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You too heard the word of truth in Christ, which is the good news of your salvation. You were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit because you believed in Christ. The Holy Spirit is the down payment on your inheritance, which is applied toward our redemption as God's own people, resulting in the honor of God's glory. **Ephesians 1:13-14 CEB.**

I read an article a few weeks ago where Dr. Richard J. Krejcir states this—Apathy, in my opinion as a pastor and a researcher, is becoming more and more rampant in the American church. At the same time, fewer and fewer people are discussing or admitting that this is a real problem. So, is apathy really a problem?

Consider that Christians, as a whole, do not participate in regular Bible studies or small groups. They do not have mentors or people in their lives to encourage and spur them on. Fewer and fewer Christians are giving or serving with their time, talents, or treasures as compared to ten or twenty years ago, and it gets worse as one goes back to the giving and serving trends of generations past.

That's a pretty telling statement, but just how do we as a church or we as individuals

Reverend
Cliff

*While I'm On My
Feet!*

respond to make sure we aren't getting caught up in apathy. Here's the secret to having a vibrant Christian faith. You have to be striving to get to know Jesus more closely. There's one statement that has always been a part of my life and stayed with me over the years, and it has to do with avoiding Christian apathy. My advice in keeping one's faith walk vibrant is that one needs to be "Striving to have an intimate, passionate, growing relationship with God through Jesus Christ." Apathy begins one step at a time or maybe better put, skipping one step at a time. The weather gets nice, the lake looks great, and missing church becomes OK. Our recreational and vacation time make for a busy schedule, and the next thing you know you're passing on your devotional time, you aren't spending time in prayer, you aren't reading your Bible. The next thing you know, fall comes and you are thinking "I can do this faith thing solo, I really don't need the community of the church." Before long, you have become one of the apathetic Christians Krejcir is pointing at. I want to encourage you to be "Striving to have an intimate, passionate, growing relationship with God through Jesus Christ." See you in church next Sunday!!! – **Pastor Cliff**

If you would like to follow along with Pastor Cliff for the Scriptures each week they are... July 1st "When Your Life Is Put on Hold" **Mark 5:21-43** (Reader Ethan Overton). July 8th "When I am Weak, I am Strong" **2 Corinthians 12:7-10** (Reader Shirley Patterson). July 15th "What Does It Mean to Be Blessed?" **Ephesians 1:3-14** (Reader Nancy Klingensmith). July 22nd "Sheep without a Shepherd" **Mark 6:30-34** (Reader Marci Palar). July 29th "What's In Your Wheelhouse...That You Can Offer Jesus?" **John 6:1-15** (Reader Ethan Overton).



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.

Carlisle Christian News
JULY BIRTHDAYS!



“There will be an Official Board Meeting on Sunday, July 8th after the Worship Service. Also, July 1st Pastor Cliff will be at the Care Center at 3:30 pm for the Worship Service there.”

July 3rd

Zoe Saunders

July 4th

Clare Hall

July 7th

Billy Rickabaugh

July 10th

Bryar Killen

July 16th

Cole Dayton

July 17th

Lori Rankin

July 20th

Mykaela Graham

July 21st

Justin Chastain

July 21st

Debbie Kain

July 22nd

Taylor Dayton

July 26th

Brice McCleary

July 27th

Don Hall

July 30th

Ed Owens

July 31st

Rhiannon Chastain-Hall

Happy Anniversary!

Rodger & Laura Rothfus (July 16th)

In the military

Blake Luft

Niklas Polson

Joshua Wesner

Tara Wesner

Please keep in your prayers

Twyla Cooper

Quinn Delaet

Brody Everitt

Mike Everitt

John Graham Family

David Green Family

Katie Hakes

Butch Hayes

Ben Lawrence

Jerry Mayes

Joan Mills

Beverly Ross

Greg Tilton

Dave Walker

Max Warren

Judy Watkins

De Wilbur



“We will have our Duck Pond in North City Park July 3rd and July 4th. Carlisle Christian Church (DOC) will have a 4th of July Parade Float this year, line up at 9 am before the parade on Garfield Street (by Wyckoff’s).”

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)

July 1st : Team 5
July 8th : Team 1
July 15th : Team 2
July 22nd : Team 3
July 29th : Team 4

July 1st :

Kathy Betzer & Dan Crum

July 8th :

Joan Mills & Sharon Bittner

July 15th :

Justin Chastain & Joe Lang

July 22nd :

Dan Crum & Kathy Betzer

July 29th :

Sharon Bittner & Joan Mills

(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 JULY 2018

Page 3 of 3

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**JULY 4TH PARADE
FLOAT!**

Our Independence Day Parade Float is mostly assembled and waiting in Pastor Cliff's garage! On Saturday, June 16th, despite it being 90 degrees at 9 am, **Becca, Charlotte, & Lauren Miller, Rudy & Gloria Graham, Shirley Patterson, Justin Chastain, & Chairman of the Board Bob Stuyvesant**

gathered at church and built the Float with the theme "Team Christ" in keeping with this year's Parade theme, "Team America." **We will line up at 9 am Wednesday, July 4th on Garfield Street** (by Wyckoff's). **If you wish to donate candy, please leave it in the north upper classroom at church.**

JULY 4TH DUCK POND

We will be having our **Kiddie Duck Pond in North City Park July 3rd from 4 pm on and July 4th after the Parade is over.** Our Scout Troop takes care of the manning of the

booth. But some help may be needed with the setup and the items donated as prizes.

JULY 4TH POTLUCK

We will have a Potluck Dinner after Worship on **Sunday, July 22nd.** Please bring a dish to share and come fellowship with us!

**CW SMITH PLAYS
SUNDAY, JULY 1ST**

CW Smith will be here on **Sunday, July 1st** to play some patriotic and traditional songs. CW always brings interesting musical instruments like the banjo, mandolin, ukulele, etc. Don't miss church on this fun Sunday!

**CARLISLE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
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