

THE CHRISTIAN ALERT

February 4, 2019

It seems the focus of worship these days is on praise. Contemporary congregations spend a large amount of their time together being led by praise bands or praise teams, singing their praises to God, in what is commonly referred to as a praise service.

No doubt, praise has long been the central motif in the Judeo-Christian experience we call worship. And a review of the world's religions demonstrates that praise is central in the great majority of humankind's experience of the holy. From the most sophisticated paths of piety to the most primitive, praise is at the core.

However, is praise, as it seems to be currently understood, really what God requires of us? I wonder if doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God might not be a better expression of praise than endless musical repetitions about God's sovereignty and awesomeness. Come to think about it, Jesus never asked anyone to praise him, did he? His command was that his disciples follow him. So what does God consider acceptable praise?

In the year King Uzziah died, a young man was overcome with a sense of awe when he visited the temple. The images of winged celestial creatures, the smell of incense, and a vision of God high and lifted up, dropped Isaiah to his knees. Hopefully we can all recall a moment in worship when we've been so moved by a sense of God's presence.

But that was not the climax of Isaiah's worship experience. He didn't simply go home having received a liturgical fix. Hot cleansing coals touched the lips of this young man who knew that both he and the society in which he lived were in terrible trouble. Praise hit home for Isaiah when he declared to God his willingness to be a witness in a desperately troubled society.

It's wonderful to leave worship talking about how inspiring the service was. But if nothing in our lives and relationships is changed by that aura of good feeling, did we offer God acceptable praise? Ken Hopkins, Pastor E-mail: pastorkhopkins@championchristianchurch.org Casey Lewis, Youth Coordinator E-mail: championyc@championchristianchurch.org Cara Lawson, Church Secretary E-mail: cccoffice@championchristianchurch.org

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am- 1:00 pm 330-847-0785

We bsite: www.championchristian church.org

Lord's Day Happenings – February 10, 2019

10:30 am Worship

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-13 Sermon: "Acceptable Praise"

TETELESTAI IS COMING! MARCH 8-10

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Monday, February 4- 7 pm Youth Group
Wednesday, February 6- 7 pm Discussion with
Pastor Ken about Regional ministry
Thursday, February 8- 10 am Ladies Aid
6:45 pm pm Bible Journaling
7 pm Choir practice
Saturday, February 9- 11 am Salad Luncheon
Tia Ciferno Guest Speaker
6-10 pm Child Care Youth Fundraiser

NEXT WEEK'S MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Monday, February 11- 7 Youth Group
Wednesday, February 13- 7 pm Friends In Faith
7 pm Elders meeting
Thursday, February 14- 10 am Ladies Aid
4:30-6:30 pm Youth Singing
Telegram phone calls are being made
6:45 pm Bible Journaling
7 pm Choir Practice
Saturday, February 16- 11 am Feeding Ministry
Pick up

CHURCH FAMILY

We extend our sympathy to the Hatch family upon the passing of Bernice Hatch We extend our sympathy to the Root family upon the passing of Edgar "Skip" Root.

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION

The Christian Church in Ohio is changing. As you know, we no longer have a Regional Pastor. The future viability of Camp Christian's ministry is being discussed. On Wednesday February 6 2019, at 7 p.m. all members are encouraged to join Pastor Ken for a conversation about the future of our congregation and our involvement in the Region's transformation.

Servers for Sunday, February 10, 2019

Elders – Brenda Cligrow, Merial Price

Diaconate – Carol Cokrlic, Debbie Cokrlic, Tyler, Cokrlic, Chuck Stein, Joan Travers, Janet Brooks, Alexis Shafer, Janet Crawford, Jerry Smith Shayanna Cerny

Prepare and Serve- Tammy Hurst, Mike Nigrin

Worship Leader- Casey Lewis

Communion Bread- Hildred Lake

Greeters – Joan Travers, Pat Mollenauer

Nursery – Chelsea Thomas

Children's Church- Sophia Elmore

Acolyte- Natalie Emerine and Amara Kim

Media – Sue Criddle, Jean Smith

Sound – Casey Downs

Counter Team - Rayetta & Jerry Smith

Captains – Vicki & Dave Gargas

ANNUAL SALAD LUNCHEON

The Ruth Circle invites the women of the church to our annual salad luncheon on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 11:00 am in the church fellowship hall.

The theme this year is "Babies are a Blessing from God." Our guest speaker is Tia Ciferno, Director of Bella Women's Center. A free-will offering will be received for the center.

You can make your reservation(s) by calling the church at 330-847-0785 no later than Tuesday, February 5th. A donation of \$5.00 per person will be received at the door. We do hope you can come and share this occasion with us.



DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please take note that Ken and Sharon Armstrong no longer have their landline phone number. Sharon can be reached by calling 330-240-9422 And Ken can be reached by calling 330-240-9423.

2019 Camp Christian Dates:

Grandparent Camp (Kindergarten - 2nd grade) June 7th - 8th

Ribbit Camp (2nd - 4th grade) July 3rd - 6th

Otter Camp (3rd - 5th grade) June 16th - 22nd Chi Rho (6th - 8th grade) June 9th - 15th, July 14th - 20th or

Chi Rho (6th - 8th grade) June 9th - 15th, July 14th - 20th or July 21st - 27th

CYF (9th - 12th grade) June 23rd - 29th, July 7th - 13th or

July 21st - 27th

Advance (Ages 19 - ??) July 28th - August 4th

Registration packets coming soon! Forms and payment will be

due on Sunday, April 21st

THANK YOU

Your beautiful expressions of sympathy at the loss of our beloved, Gene Wilson, deeply touched our hearts. We especially want to thank Pastor Ken and the Ruth Circle. Pastor's eloquent words were a comfort to all of us. Our friends of the Ruth Circle created a warm and friendly atmosphere for our family and friends to enjoy their time together. The service truly became a celebration of Gene's life. Thank you all for your outpouring of love. May God bless us all with His love. It is love that carries us.

With grateful hearts, Carol, Ginger, and Robin Gordon

YOUTH SINGING TELEGRAMS

The youth will be doing Singing Valentine Telegrams. Please fill out the provided form and drop in box, with a donation of your choice, for your loved one to receive a special call on Valentine's Day!

VALENTINE SINGING TELEGRAM

Your Name:

Person receiving call:

Number to call:

Time to call (4:00 - 6:30 p.m.):

Message at end of call:

Song Choices: (Circle Your Choice)

"You are my Sunshine"

"You've got a friend in me"

"I just called to say I love you" (Made popular by Stevie Wonder)