

*St. John's Evangelical Church
211 E. Carrol Street
Kenton, Ohio 43326
(Non Profit Organization)*

**Do Not Delay
Dated Material**



St. John's Evangelical Church Newsletter March 2018

211 E. Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326
Church Phone: 419-673-7278
Pastor Randall cell: 724-290-3651
Office Hours: Monday—Friday (9 AM—1 PM)

Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester, Senior Pastor
Website: www.stjohnskenton.org
Email: stjohnskenton@gmail.com

Easter Sunday Schedule —April 1

8:30 am: Contemporary Worship Service

9:30 –10:15 am: Breakfast—Fellowship hall (Youth fundraiser)

Our menu this year will be: scrambled eggs, toast, sausage patties, breakfast burritos, egg casseroles, muffins, coffee, water and milk.

10:00 am: Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 am: Traditional Worship Service



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH

211 East Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326

REV. DR. RANDALL J. FORESTER, PASTOR & TEACHER

Phone: 419-673-7278 (o)

Phone: 724-290-3651 (c)

MARCH 2018

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

E-mail: PastorRandall@stjohnskenton.org

**SSSSOOO MMMMEEEE....DDDDDDAAAAAAAYYYYSSSS...
IIITTT...SSSSSEEEEEEEEEEMMMMMSSSSSS....LLLLLLLIIIIIIKKK
KEEEE...
EEEEVVVVVEEEEERRRRYYYYTTTTTHHHHHIIINNNNGGGG...
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...OOOUUUUTTTT....AAAAAAAANNNNDDDDDDDDD.....
NNNNOOOOTTTHHHHHIIINNNNGGGG....GGGGEETTSS
....DDDDDDDDOOOONNNNNEEEEE!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Did you ever have one of those days? Or one of those seasons for that matter? Lent can feel like the sentiment that I tried to capture in those drawn out words above. It says: Some days, it seems like everything is moving in slow motion—all stretched out and nothing gets done!

I feel like that sometimes in prayer. I hate to admit it, but sometimes my mind wanders. Sometimes, I zone out. Sometimes, I catch myself daydreaming. How embarrassing that is for any Christian, but I'm a pastor. I feel like the disciples with Jesus in Gethsemane. How could I fall asleep again? Surely, Jesus will be coming to say: "Are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (**Mark 14:37-38**).

I have to admit, also, that the same is true for Bible reading. Every year, I encourage the church to read through the Bible. I love the Word of God deeply and devoutly. Each time that I walk through the Word, God surprises me and shares something wonderful with me. I know it's coming. Additionally, I know that I fall in love with the story of the Bible as I journey from Genesis to Revelation.



At Gethsemane by Harold Copping

Still, there comes a point in the journey—and always at a different point—where the task becomes a burden and feels like work. I have to go over the same passage several times because my mind wanders, or I lose my focus.

Such is the journey with Christ, and such is the journey through Lent, which is a microcosm of that greater journey with our Savior as led by the Holy Spirit. Along the way, there are incredible moments. Some are filled with joy as we stand on the mountaintops and see signs and wonders. Other days are filled with deep sorrow and stress as we journey through the valleys and face trials and temptations.

Then, there are the everyday, ordinary days. Days of tedium. Days when faith is work. Days when we lose focus. Days when we daydream of another life not so ordinary. It is in these days that we need to regain our focus and renew our commitment to the Lord and His Way. Jesus navigated the ordinary as every day cannot be extraordinary.

Every moment did not demand to be placed in holy writ. Jesus maintained a consistent, religious life. For example, **Luke 4:16** tells us that Jesus regularly attended services in the synagogue (the Jewish church of the day), but only a few visits are mentioned in the Gospels.

If our Lord and Savior set this example, why do we find it hard to follow on a consistent, daily basis. Perhaps, we're looking for the extraordinary when God works in the ordinary as well—every breath a miracle and gift as much as any incredible healing; every meal reason to give thanks as when the Lord miraculously provides through manna in the wilderness or the multiplication of loaves and fishes. Perhaps, we're like kids waiting for Christmas—we're tired of waiting and want to get to the "good stuff." What if the good stuff is already here? Or what if our waiting is good? Or what if we still have things to do before the "good stuff" arrives?

