

March 4-10,
2022

March

Lent

CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CT Press

MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

The season of Lent is upon us. Like Advent, Lent is a season of preparation, and it is two weeks longer. What I appreciate about Lent is that the emotional anxiety most of us experience in December is largely absent. This is because most of us have a deep emotional connection to Christmas. There is a greater emphasis on family gathering, we all have memories of Christmas, some joyous, some painful; and let's be honest – there is some pressure to the Christmas season because we give a greater number of gifts to others than at any other time of the year. Lent has none of that.

Because of this, Lent affords us a deliberate opportunity to reflect, repent, and renew, and the space in which to do it. Now that the Covid virus seems to be abating, thankfully, there are some activities we are planning that we could not do for a couple of years. For this, I am both grateful and excited. Three of those activities are happening this weekend. (And yes, I know I keep promoting them, but I'm excited we can finally do these kinds of things!)

Devotionals. The worship and music committee has purchased a devotional guide for personal use during the season of Lent. This will come under separate email and will also be included in the church bulletin every Sunday in Lent. I encourage all of us to consider using this as a guide for personal devotions during the season. Because of copyright restrictions, we cannot incorporate them into the newsletter. We can share, but we cannot edit in any way.

Tools for a Growing Faith. This weekly seminar will meet Saturdays at 10am in the church parlor, beginning tomorrow. Each week we will cover a different aspect of personal discipleship that is integral for a growing faith journey. This week we will learn more about worship. Worship is the most important activity for every Christian, and it is the logical starting point. All are welcome to join us for one, some, or all the topics.

Community Prayer Service. It has been quite a long time since local churches have gathered for any kind of service together. The emphasis of this service will be prayer. It will be a simple service, and I encourage all to attend. CTPC is hosting the service, and it begins at 4pm.

All these activities are a wonderful way to begin Lent and make the most of this wonderful season.

Blessings,

Pastor John



Know. Grow. Serve.

Charles Town Presbyterian Children, Youth, and Family Ministries is excited to announce

Kid's Group!

Kid's Group is moving! We will now be meeting each Sunday from 3-5PM. I look forward to seeing you there! Here are some of our upcoming events:

Sunday, March 6th, 5-7:00 PM: Movie Night. Come to the upstairs youth room for popcorn, snacks, and a viewing of The Hunchback of Notre Dame, a Disney classic chock full of Christian themes and imagery, with great lessons on justice and what it means to be a good Christian.

Garth Stevens-Jennings, Director of DFM

garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org.

Tools for a Growing Faith

All are welcome to join us for this six-week study during Lent. Each week will focus on a different topic that is integral to personal discipleship and spiritual growth. This series will be led by Pastor John and Garth Stevens-Jennings. Participants are welcome to attend one, several, or all of the meetings. While the whole series will be of benefit to all who attend, if there are one or two topics that stand out, it is fine to attend only those weeks.

We will meet in the church parlor on Saturdays at 10am.

March 5	Worship
March 12	Scripture
March 19	Prayer and Fasting
March 26	Study, meditation, solitude
April 2	Spiritual Gifts and Service
April 9	Sharing Our Faith

Questions? Email Pastor John at jbethard@ctpres.org, or Garth at garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org. We will follow the most recent pandemic guidelines adopted by the session.

🎵 MUSIC NOTES 🎵 from Miss Penny

“Attitude of Gratitude!”

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time
to give your heart.
Come just as you are to worship.
Come just as you are
before your God, come.
Come, come.

Shorter Catechism

Q. 1. *What is the chief end of man?*

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

While glorifying God should be the focus of our daily lives, we best glorify Him through worship. Physically gathering in the fellowship of other believers to sing our praises, hear the preached word, pray, and dedicate our offerings is pleasing to God and what we need to live a life as His disciples!

As we begin our Sunday journeys through Lent, I invite you to:

Come, now is the time to worship!
Come, now is the time to give your heart!
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God
Come!

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God
One day ev'ry knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose you now

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God
Come!

Blessings!

Penny



Memorial or Honorarium Lilies. Lilies are available this year to be placed in the sanctuary on Resurrection Sunday, April 17th. Please call or email the church office (304-725-5316 or ctpres@ctpres.org) by **Wednesday, March 30th**, to place an order. Cost is \$15. Pet owners, please be advised that lilies are toxic to our pets when ingested. Please take necessary precaution.

Celebrations this week

Birthdays



Sunday @ CTPC

10:30am-Worship Celebration FaceBook

For a complete listing of all of the church activities, please click [here](#).



Donate



CTPC Zoom Meetings this week

To join any of the Zoom meetings listed below, please email the church office at ctpres.org for contact information.

