

The Church's Liturgical Year : Fat Tuesday and Lent

BY SHARLYN STARE, STARECVG@AOL.COM

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it...Christ is the head of the Church, His body, of which He is the Savior.

1 Cor 12:27 and Ephesians 5:23

The Apostle Paul declared that the Church is the *living* 'Body of Christ' - no debate about it. Over the centuries, the Church has identified rhythms or patterns that are helpful to its life, much like other organisms. Liturgical seasons are a perfect example. Understanding and embracing the Church's Liturgical Year can enrich the whole Church and deepen our own personal relationship with Christ.

How? The whole purpose of liturgy in worship is "to have the life of Christ be real and contemporary in the lives of believers." It's how God equips "His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." Eph 4:12. God can do that individually but He will do that when 2 or 3 are gathered. After all, the Sunday morning gathering of the Body is called *A Service of Worship... of God* — Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

Mardi Gras and Lent

A historic rhythm of the Church is God's pattern of fasting and feasting. Today few seek God to provide their daily bread. Outside the Church, fewer still talk about, let alone practice the biblical concepts of *delayed gratification* or sacrifice. The contrast between the World and the Church is especially obvious between 'The Three Kings Day' (12 days after Christmas) and Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

In much of the world, this period is known for *Mardi Gras*, French for *Fat Tuesday*. In England they use the word



MARDI GRAS VS ASH WEDNESDAY : FEAST GONE WRONG AND FAST BEGUN WELL.

Shrove. Envisioned by the Catholic/Anglican traditions as a modest celebration of eating special sweets or rich foods before the penitential time of Lent, Mardi Gras has become badly distorted. In New Orleans, Rio de Janeiro and other cities around the globe Mardi Gras is a consuming marketing project. [70% of Rio's tourists come during the multi-week event.] Mardi Gras is now known for wearing masks and scandalous costumes, overturning social conventions, sport and dance competitions, LGBT pride parades and debauchery.

Some countries still maintain aspects of their Christian heritage in spite of the world's efforts to *hijack* the feast. Venice and the Netherlands are known for their lavish, but respectful Carnivals [Latin *carne(m) levare* means "to take away meat"]. The one or two-day celebrations punctuate the end of feasting and the beginning of Lent, leading up to Easter.

Ash Wednesday...Gateway to Fasting with a Purpose. In the Bible,

Jews regularly fasted and prayed to God. Ashes on the forehead let others know that a person was grieved over the sin that separated them from God: "*Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*"

For Christian believers, ashes applied on the forehead in the sign of the cross testify that Christ fully paid for Sin on the cross. The vertical mark is for God's personal relationship with His creation; the horizontal mark for all believers united in Christ to declare the love and grace of God... and to give God the Glory He is due.

Often the ashes are made from palm branches saved from the previous year's Palm Sunday...completing the annual cycle of a liturgical year.

Receive the ashes and pray, "*God create in me a desire to know you more deeply during Lent 2016... grant me a spirit of humility and sacrifice.*" Then, watch and listen...God will choose an ideal *fast* just for you.

LENTEN FAMILY/ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY: Lent is the 7 week period of prayer, fasting and sacrifice leading up to Holy Week. To grow in remembering key events in Christ's life, try this when 2 or 3 are together. Light 7 candles. Each week extinguish one more while repeating the meaning of each candle...like the reverse of the Advent candle lighting...for The Light leaving the world. The readings focus on a **PLACE**, an **EVENT**, and a **DISAPPOINTMENT EXPERIENCED BY CHRIST**.

LEADER READING: During Lent we mark Jesus' journey from Egypt to Jerusalem and the Cross by extinguishing a candle each week.

OTHERS REPLY: Today we extinguish the **seventh candle** — **EGYPT** — a reminder of the **PERIL** Jesus faced as a baby. After Christ's birth in Bethlehem, the first step on His journey was to **flee to Egypt to escape death at the hands of King Herod.**

[LOOK FOR EACH WEEK'S READINGS IN THE BULLETIN.]

ASF UPDATE

2 Classes Added!

By William Custer

The all-church study of Worship will end on Sunday, February 7 and a five-week series of Adult Spiritual Formation classes will begin on February 14 and continue up to Palm Sunday. Below are the classes to be offered. Sign up for one of these in the Atrium today.

Below are the classes that begin on February 14:

Parables of Jesus

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

The Book of Daniel

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

Love Languages

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

Christianity in the House of Islam

Led by Mary Belle Chapman at 10:10am. Class size limited to 15.

The Cross and the Old Testament

Led by Drew Smith at 10:10am. No class size limit.

