



**Harrison
Christian
Church**

HCC is about "Connecting people to Jesus Christ, to one another, and to the community."

2517 Browns Mill Road

Johnson City, TN 37604

Church Office (423) 282-4616

www.harrisonchurch.com

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Monday thru Friday

Worship - Sunday

9:30-10:15 a.m.: Sunday School

10:30 a.m.: Worship Service

Senior Minister: Brian Powell

brian@harrisonchurch.com

Next Gen Minister: Joe Szklarski

joes@harrisonchurch.com

Children's Minister: Autumn Stapleton

autumn@harrisonchurch.com

Worship Minister: Colt Burchfield

colt@harrisonchurch.com

Parish Nurse: Kim Sell

parishnurse@harrisonchurch.com

Office Secretary: Carolyn Sell

office@harrisonchurch.com

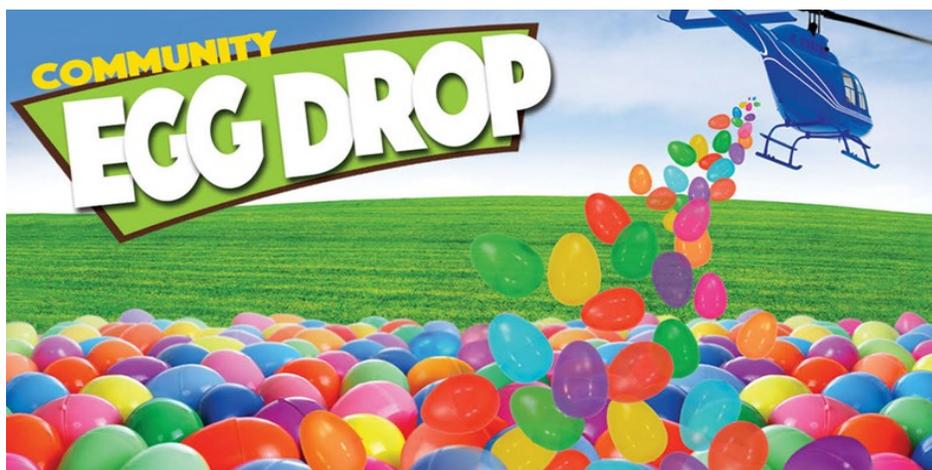
Elders: David Birchfield, David Oliver,
Jim Sell & Jan Wilcox,

Deacons: Robert Curry, Sandra Hammitt,
Jerry Haynes & Jordan Young

The Christian Connection

A Publication of Harrison Christian Church

March 2018 Newsletter



Community Easter Festival & Helicopter Egg Drop

Wednesday | March 28th | 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Activities: Helicopter Egg Drop, Inflatable, Face Painting, Food & Cotton Candy, and More!

We are now accepting donations of individually, wrapped candy for the eggs. Please contact Autumn Stapleton for more information and for opportunities where you can serve.



Children's Ministry
Autumn Stapleton

If the Son Sets You Free Then You are Free Indeed

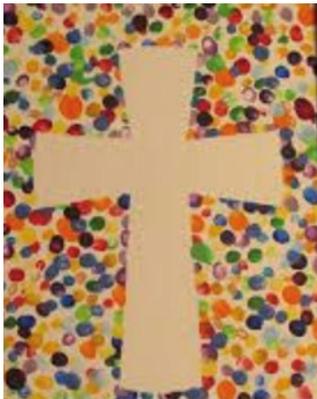
“There is more than one prison. I think you carry yours wherever you go.” This is a quote from one of my favorite Star Wars characters, Chirrut. He speaks to Cassian, a fellow Rebel who is haunted by wrongs of his past. However, I think this is a statement that could speak to all of us. We are not that different from Cassian. Like Cassian, we can be plagued with anger and guilt. We are not that different from the Old Testament men and women we have been studying in children's church. Perhaps Joseph's struggle in a pit and his entrapment into prison were not his cruelest imprisonments. Maybe Joseph's most difficult battle was a fight between a desire for retribution and a need for reconciliation. Moses may have been the son of slaves to Pharaoh and a fugitive, but I think his darkest hours were those when he was torn with his own self-doubt and his temper.

