

Church Life

At Yellowstone and Mayfield

Disciples Christian Church/Euclid Avenue Christian Church

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and, as always, much more!

From Pastor Kris:

It was just a regular Sunday morning on February 24th, and it was a wonderful Sunday. If you weren't here, I'll describe it to you. And, even if you were here, you didn't have the same vantage point I did – I'll bet you weren't aware all this was going on!

Our children processed in to begin worship. Next they taught us that the Week of Compassion really ought to be year-round compassion, and sang to us about having hearts that can change the world. The rest of our morning music ranged from Bach to the American scene in the 1860's to the 1960's, with the Spiritual, "I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me" to close. We are going to miss Kathryn and Leslie, aren't we, and we'll need to expect this wide variety of music and abilities from our next music staff persons!

We weren't finished with the morning when worship ended – Second Hour saw a busy building, using spaces we haven't needed for some time. I heard our Chapel speaker, Dr. George Matejka, was excellent – as was Dr. Stephen Post the previous two weeks. And, let me tell you, Oak Ridge was *hopping!* My Pastor's Class kids (there are five!) had to close the door because of the lively "Getting a Grip" adult class next door. Since several of these rowdy adults are also parents of the kids in pastor's class – it made for a humorous situation! Further down the hall was the study of "Sowing Tears, Reaping Joy" – add to that, our children were rehearsing for their next worship singing appearance – which happens to be this coming Sunday! New youth intern and youth group graduate, Katie Keresman has begun teaching Youth Sunday School, and is already having such positive effect with our older kids – during donut and coffee time, I saw kids swarming around her! Later in the afternoon, David and I hosted the weekly book study, which went past its scheduled 90 minutes because there was just too much good stuff to talk about! Our staff meeting went long for the same reason yesterday.

Is the season of Lent supposed to be this dynamic? It is when the Holy Spirit is involved. Who knows where our Lenten intentions will lead us? We are already evaluating our efforts as staff, and our conclusion is, "we don't want to stop much of what we're doing when Lent is over." How about you? What part of this would you commit to beyond Easter morning? The "Getting a Grip" group? Wednesday evening worship? Following a monthly calendar of compassionate ways to serve your God? Attending a book study with your pastor?

I'll look forward to hearing from you. And I'll look for you in church this next *regular* Sunday morning, with all its energy, beauty, commitment, and Spirit!

Pastor Kris

**LENT 2008 – PASTOR KRIS’
SERMON SERIES
LEARNING HOW TO BE HUMAN**

- † **March 2nd** - Deuteronomy 30:15-20,
Ephesians 5:8-14
Practice, Practice, Practice
- † **March 9th** - John 11:1-45
Now, What Do I Do?
- † **March 16th** - Palm Sunday
Procession of Palms
Pastor’s Class and Adult Baptisms

**MID-WEEK WORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES DURING LENT**

Please join us **every Wednesday through March 12th at 7:00 p.m.** for **Refocus, Refresh, Renew** – a calm, quiet 40 minutes of worship, closing with communion. There will be time to reflect and renew our intentions for the week. The week following March 12th is Holy Week and we will gather that week to worship on **Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m.** Please note the later start time for that service of worship.

**ADULT EDUCATION AT 11:30 A.M.
IN OUR CHAPEL DURING LENT**

- † **March 2nd** - “Learning How to Be Humble” presented by Alison Benders, Ph.D., Dean of Graduate Studies, Ursuline College.
- † **March 9th** - "Doing Justice In An Unjust world: The Connection Between Justice and Peace" presented by Rev. Dr. Howard Ratcliff, fellow member of Disciples Christian Church.
- † **March 16th** - The Quality of Mercy: When Does Helping Really Help?"

presented by Rev. Dr. Howard Ratcliff.

**THE ANNUAL “GREAT EGG HUNT
AND BUNNY LUNCH”**

for children in nursery through fifth grade will be held on **Palm Sunday, March 16th**. The luncheon will begin immediately after the worship service at approximately 11:30 a.m. in Oakridge Hall, and the “Hunt” will start right after the luncheon.

Please use your bulletin insert this Sunday to let us know if your family would like to participate in this event. Reservations must be made by Wednesday, March 12th. The eggs will be here waiting for the bunny to hide – and then for the “finders” to find! Don’t worry about bringing anything; we just need to know you’re coming!

