

SABBATH ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

United Church of God, *an International Association*
 North Canton & Youngstown, OH; Pittsburgh, PA; Wheeling, WV Congregations

SABBATH, MARCH 23, 2019

Church services this Sabbath:

Youngstown – 11 a.m.
North Canton – 2 p.m.

Wheeling – 11 a.m.
Pittsburgh – 2:30 p.m.

Dear brethren,

Sabbath is the fascinating day of the week. It’s not just regular time for work and play, but it is holy time. It’s time to stop work, slow our pace, think more about God, His Word and His way of life.

There’s nothing quite like the Sabbath in traditional Christian thinking or understanding. Although they can read about God creating the Sabbath in Genesis and commanding Sabbath observance in the Ten Commandments in Exodus, plus the absolute reaffirming of the Sabbath by Jesus Christ’s personal example of keeping it holy in the four gospels, traditional Christianity is left with a terrible disconnect when they try to substitute the first day of the week for the seventh.

Thankfully, in the Body of Christ, which is the true, biblical Church of God, we are marvelously energized by the Sabbath. Energized spiritually, that is, since it is the day of physical rest from our weekly labor. We learn by keeping the Sabbath holy to slow our physical pace and increase our thinking pace. It gives us time to read and study more of God’s Word than on a typical day of the week, time to hear it expounded at Sabbath services and meditate on how we can better apply God’s truth in our lives.

Like everything that God has made, the weekly Sabbath is ours to marvel at and meditate upon. And then, when God called us to His truth, we learned about His annual holy days! Those annual Sabbaths suddenly open wide our scope of understanding about what God is doing through mankind—and therefore, doing through us personally. In the meaning of the weekly Sabbath and annual holydays God reveals His incredible plan of salvation!

Keep the true faith—and spread it,



Randy Stiver, Pastor

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1. Church Circuit Calendar : (please note three Youngstown time changes underlined)

March 23	Sabbath	Youngstown – 11 a.m.; North Canton – 2 p.m.; Wheeling – 11 a.m.; Pittsburgh – 2:30 p.m.
March 30	Sabbath	<u>Youngstown – 1 p.m.</u> ; North Canton – 2 p.m.; Wheeling – 2:30 p.m.; Pittsburgh – 2:30 p.m.
April 6	Sabbath	Wheeling – 10 a.m.; Pittsburgh – 2:30 p.m.; <u>Youngstown – 1 p.m.</u> ; North Canton – 2 p.m.
April 12	Bible Study webcast	7:30 p.m. EST – Title to be announced https://www.ucg.org/congregations/north-canton-oh/webcast
April 13	Sabbath	Youngstown – 11 a.m.; North Canton – 2 p.m.; Wheeling – 11 a.m.; Pittsburgh – 2:30 p.m.

April 18	Passover service	After sundown just past 8:00 p.m. in each of the four churches
April 19	Day of Passover	Night to Be Much Remembered meal just after sundown
April 20	1 st Day of Unleavened Bread	Annual Sabbath/Holyday, one service, North Canton & Youngstown combined at Global Gateway, Pittsburgh & Wheeling combined at Chartiers Township CC
April 26	Last Day of Unleavened Bread	North Canton & Youngstown combined at Global Gateway 10:30 & 2:00 Pittsburgh & Wheeling combined at Chartiers Township CC 10:30 & 2:00
April 27	Sabbath	North Canton – 2:00; Youngstown – 11:00; Wheeling – 11:00; Pittsburgh – 2:30

2. Local Prayer Requests: (*new or updated) – some of these may be updated in the past week so please listen to the verbal announcements for those.

- ***Libby Dezso** – recovering from flu, and now at Green Village Rehab at 708 Moore Rd., Akron, OH 44319 for therapy to regain her strength.
- ***Patty Stumbaugh** (in FL, but recently from Pittsburgh) – from elder Stan Martin: Patty Stumbaugh had a double mastectomy yesterday (March 14) at Advent Health hospital in Zephyrhills. Several of our brethren visited with her this evening and she is doing remarkably well and has a very positive attitude. Her address is: 9617 Silverbend Drive, Dade City, FL 33525
- **Dale Harmon** – (North Canton): Skin cancer and other ailments.
- **Vicki Edgell** – (Wheeling): Continuing to recover from her broken hip.
- **Linda Ritter** – (North Canton): Recovering from heart surgery.
- **Jenny Luchitz** – (North Canton): Severe bursitis and other symptoms.
- **Pam Bickel** – (North Canton): Increased MS symptoms.
- **Jaxon LaBorde** – grandson of Rose Szymkowiak – awaiting treatment for a very rare disorder, but young Jaxon still needs your prayers for healing.
- **Mitch Showers** – diagnosed with prostate cancer, surgery in late April, appreciates your prayers

3. PASSOVER & DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

- **Passover service** – after sundown Thursday evening, April 18, services at each of our congregation locations. Please arrive and be seated by 7:45 that evening. The Passover service will begin just after sundown and is for baptized members only.
- **Day of Passover** – Friday, April 19 – (de-leaven our homes by sunset)
- **Night to Be Much Remembered** – Friday evening, April 19 – gather together with other brethren for a special fellowship meal where possible
- **First Day of Unleavened Bread** – Sabbath, April 20 – an annual Sabbath. North Canton & Youngstown at Global Gateway. Pittsburgh & Wheeling at Chartiers Community Center. A single service with the holyday offering.
- **Days of Unleavened Bread** – (avoid eating any leavened bread or leavening in other food products for the 7 days of the festival from sundown April 20 through sundown April 26)
- **Last Day of Unleavened Bread** – Friday, April 26 – an annual Sabbath, a double service holyday with the holyday offering at the morning service. North Canton & Youngstown meet at Global Gateway. Pittsburgh & Wheeling meet at Chartiers Community Center.