Perhaps each of us have our own prisons and our own enslavements. Do we not want to let go of the prisons of anger, bitterness, fear, and worry? Do we not to shed our sinful nature that holds us like chains and put on the beautiful coat of many colors that our loving father has handed us? Do we not want to leave a land of slavery for a land of promise?

It is not always easy for us to walk out of these prisons. But why? Why is it not always easy? He is our Father. He is faithful to us. He keeps His promises to us. A leap of faith to let go of our will and to follow His will should not be a scary leap. He said He is with us always. He says He has plans to prosper us. (Jeremiah 29:11)

An escape from prison will require faith...the kind of faith that sees with the heart things that the eyes cannot see. (Hebrews 11:1) Yet, if we had faith just the size of a mustard seed, we could escape so much. We would be children without fear, without worry, without stress. Aren't these things that we want to escape? Why do we stay in our prison cells? Over and over again, the Father is telling us that He has opened the door to our prisons. All we have to do is walk out and follow Him. Then, and only then, will we be free indeed. (John 8:36)

As the children in Kids Church and I have been studying who God is, we have spent four weeks on God as our Liberator, the One who sets us free. These are such important lessons because before any of us can rise to the greatness that God has planned for us, we have to trust Him. We have to listen to our Maker's words that He has set us free and walk out of our prisons. His nail scarred hands have opened those prison doors wide open for us. He has set us free indeed.



Children's Ministry Painting Event

Wednesday | March 7th | 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 7th during "C3" the children will make fingerprint cross canvases. These colorful canvases will make wonderful keepsakes. The children will learn that just as each of us have our own unique fingerprints that Jesus knows also loves and gave His life for us all! Tonia is the artist who led our church's Christmas canvas paintings for "Paint for Passion." This is a free event for all church kids. If you have any questions, please contact Autumn!

Missions Moment

Parish Nurse
Kim Sell

Jill Shaw: The Ark Christian Ministries

What do I get up to over the course of the year?

God provides opportunities in the **Church**, on **campus**, and in the **community**. Those are my primary spheres of focus and influence for discipling and telling the good news of Jesus. *What are yours?*

Church

1. Pastoral Support: I spoke at the Walking With the Wounded seminar our church here put on in support of those who walk with loved ones with mental health challenges. The supporters are often not supported. I told stories of what we learned by having women stay with us for 7+ years at the other house. Feedback was that people were encouraged by me explaining how complex it was because no two people were alike. "So while it is well worth doing, expect to not always get it right." A counselor, psychiatrist and some youth workers were on a panel, then there was Q&A.

Much of the value will be that people will now know who they can approach for further conversation. There were 54 people from our church there Sunday night; 54 on a cold Sunday night. Tells you how much need there is. I know other families who would've benefited but couldn't make it for whatever reason.

• *Pray for all those who struggle with addiction, mental illness and grief.*

2. Gospel Storytelling: I also spoke to a mixed group of believers and seekers about the friends who took responsibility for their buddy's healing. They took him to see Jesus, but weren't thwarted by the crowds, finding another way in. • What musta been the look on Jesus' face as the guy was lowered on a mat in front of Him? • What must the guy's expression have been when he's all of a sudden at the front of the line? • What look must the guys who dismantled the roof had on their faces as they peered down through the hole they'd made? • What about the people below who were brushing dust and debris from their hair and off their robes? • I don't even want to think what the homeowner musta been thinking! Let's hope the guys were local and returned later to do the repairs. • We can guess the look of the religious leaders as they challenged Jesus priorities and presumption. A mature believer who heard me later commented on how she'd never thought the story through the way I told it. I stayed true to the text, but told it as a story, asking questions of the text to try to fill in the gaps of what we're not told. Many young women in the audience have not yet made a commitment to the Lord. They were thrilled that Jesus came "while we were still sinners", and that God's love is not based on their behavior, but on His own character and intention. It was a good day. Only the Holy Spirit can communicate to everyone in a big audience, mature believer and seeker alike, yet in different ways, as each heart needs to receive it. • *Pray for what God will do with seeds planted and Scripture brought to life.*

