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LENT: This season begins with Ash Wednesday and continues for forty days and 6 Sundays prior to Easter Day.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 14TH THIS YEAR AND THAT IS ALSO VALENTINE'S DAY— WE HAVE PLANNED OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE FOR 6:00 PM. WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO WORSHIP WITH US AS WE BEGIN LENT.

Ash Wednesday gets its name from Old Testament times, when "sackcloth and ashes" were symbols of repentance. In Roman Catholic churches, the priest takes the ashes of some palm branches consecrated the previous year and marks the forehead of each penitent at the altar rail, repeating in Latin, "Remember man, that thou art dust; and unto dust thou shall return."

Lent is a period of discipline but not necessarily of a negative character. Lent should consist of doing something, not of merely doing without something. At Ash Wednesday Service—as we mark our foreheads with ashes that evening, we are asking God to cleanse us of anything that might prevent His perfect will from being

Reverend
Cliff

While I'm On My
Feet!

done in our lives. We, too, are His people. We, too, miss the mark of holy living. We pray to be restored to the kind of relationship with Him that allows us to bear the burden of a fallen world. **See you at 6:00 pm on February 14th at Ash Wednesday Service, the start of Lent.**

If you would like to follow along with Pastor Cliff for the Scriptures each week they are... February 4th "Everyone Is Looking for You" **Mark 1:29-39** (Reader Ethan Overton). February 11th "The Ultimate Mountaintop Experience" **Mark 9:2-9** (Reader Andrea Hamm). February 18th "Noah and the Robots" **Genesis 9:8-17** (Reader Nancy Klingensmith). February 25th "Pop Star Madonna and the Cross" **Mark 8:31-38** (Reader Kathy Betzer).



A few minutes before the services started, as people were sitting in their pews talking, suddenly Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trying to get away. One elderly gentleman sat calmly in his pew, seemingly oblivious to his peril. Satan walked up to the old man and said, "Don't you know who I am?" The man replied, "Sure do." "Aren't you afraid of me?" the devil asked. "Nope, sure ain't," said the man. More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, "Well, why aren't you afraid of me?" "Because," said the old man, "Jesus is my Savior!" "Also," he added, "I've been married to your sister for 58 years!"



The Church Secretary will be on vacation from February 2nd until February 10th.

CARLISLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS...



“As the season of Lent Begins, we will have a Bible Study beginning on Fat Tuesday (Feb. 13th) And continuing each Tuesday at 6:30 pm until March 27th. Our Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14th) Service is at 6:00 pm. The Community Good Friday Service (March 30th) this Year is at Middle River Friends Church at 7:00 pm”



“The Worship Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 21st at 6:00 pm this month due to Ash Wednesday. You are invited to attend this meeting if you have ideas to share or would like to learn about the new Video Screen System.”

THANK YOU

In December, after 7 trips to the E.R. for extremely high blood pressure, I was finally admitted to the hospital for observation and evaluation. The diagnosis was that diseased kidneys are causing the high blood pressure. At present both are being controlled with medication. Being on a heart-healthy (no salt) and a no potassium (no chocolate, fruit, potatoes, and only ¼ cup of dairy per day) diet certainly limited my food intake...one way to lose weight!

I want to thank you all for your cards, visits from Joe and Pastor Cliff, but especially for your prayers for both Kay and me. I believe that it was answered prayers that made it possible for Kay to pick me up from the hospital/rehab and take me to Mississippi in time to surprise the grandkids for Christmas. We called it our Christmas miracle. Thanks again for your love and prayers. – **Greg Tilton**

BLESSING JARS

Our “Blessing Jars” that were distributed in the fall totaled \$761.00. Thank you to everyone for your contributions!

We have many blessings to be thankful for! – **Kayla Price, CWF Treasurer**

SENIOR LADIES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Twenty-one ladies gathered for the annual CWF Senior Ladies Christmas Party in December. As always, there was plenty of laughter and plenty of delicious treats. The BINGO game always proves to be entertaining and although the prizes do tend to travel around the table, everyone always goes home with a prize! It was a great afternoon! –**Kayla**

MITTEN TREE

Thank you for donating to our annual “MITTEN TREE.” 85 pairs of gloves, 70 stocking caps, 10 scarves, and a variety of socks were delivered to the Carlisle Community School Guidance Office.