4. Kingdom of God Seminars – after the spring holydays

Plans are afoot to conduct a Kingdom of God Seminar in each of our four church areas beginning in late May or early June. Your fervent prayers will greatly and positively impact our effort!

READ THE PSALMS BY PASSOVER!

2019 Bible reading and fellowship project for all four of our upper Ohio River congregations. If we're all reading the same Psalms each week from now to Passover they will provide excellent discussion points during Sabbath fellowship. Song leaders, when possible please select one or two hymns from the assigned reading list for the week.

DATES / PSALMS / HYMNS

Jan. 13-19: Psalms 1 – 10 (Hymnal pages 1-9, 117, 137)
 Jan. 20-26: Psalms 11 – 21 (Hymnal pages 10-12, 118, 131, 136, 144, 145, 161)
 Jan. 27-Feb. 2: Psalms 22 – 32 (Hymnal pages 13-20, 119-121, 125, 127, 144, 180)
 Feb. 3-9: Psalms 33 – 43 (Hymnal pages 21-25, 91, 119-121, 127, 138, 183)
 Feb. 10-16: Psalms 44 – 54 (Hymnal pages 26-32, 118, 122, 127, 129, 168, 183)
 Feb. 17-23: Psalms 55 – 65 (Hymnal pages 33-35, 123, 138, 180)
 Feb. 24-Mar. 2: Psalms 66 – 76 (Hymnal pages 36-39, 92, 144, 180)
 Mar. 3-9: Psalms 77 – 87 (Hymnal pages: 40-45, 47, 117, 124-128)
 Mar. 10-16: Psalms 88 – 98 (Hymnal pages 46, 48-56, 127, 129, 130, 144, 162)
Mar. 17-23: Psalms 99 – 109 (Hymnal pages: 57-66, 113, 114, 126, 131, 135, 136, 145)
Mar. 24-30: Psalms 110 – 118 (Hymnal pages: 67-70, 143)
Apr. 1-6: Psalms 119 – 128 (Hymnal pages: 71-77, 93, 98, 118, 130, 143)
Apr. 7-13: Psalms 129 – 139 (Hymnal pages: 78-81, 129, 132, 187)
Apr. 14-19: Psalms 140 – 150 (Hymnal pages: 82-87, 95, 120, 134-138, 159)

INTRODUCTION: The Psalms are divinely inspired songs. Many were written by King David and the rest by other leaders and priests in ancient Israel. Summaries are written by your pastor (lifted from my ABC Writings Class handout).

Ps. 110	Messianic, royal	O.T. proof of Jesus Christ's divinity with the Father from eternity past – 1-2 (see Matt. 22:44). Reveals that Christ is High Priest in heaven after order of Melchizedek – 4 (see Heb. 5:6, 10; 6:20). Prophecy of Christ as King of Kings to execute judgment in the time of the end and rule during the Millennium.
Ps. 111	Wisdom, praise	Praising God cements in our minds His glorious greatness – 2-3, the faithfulness of His covenant (both old and new) – 5 and humbles us before His awesome, imposing, true greatness or "fear" – which instills in our minds the core beginning of wisdom.
Ps. 112	Wisdom	The second step of true wisdom is to delight in God's law which defines His divine character – 1-5.
Ps. 113	Praise, Passover	Traditionally sung by the Jews at Passover. Carries the theme of humbling oneself before God and being blessed in His presence – 6-9.
Ps. 114	Passover, wisdom-history	Cites several of God's dramatic miracles in the Exodus and the command to tremble in His divine presence – 7.
Ps. 115	Passover, praise	Set in the time of the Exodus, stresses the sovereignty of God – 3 and the foolishness of idols – 4-8. Israel was to trust in the LORD – 9 and the "house of Aaron," was especially to trust God to fulfill their priestly functions.
Ps. 116	Passover, messianic	Prophecy of Christ's suffering and death – 3, resurrection – 8. Speaks of the "cup of salvation" – 13 (see Matt. 26:27), and a prophecy of Jesus being born of a woman – 16-17.
Ps. 117	Praise	The shortest Psalm that is much like a chorus that calls on all peoples, Gentiles included – 1, to praise God.
Ps. 118	Passover, praise	A call-and-answer section in 1-4 echoing the main point that God's mercy endures forever. Prophetic of the life and role of Jesus Christ being rejected by man, but supported by God the Father. Specific prophecy of Christ as the stone rejected by the builders – 22 (see Matt. 21:42).

End