CAMPUS

I was trying to get some admin done in the chaplaincy office at the university when a flood of Chinese students came in to use the microwave and make cups of coffee. Some just made a beeline for the appliances. Others made eye contact & greeted me. A handful of the friendly students then sat down on the couches around the small room and ate their lunch. I asked what they were studying and why China needed so many business students. One thing led to another and, what do you know, we're talking about Jesus! It happens. Two of the more keen students lingered longer than the others and, after sharing the best news about Jesus, I gave them a great little notebook Gospel of John especially for Uni students with no faith background. • *Pray for Leroy and Katrina, that we, or someone, will have further conversations with them, and that they'll be convinced that God loves them and has loved them before they ever heard about Him.*

Allergies: What's the Problem?

Allergies are the 6th leading cause of chronic illness in the U.S. with an annual cost in excess of \$18 billion. More than 50 million Americans suffer from allergies each year.

Allergies are an overreaction of the immune system to substances that generally do not affect other individuals.

These substances, or allergens, can cause sneezing, coughing, and itching. Allergic reactions range from merely bothersome to life-threatening. Some allergies are seasonal, like hay fever. Allergies have also been associated with chronic conditions like sinusitis and asthma.

Who's at Risk?

Anyone may have or develop an allergy – from a baby born with an allergy to cow's milk, to a child who gets poison ivy, to a senior citizen who develops hives after taking a new medication.

Can It Be Prevented?

Allergies can generally not be prevented but allergic reactions can be. Once a person knows they are allergic to a certain substance, they can avoid contact with the allergen. Strategies for doing this include being in an air-conditioned environment during peak hay-fever season, avoiding certain foods, and eliminating dust mites and animal dander from the home. They can also control the allergy by reducing or eliminating the symptoms through medication such as antihistamines and nose sprays. Strategies include taking medication to counteract reactions or minimize symptoms and being immunized with allergy injection therapy (allergy shots).

The Bottom Line

- The most common allergic diseases include: hay fever, asthma, conjunctivitis, hives, eczema, dermatitis and sinusitis.
 - Food allergies are most prevalent in young children and are frequently outgrown.
 - Latex allergies are a reaction to the proteins in latex rubber, a substance used in gloves, condoms and other products.
 - Bees, hornets, wasps, yellow jackets, and fire ants can cause insect sting allergies.
- Allergies to drugs, like penicillin, can affect any tissue or organ in the body.

Anaphylaxis is the most severe allergic reaction. Symptoms include flush; tingling of the palms of the hands, soles of the feet or lips; light-headedness, and chest-tightness. If not treated, these can progress into seizures, cardiac arrhythmia, shock, and respiratory distress. Anaphylaxis can result in death. Food, latex, insect sting, and drug allergies can all result in anaphylaxis.

If you have questions, please let me know.

Kim
CDC.gov

East Tennessee
Christian Home & Academy
(ETCHA) Shoe Drive



Now through May 18, 2018

1. Tie Together All Pairs Of Shoes **WITH STRINGS**
2. Rubber Band All Pairs Of Shoes **W/O STRINGS**
3. Please, No Spiked High Heels
4. Place All Shoes In Black Plastic trash Bags
5. Shoes Do Not Have To Be In Top Notch Condition!

Please Deliver Shoes to ETCHA's
gym or to any convenient Northeast
Community Credit Union!

