

FOLLOW CHRIST FROM THE  
DOOR OF THE EMPTY TOMB

"He is not here; for He is risen,  
as He said. Come, see the  
place where the Lord lay."  
Matthew 28:6 (NKJV)



## Christian Church of God Newsletter



Contact the Editor at  
[jerrydalemc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jerrydalemc@sbcglobal.net)  
or P. O. Box 33134,  
Amarillo, TX 79120

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From the  
PASTOR'S DESK

This is a combined issue —  
April and May.  
~ Your Editor

Hello My Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

In the 10 days preceding this year's New Testament Passover celebration of the Lord's Supper, Dick Wiedenheft, a fellow minister, lost his battle with cancer, Sandy Booth, wife of my younger brother Jerry, succumbed to the ravages of that dreaded disease after a 9-year battle, and our brother and sister in Christ, Vance and Barbra Woodbury fell victim to the awesome and destructive power of a deadly tornado in the Oklahoma panhandle. To the families we offer our condolences.

As we came that evening to partake of the sacraments of bread and wine, we who knew and loved these four were ever mindful of our mortal fate, grateful for the gift of grace offered through the death of our Passover Lamb and thankful for the gift of eternal life made possible through our Messiah's resurrection.

Think back to the resurrection miracle Jesus

performed during His 3 ½ ministry on this earth; the unbelievable moment when He raised His friend Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-19). When Lazarus died, his sisters were hurt and angry for they had sent for Jesus, but after delaying His departure, their brother was dead by the time He arrived. Martha's first words to Jesus revealed her disappointment and anger. "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died!"

The Messiah shared her sorrow, was moved, wept and more—He showed He is the LORD of life, of the grave, of eternity. He raised Lazarus' cold, lifeless body from the grave and restored him to life! Note what Jesus told His disciples upon word of Lazarus' illness. *"Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up."* And then He told them why, *"This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."*

~ continued pages 9 & 10



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Praise the Lord.  
Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty heavens.  
—Psalm 150:1

[Jesus] came to Nazareth where he had been reared. As he always did on the Sabbath, he went to the meeting place.  
Luke 4:16 (MSG)



I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD." — Psalm 122:1

YOU ARE WELCOME TO MEET WITH US EACH SATURDAY  
11 A.M. Christian Education / 11:45 A.M. Worship Service  
801 QUAIL CREEK DRIVE

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CHECK THIS  
MEDIA

Our sermons  
broadcast on

HGRD Radio  
9:05 AM  
Sunday.

11  
**His Powerful Word**

God means what He says. What He says goes. His powerful Word is sharp as a surgeon's scalpel, cutting through everything, whether doubt or defense, laying us open to listen and obey.  
~ Hebrews 4:12, The Message

ABUNDANT LIFE

I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.  
~John 10: 10

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.  
~Eph 2: 4-6

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.  
~John 1: 12-13

As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.  
~John 6: 57

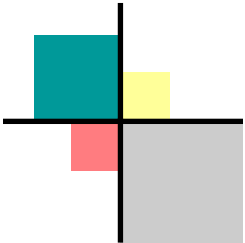
But these are written that you may be-

lieve that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.  
~John 20: 31

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.  
~1 John 5: 11-12

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.  
~Psalms 16: 9-11

{ All Scriptures are from the NKJV }



Omega.

*"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"(1 Cor 15:54-55 KJV)*

He who lives again will make us live again... indeed we are NOT without hope.

In His Debt,

**Jeff Booth**



***I am the resurrection and the life . . . !***



**PRAYER REQUESTS:** "... The prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up; ... Pray for one another that you may be healed." — James 5:15-16.

**Sheri Bartlett:** Julia McKinney's daughter, having serious health problems.

**Amber & Dylan Clark:** Grandchildren of Betty Clark, cerebral palsy.

**Vickie Crevoi:** Sister of Linda Booth, Chronic Progressive MS.

**DeAnne DeLuna:** Larry Lyles' stepdaughter, breast cancer.

**Velvet Green:** Gary's wife, schizophrenia. She is not doing well.

**Randy Gnessett:** Friend of Candace Sellers, received a lung transplant. Is still in critical condition.

**Glenn Kirkpatrick:** Joe's father, weak and severely frail.

**C.D. McKinney:** Julia's husband, experiencing heart arrhythmia.

**Anna Law:** Lupus & kidney failure. Is in need of kidney transplant.

**Dollie Meil:** Cerebral palsy. She is growing weak.

**Rose Munholland:** Betty Clark's sister's mother-in-law, cancer and complications from treatment.

**C.L. Osterloh:** Undergoing dialysis weekly.

**Glenda Rankin:** Niece of Rudolph, Hodgkins Lymphoma. Received stem cell transplant.

**Ted Rankin:** Undergoing physical therapy, following back surgery. Is showing slight improvement but still having vision problems.

