

THE CHIMES

Nothing but a Little Oil

From the Pastor

Your servant has nothing at all, she said, "except a little oil." Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few...." 2 Kings 4.2-3

A few years ago, the Los Angeles Times reported on a traffic accident that involved a young woman who had apparently fallen asleep at the wheel. In the small hours of the morning, the car had left the roadway, plunged through the guardrail, and was left dangling over a deep chasm. Several people stopped to help. They tied ropes to the bumper of the car and held on until the emergency vehicles arrived.

The report said that a ladder was extended by the rescue squad from below to stabilize the car. Up on the top they tied the vehicle to two trucks with cables and chains. One of the rescuers said to a reporter, "Every time we would move the car, the woman inside would yell and scream."

It took more than two hours to rescue the woman and her car. More than twenty-five people were involved in getting her back to safety. After a short stay in the hospital, the woman was released.

What was particularly of interest was the statement by the L.A. County fire captain about the rescue. He said that while his men were working to save the woman, she kept saying, "I'll do it myself. I'll do it myself." As noble as the idea of self-sufficiency often is, there are limits to what we can do for ourselves.

In 2 Kings 4, the story is told of the prophet Elisha who took it upon himself to help a poor widow who had a debt to pay. The law said that if a debt could not be satisfied, the creditor could exact payment by

taking as slaves the debtor's children. The poor woman did not want that to happen, of course, so she asked Elisha for help.

Elisha asked the woman if she had anything of value. The woman said the only thing she had was a small amount of oil. Elisha instructed the woman to go to her neighbors and ask them for the use of any pots and jars they might have. His words to her were, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few...." (v. 3)

So the woman did as Elisha instructed. When she returned to her house with the jars, Elisha told her to pour into them the oil from the one jar she already had. When she did, she filled all the empty

jars she had collected from her neighbors. The oil stopped running only when the woman ran out of jars.

"Now, take the oil to your creditor," Elisha told the woman. "Pay him off. You can use what is left over for you and your sons to live on."



Self-sufficiency is an admirable virtue. Everyone has an obligation to care for themselves to the degree that they are able. But there are times in all of our lives when we are not able. Our resources are not enough for the needs at hand. Our strength is limited for the task before us. When we get to that point, we are supposed to ask for help. And as Elisha would say, "Don't ask for just a little."

It is not a virtue to insist we have enough oil in our jars when we do not. It is very much a virtue to know when to ask for help. And then, to ask.

-- KDS



2013

***Sunday** Worship & Program Opportunities

- 8:30 A.M. Chapel Worship
- 9:30 A.M. Sunday School for all ages
- 10:45 A.M. Worship Service
- 11:10 A.M. Cherub and Wesley Choirs
- 5:15 P.M. Youth Choirs
- 6:00 P.M. UMYF Snack Supper
- 6:30 P.M. **United Methodist Youth Fellowship**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 11a. CWU: Coffee Hour & Fellowship Noon: World Day of Prayer	2
3 3rd Sunday in Lent Holy Communion Sunday *See Sunday Schedule 5p. Lenten Study 5p. CRC Visitations	4 7p. Boy Scouts 7p. Cub Pack Mtg.	5 5:30p. Daisy Girl Scouts 7p. UMW Unit meeting	6 Childcare available: 5:30p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	7	8	9
10 4th Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time begins Good Samaritan Offering *See Sunday Schedule 5p. Lenten Study	11 6:30p. Christian Education 7p. Boy Scouts & Cub Dens 7:30p. Christian Outreach	12 6:30p. Finance Comm. 7:00p. Admin Council	13 Childcare available: 5:30p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	14	15 <i>Deadline for April Chimes</i>	16
17 5th Sunday in Lent Food Pantry Sunday Camps Sunday St. Patrick's Day 12p. Bake Potato & Salad UMW fund raiser 4p. Organist Guild 5p. CRC Visitations *See Sunday Schedule	18 12:30p. Dorcas Cir. 7p. M & M Circle 7p. Boy Scouts & Cub Dens	19 5:30p. Daisy Girl Scouts 7p. May Smyth Circle	20 1st Day of Spring 1:30p. Congregational Care Com. Childcare available: 5:30p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7p. PEO 7:30p. Chancel Choir	21 7p. Prayer Shawl	22	23
24 6th Sunday in Lent Palm Sunday *See Sunday Schedule 2-4p. Party-Fellowship Hall	25 5:45p. Scouts <i>Good Turn Spring Clean</i> 7p. Staff Parish Relations Com.	26 6:30p. Bd. of Trustees 7p. Worship Com. 7p. UMW Exec. Board	27 Childcare available: 5:30p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	28 Maundy Thursday 7p. Maundy Thursday Service at UAUMC	29 Good Friday 9:30a. – 2:15p. Fantastic Friday a special event for Children	30 8p. <i>Easter Vigil</i>
31 Easter 8a. Sunrise Service 8:45a. Breakfast 9:30a. Sunday School 10:45 a. Worship						

March 2013 Calendar - Christ United Methodist Church

April 9, 2013 - Alliance Chamber Business After Hours at CUMC: 5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

**United Methodist Women
Bodacious Baked Potato
and Salad Luncheon
Sunday March 17th @ Noon**



**Cost \$6 Adults
\$3 Children 3 - 10/Free under 3**

**"HELP US HELP THE WORLD"
Proceeds will be help support
World and Local Missions.**



SEND THEM ALL TO CAMP!

Summer Camp in East Ohio means fun for children, youth and adults with memories to last a lifetime. There is an event for everyone at the great East Ohio Camp facilities. From family camp to horse camp, canoeing to stargazing, sports to praise...there is plenty of outdoor fun for everyone. Let our camps be your partner in faith. For information on summer camps, visit the web site at www.EOCsummercamps.org. There are brochures now available in the Lounge, and in the Church office. We will celebrate CAMP SUNDAY on March 17, 2013 at the 10:45 AM worship service. Mike Greiner will have a special presentation. Look for posters announcing Camp preview days and Camp open houses.

EASTER PLANTS & CARDS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Please be sure to sign up on the list in the lounge by March 10 if you would like to deliver a plant and a card and visit with a homebound or shut-in member at Easter time. The plants and cards will be available in the lounge for pick-up after church on Sunday, March 17. *Thank you!*

FANTASTIC FRIDAY: MARCH 29, 2013

Workshops, crafts, & games will make this Good Friday special for children and youth. Breakfast snacks and lunch will be served and renowned storyteller Lindsay Bonilla will be our special guest. Please contact Jenni Kinser, Christian Ed Chairperson or Dr. J if you will be able to lend us a hand. More info to come!

PARISH VISITATION MINISTRY

Our thanks to Bill Sol, who spoke about the **PARISH VISITATION MINISTRY** during the worship service on February 17. The Parish Visitation Ministry was formed about two years ago - in early 2011. Working under the auspices of the Congregational Care Committee and our pastor, each Parish Visitor is paired with a shut-in or homebound member. Perhaps due to fragile health or age, these members can no longer regularly come to church on Sunday mornings or attend church activities. The Parish Visitors (about 25 in number), serve as a link between these special folks and Christ Church through ways such as friendly visits, phone calls and cheerful cards. Wonderful friendships have formed. The pastor periodically meets with our Parish Visitors, providing an opportunity for the volunteers to share appropriate information and to support each other. Any notable concerns the Parish Visitors encounter are communicated with the pastor, so he can intervene, if needed. Confidentiality, of course, is paramount. On the back of the church bulletin each week, Christ United Methodist Church's Mission Statement reminds us that we are called to: *"...serve God by sharing compassion, hope and love."* What better time than this - the Lenten Season - to remember and to lift up in prayer, the vital work of the Parish Visitation Ministry?! If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please let the church office know.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY

We recognize a need in our community by collecting funds, food, personal and household items to help the Salvation Army in its outreach. The Christian Outreach Committee reminds you that there is always a shopping cart in the Lounge for donations, and that the third Sunday of each month is designated as Food Pantry Sunday. **March 17th** will be the next date for donations of non-perishable food items, paper and cleaning products, and cash donations to be counted for delivery to the Salvation Army. Your response for this much needed community program is appreciated. Thank You!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE 21st CENTURY UPDATE: AS OF FEBRUARY 15TH:

TOTAL COMMITMENTS: \$294,830

TOTAL COMMITMENTS PAID: \$207,187.52

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN UNIT MEETING

Tuesday March 5 at 7:00 P.M.
Christ United Methodist Church, Dussell Room

Program is: A DVD Presentation
"Upper Room Chapel"

Presented by:
Ruth Williams

Greeters and Hostess:
M&M Circle

CIRCLES:

March 18, 12:30 P.M. **Dorcas Circle**
Place: Lakeview Terrace, Copeland Oaks

March 18, 7:00 P.M. **M&M Circle**
Hostess: Pat Helsel
Place: 1633 Denwood St., Alliance.

March 19, 7:00 P.M. **May Smyth Circle**
Place: TBD

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
Friday March, 1 St. Paul's Lutheran Church
3295 South Union Ave., Alliance
11:00 A.M. - Coffee Hour & Fellowship
12:00 P.M. - **Program:**
"World Day of Prayer"

EASTER 2013 - LILIES FOR THE ALTAR

As in years past we have beautified our church at Easter time by placing many lovely lilies in memory of and/or in honor of loved ones and friends. In order that you might have another option for your Easter Memorial there is the World Service Fund that you may prefer to give to, in lieu of a lily.

Orders for lilies to be placed in the church for Easter must be in by MARCH 24. The price of the lilies this year will be \$8.50. Orders may be placed in the offering plates or sent to the church office. NO ORDERS will be taken after MARCH 24. ALL ORDERS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED WITH THE MONEY AND ORDER FORM. Donors names and those to be memorialized or honored will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin, March 31, 2013.

MY NAME (Given by) _____

I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER A LILY FOR THE ALTAR AND WILL TAKE IT AFTER THE 10:45 A.M. EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, MARCH 31.

IN LIEU OF A LILY I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE WORLD SERVICE FUND.

THIS LILY OR DONATION IS IN MEMORY OF (Please print names)

OR IN HONOR OF (Please print names)

AMOUNT INCLUDED \$ _____

A word of thanks.....

My Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you for all of your calls, cards, wishes, and prayers during my illness. You are truly a blessing. Please keep those prayers coming. I love each and every one of you!

Susie Buckel

Dear Church Members,

Thank you for donating to the *Souper Bowl of Caring XXIII*. We were able to give 14 canned good items and \$184.43, to the Alliance Food Pantry. Because of you support, we were able to be a part of the 5,804 participants who collected \$6,393,040, for a local charity.

Thank you!
The Balcony Class

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR.....

Basement Sale: Please start saving, any items that you might have, for the United Methodist Women's Basement Sale!!



**CELEBRATE WITH CHURCH AND CHAMBER MEMBERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 5-7 P.M. IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Come to meet and greet members of Alliance's business community and be a part of the celebration Tuesday, April 9, from 5 to 7 p.m. when our church will host a Chamber After Hours. Let's show the members of Alliance's business community what a friendly church we are and how great our facilities are—particularly our Fellowship Hall, which can hold meetings of up to 200.

We have a lot to be proud of and we're showing it off at this event. There will be leaders of the Boy and Girl Scout troops as well as the Executive Director of our Interfaith Child Development Center Laurie (Porter) Gemberling who will talk with attendees about these missions of our church.

Dick Diser is heading up a team of Church History and Records Committee members who will give tours of our beautiful sanctuary and Carolyn Wallace will provide demonstrations at the organ from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Mike Greiner has prepared a PowerPoint presentation featuring photos of our church's year-long activities that will run the entire two hours.