Snowy days mean lots of wet mittens – so dry mittens/gloves are always appreciated!

–**Kayla Price, Evangelism Chair**

CCA SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Eighty-three families were part of the “2017 CCA SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PROGRAM,” making it our largest Christmas project ever. Our church assisted four families this year. Your generous hearts make this program possible. Thank you again for making Christmas special for these families. –**Kayla Price, CCA Chair**

VALENTINE BOXES FOR COLLEGE

STUDENTS

The Evangelism Committee will once again be sending Care Packages to our two college students. Ideas include – hot chocolate packets, popcorn, candy, gum, granola bars, nuts, chips, microwave soups, microwave macaroni & cheese. No fruit please – it is heavy and crushes the other items. Thank you! –**Kayla**

ETHAN IN “TRUTH & CONSEQUENCES”

Our own **Ethan Overton** will act in the play “Truth & Consequences” at the **Randleman House the last weekend in February and first weekend in March.** Tickets are \$10.00!

CONGRATULATIONS RANDY ROTHFUS

Rodger & Laura Rothfus’ son Randy and his sister-in-law Jennifer Brick-Sullivan earned a \$400,000 deal on the T.V. show “Shark Tank” for their “Guzzle Buddy” invention. Randy and Jennifer’s invention was accepted on the **Sunday, January 21st** airing of the show in which people present their ideas for businesses to a panel of judges who are successful businessmen and women.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!



“CHARLOTTE MILLER’S 4TH BIRTHDAY PARTY WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH STARTING AT 1:00 PM AT CHURCH. THE WHOLE CONGREGATION IS INVITED! PLEASE LET BECCA MILLER KNOW IF YOU CAN ATTEND (641-990-0427).”

Pastor Cliff, Justin, & Marci will be at the Carlisle Care Center Sunday, February 11th for the 3:30 pm service. Cliff will be at the Ramsey Home in Des Moines on Sunday, February 4th for the 3:00 pm service. You are invited to attend both of the services!”



February 10th
Hayley Rankin

February 16th
Alan Witherell

February 28th
Diana Prall

February 12th
Ron Wilbur

February 17th
Brian Saunders

February 14th
Charlotte Miller

February 18th
Cindy Berg

February 14th
Shirley Patterson

February 23rd
Garrett Thompson

Please keep in your prayers

In the military

Joanie Comer & Family	Twyla Cooper	Niklas Polson
Cotter Family	Dixie	Quinn Delaet
Colleen Flaws	Jerry Mayes	Tara Wesner
Joan Mills	Chris Nelson	Arthur Rees
Beverly Ross	Leslie Thompson	Greg Tilton
Dave Walker	Max Warren	De Wilbur

Deacons

Elders

Team 1: Gerry Baker, Jim Watkins, Marilyn Hayes, Judy Watkins. **Team 2:** Marci Palar, Laura Rothfus, Rodger Rothfus, Mike Killen. **Team 3:** Bob Stuyvesant, Gloria Graham, Steve Thompson, Andrea Hamm. **Team 4:** Shirley Patterson, Louanna Pezzetti, Sherril Owens, Patsy Overton. **Team 5:** Cindy Berg, Craig Price, Diana Prall, Kayla Price.
Alternates: Berenice Chastain (848-3465) or Becky Rickabaugh (989-2014)

February 4th:
Dan Crum & Joe Lang
February 11th:
Sharon Bittner & Justin Chastain
February 18th:
Joe Lang & Justin Chastain
February 25th:
Kathy Betzer & Dan Crum

February 4th : Team 4
February 11th : Team 5
February 18th : Team 1
February 25th : Team 2

(1st person listed is Communion Elder)

WEEK OF COMPASSION FOR 2018

How is it that there are enough resources on our planet to feed the entire world, and yet so many hunger? As people of faith, what is our role in a world where the gap between the rich and the poor only seems to widen? How do we ensure that all of God's children get their fair share? When the apostle Paul visited the early churches in Macedonia, they became excited about the ministry opportunities laid before them. These early followers of Jesus couldn't help but get caught up in Paul's zeal for the ways God was working in their midst. They actually pleaded to be a part of the "service to the saints" Paul spoke of while visiting their community—despite their own poverty. This "ministry to the saints," referred to in his second letter to the Corinthians is another name for the offering Paul and the early churches were organizing for those in Jerusalem suffering from a devastating famine. The offering was considered a living out of one's faith, a spiritual calling—a ministry.

