



Cross~Wind

Connection

April 2024

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Last month we began to look at John Wesley's model for making disciples through the Class Meeting. We're going a little deeper this month.

Most of us are used to making connections with others through the weekly worship service. That can be helpful and meaningful for some. However, Rev. Michael Zdorow, Pastor of Connecting and Leadership Ministries at Christ Church, a United Methodist congregation in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, says, "I've observed that there is this veneer over our souls. We have the Christian answer or the automatic Christian response to some things." To grow, we need to go deeper.

In the 1990s, Christ Church invited members to come together in what they call Wesley Fellowship Groups. Each Wesley Fellowship Group is "a covenant relationship group where the goal is sanctification. According to Zdorow, "It is more, 'How is it with your soul?' And then holding each other accountable in our daily walk with God and being in ministry with the church."

Methodism began with a small group. Then, as the movement spread, a specific type of gathering called the Class Meeting became central to what it meant to be a Methodist.

Historically, Class Meetings "made sure that every Methodist was connected to other Methodists, so no one was left out, ignored, or overlooked," says Rev. Kevin Watson, a United Methodist elder and Assistant Professor of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies at Candler School of Theology. "They relentlessly focused every Methodist on the current state of their relationship with God. And they connected people to others who were at different stages of the Christian life."

Watson says, "Class Meetings were required, because they were believed to be particularly helpful in people's growth in the Christian life, at any stage."

All of this happens through a very simple structure. A group of about 12 people gathers weekly to take turns answering a single question. In 18th century English, Wesley asked, "How does your soul prosper?" or "How is it with your soul?" Today we might say, "How's your spiritual life?"

It doesn't happen overnight, but through answering that question together Class Meeting members grow closer to one another and closer to Christ. They begin to "watch over one another in love," as John Wesley put it.

Steven Manskar, a retired United Methodist elder and author of several books about Covenant Discipleship says, "Covenant Discipleship groups help Christians to grow in loving God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love their neighbor as themselves. They are a proven and effective way of forming leaders in discipleship who help the congregation to live out its mission with Christ in the world. Covenant Discipleship groups form Christ-centered people who help to lead Christ-centered congregations that participate in Christ's ongoing work of preparing the world for the coming reign of God, on earth as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:10; Luke 11:2).

Connecting, growing, and journeying together forms disciples as they reflect on and share their answers to a single question.

To start a similar group, simply invite some friends together and ask the question, "How's your spiritual life?" Then see where the Holy Spirit leads.

Next month, we'll look at the structure and organization of these groups and how they can help us grow in our faith.

Peace and Good!  
Tim

**Lay Servant Academy**  
**April 13**  
**8:00 AM-5:00 PM**  
**Cross-Wind United Methodist Church**

Lay Servant Academy is for anyone who desires to be better equipped for whatever ministry God is calling you into. You are invited to join us for the Lay Servant Ministries Academy to begin or continue training for living out the call to make disciples for the transformation of our churches, communities, and world. This is a one day in person Lay Servant Academy. Registrants can attend only one class and must be present the entire day.

We will offer three class choices: **Introduction to Lay Ministries** led by Terri Budde which is for all persons who are attending their first Lay Servant Academy. **Leading Worship** led by Pastor Brandon Scott and **Leading Missional Small Groups** led by Rev. Tim Powers. These two choices are for those who have completed the introductory course.

The cost is \$25.00 plus the price of the book for your class (cost varies). Visa and MasterCard accepted or make checks payable to the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Registration is due April 6. Register online at <https://inumc.swoogo.com/NWlsaCrossWind041324>



# April

## Birthdays

Marlin Hathaway	April 4
Lori Vizcarra	April 6
Curtis Wilson	April 11
Joe Crites	April 12
Toni Wagner	April 12
Judy Hamilton	April 13
Dan Pear	April 15
Jim Austen	April 21
Jeffrey Asselin	April 22
Carol Chamness	April 28
Julie Morris	April 29
Ann Troutman	April 29
Dave Morris	April 30



## MARCH ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING

The weekly offering amount needed to meet our annual budget is **\$5,200.00**

February 18	112	\$2,240.95
February 25	108	\$3,471.23
March 3	93	\$4,537.97
March 10	102	\$4,341.63
March 17	103	\$2,341.95

## Anniversaries

Dick & Toni Farris

April 10

# Interesting Facts About April Fool's

The all fools day, i.e., the April fool's day is the most light-hearted day of the year. How could it not be, it is all about making a fool of the people we love and making them look stupid with practical jokes. The best part is nobody is offended. It certainly celebrates foolishness. But when, where and how it all started? Let's hunt some interesting facts about this funny day:

## 1. A day to cleanse your mind!

Other beliefs say that it came as a day of laughter and celebrating life by throwing away evil thoughts!

