

The Sugar Beat

SUGAR GROVE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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From the Pastor

Easter is the foundation of Christianity. Many people came before Jesus of Nazareth claiming to be the Messiah. Many more have come since Jesus with the same self-proclamation. What differentiates Jesus of Nazareth from all the others? Some did miracles in the name of God as Jesus did, some were wise and had great knowledge as Jesus did, so what's the difference? There are many but Easter is the major point of difference. Paul states it this way:

" But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith." (1 Corinthians 15:12-14 NIV)

The resurrection of Jesus is what gives us hope and the basis of our faith in the person of Jesus. How do we as Christians look upon Easter?

Some Christians give importance to Easter by making it the only day of the year to worship God with His Body. Others make no difference, it's just another Sunday.

The early church put special emphasis on Easter. It was determined that a period of 40 days should be set aside as preparation for the celebration of Easter. Sundays are not included in the 40 days, known as Lent, because Sundays are considered little Easters and therefore should not be included as a day of penitence. The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, and continues until Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. Today, some Christians choose to use this season of Lent to reflect on the meaning of Easter to them personally. Some give up something for Lent others take on something new for Lent. The purpose of either is to create a change in your routine so that you may recognize God's presence in your ordinary life and to make a sacrifice to remind you of the great sacrifice God and His Son made on your behalf.

I hope that you will allow God to impress upon you how you should prepare your heart and mind for the celebration of the resurrection. I pray that it will not be just another Easter but the Easter that God's Spirit will pour out upon you a fresh anointing of His power.

Bro. Gary

Easter Egg Hunt

The youth are sponsoring the Easter Egg Hunt this year. They request your participation in this ministry.

Now to March 29th—Individually wrapped candy needed

April 5th— Candy will be placed in the eggs (eggs are already on hand.

April 11th Morning—Hide the eggs

April 11th—Easter Egg Hunt begins!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

In an effort to decrease budget expenses, the session would like to determine if there would be enough members who would volunteer their time and energy to maintain the church yard this coming summer. This would include mowing the church lawn on a weekly basis, weed eating, leaf raking, etc. See B J Crider for additional information, or sign up for week or weeks you could donate your services.

Web Site enhancement

Get Email Reminders

If you are viewing the full-page calendar on our site and you click on an event to see its details, you will see an option to sign up for an email reminder. Every night at around midnight emails will be sent out to remind you of an event's occurrence that day. The full-page calendar can be viewed by clicking on the full-page icon at the bottom of the sidebar calendar.

Sugar Beat Distribution

The Sugar Beat is available at our website sugargrovecp.org and at Information Station. Beginning with the next Sugar Beat, a mailing label will be attached to each one. You may pick yours up as always, those that are not picked up will be mailed. If you know of someone who would like to receive one in the mail. Please let Bro. Gary know.

Scholarship Fund

For several years the Sugar Grove session has been thinking about stating a scholarship fund for our high school graduates and those who are already attending college, vocational or technical schools, or a four year university. There are several churched in the area that do this already.

Most generally a fund is set up when a member of the church passes away and leaves money in a Perpetual fund. The money from the interest is split up between the applicants. Since that has not happened, we intend to start with a small amount and add to it as needed or people can ask that at a funeral instead of flowers to leave money for a memorial to the fund.

By doing this it assures the students that leave Sugar Grove that we still support them. Bro. Gary has looked at other CP churches and the denomination to check with the guidelines.

David A. Travis, Elder

Thanks to CPWM

For the wonderful pancakes and sausage we enjoyed on Shrove Tuesday. Eating the fat in preparation for Lent was delicious. Chewing the fat with others was also very enjoyable. Thanks to everyone who attended.

Ministry Teams

Ministry teams need to have their reports to the session so we may celebrate your ministries.

Fellowship Time

You are invited to a time of fellowship at 10:40 am on Sunday mornings. Yes there is food, but the real reason is to give everyone an opportunity to fellowship with one another. Jesus was always fellowshiping with others, getting to know them so he could minister to them. Come to the Fellowship Hall to minister to one another in His Name.

Prayer List

| <u>Pray For</u> | <u>Requested By</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Rev Dean Atchison | Eddie Rudolph |
| Gladys Brown | |
| Terri Champion | David Travis |
| Mason Crider | David Travis |
| Marilyn Dunn | Darl Henley |
| Josh & Jill Folgles's baby | Michelle Orr |
| J W Fulton | Evelyn Roberts |
| Trish Gage | BJ Crider's Daughter |
| Scotty Hopkins | Becky McKinzie |
| Mary Hubbard | Kelly Perryman |
| Zac Mason | Debbie Carlton |
| Jane McGill | Terry Coleman |
| Herman McMMain | |
| Tommy & Valerie Roberson | |
| John Rose | Billy Joe Crider |
| Harry Rudolph | Eddie's dad |
| Judge Tommy Simpson | Madeline Henderson |
| Randy Travis | |
| Carolyn Walls & Family | Mary Ann Brewer |
| Bradyn Williams | |
| People Affected by the storm | |

Special Prayer Request

Mark and Crissy Williams' daughter, Bradyn, will undergo a heart catheter on March 11th. Bradyn was born with holes in her heart and will require surgery. The date of the surgery will be determined after the catheter. Please pray for the Williams' family during this difficult time. Bella, Bradyn's twin sister, and Emma are doing fine.

Valerie Roberson will undergo surgery on March 25th.

Members of the Military

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Mark Boaz | Kevin Householder | Joey Shirey |
| Cody Brandon | Scott Hurley | Jonathon Taylor |
| Ervin Davis | Josh Jackson | Rodney Travis |
| Brandon Carlson | David Jones | John Venable |
| Valerie Edwards | Skyler Powell | John Watson |
| Justin Hodge | Rev. Curtis Pruitt | Troy Woody |
| Keith Finney | | |

Others

United States of America, President Obama and all elected officials,
Session, Sunday School Teachers, Bro. Gary

Homecoming 2009

If you want a homecoming this year, and are willing to serve/ lead the committee, please see Bro. Gary. It will not happen unless you make it happen.

**'Be kinder than necessary,
for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.'**