

The Ceresco Messenger

April 2015

Pastor's Pen



Over the last several weeks, I have been giving a lot of thought about the nail on my desk. Most of you have the same nail. I have prayed for each of you that you would draw closer to Jesus in giving thought about what He means to you.

In the book of John chapter 24: 13-53 is the recorded history of the road to Emmaus, where Jesus appears to the disciples and Jesus' ascension to heaven.

The two men were walking from Jerusalem to a town called Emmaus, which is a seven mile walk from Jerusalem. They were talking among each other about the crucifixion of Jesus. No doubt they were upset and confused by what had happened. The two, talked of Jesus as a prophet, not the Son of God. Then Jesus joins them and listens to them for awhile. Jesus asked them what they were discussing. One responds, are you a stranger in this land? The priest and the rulers have killed Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus responded, how foolish you are and slow heart, to believe all that the prophets have spoken. Did not Jesus of Nazareth have to suffer and enter glory? When they arrived at the town of Emmaus, they asked Jesus to stay with them and share a meal with them, for it was about dark.

The three set down for dinner. Jesus picked up a loaf of bread and broke it to share with the two. At that moment of breaking the bread they came to their senses and realized that Jesus was sitting at the table with them. That indeed the prophets were correct! Jesus Christ the Son of God had defeated death and had risen from the grave. The two men were so full of joy and excitement that they got up from the table without eating their dinner. They walked seven miles back to Jerusalem in the dark to share the good news.

This history lesson of this event got me to questioning my thoughts. Is Easter just a date on the calendar to remember Jesus death? Am I like the two on the road to Emmaus? Do I truly realize what Jesus has done for me? Do I possess the joy and excitement about my Savior Jesus Christ, or am I just going through life feeling defeated, like the two on the road to Emmaus?

I know what Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross. I can choose to let life's circumstance dictate my attitude or I can choose the joy of following Jesus Christ. I can allow my faith in Jesus Christ to dictate my life, through His grace and mercy of the cross. I choose Jesus, how about you?

Peace and blessings , Pastor Gary



A Broken Chrysalis



by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

It's truly amazing what a girl will do for love.

My wife, Jean, and I lived next door to each other for ten years before we were married. My sophomore interest in high school biology had sparked a live caterpillar collection. Their home was a shoe box, covered with screen wire. When I went on vacation, Jean fed them faithfully with leaves from her willow tree. She hated it. Finally the caterpillars stopped their incessant crawling and chewing, attached their tails firmly to a stick and lay still, sheathed with a shiny leather-like case. For weeks they seemed to be dead, unmoving in their tiny gray wrappings. I removed the screen and waited.

One by one, the gray cases began to twist and turn violently, and suddenly split open. A beautiful butterfly emerged. It stood for hours gently moving its wings, pumping fluids into them to extend them fully. Then the butterfly soared gracefully away on the breezes of summer, leaving nothing behind but a broken chrysalis to indicate its former bondage.

The chrysalis and butterfly suggest the empty grave clothes of our risen Lord. When Peter and John heard the news that the Lord's body was gone from the garden tomb, they ran all the way from their lodging. Peter entered the tomb and "he saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen" (John 20:6-7, NIV). The grave clothes once wrapped continuously around the body now lay collapsed, mute testimony that the corpse they had once shrouded had now emerged in life.

The bondage of death is broken. Christ is risen! We can face tomorrow with the assurance that Jesus is in fact alive to help us, to guide us, to give us hope for the future. And since He is living, our problems are not insolvable. The broken chrysalis of His grave clothes proclaims that Christ is Victor even over death. Because He lives, nothing is impossible.

We Need You!
We need Worship Greeters and Nursery Volunteers!!!

Easter Joy

Jesus came to earth, To show us how to live,
How to put others first, How to love and how to give.

Then He set about His work, That God sent Him to do;
He took our punishment on Himself; He made us clean and new.

He could have saved Himself, Calling angels from above,
But He chose to pay our price for sin; He paid it out of love.

Our Lord died on Good Friday, But the cross did not destroy
His resurrection on Easter morn That fills our hearts with joy.

Now we know our earthly death, Like His, is just a rest.
We'll be forever with Him In heaven, where life is best.

So we live our lives for Jesus, Think of Him in all we do.
Thank you Savior; Thank you Lord. Help us love like you!

By Joanna Fuchs



**Eagle
Scout
Jason
Holder**

We
congratulate
you!

APRIL 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Mar. 29 Palm Sunday & Brunch	March 30 Scouts 7 pm	March 31 Bible Study 10 am Bible Study 6 pm	April 1	2 Maundy Thursday Service 6:30 pm	3 Good Friday Service 6:30 pm	4 No Men's Breakfast this month
5 Easter Sunday! He is Risen! Communion Sunday	6 Scouts 7 pm	7 Bible Study 10 am Bible Study 6:00 pm	8 Martha Circle 6:30 pm	9	10	11 SPRING YOUTH DAY 10a-2p
12 Junior Worship for 2 1/2-4 yr olds	13 Scouts 7 pm	14 Bible Study 10 am, 6 pm	15 Family Night Potluck, 6:30	16	17	18
19	20	21 Bible Study 10 am, 6 pm	22 Pastoral Relations Committee 6:00 pm	23	24	25
26 Fellowship Sunday	27	28 Bible Study 10 am, 6 pm	29 Information for the March Messenger due by noon	30	May 1st	May 2nd Men's Breakfast 8:00 am

RADA Cutlery

Martha Circle still sells RADA cutlery, so if you are in need of anything, please see Joanne Henley. These make great gifts!

