

July 2023



## MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

In May we celebrated Pentecost, and that kicked off my latest sermon series, “How to ACT like Jesus,” which is based on the book of Acts. I’m using the word, “ACT” as a tie-in to Acts; I don’t mean that we should pretend to be like Jesus. We should be like Jesus. Over ten years ago I preached through Acts with an eye to what it means to be the Church. This time through, we are focusing on what it means to have an authentic faith.

As parents, one of the most important things we can do is to mean what we say and follow through on our commitments. If children start observing inconsistencies in their parents, trust will diminish, and parenting is less effective. The same is true in just about any sphere of lifework, community, and especially faith.

Right now, the Church in America is at a turning point. Churches are losing members at an unbelievable rate, and Christians are in a real danger of becoming a minority in a very short time. Part of this is on us. We’ve let politics, racial inequality issues, and culture wars shape our faith. We behave pious and godly on Sundays, and the rest of the time there isn’t all that much about us that people can call, “Christian.”

That has turned off many people both inside and outside of the faith. It has made evangelism harder. When we behave in a way that is inconsistent with Jesus, people wonder what difference our faith makes. They wonder if we are authentic about what we believe.

What the world needs is authentic disciples of Christ seeking to live for Christ as consistently as possible. They need to see Jesus in us. All the politics, the culture war issues, and other distractions should be screened through our faith, rather than shape our faith. Every generation of Christians has had to live in a world that is decidedly not Christian. Changing the world without changing people’s hearts will never yield what we hope for. Only faithfulness to Christ will do that.

It begins with us, we who profess faith in Christ. We must circle back to what is most important in our faith, and the early Christians in the book of Acts give us great examples of what an authentic faith looks like. My hope and prayer as we go through this series and study this book, is that we will emerge more deeply devoted to Christ, that we may show the world what the grace and love of Jesus truly looks like.

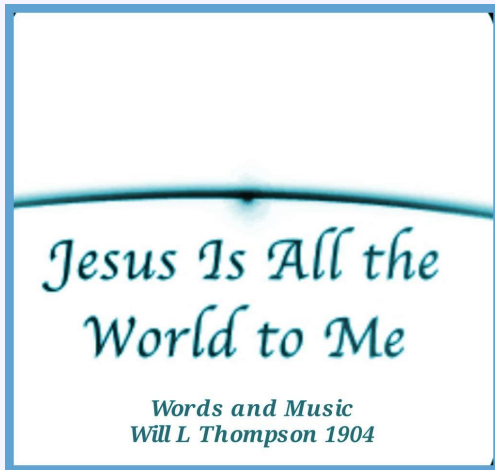
Blessings,

Pastor John



Know. Grow. Serve.

## Attitude of Gratitude



1 Jesus is all the world to me,  
My life, my joy, my all;  
He is my strength from day to day,  
Without him I would fall:  
When I am sad, to him I go,  
No other one can cheer me so;  
When I am sad, he makes me glad,  
He's my friend.

2 Jesus is all the world to me,  
My friend in trials sore;  
I go to him for blessings, and  
He gives them o'er and o'er:  
He sends the sunshine and the rain,  
He sends the harvest's golden grain;  
Sunshine and rain, harvest of grain,  
He's my friend.

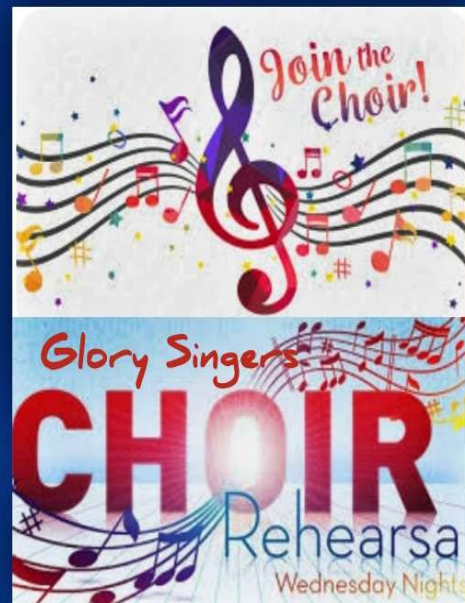
3 Jesus is all the world to me,  
And true to him I'll be;  
Oh, how could I this friend deny,  
When he's so true to me?  
Following him I know I'm right,  
He watches o'er me day and night;  
Following him by day and night,  
He's my friend.