Worship: The Series Continues

Led by William (Bill) Custer at 9:00am.

Parents of Elementary Age Children (Continued)

Want to benefit from the parenting experiences of others? Share your challenges and joys. Want to know the way to your child's heart? Come grow with a group of parents committed to the love of God. Led by Andrew Wells at 10:10am.

Two new classes are:

Caregiving for Loved Ones

Do you find yourself in the season of caregiving for a spouse, parent or loved one? This group will provide a safe place to share the burdens and joys of caring with others who have similar experiences. Led by Tim Sillaman at 10:10am on Sundays. Group size limited to 15.

Life and Teachings of Jesus (Wednesday Evenings at 7:00)

Want to know more about Jesus? Who he was, why he came, where he walked, the law he obeyed and brought to fulfillment. What did he talk about most? What made him angry, what made him cry, did he laugh

7. sunday

8:00am	Morning Prayer	Prayer Room
9:00am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:10am	Foundation Hour	
	• Children's Classes	Barnabas Ctr
	• Jr. High	BC 204
	• High School	BC 205-206
	• ASF Roundtables	Fellowship Hall
	• Parent Group	Parent Lounge
11:15am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
1:30pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics	Fireside Room
4:00pm	CRASH	BC 205 & 206

8. monday

6:00pm	Community Prayer Walk	House of Joy
	AHG Troop Meeting	Great Hall
6:15pm	Karate	Club Room
6:30pm	Deacon Meeting	

9. tuesday

9:30am	Tuesday AM Bible Study	Parlor
6:30pm	Super Choir	Fellowship Hall
	MEGABLAST	Great Hall

10. wednesday

6:30pm	BLAST - FX Night	
7:00pm	Bi-Polar Support Group	Great Hall
	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary
	Writer's Group	Fireside Room

11. thursday

6:15am	Band of Brothers	Fireside Room
8:30am	Prayer - Church/Community	Prayer Room
10:00am	Knitting Group	Atrium
6:15pm	Karate	Fellowship Hall
7:00pm	ACA	BC 203
	Choir Rehearsal	Great Hall
7:30pm	Alanon	BC 201-202

12. friday

13. saturday

2:00pm	Jesus University	BC Lobby
--------	------------------	----------

"LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION" POLICY
When parking, remember to keep your valuables and all parcels out of sight safely locked in your trunk. Thieves can even see through dark tinted glass. Don't tempt!

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:
9:00am Jason M.
11:15am Elizabeth & Andrew D.
Wells Family will greet

Next week's helpers are:
9:00am Lucas F.
11:15am Joshua & Ian S.
Michelle Dyson will greet

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Well – Citywide Worship and Healing Service Ed Rocha with Global Awakening will bring a message and ministry to The Well - February 9th, 7:00pm to 9:00pm. We'll gather at Vineyard Northwest, 9165 Roundtop Rd.

Writers' Meeting will be Wednesday, 2/10 at 7pm, in the Fireside Room. As always, all are invited.

Listening To One Another About Race Tuesday, February 16 at 7pm. Let's keep learning how to connect in Jesus no matter our differences. We gather at 7pm to talk about race. It's a safe place to talk about a controversial subject. The Enemy seeks to divide but the Spirit will bring unity. We don't try to convince; we try to understand. Come join us and learn together to be unified in Christ.

Mark your Calendars for Renewing the Mind on Saturday, February 20 from 9-5. This class is open to all. This workshop gives you powerful tools to break out of habitual mental, emotional and behavior patterns that rob you of joy and spiritual impact. Register at chpc.org/events Questions: Contact Jeanne Schneider jschneider@chpc.org or 513-541-5676 x 1160

Week End to Remember Marriage Conference February 26-28 at the Hyatt Regency. You know that great marriages don't happen by accident. Now's your chance to take an intentional step towards strengthening your marriage and get rewarded for doing so. For more information go to: <http://shop.familylife.com/events> or contact Jeanne Schneider at 513-541-5676, x1160 or jschneider@chpc.org

Feeling a bit STUCK in your faith? Feeling like there is something more you long for but can't put your finger on it? Then come. Come be part of a gathering of women in a journey through Stuck by Jennie Allen. We will meet in the library in the 3C's area at CHPC on Fridays from 9:30-11am starting FRIDAY FEB. 12. Contact Missi Kersher for more info: missikersher@gmail.com or call me at 254-6908.

