

Blueprints

A RESOURCE FOR DISCIPLESHIP

The call of Jesus to become a follower/disciple never wavered or changed. Time and again Jesus Christ called folks to “deny their “self”, take up their cross daily and follow Him.” This would serve as the daily reset button all Christians need throughout their life.

But what must be crucified, or die in us? Does it not sound strange that I need to die to live? What kind of death for what kind of life? Jesus said follow Him, so He was to be the supreme example. This week’s topic is please tell me Why the Cross?

Blueprint: Every Christian follows the pattern for life found in Jesus.

Read Philippians 2: 1-11 Jesus, model of denying self and cross bearing.

What seems to be Paul’s concern expressed in verses 1-4?

How did Jesus die to self interest in verses 5-7?

What single experience proved Jesus was living according to God’s desire in verse 8?

As a student of Jesus’ life can you see how He lived in the shadow of the Cross all His life? How did He die daily to self-controlled living?

Three examples from youth to ministry Luke 2: 39-49; Matt 4: 1-11; John 5: 19-23

Check out Matt 26: 36-46.

Read Paul’s understanding of this universal call to follow this reset button of Jesus.

First, read **Romans 6**.

How does Paul describe the act of denying self within these verses?

What is the effect of being crucified with Jesus as described by Paul?

What happens if the Christian does not take up the Cross daily?

Second, read **Colossians 2: 20—3: 17**.

How does a Christian die with Christ?

Does this fact set us free from religious asceticism?

When and where is the Christian raised from the dead with Jesus in this life?

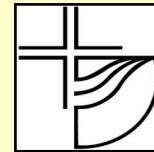
What impact should this new way of living have on a Christian’s actions?

From this brief study what does the call to deny self and bear the Cross daily mean to you?

Can you see the model of Jesus from His recorded life in the Gospels?

Can you see the way Paul developed this calling in the early churches?

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We welcome you today to enter into the fellowship we have with one another through Jesus Christ. During the worship service opening time of praise there is an opportunity to bring your tithes and offerings forward as an expression of worship and place them in the offering plates provided. We invite everyone to complete the communication card and place it in the offering plate also. In the narthex there is an offering plate for those who prefer to place their offering and communication card there.



February 25, 2018

Entering His Courts with Praise ...Be Grateful

Singing “Lord, I Lift Your Name On High”

Offering “How Great Is Our God”

Children’s Story

Karen Chronister

Celebrating the Finished Work of Christ ...Be Repentant

Singing “Our God Reigns”

Seeking the Healing of Our Hearts ...Be Cleansed

Singing “Purify My Heart”

Empowering of the Word and Spirit ...Be Spirit Filled

Scripture Matthew 5: 6, 20; 10: 37-39; 16: 24-26; Mark 8: 34-38;

Luke 9: 23-26; 14: 25-35

Message Hunger And The Disappointed Christian

Pastor Jim

Sharing in the Body of Christ ...Be Committed

Singing “Draw Me Close To You”

Praying for Ourselves and Others ...Be Prayerful

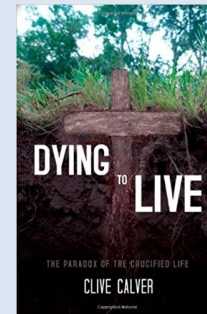
Prayer

Connecting with the Heart of God ...Be Worshipful

Singing “Better Is One Day”

“My Life Is In You, Lord”

Pastoral Blessing



MANY CHRISTIANS ACKNOWLEDGE that they love Jesus but are disillusioned about their spiritual condition. They come to Christ to drink from the well of his new life, yet they find that their spiritual thirst remains. Why has the Christian life not met their expectations for spiritual growth, and how can they satisfy this craving for their Christian walk to have a deeper impact? For far too long we have been presented with a version of the Christian faith that majors on what we get rather than on what we give. The cross has been portrayed as the place where Jesus died for us, and where we receive from him, but rarely as the location of our joint crucifixion with him. The uncomfortable truth is that Jesus calls us to share his cross. “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Matthew 16:24).

Fortunately, we don’t have to be some kind of “super Christian” to allow God’s

power to work through us. Calver shows how a number of ordinary believers have discovered the paradoxical fulfillment of the crucified life as they die to self and serve God and other people. By “dying to live,” you too can know the joy of the resurrection.

Pastor: Jim Chronister

Ministers: Every member of the Church

Our Vision: Glorifying God through faithful Discipleship.

Community News

Childcare is provided in the nursery located behind the sanctuary.



