

A Church for Everyone! JULY





"Christian Privilege"

Greetings to all of you, my brothers and sisters in Christ. My family is in Korea, and we are having a great time reuniting with our family and catching up on what has happened. Even though we are far apart, all of you come to mind when I attend the worship service here. My family is missing all of you. I guess having a spiritual family is something we remember and think about even when we are far away.

I've visited two grandmothers who are not well. One grandma had dementia and couldn't remember recent events. Still, she remembered the faces of her grandson and was happy to see me. The other grandma was lying in bed and unable to move, but she recognized our family and greeted us with her eyes. I realize that this may be the last time we will ever see each other in this life.

It makes me think about life before death and life after death. The greatest joy of being a Christian is that we have eternal life. We may be separated from our loved ones on this earth, but we will be reunited again. What a privilege that is. I was happy when I met my parents at the airport and gave

them a deep hug. The joy of seeing our loved ones again is indescribable. We have the privilege of enjoying such a reunion in heaven. Let us rejoice and be glad!

My parents were so happy to see their grandchildren, but after playing with them for two or three hours, they were all knocked out. This is the news from Korea.

We miss you all and will see you again soon.

Love in Christ, Pastor Jongmin











Many of us are probably sick of being inundated with the glorification of sin. It seems like there is no escaping it no matter where we go. We need to be diligent and unwavering in siding with God no matter what the world celebrates. However, sometimes people can be right and handle it wrong. This message seems to be repeated a few times lately leading me to write this article.

First, some people were talking in my Southern Gospel Facebook group about there being sin within the southern gospel industry. They aren't referring to repentant sin that we all have dealt with, but people who choose to live different lives than what is right, and portraying the opposite. No names, or even specific sins were mentioned, it was more that God needs to move in the industry. In the midst of this a young man sent me a message asking what sins I thought they meant. I listed off some guesses (at least some of which I have heard people mention over the years as sadly being with some in the industry). One of them was a sin that is being flaunted and celebrated in current society. He then went on to ask if I would stop listening to a singer if they publicly admitted to this sin. I told him it depended on if the temptation was acted on and the singer unrepentant just as other sins would be. After that, he confessed that he has and struggled with it for years. To his credit as we talked, he admitted that such a relationship is sin and wrong, but said that he struggles with the temptation. He asked for prayer. I want to protect his privacy since he is a Facebook friend, but ask that you pray for him as well. You can refer to him as "Mr. M" if you want to. Something else he said bothered me, but probably not as you would expect. He said "Thank you for being kind to me." The reason it is sad is that many apparently are not with those struggling with sin. We can be kind and loving, while not backpedaling on what is sin. Too many feel the only two choices are be kind and loving, or be hateful against not only the sin, but the person.

The preceding happened May 19th to give you an idea of the timeline. Fast forward to yesterday, June 10th, I saw a post that a Facebook friend who lives in a surrounding city posted. I have never met her. I think maybe Facebook suggested her as someone I might know. Anyhow, she works outdoors. She posted about "Facebook pharisees." She mentioned seeing a post that broke her heart and literally brought her to tears reminding her of something she went through. I never saw said post, so I won't comment on it or her description on it. What I will talk about is something that had happened to her at church near where she lives. She said she had been working out in the heat all day, was in work boots, hat, was dirty, and her face covered in tears. She ran into the church with her children and hit her knees at the altar and poured her heart out to God. She got up and was wearily going back to work when the pastor met her at the door and said "we're not open." She was a member of this church, not a stranger off of the street (not that that matters for the most part). The pastor looked her up and down in front of her children who had also been working with her, and told them to go pray anywhere else. He wouldn't even shake their hands. She stated that her boys still remember this event, and how badly it hurt them. She said that broke her heart worse than the memories, and that they loved him and even still continued to attend after this happened. She mentioned that the sneering judgement on his face will forever be engraved in her memories, and that he had looked at them like filthy or even a Judas or satan himself. Unclean and not just in a physical way. Even typing this now makes me sad.

It reminded me of a much lesser thing that happened to me as a kid. We had a church nearby and were playing on bikes in the parking lot when someone (the pastor perhaps) scolded us a little. In retrospect, he may have just been firm and not mean, but it sure seemed mean to a child. We weren't doing anything bad, just our presence there was apparently bothersome to him. I am in no way comparing this even remotely to what happened above, but I wonder if that is how I would have seen God or the church had I already not been brought up in church here. Then today Pastor Jongmin preached about not being Pharisees. There sure seems to be a common thread amongst this. This article actually has commonalties to the message last month, but it sure seemed like I needed to continue, with recent events.

I get it, we all can have days where we are irritable. We should warn about the consequences of sin, and perhaps combat in debate with those promoting it. We can want to keep the church clean and secure. We can want to make sure that some kids playing around don't get too close to a parked car or whatever the person's problem was (I don't really recall if that was it or not). But do we have love? Does our love show, or are we demonstrating the opposite? We should model ourselves after Christ who certainly wasn't soft on sin, but looked on people as valued and loved, instead of condemnation. He certainly doesn't want us to live in sin (He did say to sin no more), but it was His love and concern that drew people to Him, not the judgement and superiority shown by the Pharisees.



July 21st-30th Boundary Waters Canoe Area Trip, Grand Marias, Minnesota

June 11th – 17th was our week at Maumee Scout Reservation Summer Camp. We had 10 from our own troop, one from a troop in Florida (The scout used to be in our troop and decided he would rather attend camp with us than his current Florida troop), 1 scout and 1 parent from Iowa that we did not know, and 2 other scouts from a troop around Mitchell that wanted to attend camp with our troop. Carter Varvel, my grandson, is working as staff at summer camp. So far, the weather has been Outstanding, Outrageous and all around Groovy as the scout song goes.