## 2. April Fish!

The most famous prank by the French, the originators of Fool's day is to stick a paper fish on someone's body without their knowledge and to shout "April Fish." Sounds so childish and exciting and fun right?? These French people know how to make people look stupid!

## 3. Too ancient to track!

When do you think the first Fool's day got celebrated? Well, the record of the first Fool's day was found out to be in 1392, which means that the celebrations might have started then or before that.

## 4. Limited fun!

In some counties, the pranks should be played only until noon!

## 5. A two days celebration!

In Scotland, people celebrate two days as fools' days! The second is called "Taily day," in which people play pranks only using one's back part. That is they stick papers saying, "Kick me" and so on to one's back and enjoy!

## 6. Royal fool's day!

The Korean royal family is allowed to lie and play pranks on April first.

## 7. Flour-Throwing-Day!

In some countries, people throw flour at each other as the part of festivities.

<https://ohfact.com/interesting-facts-about-april-fools-day/>



# THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the men that helped with the Men's Lenten Breakfast hosted by Cross~Wind on February 24. You are appreciated!

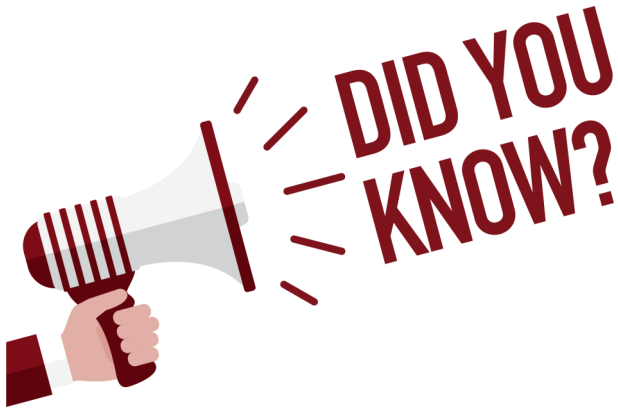


Thank you for the concerns, cards and prayers. Also thank you Linda Hoffman and Barb Buck for the lovely prayer shawl. All are greatly appreciated. God Bless.

**Chris Harmon**

We are so blessed to have a loving supporter like you. Thank you for your generous donations that will help us keep our doors open. You are helping families and homeless people that come through our doors. God Bless.

**360 Life Center Salvation Army**



Cross~Wind Has Been Blessed with Many New Faces!

To help our new family feel at home we are asking that everyone start wearing their name tags. The name tags are found in the name tag case in the foyer at the front entrance doors.



If you do not have a name tag or cannot find yours, please let the office know by either requesting a name tag on the attendance slip in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate or find a name tag request form next to the name tag case that can be placed in the offering plate or in the office. Thank you.



If you plan on stopping by the church for any reason, please note that the building will be locked from 12:00pm to 1:00pm and after 4:00pm. If you have any questions, please contact a trustee or the church office.

If you would like to be a part of Cross~Wind's Prayer Chain or have not been receiving them due to a computer program problem, please make sure you subscribe on our website or call the church office and ask to be put on the email list. To subscribe simply go to our website [www.crosswindministries.net](http://www.crosswindministries.net) and scroll to the bottom of the home page to subscribe. If you have any questions, contact the church office.



#### Connect

Subscribe to the prayer chain for prayer & praise updates by clicking on the SUBSCRIBE button.



### **Bible Trivia**

Paul was shipwrecked on what island?

Answer found at the end of the Trustee Report



## *Greg Abbott, Sr and Greg Abbott, Jr.*

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You may have noticed these friendly faces as you come to Cross~Wind to worship at the 10:50am service. Greg Abbott and his father, Greg always have a smile and a handshake for you as you enter into the building at Cross~Wind. The father and son duo have attended Cross~Wind for three years. They attended Hillcrest Baptist Church before coming to Cross~Wind.

Greg, Jr. admitted that it was quite an adjustment switching from the Baptist church to Cross~Wind but that they are adapting. They have eagerly taken on their duties to help. They both appreciate the warm family atmosphere here. Welcome to the Cross~Wind family!



