

Childrens Ministry

Hi Kids!

In our Sunday morning class for Bible Bowl, we have been reading through the first 20 chapters of Exodus. This week we got to a story that I thought might be good to revisit with everyone here too! The whole story of the book of Exodus is one of the most amazing things that have ever happened. The man who wrote it, Moses, is the main character through the whole thing and in it, he describes how God guides him to lead the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt. This is such a well-known story that if you are not careful, you can easily glance over it and risk losing sight of the fact that it all actually happened to real people. I’m talking specifically about the story in chapter 16 when God provided manna from heaven. Now, I know you probably already know how this goes, but let me persuade you to imagine that you have never heard any of this and that you are Moses in this frustrating and scary situation with no idea how God’s promised deliverance would come.

At this point in the story, the Israelites have left Egypt behind and crossed into a rather unfriendly wilderness, and the supplies they plundered out of Egypt have very quickly run out. Conventional wisdom would certainly discourage most people from deciding to lead many thousands of people into such a harsh climate with almost nothing in the way of food and water. A little bit of complaining and even some skepticism from the Israelites MIGHT be understandable, (that is certainly the route that most of them take) but there is one factor they seem to constantly underestimate: God. 10 increasingly severe plagues passed over the Israelites to afflict the Egyptians. In that time, they smelled the stench of dead frogs everywhere, they heard the wail of the families in Egypt at the final plague, the death of the firstborn. They have seen a pillar of fire every night and of cloud every day. They could touch dry land at the bottom of the sea and safely watch from the other side as Pharaoh’s charioteers sank in mud. They heard the terrified screams of man and beast alike silenced abruptly as the water returned to its normal level. They tasted a spring of disgusting, bitter water and saw Moses throw a piece of wood in to miraculously make it sweet again. Despite all the overwhelming evidence of God’s concern for them, they loudly complained to Moses that everything he had done up to now was just so he could see them die out in the desert! The fact that they could still forget it all and cry out to go back to slavery in Egypt says a lot about human nature: people are just forgetful. Luckily, God is not. He still remembered His promise and sent food every day to take care of them and allow them to stay on the move.

In your walk with God, you will likely hear many people who struggle against faith say something like: “If God is there, why doesn’t He just show up and give us some undeniable sign?” The best answer I can think of for this is that He tried it, urging recognition from every physical sense the people had and still they would not trust in Him! Our own senses, like dry ground at the bottom of the sea, like manna, or the prophets, priests and kings that were yet to come, were never meant to be the final solution. They are temporary and He knows that they will pass away. Your spirit, however, is eternal and that is what God wants to bring to Himself more than anything. So, when the time was right, He sent His son, the true final solution; and thanks to Jesus, we can be fully reunited with God!

Talk to you soon!

-Ryan

WILL YOU BE LIKE JESUS? Matthew 9:35-38

CHRIST _____ TO PEOPLE

He took the _____ to enter the _____ of people.

- Matthew 9:35

He met their _____ using different _____.

- Matthew 10:7

I will never _____ anyone that does not _____ what I _____ in Jesus Christ!

CHRIST SAW THE _____ OF PEOPLE

Jesus saw people as _____.

- Matthew 9:36

He saw that they have _____ their _____.

- Matthew 9:36b
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Luke 13:22-25

Do _____ really _____ the _____ that people are in?

- John 4:35
- I John 2:17

CHRIST WAS _____ WITH _____ FOR THE PEOPLE

Jesus’ _____ a deep _____.

- Matthew 9:36
- Matthew 23:37

_____ must be _____ with _____ for people.

Being moved with _____ may mean _____ out of our _____.

- Mark 1:40-42
- Matthew 9:10-12
- Matthew 9:20-22

CHRIST _____ US TO BE _____ HIM

More _____ are ready to receive the _____ than we _____.

- Matthew 9:37-38
- Joel 3:13, 14

Will you be the _____ to the _____ for _____?

- Matthew 9:38
- Acts 1:8

Richland Road

Church of CHRIST

November 12, 2023

Let us not
become
weary in
doing good,
for at the
proper time
we will reap a
harvest

Galatians 6:9

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Walter Benson
Todd Buckland
Mike Hallabrin
Nate Hildreth
Ryan Hoggatt
Kendal Montgomery
Ed Nice
Seth Rossiter

Staying Connected

SERVING HEARTS! Thank you to everyone who brought in a sack or two of groceries to help restock our emergency food pantry! Also, a big thank you to Gwen Montgomery and her team for all their hard work last Sunday in making the Pancake Breakfast a great success!

SERVERS LIST! Since September, we have once again been mailing out the monthly servers list. If you are listed to serve in any way and can not make it to worship, please contact the church office or myself as soon as possible. Starting on December 3, we will ask those men participating in the worship service to please be present 15 minutes early before worship. We will meet in Room 10 (up front in the auditorium) for prayer each week.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING! At the end of each year, we always have a Year in Review. The elders have set Wednesday, December 6 @ 7 PM for the Congregational Meeting. They will be recapping 2023 and sharing goals and plans as we look forward to 2024. Let me encourage every member to be present so you can hear all the great things that are happening here at Richland Road!