Thankfully, our God is patient with us. My pathetic prayer times and occasional indifference to reading the Word are met by God's ongoing love and encouragement. In **Joel 2:13**, it says, "Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster." The Holy Spirit intercedes, and I have confidence that God understands my broken prayers and lackadaisical moments of reading the Bible.

More than that, God is preparing us in those moments for a greater work. We need to grow in faith. As Christians, the Holy Spirit sanctifies us—the Holy Spirit grows us into the likeness and image of Jesus Christ (think **Romans 12:2**). God does this to reveal His glory in the world. He uses our ordinary days, our ordinary lives, and our ordinary moments to reveal His extraordinary power at work in and through us (**II Corinthians 4:7**).

And what is He doing in and through us? He is bringing others to salvation. Yes, we have more days to

wait until our Lord returns. In these days, we are not to lose hope or to allow ourselves to be distracted. Rather, we are to thank the Lord for the days that are at hand for we still have time to labor for the Lord.

This means, the gifts God has given us still can be used, the scriptures we read can transform others lives as well as ours, and the prayers we pray will be answered for the benefit of others and the expansion of the kingdom of God. So, let us not be distracted, reader, for the Lord is at work in every moment of our lives. As **II Peter 3:9** says, "God is not slow in keeping His promise." If He said it, He will do it.

Additionally, God has a purpose when He tarries. He loves the people who populate the world. **II Peter 3:9** goes on to say that the Lord does not want to see anyone perish; He wants to see everyone come to repentance.

So, as we are in the midst of Lent and pursuing the disciplines of faith, let us not lose sight of the end goal.

The goal *isn't* just our personal growth and maturation in the faith. The goal of our faith is to impact others, to share the gospel, and to bring others into an abiding relationship with the Father through His Son, our resurrected Savior and constant Guide.

May He be with you through this season and beyond—every day be it extraordinary or ordinary as you grow in faith!

In Christ's powerful name,

Pastor Randall

**THE LORD IS NOT SLOW IN
KEEPING HIS PROMISE. HE IS
PATIENT WITH YOU. NOT
WANTING ANYONE TO
PERISH. BUT EVERYONE TO
COME TO REPENTANCE.
2 PETER 3:9**

**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
CHURCH:**

MAKING AND MATURING
DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST



A new member class is forming. Classes will be Sunday afternoons for two hours. There are only two sessions that you need to attend. The classes will be April 8th and 22nd from 2-4 PM. Some who have expressed interest have evening commitments, so this is the best time for the class.

If you are interested, come and learn more about St. John's Evangelical Church and her ministries. Attendance does not obligate you to anything. It gives you a chance to learn more about the church, to ask your questions, and to learn how you can become more involved in what God is doing here.

We hope to receive new members officially on Pentecost Sunday, which falls on May 20, 2018 this year.



Adult Christian Education Summit

On April 29, we are bringing together Life Group leaders, Adult Sunday School teachers, and everyone interested in Adult Christian Education for a time of conversation, preparation, and celebration. Anyone in the church who is interested in this topic may attend. We will begin at 6 PM and conclude by 7:30 PM.

‘Come now, let us reason together,’ says the LORD.

~ Isaiah 1:18

Our agenda will begin with these three points:

1. Life Groups--how to keep them vital going forward. I will also affirm the 3 points that make for a vital life group—study of the Word, fellowship, and ministry/service together.
2. Bible Study--keep the summer schedule? add another time?
3. Alternative options--6-week classes/small groups in the fall and spring? Other options on mornings?

This is being called a summit because what we discuss may not lead to immediate changes. For one, things are going well now. For another, changes may require leadership and guidance, which would further require someone to step forward and “seize the moment.”

