

THE PEORIA CHRISTIAN

Sermon: "An Opportune Time."

(Thank you, Kevin Wolfe, for preaching for us this Sunday.)

After testing the Lord and failing, Luke tells us the devil departed from Jesus "until an opportune time." When are the times in our lives that provide the opportunities for sin and separation, and how do we choose instead to come closer to God? See you Sunday.
(Image: Three Temptations: Cara B. Hochhalter)



Happy St. David's Day! It's an unusual day to mark on our calendars...but maybe it's just what we need. St. David is the patron saint of the country of Wales. His feast day is March 1st (he died on this day in 569). David is to Wales what Patrick is to Ireland. And here is some of David's wisdom:

"BE CONTENT"
and
"DO THE LITTLE THINGS"

Why are we celebrating his feast day this Sunday??

- 1....because of the vast contribution the Welsh musicians made to Christian hymnody. (Hymns are used like folk songs in Wales. The miners would often sing hymns in 4-part harmony as they worked. And after long hours in the mines, the pubs would be filled with sound of hymn singing.) We will be singing hymns with Welsh tunes this Sunday.
- 2....because a symbol of Wales is the daffodil. We are needing pots of bright yellow daffodils around to remind us of new life and hope in light of world events and coming out of Covid!
- 3....because I have Welsh heritage in my blood and I need an excuse to serve Welsh teacakes. Please enjoy teacakes in the lounge this Sunday!

Fun fact: On April 19, 2007, the State of Illinois adopted HR0149 proclaiming March 1, 2007, and each year thereafter, as St. David's Day in the State of Illinois. Let us do our civic duty and celebrate St. David!
-Karen

This Sunday:

March 6, 2022
First Sunday
of Lent

10:30 a.m.
Sanctuary Worship
Live Stream Worship
~on Facebook

Kevin Wolfe
will be officiating

Scripture
Luke 4:1-13

Sanctuary Choir
"My Victory"
arr Bradley Knight

Service Opportunities



Prayer Service for the People of Ukraine
First Christian Church Sanctuary
March 5, 2022
6:00 p.m.

As many of you know, I spent a semester in Vinnytsia, Ukraine in 2012. I have many dear friends there who are suffering from shock, disbelief, and unimaginable uncertainties.

Please come to church Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m. for a prayer service for all those whose lives are disrupted by Russia's aggressions. I will make sure Ukrainian friends are aware of our prayers of support.

An offering for Ukraine support through Week of Compassion will be received.

Jenny Tripses

WITH SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Raymond Bristol of Peoria. Ray passed away on Thursday, February 17, 2022. There will be a memorial service on Saturday, March 5, at 2:30 p.m., with visitation one hour prior to the service at Davison-Fulton Woodland Chapel in Peoria.

Please keep the Bristol and Addler families in your prayers.



DESIGNATED OFFERING FOR UKRAINE

In the first few days of violence in Ukraine, it has been reported that nearly half a million Ukrainians have been displaced, fleeing to safety in nearby countries as military attacks consume their homes.

Our partners, through ACT Alliance, have already responded to the immediate needs by shipping 28 tons of food to support those fleeing to Hungary, and staff have been working with refugees at the Ukraine/Hungary border. Shipments of canned food, flour, sugar, oil, rice, pasta, biscuits, long-life milk, tea and hygiene products are arriving at centers for families forced to flee their homes. Shelter capacities are being scaled up, and humanitarian information points are being established to help those arriving to the border and awaiting entry.

Week of Compassion is focused on providing relief in the immediate days and weeks, while also strategizing with our global and domestic partners for a long-term coordinated response. Because of the ongoing conflict, large numbers of refugees can be expected in the neighboring countries with huge numbers of internally displaced people inside Ukraine. Internal displacement raises issues including shelter, water and sanitation, food security, health and protection needs. These concerns are expected to increase rapidly in the coming weeks and months.

You are encouraged to respond to the specific crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries by giving an offering designated for Ukraine. Use the envelopes in the pews and write "Ukraine" on the envelope. Or put "Ukraine" in the memo line of a check. Thank you!

Food Pantry

This Sunday is the first Sunday of the month, which means our food collection begins again. This month, our donations are going to the Friendship House food Pantry. Any non-perishable items are much needed and appreciated. Thank you!

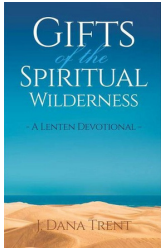


LENTEN SERVICES

We are probably right on the cusp of Covid restrictions being lifted in our state; but because many of our Cluster churches are not quite back to full speed, we will NOT be sharing Lenten services again this year. However, please note the following two events:

- **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE** – Glen Oak Christian Church will be having an Ash Wednesday service on March 2nd at 6:00 p.m. We, and other Cluster churches, are invited to participate. It's a nice way to start the Lenten season with intentionality. Note: Masks are now optional.
- **PALM SUNDAY FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM WORSHIP** – Plans are in the works for a Cluster Palm Sunday service with participants from the various ten churches in our Illinois Valley Cluster. Watch for more details.