There will be plenty of hors d'oeuvres as well as coffee and other drinks served by our United Methodist Women (UMW). Giveaways for the drawing include a food basket prepared by the UMW reflecting activities within the church; a certificate for a free massage, and Jackson Hewitt is contributing a Texas Roadhouse gift card.

All individuals interested attending will need to call the chamber office 330 823-6260 to register for this free event. Please enter at the North or West parking lot doors.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH COMMISSION

"Grace is not given because we have done good works, but in order that we may be able to do them."
St. Augustine of Hippo

I would like to thank Leslie and Dave Austin for taking on the responsibility of heading up the January 29 Alliance Neighborhood Center dinner. Also, thank you to all the new and returning volunteers. The remaining dinners this year will be April 30, June 30, and October 29. Thank you, Pastor Karl, for sautéing the carrots, onions, and celery for the casserole. (We will need someone to take on this job in Pastor Karl's retirement!)

Our quarterly Good Samaritan Fund offering will be taken on March 10. This money is given to the Alliance of Churches to help needy local families. Thank you for supporting this on-going mission.

We have been trying to come up with a way to support the Alliance Food Pantry. The Education Commission helped us out by participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring, collecting canned goods and dollar bills for the Food Pantry one or two Sundays before and Super Bowl Sunday. We feel that doing this each year would be a great way to support the Food Pantry. Also, we would like to encourage our church members to volunteer at the pantry. If you are interested, please see Corinne Hirvela.

As always, we appreciate your generous support of the Salvation Army through our collection of cash and non-perishable items.

The next Noisy Can offering for our African missionary, Beatrice G'Banga, will be March 31. Again, thank you!

Please consider hosting a luncheon for Red Bird Missionary Conference. When two groups work together, it is painless, and, of course, always fun!

Our annual carnival in the parking lot has been scheduled for Saturday, July 6, from 6:00 - 8:00, with a rain date of July 13. We are hoping that the evening hours will make it a "cooler" event.

May God bless each of you for your love and generosity.

Susie Buckel, chairman



WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR MARCH:

USHERS

Tyler Kinser ~ Captain

Chuck Cline	Linda Montgomery
Treva Cline	Greg Ruff
Roger Frank	Brian Skidmore
Chris Martin	Nicholas Skidmore

SANCTUARY GREETERS

3	Julie Greiner
10	Patti Hirst
17	Betty Sheetz
24	Nancy & Bill Prueter
31	Pat & Bruce Helsel

LITURGISTS

8:30 A.M.		10:45 A.M.	
3	Haven Ackley		Sheila Gard
10	Steve Diser		Susan Haddox
17	Dolores Lawrence		Peg Rodefer
24	Haven Ackley		Ellen Sol
31	Sunrise Rise Service		Diane Hisey

TELLERS

3	Nancy Sandifer & Mildred Hostetler
10	Jan Essick & Nancy Prueter
17	Bill Prueter & Helen Bower
24	Jim Greiner & Larry Pyers
31	Pat Helsel & Marilyn Ruff

NORTH & WEST DOOR GREETERS

3	Karen & Mark Locke
10	Jill & Jim Greiner
17	Phyllis & Bill Messenheimer
24	Carol & Frank Woolf
31	Peg & Jim Williams

WELCOME CENTER GREETERS

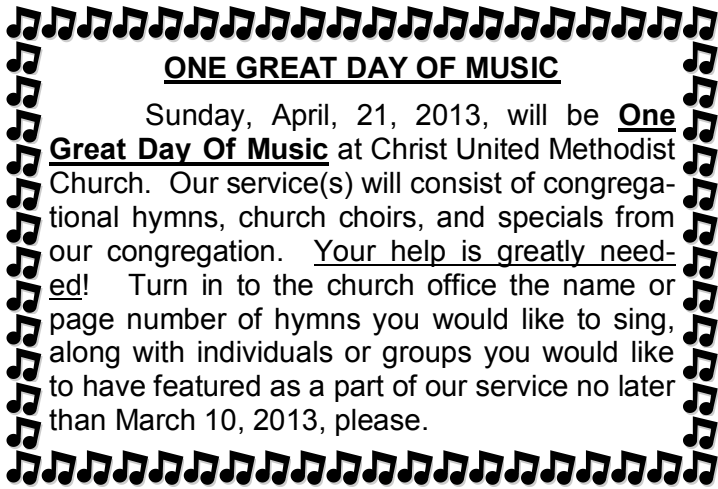
3	Cynthia Carlin & Charles Manypenny
10	Rev. David & Mildred Hostetler
17	Dick Diser & Peg Williams
24	Ellen & Bill Sol
31	Corrine & Arnie Hirvela

COMMUNION STEWARDS

March	Tyler & Jenni Kinser
April	Diane Hisey/Patti Hirst
May	Ellen Sol/Betty-Jo Sutherin
June	Susan Haddox

**DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL 2013 CHIMES
WILL BE FRIDAY MARCH 15, 2013.**

**ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE, MIGHT NOT BE PUBLISHED.
ARTICLES CAN BE SENT BY E-MAIL TO: cumcalliance@gmail.com, OR
THEY CAN BE PLACED IN THE MAILBOX, OUTSIDE THE OFFICE.**



ONE GREAT DAY OF MUSIC

Sunday, April, 21, 2013, will be **One Great Day Of Music** at Christ United Methodist Church. Our service(s) will consist of congregational hymns, church choirs, and specials from our congregation. Your help is greatly needed! Turn in to the church office the name or page number of hymns you would like to sing, along with individuals or groups you would like to have featured as a part of our service no later than March 10, 2013, please.

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP!!

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP is coming again. Mark your calendars now for July 22-26. Invite your children and their friends, and your grandchildren. Music camp runs from 9-12 in the morning. There is a program Friday of that week, and the children will present the musical they have learned. Children entering grades 1 through 6 may attend. Youth entering grades 7 through 12 may participate as "shepherds" of groups. Adults are needed to assist with snack time, crafts, and to help the leaders. Please see either Dr. J or Carolyn Wallace to get information or to volunteer.

CANTON AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

March 17, Sunday, Canton American Guild of Organists will have a program at 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church and our church. The resident organists of each church will play a brief recital. There will be a tour of our church, followed by a fellowship time. Church members are invited to join us for this program.

FINAL COST EXPENDITURES FOR THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AND NORTH PARKING LOT PROJECT

As we have come to the end of the remodeling and parking lot improvement projects, the trustees would like to thank you. Without your generous financial support of the capital funds campaign and the endowment provided by past members we could not have accomplished such major improvements to our beautiful building. Your patience when parking was limited and our well-worn Fellowship Hall, kitchen and classrooms were in disarray is appreciated.

The following financial summary of the project is provided for your information.

CAMPAIGN FUND REQUEST:

\$275,000 – Fellowship Hall – including updating kitchen, new handicapped men’s and women’s restrooms, air conditioning, new chairs and tables

\$ 50,000 – Partial replacement of north parking lot retaining wall and upgrading storm drainage. **

\$325,000 – Requested Capital Funds

ACTUAL COSTS:

Fellowship Hall \$266,047.83
Parking Lot \$ 84,990.50 **

Total Project \$351,038.33
Total pledges to date \$298,097.78

\$ 52,940.55 This current unfunded amount to be paid from Trustees Endowment.

**During the bidding phase of the parking lot renovation, it was determined that the complete retaining wall should be replaced. That new estimate was \$85,521.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

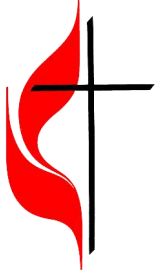
4	Brian Skidmore	22	Scott Thomas
9	John Webster	22	Courtney Webster
10	Brad Bolog	27	Dave Austin
12	Nickie Orwick	27	Lew Shields
14	L. Chris Martin	27	Steve Reisch
18	Craig Post	28	Robert Locke
21	Michelle Fedor	29	Amanda Montgomery