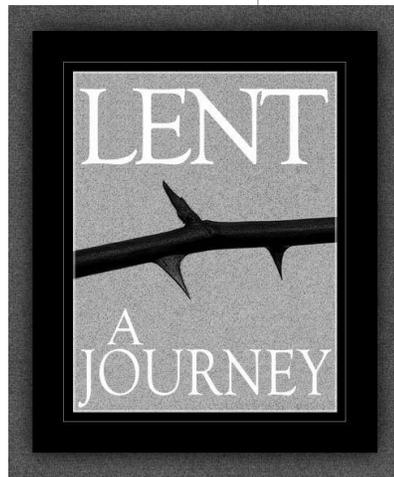
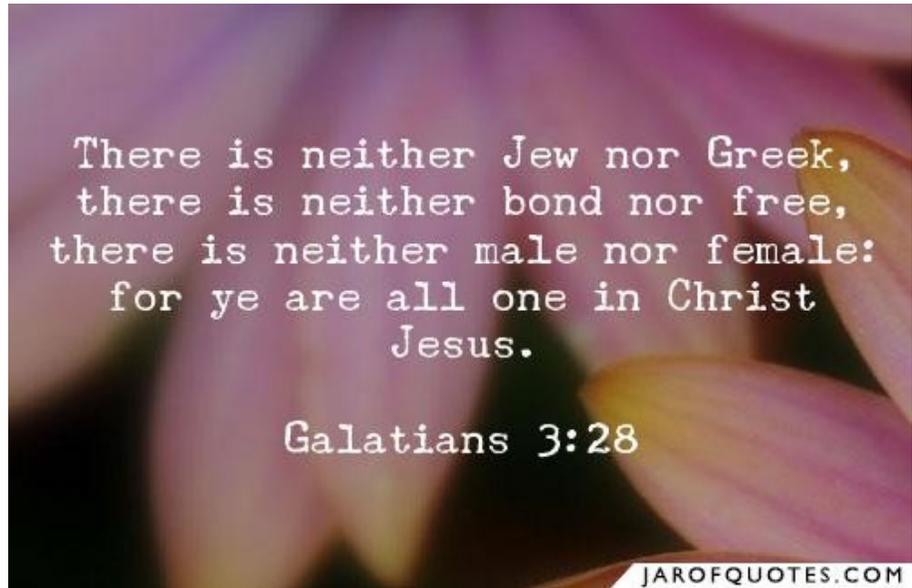
Feel free to come and see what is being done, what is possible, and how you can contribute to the teaching life of the church as God inspires His people to grow deeper in faith.

Preaching Schedule March-Easter Sunday (01 April 2018)

Lenten Theme: We Are Purple

In Christ, we are all made one. The world thrives our dividing the body of Christ. It thrives on dividing all people. In these days, we need to have the courage to come together, even with those very different from ourselves.

It will take “all hands on deck” to address the ills our society and community face. More than that, our identity is in Christ and in Christ alone. As Christians, we are compelled to be together in unity with other believers and to work together for the kingdom of God and those who need His love and need to grow in faith.



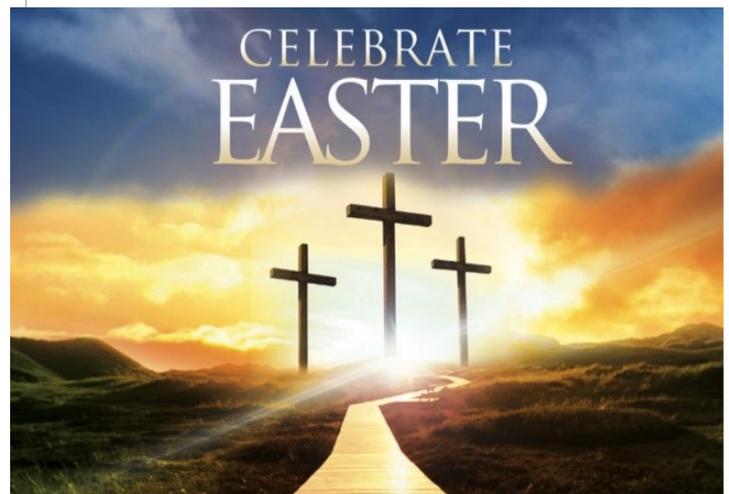
25 March—Palm Sunday
Scripture: **Psalm 118:19-29**
John 12:12-16
Sermon: **We Rejoice**

01 April—Easter Worship!
Scripture:
I Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-18
Sermon: **We Are Saved!**

04 March
Scripture: **I Corinthians 1:18-25**
John 2:13-25
Sermon: **We Are Zealous**

11 March
Scripture: **Numbers 21:4-9**
John 3:14-21
Sermon: **We Lift High Christ**

18 March
Scripture: **Hebrews 5:5-10**
John 12:20-33
Sermon: **We Are Christ-Centered**



Upcoming EVENTS



Epworth United Methodist Church Sundays at 6:00 PM

Date & Speaker:

