

# CHURCH OF CHRIST MEETING IN CLEVELAND, MN

MARCH 2019  
Vol. 37 No.3



## WHITE AS SNOW

By Elder Gary Kunz

It is very evident that we have been richly blessed with snow this February. I am sitting in my office and it is snowing very hard outside. It would be easy to become discouraged and frustrated with how much snow we are receiving. But I must admit that it is also very bright and beautiful. It is so white and clean looking. Rarely do we get to witness snowfall that is so awesome and pure white. When I look outside, I can better understand the words written in Isaiah 1:18 which say; "Come now, let's settle this says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, I will make them as white as wool."

As I contemplate how dirty and ugly the world seems to have gotten it is a peaceful reminder to look outside and see how bright and clean the snow is. It has completely covered all the ugly! This is the promise that the Lord is making here in this verse. Our sin is as scarlet or as red as crimson! Scarlet and crimson would be a very distinct color contrast to the pure white snow. It would stick out and be obvious. In another word, our sins would be seen easily. Sin is a bright red color and when placed against bright white is obvious.

The words in Isaiah tell us that the Lord will make our sins white as snow. How can this be? This can only happen through the shed blood of Jesus. We must admit that we are sinful and dirty and then accept Jesus as our Savior. Acknowledging that Jesus died for us and that we can have salvation if we accept that gift.

We will soon celebrate the Easter season. This is a time we reflect on the final days of Jesus and His return to Jerusalem. The ultimate sacrifice that He made for us in His dying on the cross.

I had the opportunity to tour Israel a year ago. One of the most touching tours was the City of Jerusalem and having the ability to walk the streets where Jesus walked and to see the Garden of Gethsemane. By walking those same paths as Jesus, it became very real to me. Just as this bright snow outside, it is very real. We really can have forgiveness of our dirty sins by accepting Jesus as our savior. This beautiful white blanket of snow covers up all the dirt and ugly underneath. In God our Father's eyes He cannot see our sin because it is covered in white by Jesus and His shed blood.

As we prepare for Easter let us take time to really think about how awesome this really is. White snow can either be a nuisance or a blessing. It is our choice. Just as accepting Jesus as our Savior is a choice we make. Have you made that choice? I choose to see how beautiful the white snow is, just as I choose Jesus as my Savior and recognize how awesome the gift of salvation is!

Will you be covered by the blanket of pure white snow? Accept Jesus today. May the Lord bless and keep you and may His face shine upon you and give you His peace! Amen.



# MARCH 2019

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All events are at the church building unless otherwise noted.

\* Indicates an article is elsewhere in this newsletter.

- Mar 1 – 2019 Pine Haven Camp registration opens\*
- Mar 2 – Baby Shower for Megan Edel at 2:00pm\*
- Mar 6 – Ladies Bible Study starts at 6:30pm
- Mar 10 – Daylight Savings Time begins\*
- Mar 10 – “The Easter Experience” starts at 9:00am\*
- Mar 10 – Monthly Building Offering
- Mar 12 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm
- Mar 12 – Church Board meeting at 7:30pm
- Mar 13, 20, 27 – Ladies Bible Study at 6:30pm
- Mar 17, 24, 31 – “The Easter Experience” 9:00am\*
- Mar 17 – Benson Family Singers at 10:30am\*
- Mar 21 – April newsletters articles due
- Mar 29-30 – FLOURISH Conference in Andover, MN

### Long Range Planning ...

- Apr 3, 10, 17, 24 – Ladies Bible Study at 6:30pm
- Apr 6 – KJLY Women’s Conference at Mankato\*
- Apr 7, 14 – “The Easter Experience” at 9:00am\*
- Apr 9 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm
- Apr 9 – Church Board meeting at 7:30pm
- Apr 14 – PALM SUNDAY
- Apr 14 – Monthly Building Offering
- Apr 18 – May newsletters articles due
- Apr 19 – GOOD FRIDAY Service at 7:00pm
- Apr 21 – EASTER SUNDAY  
9:00am Continental Breakfast / No Sunday Bible Classes  
10:00am Easter Worship Service

**BIRTHDAYS:** March 2- Darlene Schmidt; 4- Aaron Rogers; 5- Tom Engelrup, Maggie Sveback; 10- Frank Heldberg; 11- Iris Krenik; 12- Joshua Nyamutora (son of Zimbabwe missionary); 14- Jordan Phillips; 15- Babu Samuel (missionary in India); 19- Mercy Samuel (daughter of India missionary); 20- Liz Rogers; 27- Dave Essman; 28- Jordan Gish; 29- Elsa Ely

### ANNIVERSARIES:

March  
13- Lance & Janice Fahning; 17- Gary & Nancy Kunz



### BABY SHOWER

The ladies of the church are invited to a **BABY SHOWER** for Megan Edel on Saturday, March 2nd at 2:00pm at the church. Megan is registered at Target & Amazon.

### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 10. In order to be on time for our Sunday services, set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday evening, March 10.



## Coming to the Cleveland Church of Christ on March 17



Due to our great Minnesota winter weather in February, we rescheduled the Benson Family Singers’ visit from the first posted February date to Sunday, March 17. Peter & Rachele Benson from Faribault, MN, along with their four sons, have a unique sound consisting of barbershop, bluegrass and gospel music. They will be sharing their message for our Sunday Worship Service on Sunday, March 17. We will have a Fellowship / Potluck meal after the service — invite friends and family to join you at church that day.