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

1	Mindy and Scott Thomas
12	Gay Lynne and Frank Christy
19	Robert and Joyce Tolerton
20	Dan and Sheila Gard
28	Robert and Mary Beth Hunter
29	Boyd and Jean Webster *56 Years*
30	Janet and John Fisher

MARCH VISITATION MEMBERS

3	Dick Post, 2452 South Linden Avenue, Alliance
10	Donald Brown, 65 West Oxford Street, Alliance
17	Thelma Greiner, 800 South 15th Street, Apt. 8-101, Sebring, OH 44672
24	Wayne Jenkins, 800 South 15th Street, Apt. 4-218, Sebring, OH 44672
31	Midge Mohr, 133 West Columbia Street, Alliance



CHRISTIAN ED CORNER

“ARE WE THERE YET?”

Last time we considered our mission which is to ‘make disciples of Jesus Christ and to serve God by sharing compassion, hope and love’. The Christian Education ministry has a role to play in accomplishing this mission by providing experiences and establishing an environment where God’s Word can be clearly taught.

By the time our children reach 5th and 6th grades they should be able to speak with confidence that God will help them overcome their fears. Hopefully they will know that prayer and Bible reading should occur on a daily basis. If they can articulate what the Great Commission is (Matthew 28:18-20), they will have a good handle on the mission of this Church.

As for 7th and 8th grade students our curriculum should help them recognize that some personal behaviors may be contrary to God’s standards. There may also be an awareness of biblical guidelines for dating relationships. They should be able to utilize Biblical reference tools such as concordances or Bible dictionaries without difficulty.

If all has gone well, we may expect high school students to know the difference between simply knowing about God and knowing God intimately. If they have solid foundational knowledge they can intelligently discuss contradictions between science and the Bible or explain concepts like faith and grace. At this time they will understand that important life decisions should be based on prayer and the study of God’s Word.

Beginning adulthood many of us were able to discuss the Biblical plan for salvation and exhibit the fruits of the Spirit in our daily lives. As adults we may expect to attend church services, Sunday school and other church events on a regular basis. Even as we model our trust and faith in God we can show Christian calmness and confidence as we face the frustrations and disappointments in our lives.

These educational and behavioral guidelines may be good places to start our Christian Education program for 2013 and we will need your prayers to go with us on our journey. The Bible is, and always will be, our ultimate authority as we continue to instruct others in the faith and as we model for others the Christ about which we teach.

Peace,
Dr. J.

THE CHIMES

MARCH 2013

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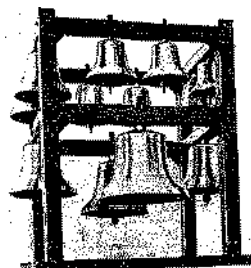


**470 East Broadway Street
Alliance, OH 44601-2698
Rev. Karl D. Stonebraker
Church: 330-823-7136**

"The Church on The Hill"

***Our Mission is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ and to
Serve God by Sharing Compassion, Hope and Love***

E-Mail: church@cumcalliance.org Web Page: www.cumcalliance.org



THE CHIMES MARCH 2013

LENT 2013

Sunday March 3 Lent 3

8:30 and 10:45 am Worship Services
9:30 am Sunday School
Holy Communion

Sunday March 10 Lent 4

8:30 and 10:45 am Worship Services
9:30 am Sunday School

Sunday March 17 Lent 5

8:30 and 10:45 am Worship Services
9:30 am Sunday School

Palm Sunday, March 24

8:30 and 10:45 am Worship Services
9:30 am Sunday School

Maundy Thursday, March 28

7:00 pm at Union Avenue
Service of Holy Communion
In cooperation with Christ UMC

Fantastic Friday, March 29

9:30 am to 2:15 pm

For children 3 years to 14 years old
Bible stories, crafts and games
Register by March 22!!

Holy Saturday, March 30

Easter Vigil, 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday, March 31

8:00 am Sunrise Service by the UMYF
8:45 Breakfast
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Easter Service
Rev. L. Chris Martin, preaching

*He is
Risen!*