March 4	Phil Compton Rhineheart UMC
March 11	John Dyer Our Savior's Lutheran Church
March 18	Jason Manns, New Hope



Easter Flowers on Sale Now

All 6" Pots will cost \$9.00 each. The choices are: Easter lilies, Daffodils, Hyacinths (pink, purple or white), Tulips (red, pink, yellow, & purple). Orders will be taken in the church lobby on Sundays through March 11 or in the church office during office hours from 9-1 Monday-Friday. Money is due with order and all proceeds benefit the youth summer camp accounts. Thank you for your support!

Community Palm Sunday Service – St. John's



The Hardin County Ministerial Association will be sponsoring its annual ecumenical Palm Sunday worship service at St. John's Evangelical Church on Sunday, March 25 at 6:30 PM. The Kenton High School Chorale will also be performing that evening.

The Passion of Christ—March 29 & 30 at 8:00 PM



St. John's Evangelical Church will present its annual portrayal of "The Passion of Christ." This event will take place Thursday and Friday evening, **March 29 & 30 at 8:00 p.m.**

The Pasion of Christ Play is a portrayal of the last week of Christ's life on Earth. It brings to light the emotions of betrayal and abandonment that Christ experienced, as well as, the agony and suffering that Christ endured at the time of His death.



St. John's Evangelical Church seeks an outgoing individual to serve as Associate Pastor to Youth and Adults. St. John's seeks a leader who has a passion for God and is innovative with a collaborative spirit. Our ideal candidate would enthusiastically design and lead programs that engage the spiritual needs of young people while encouraging their families to grow in Christian faith and participate in the life of St. John's Evangelical Church.. The candidate will participate in the planning, leading and supervising of these spiritual programs and assist with church duties when called upon. The candidate would also be responsible for visiting shut-ins, sharing sacraments of Baptism or Holy Communion when needed.

For more information, please contact Kristina VanBuskirk, Chair of Personnel Committee. A job description is available in the church office. Resumes can be sent to the church, Attention Personnel or emailed to stjohnkenton@gmail.com.

Blaze's Pizza & Spaghetti House



Open One Night Only-
Saturday, March 24, 2018

5:00-7:00 pm

St. John's Church, 211 East Carrol St.

St. John's will be hosting a benefit dinner for Our
Buddy Blaze and his family as he continues his
struggle with cancer.

Please come and bring your family on March 24 as we
transform our Fellowship Hall into an Italian Pizzeria.



Two types of homemade pizza or spaghetti, dessert and drinks will be
available with the proceeds going to his family.

Watch for Volunteer sign-up sheets! They will be located
on the bulletin board outside of the office.



March 2018 Children's & Youth Report

It's Lent and Easter is just around the corner. On that special day, the Youth will be hosting the annual Easter breakfast in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-10:15 am.



Our menu this year will be: scrambled eggs, toast, sausage patties, breakfast burritos, egg casseroles, muffins, with coffee, water and milk.

Please plan to join us that morning.

Also, we will be having our annual Easter Egg hunts starting at 10:00am. Children will meet in the Education hallway before looking for eggs. More info to come soon.

Sunday School - We have had several people volunteer to teach our Middle School/High School class. They will be meeting soon to choose curriculum to use this spring. We thank them for their willingness to share their time and talents with our youth.

Kids Worship - we have fun each week as we talk and color and learn lots more about Jesus.

Wednesday Nights are a very busy time here at church.

We could use some more help being a table chaperone on Wednesday nights. You would need to be at your table from 5:00-6:30 each week. We encourage you to develop conversations with the kids and learn about their lives. They will share with you about their day.



Thank you for purchasing subs from the youth. They were able to put the proceeds towards their camp amounts.

Now, it's time for Easter flowers. Please order your flowers if you want to honor or remember someone at Easter.

Youth Camp Info

A \$50 registration fee was due on 1/15/18 for those interested in going to middle school or Lakeside camp. That cost will be applied to their camp balance. All paperwork will be given to the parents at the time that is paid.

