



Princeville Presbyterian Church

April 2019 Newsletter

April Events

4.6

Men of Iron

4.7

Communion

Bridal Shower for Amanda

4.8

Deacon/Session Meetings

4.14

Palm Sunday

4.19

Tenebrae Service

4.21

Easter Breakfast/Sunday

4.28

Rockin' Seniors

"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it." 1 Cor. 12:27

Today I want to begin to reflect on what Paul says to us here in 1st Corinthians chapter 12 verses 12 – 27, about body life within the church. Paul draws an interesting analogy for us of the church in this passage. He shows us that **we are** the body of Christ. How can this be? It is a great mystery, but in some mystical way, we are the body of the Lord Jesus Christ here on earth. In the book of Acts, when the early church is being persecuted by Saul, the Lord Jesus Christ comes to him on the road to Damascus and says, why are you persecuting... **them**? No! He says, "Why are you persecuting **me**." This is to say that we are so intricately connected in the church with one another to the Lord Jesus Christ, that to persecute us is to persecute him. In Matthew's Gospel, we see that at the final judgment Jesus rewards those who clothed him when he was naked, who fed him when he was hungry, who visited him when he was in prison, etc. And then those whom he rewards, ask, when did we do these things to you? And Jesus says – "as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." Brothers and sisters, we are the body of the Lord Jesus Christ, and are individually members of it. This is a wonderful analogy that Paul uses here, because it shows the unity and diversity of the church. Just as a body is one body, this is to say it is one unit, so is the church one corporate entity. The church is not divided and fractured by all sorts of different denominations the way we see it in the world today. *The church is one body in the eyes of God, and we are all united together in it by one Spirit (12: 12 – 13).* This is to say that when we are united to the true church through baptism and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, we are all made part of one, unified, body of believers that exists in time and in eternity, who will never be separated from one another.

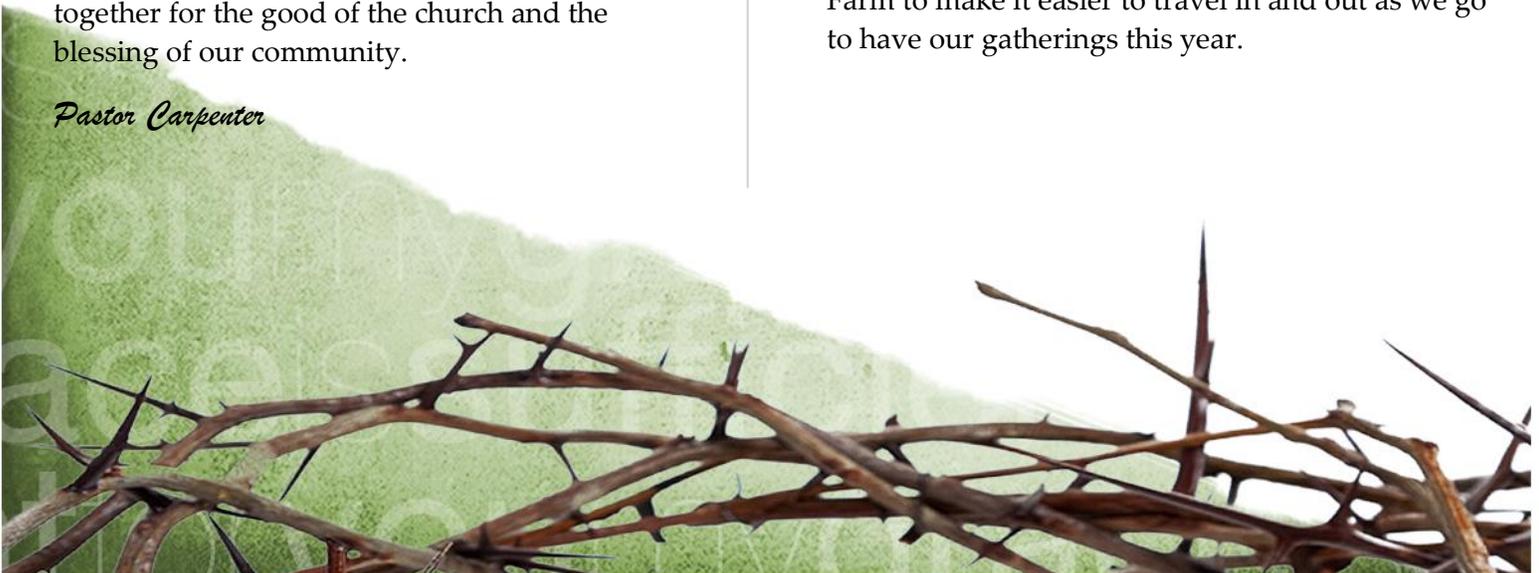
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Therefore, we ought to get used to one another! We are part of one, unified, eternal covenant family who will live forever with one another in the presence of Christ, our head. How could it be any other way? We are a body, and you cannot separate a body from its parts, not without great detriment to the whole body. Which is Paul's other point, we are *individually* members of it. Each body part contributes to the whole. And if one member is lame, the whole body suffers. If I get a broken foot, it is going to affect the rest of my body, since I will not be able to walk properly. The rest of my body will experience pain, and the rest of my body will be limited in certain ways as a result. And it is this way through and through. In order for the body to function properly, each member must work together with the other in order to maximize productivity (vss. 14 – 20). We need one another. And the only way that we will experience progress is if we are working together as one to accomplish the work that God has called us to do here in Princeville, Illinois. We cannot accomplish this without one another. Every single person and their gifts are important to this work. Some gifts may be more upfront and evident, and others may be behind-the-scenes. But this does not change the fact that the work of the church will not be brought to completion without both of these persons and their gifts working together. Maybe you're not the kind of person to stop by and visit someone and pray with them, but I am. But I still need you in the background making a meal for that person, to show up at their house and bless them with your ministry of hospitality (vss. 21 – 26). Brothers and sisters, we cannot do this alone, we need one another. So, let us work together for the good of the church and the blessing of our community.