Call ETCHA at (423)-542-4423 and
ask for Ron if you have any questions

Next Gen Minister
Joe Szklarski

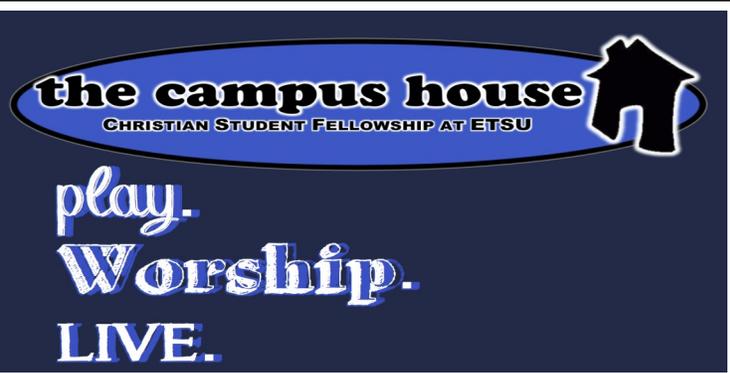
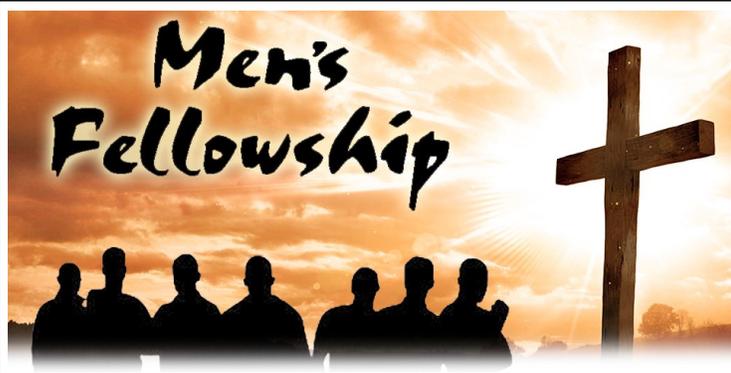
Hello Church! This is an exciting month for us as a church family, and I am happy to be celebrating it with you.

The 40 days leading up to Easter are traditionally called lent. This word might seem foreign to us, but it is simply a time of preparing ourselves for Good Friday, the day of Jesus' death, and Easter, the day of his Resurrection. This season is usually about fasting, or giving up something, but can also be about taking up something. I would ask that you would consider something in your life that you could either take up or do without, to be thoughtfully preparing for Easter.

With much prayer and consideration, as a leadership team, we have decided on a specific way to serve our community, which is an awesome opportunity to minister to foster children and their parents on the second Monday of each month. Along with this, we will be "fasting" our regular Wednesday night programming of "C3" for all ages. This event will help us to make sure that we are connecting to the community, as well as each other (fulfilling the third "c" in our mission statement). Our first round with this will be Monday, April 9, meaning that there will be no "C3" on the next Wednesday, April 11. The youth will help with childcare needs, as we will be welcoming over 40 children from this group. Please consider where your gifts can best meet the needs of the community, and help us love the city God has placed us. The two primary areas of service right now are with child care and food preparation.

On a more personal note, I will be getting married on Friday, March 2! I would appreciate your prayers as my Church family for safe travels and a smooth wedding. My soon to be wife, Hope, and I will return after our honeymoon and would love to keep getting to know all of you, so do not be shy and come talk to us!

Joe

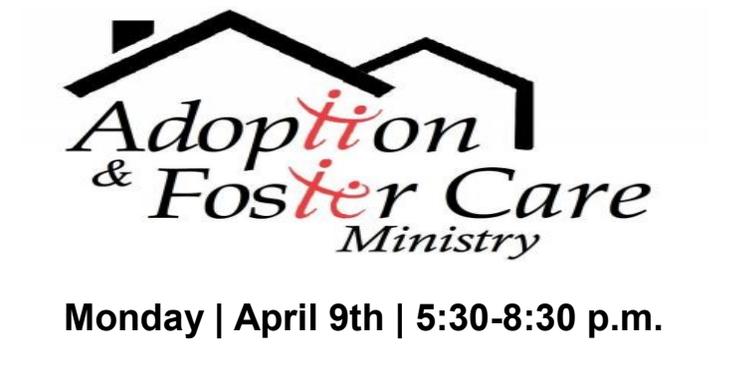


HCC is hosting the next Washington County Christian Men's Fellowship on **Tuesday, March 13th at 6:00 p.m.** and we need donations of breakfast egg casseroles, hash-brown casseroles, coffee cake and biscuits. We also need volunteers to help serve the meal. Please sign-up in the foyer.