Church Life



Lenten Devotional

Everyone encounters a wilderness experience in their life, many of us more than one. Even Jesus was not immune as the Bible records his 40 days in the wilderness. Since we all have our wilderness experience, what can we learn from Jesus' own moments of existential loneliness, hunger and temptation?

Gifts of the Spiritual Wilderness is a new lenten devotional and will help you contemplate, process, and explore how Jesus' 40

days in the wilderness intersects with your own 21st century experiences:

- what gifts can be found,
- how a spiritual drought can create a more meaningful Lent experience,
- what fasting, sacrifice, and temptation look like in our daily lives; and
- how we prepare to experience new life on the side of the Lenten journey.

Through daily devotions with scripture, meditations, practices, prayers, and "living water" tools for our parched lives, Gifts of the Spiritual Wilderness guides you on a contemplative and transformative journey through the wilderness to resurrection living.

The devotionals will be available at the Information Desk. Our cost for each devotional is \$3.99. If you would like to share that cost with us, there will be a place for your donations. But this is not necessary. Please consider committing to daily use of this devotional throughout Lent.



Pickleball

Paula Ahles and Sandy Surface are offering to teach a group the game of Pickleball. We are gathering a list of people who are interested. We will set dates once we have a good group together and can work within their availability. Sign up at the information desk!



Disciples Women

Tuesday March 8th at 12 noon the Disciples Women and Faith in Justice Task Force will present Matt Fuller from the Center for Prevention of Abuse. Matt will speak to us about Human Trafficking. All are welcome to attend this interesting and informational program. Bring your own lunch. Dessert and drinks are provided. Sign-up at the information desk



New possibilities of Regional mission and ministry are opening up to us as we join together in partnership (not a merger) with the Michigan Region. To that end, Reverend Dr. Teresa Dulyea-Parker will be installed as the regional minister for the Christian Church Michigan region, Saturday, March 5. She continues to be the Illinois Wisconsin Regional Minister, as well. The installation

will take place by Zoom, at the end of the regional board meeting, at 11:15 AM. The theme of the installation is our stories of faith: celebrating our legacy gifts. All are invited to be a part of this Zoom event. Find the link for the invitation on our Regional website.

On the main page of the regional website, www.cciwdisciples.org, Scroll down to the area labeled "In the Region" On the right-hand side click on "Installation set for Michigan Regional Minister" Scroll down and the Zoom Registration will be on the left-hand side <https://cciwdisciples.org/2022/01/installation-set-for-michiganregional-minister/> A Zoom link for the event will be sent to your email.

BIRTHDAYS

CHRISTINA TRAYLOR	03/09
SAM SISK	03/10
VERLE SAFFORD	03/12
BRAD RUNKLE	03/15

ANNIVERSARIES

WARREN & BARBARA TURNER
03/14

Reminders

Movie Night

March movie night will be a followup to February's: Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit! We laughed so hard at the first movie, that we feel the need to enjoy the second one! Join us on March 18th at 7pm.



VBS Discussion Team:

Our conversation to discuss if and how to offer VBS this summer will take place

This Wednesday, March 2, at the church at 11.00. All are welcome!



Phone Directory:

The February 2022 Church Telephone Directory is now available. Please pick one up at the information desk.



Tasting Peoria

Our next Tasting Peoria dinner excursion will be to Weaver's Fresh Food & Drink on March 10th at 6pm. Fairly new to the restaurant scene, the menu boasts a variety of options all of which sound incredibly tasty! Sign up at the info desk.



THE PEORIA CHRISTIAN

First Christian Church

6400 N. University St., Peoria IL 61614-2799

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This Week

Tues	03/01	6pm	PACC Rehearsal
Wed	03/02	6pm	Ash Wednesday Service @ Glen Oak CC
Thurs	03/03	10am	Genesis Study
Fri	03/04	6pm	Tamil School
Sat	03/05	7am	Private Group
		6pm	Prayer Service
Sun	03/06	9am	Sunday School
		10:30am	Worship
		11:45am	Elders Meeting
		12:30pm	Jubilate Ringers
		1pm	Sanctuary Choir
		7pm	Private Group
Mon	03/07	5pm	Tae Kwon Do Class
Tues	03/08	12pm	Disciples Women
		6pm	PACC Rehearsal

Serving Schedule

Presiding Elder:	Steve West
Elders:	Kevin Wolfe
	Mason Fitch
Lay Reader:	Becky Sisk
Acolyte:	Clara Truelove
Greeters:	Debbie Presnell
	Tim Dougherty
Counters:	Mike & Laura
	Buckley
Deacons	
Chancel:	Jim Smittkamp
Head:	Laura Buckley
	Darren Woods
	Adam Woods