

**KISSINGER'S CHURCH**  
715 Berkshire Blvd.  
Wyomissing, PA 19610

**April 2019**

# Kissinger's Caller

## Calling all people to Jesus Christ

What does  
**EASTER**  
mean to you?

To many it's just another day on the calendar. To others, it means new clothes, family pictures and a big meal. To some it's one of two days out of the year they go to church. To others, it's chocolate bunnies and hunting for Easter eggs.

Wayne Smith used to tell the story of Philip, a nine-year-old boy with serious physical and mental challenges, who was a part of a Sunday school class in a small Methodist Church in Kentucky. Everyone knew Phillip was different and really wasn't a part of the class.

The Sunday before Easter the teacher brought some empty plastic eggs that used to contain pantyhose to the class. She gave an egg to each child and said, "Go out this week and find something that represents life and bring it back in your egg for Easter Sunday." The kids were excited and looked forward to coming back with their eggs full the next week.

Easter Sunday arrived and so did the class of eight and nine year olds ... with their eggs. The teacher began to

*Continued...*

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open them. The first egg had a flower inside. It belonged to a little girl. The teacher said, "That's good." Then she opened the second egg and inside was a butterfly. It belonged to another girl. "Another good one," she said. The teacher opened the third egg and inside was a rock. She asked, "Who's egg is this?" The class clown, Johnny, raised his hand and everyone laughed.

Then the teacher opened the fourth egg and it was empty. "It's empty," she said. "Who's egg is this?" No one volunteered. One of the children said, "Whoever did that messed up." Another child chimed in, "Someone must be stupid." The whole class laughed, wondering who it might be.

The teacher felt a tug and looked down. It was Philip. "The egg is mine, teacher." One of the boys said, "Phillip, you never do anything right. Your egg is empty."

"I know it's empty, " Phillip answered. "The tomb was empty."

There was a long silence in the class and the teacher said, "You're right, Phillip. The tomb was empty and the tomb is still empty." From then on, Phillip was accepted by everyone in the class.

The tomb was empty and the tomb is still empty.

That summer, Phillip died. His parents knew he wouldn't live a long life. But in July, an infection set in that he couldn't survive. At the funeral, nine eight and nine-year-old kids, in single file, led by their teacher, walked up to the casket and each placed an empty egg inside.

That my friends, is EASTER!

Did you see what Jesus did NOT do? He did NOT retaliate.

The dialogue that Friday morning was bitter. From the onlookers, "Come down from the cross if you are the Son of God!"

From the religious leaders, "He saved others but he can't save himself."

From the soldiers, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

Bitter words. Acidic with sarcasm. Hateful. Irreverent. Wasn't it enough that he was being crucified? Wasn't it enough that he was being shamed as a criminal? Were the nails insufficient? Was the crown of thorns too soft? Had the flogging been too short?

For some, apparently so...

Of all the scenes around the cross, this one angers me the most. What kind of people, I ask myself, would mock a dying man? Who would be so base as to pour the salt of scorn upon open wounds? How low and perverted to sneer at one who is laced with pain...

The words thrown that day were meant to wound. And there is nothing more painful than words meant to hurt...

If you have suffered or are suffering because of someone else's words, you'll be glad to know that there is a balm for this laceration. Meditate on these words from 1 Peter 2:23 (NIV):

"When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly."

Did you see what Jesus did not do? He did not retaliate. He did not bite back. He did not say, "I'll get you!" "Come on up here and say that to my face!" "Just wait until after the resurrection, buddy!" No, these statements were not found on Christ's lips.

Did you see what Jesus did do? He "entrusted himself to him who judges justly." Or said more simply, he left the judging to God. He did not take on the task of seeking revenge. He demanded no apology. He hired no bounty hunters and sent out no posse. He, to the astounding contrary, spoke on their defense. "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."? (Luke 23:34 NIV)...

"they don't know what they are doing."

And when you think about it, they didn't. They hadn't the faintest idea what they were doing. They were a stir-crazy mob, mad at something they couldn't see so they took it out on, of all people, God. But they didn't know what they were doing.

Yes, the dialogue that Friday morning was bitter. The verbal stones were meant to sting. How Jesus, with a body wracked with pain, eyes blinded by his own blood, and lungs yearning for air, could speak on behalf of some heartless thugs is beyond my comprehension. Never, never have I seen such love. If ever a person deserved a shot at revenge, Jesus did. But he didn't take it. Instead he died for them. How could he do it? I don't know. But I do know that all of a sudden my wounds seem very painless. My grudges and hard feelings are suddenly childish.

Sometimes I wonder if we don't see Christ's love as much in the people he tolerated as in the pain he endured.

Amazing Grace.

by Max Lucado



**"I wasn't always as religious as I am now. For years I thought the Ten Commandments were a doo-wop group from the 1950's!"**

## CHIPMUNK NEWS

### EXCITING SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

**Sundays at 9:00  
AM**

- ◇ Dave Kauffman  
is teaching  
**“STORIES  
FROM THE  
BIBLE”**
- ◇ Bryan Seyler is  
teaching  
**“Church Tradi-  
tions and Bibli-  
cal Truths ”**
- ◇ Pauline Seyler  
will be teaching  
classes for chil-  
dren ages 5 thru  
12

Friends,

In John 12:24 Jesus says, “I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels--a plentiful harvest of new lives”. (NLT)

There are at least 2 applications to this verse:

1. Jesus’ sacrificial death on the cross not only brought about our salvation but was a death that would produce new lives throughout humanity – the church.
2. We also need to choose to, “lay down our lives” in order to experience a “plentiful harvest” of new life.

In Romans 6:2-4, Paul brings out these principles when discussing baptism. “<sup>2</sup> Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? <sup>3</sup> Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? <sup>4</sup> For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.”