Prayer Points

Prayer requests received for this week:

Karen C's sister, Nellie Parks; John Locker; Kirt Chronister; Kohl Shafer; Maya Iwanusa; Cassidy Adkins; Shelby's grandfather, Curt; Jessi Green; Watern Family; Marilyn Montgomery; Belinda Harrison; Bev and Elaine; Family and Friends of James Harrison

Recovery

Alexis Becker; Charity O'Diam; Dave Tomlin; Justin Boose; Randy Herr; Roger Janeway; Those with illnesses – cold, flu, bronchitis, sinus infections, etc.

Continue to pray for:

Families mourning the loss of loved ones
Individuals living permanently in care centers
Our Nation – repent & turn to God – seek His will in all things
People facing spiritual battles/satanic attacks-for deliverance from addictions
Pres. Trump, VP Pence, political leaders & judges – for protection & wise decisions
Salvation for unsaved family and friends

Praying for Churches of the District:

Living Peace

Birthday Prayer List:

Anne Montgomery, February 25
Amber Barnhart, February 26
Luke Dull, February 27
Linda Ballinger, February 27

Attendance last Sunday, SS 46, Worship 83

Offering Last Week

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Special</u>
Regular	3372.00	
Weekly Need	2859.00	
Year to Date	3749.00	

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today! Prayer Service, 9:00 A.M.-9:30 A.M.
Sunday School, 9:30 A.M.
Worship, 10:35 A.M.

Mon.

Tues. *Girl Scouts, 6:00-7:30 P.M.*

Wed. *Deacon Meeting, 7:30 P.M.*

Thurs. *Joyful Noise*

Fri.

Sat. *Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 P.M.*

Sun.

Small Groups

Every week folks gather to grow in their relationships with God, self and others. Below is a list of the leaders and meetings. Please feel free to consult with any one of them. The topic each week is found on page 4 with a Blueprint for growth as a follower of Jesus.



Tues. Study Group (Jeff Barnhart), at church, 7:00 PM
Wed. Study Group (Aaron Osswald); various places, 6:30 PM
Fri. Study Group (Chris Sievers); various places, 6:30 PM

THIS WEEK'S SERVANTS

Worship Leaders
Aaron and Rachel Osswald

Greeters for February 25
Terry Shafer and Brooke Denlinger
Greeters for March 4
Ted and Charlene Foster

Announcements and Activities

The **FISH pantry** is beginning to run low on several items. If you would like to donate, please bring the items to the church:

Jello
Pudding
Cakes Mixes & Frosting
Saltine Crackers
Spaghetti & Sauce
Corn Muffin Mix
Spaghetti O's
Canned Vegetables – do not need corn
Canned Manwich or Sloppy Joe
Canned Chicken or Beef Broth
Canned Tomatoes & Sauce
Canned Soup – vegetable, chicken & noodle and tomato
Canned fruit – peaches, pears, fruit cocktail

Starting immediately any verbal announcements you wish to share with the congregation are to be handed to the worship leader prior to the service. Pastor Jim will announce them just prior to benediction. This allows for a smoother finish to our worship of God.

BUS TRIP – You are invited to join us on **May 9-11 to travel to Lancaster, PA**, to see the production of "Jesus" at Sight n Sound, visit Hershey's Chocolate World, eat dinner in a real Amish home, etc. If interested, please ask Carolyn Studebaker for a flyer.

The **Ad Body Minutes** from the January meeting are on the table in the narthex.

Special District Meeting - The District Board and the Program and Arrangements Committee, including the District conference Officers, are calling a special all District meeting this spring. The date for this event is **Saturday, March 17, 1:30-4:00 PM at Happy Corner Church of the Brethren**. David Steele, General Secretary for the Church of the Brethren will be our guest. The purpose of this gathering is to engage one another about some of the deep divisions that are becoming more prominent and are a distraction to our common witness of Jesus. The General Secretary's presence will be to share basic information from polity regarding the withdrawal process if congregations choose to begin those conversations. Denominational leadership and the council for District Executives are currently working on clarifying this process, but there is no specific timeline when this work will be completed. All members of the district are invited to attend this event. We also ask that all members hold their congregation, the district, and the denomination in prayer as we face an uncertain future and the deep divisions of our fellowship. *****PLEASE NOTE***** The purpose of this gathering is NOT to encourage congregations to leave. Unfortunately, however, we have heard that some congregations in our district have already begun conversations about leaving the Church of the Brethren. Again, this is not our desire. We emphasize--congregations are NOT being encouraged to leave. In the current climate, we feel it is in the best interests of all to explain the process of withdrawal as well as the consequences of such an action. It is our sincere desire that we stay together and share in "continuing the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, TOGETHER", but if there are those who feel they can no longer do this, we wish to explain the process of withdrawal. We do not desire a process utilizing legal action, but rather a process of discernment and prayer filled with grace, love, and care for one another.