

THE BRIDGE

Rev. Keith McAliley, Minister
Bridgeport Christian Church
175 Evergreen Road
Frankfort KY 40601
(502) 223-1165



Sunday School 10am
Sunday Worship 11am
Youth Groups 5pm

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MARCH 2008

The Minister's Musings:

Some have commented on how I've preached totally without notes or manuscript for two Sundays in a row. That's because I have writer's block. Just lately, I've had a tough time sitting down to type more than a few lines on any given subject. And this writer's block has extended into my newsletter column. It's like I have attention deficit . . . hey, look at that

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I've been asked several times now: "What does the Easter bunny have to do with Easter?" The answer is "nothing." It's a holdover from when pre-Christian European tribes celebrated the coming of spring. The Christians came along and told them about Jesus, so they started celebrating his resurrection, but the bunnies were too cute to get rid of completely. It's like Christmas trees, which similarly have nothing to do with Jesus' birth.

Same with Easter eggs. There is nothing particularly Christian about eggs. (Unless Tommy Bryant is making them into an omelet. Then they become divine somehow. It's a mystery.)

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In some recent conversations, the subject has come up that Easter is coming awfully early this year. That's because of global warming. I'm kidding. The correct answer: Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. But actually it's more complicated than that, and you don't have time to hear the whole answer, and honestly I don't see how it's that important. But if

you must know, you can ask Chuck Hardin, who knows many things that I do not.

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I don't know if you've heard already, but my wife, the Rev. Crystal McAliley, is leaving her position at First Christian Church, Lawrenceburg. Her last Sunday there will be April 6th. After that, she will be doing ministry at home with our two children. We figured that the church will be around for awhile, but our kids are only little for a few years. You know how that goes.

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I'm looking forward to our Holy Week services in March. On Palm Sunday, March 16th, Kate Osterloh and I will be telling the Passion story from Matthew during morning worship. We did this a couple years ago, and some folks said it was extremely moving. Basically we'll memorize Matthew 26-27 and tell it like a story. (I did this in place of a sermon at my student church once, and one lady told me afterwards, "That was the best sermon you ever preached!")

On Maundy Thursday, March 20th at 6:30pm, Mike Rosenstein will be leading us in a traditional seder meal at the church to commemorate the Passover meal Jesus ate with his disciples, what we usually call "the Last Supper." On Good Friday, March 21st, we'll have a short, informal Good Friday service in the sanctuary, followed by a light lunch served by the Helping Hands Circle. The service will start at 12:15pm, so the folks who get off work

PEW NEWS

at noon that day hopefully will have time to get here. And that Friday night, I'll be participating in an ecumenical Good Friday service at Broadway Christian Church in Winchester, Kentucky. If you want to go, give me a call.

Easter is on the way. I've asked the Men's Group to cook us up some breakfast between the services on Easter Sunday morning. Hopefully, the aforementioned divine omelets will be present. Also, I heard the choir rehearsing for Easter morning worship, and they sound pretty good, you know? And we'll be baptizing some young people that day, Lord willing and the creek don't rise. (If the creek *does* rise, we'll baptize them there.) So I'll see you then, yes? Good, I thought so.

Peace,
Keith

Upcoming Events:

- March 3 - Helping Hands
- March 4 - Panera/Men's Group 6pm
- March 5 - Board Meeting 7pm
- March 6 - Ruritan
- March 6 - Winter Jam at Rupp Arena
- March 7 - Soup Kitchen
- March 7 - Church Women United 10am
- March 8 - Pancake Breakfast 8am-noon
- March 9 - Mission Trip leaves for New Orleans LA
- March 11 - Knitting 7pm
- March 12 - South East Easter Program
- March 12 - WOW 6:30pm
- March 13 - Bible Study begins 6:30pm
- March 16 - Palm/Passion Sunday
- March 19 - Membership/Evangelism 7pm
- March 20 - Maundy Thursday Service 6:30pm
- March 21 - Good Friday Service 12:15pm
- March 25 - Knitting 7pm

Prayer by people in the pews gives a pastor power in the pulpit.

Church Women United:

Franklin County Church Women United is meeting at the First Methodist Church on Wapping Street on **Friday, March 7**. Registration and refreshments are at 10am with service at 11am. Please see Fay Utterback if you have questions.

Website Update Needed!

If you are a committee chair, Deacon, Elder, Sunday School leader, member, etc, please review the information on the website and let me know any updates that are needed or information related to your committee, group, etc. You can handwrite the information, type it and email it, or just email it to me and I will put it in a format that can be updated. Several individuals are working on updating the website. I am collecting the information. My email is jzeigler@fewpb.net; my home phone is 502-695-5659; cell is 229-1797. Thank you! The Website is: <http://www.dcr.net/~bcc/>

Judy Zeigler

Welcome to new members:

We were blessed with new additions to our family last month. Take a moment to greet JoAnn Tate and Amy Bingham.

Getting to know your car:

Date/Time: **Saturday, March 29 at 1:30pm**

Location: Church Parking Lot

Brian Pelletier will host this extravaganza providing an opportunity for both new and experienced drivers to become more familiar with basic car care. We will go over items such as how and where to get information on your vehicle, checking tires, fluids, lights and other items. If you prefer to just have your car checked over come at 2:30.

Knitting Group:

Due to popular demand the Knitting group will start meeting twice a month. We will meet on the **second and fourth Tuesdays** of each month at the Youth house starting at **7 p.m.** Anyone can join us, bring a project you are working on or come to learn.

New Orleans Mission Trip in March:

Bridgeport Christian Church members have an opportunity to go with a **combined church mission group to New Orleans March 9-15**. The trip will take the group to the West Side Christian Church, who has a mission program and facilities for mission groups for ongoing work in New Orleans. The work will be coordinated through the church in conjunction with Francis Tileston from Frankfort First Christian Church. The general work plan is to repair homes in the area including drywall work, trim work, painting, and other miscellaneous jobs. The group will cook their own food and will be housed by the church's facility. Additional information will become available as the date gets closer. The Bridgeport members can expect to travel together and will meet the other mission team members at the West Side Church. We should have an excellent mission experience which will cost about \$100 per person. Tools and materials are provided by others. Search your heart and see if this is the mission experience that works for you. You may have to get out of the boat and walk on water a little to make this one happen for you.

Harold Fletcher

Women's Shelter Needs You:

Are you looking for a way to serve the community and help out with those in need? Review the following areas of opportunities to volunteer with the Franklin County Women's Shelter and call Jen at 229-3447. Office Assistant (2 hour minimum shift); Overnight Volunteer; Emergency Back-up Night Volunteer; Saturday or Sunday Shelter Volunteer (3 hour minimum shift); Weekend Shift Coordinator. Other opportunities are: Food Box Delivery; Storage Unit Volunteer (furniture donations); Transportation for clients; Meal preparation/Clean up.

Member Spotlight: Reva Beagle

There's not much to tell about me. I took my daughter Heather and went church hunting while she was still in high school. That's more years ago than what I want to admit to. We went to quite a few churches before we came to Bridgeport. It was when they were meeting downstairs in Case Hall while the upstairs sanctuary was being enlarged. I liked the service and the humor in it. That's important to me - God has a sense of humor. The people also made me feel welcome and I felt at home immediately. I was sitting in the pew one Sunday listening to the announcements, and they were talking about needing someone permanent for Children's Church. Then I heard a deep voice say, "Reva, you're going to do this for me." I looked around, but I knew where that voice came from. The rest is history. I have always felt that children were the closest to God and that's where I wanted to be. What a blessing Bridgeport has been to me, and I hope and pray that Keith stays with us forever.

I married my husband, Chuck Beagle, in our chapel, with another couple. We have been married 10 years this May. My daughter and son-in-law have given us three beautiful grandchildren, Tyler, Taylor, and Patrick. I am an avid race fan, with Dale Earnhardt Jr. being my favorite driver. I love being outdoors during the warm weather, and when I retire I'd love to wind up in Florida somewhere.

Thank you:

Norma and Clyde Smith would like to thank everyone for all your prayers, cards and telephone calls. With all your support at this time, it has made the passing of my Mother on to meet Christ much easier for me. Thank you to all my friends at Bridgeport Christian Church for everything.

Chuck's Bible Trivia:

As Jesus and His disciples were traveling, they came to a village where Jesus met a woman named Martha. What did Martha do for Jesus?

Answer: Luke 10:38

March Birthdays:

Steven Minter	3/ 01
Sunny Cardwell	3/ 02
Caroline Wingate	3/ 02
Glenda Abrams	3/ 03
Carter Hudson	3/ 03
Cassandra Miller	3/ 05
Millie Minter	3/ 06
Keenan Rhodes	3/ 06
Mary Fint	3/ 07
Adam Shaw	3/ 10
Stuart Harrod	3/ 13
Lee Goss	3/ 15
Nick Perkins	3/ 15
Bob Holloway	3/ 17
Laura Green	3/ 18
Carolyn Turner	3/ 18
Zack Sackett	3/ 19
Mary Taulbee	3/ 19
Darrell Gilliam	3/ 20
Kylie Jones	3/ 21
Ashlee Long	3/ 21
Susan Hyatt	3/ 23
Pam Marshall	3/ 23
Charlie Craycraft	3/ 25
Gary Wolf	3/ 25
Lisa Smith	3/ 26
Willetta Wright	3/ 27
Dorothy Reeves	3/ 30
Ann Wethington	3/ 30
Cindy Elrod	3/ 31

The birth of Christ brought God to us;

But it took the cross of Christ to bring us to God.

COMMITTEE NEWS

EDUCATION:

Christian Concert:

The CYF, and anyone else who would like to attend, will be headed to the Winter Jam Tour on **Thursday, March 6** at Rupp Arena. Tickets are \$10 at the gate. Some of the groups are Mercy Me, Skillet, Barlow Girl, New Song, Mandisa and others. Check out their website at jamtour.com. See Marty if you would like to go!

New Bible Study offered:

The women in the church are invited to attend a women's Bible Study starting on **March 13, 6:30pm** at the Youth House. The video series "Walk by Faith Not by Sight" is by Jennifer Rothchild, a powerful speaker who experienced blindness at the age of 15. This study is seven weeks long and will go until April 24. If you have conflicts with some Thursdays that is ok...just come when you can. The evenings in study will probably be 1½ to 2 hours. Hope those of you interested can join us and if you are a new member it is a great way to get to know and meet other women in the church.

Vicki Sebastian

Camp sign-ups are here!

Parents and kids - camp registration forms will be passed out during youth groups and Sunday school this month. We do not want to delay because some of these camps fill up quickly. Make sure you check out all the great camps that are available this summer. And for you adults, there is always the blessing of volunteering as a counselor!! If you have any questions, talk to Susan Hanvey.

CYF Happenings:

The CYF have been busy this past month. On one Friday, they hung out at the Youth House, ate pizza, and played Guitar Hero till midnight. Then we all went bowling! Kudos to the youth leaders who were willing to be up much later than usual!

Then, on a Sunday afternoon, they also went to the Soup Kitchen to prepare and serve lunch. We had enough that volunteered to go that those who were not fixing tuna sandwiches were willing to clean bathrooms and around the facility. The best part was watching some of the kids sit down, talk to those who had come in for a meal, and get to know them.

They have also been doing some home visits of our members who are not able to get out, taking cookies or a dinner, and also visiting Bradford Square.

The CYF also sponsored a Souper Bowl Lunch on Super Bowl Sunday to raise money that would entirely go for Week of Compassion. It was a great fundraiser and a terrific way for the youth to think about giving to others in need. We had delicious soups donated and we rose over a \$1000 for Week of Compassion!!

Again thank you for the continued support of the youth program and allowing all of us to have the wonderful blessing of working with your children. They are great kids!

HELPING HANDS:

Helping Hands' annual Pancake Breakfast will be **Saturday, March 8 at 8am – 12noon**. Make a point to come out for some good food and fellowship!

MISSIONS:

Soup Kitchen News:

The Missions Committee and all the regular volunteers are so thankful for those of you who have recently joined with us to serve at the Soup Kitchen. We hope you have found it to be a rewarding experience and that you have shared it with someone and encouraged them to come along with you the next time.

But we understand that due to work and school conflicts, family obligations, transportation, illness, etc., making the commitment is difficult. So, we ask that you please offer up prayers for BCC's ongoing work with the Soup Kitchen, for those volunteers who are able to carry on the mission and for new volunteers as they feel called to serve.

Thanks to Ginny Burton, Donna Hedges, Heather Hedges, Jodie Hillard and Billy Sharp for serving in February. Nancy Bailey, Vickie Courtney, Hope and Darrell Gilliam will be serving on March 7. Remember them in your prayers.

If you would like to volunteer, please give me a call, Ann Morse 223-2767, e-mail me at donmorse@bellsouth.net or see me at church.

Thanks,
Ann Morse

Jamaica Follow-up:

The following is a letter received by Tom Quisenberry from his new friend Delroy from Haiti. This speaks to the many ways we touch people when we reach out on something like a mission trip:

Hello Thomas,

It was a pleasure hearing from you. I really appreciated the things you send for me and my family.

My wife, Rashana, Renee and Dujon send their appreciation also. To be honest Thomas, it was a pleasant surprise because I was not expecting a Christmas present (Smile)

It was also a pleasure for me to have the opportunity to drive you around and I did enjoy your company and the rest of the crew very much.

Do you come to Jamaica often? I know that you probably have to work so you may find it a little difficult.

How was your New Year? Did you hang out with friends?

Let me take this opportunity to say a big "THANK YOU" to you and the crew for coming to Jamaica and helping so many people. You took time out and fed so many people and you did so without any fanfare. This shows me that whatever you were doing, it was coming from your "BIG HEART".

I was showing my wife a picture of the Mayor of Kingston (The Capital) giving a homeless person a box dinner on the sidewalk with the media in attendance. It was as if he wanted all of Jamaica to see him so that he could gain political points and then you and your crew were so humble in what you were doing for us that I was so impress.

My friend, I do hope that you are enjoying your New Year and I hope God will continue to bless you, your wife and children. Hope I will hear from you soon.

Your Friend,
Delroy

P.S. I misplaced your telephone number. Please send your number for me.

Peace & Love Brother

RAMBLERS:

The Ramblers plan to meet on **Tuesday, March 11**, to try once again to eat at the Golden Corral. We'll leave from church at 11:30am.

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything that comes their way.

WORSHIP:

Worship Leader Schedule:

March 2 Emily Thornton
(Lent 4) 1 Samuel 16:1-13; John 9:1-41

March 9 David Gayle
(Lent 5) Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 11:1-45

March 16 Norman Arflack
(Palm/Passion Sunday) Matthew 21:1-11

March 23 Ted Sloan (8:30)
(Easter) Heather Hedges (11:00)
Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18

March 30 Jan Thornton
(Easter 2) Acts 2:14a, 22-32; John 20:19-31

WOW:

The WOW (Women of the Word) group is studying Women of the Bible this year. All women of the church are invited to join us on **March 12 at 7 pm** at the Youth House for study and fellowship.

Church Bulletin Bloopers

(These will make us appreciate Steve more!)

- * At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- * The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.
- * Our youth basketball team is back in action. Come Wednesday and watch us kill Christ the King.
- * Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- * Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Next Bridge Deadline: FEBRUARY 24

*Information may be submitted for "The Bridge" by contacting
Elizabeth LeCompte at elecompte4@yahoo.com*

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