



Exquisite Mutuality

When I was a teenager, my Grandma Schultz told me her favorite verse in all the Bible was Luke 10:8. I promptly looked it up, expecting to find a heart-warming, inspiring verse. Instead I found this: “Whenever you enter a city and its people welcome you, eat what they set before you.” Perhaps you are as confused as I was. After reading it aloud to her, she gave me a wry smile. She understood this verse to be Jesus’ rebuke of picky eaters, and perhaps it is. But as is often the case in the Gospels, there’s more going on here than meets the eye.

This year we have been slowly walking through the Gospel of Luke, and in Luke, Jesus seems to always be eating. Food is everywhere, and what happens around the table is sacred. Sharing food is not just part of God’s mission—it’s the goal of everything God is doing. The context of Luke 10:8 is Jesus sending 70 disciples into the surrounding towns as messengers of peace. They are now doing the work of Jesus in the world, embodying the reconciliation of God. Apparently central to that work is eating what others set before them. What does this have to do with the mission of God? Everything.

One of the great temptations that every disciple of Jesus must face is thinking that we are the bringers of good news, while others are the receivers. It feels good to be a bringer. We feel powerful and competent. Receiving, on the other hand, forces us to be humble, and who likes to be humbled? In all our efforts to serve like Jesus, we easily forget that Jesus not only gave to others, he received as well. Consider all the times Jesus receives other people’s hospitality (Luke 5:29; 7:36; 10:38; 11:37; 14:1). He isn’t too proud to receive financial support from various women (Luke 8:1-3). Throughout his life and ministry, Jesus demonstrates that the kingdom of God always involves both giving and receiving, what Father Greg Boyle calls exquisite mutuality. For our witness to truly reflect the heart of Jesus, we must learn to receive as easily as we give. Eating what’s set before you is a good place to start.

As we continue to live into our Welcome Statement, may we look not only for opportunities to give to others but to receive from them as well. The next time you serve at Community Kitchen, consider eating and conversing with our guests—to give and to receive. If you are struggling, take the uncomfortable step of asking for help. For some of us, needing help feels shameful. But until we can ask for help without shame, we will never be able to give help without looking down to others. Mr. Rogers once said, “All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we’re giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That’s one of the things that connects us as neighbors—in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver.” This is God’s goal all along, that we would share exquisite mutuality—all givers, all receivers, all loved just as we are.

Pastor Joel

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE CHURCH PICNIC

On Sunday, August 18, the Deacons look forward to bringing back the annual church picnic tradition and starting some new ones, too. We will convene at 10 a.m. at Crites Park Starkey Pavilion which is located just inside and to the right of the park entrance off Pontius Road. Pastor Joel will lead us in worship at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch at 11 a.m.

Deacons will provide table service, meat and beverages. Those attending are asked to bring a side dish and lawn chairs.

A variety of activities are planned between lunch and 2 p.m. in celebration of our annual Sunday School Rally. And our friends, Jim and Karen Ewing from Trinity Lutheran, will be providing homemade ice cream. YUM!

This special event will conclude at 2 p.m. Please plan to join us!



HOPE HOUSE BRUNCH WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

The Mission Committee sends a huge thank you for those who supported our brunch on July 14. While enjoying good food and fellowship, we raised \$611 PLUS other donations totaling \$1,011 to Hope House. What a wonderful way to help a local need!

THANK YOU NOTE

To all that sent me food, carried me down the steps, drove me where I needed to go, encouraged me, and were around when I needed someone, thank you. What a blessing it is to have a church that reaches out and helps when needed. The church members are family especially not having our family close to help.

Thanks again,
Marian Hallum

NEW ADDITION

Great granddaughter Ruby Shae Archer was born 6/15/19. Parents are Grace and William Archer. Grace is the granddaughter of Norm and Nancy Baldinger.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Brown Memorial

Diane Berger

Caring Touch

Linda Stevenson

Chapel Hill

Anne Shilling (Paula Thomerson's mother)

Glendora

Woody Jones

Logan Elm Health Care

Donald Maxson

Pickaway Manor

Eloise Beers (Kathy Studebaker's mother)

Mildred Dyer (Blaine Keckley's mother)

Doris Luna

Sharon Ryan

The Inn at Olentangy Trail

Doris Gruebel

Wyngate

Sharon Sanders (Todd Tomlinson's mother)

Convalescing

Bill Campbell

Carol Campbell

Judy Corbett

Lou Ann Clark

Scot Clydesdale

Eugene Dowler

Martha Gearhart

Shirley Hall

Jim Hartley

Wally Higgins

Diana Jones

Kay Martin

Mitch McAlister

Jimmie McKelvey

Bruce Stevenson

Ron Studebaker

Martha Wolfe

Al York

Martha York

Also Convalescing

Ralph Ankrom (John's dad)

Charley Edgar & Corrine Edgar

Tina Galloway (Al Sheldon's daughter)

Marty (Ward) Hart (Marcella Hostetler's sister)

Nate Mofield

Becky Myers (Kim Williams' mother)

Betty Topliff (LibbyRushley's mother)



We offer our condolences to the family and friends.....

...of Doris Yamarick.

...of Ralph Ankrom, John's father.

...Walter Tacosik, great uncle of Emily Smith.

...of Bill Wixon, brother of Judy Spicer.

...Marylee Schwab, mother of Julie Lombardo.

...Eileene Rife, friend of Marcia Davis.

We are sorry if we have missed anyone! If you want someone added or removed, PLEASE call the church office.



CIRCLEVILLE Presbyterian Church

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Permit Number 195

Please remember to contact the church office with your new address. As bulk mail, the Pres-Line is not forwarded and is returned to the church for a fee.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Looking ahead to October-November...



October is Clergy Appreciation Month
Oct. 14-19 Pumpkin Show Week

Nov. 3 Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov. 19 Deadline for Dec/Jan Pres-Line
Nov. 28 Thanksgiving

Circleville Presbyterian Church
Welcome Statement

We love who Jesus loves...no exceptions. We believe God made us very good, and we trust the Spirit to lead us home. We seek to love and celebrate one another just as we are. All are welcomed here!