

Cosma's Corner

John 11:25-26 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Bethany .. it was usually his retreat. It was a place of rest, relaxation, and recreation with friends. It was a place for a warm meal, a cold drink, and a comfy bed. It was a place to recline at a table and hang with friends who hung on your every word but had no expectations of many words, and who were happily hospitable. It was always good to be here but today was different.

It had been 4 days since his best friend had died. His friend Lazarus was gone and his home away from home was Lazarus' home and the home of his two lovely sisters, Mary and Martha. Like most sisters they were of the same blood but of totally different temperaments and personalities. Yet Jesus always found the good in both of them and exposed their great qualities.

But today was a day of great tension and the girls were upset with their friend Jesus, who they had seen heal so many other people yet had not performed the miraculous for one of his best friends. Of course, Martha was the first to get up, buck up, and speak up when Jesus arrives. She is not afraid to confront him with her fears and his supposed failures.

Jesus is quick to be compassionate while quick to be corrective in his response to Martha's attack mode. Only he could balance the two so effectively. And only he could remind her and everyone that his mission was bigger than life and death. His mission was hope and the effect was to be everlasting life.

Jesus relays the message succinctly here when he, without a doubt, reveals that the power of resurrection is his personally, in fact, he is resurrection. He alone restores life and gives new life.

That is why resurrection is so important to us. It is not just the defeat of death but it is the new way of living. It is not just the quality of life over the quantity of life, it, instead, is the greatest combination of the two ... it is quality & quantity of life. It is not just steak and potatoes, it is the 20 oz. Delmonico rib eye and the loaded potato. Sorry, I know that for some that is not heavenly ... and I would ask ... Why Not?

And Jesus asks: Why not? Why not trust me ... I am the way, the truth, and the life. I am going to raise my friend just to face death again, but one day all will be raised to new life who trust in me, and will never die.

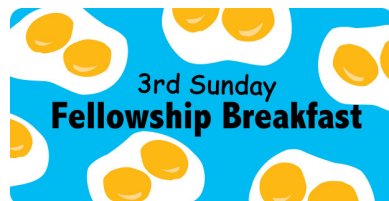
That is why this season is not just an Easter celebration but a Resurrection celebration. We celebrate real life and life more abundantly.

From Life to New Life

From One Lifer to Another

Happy Resurrection Sundays!

He is risen ...He is risen indeed!



On Sunday March 17, 2019, we had a St. Patrick's Day theme luncheon. There was a lot of different foods with the St. Patrick's Day theme and although there were quite a few people out with the flu, the luncheon was again another nice Sunday of fellowship and good food.

On Easter Sunday, April 21st, we will be having an Easter Morning Breakfast at 9:00 AM. Please bring your favorite breakfast casseroles and favorite Easter foods. This would be a great time to invite family and friends to join us for a great breakfast and Easter Sunday message.

reflections..

I Arise Today

I arise today
 Through the strength of Christ's birth with his baptism,
 Through the strength of his crucifixion with his burial,
 Through the strength of his resurrection with his ascension,
 Through the strength of his descent for the judgment of Doom. ...

I arise today
 Through the strength of heaven:
 Light of sun,
 Radiance of moon,
 Splendor of fire,
 Speed of lightning,
 Swiftmess of wind,
 Depth of sea,
 Stability of earth,
 Firmness of rock.

I arise today
 Through God's strength to pilot me:
 God's might to uphold me,
 God's wisdom to guide me,
 God's eye to look before me,
 God's ear to hear me,
 God's word to speak for me,
 God's hand to guard me,
 God's way to lie before me,
 God's shield to protect me,
 God's host to save me ...

-Excerpt from St. Patrick's Prayer



- April 7th ... 8:00 am ... Trustees Meeting
- April 14th ... 8:00 am ... Prayer Session. Please don't wait until then to pray. Be in prayer constantly for the unity and spiritual growth of our congregation.
- April 21st ... **RESSURECTION SUNDAY**
 ... 8:00 am ... Board Meeting
 ... 9:00 am ... Easter Fellowship Breakfast
- April 27th ... 8:00 am – 4:00 pm ... Ladies Day at Lake Mount. Cost is \$10.00. Registration is due April 19th. See bulletin board for more information.



- 20th – John & Karen Benson
- 22nd - Bill and Jeanie Wiley

Dorothy and Girls,

Thank You!!! What a kind gift to us. The soup was delicious! And you girls were as special as Dorothy always said you were. May God bless each of you ! Love,



Wayne & Judi Allio



- 1st Carrie Mitchell
- 2nd Caragan Frederick
- 8th Bryan Bartels
- 12th Kim Cosma
- 13th Bonnie Vincent
- 17th Megan Frederick
- 18th Justin Mitchell
- 23rd Loni Grisez
- 25th Kaleb Shinn
- 26th John E. Faloba
- 28th Robin Heestand

Relinquishing control

Marcia shared how she'd been struggling to relinquish control and let God direct her life. One day, amid this challenge, her daughter approached her for homework help, which called for the use of an iPad. As Marcia struggled to make sense of her daughter's question, the youngster kept swiping at the screen, zooming in and out and grabbing the tablet to turn it toward herself. "If you want my help," said Marcia in exasperation, "then let me help!"