To organize a church-wide offering, a relief fund if you will (Week of Compassion is not original!) was not only practical, it was also a visible expression of their Christian unity. This offering was a way for Paul to unite all believers and to provide a way for them to care for one another—even if they did not know each other personally. For the churches in Macedonia and Corinth, many of them would never see or meet the Christians they were helping in Jerusalem. So their ecumenical offering was a concrete representation of the Gospel: that in Christ there truly was no longer Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female, rich or poor—no longer separation or division, but unity in Christ.

Everyone, regardless of economic or social location, has a gift to give. God supplies the gifts and resources so that we can give back. After all, none of what the early followers of Jesus gave was really theirs, right? Because all that we have is God's! We're simply giving back to God what is already God's. In giving to God, we give to others. Our gifts will be part of transforming a life, a community, and indeed, the whole world.

"For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus the Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that by His poverty you might become rich" (2 Cor. 8:9). This is what God has given; through our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ the Good News has been shared with us so that we never doubt that we have all we need, and in turn ensure that others get what they need. "For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance" (2 Cor 8:12-13).

Our abundance becomes their need and their need becomes our abundance. Have you ever thought of it this way? We could achieve a fair balance across the globe by sharing what we have, out of our abundance. "It is not with your own wealth that you give alms to the poor," asserted St. Ambrose, "But with a fraction of their own which you give back; for you are usurping for yourself something meant for the common good of all. The earth is for everyone, not only for the rich."

Through Week of Compassion we have the opportunity to act as the body of Christ by giving what we have. This is the offering, the "ministry to the saints" that Paul was promoting.

This is still our ministry, all these centuries later, through Week of Compassion—not only by this church family, but across the country by Christians of many denominations contributing to an ecumenical offering which has shared abundance for the meeting of needs for almost 70 years.

Together, we can make sure that everyone—yes, every single one of God's children, our sisters and brothers—get their fair share, bringing about a world the way God intended it to be. Ready to change the world?

**CARLISLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018**

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(Disciples of Christ)

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**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY
4TH IS BOY SCOUT
SUNDAY!**

Sunday, February 4th is
Boy Scout Sunday. Our
Scout Troop will be here
to present the colors
during the service, **and
we will have a Chili and
Potato Soup Supper
after Worship**. Please
come and support our
Scouts!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to **Becky
Rickabaugh, Andrea**

**Hamm, Joe Lang, Pastor
Haider**, and all those who
prepared and/or attended
the **Free Community
Dinner** held on January
25th at the Senior Center!
The chicken and noodles
were delicious! Our next
Free Community Dinner
will be held on **Thursday,
February 22nd from 5:00
until 7:00 pm**. Please
come along and bring a
friend!

PLANNING MEETING

There will be a Planning
Meeting of the Church
Board on **Sunday,
February 11th** right after
the Worship Service. All
are invited to come and
share their ideas!

CHURCH CAMP 2018

FOR ANYONE WHO

WOULD LIKE TO, OR
KNOWS SOMEONE WHO
WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND
CHURCH CAMP, **PLEASE
LET BECCA MILLER (641-
990-0427) OR THE
CHURCH OFFICE (515-
989-0176) KNOW BY
FEBRUARY 17TH**. MORE
INFORMATION TO COME
IN MARCH!

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Cliff will lead a Bible
Study for the season of Lent.
The classes will begin on
**Tuesday, February 13th
beginning at 6:30 PM**.
Books will be available to be
picked up at the pulpit and
**don't forget Ash
Wednesday Service at 6:00
PM on February 14th!**

*Dick Leeper has a new
room number at the Care
Center it is #18!*

**CARLISLE
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