

NEWZ@ZUM&TLC
News and Information from the
Zanesville United Methodist Church & Tower
Life Center



Happy Easter
The gift of love and
forgiveness comes
with the responsibility
to love and forgive.

The Impact of Easter

Colossians 3:1-4

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

It is exciting to read about the dramatic events of that first Easter morning. Mary Magdalene and others witness the empty tomb and encounter an Angel. But if Mark's gospel narrates the first Easter story, Colossians 3:1-4 highlights for later generations of believers the paradox that all Christians must embrace on every Easter morning.

In Colossians 2:20, Paul contends that his readers have already "died" with Christ. In 3:1 he asserts that those who have "died" have also been "raised with Christ." Paul assumes that his Colossian readers have participated in these experiences of death and life at the event of their own baptisms. In experiencing this symbolic death and resurrection, each believer, has yet another mission to complete -- to "seek the things that are above."

Scholars agree that part of the motivation behind Paul's letter to this Colossian church was to correct some form of Hellenistic-Jewish dualism. Some believers were apparently practicing strange rituals, extreme asceticism, or even participating in a special cult of angel worship in their own attempts to "seek things above."

The correction that Paul offers us is one of perspective. His message to the Colossians urges them to celebrate now -- however incompletely -- what is still a future event. The empty tomb found by Mary Magdalene and others testifies to the fact that salvation is a present reality. Every believer's new and redeemed life already exists. At the same time, the church lives in a post-resurrection age that has only just begun. The *eschatological or end times* promise has yet to be fulfilled; the "glory" of all those things we "seek above" is still in the future. What has been *completed* still remains "incomplete."

Scholars of other apocalyptic materials of this era note that Paul's Colossian audience would surely have recognized certain key phrases or "catchwords" which would signal Paul's focus on eschatological time and space. There is an implied relationship between the call to seek "things above" (v.1) and the assertion that the believer's "life is hidden" (v.3) with Christ. The connection Paul intends his readers to make is clear but complex: Life is hidden in the world above.

Paul urges his Colossian brothers and sisters to rise above the materialism of the false rewards this world has to offer. Dying with Christ, entering into that tomb with Jesus on Good Friday, is the way we Christians annually remind ourselves of the "completing" power of the risen Christ.

Here are some *incompletes* that can keep us from growing into the fullness of faith and the life God has offered, as suggested by Eric Allenbaugh.

1. *relational incompletes -- do you have unresolved conflicts with someone, or do you have feelings that have not been expressed?
2. *integrity incompletes -- do you have trouble keeping agreements, or being truthful about people, places and things?
3. *career incompletes -- do you continue to work in a job you hate, or do you fail to do the best job you can?
4. *financial incompletes -- do you have debts that are mounting, and do you have trouble saving as you know you should?
5. *physical incompletes -- do you eat and drink things that you know are bad for you, and do you continue to put off committing yourself to a healthy lifestyle?
6. *personal incompletes -- do you avoid dreaming like you once did, especially dreaming that impossible dream that once set you on fire?
7. *spiritual incompletes -- do you wish to commit 100 percent to God, yet fail to follow a disciplined walk with Christ through daily prayer, Bible study and Christian fellowship?

The open tomb on Easter morning forces us to face the "incompletes" in our lives.

The open tomb assures us of God's promise to turn all our "incompletes" into "completes."

When we find the tomb opened and empty every Easter morning, we are ourselves reborn with the risen Christ. But we are reborn with a specific mission *

To seek out this Christ who once again lives, but is not yet back among us, and to allow that Christ to transform our "incomplete" lives into "completes."

God Bless You

Pastor Tom





LEADING WHEN TIMES ARE TOUGH

Handling Difficult People and Situations

****love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you in order that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. . . For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? . . . Therefore, you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.* (Matt. 5:43 * 48)**

No doubt you will experience some difficult and draining moments as you attempt to lead others. Leadership can be a thankless, lonely and even discouraging task, simply because you are the target for the criticism. Dr. Tim Elmore* says it is very likely you will feel both affirmed and attacked as you lead.

Remember that both you and your people remain ***human*** even though you are Christians. This means you will face conflict before the journey is finished. People possess different perspectives, personalities, and struggles that cause them to react the way they do.

The Church is a lot like Noah*s ark: The stench on the inside would be intolerable if it weren*t for the storm on the outside!

Think of some difficult situations you have faced in the past as a leader at home, work, school, the club or church. Do you see any patterns? Often, the most common sources of conflict and difficulty with people center around the following:

- ** Personality and relationship clashes**
- **Unspoken and unmet expectations**
- **Insecurity and identity issues**
- **Unresolved conflict from past wounds**
- **Independent attitudes and inflexible perspective**

Here are some foundational principles of relationships that leaders must come to understand:

- 1.*In relationships, leaders often must practice the ***101% Principle***: find the 1% you can agree with and give it 100% of your attention.
- 2.*In relationships, it is better to build a fence at the top of the cliff, than a hospital at the

b	REMEMBER. . .
3	**Conflict is NORMAL. It is going to happen because we are different.
4	**Conflict is NEUTRAL. It is neither destructive nor construct in itself.
5	**Conflict is NATURAL. It is universal * you are not alone in your humanity.
6	

to face.
al.

- 7.*It is possible for a leader to sabotage himself. He might win an argument, but ultimately he loses more than he gains.
- 8.*We must practice the ***Law of Connection***: Leaders touch a heart before they ask for a hand.

Church Council Notes
submitted by Jamie Misch

Here*s news you may be interested in from the March 16th Church Council Meeting.

1.*Pastor Tom will be convening a strategy team group to work on being proactive with church finance and stewardship. While the church finances are keeping pass with need, we would like to be aware of the issue that may arise in these tougher economic times.

2.*Lay Leadership * Pastor Tom & Jamie Misch will be meeting the Lay Leadership team April 13th @ 7 pm in the conference room to discuss the vacancies in some needed team leader positions. We will also be discussing a structure change to support our Information/Technology aspect of church business.

3.*Finance * Tina VandenBoom shared that we are meeting our monthly financial need to keep the church building and programs functioning.

4.*Staff Parish * Glenda Fisher shared that the Staff Parish team accepted the resignation of Therese Koehler on March 6th, 2009. They are currently searching for a replacement.

It was an absolute joy to welcome Mike Murrell back to ZUM with his attendance at our Council meeting. Spending time with Mike you can see God*s love given to him and through him. Please continue to pray for the healing of Mike*s knee and ankle. We also continue to pray for Jerry & Deb Hartman as Jerry has moved home.

Fellow ship Snack time for April 2009

5 Bloomfields & Vandenbooms

12 Hoopingarners, Adam/Melanie Fogwell.

Seth/Holly Fogwell, Marilyn Platt, Skipp Abbett, and Lucy Thiebeault

19 Welches and Stephens

26 Fishers, Wells and Fredricks



Recoup and revitalize with healthy food and exercise!

*By Phyllis Hayes

*Recuperation seems to be my latest buzzword. I know so many people in the recovery mode, including me with a bad burn on my hand and a cold. I am also trying to recover my body to get ready for another mini-marathon adventure.

So I*m in the exercise classes at church and having fun to boot! In the Thursday class, Erica Hockemeyer challenged us to keep a food diary to assess our nutritional status. I thought it would be a great way to improve my health. Keeping a food diary just really opens your eyes to what you are putting in your body. I did it faithfully for at least four days but, alas, I got tired of writing and being aware of some of my poor eating habits. Sorry Erica, count me out for the prize.

*This does not mean I am throwing my improved nutrition goals out the window. I still strive for healthy choices, seeking low fat, healthy sugars and fiber foods as much as possible (along with a few M&Ms along the way).