Pastor Carpenter

Session update:

As we gathered together for session last month, all the elders (except Kirk) were present as well Pastor Baker and Pastor Carpenter. The usual perfunctory stuff was handled early on and then we began to talk about our upcoming Easter celebration. We will be having again this year services for: Palm Sunday, Tenebrae (Good Friday), and Resurrection Sunday. We then talked about the various teaching ministries of the church and rejoiced in what God is doing among our men and women. There have been about 10 people in attendance for each meeting. Next, we discussed the people in our church who haven't been able to make it, and those who we need to visit with. Edith Endress is still home with dizziness and we plan on visiting her again real soon. It was also noted that Clyde and Phillis Carol auctioned their house and moved off to Courtyard Estates in Peoria. They will be greatly missed, but it is the best decision for them at this time. Furthermore, we discussed some of the old and new business. The manse fencing project is underway and we hope to have it in the ground by the 2nd week of April. Finally, Tanya Drummond was voted up by the session and hired as our new Administrative Secretary when Amanda leaves. We also determined that it would be best to get a new hot water heater for the Fellowship Hall hallway and to get rock laid down in the pathway for the Farm to make it easier to travel in and out as we go to have our gatherings this year.



April 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 W.O.W. @ 6pm	3 AWANA @ 6:15pm	4 Food Pantry @5pm	5	6 Men of Iron @7am
7 Communion Bridal Shower for Amanda @12pm	8 Prayer Group @ 9:30am Deacons @6:30pm Session @ 7pm	9 W.O.W. @ 6pm	10 AWANA @ 6:15pm	11	12	13
14 Palm Sunday	15 Prayer Group @ 9:30am	16 W.O.W. @ 6pm	17 AWANA @ 6:15pm	18 Food Pantry @5pm	19 Tenebrae Service @7pm	20
21 Easter Breakfast @ 8am Easter Sunday	22 Prayer Group @ 9:30am	23 W.O.W. @ 6pm	24 AWANA @ 6:15pm	25	26	27
28	29 Prayer Group @ 9:30am	30 W.O.W. @ 6pm	<p><u>New Address/Phone</u> Clyde & Phyllis Carroll 117 N Western Ave – Apt 427 Peoria, IL 61604 Phone: (309) 621--4964</p>			

Bridal Shower

All ladies of the church are invited to join us in the fellowship hall on Sunday, April 7th, 2019 following worship service to shower Amanda with love as we celebrate her upcoming union with Jason on June 1st. Amanda and Jason are registered at Target & Wal-Mart. Please let Teresa or Michaela know if you will be attending. There will be a light lunch served.

Anniversaries

24th – Don & Brenda Peterson

Birthdays

10th – Ryan Lehmann

Michaela Webber

16th – Jean Coon

17th – Ron Peterson

27th – Cathy Hyde

30th – Brayden Lehmann

Prayer Warriors

Yess Family, Harwood Family, Heck Family,
 Carpenter Family, Keighin Family, Siebenthal Family,
 Church Elders & Deacons, W.O.W Ministry, Men of
 Iron Ministry, AWANA Ministry, Fellowship Team

Our Missionaries:

Jeff & Marilyn German



Servant Leadership

In February, Amanda and I attended the PCA Women's Ministry Leadership Training in Atlanta, GA. This three day conference is for women who lead the women's ministry team in their local church. And though I truly love attending this conference I struggle with the word "leader" being tied to my name. I have a hard time seeing myself as a leader. I see myself more as a can't-we-all-just-get-along-and-keep-the-peace type of person. To me a leader is someone who is in authority and may have to make decisions that do not always keep the peace and may cause tension. The thought of tension among God's people really causes my heart to ache.

A few days before we left for Atlanta I listened to Karen Hodge's blog cast about leadership training. Listening to her blog cast before we left for the conference completely opened my eyes to a different view of what a leader is. Biblical leadership is different. She said you may not see yourself as a leader, but look over your shoulder, there is someone following you. Maybe it's people in a corporate boardroom, maybe it's a three year-old tugging at your leg, maybe it is the women's ministry team, or a classroom full of teenagers, but there is someone there following. And then Karen went and blew my theory about leadership and authority and decision making completely apart as well. She said leadership is not synonymous with authority or decision making. Leadership has little to do with a title or role. Biblical leadership looks completely different. Biblical leadership is not positional leadership but it is servant leadership. Now Karen was starting to speak my language. I have never seen myself in a position but I do see myself as someone who likes to serve and to give to others. And then there is Christ who was definitely a servant leader. He was constantly serving and giving to others. In Luke 22:27 Christ told his disciples "...I am among you as the one who serves." He was the true example of servant leadership.

The definition of a leader is "someone who goes on before or alongside another to get them to an intended destination." We are all heading towards the same intended destination, our heavenly home. Consider what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11:1 "Follow me, as I follow Christ." If we are all trying to get to the same place, we are all leaders. Let's all walk in front of or alongside or behind each other to get to our heavenly destination, spurring each other on in Christ.

Love in Christ,
Teresa

