



THE LAMPLIGHTER



APRIL 2011

WOODRUFF GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Musings from Pastor Phred “St. Richard & Prayer”

April the 3rd is the feast day of St. Richard of Chichester. St. Richard lived from 1179 to 1253 and was the Bishop of Chichester (1245-1253) which is southwest of London, near England’s south coast. He lived before the Reformation; therefore he was a Roman Catholic Bishop. In Medieval times, bishops were called “Princes of the Church” and seen as spiritual equivalents to Kings. They had princely incomes. They were rich.

The bishop’s income was not important to Richard. He lived a simple life and was hospitable to rich and poor alike. He was known for his almsgiving and for being a caring person. He was strict in discipline among the clergy and denounced the corruption and vices of the contemporary Church and royal court. He was also a man of laughter. The people of Sussex made a play on his name – *ridens, carus, dulcis* (laughing, dear, sweet).

St. Richard is best known for a prayer. The first sentence of this prayer, he uttered from his deathbed. The rest was added later (but he gets credit for the whole thing).

Thanks be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which thou hast given us; for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for us. O most merciful Redeemer, friend, and brother, may we know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, for thine own sake. Amen.

If this prayer sounds familiar to you, it is the basis of the song *Day By Day* from *Godspell*.

What can St. Richard teach us nearly 800 years later? I respect the balance in Richard. He was strict with the priests in his diocese that they were true to the Gospel. He was also strict with himself, living the Gospel – a man who was simple, hospitable, helped the poor, and was kindly. His prayer is balanced. His prayer is short. Not some long winded, flowery prayer of a Pharisee. He begins with thanking Jesus for what he has done for us. When he prays for himself, he does not ask to be a better Christian or better bishop or health or anything for which he may have prayed. He prays to: *“Know thee more clearly
 Love thee more dearly
 Follow thee more nearly”*.

Ah but that is the point. Anything for which he could have prayed is wrapped up in this rhyming triplet. “But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matthew 6:33 NRSV). During the month of April, as you say your prayers, think of St. Richard and close your prayers with the Prayer of St. Richard.

Then let us be a people of sweet laughter. If we are truly filled with God’s love, will we not be a people who naturally laugh with sweetness at all times except tragedies? I think if Christians were known as a people of sweet laughter, that would do more for Evangelism and Church Growth than all evangelists put together ever could do.

See ya’ Sunday, with the sweet and laughing saints, in the Lord’s house. *Pastor Phred Cain*

Kids' Club



This spring we had an average of 36 kids and 20 workers for each session. Our lessons were called "Hugging the World". God's love reaches out to our whole earth. We used these verses from Romans 10 "For there is no difference between people - the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him", for "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Linda Patterson came and shared about her mission trip to Nepal. Thank you Linda!

A special thanks to these people: Kevin Zink, Marty Young, Jacque Young, Caleb Young, David Tubbs, Amy Thompson, Birdeen Sweet, Jan Russell, Bob Russell, Sheri Ringler, Jeanie Park, Rosy O'Brian, Elizabeth Montgomery, Travis McNall, Darlene McKowen, Susan Jones, Monali Grossman, Molly Grossman, Marilynn Grossman, Lizzy Grossman, Pastor Phred Cain, and Tom Atkins. These dedicated people were there every week working to bring God's love to these kids. Thanks to everyone who supported Kids' Club with money and prayers.

Karen Grossman

Choir



The "Choir Loft" is humming again with Easter Music. We practice on Wednesday evenings at 7. We are always looking for new voices and it's not too late to join us. We take seasoned voices as well as joyful noises.

Sandy Ringler

Bulletin Saints



Thank you to all the faithful bulletin helpers: Deb Young, Larry Sweet, Birdeen Sweet, Bob Russell and Jan Russell! Because of their faithful assistance the bulletin is ready for you each Sunday morning. Thank you again!