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If you would like to be our featured “*know your neighbor*” please submit a bio and picture to the office or contact Vicki Austen at 574.601.8401 or [austenv@comcast.net](mailto:austenv@comcast.net)



## Grades K-5



Hi All!

### **Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

\*We will have a special Easter Children's Church!  
The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held immediately following the 10:50am service. All are welcome! Come join the fun!

### **April's Virtue:**

*Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now*

### **April's Bible Verse:**

*Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope.  
Wait for the Lord. -Psalm 27:14 (NIRV)*



*Easter Blessings*



Questions? Email me at [linda@crosswindministries.net](mailto:linda@crosswindministries.net)  
Linda Eshelman – Director of Children's Ministry





Happy Spring! We're starting to see the small little buds popping up on trees, and people are getting their lawn equipment ready for another season. Hopefully, someone lets the weather know that it's now spring, and it's time for warmth and sunshine. I hope everyone has a happy and safe Spring Break 2024 this year and the kiddos are able to get some much-needed rest and relaxation, and possibly a vacation.

As we move into Holy Week during this Lenten season, I think it's important for us to remember the whole meaning of this week, and the sacrifices that were made for our salvation.

We have had to move our climbing event to the week of 4/15 with the PE class from the Intermediate School next door, due to some scheduling conflicts, but look forward to welcoming the kids from the school to come over to climb. We are typically here from about 8AM to 3PM, or so and will be here on 4/16, 4/18 and 4/19. If anyone would like to come and volunteer to help with organizing kids, please feel free to contact me at the below email address. We should be ok, however, with such large groups (up to 40 per class) we could use some extra efforts to help with the kids that choose not to climb. Again, if you're interested, please just let me know.

Thank you for the continued support and encouragement. It's always very much appreciated.

Regards,

Steve Holehan

Youth Director

[steven@crosswindministries.net](mailto:steven@crosswindministries.net)

# April Scripture Readings

- April 1—Monday of Easter Week—Acts 2:14, 22-33; Psalm 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11;  
Matthew 28:8-15
- April 2—Tuesday of Easter Week—Acts 2:36-41; Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19-22; John 20:11-18
- April 3—Wednesday of Easter Week—Acts 3:1-10; Psalm 105:1-9; Luke 24:13-35
- April 4—Thursday of Easter Week—Acts 3:11-26; Psalm 8:2, 5-9; Luke 24:35-48
- April 5—Friday of Easter Week—Acts 4:1-12; Psalm 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; John 21:1-14
- April 6—Saturday of Easter Week—Acts 4:13-21; Psalm 118:1, 14-21; Mark 16:9-15
- April 7—2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter—Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31
- April 8—The Annunciation of the Lord (transferred this year from March 25)—  
Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 45; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38\*
- April 9—Dietrich Bonhoeffer—Acts 4:32-37; Psalm 93; John 3:7-15\*
- April 10—Acts 5:12-26; Psalm 34:1-8; John 3:16-21
- April 11—Garfield Bromley Oxnam—Acts 5:27-33; Psalm 34:15-22; John 3:31-36
- April 12—Aidwin—Acts 5:34-42; Psalm 27:1-9; John 6:1-15
- April 13—Acts 6:1-7; Psalm 33:1-5, 18-22; John 6:16-21
- April 14—3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter—Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48
- April 15—Acts 6:8-15; Psalm 27:10-18; John 6:22-29
- April 16—Acts 7:51-8:1a; Psalm 31:1-5; John 6:30-35
- April 17—Acts 8:1b-8; Psalm 66:1-8; John 6:35-40
- April 18—Francis Burns—Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 66:14-18; John 6:44-51
- April 19—Philip Melanchthon—Acts 9:1-20; Psalm 117; John 6:52-59
- April 20—Acts 9:31-42; Psalm 116:10-17; John 6:60-69
- April 21—4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter—Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18
- April 22—Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 96:1-9; John 10:1-10
- April 23—Acts 11:19-26; Psalm 87; John 10:22-30
- April 24—Samuel Wesley—Acts 12:24-13:5a; Psalm 67; John 12:44-50
- April 25—Mark—Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 2; Ephesians 4:7-8, 11-16; Mark 1:1-15\*
- April 26—Acts 13:26-33; Psalm 2:6-13; John 14:1-6
- April 27—Peter Boehler—Acts 13:44-52; Psalm 98:1-6; John 14:7-14
- April 28—5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter—Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8
- April 29—Laura Askew Haygood—Acts 14:5-18; Psalm 115:1-13; John 14:21-26
- April 30—Acts 14:19-28; Psalm 145:9-14; John 14:27-31

# trustee

## Update

Thanks to Becky Groff, Dave Downham, Stan Maloy, Curtis Wilson, Mike Beety, Jim Layman, Nancy DeHaven, Dave Morris, Dave Boyd and Steve Gwin - our mowers for the 2024 summer season. Joe Boyd is in charge of gas and maintenance for mowers. These individuals are appreciated very much!!

