paid for your eternal salvation

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Our sermons broadcast on
KGRO Radio at 9:05 AM Sun-
day. Check

www.pan-tex.net

Our Home Page:
www.christianchurchofgod.org

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1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. (KJV)

The wine is the sacrament of His blood shed for our sins.

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I hear by the Grapevine

IF YOU HAVE A TIDBIT OFF THE GRAPEVINE YOU WANT TO SHARE WITH OUR READERS, YOU CAN SEND IT TO ME AT jerrydalemc@sbcglobal.net or c/o Christian Church of God, P. O. Box 33134, Amarillo, TX 79120. ~ The Editor



THE UNEDITED WORDS (well maybe one) of Merle Vines: I have decided to put our house on the market and sell out of this frozen tundra this spring.... Jo can retire with a small retirement and between her retirement and mine, I believe we can afford a modest refrigerator cardboard box under the Red River bridge between Texas and Louisiana. So we will go from here to Shreveport sometime this summer. I guess I can sit along the river bank and fish for catfish and craw-dads along with the wine-o's that show up there every day. Steal a few potatoes from the Handy Andy and plant them in one of those vacant fields around. That way we'd have some potatoes to go with the catfish. We could save the quarters we find in the telephone booths for wine. Those cell phones have REALLY killed the number of quarters one can fish out of the coin returns in public telephones. Always remember... if you go into one of those public phone booths, when you close the door, the light comes on....and you don't want the cops seeing you working over the coin box with a big screwdriver ... so leave the door open!

A THREAT FROM THE EDITOR TO SEND ME YOUR TRIVIA NEWS. . . OR I'LL KEEP PRINTING MERLE'S!

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"Our church's distinctive is to be a church of grace. If anyone can't adhere to that, we simply ask the person to leave."

On the Lighter Side

PRAYER REQUESTS: "... The prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up; . . . Pray for one another that you may be healed." — James 5:15-16.

Amber & Dylan Clark: Grandchildren of Betty Clark, cerebral palsy.
Vickie Crevoi: Sister of Linda Booth, Chronic Progressive MS.
Dan Copenhauer: Brother of Betty Clark, disabled, chronic pain.
Nell Foster: Friend of Betty Clark, in nursing home suffering from dementia and blood clots in leg.
Velvet Green: Gary's wife, schizophrenia.
Randy Gnessett: Friend of Candace Seller, pulmonary hypertension, improved but still awaiting a lung transplant.
Carrie McClenan: Awaiting kid-

ney transplant.
Judy McKinney: Undergoing radiation treatments following surgical removal of malignant tumor.
Brian McDaniels: Friend of Steve & Teresa Cryer, suffering from emphysema; awaiting a lung transplant.
Dollie Meil: Cerebral palsy.
Ralph Moore: Uncle of Francis Carlson, colon cancer; much improved.
Patton Pugh: Grandson of Bonnie Cryer, lungs & bones not fully developed; suspect hormone problem.
Ted Rankin: six herniated disks; in extreme pain.

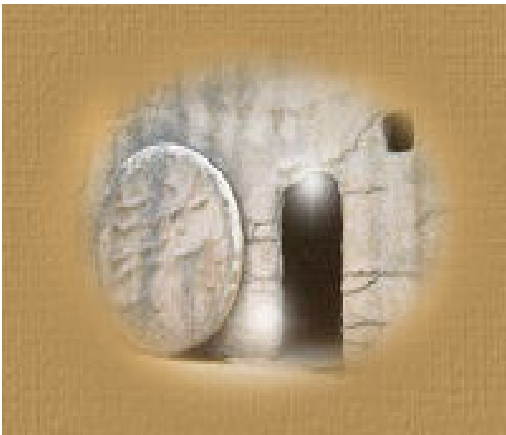
Kathryn Scott: Friend of the Baileys; severe MS, losing use of arms and swallowing ability.
Audrey Strahl: Jeff Booth's mother, much improved after being hospitalized with pneumonia.
Katie Warnecke: Friend of Shannon Stephen's family, Hodgkins Lymphoma - she is 12 years old.
Bob Wertz: Achalasia, a disorder of the esophagus.
Rickey Wright: Tracie Strahan's cousin, has suffered a stroke. Has rehab for one more month.



CELEBRATIONS
 April

Birthdays:
 J. R. Hamilton 18th
 James Vines 26th
 Pedro Sosa 29th
Anniversaries:
 Weldon & Glennis McAlister 24th

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Rom.



Pastor's Class
Jesus: Man or God?

Continues each Sabbath at 10:45 a. m.

NOTE: 11 a. m.. on HOLY DAYS

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Accepting God's Grace

Christian Passover/Lord's Supper

Friday, April 22nd

Footwashing Ceremony — 7:30 pm.

Sacrament Service — 8:00 p.m.

First Day of Unleavened Bread

Sunday, April 24th

Last Day of Unleavened Bread

Saturday, April 30th

C.E.P. Bible Class — 11:00 a.m.

Holyday Worship Service — 11:45 a.m.

25th Anniversary Celebration

June 11th & 12th

Visit our Home Page at www.christianchurchofgod.org

Listen to our sermons broadcast on KGRO Radio/
Pampa at 9:05 a.m. each Sunday / www.pan-tex.net



Pastor's Pen continued

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; (KJV)

Jesus instituted these new sacraments, often referred to as the Lord's Supper, to impress upon all who have accepted our Savior's sacrifice the staggering cost of this grace. It may be free; it most certainly is not cheap. He submitted to the humiliation and agony of the Cross—because His selfless love for us knew no bounds.