A chicken BBQ is planned for April and youth will be selling tickets for that soon. Please support our youth- the cost for Lakeside is around \$500 per camper.



St. John's is also trying to assist the kids camp costs. If a camper attends church & Sunday School at least 2 times per month and helps with a special event, \$25 will be credited towards their camp account. In that way, they can still earn \$100 for camp while being an active part of St. John's.

St. John's Evangelical Church
Church Council Meeting Notes
Thursday, January 11, 2018
7:00 PM

Present: Carol Wilcox, Pastor Forester, Mary Ralston, Kristi Weaver, Mike Styer, Kristina VanBuskirk, Dave Beazley, Greg Martin, Nancy Rickenbacher, Oliver Heldman & Kay Rush

The meeting was called to order by Carol Wilcox with Pastor Randall opening with prayer.

OFFICER'S REPORT

Secretary's Report - Kristi Weaver

- December 12, 2017 Minutes – Motion and second to approve minutes as printed, , council vote, motion carried.

REPORTS

Finance - Kristi Weaver

- Kay Rush reviewed the Balance Sheet and Finances. Had some good donations at the end of the year.
- 41 pledged for 2018 at \$136k. For 2017 there was \$142k pledged.
- Mailed giving statements, W-2's are done.
- Review of the 2018 budget:
 - I. Paying Amy for the extra time that she is putting in.
 - II. Will put proposed budget in the annual meeting packet
 - III. Explanation of the changes and how Russ will be at the meeting to explain it
 - IV. Explanation of the changes in Camp Funding
 - V. Discussion of having the envelopes at the Fellowship Hall in case that people want to continue giving to the Youth.
 - VI. Discussion of having Tracy Strous talk to explain the restricted funds
 - VII. Motion and second that we adopt the proposed budget, council vote, motion carried.

2) Christian Education - Amy Long

- Review of the presented report
- Request that envelopes be at the Congregational Meeting
- Discussion of when will the call be for cancelling the chilli/cake raffle event due to weather. Will probably know by noon on Saturday. Pastor Randall and Dave Beazley will decide.

3) Women's Ministry - Kay Rush

- Gave youth hats and scarves
- Having a Funeral Dinner on Friday
- Monday doing the Martin Luther King Celebration.
- Luminaries are down
- Lamb Banquet is March 3rd
- Putting a report in the Congregational Meeting Packet
- The storage room is organized very nicely

4) Worship, Arts & Music - Dave Beazley

- Thank you for help decorating and taking it down.
- Will be meeting for Lent
- Committee will be meeting soon

5) Bus Committee - Dave Beazley/Oliver Heldman

- Bus is still running

6) Cruise-in Committee - Nancy Rickenbacher/Oliver Heldman

- Nothing to report

- 7) Personnel Committee – Kristina VanBuskirk
 - New Position Update- started working on a job description. Getting feedback from Carol Wilcox, Pastor Randall and Amy Long before revising and being ready to present to council
- 8) Pastoral Relations - Carol Wilcox
 - Next Meeting - Feb 18, 2018
- 9) Trustees - Greg Martin
 - Lock Changes update – Northwest Security was here today and will give us some different options. Got a price from Patton Lock and Key on per lock. Will review and come back with options once we get all the estimates.
 - Discussion of Security and cameras and if there was a need.
 - Talked to Quality Mechanics, they do not know what is wrong with the air handler and will check it when it warms up.
- Farm - Jim Bidwell
 - Contract for lease is signed for 3 more years.
- Missions- Mary Ralston
 - Meeting at the end of the month.
 - Fliers for Food Pantry – want to include more than just food.
 - Discussion of the hats and mittens and when it will get to the school.
- 10) Audio/Visual - Mike Styer
 - Nothing to report
- 11) Evangelism - Heather Erwin/Mark Sherman
 - Nothing to report
- 12) President's Report - Carol Wilcox
 - Nothing to Report
- 13) Pastor's Report- Pastor Randall
 - Report distributed for review prior to meeting. No questions noted.

