



The Glendale New Church
845 Congress Ave. Glendale, OH 45246 513-772-1478

The Precursor

April 2019

Our Mission:

The Glendale New Church connects heaven to earth by worshiping the Lord God Jesus Christ; discovering eternal truths in His Word; promoting spiritual awareness; and fostering community

Announcements

Palm Sunday April 14
We will have a procession with palms and costumes for all to lay down to welcome Jesus Christ to the city! And all the wonderful hymns!

Good Friday, April 19
We will make the Last Supper with a complete Communion service beginning at 7 PM. Special music begins at 6:30 PM

Next Small Group experience:

The Path of Integrity
This seven session program will challenge participants to become a community of people committed to working together to become more honest with themselves and each other, to be kinder, to be more compassionate and to pursue their dreams. The first session is a free introduction. Sunday, May 5, 2019 1-3 PM
Cost: To be determined

FROM THE WORD

Then Jesus went from village to village, teaching the people. And he called his twelve disciples together and began sending them out two by two, giving them authority to cast out evil spirits. He told them to take nothing for their journey except a walking stick—no food, no traveler's bag, no money. He allowed them to wear sandals but not to take a change of clothes. "Wherever you go," he said, "stay in the same house until you leave town. But if any place refuses to welcome you or listen to you, shake its dust from your feet as you leave to show that you have abandoned those people to their fate." So the disciples went out, telling everyone they met to repent of their sins and turn to God. And they cast out many demons and healed many sick people, anointing them with olive oil. Mark 6:6-13

Anyone can see here that a shoe would not detract from the holiness in any way, provided the individual were intrinsically holy. The order is given because the shoe was representing the earthly, bodily periphery, which needs to be shed....Something similar is involved in the command to the disciples: If anyone does not welcome you or listen to your words, coming out of that house or city shake off the dust of your feet. (Matthew 10:14; Mark 6:11; Luke 9:5) The dust of the feet symbolizes the same thing as a shoe—namely, something made unclean by evil and falsity—because the bottom of the foot means the outer limit of the earthly level. In those days people were engrossed in representation and believed that representation alone, rather than the naked truth, held secrets of heaven within it. That is why they were commanded to shake the dust off. Secrets of Heaven §1748

FROM THE PASTOR

Our presumption is that everything Jesus did modeled a secure attachment, an authentic, spiritual love, for all people. And here we have a story, from two thousand years ago, of how Jesus modeled true commitment to others' healing and spiritual growth by sending them on a quest equipped only with the Good News and a walking stick! No bag, no food, no money. We now know it worked really well for the first twelve people who did it. They experienced the power of God's healing love flowing through them. They also felt the sting of rejection. They went through doubts, despair and failures. And they acquired a new, living faith in the healing of the world. They made manifest their wisdom and love. They were living a purposeful, focused life, with a mission. The twelve Apostles did the task Jesus gave them, as hard and scary as it was, because they were secure in their love for him, knowing deeply that he loved them. Dark days and seasons of doubt would come again, but

every one of them made significant contributions to the success of Christianity.

Fast forward to fifty years ago. A psychologist seeking to help families of addicts, created the practice of “tough love.” It was a commitment born of love for the person. The intention was to support the healing of the sick person. The original idea has evolved through trial and error. What has become clear is that tough love in any of its manifestations works only when the person practicing it actually does love the sick person. Loving the person produces good results when everything that could hold the person back from healing – including a place to live and food – is removed. The parent, sibling or friend is still wracked with sadness and guilt, even when the sick loved one is healed! But when love focusses on the task of healing and spiritual growth, the miracle happens.

Jesus showed us how to walk on this journey of healing and spiritual growth with people who are ill, with people who might manipulate us or even hurt us. We are to enter their lives only with love for their wellbeing, with the Good News of that healing love, and with the staff of truth which both admonishes and leads to a green pasture where there is food for the soul and protection from evil. Jesus modeled the principles of tough love. The Apostles discovered their love for people, their wisdom for teaching by modeling, their power to heal, and their purpose for the rest of their lives.

As we walk through this world, taking the journey of our life, we have the opportunity to do this task: to trust that God’s love for us will sustain us through all the difficult tasks of healing and spiritual growth. We learn through experiencing that trust that we do not need whatever merely external, natural, fleeting supports we have depended on up to this point. We see the world as a place to do healing and so be healed. When we experience barriers, setbacks, and wounding in the context of that sacred energy of love we are not long stopped. We learn, like the Apostles, to not become attached to variety (represented by staying in one house), interdependence (relying completely on the hospitality of others), and non-attachment (leaving any place that does not want them or like them). We experience what it feels like to shake off any idea or desire that soils our clothing; any dust that clogs our nasal passages and irritates our lungs – to let go of all ideas and desires that prevent our spiritual healing and growth. Our purpose in life is not attached to being liked or having natural security. All because we experience a secure attachment with our

God.