Helpful Information

Mildred Prough would like to share the number to call if you do not want to get telephone solicitations. Call 1-888-382-1222 or go to www.donotcall.gov to remove your phone number from telemarketer's lists. This is for cell phone numbers too.



Rummage Sale



Our Rummage Sale dates are:

Set up dates: May 9, 10 & 11

Sale dates: May 12, 13 & 14

We will need a lot of help with this fund-raiser and hope you will plan to participate.

Please put these dates on your calendar.

Remember to tell your friends, family and neighbors - you are our best advertisement!

Please bring your donations to the back of the fellowship hall as soon as possible! If you have any questions please contact Jacque Young or Marilynn Grossman.

Ladies Evening Bible Study



The ladies have nearly finished the Beth Moore study "Jesus - the One and Only", and what a study it has been. We have been studying primarily in the book of Luke, with quick trips throughout the rest of the Bible for cross-referencing. This has been a wonderful time of fellowship and growth in our walks as we learn more about the life of Christ and His teachings.

Our next study will begin in late April, subject to be announced at a later date, and will continue throughout May. Please let Susan Young know if you are interested in joining the ladies for fellowship, study, and prayer. There is always room for more!

Susan Young

Missions



Thank you so much for your generous support of PB'nJ! The donations received are appreciated. Because of the support and care of area churches, teens are being reached and lives are being changed. The monies collected from our Woodruff Church family will help to send teens to church camp, and help fund the Thomas Freed Memorial Scholarship offered to seniors who attend PB'nJ.

The mission emphasis for April will be Friendly Planet Missiology and will be presented by Pastor Phred. One of their main goals is to provide bicycles for transportation to Methodist pastors in the North Katanga Conference in Africa so they may spread Jesus' love more easily.

Go to: friendlyplanetmissiology.org for more information about this wonderful mission.

Administrative Board Meeting



The Administrative Board met in Cunningham Hall after Church and Sunday School with five members present. Glen Patterson opened with prayer. Glen would like before the May 15th meeting to have someone represent all committees as to what their goals are. The reason for this so that everyone may know what Woodruff Grove has done, is doing, and what their plans are so we can all join in their accomplishments and challenges. As a Committee Leader, please do your part to help us to communicate with our church family.

Pastor Phred reported that the phone tree used in the office for our prayer chain is not compatible with the new computer software. Glen Patterson will look into this matter.

Pastor Phred, Jim Young, Shane Rasler and Troy Blake will meet and decide who will do the Annual Audit before May 1st. *Judy Miller*

Evangelism Committee Easter Bags Giveaway!



The Evangelism Committee invites all of the Woodruff Grove Church Family to participate in our next project giving away Easter bags on Saturday, April 23rd at 2-4pm at the Farmers State Bank in Wolcottville parking lot. This will coincide with the Wolcottville Lion's Club Annual Easter Egg Hunt for Children up to 12 years old at Taylor Park. We hope you will join us for this fun activity. We will need help with gathering items for our bags (candy or small items), putting our bags together and distributing our bags. We hope to do this very similarly to our "Trunk or Treat" last fall.

Look for our box in the Gathering Place to donate candy or other items for this project. If you have any questions, please see Beverly Jordan.

To Make Your Witness Easier



The Evangelism Committee has a new eight-page Outreach Booklet available, "For God So Loved the World" which explains God's love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ and has the Prayer of Salvation. Please use these booklets (found in the Gathering Place) in your personal evangelism (waiting rooms, nursing homes or in your car or purse when you want one) and share Jesus' great gift with others, especially during the season of Lent. *Bev Jordan*

Men's Bible Study



A new Men's Bible Study will begin April 4th at 7pm in the Gathering Place and will be studying "Men of Integrity". This is a six week study written by Paul Woods. All men are invited and encouraged to attend. If you have any questions or concerns, please see John Russell.