There was an issue with the water line at the pavilion. The water line needed repairs before it can be turned on in May to work properly. Thanks to the private donor who paid to have this repair done. Note: Please be sure to contact the church office for pavilion rentals and information. As the weather gets warmer, more people and groups will be using the space and it's important that you have a reservation in order to hold an event.

There was a drainage issue at the East corner of the parsonage. Water was not draining properly and had potential for foundation damage. Thanks to the private donor who paid to have this repair done as well.

Trustees are currently researching ideas to replace the wooden bridge in the prayer garden as it is beyond repair. Watch for updates and donation opportunities!

God's people are good. Psalms 11:7 – The Lord is righteous and loves good deeds; those who do them will live in his presence.

The next Trustees' meeting will be held May 7, 2024, at 6 pm.

# APRIL 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>6:00pm</b> Boy Scouts</p> <p><b>6:30pm</b> Cub Scouts</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>10:45am</b> Triple S Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Facebook Live Prayer</p> <p><b>4:30pm</b> Facebook Live Prayer</p>	<p>4</p> <p><b>6:15pm</b> Choir</p> <p><b>7:00pm</b> Praise Team</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p><b>7 Communion</b></p> <p><b>8:30am</b> Traditional Worship</p> <p><b>10:50am</b> Contemporary Worship</p> <p><b>12:00pm</b> Youth Group</p>	<p>8</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>6:00pm</b> Boy Scouts</p> <p><b>6:30pm</b> Cub Scouts</p>	<p>9</p> <p><b>10:45am</b> Triple S Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Facebook Live Prayer</p> <p><b>4:30pm</b> Facebook Live Prayer</p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>9:00am</b> NW District Operational Teams</p> <p><b>6:15pm</b> Choir</p> <p><b>7:00pm</b> Praise Team</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p><b>7:20am</b> NW District LSA</p>
<p><b>14 Giving Sunday</b></p> <p><b>8:30am</b> Traditional Worship</p> <p><b>10:50am</b> Contemporary Worship</p> <p><b>10:50am</b> Think Orange</p> <p><b>12:00pm</b> Youth Group</p>	<p>15</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>6:00pm</b> Boy Scouts</p> <p><b>6:30pm</b> Cub Scouts</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>8:00am</b> LIS Rock Climbing</p> <p><b>10:45am</b> Triple S Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Facebook Live Prayer</p> <p><b>4:30pm</b> Facebook Live Prayer</p>	<p>18</p> <p><b>8:00am</b> LIS Rock Climbing</p> <p><b>6:15pm</b> Choir</p> <p><b>7:00pm</b> Praise Team</p>	<p>19</p> <p><b>8:00am</b> LIS Rock Climbing</p>	<p><b>20 Newsletter Articles Due</b></p> <p><b>11:00am</b> Loaves &amp; Fishes at Calvary Presbyterian</p>
<p><b>21 Choir Sings</b></p> <p><b>8:30am</b> Traditional Worship</p> <p><b>10:50am</b> Contemporary Worship</p> <p><b>10:50am</b> Think Orange</p> <p><b>12:00pm</b> Youth Group</p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>6:00pm</b> Boy Scouts</p> <p><b>6:30pm</b> Cub Scouts</p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>10:45am</b> Triple S Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Facebook Live Prayer</p> <p><b>4:30pm</b> Facebook Live Prayer</p>	<p>25</p> <p><b>6:15pm</b> Choir</p> <p><b>7:00pm</b> Praise Team</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p><b>8:30am</b> Traditional Worship</p> <p><b>10:50am</b> Contemporary Worship</p> <p><b>10:50am</b> Think Orange</p> <p><b>12:00pm</b> Youth Group</p>	<p>29</p> <p><b>9:30am</b> Area Five Exercise 60+</p> <p><b>6:00pm</b> Boy Scouts</p> <p><b>6:30pm</b> Cub Scouts</p>	<p>30</p> <p><b>10:45am</b> Triple S Bible Study</p>				