

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**MEETING IN CLEVELAND, MN**

APRIL 2009  
Vol. 27 No. 4



This article was written by David Kester, our late pastor, back in May 2004. David spoke often of his desire to be like Jesus and encouraged everyone he knew to do the same. Although David's life on earth is over, this article is an encouragement for us to live our lives like Jesus so that others see Christ in us.

## CHRIST'S IMPRINT

After my dad's funeral, my cousin George said, "David, you don't have to worry about losing your dad. He is imprinted on you." I'd never thought about that but it is true that he is imprinted on me in many ways. One of dad's old friends said, "I heard you talking in the other room. You sound just like Roger." I have his voice. The first time I preached a funeral sermon, I wasn't sure what to say, so I used some of things I had heard my dad say when he preached funeral sermons. When the ceiling leaked at mom's house, I didn't call a plumber. I thought, "I can fix that." My sisters said, "You're just like dad." Anything I know about generosity, I learned from my dad. Dad imprinted his longing for heaven on my heart. If you never knew my dad, you would know something about him from knowing me.

I consider it an honor to stamped with the image of Roger Kester. Still as much as I love and respect him, bearing the image of Roger Kester is not my highest goal. I want to bear the image of Christ even more than I want to bear the image of my dad. If only people said of me, "I hear your heavenly Father when you speak," or, "You act like Jesus," or, "Did anyone ever tell you how much you resemble your Father?" That is my highest goal. I want to bear the image and likeness of my Creator. I want to be like Jesus. I want Jesus to be imprinted on my life.

The chorus of the hymn *Oh To Be Like Thee* written by Thomas Chisholm and William Kirkpatrick says,

**O to be like Thee! O to be like Thee,  
Blessed Redeemer, Pure as Thou art!  
Come in Thy sweetness, Come in Thy fullness;  
Stamp Thine own image, Deep on my heart.**

As much as I love my dad, it is not his image that I long to wear. I want to know Christ. I want to be like Jesus. I want to transformed into Christ's likeness. I want to carry Jesus' imprint on my life. I want to be stamped with His image. I think I learned that desire for Jesus from my dad. George was right, at least some of my dad is imprinted on me. Now my desire is that Christ would be imprinted more clearly on my life.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**900 State Highway 99**

**Mail to: PO Box 307**  
**Cleveland, MN 56017**

**OUR HEAD:** Jesus Christ  
**INTERIM PASTOR:** Randy Hardy

**ALL SUNDAYS** unless noted otherwise

8:45am Pre-JAM Fun for all ages  
9:00am JAM Sessions = Bible Classes  
10:00am Fellowship Time  
10:30am Worship Service

**www.clevelandchurch.net**

**OFFICE PHONE:** (507) 931- 5924

**OFFICE/GENERAL:** office@clevelandchurch.net

**PRAYER CHAIN:** prayerchain@clevelandchurch.net

**SECRETARY** Lisa Koppelman: lisa@clevelandchurch.net



## WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS!

On Saturday, March 21, John and Lisa Sprague were baptized into Jesus. We welcome them into our Cleveland church family. Pray for their growth in Christ.

## APRIL 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All events are at the church building unless otherwise noted.

\* Indicates an article is elsewhere in this newsletter.

- Bible Study – April 1\*
- Choir Practice – April 1\*
- Choir Practice – April 8\*
- Good Friday Service – April 10\*
- Easter Sunday Breakfast and Service – April 12\*
- Dorcas Fellowship – April 14
- Church Board Meeting – April 14
- Ladies Nite Out – April 16\*
- College Days at Crossroads College – April 16-17
- Christian Student Fellowship Retreat here – Apr 17-19
- Building Offering – April 19
- Fellowship/Potluck Meal – April 19
- May Newsletter articles due – April 23
- Women's Conference, Rochester, MN – April 24-25\*
- Praise and Prayer – April 26\*
- 7th–12th Grade Youth Group Activity – April 26