Baptism or Church Membership

If you are interested in becoming Baptized and/or Church Membership, please share this with Pastor Phred or call him at: 854-2067 or at revfgcain@yahoo.com

Daytime Bible Study



Our afternoon Bible Study on the subject of Angels with Dr. David Jeremiah is moving ahead quickly! We have two more studies and if we keep on schedule should finish April 13th. We have learned a lot about the purpose of Angels and how God has designed them to fit in our world as warriors and as helpers. Thank you to those who have committed their time to this study! We've had a great time learning what the Bible says and in fellowship.

Rosy O'Brian

Community Lenten Services



We have three more Community Lenten Services in April. We will host the April 3rd service at Woodruff Grove at 7pm with Pastor Barb Corss giving us the message of "Beatitudes of Mercy" and Wolcottville United Methodist Church providing special music. Rome City United Methodist Church will host the April 10th Community Lenten Service with Pastor Keith Perry giving us the message of "Beatitudes of Seeing God" with Vineyard Fellowship providing special music. On April 17th St. Gaspar's will host the "Palm Sunday Sacred Concert" with all of our community churches participating. We hope you will join us at as many of these services as possible with our Christian neighbors!

Woodruff Sermons on CD



Know of anyone who might enjoy listening to a past sermon recorded on a CD? We have copies waiting to be picked up in the box in the Gathering Place. Please help yourself!



Easter Worship Services
Sunday, April 24th
Sunrise Service
by our Youth Fellowship
in the Fellowship Hall, 7am



Worship Service, 9:30am
Easter Music by Woodruff Grove
Choir led by Sandy Ringler



Scriptures and Sermon Titles
April 2011

Bishop Mike Coyner has requested the pastors of the Indiana Conference preach a Lenten series of sermons on the Theme "Called by God." The following sermon titles are those suggested by Bishop Mike Coyner:

Sunday, 3 April 2011

Fourth Sunday in Lent
 Scripture: Luke 23:33-34
 Sermon Title: Called to Forgive
 Sermon Series: Called by God

Sunday, 10 April 2011

Fifth Sunday in Lent
 Scripture: Proverbs 21:3 & 15
 Sermon Title: Called to Justice
 Sermon Series: Called by God

Sunday, 17 April 2011

Palm Sunday
 Scripture: Acts 6:1-6
 Sermon Title: Called to Servant Ministry
 Sermon Series: Called by God

Sunday, 24 April 2011

Easter Sunday
 Scripture: John 20:1-18

Sermon Title: Called to Celebrate
 Sermon Series: Called by God

**"Christ the Lord is risen today,
 Sons of men and angels say,
 Raise your joys and triumphs high;
 Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply."**

Charles Wesley



The Hope of Easter

Christ's resurrection changed Mary from a mourner into a messenger; it changed Thomas from a doubter into a believer; it changed Peter from a denier into a preacher and it changed Paul from a persecutor into a missionary. For early Christians the Easter event became an Easter experience: a cleansing, life-changing, transforming experience! Today, nearly 2,000 years later, that Easter event is still the greatest hope in a world of fear and confusion.

Dr. Paul S. James



April Birthdays

4. Marcia Ringler
Viola Johnson
Rosalie Bickley
5. Danny O'Brian
6. Rob Henschen
7. Terry Miller
8. Monali Grossman
10. Nikita Eagleson
12. Angie Murphy
15. Paul Witte
16. Arlene Thompson
17. Lauren McKibben
Stephanie Blake
Marian Krebs
19. Lynn Uffelmann
21. Melanie Grossman
22. Chanden Lawson
23. Tyler Young
28. Karen Grossman
29. Jessica Cassel
Dot Smyers



April Anniversary

13. Sam & Deb Young

If you have any news items you would like to have put in the May 2011 issue of "The Lamplighter" newsletter, please let Rosy O'Brian know. We'd like to include them! The deadline for submissions will be the morning of April 18th. If you have any address updates or corrections, or if you would like to be taken off our mailing list, please let us know that too! You may contact us by e-mail at woodruffgrove@yahoo.com with this information. Thanks!