**Kathryn Scott:** Friend of the Baileys; severe MS, losing use of arms and swallowing ability.

**Emma Searl:** Less than 1-year old, Spina Bifida, staph infection.

**Wilson Stewart:** Diagnosed with prostate cancer, numbness and difficulty swallowing.

**Ron Vorheis:** Suffering from macular degeneration and heart arrhythmia

IF YOU HAVE UPDATES OR NEW REQUESTS PLEASE INFORM THE EDITOR. [jerrydalemc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jerrydalemc@sbcglobal.net)



# I hear by the Grapevine

Hi Jerry and Martha,  
So sorry to hear about the deaths of your brethren. That is awful. We pray for the people who knew them.

There was a small private service for Dick W's family on Friday. We will host a larger memorial service on April 28th. The church that outgrew our building wants to let us use their facility free of charge as a gesture of appreciation. . . .

It didn't seem like we were going to get snow at all this winter. We got two more good storms after the Valentine Day storm, which was the worst (or best). [Bob's viewpoint of these snows is the result of investing in some snow removal equipment.] The big contract we landed has been nice. This is the way businesses bump up to the next level. They were real happy, so we should renew for next year. Hopefully we will get record snowfall, as it has been below average quite a few years in a row.

I saw the achalasia specialist Friday and it looks like I will be having the surgery soon to permanently open my lower esophageal sphincter. He said no more botox injections, as they do something to the texture of the tissue that makes the cutting and healing less effective. Sounds like two or three days in the hospital followed by a week of liquid only diet and a month or so of slippery solids after that.

I hope you have a blessed Passover and Days of UB. . . . Please give our love to the brethren,  
Your friend, Bob

**Condolences** Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Rom 12:15

**Richard Wiedenheft died March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please keep his wife Darlene and the family in your prayers for comfort in their loss.**

**Sandy Booth, wife of Jeff Booth's brother Jerry, died March 27<sup>th</sup> in Ohio. Please keep Jerry and the family in your prayers for comfort in their loss.**

**Vance & Barbra Woodbury died March 28<sup>th</sup> in Oklahoma. Please keep their 3 children, Scott, Vickie and Brad in your prayers for comfort in their loss.**

Matt 5:4, *Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*

## April Birthdays:

Bob Cooper	3rd
Curly Shaklee	8th
Audrey Strahl	8th
J. R. Hamilton	18th
James Vines	26th

## April Anniversaries:

Weldon & Glennis McAlister	24th
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His purpose was not to just add a few more years to Lazarus' life in the flesh, for that is but a vapor according to James. No, His purpose was to give to Mary, Martha, the Apostles and all of us who have followed tangible assurance of His power over death!

Lazarus had been dead for four days when Jesus told Martha, *"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die."* He then rolled the stone away from the tomb commanding Lazarus to rise and come forth. When His friend did indeed rise and walk out of that tomb to the joy and amazement of Mary, Martha and the disciples, Jesus had demonstrably proved His point. This precursor to His own resurrection must not be lost upon us.

bread and wine of His broken body and shed blood. Anew we accepted His sacrifice of death for our sins, but the story does not end with His death. Forgiveness for sins is not the end, but rather a means to the end. His enemies thought they had vanquished Him. As they saw His cold, lifeless body wrapped in a shroud, they thought they had heard the last from this troublesome prophet, but three days later, their joy was gone, their "victory" fleeting, for they could not prevent Jesus, the Son of God, rising from the dead as promised. Just as Lazarus' tomb stone was rolled away, so to had our Savior's stone rolled away from the garden tomb where He had been placed after the crucifixion. It was His final testimony to His eternal victory over the power of death and the grave... the chains of death and the prison of the grave had been rolled away with that stone.

