

April 1-7, 2022

# MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard



CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# CT Press

Throughout my Christian journey, I have routinely come across this word: worldly. What does it mean to be worldly? What is worldliness?

Christians often think of worldliness in terms of behavior. To be worldly is to engage in things that are common in the world – going to the movies... playing cards...drinking alcohol...listening to non-Christian music...hanging around with non-Christians. And on the list goes.

When I got started in youth ministry, I read a book that had this impressive list of traits that began with this question: Which of these traits is something a good Christian engages in? The list included items like, “Zealous student of the scriptures...rigorous and faithful worship attendance...” For most people, all twelve traits in the list seem like good things for Christians. But when the reader turns the page, the author notes that all twelve of these characteristics were traits of the Pharisees.

Worldliness is not about behavior; it is a mindset. To be worldly is to think in terms defined by humans, not God. For example, we live in a world where success is encouraged. That inevitably means that someone wins, and others lose. Do we not think that people with numerous degrees, or someone who runs a large company is more successful than the person who runs a small, profitable business in the same zip code in which they grew up? We are conditioned to measure, and that measuring often finds its way into our spiritual life. We instinctively measure “how we’re doing” in our spiritual lives and how well others are or are not. We compare ourselves to one another. That is a worldly way to think about our faith in Christ, and it is something we must stop.

I am not suggesting that we should stop healthy spiritual practices like personal Bible study or corporate worship. Such activities lead to a growing faith. What we must stop is thinking of one another in terms of good or bad; better or worse. It is simply not helpful. Our focus must first be on our own growth in Christ, and then on loving one another. When a brother or sister in Christ is struggling, what they need from us is love and partnership, not a list of what they did wrong.

And when it comes to non-Christians, they too, need our love and patience. We do well to remember that God loves them just as much as he loves us. It is God’s job, not ours, to convict them of their sin and lead them to faith.

Worldliness is a mindset. Let’s ask God to change our minds!

Pastor John



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 April 3rd, 3-5PM: Family Jackbox Games!**

Our first April meeting will feature game from the Jackbox Par Pack series! These are a collection of highly entertaining party games that you can play with a phone or other device. Parents are invited to join in, the more the merrier!



**Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt:** On Palm Sunday, April 10th, is our Easter Egg Hunt for the kiddos. Weather permitting, we will have two different hunts: the 2-5 year olds will hunt on the grass lawn of Mildred street and the 6-10 year olds will hunt for eggs around the playground equipment and the lawn closest to the manse.

## **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.

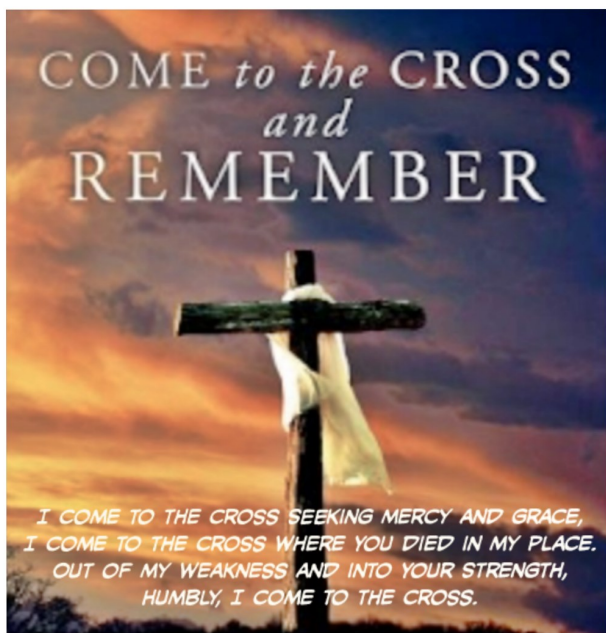
We will meet in the church parlor on Saturdays at 10am.

**April 2**  
**April 9**

**Spiritual Gifts and Service**  
**Sharing Our Faith**

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

***“Attitude of Gratitude”***



***GOOD FRIDAY***

***APRIL 15, 2022 FROM 3-4PM***

***OUR SANCTUARY WILL BE OPEN TO "COME TO THE CROSS"  
REFLECTION-MEDITATION-PRAYER WITH PIANO MUSIC***

This year our Sanctuary will be open on Good Friday from 3-4pm for anyone that needs to "Come to the Cross". Piano music will be provided for your personal time of reflection and prayer.