A \$5 donation per family would be appreciated. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

MATCHING GIFTS

Does your employer have a matching gift program? Many corporations offer this benefit to their employees. Please check with your Human Resources Department to see if your contributions to your church could be doubled. If you have any questions please contact **Judy Griffith**, Financial Secretary.

**THE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR
JACKIE HICKOK**

will be held in our Sanctuary on **Wednesday, March 19th at 4:00 p.m.** (note the new time).

A FEW WORDS ABOUT CWF

CWF met at **Mary Sayre’s** home on February 13th. After a delicious lunch, we discussed Elizabeth Gilbert’s book, Eat, Love, Pray. We will meet twice in March. On **March 4th**, we will gather at the church at **11:00 a.m.** to form car-pools to go to Lake Farm Park for their Quilt Show. **Joanne Brezik** and **Thon Alicia Burlingame** have quilts on display. We plan to have lunch there and then attend the show. On Tuesday evening, **March 11th**, we will meet in Fellowship Hall at 7:00p.m. **Elaine Mates** will show us how she prepares her famous Cinnamon Rolls. Of course, we plan on sampling them. Yum! We will also talk about fundraising for camperships, etc.

Don’t forget to purchase those all-important gift cards that are on sale in Fellowship Hall every Sunday after worship. Also please mark your calendars and save Friday, **April 4th** for a potluck dinner and style show presented by Coldwater Creek. Members of Disciple Christian will serve as models. We are looking for volunteers to help set the tables and clean up afterwards. Our dinner/style shows are always popular. Please bring your friends and family for an enjoyable evening with food, fashions, and fellowship.

All the women of Disciples Christian Church are members of the Christian Women’s Fellowship so all women are not only welcome but encouraged to become an active part of this caring fellowship of women.

IT’S TIME TO ORDER FLOWERS

to decorate our church home on Easter Sunday! Lilies, hyacinths, tulips, mums, daffodils, and begonias will reflect the joy and glory that is Easter Sunday – 100 plants in all. If you would like to purchase a plant/s – that will be yours to take home after our Easter worship – you may order it/them on the form in your Sunday bulletin this week at a cost of \$8 each. Keep in mind that your order is not placed for a specific type of plant; you simply choose one from what is available after church that day. The one exception is that you may choose to order a large triple stem lily at a cost of \$15. If you do, one of them becomes yours to take home after worship. You may also choose to leave your plant/s so they may be delivered to one of our homebound members.

Your plant may be designated as being in honor of, or, in memory of a particular person/people. If so, please indicate that on the order form, too. Orders must be placed by Palm Sunday.

**HAVE YOU BEEN USING OUR
LENTEN DEVOTIONALS??**

Each Sunday, when you come to worship, the following week’s devotions are available to you from our ushers. Remaining copies from previous weeks can be found in the Fireside Room or on the table at the back of our Sanctuary. The devotions are also available for download at our website each week, www.discipleschristian.org. Please make reading these devotions a part of your Lenten intentions.

PALM SUNDAY IS BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH DAY

Palm Sunday is sure to be a wonderful worship experience! The children will be waving palms and shouting "Hosanna" and there will be a number of baptisms. Invite your friends, neighbors and colleagues to check us out and experience why you've made Disciples Christian Church *your* church. In Matthew Jesus told us to, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations." Let's start in our own community.

GOD'S TIMING IS INTERESTING, ISN'T IT?

By now you've heard that our family will be moving this summer. After four years of working out of town most weeks, Tom will now be working in an office outside of Baltimore, Maryland. We are looking forward to being all together in one place! Although this is the best move for our family, it was a difficult choice to make. It's hard to leave the church at such an energetic, dynamic time! But we've learned that even though the timing might not seem right to us, God has a plan for our lives and a plan for this church. As we all get ready for this transition, we are thankful for your kind words and prayers, and glad to have had the chance to be a part of the community here at Disciples Christian Church. **Kathryn Harsha**

Note: The timing for Kathryn's leaving coincides with **Leslie Smith's** graduation and move to graduate school. The last Sunday for both will be June 1. We are already beginning the search for our next music staff persons, with **Cy and**

Kim McFarlin agreeing to be Search Committee co-chair persons. They, along with the Worship and Personnel Committees, are in the process of forming the committee.

TRANSFORMATION TEAM UPDATE

The Transformation Team continues to work on the transition to our new name, Disciples Christian Church. Although you've seen and heard our new name in worship services and in communications from our staff, behind the scenes there is still work to be done to make our new name official. A certificate of amendment has been filed with the Ohio secretary of state to officially change the name of the church. Once the filing is approved, we will be able to change the name on all of our bank accounts. For now, please continue to use Euclid Avenue Christian Church on all of your checks. We hope to have the account names properly switched over within a few weeks. You'll be informed when that time has come.

We will soon meet with the city of Cleveland Heights to begin discussions for a new sign for the front yard. Because the city has strict guidelines regarding signage, we will meet with them first to understand the rules and restrictions before moving forward with any planning.

Finally, we are developing a new logo. We have received many creative ideas by the graphic artists in our congregation. The Team will bring our final selection to the March 10th board meeting for the approval of the board. There will be further updates March 10th.

OUR WEBSITE AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

While there are still things to be done before our new name, Disciples Christian Church, is "officially official," changes are underway.

Our website, while still accessible as www.eacc.net for the next few months, is now www.discipleschristian.org. With that change comes a change in our staff email addresses. Rather than name@eacc.net, they are now all name@discipleschristian.org. Please make the appropriate changes in your contact list and be certain that discipleschristian.org is on the list of acceptable mail on your "junk mail" option list. Many people have found that email from the church is ending up in their junk mail folder and either being lost in the pool of junk mail or being automatically deleted. That is something that we can't fix from our end so please find out how to set your filters to accept our mailings.

MARCH BOOK CLUB

We will meet in Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, **March 18th at 7:00p.m.** to discuss Jim Rasenbergs book, [America 1908: The Dawn of Flight, The Invention of the Model T, and the Making of a Modern Nation](#). Critics say it's a breathtaking ride through the highs and lows of one pivotal year in American History. The Book Club typically meets on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening each month, depending on what else is on the church calendar, and we read a variety of books. Last month we read [Water For Elephants](#) by

Sara Gruen and the month before, we discussed [The Terrorist](#) by John Updike. Our discussions are enlightening and we really enjoy dissecting the books we read. Everyone is welcome to come – even if you haven't finished the book before you arrive!
Pat McNeilly

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- **Mercedes Bell**, Hospice of the Western Reserve
- **Nell Rose Riel**, Fairmount Health Center
- **Frank and Averno Jayne**, AlterCare of Mayfield Village
- **Serene Farmer**, home hospice
- **Chris Hawkins**, chronic pain issues
- **Margaret Beer**, Huron Hospital
- **Violet Radomilovich**, home
- **Nursing Home Residents:**
Barbara Seaver, Summerville of Mentor; **Ollie Schroeder**, Burton Health Care Center; **Margaret Beer**, Candlewood Nursing Home; **Barbara Harold**, Grande Pointe

OUR OWN KATHRYN HARSHA

is the music director of the Lakeland Civic Orchestra. This Sunday, March 2nd at 3:00 p.m., Lakeland Community College Performing Arts presents a program of 2008 Concerto Winners – four talented young people: Linda Ho, James Thompson, Arianna Korting, and Tzu-Young Huang. For more information, or, to purchase tickets in advance, call 440.525.7261. Tickets may also be purchased at the door of the Lakeland Performing Arts Center at 7700 Clocktower Drive in Kirtland.

ADULT EDUCATION UPDATE

There are two new DVDs available for loan in the library. "For the Bible Tells Me So" is a documentary film about homosexuality that was presented last fall at church. Through interviews with Christian individuals and families, and through commentary by respected leaders in the Christian community, the film describes how acceptance of homosexuality is possible through God's loving grace. The other DVD is "The Power of Forgiveness." The film reveals the transforming power of forgiveness through interviews with family members who lost friends and relatives at Ground Zero, at an Amish schoolhouse and in youth violence.

DISCIPLES CHRISTIAN SERVES 600 AT HOMELESS STAND DOWN

*Who made this wonderful meat loaf?
This cornbread is delicious!
Where did you get all those
homemade cookies?*

You know - because You made them! Thank you one and all for making the Homeless Stand Down meal such a treat for our guests. Trinity did an outstanding job as the host church. I'm sure there were 2000 beautiful cookies and brownies and the best meat loaf anywhere. All the left overs will be used for meals served to the homeless each Sunday at Trinity.

The Disciples Christian Church cooking/serving crew was awesome! Thanks to the crew: **Mary Griffith, Mahala & Richard Huff, Ron Werman, Ann & Harry Farmer, Carol & Bill**

Edwards, Beth Kean, Craig Gordon, Kris & David Eggert, Sally & Bob Yocum, Maureen Drakes, Amy, Brandon & Bryon Biscoff, Robbie Harmon, Amy & Melanie Cohn, Ed Kidd, Amy Campbell, Holly Coughlin, Bonnie and Russell Goldner.

Providing food were: **Amy, Brandon & Bryon Biscoff, Carol & Bill Edwards, Jeanette Barclay, Ann & Harry Farmer, Carol & David Reed, Trish Burton, Amy Campbell, Ed & Nancy Kidd, Carolyn & Bob Bruce, Bonnie & Russ Goldner, Marguerite Gilbert, Melissa Juriga, Debra Briggs, Sally and Bob Yocum, Bill & Toni Laurensen, Ellie McBride, Amy Cohn, Marilyn Ross, Ema Larkin, Judy Griffith, Donna Beckner, Holly Coughlin, Janet & Jim Cline, Ron & Marsha Werman, Jonathan Mosley, Amy Campbell, Lauren Wicks, Elaine Mates, Jean Fisher, Linda & Gary Walling, Mary Griffith, Carol Wright, Mary Sayre, Robin Herrington-Bowen, Hazel Haffner, Richard & Mahala Huff, Pat McNeilly, Bernadette Jones, Jean Fisher, Karen Walsh, Beth Kean, Craig Gordon, Maureen Drakes, Al and Beverly Kean, Debbie Titchenal, and Ralph & Barbara Harold.** Each person worked so hard to make the day such a success. Thank you all!

THERE ARE MANY OPENINGS IN the fellowship time schedule posted in the kitchen window opening to our Fellowship Hall! Please find a week when you can help with this wonderful ministry of welcome and fellowship.

The Chancel Choir welcomes guest singers and potential new members to join in singing on Easter Sunday. In David Letterman style, here is a list of the:

TOP TEN REASONS TO SING WITH THE CHOIR THIS EASTER

10. Release your "inner singer"
9. Stop worrying about what to wear on Easter - choir robes are always in style
8. Have an excellent vantage point to appreciate the beautiful outfits worn by the congregation
7. Since we practice at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays, you will have no trouble getting a good parking space
6. Make new friends - we have a resident diva and a pun master
5. Be inspired and awed from a new perspective listening to Pastor Kris
4. A last chance to sing at Easter under the direction of the multi-talented, mega-creative Kathryn Harsha
3. Also participate in our final days of the amazing musical skills of Leslie Smith - her mastery of the organ is lovely to behold and her expressions are priceless
2. Relax in a guaranteed seat (no squeezing in the pews)
1. Lift up your voice in praise and thanks to God on this glorious Easter morning!

AND WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

"Arthritis Today" magazine reports, in its March/April 2008 issue, that you can reduce stress by exercising your lungs! "That's right, sing!" it says on page 34. "Even if you are singing the blues, making music can help you feel better in many ways." And, the most important line of all, "You can get even more out of singing by joining a choir, says a joint study from Harvard and Yale universities. The study reports that choral singing boosts the immune system and, among seniors, cuts down on doctor office and emergency room visits, and reduces the use of prescription drugs." Come to rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. because:

all these benefits can be yours by joining the Chancel Choir – and membership is absolutely FREE!!

ONE MORE MUSICAL NOTE♪

You are invited to join the "Collaborative Gems" for a faculty recital featuring our own **Marla Berg** with Linda Jones on piano. The event will take place in Mixon Hall at 4:00 p.m. this Sunday, March 2nd, at the Cleveland Institute of Music. The program includes Samuel Barber's *Hermit Songs* based on texts by Medieval Monks, as well as beloved songs by Schubert, Brahms, Strauss, Debussy and Poulenc as well as a few surprises.