*For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. (1 Cor 15:22-26)*

At Passover, we partook of the sacraments of our Savior's death, the

Mary Magdalene, Peter and John were astounded when they peered into that empty tomb early that Sunday morning after the Passover. Christ was risen... risen indeed! And because Jesus is risen, the dead in Christ shall be raised. So while some of us have been overcome with grief this Passover season, we are NOT without hope, for Jesus put His life on the line, so that death could not, would not have the last word. When the God of creation who had the FIRST word, walked out of that stony tomb, He showed to all that He has the LAST word. He is the Alpha and the



- **Live a new life by the power of the risen Christ.**
- If you are then **"risen" with Christ**, reach out for the highest gifts of Heaven, where your master reigns in power.
- Give your heart to the heavenly things, not to the passing things of earth. For, as far as this world is concerned, you are already dead, and your true life is a hidden one in Christ.
- One day, Christ, the secret centre of our lives, will show himself openly, and you will all share in that magnificent denouement.
- In so far, then, as you have to live upon this earth, consider yourselves dead to worldly contacts: have nothing to do with sexual immorality, dirty-mindedness, uncontrolled passion, evil desire, and the lust for other people's goods, which last, remember, is as serious a sin as idolatry.
- No more evil temper or furious rage: no more

evil thoughts or words about others, no more evil thoughts or words about God, and no more filthy conversation. Don't tell each other lies any more, for you have finished with the old man and all he did and have begun life as the new man, who is out to learn what he ought to be, according to the plan of God.

- As, therefore, God's picked representatives of the new humanity, purified and beloved of God himself, be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind.
- Accept life, and be most patient and tolerant with one another, always ready to forgive if you have a difference with anyone. Forgive as freely as the Lord has forgiven you.
- And, above everything else, be truly loving, for love is the golden chain of all the virtues.
- Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and never forget to be thankful has done for you. ~ From J. B. Phillips / Colossians 3.



LORD AND MASTER, I HAVE TAKEN TIME TO EXAMINE MYSELF PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN THE CHRISTIAN PASSOVER/ LORD'S SUPPER, AND I SEE THE NEED TO CONTINUE THIS PRACTICE FROM WEEK TO WEEK AS PART OF MY LIFE IN CHRIST.

1 Corinthians 11:27-28

Psalms 139:23-24

James 4:6-10

Colossians 3:1-10 {See LifePoints}

For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. ~James 1:23-25 (NKJV)

## Hymns for Him



Sing songs from your heart to Christ. Sing praises over everything, any excuse for a song to God the Father in the name of our Master, Jesus Christ. ~ Ephesians 5:19-20, Msg.

## He Lives

It's been a favorite of the non-traditional hymns since it was written.  
I serve a risen Savior;  
He's in the world today.  
I know that He is living,  
Whatever men may say.  
I see His hand of mercy,  
I hear His voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need Him  
He's always near.

In all the world around me  
I see His loving care,  
And though my heart grows weary  
I never will despair;  
I know that He is leading  
Thru all the stormy blast,  
The day of His appearing  
Will come at last.  
Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian,

Lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs  
To Jesus Christ the King!  
The hope of all who seek Him,  
The help of all who find,  
None other is so loving,  
So good and kind

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

~ A. H. Ackley

From PASSOVER

to PENTECOST

ACTS 2:1, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come."  
The word Pentecost is a Greek word, signifying the fiftieth part of a thing; or the fiftieth in order. Among the Jews it was applied to one of their three great feasts which began on the fiftieth day after the Passover. This feast was reckoned from the sixteenth day of the month ABIB, or April, or the second day of the Passover. The paschal lamb was slain on the fourteenth of the month at even, (Le 23:5); on the fifteenth of the month was a holy convocation--the proper beginning of the feast; on the sixteenth was the offering of the first-fruits of harvest, and from that day they were to reckon seven weeks, i.e., forty-nine days to the feast called the feast of Pentecost, so that it occurred fifty days after the first day of the feast of the Passover. This feast was also called the feast of weeks, from the circumstance that it followed a succession of weeks, Ex 34:22 Nu 28:26 De 16:10. It was also a harvest festival, and was accordingly called the feast of har-

vest. And it was for this reason that two loaves made of new meal were offered on this occasion as first-fruits, Le 23:17,20 Nu 28:27-31. —Barnes' Notes on the New Testament  
In Old Testament times, the Spirit of God came upon isolated individuals or smaller groups, only on special occasions, and only in a temporary way to help them accomplish God's purposes (Exodus 31:3; Judges 14:6; 1 Samuel 16:13). As the apostles were gathered together in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost, the time had come for the fulfillment of Christ's promise to send his Spirit completely and permanently upon all believers (Luke 24:49; John 14:16-17, 26; 16:5-15). This marvelous outpouring of God provided the supernatural power for believers to take the life-changing message of the gospel to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). This is the day Christ made good on his promise to send the Helper, the Comforter, the Holy Spirit who would take up permanent residence in those who put their faith in Christ. And what a day it was! ~LAC

PENTECOST

Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>

C.E.P. Bible Class ~ 11:00 a.m.  
Holyday Worship Service ~ 11:45 a.m.

Chuckles

A cheerful disposition is good for your health; gloom and doom leave you bone-tired. —Proverbs