Our choirs and accompanists have been hard at work on music for Holy Week and Resurrection Sunday. Above is our April Practice Schedule.

Our Carol Choir has been practicing hard for something special to share on Palm Sunday!

Blessings!

Penny

## ***April Practice Schedule***

***April 3rd at 11:45am Glory Singers  
Maundy Thursday Music***

***April 6th....  
6:30pm Geneva  
7pm Geneva and Glory Singers  
In sanctuary***

***April 13th- 6:30pm Geneva  
7pm Geneva and Glory Singers  
In sanctuary***

***April 17th- TBD***



## Be the Light!

Be sure to check out the updated bulletin board outside the sanctuary." Be the light" lightening bugs are all over the place!

The First Saturday of the month meal schedule for our Friendship meals is almost complete!

April 2nd:	Faithweavers' Sunday school class
May 7th:	Signe Garms
June 4th:	Worship team
July 2nd:	Ruth and Gary Scott
August 6th:	Deacons
September 3rd:	Choirs
October 1st:	George Tabb and Jason Mullens
November 5th:	Yokefellow's Sunday school class
December 3rd:	???? Can you be the light this month?

Thanks to all who have contributed to cooking and helping serve. This is a local mission that would be impossible without so many hearts and hands.



Charles Town Presbyterian Church is hosting the local walk for World Vision's "Global 6K for Water" at 9:00 am on Saturday, May 21 beginning at the church parking lot. Six kilometers is the average distance many people in the developing world must walk to obtain clean water. Their team name is **Charles Town Water Walkers** with a motto of "We walk for water, not on water." World Vision's motto is "Every step you take is one they won't have to." If you would like to join the group for a good cause and get a little exercise at the same time, you can register at <https://global6k.worldvision.org>. Your \$50 registration (\$25 for children) provides water for one individual, FOR LIFE! If you personally are unable to walk but would like to sponsor someone, you can do that also at the website. Please consider joining the group to provide a pipeline for an entire village!

## Celebrations this week

## Sunday @ CTPC

### Birthdays

John Burns

Liz Kursey

Brooke Smith



Steffen Wells

Anne Portrey

Samantha Rutherford

Jason Mullens

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](mailto:ctpres.org) for contact information.

- **The Faithweavers** is a blended Sunday School class with in person and virtual options led by Margaret Kursey.



**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](mailto: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.

**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** will be collected on Resurrection Sunday, April 17th. The OGHS offering is used to assist people in suffering and in need through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and the Self Development of People program.

## CTPC Upcoming Events:

April 2nd, 9th: Tools for Growing Faith 10:00am

April 2nd: Friendship Ministry Meal 5:30pm

April 10th: Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt following worship  
Beulah Chapel 1:30pm

April 14th: Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm

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

Good Friday "Come to the Cross" sanctuary open for reflection-meditation-prayer with piano music 3-4:00pm

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

April 18th: OFFICE CLOSED

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



Know. Grow. Serve.



Weekly Offering

### Weekly Congregational Giving:

Needed to Meet Expenses Budget: \$6,934  
Sunday's Receipts: \$4,135;

Special Offerings: Hunger—\$118; Sunday School—\$69

Checks can be mailed to:

CTPC, PO Box 89,  
Charles Town, WV 25414

**For electronic giving, please scan here:**



**For those who wish to continue** with the Bible reading plan in 2022, you can access or download the document [here](#). 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>

### ONLINE GIVING

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.



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

**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](mailto: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.



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



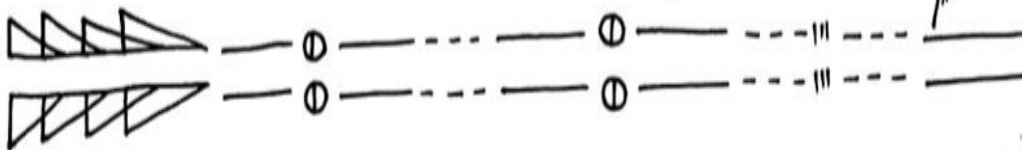
**The flower chart for 2022** is available for sign up. It is located on the bulletin board by the church office or call at 304-725-5316. If you would

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



Know. Grow. Serve.

Thou you soar aloft like an eagle, though you set  
your nest among the stars, from there I will  
bring you down, declares the Lord. v.4



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