OLD BUSINESS

Lock Change- covered by Trustees Report

NEW BUSINESS:

- Committees- Reports due for Annual Meeting
- Accept Nomination Slate of New Council Members – Dave Beazley, Kristi Weaver, Greg Liedel. Carol to call Dan Bushong to see if he was interested. Motion and second to accept the Nominations listed. Council vote, motion carried.
- Steve Messenger & Corey Wirbel Letters – Motion and second to approve both requests of membership removal. Council Vote, Motion Carried.
- Annual Congregational Meeting January 28, 2018 4:30 (Fellowship Hall) – Dinner first, meeting second.
- Martin Luther King Event – Payne Chapel asked if they could use the Fellowship Hall. Motion and second to waive rental fee. Council Vote, motion carried.
- Discussion of the Methodist Church offering artwork to us.

Next Meeting: February 8, 2018 7:00 PM

Refreshments for next meeting- Jim Bidwell

LORD'S PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT

Mission of the Month— Angels for the Elderly



Angels For The Elderly is a non profit organization helping the Elderly have food. They do food boxes for the needy elderly every month.

Mary Roby has been doing this ministry for about 4 years. She started doing this with Deanna Wages with Helping Hands. She does not get help through the state or any organization. all is with donations and fundraisers. Helping hands provides an area for her to do food boxes for the elderly every month. Currently, they have about 80 families on their list. To keep this going, Mary needs donations for food. They put together a pretty good food box, and she does around 15- 20 boxes a month. She can't afford to do all of them so they rotate.

Friday With Friends

Friday With Friends is a wonderful group of widows, widowers, and single seniors who meet twice a month for a special time of food, fellowship, and fun. We meet the first and third Fridays of every month. Please join us if you are a widow, widower, or single senior adult. This is not exclusive to St. John's, so pass the word along to someone that you know who could be blessed by this special group. For more information, contact Ethel Koch at 419-674-6344.

Forthcoming outings will be as follows:

If out of town, meet at St. John's at 11 am to carpool.

March 2: Beer Barrel Pizza—Findlay

March 16: Longhorn—Roundhead

Church Staff:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester
 Children's Ministry: Amy Long
 Financial Secretary: Kay Rush
 Church Secretary: Kathy Forester
 Custodian: Harry Long
 Chancel Choir Director: David Beazley
 Contemporary Worship Leader: Kendra Dilts
 Organists: Randall S. Rogers, Teresa Broseke and Linda Zeigler
 Children's Choirs Director: Hope Cauley
 Bell Choir Director: Jane Baker
 Technical Support: Richard Katterjohn
 Historian: Gerald Pfister



Worship Attendance

January 28:	8:30 a.m.	60
	10:30 a.m.	83
February 4:	8:30 a.m.	58
	10:30 a.m.	95
February 11:(ice)	8:30 a.m.	61
	10:30 a.m.	50
February 18:	8:30 a.m.	51
	10:30 a.m.	84



Birthday Blessings (over 80 yrs. Young)

Happy Birthday!! Please contact the church office if a name was omitted from the list. Thank you so much.

March 4:	Walter Baughman 23035 Rye Ave. Punta Gorda, FL 33980
March 9:	Nancy Rickenbacher 20551 SR 67 E Kenton, OH 43326
March 17:	Paul Pemberton 8168 C.R. 150 Kenton, OH 43326
March 17:	Phyllis Glock 16761 C.R. 90 Kenton, OH 43326



March 2018

Our Pastor has issued a direct call for dialog in his sermons. These coming meetings with our fellow citizens reminded me of a course that I took some 58 years ago during my liberal arts undergrad studies. Our society faces major issues with drug use and gun violence, but I suggest there is an overarching issue.

Public discourse in this country has gone through cycle after cycle of intense disagreement between opposing points of view. Most often, the only softening in this rhetoric has occurred during times of extreme strife, wars and depressions. In times of desperation, compromise can lead to resolution of issues and acceptance of imperfect solutions. This is preferable to the alternatives. Our Civil War shows the extreme of what happens when discourse fails. Do not be misled into believing that it cannot happen again, but hopefully without the carnage.