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS! If you’re like me, every once in a while, you get a tune stuck in your head that plays over and over until you are almost beside yourself. For the last few weeks, the song “Count Your Blessings, Name Them One By One” has sunk into the deepest crevices of my brain. Instead of going crazy with it, it has caused me to spend time numbering some of the blessings for which I am thankful. I have decided that the song calls us to an impossible task. No one can count ALL their blessings. As humans, we can’t know or realize all those blessings. We won’t live long enough to count the ones we realize, much less the ones we don’t. But it’s still fun to try!

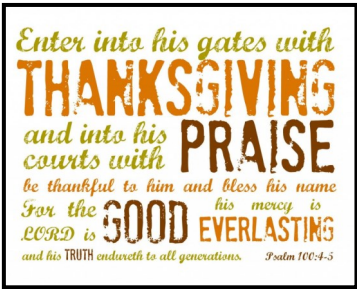
While we get ready to enjoy a delicious feast on November 23, may our outlook truly be one of thanksgiving. May we be reminded once again of the Source of our bountiful blessings. I like the cartoon that shows a bewildered-looking fellow sitting at a Thanksgiving table loaded with turkey, dressing, hot rolls, and all the trimmings. The caption reads: “Alvin the atheist realized he was at his lowest point, for he felt grateful but had no one to thank.”

We have Someone to thank. May we do it this day and every day with hearts overflowing with gratitude.

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.” (James 1:17)

“Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving...” (Psalm 95:2)

-Matt



INFORMATION & EVENTS

LIFEGROUPS
— MEET TODAY —



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO BROUGHT A SACK OR TWO OF FOOD TO FILL THE FOOD PANTRY!



LEADERSHIP CLASS—The Elders & Deacons Leadership Training class will meet today at 3:30 PM in Room 11.



AMAZING GRAYS—The seniors will meet at Berwick Pizza in Green Camp on Tuesday @ 11:30 AM. Sign up in the foyer.



ELDERS & MINISTERS MEETING—This Wednesday the Elders and Ministers will meet in the Fellowship Hall @ 9 AM. If you want to address anything with the Elders, all are welcome to attend!



WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY
Acts
Matt Dahm & Russell Howard
@ 7 PM in the Auditorium

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY
“Winning the War in Your Mind”
Taught by Teresa Tharp
@ 7 PM in Room 10



HELP UNLOAD MID-OHIO FOOD Friday @ 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.
FOOD GIVEAWAY Saturday @ 9 AM. (Be here @ 8:00 AM to help.)
Contact Josh Ball to volunteer to help.



WOMEN’S MINISTRY—On Tuesday, November 21 @ 6 PM, the Women’s Ministry will be getting together in the Fellowship Hall to make Thanksgiving Meals for our shut-ins. See Meagan White for details.

Bible Hour and Junior Worship will be offered at the 2nd service.

FOR THE RECORD - November 5, 2023

BIBLE CLASS.....n/a WEDNESDAY.....100
SUNDAY AM.....348 CONTRIBUTION.....\$8,649.48
SUNDAY PM.....n/a BUDGET.....\$6,788.00

TIME OF GIVING THANKS—On Wednesday, November 22 we will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 PM for a Time of Giving Thanks.



THE WOMEN OF PURPOSE will be meet on Wednesday, November 29. Please see Terry Fawley for details.



WINTER QUARTER BIBLE CLASS TEACHERS—The Winter Bible Class Quarter begins on Sunday, December 3. We are in need of teachers for the following classes: Ages 2-5, and K-5th Grade. See Ryan Hoggatt if you are willing to teach.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—This years Congregational Meeting/Year in Review will be held on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium. The Elders are planning to present a recap of the last year and share the upcoming plans of 2024.



AMAZING GRAYS—The seniors will meet on Tuesday, December 12 for a Christmas Potluck here in the Fellowship Hall. Come prepared to participate in a White Elephant Gift Exchange.



CHILDREN & TEEN HOLIDAY PARTIES—On Saturday, December 16 the Children’s Ministry will be having their Holiday Parties from 3:00—4:30 PM. The Children will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall, and the Teens will meet in the Outreach Center. Please see Ryan Hoggatt or Josh Ball for details.



HELP UNLOAD MID-OHIO FOOD Thursday, December 21 @ 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.
FOOD GIVEAWAY Saturday, December 23 @ 9 AM. (Be here @ 8:00 AM to help.)
Contact Josh Ball to volunteer to help.



THANK YOU for the beautiful flowers, and the thoughts and prayers during the loss of my brother. I appreciate your kindness always.
Bev Furniss

PICK UP A NOVEMBER PRAYER LIST IN THE FOYER