

Hot Off the Press!

12/18/16

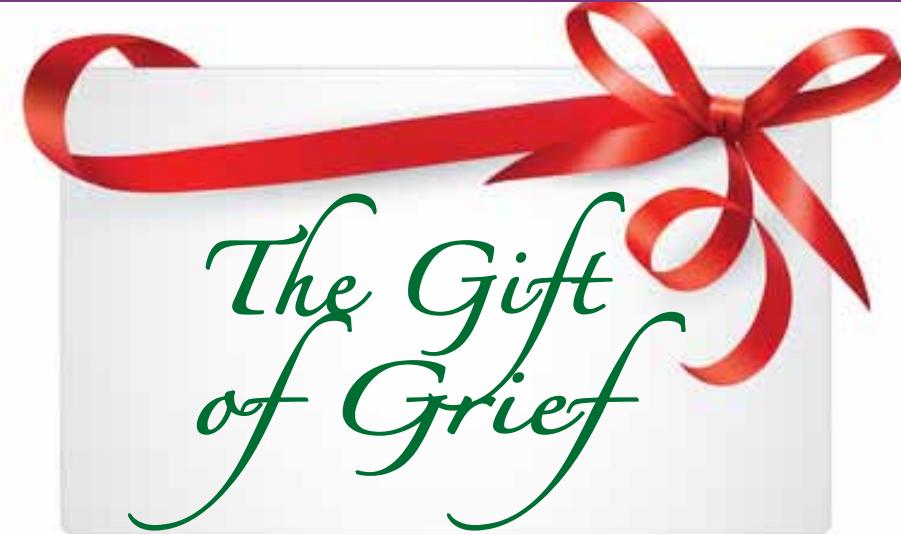
BY DR. GARY R SWEETEN — Does this seem like a strange title? It appeared so to me when I wrote it. But it came spontaneously when I thought about the topic of missing our loved ones at times of celebration like Thanksgiving and Christmas.

We know that even Jesus wept at the death of Lazarus. We humans have the unique ability to both remember the past and consider the future. Today I still miss my parents who left us decades ago. I relish my memories of them and thank God for their Christian witness.

As we approach the holidays there are several things we can do to face our losses. Research shows that regardless of our specific problems, difficult life circumstances often ignited deeper faith, [i.e. Psalm 23 - "Even though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death...Thou art with me."]

As my wife Karen and I age we notice that families love to share past mistakes and embarrassments rather than successes. My parents had a ministry of attending visitations to support grieving families. They always included stories of fun and successes as well as sadness.

Intentionally facing grief at holidays can help ourselves and others by providing focus during special events together. The following activities can be the positive spark for what could be tough times.



1. Attend an Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony.
2. List why you are grateful for the person(s).
3. Reminisce with a great friend.
4. Go to dinner to celebrate good memories.
5. Review old photos and find good memories.
6. Donate a memorial gift or a plant to your church
7. Make a donation to your favorite charity in honor of the person(s).

Cry frequently, laugh often and thank God for the person(s) and legacy that means so much to you.

DR. SWEETEN: A FORMER CHPC PASTOR, THERAPIST, AUTHOR, FOUNDER OF NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES THAT PROMOTE HEALING AND GROWTH BY FACILITATING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOD, SELF, AND OTHERS. GARY@SWEETENLIFE.COM



Mitten Tree

Please bring in new hats, gloves, scarves and mittens to fill our mitten tree in the Atrium. These items will be distributed by Feast of Love in January to warm the heads, hands and hearts of those who may be without this winter.

Donations may be hung on the tree until after the New Year's Eve Service. What a simple practical way to share the love of Jesus.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES / SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Saturday 12/24 - Two Services
5pm Interactive Family Service
8pm Candlelight Service

Christmas Service

Sunday 12/25 One Service at 10am
Feast of Love Dinner (free)
Christmas Day Noon - 2:00pm

New Year's Day

Sunday 1/1 One Service at 10am

Adult Spiritual Formation December Update

By William Custer

On Sunday, December 18 and 25, and January 1 there will be no Adult Spiritual Formation classes during the 10:10 hour.

