

Chronicle

Volume 18 Number 3

March, 2018

Newsletter of
Country Christian Evangelical Free Church

Scotts, Michigan
626-9733
www.countrychristinefc.org

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Messiah in the Passover Presentation

Saturday, March 17 at 6:30 PM

Chosen People Ministries missionary Brian Crawford will be presenting the Messiah in the Passover, emphasizing how Jesus fulfills the Jewish Passover and relating it to our New Testament Communion Service. We will sample the Jewish Seder plate together. Brian Crawford needs housing for Thursday, March 15. Please see Pat if you are interested in hosting him for that night. We will also need help with some food preparation. Stay tuned or see Pat if you want to help coordinate this event. Come, and bring a friend.

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday

9:30 Worship
11:00 Sunday School for all ages
12:15 Bible Study
6:00 Bible Studies
Impact Youth
6:15 Bible Study

Monday:

8:00 Young Adult Bible Study

Wednesday

9:00 Ladies Bible Study
6:15 AWANA

Thursday

Bi-weekly Bible Study- G. Wedel

Friday

5:30-7:30 AM Prayer



“Our purpose is to be ambassadors for Christ, helping people to become spiritually mature, filled with the fullness of God”

The 2018 Winter Olympics are rapidly coming to a close. Some have been disappointed by the lack of medals by the US compared to several of the past recent Winter Olympics. The athletes work hard to make it to the Olympics. They probably deserve a medal for making it to this prestigious event. What many people don't realize is that the value of the medal is taxable. (Or at least it used to be.) More than one athlete has sold their medal in order to pay the taxes on the medal. Even if the athlete is able to keep the medal their entire life, the medal has no value after they die.

While the ancient Greek Olympics gave a laurel wreath that quickly faded to the winners, and the current Olympics give a gold, silver, or bronze medal to winners, the affect is still the same, the award does not last forever. How many athletes can you name from previous Olympics; there may only be a handful of athletes that you can name, demonstrating how fleeting fame can be.

The apostle Paul talks about running for a temporal award. In 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 talks about how athletes give up things that will keep them from winning. Athletes don't carrying weights when they compete, most watch what they eat, they prepare for the competition, all for a crown that fades. Paul goes on to say that there are things as Christians we need to give up, they are distractions in our life that keep us from running the race God has for us. While athletes compete for a temporary crown and fame, Christians are running for an eternal award often described as crowns.

In "The Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology, W.L. Gerig writes "The "crowns" that are biblically identified as being given on that day include: a crown that will last forever for those who have kept their sinful nature in check (1 Cor. 9:25-27); a crown of righteousness for those who have longed for Christ's appearance (2 Tim. 4:8); a crown of life for those who have endured testing successfully, even to the point of death (James 1:12; Rev. 2:10); a crown of rejoicing for those who have seen souls saved (1 Thess. 2:19); and a crown of glory for those who have faithfully served God's people (1 Peter 5:4). In other places, the rewards are spoken of as "treasures in heaven" (Matt. 6:20), a share in Christ's future role (Rev. 2:26-27), and additional responsibilities and words of praise ("Well done, good and faithful servant"; Matt. 25:21, 23; Luke 19:17, 19). It is worth noting again how intangible and immaterial these rewards are. Even the gift of eternal life is set forth as a prize to be gained. Eternal life is something to be laid hold of by the individual (1 Tim. 6:17-19)."

Paul told the church in Corinth to run so that you can obtain an eternal crown, don't be easily distracted. Run without being disqualified. In what we believe is Paul's final letter that was canonized to Timothy, he wrote "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (II Timothy 4:7)

Are you running to obtain a crown? Are you running in to finish the race? Can II Timothy 4:7 be written on your tombstone?

Jim Hawkins—editor


We live and die; Christ died and lived!"

—John Stott

?? ? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

According to Matthew's account, what was torn when Jesus died?

- A. Mary's headdress — she tore it as a traditional Jewish sign of grief
- B. A Roman guard's sash — Peter grabbed and ripped it in anger
- C. Jesus' robe — the soldiers divided it among themselves
- D. The temple curtain — torn in two from top to bottom



Answer: D (See Matthew 27:51.)

Country Christian Evangelical Free Church

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Many thanks to Diane Barton who runs the copies for each issue.

Submissions to the Chronicle are welcomed and are subject to editing for content, length or grammar. In addition submissions must be in keeping with the principles and teachings of CCEFC. Submissions may be made by electronic media or hand written article. Submit an article electronically to the following E-mail: CCChronicle@sbcglobal.net
Fax: (610) 549-7184
or on disc: MSWord or Wordperfect formats for electronic submissions is preferred. Typed or hand written submissions are also accepted.

Deadline for submissions is the second to the last (usually the third) Sunday of the month prior to late morning service. Questions about the Chronicle should be directed to the editor or the board of elders.

