

# Church of the Open Bible

(Church of God General Conference, Atlanta GA)

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Pastor Rex F. Cain / 440.232.3970 / March 2, 2008

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## Communion Devotional

### Changing and Unchanging

God our Father is unchangeable. The standards He has established and the promises He has made remain constant for eternity. There is however a side of God that is constantly changing; He delights in doing new things. *“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19)*



For the past two decades God has inspired a new form of praise music—the worship song. It is contemporary in sound; though usually written in major keys it frequently makes use of minor chords which create interest for the ear; its lyrics often are filled with scriptural allusions.

Before the worship song we had gospel songs which were preceded by hymns. Their forbearers were the Psalter, Gregorian chant and unison plainsong. Each one of them was a new thing from God in the beginning. As time wore on and spiritual lethargy was replaced with revival, God gave humanity new forms of music.

Each new form was never intended to replace the old but rather add to it. Therefore, as we gladly embrace the new music God has given us, we need also to appreciate the older forms. Often there is a majesty and strength in both the music and the lyrics that speaks to our soul as well as to our spirit.

I love the new music, but lately I have been refreshed by older gospel songs and hymns that were a meaningful part of my early growing in Christ. Obviously I'm not alone in this feeling; many of the contemporary composers are producing arrangements of older praise works; these have an altered rhythm or a new refrain to add to the old. As one of these older songs play in my mind throughout the day, I am brought into communion with the Lord and experience His presence and peace.

One of the later stanzas of “Crown Him With Many Crowns” has often brought a picture of amazement to my mind:

*Crown Him the Lord of love, behold His hands and side,*

*Those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.*

The angels cannot bear to look but at Jesus' wounds; the mystery of their purpose overwhelms them. I know their purpose—Christ died for me! Thank you, Father, that though the music may change the message never does.

—Pastor Stephen Bolhous, Welland, Ontario Canada

## “MARCH”-ING FOR MISSIONS

The S.S. department approved our observing this conference program during March to raise funds for our conference mission work. We will have special presentations each of the 5 Sundays by our Missions Chairperson, Pam Weaver.

We will use our faithful “vortex” and the big jug for coins ... *and* it will hold paper money too! ☺ Thanks for your support of the many needs of our church outreach!

## A TEAM WILL VISIT OUR MISSION WORK IN PERU APRIL 2008!

Bill Wachtel and David and Lynne Krogh will be going to Peru in April to work with leaders in the late Pastor Beder's church to make certain that effective ministry continues. They will also travel on to Montevideo, Uruguay to visit Mauro Apolos Gonzalez who has been in contact with us for about two years. He has been studying the Bible and shares our beliefs. He and two others with whom he has been studying have requested baptism. Mauro has a heart to serve the Lord and wants to expand his ministry. We will discuss with him plans for the development of a church in Montevideo. Mauro speaks English and Spanish. Financial assistance for this mission trip may be sent to LHI, earmarked for South America.”



David Krogh / 1-28-08 email

**THE N.E. & PROPHECY CONFERENCE** was very informative and uplifting. Over 100 were at the conference at different times. The speakers knew their subject well and stretched our thinking.

The NE Conference president, Kent Ross, challenged our conference to a revival; to be vibrant, vital and vigorous. Our conference is to do collectively what we can't do alone – such as planting

churches. It was mentioned we have over 900 contacts of scattered members in Ohio that should be in contact with us. We will work on this.

Our youth camp, it was pointed out (led by John Huston) is a most important work of our conference.

**GOLDEN CORRAL**, a buffet restaurant, was selected as the place to hold our annual Dutch Treat church outing – April 6<sup>th</sup>. No reservations are made on Sundays but said they could seat 20 together. Meal is \$9.95 / \$11.45 with drink.



**EASTER COMES EARLY** this year. **EASTER LILIES** can be brought to the church in honor or in memory of a loved ones. Give the names to Pastor Rex by Mar. 19<sup>th</sup> for printing on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**JACK HEARP** (retired pastor) has had pneumonia recently but was improving last weekend. He is in an assisted living facility in Springfield Ohio. Keep him in your prayers.

**EDITH SPEER** came through her kidney surgery all right last Thursday. She will be moved to skilled care soon.

**PRAY FOR:** Edith Speer (surgery 2-28), Pastor Linford Moore (1-23, heart attack), Phil May (job search), Sonny Koston (burned), Mellisa (by JWetzel), Marti Wohn (by GWhaley), Jeff Stoneman (cancer, by Whaley), Ruth Schuld (treatments), Ken-Kathy Cramer, Terry James (cancer, by Roper), Evelyn Pennington, Jack Hearp, Ruby Korode, Gene & Gloria Faehnrich, Jacob Hinton\*, Kathy Reed\*, (\*by Skip), W.C. & Craig Blankenship, **College students:** Andrew Weaver, Jackie Schuld, Dan & Rachel Cain (internship / teaching degree), **Shut-ins:** Evelyn Pennington **Military:** Rodger Schuld, **Those serving in other countries:** Lupe Badillo-Mexico, Tracy Zhykhovich-Russia, Pastors in Malawi & Mozambique, Lesly Bertrand and the Pastors in Haiti. **Colleges / Churches:** RRCC, ABC, Golden Rule, Grace Brethren and for the peace of Jerusalem, Ps. 122:6; Isa. 62:6,  
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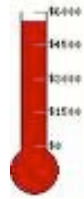
## **MARCH 2008 / “MARCH”-ING FOR MISSIONS**

- 02 Monthly communion observance / Elder Steve Weaver, leading
- 09 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 16 Palm Sunday
- 23 Easter Sunday (8 a.m. Sunrise / 9 a.m. Breakfast / 10 a.m. Worship Hour)



**Future Dates:** March – May 11, Mother's Day / May 17 Andrew Weaver's wedding / Jun 15, Father's Day / Jul 12, Rachel Weaver's wedding / Apr 6, Annual Church dinner outing, Golden Corral / Aug 24, SS picnic / Sep 21, SS Mtg

**A THERMOMETER GRAPH** on the entrance door now shows we have received \$1190 toward our goal of \$1300 for the new copier. The Agape Ladies made the latest generous contribution. A heart felt thanks to those who have helped with a donation to offset this unexpected purchase. We're near our goal!



**TRIVIA:** Since we have many deer in our area, I thought it interested to read that there are 1.5 million deer-vehicle collisions annually in the U.S. causing more than 150 fatalities and \$1.1 billion in property damage.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45A.M.**

### **WORSHIP 10:45A.M.**

Musicians: Doris Schuld and Frank Roper

Welcome / Announcements / Prayer

Worship Hymns: Mark Cain

440 My Hope Is Built

165 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Prayer / Offering

Missions Video / Pam Weaver

Message: Salvation Is Free But Not Cheap

Communion: Elder Steve Weaver

Key Texts: Matt 26:17-29; Rev 3:20; 1 Cor 11:27-28; Ps 139:23,24; 1 Pet 1:18-20

219 Blest Be The Tie That Binds



BEGINS NEXT WEEK, MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>  
MOVE YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR

