

Church of God of Landisville

Sunday Plus

A place to connect, belong, and serve.

MARCH 2019

The Lenten Journey



Freedom to receive...

Sunday

8:15 am
Traditional Worship

9:30 am
Sunday School

10:45 am
Contemporary Worship

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But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin, so we receive God's promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:22 (NLT)

Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is always 46 days before Easter Sunday. Lent is a 40-day season (not counting Sundays) marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, and ultimately celebration. It is a season for soul-searching, meditation, and reflection on your personal journey of faith with Jesus. The 40-day period represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him. Lent asks believers to set aside a time each year for similar fasting, marking an intentional season of focus on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.

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Looking Ahead

Join us..

Wednesday, March 6
Ash Wednesday
Worship at 6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 19
Seasoned Saints
10:00 am

Monday, April 8
Packing Cancer Bags
5:30 pm

Sunday, April 14
Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 18
Maundy Thursday Service
Communion and Feet
Washing, 6:30 pm

Friday, April 19
Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 20
Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 21
Easter

Tues. - Men's breakfast,
Miss Calee's (7:00 am),
Few Good Men (7:30 pm)

Wed. - Mom's in Prayer
(8:30 am), Toddler Gym
(10:15 am), Young Adult
Ministry (6:30 pm)

Thurs. - Weekly Prayer
Gathering (9:30 am),
Autism Parents' Support
Group (last Thurs. of the
month, 6:30 pm)

Sundays in March

Our journey through the Gospel Project continues in this season of Lent as we explore the life of Jesus, His earthly ministry as recorded in the gospels and His final weeks before dying on the cross and conquering death through the resurrection.

March 3 - Pastor Nancy Boyer preaching about mission work in Kenya, Africa. Darlene Weidman speaking at 9:30 am in the MPR about Wycliffe Bible translators.

March 10 - The Raising of Lazarus, John 11

March 17 - Jesus Anointed at Bethany, Matthew 26

March 24 - A Call to Repentance, Luke 13

March 31 - A Call to Repentance, part 2, Luke 13

Lenten book/video study to begin on Wednesday, March 13 at 6:30 pm. The study is based on the book, [Irresistible: Reclaiming the New that Jesus Unleashed for the World](#) by Andy Stanley. SIGN UP TO BE PART OF THIS STUDY. Books (\$10) and study guides(\$5) are for sale at the Welcome Center. Make checks payable to "The Church of God of Landisville." You do not need to read the book ahead of time to be part of this discussion group nor are you required to purchase the book or study guide.

(Freedom to receive... cont.)

Join with me in this season of Lent to turn and repent of our sins and allow the Holy Spirit to look deep within and renew a right spirit in us. Let's repent of our complacency, our callousness, our critical nature, our casual treatment of the gospel, our comfortable and content culture we've built for ourselves within the church and our resistance to change to meet the needs of those who are far away from God.

Consider joining us for our Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary on March 6 at 6:30 pm. We will reflect together, pray together, sing together and share together as we come to the realization that we have the freedom to turn from our sinful ways and receive God's promises through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Living as a Disciple Maker

(From the book, "Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples" by Francis Chan with Mark Beuving; pg. 57, 58)

Getting Beneath the Surface

We have to be clear about what it means to help the people God has placed in our lives. We gravitate toward solutions that are quick and easy. When it comes to helping people, we often address the surface level of the problem but never get down to the heart of the matter. When someone is grieving, we might hand him a book that helped us in a difficult moment. But how many of us would take the time to really invest in his life? Would we listen on a consistent basis and offer help whenever we find a need that we are able to meet? Or when we learn that a friend is struggling with sin, we are quick to explain why that sin is harmful and tell her we will pray for her (whether we follow through or not). But how many of us would take her struggle with sin so seriously that we would walk with her as she works through the issues involved?

It's not that Christians are uncaring. Very often, we really do want to help the people around us however we can, but we get so focused on finding a quick solution to the external behavior that we overlook the real problem. Here's an example. If a friend struggles with anger, we find out what makes him angry, and then keep him away from the things that provoke his anger (e.g., don't drive during rush hour, interact with your boss as little as possible, avoid talking politics). But changing the external situation doesn't change his heart. In reality, his anger is rooted in his heart, and that anger will find a way to express itself even if his circumstances change.

When Jesus's disciples started eating without going through the necessary cleansing rituals, the Pharisees accused them of defiling themselves. But Jesus's response calls us to look beyond the external to what is going on in the heart: "Whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled." (Thus he declared all foods clean.) And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person." (Mark 7:18-23)

Every struggle with sin that we could possibly encounter in our own lives or in the lives of the people around us are represented in the list Jesus offered here: evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. Jesus said that these things come from within. In other words, if we are trying to address these problems by regulating a person's circumstances or behavior, then we are wasting our time. These things come "out of the heart of man." Whatever help we can offer people who are struggling with sin has to be aimed at transforming hearts, not behavior.

Nursery Position



A paid position is open in our children's nursery. Hours are Sundays (8-noon) and other scheduled events that require nursery care. Compensation is \$12-\$15/hour based on experience. Contact Jen Rhine (jen@shinekids.church).



Rehearsals begin on Thurs., March 7 at 7:00 pm. We sing on Palm Sunday, April 14, and Easter Sunday, April 21, at the 8:15 am service. Contact Mimi Bippus or Barb Sutton if you are interested in joining.



**March 10
Daylight Savings
Time Begins**

COGL Leadership 2019

2.4.2019 Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

- President John Yoder called the meeting to order and offered prayer.
- Discussed the revision of the By-Laws specifically adding Section 4.10 Officers and the subsection 4.10b including subsections a,b,c,d to include the responsibilities of the officers. Motion carried with unanimous vote.
- Discussion on the proper distribution of meeting minutes/notes. President would like a copy of the ministry teams' minutes for LT review. A snapshot of our finances will be published in the Sunday Plus as well as LT minutes. Once the LT minutes are completed, they will be sent within 2 days to the chair of LT for review. After approval Secretary will distribute rough draft to all members of LT and the church office. Proper motion and second on this proposal and motion carried unanimously.
- Pastor Tim talked to Frank Arva, Financial Secretary of the Eastern Regional Conference, about building usage and IRS implications. Arva said we may not charge a specific fee but may share a suggested donation or a free will offering. Discussion followed. A letter was shared about a position LT should take on building usage especially if members request it. A motion was presented to allow AARP – Centerville Chapter and the Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America local chapter to use our building. Also, in this motion is the language that any future requests for building use will be dealt with on a case by case basis by the LT. Motion carried with one abstention.
- Pastor Tim showed LT a third option for the Master Plan. After seeing this, and discussion, it was tabled.
- Pastor Tim presented an event coming to COGL on March 3rd. Darlene Weidman from Central Manor COG and the Wycliffe Bible Translation is seeking funding. Approval for Darlene's speaking engagement was approved by common consent.
- LT joined together in unison with prayer.

Financial health of the church family...

January income: \$28,965.70

January expenses: \$31,358.74

Expenses exceed income: \$2,393.04

Tithe to denomination: \$2,896.57

8:15 am avg. worship attendance: 43 (Jan. 13 service was cancelled)

10:45 am avg. worship attendance: 73

Our Mission... Love God, Serve Others, Share Jesus together

Our Vision... We will honor God and our neighbors by being a place to connect, belong, and serve.

Restoring hope and wholeness, reaching out to the isolated, rebuilding trust and reconciliation, responding to community needs, and rejoicing in all circumstances.
