



Perry Church of the Nazarene

news

April 2018



Paranoia and Hope

“Jesus showed them his hands and feet. They still did not believe for joy and amazement... Jesus said to them, “Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.” (Luke 24:40-44, edited)

There’s a saying that goes something like “just because you’re paranoid doesn’t mean that people aren’t out to get you.” Of course, that may be true, but the statement uncovers something about paranoia. Paranoia is an effort to prepare oneself for any and every bad outcome. As someone has said, paranoia’s goal is to eliminate any bad surprises. We are prepared for anything...except good news.

When the disciples saw Jesus, Luke says that they disbelieved because of joy and amazement. The physical sight of Jesus was powerful and convincing. But even then, it was hard to believe, Luke says, because of joy. In other words, it was too good to be true.

Jesus helped them to see that it was both good and true. He helped their faith by opening up their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He explained how the cross and resurrection fulfilled the Law and the Prophets — that the cross was not an unfortunate event that can now be forgotten, but rather was the center of salvation’s plan. The earliest Christian creed was simply that Christ died for our sins, was buried and raised on the third day according to the Scriptures. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is the interpretive key to the Old Testament Scriptures. Jesus helped them see that they could believe he had died, rose again and

that this was and had always been God’s plan for redemption. He helped them to believe and to hope.

Jesus’ death must have been utterly unexpected and crushing to the disciples and their faith. We know that hard times can come out of nowhere. After facing a hard time, we can become defensive and paranoid, not wanting to be caught off guard again. We will not allow ourselves to hope anymore. We can easily become like the disciples, disbelieving the good news right in front of us, because it’s too good to be true. But paranoia is defeated by Christian hope attested to in the resurrection. The resurrection says that the bad news is not the final outcome, but that Christ’s victory over death is the final outcome. We wait for all of God’s creation to experience this victory.

When we live in hope, we choose to persist in a hope based not on our circumstances or our emotions. We base our hope on the victory of Christ, prophesied centuries beforehand through ancient texts. We find ourselves caught up in a story that is much bigger than us. We come to trust in a God whose love for us is stronger than anything in this world. We wait in hopeful expectation for the surprises of God’s grace and the new creation.

Pastor Tim Harmon

April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Flag Football Game
8	9 Cancer Support Group	10	11	12	13 Teens: 30 Hour Famine Zumba	14 Flag Football Game Teens: 30 Hour Famine
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Men's Breakfast Flag Football Game
22 Ignite Service	23	24 PrimeTime Luncheon	25	26 Respite Training	27	28 Flag Football Game
29	30					

April Classes and Activities

Cancer Support Group

April 9 . 7:00PM

Caring cancer survivors meet monthly to listen and discuss the challenges of living with cancer. Everyone is welcome.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, April 21 at 8am

All men are invited for relevant teaching and good food in Heritage Hall.

PrimeTime Luncheon

Tuesday, April 24 at 12pm

PrimeTime is for anyone 50 years old and over, who enjoys fun and fellowship. Bring a dish to pass and join us for music from our own Carol Holley.

Ignite Mission Service

Sunday, April 22 at 6pm in Sanctuary

The District Missions Council will host the Ignite service at our Church on Sunday, April 22nd. This service is meant to be a time to inform and mobilize the district for missions. Our speakers are David and Jennifer Allen from South Africa. David provides training throughout the Africa Region in the areas of finance, accounting, and stewardship. He also works closely with field leaders to maximize resource use in order to accomplish the goal of taking the church where it is not already. Jennifer serves as the Donor Relations Coordinator for the Africa Region as well as representing the Church on the board of trustees for the housing complex in which they live. Join us as we learn more about missions in the Church of the Nazarene.

Teen: 30 Hour Famine

Saturday April 13-14

On Friday and Saturday, April 13-14th, students will fast for 30 hours, beginning at noon Friday and ending Saturday at 6 pm. They will need to be at the church at 6 pm Friday. This event involves three main features: the first is that we raise money for people who are living in extreme poverty and hunger—\$360 is enough to feed a child for an entire year and also enough for a famine t-shirt and qualification to apply to an overseas missions trip! Second, we fast for 30 hours with the dual purpose of helping the students know, even for a short period, a little of what these people go through and also to “go hungry so others can eat.” Lastly, we come together to learn more about poverty and experience a tiny little portion of it over the weekend. We are again asking parents and other adults to participate in the famine (to fast) with us while they go through their days Friday and Saturday. Then Saturday evening at 6 pm, we are going to break the fast together with a huge pot luck feast (each family will be asked to bring a dish to pass)! Anyone 7th-12th grade is invited to participate. I hope you will come to this weekend and most importantly, raise money for those in need!



Zumba Class

Saturday April 13 . 6:30

Join us for a Zumba class in Heritage hall. Kaah Warriner will lead us. She teaches Zumba at Jackson area YMCA’s and other community events. Cost is \$5 per person. Session will last an hour with an option for a second hour for those interested. Sign up at the resource table or call the church office.

Buy a Perry Nazarene Cookbook

Thank you for your contributions to our church cookbook. We have some great recipes! The book was sent to the printer and we should have them in time for Mother’s Day. Each book is \$10. Any proceeds will be given to the church benevolence fund. You can preorder a copy today by simply filling out a giving envelope and marking cookbook on one of the blank lines.



Praise Station this April

Praise Station is for our 1st-6th grade children and is located in the lower level at 9:30am on Sunday mornings. Each morning, the kids join together for worship and a large group teaching based on scripture. They divide into smaller age groups and engage in a fun activity to help them interact with the teaching.

Our focus this month is on patience — waiting until later for what you want now. Our memory verse for the month is “Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the Lord.” - Psalm 27:14 NIV.

Patience is a reflection of the character of God. Kids will study the story of Hannah in 1 Samuel and learn that when they have trouble waiting, they can talk to God about the waiting. They will study the principle of patience in Proverbs 14 and learn the importance of keeping their cool and not taking their frustration out on others. Kids will study the story of the Israelites worshipping a golden calf in Exodus 32. They’ll learn the importance of remembering all the times God has helped them before to help them trust God as they wait. The final study will be the story in Genesis 25 of Esau giving up his birthright for a bowl of stew. They’ll learn that keeping their patience will help them to avoid a decision they will later regret.

From cover to cover, the Bible reveals that God is patient. Our children will taste the truth that the Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in love and learn that Christ wants them to be the same.

Learn more about this week’s focus at <https://studio252.tv> It’s a great resource for parents and children together.



Each Week in April

Sunday morning


- 9:30 Worship
Adult Sunday School
Children's Church
- 10:45 Worship
Adult Sunday School
Teen Sunday School
Children's Sunday School

Wednesday evening

- 6:00 Dinner
- 6:30 Grief Share
- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
Women's Bible Study
Real Life Student Ministries
Children's Caravan

Paid nursery staff is available during all service times.

THE WAY GOD INTENDED FOR YOU TO BE: AUTHENTIC.



Grades 4-6
(July 23-27)

Grades 2-4
(July 9-13)


Grades K-2
(July 1-3)

Grades 9-12
(June 18-22)

Grades 6-8
(June 25-29)

UNMASKED
SUMMER CAMP 2018

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Perry Church of the Nazarene
Mission Statement:
We exist to lead as many as possible to become devoted followers of Jesus Christ.