4 Jesus is all the world to me,  
I want no better friend;  
I trust him now, I'll trust him when  
Life's fleeting days shall end:  
Beautiful life with such a friend,  
Beautiful life that has no end;  
Eternal life, eternal joy,  
He's my friend.

Blessings, Penny



## Charles Town Presbyterian Church



August 9th, 2023

7:15pm

All Are Welcome!

# News flash!

Coming this summer to  
Charles Town Presbyterian Church



## VBS

It's an out-of-this-world adventure that is light years of fun!



July 17-20  
9:00 AM-12:00 PM  
Kids : rising K through rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
Register online  
Check out our CTPC FB page  
For more information email Garth  
at [garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org](mailto:garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org)



**Pre-Register and receive a FREE Stellar t-shirt!!!**

Charles Town Presbyterian Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

### Kid's Group!

Kid's Group meets each Sunday from 3-5PM. I look forward to seeing you there!

Any questions, please feel free to contact Garth Steven-Jennings

304-725-5316 or [garthstevens-jennings@ctpres.org](mailto:garthstevens-jennings@ctpres.org).

## Session News

The session met for its June stated meeting on Tuesday, June 20, and took the following actions:

- Received as presented, the minutes from the May 2023 stated meeting.
- **Communicating with Technology** reported that a recent email problem has been resolved.
- **Mission and Outreach** reported that they are beginning to schedule people for the monthly friendship meals. Anyone interested in helping next year or would like more information is welcome to email Doyle Criswell at [doyle.criswell@comcast.net](mailto:doyle.criswell@comcast.net).
- **Personnel** reported that annual staff reviews for 2023 have been completed.
- **Property** reported on upcoming projects, including seeking bids to replace the back stairs and fence at the manse, and painting the posts and replacing the rails on the front porch.
- **Stewardship and Vision** is planning the “Celebration of Faithfulness” stewardship worship service for Sunday, September 17.
- Unanimously approved a motion from Worship and Music to authorize celebration of the Lord’s Supper on the first and third Sunday of every month, Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and Thanksgiving Eve.
- By acclamation, appointed Roger Snook to serve as ruling elder commissioner for the August 22 presbytery meeting.
- There will be no stated meeting in July. Next session meeting is August 15.

**Looking for a place to serve?** Have questions about a particular activity but not sure who to ask? Here are the list of committees and the people who serve on them:

Communicating with Technology – Roger Snook [rogercsnook@gmail.com](mailto:rogercsnook@gmail.com)

Discipleship and Family Ministry - Marsha Dibbern [marshadib@juno.com](mailto:marshadib@juno.com)  
- Beth Pugh [bethandvincent@comcast.net](mailto:bethandvincent@comcast.net)

Finance and Budget - Kathy Donadio [feebler8@gmail.com](mailto:feebler8@gmail.com)

Mission and Outreach - Doyle Criswell [doyle.criswell@comcast.net](mailto:doyle.criswell@comcast.net)

Personnel - Kathy Shue [dashuka@msn.com](mailto:dashuka@msn.com)

Property - Gary Scott [gary3042795296@gmail.com](mailto:gary3042795296@gmail.com)

Stewardship and Vision - Kathy Donadio [feebler8@gmail.com](mailto:feebler8@gmail.com)

Worship and Music - Lazan Rogers [lazanrogers@yahoo.com](mailto:lazanrogers@yahoo.com)  
- Signe Garms [signegarms@gmail.com](mailto:signegarms@gmail.com)

Fellowship - Lazan Rogers [lazanrogers@yahoo.com](mailto:lazanrogers@yahoo.com)  
-Kathy Shue [dashuka@msn.com](mailto:dashuka@msn.com)

## Celebrations this month

### Birthdays

Jessica Wells

Cora Clark

Donna Staniec

Allison Howard

Camden Wilson

Jim Bovard

Martha Burns

Frank Donadio

Chris Clark

Samantha Fulbright

Jim Leathers

Alyse Low

Robert Puster

Harry Puster

Jonathan Burns

Patsy White



Judy Hockman

Bryan LaVallee

Rosalyn Lavallee

Gary Scott

Doyle Criswell

Howard Miller

Chris Damm

Kathrine Hunt

Debbie Stafford

Michael Stevens

Holston Smith

Bryce Van Zomeren

### Anniversaries

Henry & Karen Christie

James & Lari MacKenzie

John & Diane Mayhew

## Sunday @ CTPC

10:30am-Worship Celebration Facebook

For a complete listing of all of the church activities, please click [here](#).



[Donate](#)



zoom

## CTPC Zoom Meetings

To join any of the Zoom meetings listed below, please email the church office at [ctpres.org](mailto:ctpres.org) for contact information.

**The Faithweavers** is a blended Sunday School class with in person and virtual options led by Margaret Kursey.

**Yokefellows Sunday School Class.** The Class will begin with a short business meeting from 8:45 am to 9:00 am at which time prayers will be offered for class members, family and friends who are ill or otherwise in distress. At 9:00am until 9:35 am a lesson will be taught by the class teacher from the Adult Bible Studies series. Anyone wishing to visit the class on ZOOM should contact the following class members to receive a ZOOM "invite": Gary Scott at email: [gary3042795296@gmail.com](mailto:gary3042795296@gmail.com) or James Mackenzie at email: [mackenzie48708@gmail.com](mailto:mackenzie48708@gmail.com).

HOSPITALITY STATION  
**BAGEL BAR**  
BRUNCH  
3RD SUNDAY  
EACH MONTH  
IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP



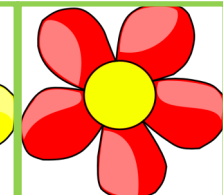
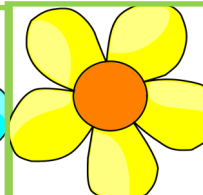
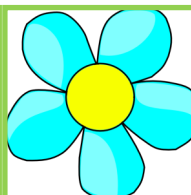
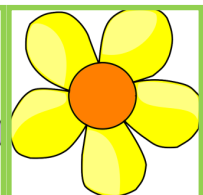
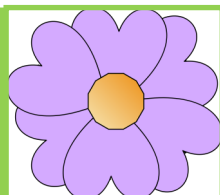
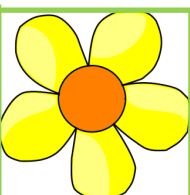
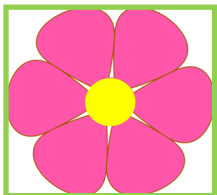
**Please join us at the Hospitality Station** on the 3rd Sunday of each month, immediately after worship for a Bagel Bar Brunch! If you or your Sunday School class would like to sponsor a 3rd Sunday brunch, a sign-up sheet is located on the piano in the sanctuary! May this

time of fellowship give you an opportunity to discuss the sermon, upcoming activities, visit the library and take joy in the Lord! For more information see Penny Liston.

**Worship Help Needed.** We need help running the technology used in worship each week. We are seeking two or three people to help run the PowerPoint slides and the camera for our live broadcast. These are fairly simple tasks, and we provide training. Please speak with Pastor John or Roger Snook if you can help.



**OFFICE CLOSED.**  
**The church office** will be closed Tuesday, July 4th! Have a safe holiday.





**Online giving** helps you to bring your offering before God. Money donated via any of the services listed here gets deposited to our church bank account. You can donate fee-free via Facebook or for a nominal fee, use the Presbyterian Foundation or PayPal. The Presbyterian Foundation fee does help the organization's mission, and you can easily use a mobile app (Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement on Google Play/Apple AppStore) to set up for repeating or one time giving. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Donation options and tax information at [www.ctpres.org](http://www.ctpres.org). Thank you.



**The flower chart for 2023** is available for sign up. It is located on the bulletin board by the church office or call at 304-725-5316. If you would like to donate your flowers for the deacons to deliver to a shut-in or someone in the hospital, please call the church office.

**The Six-cents-a-meal offering**, is collected on the 4th Sunday each month, and goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program. To contribute to this offering please note on memo line: hunger offering. Thank you.



JCCM Food Pantry needs. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated: spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, canned meat (vienna sausage, spam, chicken, tuna), canned beans, canned vegetables (not green beans/corn), soups (hearty and condensed), canned chili, rice (small bags), instant mashed potatoes, jelly and peanut butter, syrup, instant oatmeal, crackers, boxed pancake mix, cooking oil, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry detergent.  
Thank you, Kari Dean, Food Pantry



**Life Line Screening**, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Charles Town Presbyterian Church on Monday, July 31, 2023. A package of

five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered: **Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque), Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA), Atrial Fibrillation, Osteoporosis Risk.** An ultrasound is performed to measure the shin bone for abnormal bone mass density. This can help assess the risk of osteoporosis, a disease where bones become weak and brittle. These 5 vital screenings are offered and take 60-90 minutes to complete. Informational flyers located in the narthex and bulletin boards. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <https://llsa.social/HC>.



**Know. Grow. Serve.**