

LIVING GOSPEL CHURCH NEWS

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Simply Living the Gospel

April 2021

Christ is Alive and Reigns Supreme!

Matthew 28: 5-6 NIV ⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.

Christ is alive! Our Savior lives!

What joy we share in this truth knowing we believe in and serve the one true Living God! Death could not keep Him and the grave could not hold Him!

Jesus Christ, our willing sacrifice, defeated death and the enemy once and for all! He was resurrected and sits in glory at the right hand of the Father for all eternity.

Because He lives, we can face tomorrow! Because He lives, we are more than conquerors in every trial we face. Because He has overcome this world, so shall we have victory *in Him!*

On the heels of celebrating Easter and Resurrection Sunday, let us remember the purpose and mystery revealed to all saints now, which is **Christ in YOU!**

Jesus isn't just alive in heaven as a far away God coming back for us at some unknown time; He is alive and dwelling in the heart of every believer here and now! His very presence flows in all who believe. His power magnifies within and through all who call on His great name. *He is Immanuel!* (God With Us.)

Let us go forward with full assurance the victory Christ experienced is a victory we also share in! Let us remain in confident hope that Christ our Savior, walks with us every step of our journey. We have no reason to fear tomorrow because our Savior lives! **Praise be to God for this indescribable gift!**

Matthew 28:6

⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.



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God Loves His Church

Psalm 22:3 KJV *3 But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.*

“God loves the church. He loves the idea, the potential, and everything to do with the church, His Son’s body on earth. In fact He stated that zeal for this house has consumed Him! He has devoted His strength, wisdom and intense emotions to this house on earth: His eternal dwelling place.” Pastor and Author, Bill Johnson

A powerful truth to meditate on regarding the purpose and power of the Church.

The Church came to be by God’s design, not man’s. It may have gone in many different directions by man, but the original design and intent for the Body to gather as the Church came from God.

It is wonderful and necessary to have personal time with God, alone with Him throughout our days, so He may reveal Himself to each of us individually as He desires. It is also wonderful and necessary to gather with brothers and sisters in collective worship, study and fellowship to experience God in an entirely different way.

There is an indescribable joy we experience when we are in the company of saints lifting up praises to our King together and a great peace that moves through us all when we join in prayer together. There are aspects of the presence of God we will only experience in a corporate gathering, by His design.

God created us to be in fellowship, to be of one spirit, to be in unity with each other and to find the fullness of His strength as we walk together. These are things we will not experience apart from the Church.

God longs for us to share His joy in the whole and fullness He has for us. This involves committing to both personal and a corporate worship.

As you feel safe, we urge you to return to church, return to worship with the Body in person, return to fellowship. These are blessings given to us by our Heavenly Father. There is indescribable joy we cannot experience apart from our physical gatherings.

You are loved. Your presence matters. Let us gather with great joy in our hearts for the faithful love our Father has shown this past year. **God inhabits the praises of His people.** Let us gather as the Church and rejoice!

Celebrating April Birthdays

Marlene Dreifke	April 5
Skyler Hawley	April 6
Dawn Keepes	April 6
Brycen Batz	April 12
Doug Muench	April 15
Carrie Abela	April 19
Kaitlyn Batz	April 20
Lexi Hawley	April 20
Joey Hawley	April 20
Nancy Keuffer	April 20
Jill Landsverk	April 26
Michelle Wilson	April 24
Connie Hessler	April 27
Deb Wearne	April 30

Wedding Anniversaries

Deb and Steve Wearne	April 18
Peggy and John Moll	April 22
Stacy and John Holder	April 25



Church Growth Fund

As a reminder we have created a separate line item in our budget **Church Growth Fund**.

The purpose for this fund is to allocate funds/donations to be set aside for future projects and ministry needs that we can't readily afford right now. It is also to prepare our church to be ready as God continues to expand our ministry reach, there will be new things we will need to consider and this fund will better position to meet those needs as they arise.

It is exciting to look to the future and envision how God will use our church!

As we currently abide by - any purchase over \$1000 will be brought before the congregation for vote and approval.

If you would like to give to this fund, you can do so online and choose "growth fund" for giving or mark your donation in the memo line of your check to be allocated to this fund. We have a start in this fund and want to remind you of this option should you feel led to contribute to this fund specifically.

Thank you for your faithfulness!



Restoring Ministries

1 Peter 4:10 "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."

Over the last year many of our ministries centering around our worship services were put on hold in order to ensure safety and due to the majority of our membership attending church online. It has been so good to see how we have continued to serve one another in different ways, all glory be to God.

**Praise God people are returning to worship in person!
Praise God for vaccines being administered!**

It's time to consider restoring some ministries that have been on hold.

For the church is designed to serve and the fullness of worship is experienced in service.

You will see some ministries starting up again in the next couple months and over the summer. This is good so we can all be actively engaged in the church once again giving of our talents and time, giving to one another and receiving the blessing we have in serving God and one another.

Please be in prayer with God to see what He might be calling you to do. Ministries can change. Your service may change and *that's ok*. Do pray and seek, and then follow as He guides.

We will be looking for greeters soon, so let Pastor Karrie know if you are willing to serve in that capacity. Also reach out and discuss a ministry idea and need you feel led to assist with. Let us serve the church with great joy in our hearts! *Let us be the Body in motion!*

Coming Events

Monday April 19 Ladies Prayer Group. 9 am online or church with masks.
Contact Pastor Karrie for a link to join in the time of fellowship.

Go Forth in My Spirit— Join a Small Group and Let the Holy Spirit Guide You into Greater Truth

Real Moms. Real Jesus. Once per month. Talk with Britt Sugden for dates and online meeting space. Join in any time! *You are welcome!*

Wednesdays: 6:30 pm Adult Study and Fellowship-*Meeting in person again!* **New study** deepening our daily awareness of the presence of God in our lives. Join in the conversations!

Create your own small group—*“Where 2 or 3 gather in My name, there I am.”*

Zechariah 4:6 ‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the Lord Almighty.

May the peace of Christ flow through you in every situation.



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Let Us Encourage One Another

Let us purpose to connect and encourage one another. Let us purpose to pray together. Let us purpose to build one another up in the faith. **Let us be in the habit of coming together. I am here for you.**

Contact Pastor Karrie.
Email: pastor@livinggospelchurchrio.org

Or via cell phone:
608 566-3936

PLACE
STAMP
HERE