Friend, is there something in your life that Jesus wants you to “die to”? When we choose to live in our sins, we aren’t truly living. It’s only when we “die to our sins” that we can truly “live” and influence others for the kingdom of God.

So, by the grace and power of God, let’s live the lives that God has called us to and watch the harvest that God will produce!

Blessings,

Pastor Dave





# YOUTH MINISTRIES

*"Relationships are the source of all ministry. Building relationships in our youth ministry (and elsewhere) is less about what brings us together and more about what connects us." - April Bytof*



## **Youth Movie Night:**

The kids had a wonderful time together at the movie night event ! Thank you Jackie Reinwald for accompanying, chaperoning and assisting with youth transportation!

## **Youth Bowling Night:**

The kids had a blast together at the Youth Group bowling event! Thank you to all the parents for accompanying and assisting with youth transportation!



## **Easter Egg Hunt:**

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held for all children ages 10 and under on April 14th at 12:15pm following the regular worship service. Please sign up any children who plan to attend on the sign-up board in the Lobby.

Youth Ministry Leader: **April Bytof 610-406-5445 (H)**

Email: [anbytof@yahoo.com](mailto:anbytof@yahoo.com)

## T-SHIRTS HAVE ARRIVED!

Have you already ordered your Church T-shirt? Did you want to order a T-shirt and never got around to it? Don't worry! We have you covered. T-shirts have arrived and are available for sale at a cost of only \$15 each. All sizes available. Get yours now!



"It takes courage to let go of the familiar and embrace the new"



As you may have noticed over the last couple of months, changes are being made to our monthly newsletter. As with any change, things are a work in progress. Throughout future newsletters we'd like to continue to include items that have traditionally been a part of the newsletter while also adding more information about the happenings of our church. If you have an event at the church to advertise, please let the office know We'd love to include it! We would also love to include pictures and reports of events that have happened so all are aware of everything happening here in our church.

We're also looking for someone in the church to interview other members about themselves and their faith journey to include a "spotlight" on a member each month. Let's get to know each other. If interested contact the church office.

If you wish to contribute any items to the newsletter, please **make your submission no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication.** Items can be emailed to [kissingerschurch@yahoo.com](mailto:kissingerschurch@yahoo.com) or you can call the office at 610-372-5606.



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## *RECIPE OF THE MONTH*

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### **RITZY BAKED CHICKEN**

#### **Ingredients**

- 1 pound chicken tenderloins
- 2 eggs
- 1 tablespoon heavy cream
- 1 package Italian dressing mix
- 3/4 cup Parmesan cheese
- 2 sleeves Ritz crackers (or buttery cracker of your choice)

#### **Instructions**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Spray cookie sheet with cooking spray and set aside.

In a large zip top bag, crush crackers with parmesan and dressing mix.

In a large bowl, mix eggs with heavy cream. Add all chicken pieces and toss to coat.

Shake chicken pieces in the bag of crackers, lay each out on baking sheet.

**Website** - [www.kissingerschurch.org](http://www.kissingerschurch.org)

**Email** - [kissingerschurch@yahoo.com](mailto:kissingerschurch@yahoo.com)

**Facebook** - [www.facebook.com/kissingers.church.3](https://www.facebook.com/kissingers.church.3)





# UPCOMING EVENTS

## EASTER CANDY

Order Now! Milk Chocolate or Dark Chocolate Peanut Butter Eggs and Milk Chocolate or Dark Chocolate Coconut Eggs will be sold in 1lb. boxes only. Each box is \$9.00. Sign up sheets to order are available in the Lobby.



## EASTER BAZAAR

Sunday, April 7th and April 14th  
After Worship  
(Craft donations needed)

## ACTIVE SHOOTER PRESENTATION

Thursday, April 11th  
6:30-8:30 PM

Due to the nature of the event, this is an adult only event. If you wish to join us as we listen to a presentation given by Trooper Beohm of PA State Police, please contact the church office.



## EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, April 14th (after worship)

## FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

Sunday, April 14th

Sign up at the kitchen window to bring a potluck dish.

This month's theme is "Easter Hoppenings"





## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 19th

7:00pm



## MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, April 26th at 7:00 PM

Join us for our movie night. Movie - "I Can Only Imagine". Bring a snack , a friend, and sit back and enjoy!

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the date

Saturday, May 18th

12:00 - 5:00PM

More details to come



## JOHN DENVER CONCERT

May 5th—more info to come

## SPEAKER LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 2nd at 11:00AM

Paoo's Restaurant (Shillington)

Speaker - TBD

RSVP to Andee Swoyer



# April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Sarah Lugo	3 Betty Graves Janet Yerger	4 11am— Listen, Learn & Lunch— Paolo's Restaurant	5 Barbara Hoffman	6 10:30am— Bible Study (Barb Adams' home)
7 Easter Bazaar  * Communion	8 Doug Swoyer	9 6:45pm— Council Meeting	10 1pm—Bible Study 6:30pm—Prayer Chain Meeting	11 6:30pm Active Shooter Presentation	12 Bud Ray	13 10:30am— Bible Study (Barb Adams' home)
14 Fellowship Luncheon “Easter Hoppenings” Easter Bazaar 12:15pm— Easter Egg Hunt	15 6:30pm— GDC meeting Gabrielle Faust	16	17 1pm—Bible Study Bob Titlow	18	19 7pm—Good Friday Service	20 10:30am— Bible Study (Barb Adams' home)
21	22	23	24 1pm—Bible Study	25	26 7pm—Movie Night	27 10:30am— Bible Study (Barb Adams' home)
28	29 6pm— Special Events Mtg	30 6:30pm— Women's Group				