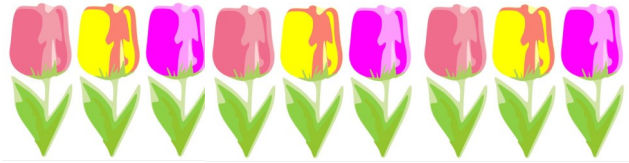


# THE CUP



CUP EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*'Join us for a drink of Living Water'*



## From the Pastor's Desk...

MAY 2018

Dear Cup friends and family,

If you've been with us since Easter, you know that we're currently looking at what it means to love our neighbors as ourselves (Luke 10:27). We're talking about our literal, actual neighbors – the people that live in the homes close by to us. Chippewa is not a community that has been built to promote neighborliness; there aren't many sidewalks or parks, and many people live here so they can hop on the expressway for work. But God has *designed* us for community. Our desire is to reach out to our neighbors with friendship, and that, of course, means that we take some additional steps to actually get to *know* them. Our Church Vitality groups has been gathering for prayer and planning on practical ways we can connect with our neighbors, and as the weather improves, we encourage you to spend time in your front yard, or walking around your block with an eye toward striking up conversations with others on your street.

Of course, the question typically comes to me, 'Well, what am I supposed to say if I get to know my neighbor and the topic of God comes up? I always feel tongue-tied!'

That's understandable! Let me encourage you to put together four words that we teach our Confirmation class students, and are a great framework for understanding the Bible and our faith – *CREATION, FALL, REDEMPTION, AND CONSUMMATION*.

Tim Chester and Steve Timmis, in their very helpful book *Everyday Church*, write that these words help us talk about who we are and who we are meant to be.

CREATION – MY IDENTITY (We are made in God's image to reflect his glory, to love God, and to love others.)

FALL – MY PROBLEM (We have rebelled against God's rule, but self-rule leads to conflict, slavery, and judgment.)

REDEMPTION- MY SOLUTION (God restores his rule by sending his Son and graciously enables us to live under his rule by paying the price of our judgment on the cross.)

CONSUMMATION – MY HOPE (God will recreate this broken world when Jesus returns.)

Here's where it gets fascinating: *Everyone* has a 'Gospel story' that is used to define our lives. Here are the lies the serpent used to deceive Eve and Adam in Genesis chapter 3:

CREATION – (Identity) You are meant to be gods.

FALL – (Problem) You are held back by God and his insecurities.

REDEMPTION – (Solution) You can be set free by disobeying God.

CONSUMMATION – (Hope) You will be gods.

Everyone on earth, even if they don't use this language, is looking for salvation. The statement might be phrased, *'I'll be fulfilled (or happy) if. . .'* which would define identity for them, and will likely be backed up with *'To get this I've got to. . .'* which defines their solution and/or hope. Money, Relationships, Food, Control – there are many ways we and our neighbors struggle with these good things that we are tempted to make 'god' things. Here's how we can apply the gospel to help us overcome, in this case, problems with abusing food:

CREATION – I'm meant to enjoy God and enjoy his good gifts.

FALL – I use God's gift of food to replace God and find myself enslaved by food and filled with shame.

REDEMPTION – Jesus restores me by offering his body in my place, and he invited me to a meal with him.

(Luke 22:14-20, 24:30-35, Revelation 3:20)

CONSUMMATION – I can find lasting satisfaction in Jesus the bread of life, so I'm liberated from my need for refuge in food.

I encourage you to think through or write out for yourself a short way of describing or understanding your own gospel story. How has Jesus saved you, and how could you share that hope in a way that makes sense to a friend? A family member? A neighbor?

Blessings,  
Pastor Scott

## FINTONIA TRIP APRIL 2018



FRONT OF CHURCH



MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS



WORSHIP SERVICE



PASTORS & MAPAINDA ELDERS



PASTOR SCOTT IN HIS  
CHIEF HAT



COMMISSIONING OF  
ELDERS

**FEAST FOR FINTONIA**  
**MAY 20th at 6:00pm**  
(Dinner \$10., Please sign up by May 13th)

**HARMONY EPC**  
**234 North Main St., Harrisville, PA**

**PRESENTATION BY PASTOR SCOTT  
GRAHAM (CUP CHURCH) AND PASTOR  
TOM HOLMES (SLICKVILLE EPC)**



**SHINE  
MUSICAL  
MAY 6TH  
7:00PM**

**YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY:  
LIFE'S A CIRCUS! HERE'S A HEART-  
WARMING STORY ABOUT THE FATHER  
WHOSE LOVE FOR HIS CHILDREN IS  
UNCONDITIONAL. FELLOWSHIP  
FOLLOWING THE PRESENTATION.**



**Circle the weekend NOVEMBER 16-18 for our ALL CHURCH RETREAT at Camp Frederick in Rogers, Ohio. Dave and Julie Bianchin will be our speakers this year. Dave has pastored Presbyterian congregations in northern Illinois for many years, and is currently a visitation and teaching pastor at Christ Church in Oak Brook, IL, one of the largest congregations in the Chicago area.**

**Julie is a public school teacher in the Downers Grove area, and one of the most delightful people Kristina and I know! We have been friends with Dave and Julie for close to 30 years, through our many pastor seminar get-togethers at Cedar Campus on the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Dave and Julie have three grown children. We're looking forward to a wonderful time with them. Our time at Camp Frederick will run from Friday evening to Saturday afternoon. Dave will preach at the November 18 service at Cup.**

**More details will be made available in the coming months.**

## CUP Library News

We have some new books on our shelves that are available for you to read.

