

The Crestwood Chronicle

March 31, 2024

Greetings Crestwood Family!

He is Risen and now March is over. I don't feel like Time "Marched" by, it sprinted this month! Let's recap:

3rd - We celebrated what would have been our first Church Matriarch's Birthday. Dolores Bewely who went Home to Our Father on November 17, 2023 would have turned 87 on March 3rd. Her daughter Renee joined us in service as we spoke about her life and added a plant from her garden to our own little garden at the front door of the church building. There was of course, in proper Dolores fashion, a Birthday Cake that she would have loved.



After service and the birthday celebrations, Session 2 of the



University of Ephesus with Ron Casper and Anthony Belton discussed salvation, what is salvation, and what our salvation means to our citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven and our place in God's Family.



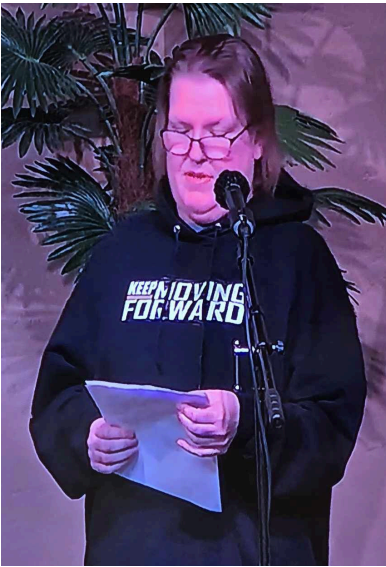
16th - We gathered together for our Annual Crestwood Chilli Cookoff! Big thank you to all our volunteers who helped set up and clean. Our returning Champion, playing on the fact that it was St. Patrick's Day weekend, won first place with his shamrock inspired Chilli Verde.

- 1st Place = Dave Renshaw
- 2nd Place = Mark Borges
- 3rd Place = Sharon Gratner

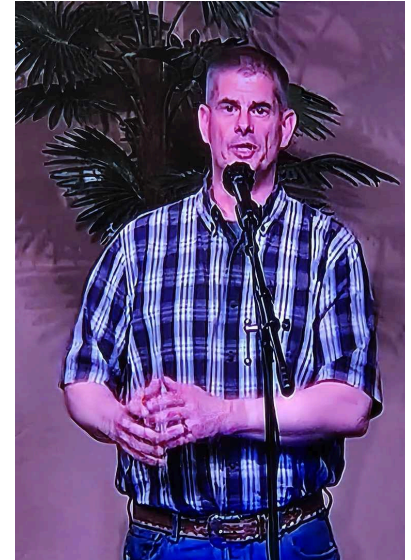
23rd - Our drive of the month for March was Easter Baskets. Several volunteers gathered at the Church to assemble 87 Easter Baskets, Dolores would have been happy with that number (and probably would have asked for some of the candy too).



24th - We celebrated the arrival of Jesus into Jerusalem for Holy Week.



25th - On the Global Church Calendar is “Annunciation Day”, which means for those of you like Sheila who *really* love Christmas, the 9 month countdown has officially started.



29th - We came together in honor of Christ’s Sacrifice on the Cross with our Good Friday Worship Service. Two members of our family, Letisha Blandin and Mark Borges provided their testimony on not only what Christ’s Sacrifice means to them, but how God has shaped their lives since accepting His Grace.



31st - We not only had Resurrection Sunday Worship Service, but also, Brother Tom had the joy of baptizing two members of our family during service! If you see James Stewart and Celia Pine, be sure to congratulate them! It was especially great to see the “Tom Talk” Thursday night Group stand in support of their sister.



Upcoming Events

April:

3: Monthly prayer night & Marina Kamiya's Birthday

Here at Crestwood we believe in the power of prayer. We are going to begin having a night of prayer, at 5pm the first Wednesday of the month at the church to pray for various needs in our church family.

4: Jeff Sularz's Birthday

7: University of Ephesus 2024 Session 3

Class 1 by Anthony Belton

History 101 World Civilizations to 1 BC: A brief look at the history of Israel and chronological timeline of the Bible from Creation to Christ's first coming.

Class 2 by Anthony Belton

History 102 World Civilizations Since AD 1: A brief look at how the church has developed from the time of Christ to the present day.

8: Solar Eclipse

At 11:10 am, Santa Maria will be able to see 40% of what our "Texwood Fellowship" members (Mogaveros+Keith) will be able to see in the Dallas area.

13: Margaret Stilliens' Birthday

19: John Schuldt & Lisa Jacobsen's Birthdays

20: Tracey Balderama & Anthony Hershey's Birthdays

23: Elena Fabela's Birthday

27: Melissa Souza's Birthday

20: Serve Santa Maria

Santa Maria is our mission field, so what better way to show the Love of Christ than serving the people of the city we are meant to serve. Please sign up to participate in this wonderful opportunity to minister to our neighbors.