Our country has followed Europe and alternatively led in the secularization of our societies particularly in the last century. To give you a perspective of this shift, the following are quotes from the leaders and observers in the preceding century:

“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” John Adams, President

“And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever.” Thomas Jefferson, President

“In proportion as the genuine effects of Christianity are diminished in any nation, either through unbelief, or the corruption of its doctrines, or the neglect of its institutions; in the same proportion will the people of that nation recede from the blessings of genuine freedom, and approximate the miseries of complete despotism. I hold this to be a truth confirmed by experience. If so, it follows, that all efforts made to destroy the foundations of our holy religion, ultimately tend to the subversion of our political freedom and happiness. Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government, and all the blessings which flow from them, must fall with them.” Jedediah Morse, DD, Minister, Educator & Geographer from sermon in 1799

“I’ve lived, sir, a long time and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: That God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We’ve been assured in the sacred writings that unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. I firmly believe this, and I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel.” Benjamin Franklin, Founding Father

“I verily believe Christianity necessary to the support of civil society. One of the beautiful boasts of our municipal jurisprudence is that Christianity is a part of the Common Law... There never has been a period in which the Common Law did not recognize Christianity as lying its foundations.” Joseph Story Supreme Court Justice acknowledged as the Father of American Jurisprudence

“The Americans combine the notions of Christianity and of liberty so intimately in their minds that it is impossible to make them conceive the one without the other” Alexis de Tocqueville, French author 1831

My Brothers and Sisters, we are at a tipping point in our society. As Confessing Christians (as did Bonhoeffer), we must endeavor to bring Christianity back to the center of our country’s conscience. The Bible and world history have shown that rejection of God has not turned out well. “If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14 ESV

Jerry Pfister, Historian

Hymn Spotlight: Christ The Lord is Risen Today

The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Soon Christians around the world will be celebrating the resurrection of our Savior. There's a good chance that you have sung this in the past and/or will be singing it soon in the future.

For about 300 years now, this hymn and its variants have been sung in English churches to commemorate and celebrate that Sunday morning about 2000 years ago when Jesus Christ walked out of his tomb, demonstrating that he had forever triumphed over sin and death for both himself and all his people.

The earliest forms of the hymn can be traced back to a Latin text from the 14th century. In 1708 the four Latin stanzas were translated into English and published by J. Walsh in *Lyra Davidica* under the title "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today." A few decades later, in 1739, a modified version was published by John and Charles Wesley (Charles is pictured to the right) in *Hymns and Sacred Poems* under the title "Hymn for Easter Day." It is this version, later shortened and supplemented with the "Alleluia" refrain, that has become the hymn that remains so popular today.

Here are all 11 stanzas published by the Wesleys. **It is worth reading through each one thoughtfully, and perhaps especially the ones that we no longer sing. They are rich with biblical allusion and the wonderful implications of Easter.**

1. "Christ the Lord is ris'n to-day,"
Sons of Men and Angels say!
Raise your Joys and Triumphs high,
Sing ye Heav'ns, and Earth reply.

2. Love's Redeeming Work is done,
Fought the Fight, the Battle won,
Lo! our Sun's Eclipse is o'er,
Lo! He sets in Blood no more.

3. Vain the Stone, the Watch, the Seal;
Christ hath burst the Gates of Hell!
Death in vain forbids his Rise:
Christ hath open'd Paradise!

4. Lives again our glorious King,
Where, O Death, is now thy Sting?
Once He died our Souls to save,
Where thy Victory, O Grave?

5. Soar we now, where Christ has led,
Following our Exalted Head,
Made like Him, like Him we rise:
Ours the Cross; the Grave; the Skies.

6. What tho' once we perish'd
All,
Partners of our Parent's Fall,
Second Life we All receive,

7. Ris'n with Him, we upward move,
Still we seek the Things above,
Still pursue, and kiss the Son,
Seated on his Father's Throne;

8. Scarce on Earth a Thought bestow,
Dead to all we leave below,
Heav'n our Aim, and lov'd Abode,
Hid our Life with Christ in God!

9. Hid; 'till Christ our Life appear,
Glorious in his Members here:
Join'd to Him, we then shall shine
All Immortal, all Divine!

10. Hail the Lord of Earth and Heav'n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n:
Thee we greet Triumphant now;
Hail the Resurrection Thou!

11. King of Glory, Soul of Bliss,
Everlasting Life is This,
Thee to know, thy Pow'r to prove,
Thus to sing, and thus to love!



May you truly be blessed with the realization that our Savior truly lives.....and He lives in us!

Blessings