We will certainly experience the pain of rejection and doubt about our purpose. And we will also certainly experience moments of healing, as the oil of love becomes a balm that soothes and moisturizes. We internalize the work that we had avoided: repentance! We discover that repentance is not an onerous burden placed on us by an angry god. Rather, repentance becomes for us, first, a change of mind and then the actions that come from that new spirit. Repentance is not some sentimental feeling; it is a revolution in thought and deed.

The task is to take an action based on a complete trust in the love God has for you. There are two parts of this experience. On the one hand you depend on new externals (actions, thoughts, emotions) that are strangers to you for survival on the basic external level of life – when to rise, what to eat, being in a safe place, getting sustenance. On the other hand, you accept that there are ways of being, talking and acting that are bad and wrong and must be removed from your life. The most extreme case when one is addicted to a substance. The body becomes so used to it that when it is removed the discomfort becomes overwhelming. And yet, healing will happen only when I remain in that discomfort for the time it takes for the brain to be changed. The Apostles had an immediate effect because they were able to apply God’s love directly to physical wounds. My healing is just as sure to happen, although it will take time.

Jesus is modeling how his love for us is always supplying all our needs, and that developing trust in his love will lead to our healing and spiritual growth. He is showing us how to practice tough love on ourselves and towards our loved ones. And it all comes back to the secure attachment that God is offering us. Our life-long task is to accept it.

Clark Echols, MDiv, PC

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Mindfulness, Cognitive Therapy, Spiritual Development

NOTE:

Easter Sunday April 21

Join with our New Church brothers and sisters of the New Church of Montgomery for a full day marking the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! Pancake breakfast at 9:30; Worship at 11; Then an Easter egg hunt for the children!

Glendale New Church

Apr 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 11 am - NCoM Worship	1	2 5:45pm - Yoga	3 9:30am - Yoga	4 6pm - Yoga	5	6 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's
7 11 am - NCoM Worship	8	9 5:45pm - Yoga	10 9:30am - Yoga	11 6pm - Yoga	12	13 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's
14 11 am - Palm Sunday 12pm - Luncheon	15	16 5:45pm - Yoga	17 9:30am - Yoga 6pm - Yoga	18 6pm - Yoga	19 7pm - Good Friday Holy	20 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's
21 11 am - Easter Worship	22 7 am - Dentist	23 5:45pm - Yoga	24 9:30am - Yoga	25 6pm - Yoga	26	27 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's
28 11 am - NCoM Worship	29	30 5:45pm - Yoga	1 9:30am - Yoga	2 6pm - Yoga	3	4 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's

Glendale New Church

May 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 11 am - NCoM Worship	29	30 5:45pm - Yoga	1 9:30am - Yoga	2 6pm - Yoga	3	4 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's
5 11 am - NCoM Worship	6	7 5:45pm - Yoga	8 9:30am - Yoga	9 6pm - Yoga	10 2:30pm - Horton/Hamblin	11 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's
12 11 am - Worship with 12pm - Luncheon	13	14 5:45pm - Yoga	15 9:30am - Yoga 6pm - Yoga	16 6pm - Yoga	17	18 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's
19 11 am - NCoM Worship 1pm - MKP Open Circle	20	21 5:45pm - Yoga	22 9:30am - Yoga	23 6pm - Yoga	24	25 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's
26 11 am - NCoM Worship	27	28 5:45pm - Yoga	29 9:30am - Yoga	30 6pm - Yoga	31	1 10 am - Yoga 5:30pm - Pastor Don's

Schedule

April 2019

DATE	Worship Service (type and time)
4/7	NCOM worship @ 11:00 - Work Party 12:30
4/14	Palm Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 am - Lunch 12:00
4/19	Good Friday Service @ 7:00 pm
4/21	Easter Worship Service @ 11:00
4/28	NCOM worship @ 11:00 - Work Party 12:30

May 2019

DATE	Worship Service (type and time)
5/5	NCOM worship @ 11:00 - Work Party 12:30
5/12	Glendale New Church Service @ 11:00 am - Lunch 12:00
5/19	NCOM worship @ 11:00 - Work Party 12:30
5/26	NCOM worship @ 11:00 - Work Party 12:30

Please join us for worship!

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Glendale, OH 45246
(513) 772-1478
GlendaleNewChurch@gmail.com

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