28: University of Ephesus 2024 Session 4

We are doubling up in April so that we can leave the May calendar open. Why? Keep reading and find out.

Class 1 by Ron Casper

Philosophy 105 Ethics: What being a "Christ-ian" means.

Class 2 by Anthony Belton

Viticulture 301 Pairing Wine and Food: The importance of Communion.

May:

Drive of the month: My Home Supplies

We will be collecting items to help boost our My Home supplies. Our My Home ministry helps support members of the community who have recently found housing and need items for their new home. Items such as utensils, kitchen towels, all the way up to couches and dressers.

2: National Day of Prayer / Monthly prayer night

Here at Crestwood we believe in the power of prayer. First Wednesday of the month is our prayer night, however; in May, we are going to align with the rest of the country in honor of the National Day of Prayer. Time will be announced in next month's Newsletter.

5: Cinco de Mayo Taco Day

Stay for lunch after service as we use the Mexican victory at the Battle of Puebla as an excuse to spend time together as a family and fellowship with food.

7: Linda Black's Birthday

8: Wendy Engle & Savannah Collins' Birthdays also Mr. and Mrs. Smokey's Anniversary (Cyril & Victoria Kromer)

10: Cece Uribe's Birthday (turning double digits! 10)

11: Jason Kamiya's Birthday

12: Mother's Day

Men, you have been warned! Do not forget! With all that mother's do for us, they deserve far more than just 1 Sunday a year. Make sure to invite your Mom to join us for service (and she might even get a little special gift).

13: Kai Jacobsen's Birthday

14: Jesse Deleon's Birthday

19: Pentecost Sunday

The best way to celebrate the birth of the Christian Church is by spending it with your Church family.

24-27: Memorial Day Weekend

Although we miss you when you are not in service, we understand wanting to take advantage of the holiday weekend. Those of you who volunteer in one of the ministries that help make Sunday mornings happen, please remember to inform your ministry leader if you will not be in service to be sure that we have sufficient coverage. Let us all remember the sacrifice of the many service members who, like our Lord, gave their lives for the sake of others.

Cleaning Schedule	
Date	Group
Mar 31 - Apr 6	Mens
Apr 7-13	Herd of Turtles
Apr 14-20	Vagabonds
Apr 21-27	Tacos & Torah
Apr 28 - May 4	Womens
May 5-11	Frankly Speaking
May 12-18	Tom Talk
May 19-25	Mens
May 26 - Jun 1	Herd of Turtles

In other news:

Crestwood has a new "Secure" page on the church website (<https://crestwoodchristian.net>)!

Why? There are so many different things that we don't want to have in the open side of the website. Items such as reimbursement forms, church directory, etc. Solution, a secure area you can always quickly reach from your PC, laptop, and smartphones. How do I find it? Go to the "Info" tab at the top of the website and select the "Documents" tab. Now you can put in the secure password

to access those needed files.

How do I get the password? That's easy, contact Pastor Mike and he will be happy to get you going.

Finance class with John Schuldt will be mid to late June. Please fill out an information card with what areas you would like to cover between now and Mother's Day weekend so that John has time to put a course together that will address all of the topics requested.

The war in Israel against Hamas in retaliation for Hamas' Oct 7th attack is still raging and Anti-Semitism is at an all time high across our country. We know that Israel is the center of prophecy and as Christians we should keep an eye on what happens in Israel. Please keep Israel in your prayers and remember the words of Mordecai in Esther 4:14:

"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish..."

Ministry of the month:

Love Thru Service - Agency Liaisons

Looking for a way to serve outside of Crestwood but not sure where to start? Start by contacting Leanne Gregory, our Love Thru Service Ministry Leader. Our Agency Liaisons are the link between Crestwood and the rest of the community, and it only takes a willing heart, and the ability to answer your phone when one of our partners in the community needs help with something that we can provide. Please see Leanne for details.

Small Group Spotlight of the month:

"The Herd of Turtles"

Led by our Elder Ron Casper, The Herd meets at 5pm on Sunday night's at Ron & Sheila Casper's house (which also serves as the home of our current Church Matriarch - Pauline Brown). How did they get their nickname you might ask? For starters, it is one of Ron's favorite expressions, "We're off and running like a herd of turtles." It also is reflective of the fact that Ron is a very in-depth teacher (of course the same can be said of the other 3 members of The Bullpen). Ron makes sure to get all the theological meat off the bones of the scripture he is covering. They are currently in The Gospel of Matthew and gladly welcome you to join them next Sunday night. For details, see Ron and/or Sheila.

Joke of the month:

Q: Where did Jesus go to get a snack?

A: Mount Olive