

## *From The Pastor*

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W.W.J.D.

### What Would Jesus Do?

Did you know that this question first became popular way back in the late 1890s? The question came from the classic Christian novel by Charles M. Sheldon, “In His Steps.” When first written in 1896, it became a best seller with over 3,000,000 copies sold in the streets of London. “In His Steps” still ranks as the most popular Christian book ever written, other than the Bible. Now might be a good time for you to read it, because our church’s theme for Lent will be “What Would Jesus Do?” Dramatizations from the book will be a part of the weekly devotionals to be held at noon each Wednesday during Lent.

FYI, the phrase “In His Steps” comes from 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:21:  
“For to this you have been called,  
because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an  
example, so that you should follow *in his steps.*”

The novel takes us to the fictional First Church of Raymond, where the pastor, Rev. Henry Maxwell, challenges his congregation not to do anything or make any decision without first asking, “What Would Jesus Do?” And then after determining what Jesus would do, to go ahead and proceed with actually doing what Jesus would do, regardless of the consequences. Is this not how we should be living if we are indeed trying to follow in the footsteps of Jesus?

Yes, the book is fiction, and maybe some of the decisions made by the members of that church would not be what you

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think Jesus would have done in those situations. And maybe we cannot be expected to do what Jesus himself would do in all situations. Times have changed. The culture is different. And we are not Jesus.

And we cannot be absolutely sure what Jesus might say or do in any given situation. We are only his disciples, following his example. So, perhaps we can only hope to do what Jesus would want us to be doing, if indeed his risen spirit were in control of our lives. That said, I believe it is a worthy enterprise for us to attempt during this season of Lent. And I challenge you to try and make decisions during this season by first asking: What Would Jesus Do?

Sometime in the 1990s, W.W.J.D. became a huge fad among Christians. Bracelets and other paraphernalia were seen everywhere, reminding a new generation that as Christians, we are called to follow the example of Jesus in our daily lives, walking in his steps.

Finally, I am asking all members and friends of Central Christian Church to be in a Bible Study Group during this season of Lent. I guarantee that this study will help Central Christian Church to become more prepared spiritually for its next called pastor. Even if you can’t be in a group, get one of the study books so that you can know what the rest of us are doing and also follow the daily Bible readings that are in the book. Together, let us try to discern what we believe Jesus would want us to be doing here and now as the Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In other words, let us keep asking ourselves:

What Would Jesus Do?

**SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2010**  
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

**THOSE SCHEDULED TO SERVE IN MARCH**

ELDERS: March 7 Jody Hodgins Eva Reiff  
14 Scott Braumiller Kraig Gibson  
21 Maria Ford Scott Braumiller  
28 Kraig Gibson Maria Ford

DEACONS: Ben Acker Aaron Reeve  
Callie Boblenz Tyler Reeve  
Jamie Boblenz Al Ryan  
Pat Mishler James Ryan

ACOLYTES: March 7 Alex Large  
14 Mickey Millisor  
21 Jaida Shuster  
28 Alisha Large

**CHANCEL FLOWERS**



Chancel flowers during March are being provided by:

Mar. 7 Available  
14 “  
21 “  
28 “

**VALET PARKING** - offered by Kathie Sizemore at 8:30

**COFFEE HOUR** begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Children’s message is during the 9:30 a.m. worship. Sunday School for all ages follows worship.

**FOOD PANTRY** - offers a chance for you to help feed the area’s hungry. Please bring food staples to help us continue our support of this community ministry.



**Chi Rho**

Youth 9 years old and older  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 4-5:30 p.m. in the parlor

**Community Breakfast**

A community breakfast is offered the last Sunday of each month from 8 - 9:30 a.m.

**Lenten Devotion Services**

12 noon, February 24 - March 24  
The Six Wednesdays of Lent  
(except for Ash Wednesday and during Holy Week)

**At Central Christian Church**

Sponsored by the Marion County Ministerial Association. The 45-minute devotional time will include a soup lunch, a drama from “In His Steps,” scripture, singing and prayer.

The theme for the devotional services will be WWJD (What Would Jesus Do?).

Imagine that! That’s our church’s theme for Lent also!

**Ladies Exercise Group**

every Tuesday and Thursday 5:15-6:30 p.m.  
in the Fellowship Hall

**The Prayer Blanket Group . . .**

meets every Thursday at 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the parlor. The group is open to everyone who knits, crochets or wants to learn one of these skills. We also welcome donations of yarn, patterns, knitting needles and crochet hooks.

**“Then Sings My Soul”**

Come learn about and listen to your favorite hymns. They meet Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Social Room.

**Ruth Group**

**Ruth Group for March 4<sup>th</sup> has been canceled.** Please attend the scheduled Lenten service.

**Gazette Deadline**

Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>; 11:00 a.m.

Articles received in the office AFTER this deadline will be included in the NEXT month’s newsletter.

**CMF Breakfast**

Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>; 7:30 a.m. at Marion Diner  
All men of the church are invited.



**Utilities for January, 2010**

Columbia Gas	\$1819.56
Ohio Edison	\$ 350.22
Verizon	\$ 184.22
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$2354.00</u></b>

***EASTER SCHEDULE:***

**PALM SUNDAY - PARADE OF THE PALMS**

March 28, Palm Sunday, the youth of the church will lead a procession for the Parade of the Palms. Come join our parade – young and old alike!