Deacon Fund Offering

The first Sunday of each new quarter, we take up the Deacon Fund Offering following communion. There are special envelopes for this in the pews.

Relay for Life Fundraiser - **Marshall Applebee's Pancake Breakfast** is April 25! How about a great pancake breakfast that benefits the survivor dinner & events for the 2015 Relay for Life of Calhoun County East?! Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for 10 years & younger. See Joy Sommers for tickets!

Spring Youth Day!

Spring Youth Day!

Saturday, April 11, 2015 ~ 10a-2pm

Hey kids! It's time for another Youth Day!

Please join us on April 11th for fun, crafts, movie, & food! This is free to attend!

Junior Worship Service!

Starting Sunday, April 12th, we will have Junior Worship during the regular worship service. This will be for children 2 1/2 - 4 years old. Phyllis Schooler will be teaching the children during this special time. They will learn Bible stories, sing songs, do a craft, and have fun! The Junior Worship will be on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month.

FLOWER SCHEDULE

April 5 ~ Sommers
April 12 ~ Wood
April 19 ~ OPEN
April 26 ~ Martha Circle

May 3 ~ Glennie
May 10 ~ Hart
May 17 ~ OPEN
May 24 ~ Sommers
May 31 ~ OPEN



There are MANY openings on the Junior Church Schedule, the Greeter Schedule, and the Nursery Worker Schedule. If you can help, it would be greatly appreciated! Greeter schedule is on the glass case. Nursery schedule is in the nursery. Junior Church schedule is on the bulletin board. Thank you!!!

Martha Circle Report

Ladies of the Martha Circle met on March 11th. Linda Chisholm was hostess, and gave devotions.

Reports were given, decided not to have a Mother/Daughter Potluck this year as kitchen renovations will begin this spring. Treasure sale will be August 29th, and possibly the afternoon of August 28th - more to be decided at next meeting. Love Gift offering was \$23.65.

Scripture Study: James 1:2-18. We will be off a month, but the Women's Ministries book for March is Ezekiel, so read Ezekiel 33:1-9 for next meeting.

We have RADA products for sale - spread the word!

After the meeting we had refreshments, and did another tied fleece blanket.

Next meeting is April 8th at 6:30 pm. All ladies all ages are invited to attend.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Apr 1 Emily Biljum
 Apr 4 Alicia Beck
 Apr 5 Gary Heidrich
 Apr 6 Zane Allen Ivey
 Apr 7 Kevin Smith
 Apr 9 Emily Holtz
 Apr 10 Jenny Markos
 Apr 11 Jase Casey
 Apr 11 Shannon Smith
 Apr 12 Eric Schlee
 Apr 12 Michelle Hatton
 Apr 12 Patty Lutz
 Apr 13 Lindsey Casey
 Apr 13 Ruth Paschen
 Apr 13 Irene Raabe
 Apr 14 Charity Gary
 Apr 14 Reed Branson Goodman
 Apr 16 Darlene Anthony
 Apr 19 Stephany Hatton
 Apr 19 Don St. John
 Apr 24 Stacey (Frey) Goodman
 Apr 24 Hasley Moore
 Apr 24 Scotie Wood
 Apr 27 Albert Anthony
 Apr 27 Nathan Tuttle
 Apr 28 Linda Schlee
 Apr 29 Jeannette Glen
 Apr 30 Katie Anthony

May 3 Valerie Halder
 May 3 Brian Halverson
 May 5 Alexander Finch
 May 5 Jayme Biljum
 May 6 Jared Babcock
 May 9 Darla Thorpe
 May 13 Rob Kidder
 May 13 Tahlia Kidder
 May 15 Bill Frey
 May 15 Marcy Bonney
 May 17 Kendra Davis
 May 17 Kalab Gary
 May 19 Heather (Frey) Casey
 May 23 Kerah Hatton
 May 24 Trish Ivey
 May 25 Diane Biljum
 May 25 Ronnie Hildebrant
 May 26 Trey Casey
 May 26 Shawn Skinner
 May 26 Brad Halverson
 May 28 Linda Cole
 May 30 Mikey Wood

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

Apr 4 Rick & Dawn Frey
 Apr 5 Roger & Joy Sommers
 Apr 20 Bill & Kelli Holgram

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

May 3 Brad & Ana Kidder
 May 3 Fred & Beth Combs
 May 6 Craig & Nichole Thomas 1995
 May 7 Brad & Charity Gary
 May 21 Trey & Lindsey Casey
 May 26 Jimmy & Alexandria Hamaker
 May 31 Sam & Joanne Henley

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**God loves you,
And so do we!**
~ Ceresco Baptist Church



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Church Schedule

Sunday Worship 9:45 am
Sunday School 11:00 am
Bible Study Tuesdays 10 am
Bible Study Tuesdays 6 pm

Family Night Potluck
3rd Wednesday 6:30 pm