



From the Pastor's Desk...

SEPTEMBER 2018

Dear Cup family and friends,

I know that last August and Labor Day weekend are not, how shall I put it, the most heavily attended of our worship services during the year. But as we enter into the Fall, we're laying out the vision of who we are at Cup church, as well as what we're doing at this time in our life together. In case you missed either message, here's a chance to catch up! (Also, you can catch any sermon you miss by going to our website, cupepc.org, and clicking under 'posts'. You'll find our sermons there.)

First, I described Cup church using the following six words: *Bible-Believing*, *Low Liturgy*, and *Outreach Oriented*. "Bible-Believing", as in looking at Scripture as the Lord's perfect resource for understanding His character and plans – and OUR character as well, and how the Lord addresses our needs, our sin, and our destiny.

"Low Liturgy" means that we use a simple form of shared responses and prayers in the worship service to jointly walk through the gospel message of adoration, confession, forgiveness, and commissioning as God's people each week. "Outreach Oriented" declares that we are a part of the church family – the only organization on earth that exists for non-members! In other words, God calls us into His loving care, and has chosen to work through us to share that message with others who haven't heard, or who haven't understood the implications of Christmas, Good Friday, and Easter.

What we're doing as a church is to grow in effectiveness at being outreach oriented. I've heard it said that those coming into a church for the first time are looking for one of three things: hope, help, or a home. The Triune God offers the comfort of the heavenly Father, the forgiveness of the Son, and the community and joy of the Counselor, the Holy Spirit (John 14:26-27)

There are numerous ways that Cup church offers hope, help, and a home. Many of us have benefitted and been blessed by the Shine mid-week children's ministry, by our game day group, by our choir, and by our various Bible small groups. These initiatives give us opportunities to experience God's goodness and offer it to others at the same time. Yet more and more people in our community are unaware of the gospel message that God is extending to them. This is why we're working on getting to know our neighbors and loving them through invitations to dinner or block parties, a pie offered as a gracious gift, or a willingness to linger in the front yard and have a conversation. As my favorite professor in seminary, Bill Pannell, says, "before people ask, 'Where can I find a merciful God?', they are usually asking, 'Where can I find a merciful neighbor?'" May our neighbors find us to be those good Samaritans (Luke 10:25-37) that carry the good news of great joy!

Blessings,
Pastor Scott

FUN AT THE CHURCH PICNIC!



Weekly Meetings...

Monday 1:00pm **Bible Study** (resumes October 1st)

NO Game Day IN SEPTEMBER

Thursday Morning Woman's Small Group 9:00am
(resumes September 13th)

3rd Thursday at noon **Lunch Bunch**
(September 20th @ Timberhouse)

Saturday Morning Men's Group 7:30am
@ Eat 'n Park (resumes September 15th)

**A TOTAL OF \$500. WAS COLLECTED
THIS YEAR AT VBS FOR THE
EDUNATION/FINTONIA SCHOOL
FUND. THANK YOU!**

FREEDOM IN CHRIST RETREAT SEPTEMBER 21st—23rd AT THE CASTLE IN FRANKLIN

Come and experience Jesus' loving presence in the places in life that you need Him most. This year John Brieck will be speaking on 'God's Love For Us'.

For more information you can contact
www.TheLazarusCenter.org or call 724-266-7576
and brochures are available at the Church
for registration (due September 15th).

ALL CHURCH RETREAT Camp Frederick 2996 Millrock Rd. Rogers, Ohio

FRIDAY NOV. 16th—SATURDAY NOV. 17th
GUEST SPEAKERS: DAVE AND JULIE BIANCHIN

Cost \$60. per person will include:
Dinner on Friday (5:30pm), Breakfast (8:30am) &
Lunch (Noon) on Saturday in the private Lodge,
Speakers, and overnight sleeping
(2 rooms for men & women –bunk beds)

Children are encouraged to attend.
Children under 5 are free. Children & Youth under 16
will only be \$15. each (to help cover food expenses).

Dave is currently a visitation and teaching pastor at
Christ Church in Oak Brook, IL. Julie is a public
school teacher in the Downers Grove area. Dave will
also preach at the November 18 service at Cup.