**EASTER SPECIAL DAY OFFERING -**

March 28 & April 4

**MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 1**

The service will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the First United Church of Christ. Please come and bring family and friends to hear about the last days of Jesus.

**GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE - April 2**

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 930 Harding Memorial Parkway at Noon - 3 p.m.

**EASTER EGG HUNT - Saturday, April 3; 11:00 a.m.**

**EASTER DEVOTION & BREAKFAST - 8:00 a.m.**

**EASTER WORSHIP - 9:30 a.m.**

No Sunday school classes for children or youth.



**Mitten Tree Collection**

Dorothy Frye took seven head scarves and gloves sets, three head bands, seventeen scarves, seventy-one gloves and one hundred twenty-four hats, of which Carolyn Owen made one hundred, to the Administration Building. Thank you to all for the donations.

**TEMPORARY CHANGE OF ADDRESS:**

**Wanda Jarvis**, Brethren Care Village, Room 107  
2000 Center Street, Ashland, Ohio 44805

## CHI RHO NEWS

Cookies, cookies and more cookies! Thank you to all who supported and purchased Valentine cookies. Eight batches of sugar cookies were mixed up, baked, sugared and iced. Over 60 dozen cookies were sold. \$220 was collected – 10% will be tithed back to CCC, then ½ will go to the Haiti relief effort and ½ to the Heifer Project. FANTASTIC! After all the cookies were iced, eight young people, and four adults enjoyed an evening, late night and early morning of pizza, a movie, a scavenger hunt, ping pong, air hockey, darts, tag, and even a game of Monopoly! When you see Kathie Sizemore, ask how much sleep SHE got! Kudos to Tom and Cheryl Obenour's grandson, Deven for staying up with Kathie until 5:30 a.m. or so.

Below are pictures from the Chi Rho lock-in.

## *Prayer Concerns*

### Members

Betty Denney  
Wanda Jarvis  
Dorothy Kay  
Roger & Esther Kingsley  
Betty Leib  
Louise Patrick  
Hilda Smith

### Non-members

Judy Adcock (*Maurer*)  
Margie Gillenwater (*Obenour*)  
Suzanne Harris (*Reeve*)  
Elaine Kelly (*Middaugh*)  
Thelma Knapp (*Middaugh*)  
Janet Lippert (*Maurer*)  
Fred McFarland (*Reeve*)  
David Merrick (*Middaugh*)  
Ed Rogers (*Besch*)  
Pearl Rogers (*Besch*)  
Wayne Schaber (*Middaugh*)  
Janis Swepston (*VanGorden*)  
Helen Swinehart (*Frye*)  
Kim White (*Besch*)  
Dan Weary (*Tidd*)  
Pete Zimmerman (*Besch*)

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### **THANK YOU TO . . .**

- **Libby Davis, Brenda Reish and Diane Tidd** for helping in the church office.
- **Tom Obenour and Mike Thiel** for cleaning the sidewalks.

## THANK YOU NOTES . . .

We are very grateful for the kindness shown Pat after her September 19<sup>th</sup> stroke and continuing through January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 when she went to heaven to play the organ for Jesus! Thank you, Pastor Dave for the many visits with Pat – and for the leadership role given during her funeral. You were also instrumental in designing a beautiful bulletin for Pat’s funeral. Since music was Pat’s life – we so appreciated the beautiful music provided by James Besch! We are quite sure Pat smiled down from heaven when she heard James and Bill O’Neill play the piano and organ duet of *The Holy City* and *Autumn Leaves*. The luncheon served by the Hospitality Committee was delicious – thank you to everyone who brought food and worked in the kitchen. Indeed Pat was very blessed! From the many cards she received from her CCC family and Chi Rho, to the many visits from church members, Grail and Christmas carolers - we thank you!

**The Patricia Curl Family**

Dear Friends,  
People like you are a wonderful reflection of God’s love. Thanks to everyone for the cards, calls, prayers and your generous love gift. May the Lord bless you all.

**Love, Dorothy Frye**

Dear Central Christian Church,  
On behalf of Turning Point, Thank you for your donation of \$53.75 gift. How nice of you to think of us!

**Paula Roller, Turning Point**

Thank you so much for the gloves and hats. Some of the students don’t have any so they really appreciate it. We have some happy “warm” little fingers and heads now.  
Thanks - **Chrissy Sprinkle, RN, Garfield School Nurse**

## CCC CELEBRATES MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

*Happy Anniversary!*

9	Frank & Janice Middaugh
19	Harold & Vickie Rorick
28	Tim & Amy Cantrell

*Happy Birthday!*

1	Craig Schertzer	20	Rick Shirk
3	Marilyn Dillon	21	Jeff Beam II
	Jane Sharrock	24	Carolyn Owen
5	Meredith Milligan	26	Anabella Votaw
6	Sabastian Fortney	28	Laura Miller
7	Terry Comstock	29	Genevieve Seckel
	Shanda Hecker	31	Wanda Jarvis
10	Michelle Markley		Ronald Williams
11	Cheryl Obenour		
12	Amy Barkley		
13	Kim Kingsley		
14	Brett McAllister		
15	Jamie Boblenz		
	Pat Mishler		
	Erik Reish		
	Dan Hord		
17	Millie Zug		
19	Kraig Gibson		
	Savanah Butler		
	Brandon Large		

*If you have a birthday and/or an anniversary in March and it does not appear on the list above, please contact the church office immediately so we may update our files and include it in the future.  
Thanks!*

