



# The Proclaimer

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This month is a guest article from a good friend of mine, Dave Williams. He is currently the General Superintendent of Mid-America Yearly Meeting, he was also one of my professors in my Master's program, and I went to High School with his kids. I hope that you are encouraged in your prayer life as much as I was after reading his thoughts.

*Kyrie eleison* is a Greek phrase that means, "Lord, have mercy." Its frequent use as a central prayer of the Christian church derives from several New Testament passages where some form of this phrase is invoked as a passionate plea from a genuinely broken and contrite heart. A Canaanite woman, for example, cries out to Jesus, "Have mercy on me, O Lord" (Mt 15:22). Two blind men call out, "Lord, have mercy on us" (Mt 20:30). Bartimaeus implores Jesus, "Have mercy on me" (Mk 10:46). But the *kyrie eleison* is perhaps most powerfully illustrated in the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Lk 18:9-14):

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, '**God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**'

"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Over the centuries, the phrase *kyrie eleison* ("Lord, have mercy") has become one of the most beloved and frequently repeated prayers in the entire church, especially among our Eastern Orthodox brothers and sisters. This is also the same phrase that inspired what is commonly called the *Jesus Prayer* ("Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner"), a humble petition that has become increasingly popular among Western Christians as well.

I have been following Jesus for nearly 40 years now, and I have always found prayer to be the most essential and most challenging of all the spiritual disciplines. But what has helped me most in recent years is the discovery that prayer is not limited to a few, specific methods or models that are unique to any one denomination or tradition. As my good friend, Fil Anderson likes to say, "There are as many ways to pray as there are moments in the day." I have found that the more that my prayer portfolio has expanded, the more freedom, depth and joy I have experienced in my walk with Christ.

If you are interested in expanding your prayer portfolio, I would encourage you to explore the *kyrie eleison* or *Jesus Prayer*, especially during this season of Lent. Try them on for size and see how they fit. To borrow from William Penn, you might think of it as a "holy experiment." At the end of the day, I pray that you will be encouraged and empowered to pray as you *can*, not as you *can't*.

Oh, and one more thing. It is critical to remember that we are never alone when it comes to this life of prayer. Our good and beautiful, triune God is always praying with us. As the Scriptures reminds us, God the Father "knows what you need before you ask him" (Mt 6:8), God the Son "always lives to intercede" for us (Heb 7:25), and God the Spirit "intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express" (Rm 8:26). As we learn to pray *with* God, not just *to* God, we grow to understand that prayer is simply a matter of *staying in the conversation*. And somehow, during this unfolding friendship with God, we are mysteriously and progressively transformed in such a way that others can see in us an imperfect yet increasingly authentic reflection of the very face of God (cf. 2 Co 3:18). As C.S. Lewis has testified, "prayer doesn't change God; it changes me." Lord, have mercy.

David O. Williams  
General Superintendent of Mid America Yearly Meeting

## Ramblings by the Minister of Children's Programming



While checking out a Facebook post I came across a video message by Dr. Rabbi Twerski. The title was *Fish Love*, and the video talked about how this man loved fish. He loved eating them, the taste and how much they did for him. He went on to say much of love we talk about is just "Fish Love", loving for what we can get.

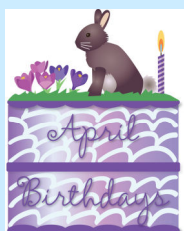
This got me to thinking about how do I love. Do I love just because of what's in it for me? Our example is God's love for us. "For God so loved the world, He gave." When Jesus was asked, which commandment was the most important He replied, "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Because God loved He Gave and so it should be with us. We give to God because we love Him. Not the fish kind of love, a love expecting to get something out of it. Do we love because of what the other person gives to us? Or do we give because we love them. When we love God. We give him all our heart, mind, strength and soul. When we truly love others, we can give.

I will leave you with the quote by Rabbi Dr. Dessier "The people make a serious mistake in thinking that you give to those whom you love, and the answer is, the real answer is, you love those to whom you give."

Dayton Durley

1st - Kendra Moore  
3rd - Kevin Canaday  
4th - Jim Cloud  
5th - Elizabeth Miller  
7th - Edward Hernandez  
13th - Sharon Brackett  
15th - Travis Farrester  
16th - Allen Kendall  
18th - Wes Graves  
22nd - Andrew Leeper  
Margaret Winters  
25th - Arthur Phillips  
26th - Becky Chase  
30th - Stuart Griffith



8th - John & Jennifer Hatfield



**BROWN  
BAG  
FOOD  
DELIVERY**

**Friday, April 7**

Volunteers come at 3:00pm.  
Registration at 4:00pm.  
Food Delivery at 4:30pm.

*Hosanna!*

Quarterly Meeting  
for Business



April 9th is our Quarterly Meeting for Business. This is a time after our Potluck to hear from our Ministry Teams about what is happening in our church. Everyone is encouraged to stay for this meeting as we are all a part of the decisions being made. This month our Potluck is a Mexican theme. Bring your favorite Mexican dish.



Please join us for a Baby Shower honoring  
**Ashlyn Leeper**  
 Ashlyn is having a boy!  
 Sunday, April 2, 2017  
 at 3:00 pm  
 at the Metolius Friends Church

There will be a diaper raffle!  
 Bring a package of diapers or wipes  
 to be entered to win a fun prize.  
 You may bring more than one package  
 for more chances to win!

Ashlyn is registered at  
 Amazon, Target & Baby Phases.

To RSVP you can call or text  
 Milne Macy 541-480-7294

A baby boy is on the way!

Join us for a  
**Baby Shower**  
 honoring  
**Grace Blake**


Date : April 8th, 2017  
 Time : 2 p.m.  
 Place : Metolius Friends Community Church

\*bring a pkg of diapers to participate in a raffle  
 RSVP : Audrey 307-922-4204  
 registry - Amazon - under "Grace Blake"




**Good Friday Service**  
 Join us  
**April 14th at 6:00pm**

**STATIONS of the CROSS**




**Come and enjoy the  
 Sunrise Service  
 on top of Round Butte  
 Beginning at 6:15am**




**Join the Celebration of our Risen Savior  
 Easter Sunday, April 16th at 10:45am.**

There will be no Sunday School  
 or our traditional Easter Brunch.




**Holy Week Lunches**

April 10 – 14  
 From 12:00 to 1:00  
 At the Culver Christian Church  
 Pastor Jadon will be speaking Wed, the 12th.



**Our children are invited to  
 the Annual Easter Egg  
 Hunt at the Metolius City  
 Park April 15 at 1:00pm.  
 Don't forget your camera.**



**Summer  
 Camps**

**Looking Ahead To Summer Camps**

<b>Girls Camp</b> (for girls entering 4th-6th grades in fall 2016).....	July 2-7
<b>Boys Camp</b> (for boys entering 4th-6th grades in fall 2016).....	July 16-21
<b>Tween Camp</b> (for youth entering 7th-9th grades in fall 2016).....	July 9-15
<b>Surfside</b> (for youth completing 8th-12th grades in spring of 2016).....	August 6-12
<b>Family Camp</b> Labor Day Weekend.....	September 1-4
<b>Men's Retreat</b> .....	September 15-17
<b>Women's Retreat</b> .....	September 29-October 1
<b>All Church Family Campout</b> at Walton Lake.....	(New date) July 28-30

# April 2017

Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love. Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls. God loves a cheerful giver. One gives most who gives with joy. The best way to show our gratitude to God and people is to accept everything with joy.

A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of the Christ risen.

—Mother Teresa

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship <b>3:00 pm Baby Shower For Ashlyn Leeper</b> 5:30 pm Youth Group Dinner and Games at The Powell home	3	4 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm bible Study @ Drahns	5 10:00 am Women's Bible Study <b>5:45 pm Elder Ministry Team Meeting</b> 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	6 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	7 <b>4:30 pm Food Delivery</b> 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	8 <b>2:00 pm Baby Shower For Grace Blake</b>
9 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship <b>12:15pm Business Mtg And Potluck</b> 5:30 pm Youth Group 	10 	11 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm bible Study @ Drahns	12 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	13 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	14 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church <b>6:00 pm Good Friday Service</b> 	15 <b>1:00 pm Metolius Community Easter Egg Hunt</b> 
16 <b>6:15 am Sunrise Service On Round Butte</b> No Sunday School 10:45 am Easter Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group 	17	18 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm bible Study @ Drahns	19 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study <b>7:00 pm Steward Ministry Meeting</b>	20 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen <b>7:00 pm Christian Ed Ministry Meeting</b>	21 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	22
23 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group	24	25 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:30 pm bible Study @ Drahns	26 10:00 am Women's Bible Study <b>5:45 pm Elder Ministry Team Meeting</b> 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	27 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	28 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	29
30 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group						