### COMING IN MAY

- PHCA Camp Youth Registrations due in for EARLY BIRD SPECIAL offer – May 1\*
- Crossroads College Dream Banquet and Commencement, Rochester, MN – May 1 & 2
- National Day of Prayer for America – May 7
- City Garage Sales for Cleveland & Clothing Distribution at the church – May 9
- Reservations due for May 22-26 Fishing Extravaganza – May 9\*
- Mother's Day – May 10
- PHCA Camp Work Weekend – May 14-16
- 3rd Annual Fishing Extravaganza – May 22-26\*
- Cleveland School Commencement – May 29

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

We have been studying "Beginning Life Together" on God's purpose for your life. The evening includes a short video presentation Bible study, discussion and prayer. Please join us at the church on Wednesday, April 1 at 6:30pm.

### SING...SING...SING!

We welcome you to "Sing a Joyful Sound" in the choir, as we will be singing Easter Sunday. Practice will be held on Wednesdays April 1 & 8 at 7:30 pm at the church.

### GOOD FRIDAY

Why is the day on which our Lord was crucified, known as Good Friday? Some think the name was originally "God's Friday," although we do not know that for sure. It seems more likely, that the "good" represents the good gift of salvation brought about by Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross. It is a reminder that God transformed what

wicked men and Satan meant for evil, and used to accomplish the greatest good, our salvation. Good Friday reminds us that God can transform and use even our darkest days to accomplish His will.

Friday, April 10, we will gather at church at 7:00pm to remember Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper and thank our Lord for dying in our place.

### EASTER SUNDAY MORNING

On Sunday, April 12, we will have ONE worship service at 10:00am. There will be no Sunday school on Sunday, April 12. We will share an Easter Breakfast of egg bake, fruit, muffins, and sweet breads from 8:45-9:45am. Please sign up in the foyer to help with the Easter Breakfast.



What does Easter mean? It seems that the word 'Easter' probably came from the name of the goddess of spring, Eostre. The springtime themes of rebirth, new life, new hope and light connect closely with the themes surrounding the resurrection of our Lord. Over time, the term Easter has come to designate the day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

Perhaps, it would be better for us to refer to Easter Sunday as Resurrection Sunday for we are not celebrating the coming of spring, but we are celebrating the glorious resurrection of our Lord.

### THE JELLY BEAN PRAYER

**RED** is for the blood He gave.

**GREEN** is for the grass He made.

**YELLOW** is for the sun so bright.

**ORANGE** is for the edge of night.

**BLUE** is for the sins we made.

**WHITE** is for the grace He gave.

**PURPLE** is for this hour of sorrow.

**PINK** is for our new tomorrow.

A bag full of jellybeans, colorful and sweet,  
is a prayer, is a promise, is a special treat.

**HAPPY EASTER!**

## LADIES NITE OUT

Once a month, on the third Thursday of each month, ladies of all ages gather in one of the area eating establishments for a meal and fellowship. On Thursday, April 16, at 6:00pm, we will eat at the Pizza Ranch in Le Sueur. Come and enjoy a fun time of visiting with someone else do the cooking! Ladies from inside and outside our congregation are welcome to join in this activity.

Women's Conference

## FRESH GROUNDED FAITH

*Warm your heart, Awaken your spirit*

**Featuring: Jennifer Rothschild**

Best-selling Author of *Lessons*

*I Learned in the Dark*, Featured on Dr. Phil, Billy Graham TV Special, Good Morning America, and Women of Faith

April 24 - 25, 2009

Friday 7:00-9:00PM ~ Saturday 8:30AM-2:30PM

Special Guests:

Michael O'Brien and Shelley Jennings

Sponsored by Devoted Hearts at  
Autumn Ridge Church, Rochester, MN

For more information, please call (800)859-7992 or  
visit their website [www.FreshGroundedFaith.com](http://www.FreshGroundedFaith.com)

## PRAISE AND PRAYER

Please join us on Sunday, April 26 at 2:00pm as we praise God. We will sing your favorite song, read your favorite verse from scripture, and pray together.

## FREE CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION

In an effort to give back to the community, we are planning a clothing drive at church. Please donate **good** used clothing to be given to those in our congregation and the surrounding community. Donations may be brought to the church on Sundays April 26 & May 3. Clothing distribution will be on Sat, May 9, 9:00am-1:00pm. We will also need individuals to help sort the clothes and to display them for the distribution. Further information: Mary Howells 507-334-2707

## 2009 CHURCH FAMILY GRADUATES

If you, or a family member from our Cleveland church family, are graduating this spring from high school or college, please tell our church secretary Lisa, [lisa@clevelandchurch.net](mailto:lisa@clevelandchurch.net). We would like to know from what school you are graduating, when you graduate, and your degree & major, if graduating from college. If you graduated between summer 2008 and now, we would also like to hear from you.



## EARLY BIRD SPECIAL FOR SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS

If you register for a PHCA youth camp by May 1, 2009, your registration fee will be \$10.00 off the registration fee price listed on the registration form. For example: If camp fee is listed as \$150.00, if you register before May 1, 2009, the Early Bird fee is \$140.00 for that youth camp session.

You can download a registration form to mail in or register online at [www.pinehavencamp.org](http://www.pinehavencamp.org). Registration forms are available at church. They are asking for a \$ 10.00 minimum deposit.

We need adult volunteers to transport our youth to and from camp. If you can drive, sign your name on the appropriate list in the camp notebook in the display at church.

## SUMMER CAMP 2009 SCHEDULE PINE HAVEN CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

Based on grades going into Fall 2009  
Cleveland is in Zone A = Z.A

May 14-16	Work Weekend
June 14-20	11th and 12th
June 21-27	9th and 10th Z.A
June 28-July 4	Family Week
July 17-19	Mature Adult
July 24-26	Ladies Retreat
July 26-Aug 1	7th and 8th Z.A
Aug 9-14	5th and 6th Z.A
Aug 14-16	Motorcycle Weekend
Aug 16-19	4th Grade
Aug 20-23	Family Weekend
Sept 4-7	Last Chance Camp
Sept 10-13	Scrapbook Weekend
Sept 17-20	Scrapbook Weekend

## THIRD ANNUAL FISHING EXTRAVAGANZA

Dates: May 22-26, 2009 (Friday-Tuesday)

You must have reservations in by May 9

Cost: FREE

Where: Baudette, MN

What: Fishing and Camping

Fishing on Rainy River, Lake of the Woods

Worship and Fellowship every night & Sunday Service

Notes: 14 Camp sites (some with electricity)

Local Hotels available for faint of heart

Questions or Reservations Contact:

John Taplin 320-808-6795

Jeremy Schneider 320-491-7264

Steve Goodwin 218-738-3188

Sponsored by:

New Life Christian Church, Alexandria, MN



## 30-HOUR FAMINE REPORT

By Deb Guentzel

This year, twenty-three 7th–12th Graders participated in the World Vision 30-Hour Famine on Friday, March 20 to Saturday, March 21.

Friday evening activities included games, movies and drinking lots of hot chocolate, water, sports drinks and chocolate milk. For the Adults, V-8 made a nice “dinner.”

We also tye-dyed *Got hungry?* T-shirts. This was a lot of fun and the kids artistic talents took over. We still have our “work-of-art” T-shirts for sale for \$10. We had a variety of bed times... [some played] a rowdy game of spoons played until 2:30 AM!

Most were up after an uncomfortable sleep by 9 AM. We hit the road in our newly decorated T-shirts to walk around Cleveland and do our “terrible caroling!” We walked for more than two and one-half hours, stopping at many surprised homes to sing and play instruments! The only way to stop our musical talents was by donating to World Vision. We collected over \$300 with this fun activity.

After our tired feet and sore voices made it back to church, we went to work making our spaghetti and brownies. The smell of frying hamburger, warming sauce and baking chocolate was torture after the 25+ hours without eating, but everyone pitched-in, and did a great job.

We started serving our meal at 4:00pm and counted the minutes until 6:00pm when the participants could finally eat! At 6:00pm, we filled our plates and enjoyed the meal that we had prepared! There’s nothing like coming home from a famine so FULL!

As of this writing, we have collected almost \$1,500! Consider that \$30 will feed a child for a month. Big thanks go out to all those who helped: Kim Wobbrock, Lisa Sprague, Beth Gjemse, Steve & Mary Den Herder, Gary & Deb Guentzel, and all who contributed to this cause.

## OUR PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer is an important ministry of the church. As of this print, nearly 50 family units are involved in our prayer chain to pray for you and yours as special needs arise.

TO SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST:

Call: Betty Lloyd 507-931-5947 (leave a message)

Email: [prayerchain@clevelandchurch.net](mailto:prayerchain@clevelandchurch.net)

If you would like to be a member of the prayer chain, contact Betty.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL PARENTS

By Roxanne Goodrich

The Bible has a lot to say about how we instruct our children, and what we are to teach them. We all know this passage in Deuteronomy 6:4-9:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

In Deuteronomy, God calls us all to absolute allegiance to Himself. As our children become well acquainted with God's Word, they learn of His unchanging character and come to love Him.

In Sunday school, the teachers are instructing our children in the ways of the Lord. Their teaching is thorough, and meant to develop each child's relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I want to encourage you to make sure your children are getting to Sunday School. We are here to help you educate your children. As members in the “**family** of God,” let us come beside you to help you instruct your children. Nothing is more important. If you are having a hard time finding time to “impress” God's Word on your children, then it is especially important to get them to Sunday School.

## BUILDING OFFERING

We will receive our monthly building fund offering on Sunday, April 19. This is one Sunday later in the month than usual, due to Easter the week before.

**SNACKS NEEDED** for the 10:00am Sunday Fellowship Time. Sign up on the list on the church kitchen counter. Bring 6-8 dozen snack items. Volunteers are responsible for setting up, serving and cleaning up on your service day.

## DID YOU KNOW...?

- Classroom 4 looks very different these days. Check out the 7-12 Youth Room (Room 4) to see new paint and amenities.
- Our website got a makeover after our webmaster was inspired by the new Youth Room color. Take a look at [www.clevelandchurch.net](http://www.clevelandchurch.net). Check out pictures "2009 Assorted."
- That over 80 attended a concert by the James Dickie family on March 18.
- Evan Koppelman earned his Red Belt in Tae Kwon do on March 21.
- We received a memorial gift from the family of John Borchart, JoLene Giersdorf's father.
- We received a donation for the building in memory of Arthur Poonyo.
- We received a memorial gift in memory of Tom Mulvelhill.
- That the Cleveland High School Jazz 1 participated at the Jazz Festival in Lambert, MN. Jazz 1 & 2 also attended the Gustavus Adolphus College Solo and Ensemble competition. Participants from our congregation were Grant Den Herder, Nico Jager, Brandon Koppelman, Daniel Phillips, and Emily Phillips.

**BIRTHDAYS:** April 2– Donna Polenske; 4– Caleb Dickie; 5– Calissa Guentzel; 6– Tony Dittrich, Sherm Rupe; 7– Jenni Schmidt; 8– Carter Pribyl; 13– Kim Wobbrock; 14– Patty Aalid; 16– Jeff Jaster; 18– Gab Schettler, Glory Schettler; 19– Dan Christensen, Ryan Nelson; 23– Brianna Christensen; 24– Laura Hardy, Lisa Sprague; 25– Larry Filter, Brandon Koppelman; 28– Jim Schmidt; 29– Kelly Esser; 29– Tanner Strom; 31– Emily Phillips

**ANNIVERSARIES:** April 7– Graydon & Ellen Dickie; 23– David & Sheila Phillips

If you wish to no longer receive our email newsletters **OR** to update your email address, please reply to this address: [newsletter@clevelandchurch.net](mailto:newsletter@clevelandchurch.net)

Thank you,  
Church of Christ meeting at Cleveland, Minnesota