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Unless noted otherwise, graphics are provided courtesy of Communication Resources.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Weekly 9:30 Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Bible Study 6:00 Impact (Youth) 6:00 Bible Study/s 6:15 Bible Study	Weekly 8:00 Young Adult Bible Study		Weekly 9:00 Ladies Bible Study 6:15 AWANA 6:30 Bible Study	1 Weekly 9:30 Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Bible Study 6:00 Impact (Youth) 6:00 Bible Study	2 Weekly 9:30 Worship 11:00 Sunday School 12:15 Bible Study 6:00 Impact (Youth) 6:00 Bible Study	3
4 Communion Pot Luck	5	6	7 7:00 Elders Mtg	8 6:30 Christian Ed Meeting 7:00 Deacons Mtg	9 Evening "For the Sake of the Gospel" Ministry Conference in Grand Rapids	10 Morning/Afternoon "For the Sake of the Gospel" Ministry Conference
11 Daylight Saving Time Begins	12	13	14	15	16 2:15 Release Time Bible Study	17 6:30 Messiah in the Passover
18 Deadline: April Chronicle	19	20 First Day of Spring	21	22	23	24
25 Palm Sunday	26	27	28	29	30 Good Friday 7:00 Combined Good Friday Service at Galesburg Baptist	31
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Who to contact**Country Christian Evangelical Free Church**

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Sr. Hi Youth

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Facebook Page

Stacey Coville

Weekly Bible Studies**Sundays:**

Walter Dubbeld's: 12:15 (estimated)
 at the church. Potluck. Phone
 649-0656 (every other week)
 Pat Clarey's: 6-8 PM in the church
 library – Pat's phone – 321-0132
 or 626-4531 (every other week);
 Russ and Ruth Bartholomew's – 6:15
 – 8:15 PM at their house on T
 Ave, phone – 626-8019;
 Dana and Terrie Schwartz – 6:00 –
 8:00 PM at their house -13643
 East R Ave., call – 929-6242
 (every other week)

Mondays:

Young Adult Bible Study 8PM at the
 Fleck's led by Trenton Steele

Wednesdays:

Ladies Bible Study at the church 9:00
 AM

Thursdays:

George and Joyce Wedel – Every
 other Thursday night at their
 house – 11626 East R Ave., call
 – 626-9764.



**Birthdays &
 Anniversaries
 This Month!**

1-Natalie McKelvey
 2-Denny Johnson
 4-Jim Hawkins
 5-Rick Landrum
 6-Bev VanDyken
 11-Pat Clarey
 11-Don Hiskes
 12-Brian Ramstrom
 13-Nathan Hartmann
 14-Jean Jones
 19-Caleb Steele
 21-Michael Landry
 21-Margaret Larsen
 22-Ruth Bartholomew
 25-Ben Hartmann
 26-Doug Case
 26-Sarah Cramer
 28-Al & Jo Johnson
 29-Tyler Fleck

**Inclement Weather Policy:**

If it is a school day, and Climax-Scotts schools are closed for weather, all church activities for that day are automatically cancelled. For non-school days, check local television stations or check with the event organizer. If the weather or roads are questionable, and the event is still held, you are encouraged to use your best judgment before venturing out.



Good Friday Service

Friday, March 30, is Good Friday. We will be having a Combined Good Friday service at Galesburg Baptist Church at 7 PM. Pastor Pat will be speaking. Refreshments to follow.

Nursery Help

Feb 25	Kim Smith/Dawn Drallette
March 4	Meghan Clarey/Jamie Morrison
March 11	Hannah Houseman/Charlize Gibbs/Lisa Gibbs
March 18	Abby Colvin/Raezi Colvin/ Kourtney Klimp
March 25	Kim Smith/Dawn Drallette

Treasures in Plain Sight

It seems we have treasures here in this church hiding in plain sight! The church library contains great DVD's, books for all ages, and audio books. More will soon be available including "World Magazine" and the local Climax Crescent. Check it out before or after church. Watch for Jan Karon's two newest books coming soon.



Easter

Easter Brunch

Potluck. Gary Truax and the Youth Group will be serving the breakfast.

Sunday, April 1, is Easter Sunday! We are having our Annual Easter Breakfast being served from 8-9 AM this year with our Easter Service to follow at 9:30 AM. We will also be having communion. No



Pat Answers

What Does “Evangelical” Mean?

The word “evangelical” means “of the gospel” and it is a good word to describe what we are supposed to be as a Church and as Christ followers. We are to be about the gospel and unashamed of the gospel – Romans 1:16. The gospel is not just for unbelievers, but for all Christians. We stand on the gospel, we live out the gospel, and we grow in the gospel. We never get over the cross and resurrection of Jesus! – 1 Corinthians 15:3,4. We should preach the gospel to ourselves every day, reminding ourselves we have died to sin with Christ, we have risen with Christ to new life, and we now belong to Him.

The term Evangelical used to mean someone who was not only of the gospel, but also one who fully accepted the full authority of the Bible, and the need for evangelism because Christ is the only way to God – John 14:6. But today the term “Evangelical” may be confusing to some. It is often thought of as a political group or voting bloc. Some still claim to be evangelical Christians, but are changing long-held doctrinal commitments to allow for other ways to God or accepting gay marriage.

Lifeway took a survey in 2017 defining an evan-

gelical as one who agreed with the following statements: 1. The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe. 2. It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior. 3. Jesus Christ’s death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin. 4. Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God’s free gift of eternal salvation. In 2015, 33% of responders agreed with all four statements. In 2017, 24% of Americans said they were “Evangelical”, but sadly only 15% strongly agreed with these four statements.

So as long as we understand the term “Evangelical” to refer to the gospel of Jesus as our only Hope of Salvation, and the Bible alone as our Final Authority for all we believe and practice, it is still a good term for our church. We believe these core truths and so does our denomination, the Evangelical Free Church of America. May we live out the gospel for the glory of God daily! Because of Christ,

Pastor Pat

Dated material—Please do not delay

If you would like to be included for the mailing list please contact the church office at 269.626.9733 and provide your name and address.

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