Sunday January 8 will begin our winter series of classes described below. Most classes begin at 10:10, however notice that Financial Peace begins at 9:30 during the first worship service. Notice also that the Multiethnic Conversation is offered on Sunday mornings and on Monday evenings.

Financial Peace

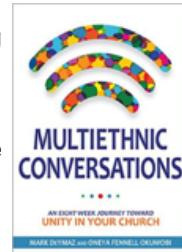
Learn how to manage your finances, eliminate debt and save using materials from Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. Class runs 9 weeks from January 8 thru March 5 and costs either \$99 or \$139 depending on resources people want. Class will require a minimum of 6 couples or 12 people taking the class in order to proceed. Led by Rob and Robin Bechtel from 9:30 to 11:00.

Multiethnic Conversations

United In Jesus! Join the Spirit-filled interactions about ethnicity and race. We are committed to growing in healthy, unifying relationships. Multi-Ethnic Conversations will be our guide. We will be meeting on Sunday mornings or on Monday evenings. Invite your friends to come with you.

When: Sunday mornings January 8 – February 26 at 10:10 am OR

7pm – 8:30 pm on Mondays January 9, 23, 30; February 6, 13, 20, 27 & March 6 Childcare will be provided for the Monday night classes. Please RSVP for Child Care with Mary Clare at 871-2309 or mclarepeck@hotmail.com.



Bible Study - 1 Peter

"In his great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope..." says the 3rd verse of 1 Peter. The apostle then spells out and develops the implications for us of our new birth, and then charts a course of amazing Christian living. Join us as we study this great epistle!

Led by Scott Rice at 10:10. Class size limited to 15.

Blessings of Jesus – The Beatitudes

This class looks at the Blessings Jesus describes and how we can live them fully. Many of us know the Beatitudes, but have we looked at the deeper meaning? We will explore Scriptures from the Old Testament that relate to this nugget on Kingdom living that is found within Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. No book is required, but weekly homework will be given to get the most from the study. Bring a notebook and a Bible. Based on the book, Set Apart by Jennifer Kennedy Dean who is director of the Praying Life Foundation.

Led by Fran Kelley at 10:10. Class size limited to 15.

The Prayer of Jabez

This prayer is hidden in one of the least read books of the Bible. In I Chronicles 4:10, Jabez prays a big prayer to God and God answered his prayer. It is not a magic prayer, but can change one's mindset so that we can realize all that God wants for us. He wants to bless us in large ways. It is my hope that we can learn to "walk each day in anticipation that around any corner, at any moment God can choose to bless us despite our circumstances." Living a Jabez life can change the way you think of God's supernatural plans for our lives. After one month of saying the Prayer of Jabez, you will begin to see the "dolphins", the "trail markers" or "God's finger prints" in your life. It is an exciting way to live your life.

Led by Matt Wilbur at 10:10. Class size limited to 15.

Sacred Marriage

Your marriage is more than a sacred covenant with another person. It is a spiritual discipline designed to help you know God better, trust him more fully, and love him more deeply. Scores of books have been written that offer guidance for building the marriage of your dreams. But what if God's primary intent for your marriage isn't to make you happy... but holy? And what if your relationship isn't as much about you and your spouse as it is about you and God?

Led by Jeanne Schneider at 10:10 Class limited to 15.

Parents of Young Children

Led by Andrew Wells at 10:10. Meeting in Parents Lounge – Ministry Center 2nd Floor.

Men's Ministry – Ignite 33

Led by Joe Brooks and Brian Kershner at 10:10. Meeting in Ministry Center Basement – Room A.

Children & Youth Helpers in Worship

Children ages Kindergarten through third grade are invited to a Children's Worship service each week. Start off with your families in both the 9am and 11:15am service, then listen for the announcement dismissing the kids to their special service. Just before the sermon, children will be dismissed to their special study and worship time.

This week's helpers are:

10:00am Joshua & Ian S. / Monica V.

Next week's helpers are:

10:00am No Children & Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent/Christmas Decor: Honor your loved ones by contributing to poinsettia plants and greens used during December. Donors and honorees will be listed in the Christmas Eve Bulletins. Contact Sam Routzon by Dec. 19th. Ext. 1125 or sroutzon@chpc.org.