We had 9 scouts take 31 merit badges. There were 16 completed merit badges and 15 partials. We have a few requirements left over to finish up. Many of the boys caught fish almost every evening. A few boys were able to ride mountain bikes. Some shot shotgun and rifle. All swam most of the time. Some of the boys were new to swimming and was able to get better throughout the week.

We all had a great time. I want to personally thank Kordell Prescott for mostly running the troop during the day. My time was split up between two tents and teaching classes. Without his help, it would have been a lot harder. It was nice to have Roger Schaefer visit on Tuesday and Thursday. Thursday was family visit night and no scout asked to go home with mom and dad. I think that may have been a first. So far God has answered my prayers in keeping me healthy and being able to lead mountain bike rides.

July 21st – July 30th is our first time going to the Boundary Waters Canoe area for a 6-day canoe trip. We have 5 adults and 4 scouts going this year. The scout that had moved to Florida wanted to go so his parents are allowing him to go with us. This was exciting news. We will have such a great time seeing nature as God has designed it. Hopefully minus the flies and mosquitoes.

If you know anyone that is interested in scouting the door is always open for their visit on our scout nights. Please feel free to pass my contact information to anyone interested in visiting or joining our troop. Boys ages need to be 11 years old to join and less than 18. Meeting time Thursday is at 6:30 - 8:00 at the Youth Center.

Bruce McIntosh, Scoutmaster 812-374-9009, brucemcintoshbsa@yahoo.com



Happy 4th of July!!

Another year has rolled around ... our country is another year older!

So ... speaking of birthdays ... how do you handle birthdays?

Are birthdays something you look forward to each year? Or do you regret when that special day approaches thinking you're another year older and closer to death?

Birthdays should be celebrated! We celebrate the "birth" of our country with fireworks, parades, picnics ... all that really fun stuff.

When we're kids we celebrate with cake, ice cream, gifts ... especially the GIFTS! Right?

Then as we grow up we realize that birthdays aren't just about the getting ... it's more about the giving.

Those who fought to free our country from taxation without representation gave a great deal ... many with their lives ... the ultimate sacrifice.

Now ... I know it's July ... but jump ahead 6 months ... and think about another birthday for just a moment.

Remember the birth of Jesus? It was celebrated, too \dots but sadly without cake and ice cream \square But there were presents, right? Remember the gifts of the Wise Men?

This year as you enjoy the July 4^{th} celebration, remember to also celebrate the birth of Jesus ... and ... wait for it ...

EAT CAKE!!

Wishing you a wonderful, safe Independence Day!

Timothy



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		**				1
2 Communion 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday School	3 OFFICE CLOSED	HAPPY C DFJULYI Office closed	5 6pm-Choir	6 5:30pm-Trustee Meeting 6:30pm-Scouts	7	8
9 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday School 5pm-Grace's Table	10	11	12 6pm- Choir	13 6:30pm-Scouts	14	15
16 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday School	17	18	19 6pm-Choir	20 6:30pm- Scouts	21	22
23 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday School	24 VBS - 24	25 —26 9:00am	26 6pm-Choir —11:30am	27 NO Scouts	28	29
21	21			and a cast		

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July 1..Lisa Welch July 7..Becky Schuyler

July 10..Ron Briner

July 11...Marsha Stuckey

July 15..Erin Mattern

July 17..Keith Reeves

Julie Adams-Clark

July 18..Julie Taylor July 20..Tony Barringer July 24..Janet Foley July 29..Jim Bozell Dirk James July 31..Jane Reed



Church office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, July 3 & 4 in observance of Independence Day.

Turning Point thanks the church for the donation of the food. The donation makes a difference in the lives of many.

Cam & Anne Gongwer thanks the church for the financial contribution of \$131.25 to the TMS Global Account for the medical missions work in 2022.

Vicki Axsom of the Salvation Army thanks the church for allowing their special group for the use of the parking lot.

Redbird Mission Trip will be Sept. 24-28, cost per person is \$200. A sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board for anyone interested. Questions contact Garry Taylor.





<u>Trustee meeting</u> Thursday, July 6 at 5:30pm. <u>Grace's Table Dinner Church</u> Sunday, July 9 at 5:00 pm in the Youth Center.

The Cardinal Singers Red Bird Mission

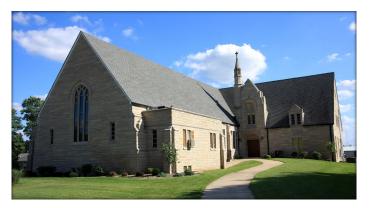


The Cardinal Singers thanks the church for the opportunity to worship and fellowship with them. They thank everyone for the financial gift and showing their love for Jesus with the kind words and love shown to them.

"A Nation's Strength"

Not gold but only men can make A people great and strong; Men who for truth and honor's sake Stand fast and suffer long.

Brave men who work while others sleep, Who dare while others fly... They build a nation's pillars deep And lift them to the sky. —*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



East Columbus United Methodist Church 2439 Indiana Avenue, Columbus IN 47201

Return Service Requested

Jongmin Lee, Senior Minister
Angie Sherfick, Adm. Assistant
Terry Snyder, Music Director

Church Office: 812.376.7418

Church Office Email: office@eastcolumbusumc.org Pastor Email: jongmin.lee@inumc.org Worship Director Email: music@eastcolumbusumc.org

9:00am-Worship Service

Church Website: www.eastcolumbusumc.org

10:10am- Sunday School

OUR CHURCH MISSION

Growing the Family of God by Making Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.