3C's Nursery School and Kindergarten now Enrolling. Taking children 2 1/2 - K. Call 853-8489 or email 3cnurseryschool@gmail.com for more information, or stop by our Open House on February 27th from 1:00-3:00pm.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The February BLAST (K-6) Theme is Cooperation: "working together to do more than you can do alone," and our memory verse is Ecclesiastes 4:9: "Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do." Please pray this month that our children would learn to use their diverse gifts and experiences to work together to point others to Jesus. Resources for both parents and kids are available on the BLAST page of the CYF website: <http://chpcyf.weebly.com/blast.html>.

We are proud to announce the launch of the brand new CHPC Children, Youth and Family website: <http://chpcyf.weebly.com>! Check out this website to find regularly updated news for Children, Youth and Family Ministry, a calendar of events, parent resources, and summer information and forms.

Family Game Night at church on Friday, February 26th from 6:30-8:30pm. We'll play nerf wars and other games, so bring some nerf guns and a snack to share.

Children, Youth and Family Summer Intern Applications are now available! Anyone who has been out of high school for at least one year is eligible to apply for the Young Adult Summer Internship, and any 10th-12th grade student who has been in or led a huddle this past year is eligible to apply for the High School Summer Internship. Applications are available on the CYF website at <http://chpcyf.weebly.com/summer-2016.html>, or at chpc.org/forms.

Crash for 7th-9th graders will continue to meet every Sunday from 4-5:30pm for games, small groups, and large group discussion. We are studying through the gospel of Mark and talking about how we can apply it to our lives. We are asking students to commit to coming to CRASH on a regular basis by February 21st, and students who come through the rest of the semester will receive a \$50 discount for summer trips.

Huddles for 10th-12th graders will meet at the Russell's house tonight for the Super Bowl party at 6pm, guys bring drinks, girls bring snacks).

Super Bowl Party at the Rosebrook's house for families with elementary aged kids. Come any time after 6pm and feel free to stay to the end of the game or head home earlier to put your kids to bed. Bring a snack to share. RSVP to Kevin.krosebrook@citygospelmission.org.

SERVING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Whiz Kids Tutors needed Please consider coming on board and being a tutor at Pleasant Hill Academy now through late April when our tutoring comes to an end for the year. We have a few children all ready to go on the waiting list who would love to be a part of the program. It's an easy way for an hour of your time on Tuesdays from 5-6pm to make a huge difference in the life of a young person. Please call Mark or Chris Evans if you would like more information. 513-522-6603

SPECIAL EVENT

American Heritage Girls Annual Pancake Breakfast will be held on February 21, 2016 after both services. All are welcome, donations accepted but not required. Bring your family and friends out for a wonderful breakfast!

SERVING IN WORSHIP & ARTS AT CHPC

Calling handbell ringers If you played handbells in the past or think you might like to play in the future, send an email to Michael Parker at mparker@chpc.org or phone him at 513-312-9473. Let's talk about playing handbells this Easter season.

Curtain call for orchestra members Spring is also a great time to tune up the orchestra. If you missed our last orchestra event at Christmas and would like to get on board, give Michael Parker an email (mparker@chpc.org) or phone call at 513-312-9473. If you played in the orchestra at Christmas, you are already on the list and will be contacted soon.

Prayer Page

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

CHPC Community

Evelyn Tocho	George Doddy-Tacho
Amy Dryer	Peter Dryer
Beth Dryer	Tom Dryer
Lisa Duke	Richard Duke

Staff

Drew Smith - Pastor

Officers/Leadership

Joe Koize - Elder

Home Bound/Health Center

Mae Klusmeier

Ministries

3C's Nursery School

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
Joey Nieberding US Army	Peter & Amanda Leugers US Navy
	Gus Carpenter US Marines

College/Career Students

Marissa Fox	Michael Fox
-------------	-------------

Prayer Wall – Week 6

Prayer Points

- Pray CHPC will be a community of believers who surrender daily and listen and obey the call of Christ
- Pray "in the authority of heaven we will go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing and teaching to obey everything Jesus commanded."
- Pray God's protection against the evil one and any spirit of darkness. Pray the Holy Spirit will empower us to do greater things than Jesus.



**February 7, 2016
Everyday Worship
Sending**

Preaching: Rev. Drew Smith

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

Feb. 10	Lent Begins Ash Wednesday Service - 7pm
Feb. 14	New Series Begins The Cross - God's Final Answer
Feb. 21	The Cross - Reconciled

Today's Order of Worship

Prelude
Call To Worship / Opening Prayer
Songs of Praise
Dismiss Children
Scripture & Sermon
Pastoral Prayer
Healing Stations
Communion
Offering
Announcements
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.

