

# Sunrise Christian Church

February, 2018 Family Newsletter

L3- Called to Love God, Learn to be like Jesus, and to Lead others to the saving cross of Christ

## God blesses marriages



Wedding at Cana- Jesus celebrates human love

There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.” .....

Now there were six stone waterpots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each. Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.” So they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, “Draw *some* out now and take it to the headwaiter.” So they took it *to him*. When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not

know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom, and said to him, “Every man serves the good wine first, and when *the people* have drunk freely, *then he serves* the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now”- John 2:1-3, 6-10, NASB



Marriage should be the highest expression of human love and a time of blessings. Thus, from the book of Proverbs we read: ***“He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD”-***

**Pr. 18:22.**

And a marriage needs to start right; from the Old Testament we read, ***“If a man has recently married, he must not be sent to war or have any other duty laid on him. For one year he is to be free to stay at home and bring happiness to the wife he has married”-***

**Deuteronomy 24:5.**



2018- Our year of Service to each other and our community.

God expects us to be of a service to others- service in the church and out in our community- to be the “salt” and “light” He told us to be. And God equips us to be able do this, giving us this promise: ***“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion”-*** 2 Corinthians 9:11.

And, though we normally think of generosity as having to do with money, surely it also includes our time, skills, and interests, doesn't it?

**So, what will you do this year as an act of service that will bring praise to the Lord?**

Places to volunteer at church:

- Greeting,
- Communion preparation,
- Calling the sick,
- Special events: dinners, guest speakers, etc.
- Providing rides to those who need it.
- Helping on the Church Board,
- Maintenance of our building and grounds.

Get hold of Bill Williams or Phil Terry for more information about any of these.

## Who do you see when you look in a mirror?



*“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. (For) Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like”- James 1:22-24.*

The Bible acts as a mirror for us, a mirror by which we may examine ourselves. In it we find that we need not think too highly of ourselves, or too little!

The Bible reveals to us that on our own all of us, tainted by sin, are lost like sheep, thus far from God.

Yet “In Christ” we are able to become something we could not any other way- we become a new creation, a child of God, and co-heirs with Christ!

The word “transformed” is the term most often applied to those who are “In Christ.” Yet all this is a work of God in our lives, for before any of us turned to Him He was already there wooing us back to Himself.

Thus, all the gospels and letters of the New Testament reveal that God is at work, trying to restore mankind to the relationship they once had with Him in the Garden.



## Upcoming Events:

Faithful Men men’s breakfast- 7:30am,  
Saturday, Feb. 3, at Rusty’s.

Baskets of Love food drive- Sunday, Feb. 4

Crockpot Sunday- Sunday, Feb. 4

Valentine’s Day Dinner- 5:30pm, Feb. 14

Cove’s Camp Winter Camp- Feb. 16-19

Cove’s Leaders Retreat- Saturday, March 24

Cove’s Men’s Retreat- Friday/Saturday, March 20-21.

## Steps to preparing a good Communion or Offering meditation-

\*Base it on the word of God- personal ideas may be OK but it is the word of God that is eternal, powerful and effective in people’s hearts.

\*Base it on a single point- too many points only confuse your audience.

\*Keep it short- people’s minds tend to wander if a mediation goes too long.

\*Call for a deeper level of trust in God and Christ.

\*Give a personal testimony- show how the point of your meditation has been applied to your own life.



## On the lighter side...

A young preacher was to hold a graveside burial at a pauper’s cemetery for an indigent man who had no family or friends.

Not knowing exactly where the cemetery was, he made several wrong turns and got lost. When he arrived an hour late, the hearse was nowhere in sight but the backhoe was next to the hole with the workmen eating a late lunch under a nearby tree.

The young preacher quickly went to the open grave, finding the lid to cement vault already in place. Feeling guilty for being late, he preached an impassioned sermon, sending the deceased into the hands of God with style.

As he was returning to his car, he overheard one of the workmen say that he had been burying septic tanks for more than twenty years and this was the first time he had ever had a preacher show up to bless it.

It was Palm Sunday but because of a sore throat, a 5-year old boy stayed home from church with a babysitter. When the family returned home, they were all carrying palm fronds. The boy asked them what they were for.

“People held them over Jesus’ head as he walked by,” his father said.

“Well, wouldn’t you know,” said the young boy, “the one Sunday I don’t go and Jesus shows up.”