To learn more about the Bensons, visit [www.BensonFamilyMusic.com](http://www.BensonFamilyMusic.com) or find them on Facebook at “TheBensonFamily.”



### CHURCH HEALTH TEAM (CHT)

One result of the Natural Church Development (NCD) survey that many in the congregation took part in on June 10, 2018, was the creation of a Church Health Team (CHT). The CHT is made of our Elders Wayne Fahning and Graydon Dickie, our Interim Pastor Randy Hardy, and the following people from our congregation: Jake Edel (Chair), Karen Gibbs, Ellen Dickie, Megan Edel, Rachel Heldberg, Laura Dickie and Connie Phillips.

The charge of this group is to address the primary area of weakness identified by the NCD survey. In our case, the lowest category was Effective Structures. This is a multi-faceted category that we feel ultimately will involve many, if not all, of the ministries of our church. We have initially chosen to target the following three items: our worship service, a mission statement for our Cleveland congregation and our current leadership structure.

The NCD survey itself points to our Elders’ desire continue to see the Cleveland Church of Christ remain viable and vital going forward. We will strive to be accountable to this goal. The areas of weakness will require that some changes be made. Change can be hard, but it can also be exciting. We welcome your input and we will work hard to keep the congregation informed of our progress. Please be in prayer that the Lord guide this process to results that will glorify Him.



### Christian Camping 2019

Pine Haven Christian Assembly, Park Rapids, MN

Work Weekend	Thurs-Sat	May 16-18
Fishing Camp	Fri-Mon	May 24-27
Ladies Retreat	Fri-Sun	June 7-9
7th-8th Zone B	Sun-Sat	June 9-15
11th-12th	Sun-Sat	June 16-22
Family Week	Sun-Fri	Jun 30-Jul 5
9th-10th	Sun-Sat	July 7-13
5th-6th Zone A	Sun-Fri	July 14-19
Servant Leadership	Sun...	July 14-27
Adult Weekend	Fri-Sun	July 19-21
7th-8th Zone A	Sun-Sat	July 21-27
World View Camp	Wed-Sun	Jul 31-Aug 4
Greenhorns:		
3rd-4th, First time 5th	Sun-Wed	August 4-7
Family Weekend	Thurs-Sun	August 8-11
5th-6th Zone B	Sun-Fri	August 11-16
MANCAMP	Fri-Sun	August 16-18
Ministry Leadership	Sun-Tues	August 18-20
Scrapbook/Craft	Thurs-Sun	Sept 12-15

### *What if what happened then changes everything now?*

Our adult Sunday Bible class using DVD lessons will be using **THE EASTER EXPERIENCE** from March 10 - April 14, 2019. Written & narrated by Kyle Idleman, pastor & author, this will be the six Sundays leading up to Easter. Dramatic, challenging, highly cinematic – this series promises to be a transforming look at Jesus' passion and resurrection. All are welcome to join this Easter study starting March 10th.

### KJLY WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

KJLY, a Christian radio station in Blue Earth MN (104.5 FM) is hosting their 10th annual women's conference. This year's event will be Saturday, April 6 in Mankato at Hosanna Lutheran Church. The 2019 featured speaker is Liz Curtis Higgs, author, blogger, humorist and well-known Christian speaker. You may register at [www.kinshipradio.org](http://www.kinshipradio.org) (preferred) or calling 1-800-810-5559. The cost is \$37. Perhaps the registration can be a special treat for yourself and a friend, or as a gift for the women in your life. The day includes worship music, workshops, messages from the main session speakers, prizes, snacks and a luncheon. It has been great value and it is so close to home.



Fees and other camp information are posted at [www.pinehavencamp.org](http://www.pinehavencamp.org)

**ONLINE REGISTRATION** for all camp sessions will open March 1, 2019 at [www.pinehavencamp.org](http://www.pinehavencamp.org)

### ➔ Youth Campers ←

EARLY BIRD Registration from March 1-May 1 saves you money on your camp fee.

### ➔ Cleveland Youth Campers ←

The Cleveland Church is giving you 1/2 scholarship of your regular camp fee. We will also pay for 1/2 the regular fee for a friend you have come with you to camp.

Invite a friend and go to Pine Haven Camp this summer!

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

900 State Highway 99, PO Box 307  
Cleveland, MN 56017

- CHURCH WEBSITE:** [www.clevelandchurch.net](http://www.clevelandchurch.net)
- FACEBOOK:** Church of Christ, Cleveland, MN, USA
- OFFICE PHONE:** 507-931-5924
- OFFICE EMAIL:** [clchurch@live.com](mailto:clchurch@live.com)
- SECRETARY EMAIL:** [clchurchlisa@live.com](mailto:clchurchlisa@live.com)
- PRAYER CHAIN:** [clchurchprayer@live.com](mailto:clchurchprayer@live.com)

- OUR HEAD:** Jesus Christ
- INTERIM PASTOR:** Randy Hardy
- CHURCH SECRETARY:** Lisa Koppelman

- SUNDAY SCHEDULE** 9:00 am – Bible Classes
- 10:00 am – Fellowship Time
- 10:30 am – Worship Service

Link to prior monthly newsletters for the Cleveland Church  
<http://www.clevelandchurch.net/newsletters-2/>