Sign up sheets for registration will be made available
through October 31st. Money will be due November 4th

CUP Library News

A New York Times best-selling book that has been recently added to our library is “A Hobbit, A Wardrobe and a Great War” by Joseph Loconte. Loconte is an Associate Professor of History at the King’s College in New York City. He is the author of several books and has written op-eds and essays that have appeared in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and other publications. Published in 2015 this book explores how the Great War, better known now as World War I, shaped the lives of two famous writers, J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis. Tolkien of course went on to write “The Lord of the Rings” and Lewis wrote “The Chronicles of Narnia”. Tolkien and Lewis enjoyed a great friendship that developed in part because of their experiences on the front lines in the war, and Loconte relates how they rediscovered their faith as a result.

A new documentary series about this book is now being developed by the non-profit production company, Eastgate Creative, and is slated for release in November 2018. It should be very interesting and what better way to prepare for viewing the film than to read the book. Our copy can be found under the subject heading of “Christianity in Literature” (813.6). Come, check it out!

SEPTEMBER Calendar

<u>September 4</u>	5:45pm DEACONS 7:00pm WORSHIP 7:30pm TRUSTEES
<u>September 9</u>	9:15am Sun. School Treasure Hunt 12:00pm Confirmation Info Meeting 6:30pm Crosscurrent Back to School Kick-Off (NEW TIME)
<u>September 12</u>	6:30pm Shine Parents Meeting 7:00pm Shine Leaders Meeting
<u>September 13</u>	9:00am Thursday Morning Women's Small Group Returns
<u>September 14</u>	9:00am THE BIG SALE
<u>September 15</u>	7:30am Saturday Morning Men's Group @ Eat 'n Park Resumes 9:00am THE BIG SALE
<u>September 18</u>	7:00pm SESSION
<u>September 19</u>	3:30pm SHINE Returns 6:00pm SHINE Family Dinner
<u>September 20</u>	12:00pm Noon Lunch Bunch @ Timberhouse
<u>September 21-23</u>	Freedom in Christ Retreat
<u>September 26</u>	7:00am See You at the Pole / BHS
<u>September 30</u>	5:00pm Confirmation Classes Begin
<u>Every Monday</u>	1:00pm Adult Bible Study (resumes Oct. 1)
<u>Every Wednesday</u>	3:30pm “SHINE” After School program followed by Family Dinner @6pm (returns Sept. 19)
<u>Every Thursday</u>	9:00am Women's Small Group (resumes Sept. 13) 7:00pm Choir Practice (resume Sept. 6)
<u>Every Saturday</u>	7:30am Men's Breakfast@ Eat-n-Park (resumes September 15)
<u>Every Sunday</u>	5:00pm Confirmation Class (begins 9/30) 6:30pm Crosscurrent

THE BIG SALE

SEPTEMBER 14TH 9:00am–3:00pm

SEPTEMBER 15TH 9:00am–1:00pm

\$2.00 BAG DAY/ALL DAY!

Redd out all those treasures and drop off in Fellowship Hall AFTER LABOR DAY / September 4th (please set them on the Tables)



PLEASE—NO ELECTRONICS, LARGE FURNITURE, TEXT BOOKS, ENCYCLOPEDIAS OR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT!!



Shine returns Wednesday September 19th at 3:30pm

Followed by Family Dinner at 6:00pm

FIRST SHINE SUNDAY—OCTOBER 14th

Welcome back?

I can not believe summer is OVER! Crosscurrent youth have had a great summer together growing in friendship and in God's Word. We have much planned for the coming year as we will kick off September 9th with a back to school Pool Party! Crosscurrent will be meeting at a new time this year, 6:30-8:30 make sure to mark your calendars! Confirmation will also be kicking off this Fall our start date is tentatively set for September 30th from 5-6pm with a shared meal after. Confirmation parent meeting has been moved to September 9th after church service.

Ignition is September 23rd and the cost is \$5 a ticket. We will leave the church at 5pm and stop for dinner on the way up. Please RSVP to Ms. Joel ASAP so we have a ticket for you!! This is the kick off for *See you at the pole* which will be held nationally on September 26th.

Crosscurrent Parent Meeting will be held at 6pm on Sunday September 16th. We will talk about upcoming events such as Winter Retreat, Mission Trip and other outings. We will also cover fundraising opportunities.

SHINE registration is up and running. There will be a SHINE leader meeting on September 12th at 6:30 in the sanctuary with a parent meeting following at 7pm. SHINE kicks off September 19th. Interested in getting plugged into the SHINE program see me!!!!

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



"As iron sharpens iron, so
a friend sharpens a friend."

Proverbs 27:17