The first is "The Complete Book of Christian Heroes" by Dave and Neta Jackson. In it you will find over 200 stories of courageous people who suffered for their faith. The short, primarily two-page, biographies that the Jacksons have used to make up their book include bios of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Jim Eliot, Martin Luther King, Jr., Mother Teresa, Betsy Ten Boom, John Wycliffe and many, many others.

Another book that is new to our shelves is "The Life You've Always Wanted" by John Ortberg. Ortberg is the pastor at Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Illinois and has written other books including "If You Want to Walk on Water You've Got to Get Out of the Boat". In this book Ortberg looks at the spiritual disciplines needed to become a mature Christian. Using humor and interesting anecdotes the author encourages and challenges the ordinary Christian to a life of new meaning and closeness to Christ.

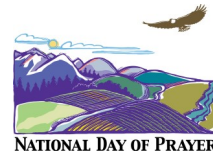
The third book I'm highlighting today is "Unglued" by Lisa TerKeurst. It can be found in our Christian Life section, with call numbers of 248. The subtitle for this book is Making Wise Choices in the Midst of Raw Emotions, and in it, TerKeurst offers the opinion that God gave us emotions in order to fully experience life, not to destroy it. She outlines ways, using biblical teachings, to make our emotions work for us not against us and does it with inspiration and practicality. The book is a New York Times bestseller and the author is the president of Proverbs 31 Ministries.

Come, check out what our church library has to offer.

Paula Keefer, Cup Church Librarian

### MAY Calendar

<u>May 1</u>	5:45pm DEACONS 7:00pm WORSHIP 7:30pm TRUSTEES
<u>May 4</u>	9:00am 'Coffee & Crocheting'
<u>May 5</u>	9:00am SHINE Rehearsal followed by Awards Luncheon from Noon-1pm
<u>May 6</u>	7:00pm SHINE Musical 'The Prodigal Clown'
<u>May 9</u>	1:00pm Game Day
<u>May 10</u>	7:00pm Church Vitality
<u>May 14</u>	5:00pm SHINE Kitchen Crew cooking for Crossroads Shelter
<u>May 15</u>	7:00pm SESSION
<u>May 17</u>	12:00pm Noon Lunch Bunch @ The Dutch Haus (Ohio)
<u>May 20</u>	6:00pm Feast for Fintonia (Harmony EPC, Harrisville)
<u>Every Monday</u>	1:00pm Adult Bible Study (resumes in fall) 7:00pm Grief Share
<u>Every Wednesday</u>	3:30pm "SHINE" After School program followed by Family Dinner @6pm (last day 5/3)
<u>Every Thursday</u>	9:00am Women's Small Group (through 5/24) 7:00pm Choir Practice (through 5/24)
<u>Every Saturday</u>	7:30am Men's Breakfast @ Eat-n-Park (through 5/19)
<u>Every Sunday</u>	7:00pm Crosscurrent (5/20 only) 7:00pm Sunday Night Small Group in the Bartholomew Room (may return in the fall)



*Geneva College -  
Alexander Dining Hall*

*Thursday—May 3, 2018 at 7:30am*

Speaker: Dr. Calvin Troup, President Geneva College  
No reservations necessary / Free Will Offering



**VACATION  
BIBLE  
SCHOOL**

**JUNE 25th – 29th  
9am – NOON**

Venture onto an uncharted island where kids are rescued by Jesus, who carries them through every storm in life. They'll learn to hold onto God's promises when they are lonely, they worry, they struggle, do wrong, and feel powerless.

If you interested in Volunteering, please see Joel.





Are you there Spring?

This weather has me feeling like we are in a time loop. However, Crosscurrent youth have been moving forward with fun, fellowship and faith to move a mountain! The past few months we have celebrated our friends on stage, on the court and we celebrated Easter together. We had our 2nd annual "GROW" overnight. Our overnight was based on our Identity in Christ through the scriptures as we had a scavenger hunt around the church. It was an amazing 18 hours spent together. Sadly this year the ground was too wet and we had to create our tent city inside of the gym. It was still so cool!!! We had 6 new youth move up into Crosscurrent; Welcome Trevor, Maggie, Elise, Matthew, Ralin and Daniel! We are excited to have them join us! This however means the youth room is becoming a tad crowded. We are looking for a new TV that can be hung on the wall. If anyone is willing to donate or has one that works they would like to donate we would be grateful for the space it could help provide! See Wade Rider or myself. As Crosscurrent comes to an end this school year we are looking forward to what is ahead! We look forward to sharing more with you on Sunday May 20th for Youth Sunday. Our Youth are a true blessing. Please keep them in prayer as the school year comes to an end. And as always thank you for your continued support of our youth! I challenge each of you to really get to know our youth! They really are awesome!

Shine is wrapping up for the year as well. We had our last Shine Sunday on April 8th where the 3-5th graders presented a puppet show for us. As always I want to thank the Shine families for sharing your kiddos with us as we all learn and grow in God's love. We look forward to sharing the upcoming musical "The Prodigal Clown" May 6th at 7pm with fellowship after. Also a super big shout out to our amazing volunteers who pour weekly into these precious little ones! You are God's hands and feet and I am eternally grateful!

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.  
John 1:12

Please join us June 25-29th for VBS as we take on the open sea... "Shipwrecked". The adventure awaits and we hope you will join us! We are looking for adult volunteers who can help assist! Please see me for more information!!! We need "All hands on DECK"!

As always I ask you please continue to keep both our Children and Youth as well as our community in prayer! There are many great things happening!

Your sister in Christ,

*Joel Cunniff*

CUP Children and Youth Director