Supper Club RESCHEDULED! Please note that the date for the December Supper Club has changed to Monday, 12/19 at 7pm. It will be the same program as announced last Sunday, with Jeff Holmes.

Multiethnic Conversations United In Jesus! Join the Spirit-filled interactions about ethnicity and race. We are committed to growing in healthy, unifying relationships. Multi-Ethnic Conversations will be our guide. We will be meeting on Sunday mornings or on Monday evenings. Invite your friends to come with you.

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7pm – 8:30 on Mondays January 9, 23, 30; February 6, 13, 20, 27 & March 6

IF:Gathering's 2-day gathering each year brings together women from all over the world to humbly seek God and to equip them to better live out their callings. Registration and Date Reminder cards are in the Atrium. Join Us Feb. 3 at 5:30pm and Feb. 4 at 8:30am Registration in atrium or at the link on chpc.org

Jennie Allen (the founder of IF:) is coming to CHPC Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 6:30pm! There is a ticket purchase required. There will be a limited number of 'gifted' tickets available, please contact Missi K. (missiker-shner@gmail.com or 254-6908) if needed. Childcare will be available for this event for a nominal fee. The link for tickets is on chpc.org. You can also purchase tickets in-between services at the Woven Table.

regeneration - Now that the campaign is completed, here is how to fulfill your pledge!

1. **Online** – If you choose to make your installment payments online, simply follow the giving link from our website (www.chpc.org). Select the “regeneration campaign – pledge” as the account to credit. It is easy to set up recurring gifts using the online feature as well.
2. **Easy Gift Agreement** – You can set up your installments to be paid automatically using your bank account or a credit card. Return the enclosed “Easy Gift Agreement” and I will set it up for you. You will receive an email after each payment.
3. **Offering** – You can put your installment in the offering plate on any Sunday. Please indicate that it is a gift to “regeneration” on the memo line.
4. **Mail** – You can mail your gift directly to the church (attn: Heather Lethander) at any time. Again, please indicate that it is a gift to “regeneration” on the memo line.

Year End Giving - Timing matters! To be considered a 2016 contribution for tax purposes, your checks must be postmarked and dated before December 31, 2016 (if mailed). All other contributions including cash, must be received by December 31st. Remember, you can contribute online!

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Family Christmas Party 6-8pm tonight in Fellowship Hall! Families with kids and youth of all ages are invited to come celebrate Christmas together with food, games, carols and more! Eat dinner before you come, but bring a snack or dessert to share!

On Christmas Day families will participate in the combined 10am service together (no Nursery or Children & Worship). There will be a special “Sermon Sack” kids can pick up at sanctuary entrances with a children’s activity page!

SERVING AROUND THE WORLD

MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR OUR GLOBAL WORKERS:

Please pick up an envelope from the Mission table on Main Street, add cash or check, and place in the offering any Sunday in December. Together we will purchase Amazon cards for each Global Worker to bless their Christmas week. Contact information will be available if you wish to greet individual workers personally. Gifts can also be given to the Finance office before Dec. 23. Donations are not tax deductible.

SERVING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Looking for a “Doable” New Year’s Resolution?

We have 3 children at Pleasant Hill Academy who are in need of a tutor starting Tuesday January 10th, 2017. This would be a great way to test the waters with The Whiz Kids Tutoring Program for a few months to see if its something God may be calling you to. What a great way to make a difference in the life of a child! Tutoring is on Tuesdays from 5-6pm and ends in early April. Please call Chris Evans at 513-515-8082 or email at mevans3@cinci.rr.com with interest or questions.

Christ's Community's Food Drive for Christmas Food will be sorted from Noon to 2pm today at Consolation Baptist Church on Marlowe Ave. Boxes will be packed from 6pm-8pm on tomorrow the 19th. The Christmas Program with distribution will be Tuesday, 12/20 at 10am. Our own Pastor Dennis Hall will be speaking. We also need new unwrapped gifts including gift cards, disposable diapers, and personal hygiene items for Santa's workshop no later than Sunday, 12/18. Please see Art Stattman for more information.