On **Tuesday, March 27th** (11:00-2:00 p.m.) we need a team of 8-10 volunteers to prepare and serve the weekly Tuesday Luncheon at ETSU Campus House (Mike Luzader & staff) for about 50 students/staff, many of which are international students! We are going to serve up a Taco Bar again which was a huge hit last October!

Thom Perry will be preaching on the theme *"Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit"* (Matthew 5:3)

Please sign-up in the foyer to donate and/or serve.



**Friends & Family Sunday
Sunday | April 8th | 10:30 a.m.**

We will have a Pitch-In Dinner immediately following the morning worship service. We also have lanes reserved at the Holiday Lanes Bowling ally for 2:00 p.m. \$12.99/person includes shoe rental and two full hours of bowling fun.

Monday | April 9th | 5:30-8:30 p.m.

The HCC leadership recently announced a wonderful new ministry opportunity to outreach and serve the Foster Care & Adoptive Parents group that has already been meeting regularly in our building. Beginning in April and for the remainder of the year (on the second Monday of each month) we have committed to feeding and providing childcare to these families during their monthly training meetings/sessions. Throughout the year, we will look into sponsoring various other events such as Christmas in July, a back-to-school bash, the Angel Tree, and fun days out for the families.

Current Serving Opportunities:

If you wish to help with food/clean-up contact Jim Sell; or if you wish to help out with the childcare needs contact David & Michelle Oliver.

INVITE, INVITE, INVITE, INVITE, INVITE, INVITE

(For all other questions/info contact David Oliver)

Happenings at Harrison

Sunday, March 4, 11, 18, 25

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday, March 11

12:00 p.m. Board Meeting immediately following the Morning Worship. All board members encouraged to attend. (Training for Foster Care/Adoption Outreach after board meeting with Susan Horton/Katie)

Tuesday, March 13

6:00 p.m. Washington County Christian Men's Fellowship at HCC.

Tuesday, March 27

11:00-2:00 p.m. Community Service Project (ETSU Campus House Tuesday Luncheon)

Wednesday, March 7 & 21

6:00 p.m. "C3" Wednesday Meal & Connection Groups

Wednesday, March 28

6:00-7:30 p.m. Community Easter Festival & Helicopter Egg Drop

HAPPY Birthday

3/1- Kelly Lewis

3/4- Lauren Whitley

3/9- Laura Snyder

3/9- Kim Whitmore

3/10- Harper Riffey

3/10- Betty Keever

3/16- Susan Hale

3/22- Jordan Young

3/25- Michael Stapleton

3/27- Kim Chase

3/31- Jim Hammitt



Anniversaries

3/6- Troy & Lisa Gouge

3/18- Eric & Linda Burchfield

3/23- Steve & Tracy Bennett

3/23- David & Michelle Oliver

3/30- Bob & Sharon Storey

3/31- Jim & Carolyn Sell

HCC'S VITAL SIGNS

2018 Budget: \$223,687.00

YTD Offering: \$22,167.00

Weekly Budget Needs: \$4,302.00

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering Given</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>S.S</u>
February 4	\$ 2,988.00	66	47
February 11	\$ 2,397.00	56	36
February 18	\$ 2,703.00	64	34
February 25	\$ 2,342.00	78	52

NOTE: Anyone desiring a giving statement for 2017 can let Robert Curry or Mike Cox know. We will be happy to print one out for you!