- **The Faithweavers** is a blended Sunday School class with in person and virtual options led by Margaret Kursey.
- **Stewardship & Vision** Tuesday at 7pm.
- **Wednesday Bible Study** at 4pm. We will continue our study of the book of Ezekiel.
- **Deacons Meeting** at 7:00pm

The session is looking for a treasurer. Duties include: attending quarterly Joint Finance Team Meetings, ensuring all bookkeeping procedures are being followed, presenting quarterly reports to the Joint Finance Team, and ensuring the annual financial review is completed and presented to Session. This person should be versed in financial practice and able to commit to the tasks outlined above. Interested persons are welcome to contact the chair of the finance committee, Kathy Donadio, at feebler8@gmail.com.

The Congregational Nominating Committee has begun work on securing nominees for elders, deacons, trustees, and at-large members for next year's nominating committee. If you have suggestions for persons the CNC might consider, please be sure to speak with Sue Flanagan, Hoyle Fulbright, Diane Mayhew, David Weil or Patsy White.

These Days daily devotionals for April/May/June are available in the information racks located in the narthex and by the church office.

CTPC Upcoming Events:

March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd, 9th:

Tools for a Growing Faith 10:00am

March 5th: Friendship Ministry Meal 5:30pm

March 6th: CTPC Hosting Community Prayer Service 4:00pm

March 8th: Life Line Screening 8-5:00pm

April 2nd: Friendship Ministry Meal 5:30pm

April 10th: Palm Sunday

Easter Hunt following worship

April 14th: Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm

April 15th: Community Cross Walk at Asbury UMC 10:00am

April 17th: Resurrection Sunday—One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

April 18th: OFFICE CLOSED

Mission & Outreach Update: Spring is just around the corner! The mission and outreach team has been busy planning activities for this year. We are going to participate in the downtown Charles Town Days in June. We are working on some great ideas for that day. Our missionaries have been busy as well. Drake Williams has asked us to pray for the situation in the Ukraine. Mic and Cathy are moving ahead with their work in the deaf church in Eswastini. We plan to send them a card in the near future. Please continue to pray for them. We have two months without servers for the Friendship Meal, June and December. Ask a friend to help you and be a part of this great mission outreach. Remember to "Be a light!"

Spring



Weekly Offering

Weekly Congregational Giving:

Needed to Meet

Expenses Budget: \$6,934

Sunday's Receipts: \$4,140;

Special Offerings: Sunday School—\$31; Hunger—\$49; Fellowship Roof—\$1,300.

Checks can be mailed to:

CTPC, PO Box 89, Charles Town,

WV 25414

For electronic giving, please scan here:



Online giving helps you to bring your offering before God. In addition to the no-fee Facebook

donations and nominal fee Paypal service, we set up online giving through the Presbyterian Foundation. **Money donated via any of these services gets deposited to our church bank account.**

By going through the Foundation, the fee they charge actually helps the mission of their organization, which is to help Presbyterian churches to be excellent stewards of their gifts and resources. The exciting part about working with the foundation is that we are able to use a mobile app that is connected to our account. The app is called Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement on the Google Play or Apple App Store. You can set up for weekly, monthly or one time giving! Note: If you were previously using the "Give Plus" app, that has been superseded by the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement as of January 31, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you.

2022 Giving Envelopes are now available in the narthex for those attending in person worship. Call or email church office (304-725-5316 or ctpres@ctpres.org) if you would like to have envelopes mailed to you. If you give with a check, envelopes are not necessary. If giving with cash, please write your name on an envelope to enable us to credit your giving statement properly.

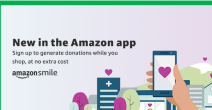


The flower chart for 2022 is available for sign up. It is located on the bulletin board by the church office or call at 304-725-5316. If you would

like to donate your flowers for the deacons to deliver to a shut-in or someone in the hospital, please call the church office.

For those who wish to continue with the Bible reading plan in 2022, you can access or download the document [here](https://www.navigators.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/navigators-bible-reading-plan.pdf). This plan is a little different than the 2021 plan. The 2021 plan had only five readings per week, and we were able to finish the entire New Testament. The 2022 plan has two readings every day, and they are a little longer, but we will read through the whole Bible in a year. If you read through the 2021 plan, it is okay to use this plan but skip the New Testament readings. These are the readings from which Pastor John will do his daily devotions each morning on the church Facebook page.

<https://www.navigators.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/navigators-bible-reading-plan.pdf>



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you?

Simply follow the instructions below to select "Charles Town Presbyterian Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us. How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "Charles Town Presbyterian Church" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app



JCCM Food Pantry needs. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated: hot dogs, ground beef, eggs, shelf stable/powdered milk, jelly, powdered coffee creamer, salt, sugar, cooking oil, dish soap, laundry detergent, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, paper towels, cat and dog food. Thank you, Kari Dean, Food Pantry Coordinator, JCCM



Know. Grow. Serve.