Suddenly Marcia had an a-ha! moment: Hadn't God been saying the same thing to her all the while? To truly benefit from God's help, she would have to stop trying to do everything herself, let go, sit back and accept his guidance.

**Perfect Attendance
(March 2019)**

Beverly Evans
 Emma Jenkins
 Carl Merriman
 Judy Merriman
 Gail Lea Phillis
 Rorie Reiter
 Diana Reiter
 Bob Shinn
 Marty Shinn

Sheldon, Kim & The entire Cosma Family - Bless their move and new ministry in Virginia

OUR SHUT-INS

Pat Kalbfell, (Essex); **Wanda Huston**, (Allay);
Ada Bailey; **Nita Floor**, (Courtyard);
Nick Cosma, (Crandall)

Northeast Ohio Bible College

George Faull (strength)

Steve Singer (blood condition)

Mandy Fitch (dialysis; needs kidney transplant)

Jean Fluharty (health issues)

Tom McKenna (recovering from 2nd brain surgery)

Bob Stein (continues to heal)

David Stein (health problems)

June Toalston (cancer)

Mary Lou Eberhart (health problems)

Jim Eberhart (health problems)

Joan Shoop (health problems)

Vouda "Margaret" Lacey (health & family)

John Weingart (health)

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Joe Phillis & Family, Fort Benning, GA;

Joel Newburn & Family;

Kyle Stephenson & Family, Germany; **Josh Lathrop**

Charles Hippley (doing very well, PTL !)

Jim Webber (heart problems)

Shirley Bartholow (health problems)

Michael Barnhart (cancer)

Zac Carter (2nd leg amputated from cancer)

Debbie McKinley (breast cancer)

Nathaniel Davis (immune system problems)

Bill Wiley (health issues)

Elizabeth Thatcher (health problems)

Jack Vincent (appendectomy recovery)

Gladys Laughlin (health problems)

Virginia Gayheart (foot, abnormal EKG)

Alma Smith & Family (experiencing serious health problems of multiple family members)

**Our
Congregation**

**Our
Unspoken
Needs**

**Our Nation
Our Leaders
Lost Souls**

Our Missions

Hasten

Lifeline

Noah

Canton Christian Home

Elkhorn Valley Camp

NEW DIGITAL PIANO

Last Sunday you probably noticed that we were missing our piano and organ. Our old piano was built in 1926 and was over 90 years old. The sound board needed replaced and it was unable to hold the pitch for more than a couple of months. Our organ was purchased in 1987 and was 32 years old. Over the years there have been repairs done to it and some of the tabs no longer worked and there were intermittent problems with static in the speakers and random keys (notes) that did not work. It was with much prayer, consideration, research and even more prayer that it was approved by the Board to replace both instruments and purchase a Kawai CS-11 Institutional Model Digital Hybrid Piano from the Mattlin Hyde Piano Co. in Woodmere, OH near Cleveland. This instrument has the capabilities, the feel and sound of a grand piano along with all of the voices of a full organ and then some. It is absolutely amazing and we look forward to singing praises to our Lord and Savior with our new accompaniment. This instrument is in loving memory of Orin and Gladys Weaver and their family who created the "Organ Fund" many years ago.

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all who have been working so hard the past few weeks. Two weeks ago our Church Board met and approved replacing the furnace for the basement. That same day the furnace quit working. God certainly is watching over us. Thank you to Ted Guthrie for helping find a furnace at the right price. Thank you to Linda Miller for supplying us with enough furnace air filters to last a long while. As you may know, the organ and piano has been acting up (those aren't all Missy's mistakes) for a long time. The Board approved purchasing a new digital piano that will take the place of both old instruments. This piano was played for the first time on March 31st. The Organ Fund was used for this purchase. Thank you to all those who did the "leg work". Thank you to the members of the Board for your faithfulness. "God will make a way when there seems to be no way. Thank you God." -Marty Shinn

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SERVICES:

SUNDAY

9:00 am ... Sunday School

10:00 am ... Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:00 pm ...Adult Bible Study & Youth Group

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

www.phillipschristian.org



Puzzle!

Follow the arrows and fill in the blanks to discover what the women found at Jesus' tomb on Easter morning.

Word search puzzle grid with arrows indicating starting points and directions for words. The grid is 10 columns wide and 12 rows high.

Answer: The stone was rolled away from the door.
An angel said to them, "He is not here; he has risen!"
(See Luke 24:1-8)

Dare the churches try to get along?

A series of films about the early church shown on PBS made the point that the early church dwelt in diversity. As churches in various locations developed, their leaders stressed whatever part of the Gospel they appreciated the most -- also whatever style of worship. The Corinthian Christians had their unique approach as did the Christians at Ephesus, Philippi, Galatia, Rome and so on.

Yes, they all believed that Jesus was Lord and that the resurrection was at the heart of the faith. They all also celebrated the Lord's supper and baptism. They had much in common in styles of worship. Still there were variances, even as today. Then, as now, there were charismatics, those who stressed prophecy, or celibacy, or fasting or healing, etc.

What about the various approaches of Christian churches today? Well, it is doubtful that we will all believe and practice completely alike. In fact, it might be boring if we did. But maybe Charles Best, a Presbyterian pastor in Pennsylvania, had a point when he said to a reporter interviewing him about Christian unity: "If we're going to be in heaven together, we might as well get along now."