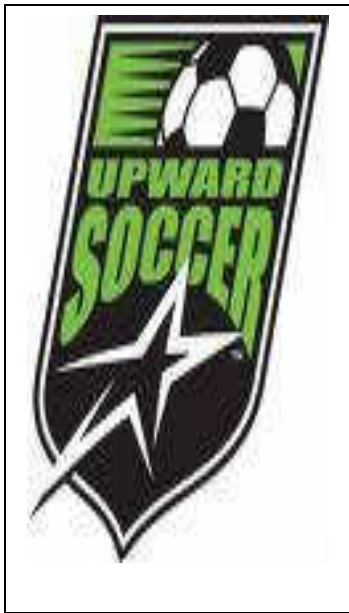
*Nutrition does go hand in hand with recovery of the body and healing of our cells. Obviously, we need to give our cells raw materials such as vitamins * via foods, oxygen and rest * to help them get back to their potential. This is common sense for many of us, but others act like they have never heard about a heart-healthy diet.

*Eating also has a huge social factor to it, such as wanting to excite our taste buds or drink the lattes at a coffee houses. I think we should make eating a joy and appreciate it to the fullest. I also think we need to be conscious of what our bodies require in order to function and to heal. Without getting on a soapbox, but this is an important issue to ponder. I encourage us all to live LARGE, make the most of our food choices and jump in the exercise arena as we recover from this winter into Spring.

*Keep healing Jerry, Mike, Marge, Jane, Katherine, Julie, Kim, Jan*and everyone else who needs a boost!

Nutrition Matters





Week of April 13-
Practice Begins

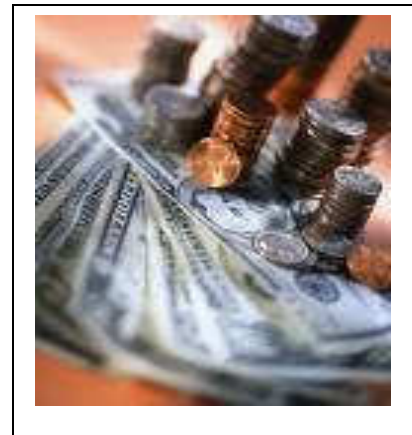
April 25- First Games

June 13- Last Game
and Award Day

Endowment Funds Disbursed

Recently the ZUM Endowment Committee had the privilege of disbursing \$1,423.91 to different groups of the ZUM community. This money was earned from the investments of the fund during 2008! Thank you to those of you who contributed to the funds that are invested by the Endowment Committee!

Distribution of 2008 Endowment Fund Earnings
\$452.59 to the Firefall 2009 DCLA Trip
\$371.32 to the Christmas Lights Outreach Project
\$200.00 to the Men*s Group to assist with the building project *House of Hope*
\$200.00 to ZUM Preschool for scholarships



EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE



8:00 A.M. Early Service

8:30 A.M. Continental Breakfast

9:30 A.M. Sunday School

10:30 A.M. Worship Service





APRIL 2009



			1	2	3	4
			No WNL Spring Break - SW	6-7 Aerobics 7 pm Choir		8 a.m. Men Lenten Breakfast-Zanesville COG 5:30 pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Palm Sunday 6pm Cub Scout leaders Mtg	6-7 pm ABS 7 pm Communications Mtg		6:30 p m WNL 8 p.m. Chimes	Maundy Thursday 6-7 pm Aerobics 7 pm Choir	Good Friday	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Easter	6-7 pm ABS	8am Retired Mens Breakfast (Mels in Ossian) 6 pm CLUB56	9-10:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 WNL	6-7 pm Aerobics 7 pm Choir		5:30 pm Parents night out (team2)
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
6pm Cub Scouts	6-7 pm ABS		6:30 p m WNL 8 p.m. Chimes	6-7 Aerobics 7 pm Choir		6pm-9am Club 56 Lock in Upwards Soccer Game
26	27	28	29	30		
5 pm Worship Arts Mtg 6 pm Cub Scout Pack Mtg			6:30 p m WNL 8 p.m. Chimes	7 pm Choir 8 pm Trustee Meeting		

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