He directs us to take up our cross and follow Him (Mark 8:34). We Christians partake of this Holy Night to renew our baptismal covenant with God, accept anew our Lord's sacrifice and honor the gravity of His selfless sacrifice.

1 Cor 10: 16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?

17 Since there is one

bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread. (NAS)

The Passover of our Lord is upon us. So much of the anti-Semitism we see in the world is the result of blaming the Jews for the death of Jesus. It was not the Jews who caused the death of Jesus, nor was it the Romans. They were but instruments carrying out what Jesus accepted and God decreed. God's only begotten Son came to die

on the cross so that the sins of mankind might be forgiven. Those who have partaken of Christ know who killed Him. It was you and I and all mankind—for ALL have sinned!

Rembrandt's painting, *The Raising of the Cross*, is

Rembrandt's painting, The Raising of the Cross, is a self-portrait. The soldier raising the cross as Christ hangs on from it is Rembrandt himself. Who killed Jesus? Rembrandt knew. He did.

a self-portrait. The soldier raising the cross as Christ

hangs on from it is Rembrandt himself. Who killed Jesus? Rembrandt knew. He did. And I did. And you did. We're the ones who sent Jesus to the cross laden with our sins.

The Days of Unleavened Bread, exonerating us from

the leaven of sin are also at the door. Jesus is the bread of life and as such has released us from the leaven of sin.

John 6:51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life

of the world. KJV

Jesus died for us, so be there to accept this priceless gift anew by accepting the sacraments, and thank Him for His selfless sacrifice. Come to the Lord's Supper, show your love for our Savior and give thanks and praise to Jesus!

Your brother in Christ,

Jeff Booth



Even though we might change a few details (such as the year), the essence of this graphic remains true. The basic gospel message is the same:

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.” (John 3:16-17.)

“We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” (Rom. 6:4)

“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.” (1 Thess. 4:14)



Jerusalem

OBITUARIES 33 AD



Calvary

Jesus Christ, 33, of Nazareth, died Friday on Mount Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the apostle Judas, Jesus was crucified by the Romans, by order of the Ruler Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture, and loss of blood.

Jesus Christ, a descendant of Abraham, was a member of the house of David. He was the Son of the late Joseph, a carpenter of Nazareth, and Mary, His devoted Mother. Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by His mother Mary, His faithful Apostles, numerous disciples, and many other followers.

Jesus was self educated and spent most of his adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor and it is reported that he healed many patients. Up until the time of His death, Jesus was teaching and sharing the Good News, healing the sick, touching the lonely, feeding the hungry, and helping the poor.

Jesus was most noted for telling parables about His Father's Kingdom and performing miracles, such as feeding over 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, and healing a man who was born blind. On the day before His death, He held a Last Supper celebrating the Passover Feast, at which He foretold His death.

The body was quickly buried in a stone grave, which was donated by Joseph of Arimathea, a loyal friend of the family. By order of Pontius Pilate, a boulder was rolled in front of the tomb. Roman soldiers were put on guard.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that everyone try to live as Jesus did. Donations may be sent to anyone in need.

"The Place Called Calvary"

So many songs about Golgotha, about Jesus giving up His life for our sins, about His suffering and passion and death. So much said about the cross, about the Perfect Sacrifice for our sins. So many Communion services with the bread and the wine.

Until our sensibilities seem to be numb by it all.

Yet, we must never forget. "This do in remembrance of me." Jesus. "As often as you do this you show forth the Lord's death until He comes." Paul.

As a church we insist that as a "memorial" it is alright, even proper, that we do this on an annual basis— like a birthday or anniversary celebration.

And, as a church, we see no reason to do it any other time except according to the Jewish calendar marking Passover. It's logical: the slain lamb, blood on the doorposts; behold the Lamb of God, drink His blood and eat His flesh, symbolized by the bread and wine. "Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us." Paul.

Now, there is certainly nothing wrong with thinking about His Sacrificial Death throughout the year. In fact, every day, every hour, we are reminded of our sinfulness and the need for His death and resurrection, His intercession, and His grace.

In view of several New Testament references, we cannot ignore the impact of the Cross. Some people focus on its shape, or its height, or its crossbeam. We are often distracted by trivia.

I find comfort in "The Old Rugged Cross." As did Paul: "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of Christ Jesus my Lord. By which the world is crucified unto me and I unto the world."

My spirit is lifted when I hear the old song: "They searched through heaven, and found a Savior, to save a poor lost wretch like me."

I can relate to the words: "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live . . ." Paul.

Was John the Baptist just spouting desert-tinged rhetoric when he announced, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!?" Hardly. It was the announcement of the ages. It was the mysterious plan of Almighty God being unveiled before their very eyes. It was the profound revelation of the power and mercy and love of God. "Great is the mystery of godliness: God manifest in the flesh. . ."

"There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins; and sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains." Merely the voice of some deluded poet? No, it was another nuance of the mystery, the fulfillment of the sacrificial types and symbols of centuries past. "What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus! What can make me pure within? Nothing but the blood of Jesus! Oh, precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow; no other fount I know — nothing but the blood of Jesus."

Song after song. Scripture after Scripture. "Tell me the old, old story!" ■

Christian Church of God

Praise the LORD.

Praise God in his
sanctuary;

praise him in his
mighty heavens.

PS 150:1



Christian Church of God
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