Prayer Page

“... without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers,” Romans 1:9

CHPC Community

Trudy Teemley	Mitch Teemley
Shyrell Waters	Ed Wells
Janet Kling	Bill Kling
Joanne Cornelius	Carl Cornelius
Maureen Pfeiffer	Gerald Pfeiffer

Staff

Robyn Hubbuch - Director of Children & Families

Officers/Leadership

Becky Warren - Deacon

Home Bound/Health Center

Mae Klusmeier

Ministries

City Gospel Mission

Global Workers

In the Military

Adam Steveley US Army	Chris Jaeger USMC
Cary Jaeger USMC	Kirk Kalmbacher US Coast Guard
Zach Scharf Army National Guard	Nyjoel Baker US Air Force
Danny Holian US Navy Pilot	Will Connor US Army
Gus Carpenter US Marines	Andrew Deiters US Marines
Peter & Amanda Leugers US Navy	

College/Career Students

Julie Klusmeier Paul Klusmeier

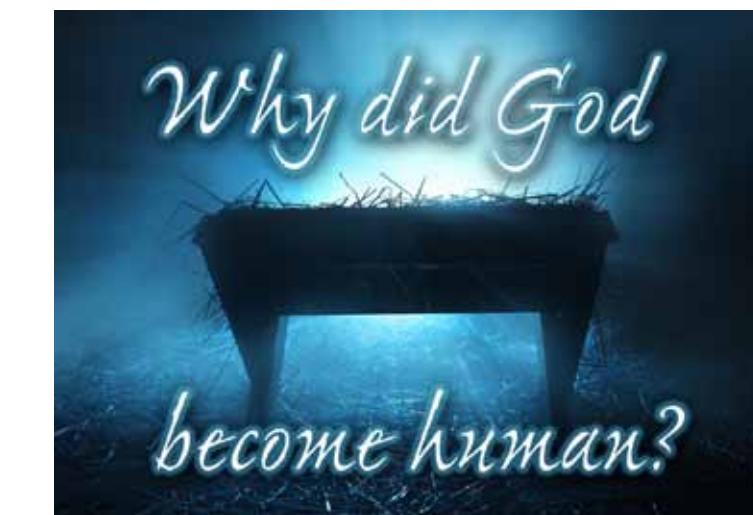
Condolences

Christian love and sympathy to Sue Baker on the death of her husband, Frank. Condolences may be sent to:

Mrs. Sue Baker
1697 Towerwoods Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45224

Christian love and sympathy to Tim and Robin Sillaman on the death of Tim's brother, Don Sillaman.

Condolences may be sent to:
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Sillaman 5741 Hamilton Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45224



December 18, 2016

Why Did God Become Human?
To Glorify God
Preaching: Rev. Dennis Hall

Welcome to College Hill Presbyterian Church

Thank you for worshiping with us today. Single, married, with children or not, there are many opportunities for knowing Christ, worshiping, personal growth and discipleship, service and ministry within the church and beyond the walls.

Visitors - Stop by the welcome table or the desk in the Atrium to find out more about College Hill Presbyterian. Return and become part of this dynamic Church Family.

Upcoming Services

Dec. 24	Christmas Eve - 2 Services 5pm Family interactive Service & 8pm Candlelight Service Unified Service at 10am Why Did God Become Human? - To Love
Dec. 25	
Jan. 1	Unified Service at 10am Begin Again

Today's Order of Worship

Prelude
Opening Prayer / Call To Worship
Carols
Joyful Noise Children's Choir
Sermon
Special Song
Sermon
Pastoral Prayer
Offering
Joy To The World
Announcements
Choral Benediction
Charge and Blessing
Postlude

Available Help

Ushers have copies of the song lyrics for the 9am service. Ushers can also provide help with wheelchairs and equipment for hearing assistance. Handicapped accessible restrooms are located off the exit hallway to the right side of the main platform. This exit also leads to handicapped parking spaces.



Committed to growing and
planting flourishing churches that
make disciples of Jesus Christ
A COVENANT ORDER OF EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIANS