



Fairfield Good News

"KNOWING CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN"

April 2016

April 4
Consistory
Meeting



April 10
Cupcake Coffee
Hour



April 18
Eveready Meeting



April 30
Clean Up Day



From the desk of Pastor Scott:

This April 15, marks the 104th anniversary of the sinking of the "unsinkable" Titanic. The following is the story of one of the unsung heroes of that dreadful night - Pastor John Harper. May his story inspire us still today.

John Harper was born to Christian parents on May 29, 1872. When he was thirteen years old he received Jesus as the Lord of his life. He began to preach about four years later by going down to the streets of his village and pouring out his soul for men to be reconciled to God. After five or six years of preaching street corners, Harper was taken in by Rev. E. A. Carter of Baptist Pioneer Mission in London, England. Soon John Harper started his own church in September of 1896 (now known as Harper Memorial Church). During this time there as pastor, he got married but was shortly thereafter widowed. However, God did bless John Harper with a beautiful little girl named Annie Jessie "Nina" Harper.

It was in April 1912, that both set sail on the Titanic for America. At 11:40 p.m. on April 14, an iceberg scraped the ship's starboard side, ripping open five watertight compartments. The sea poured in. According to documented reports, as soon as it was apparent that the ship was going to sink, John Harper immediately took his six-year-old Nina daughter to a lifeboat. Harper could have easily gotten on board this boat to safety; however, it never seems to have crossed his mind. He bent down and kissed his precious little girl. Looking into her eyes, he told her that she would see him again someday.

With tears in his eyes, he turned and headed towards the desperate crowd on the sinking ocean liner. As the rear of the huge ship began to lurch upwards, it was reported that Harper was seen making his way up the deck yelling, "Women, children and unsaved into the lifeboats!

Continued on pg. 2

Continued from pg. 1

It was only minutes later that the Titanic began to rumble deep within; the gargantuan ship was literally breaking in half. Many people jumped off the decks and into the icy, dark waters below. John Harper was one of these 1528 people.

John Harper was seen swimming frantically to people in the water leading them to Jesus before the hypothermia became fatal. Mr. Harper swam up to one young man who had climbed up on a piece of debris. Rev. Harper asked him between breaths, "Are you saved?" The young man replied that he was not. Harper then tried to lead him to Christ, only to have the young man who was near shock, reply, "No." John Harper then took off his life jacket and threw it to the man and said, "Here then, you need this more than I do." Harper then swam away to other people. But a few minutes later Harper swam back to the young man and succeeded in leading him to salvation. Of the 1528 people that went into the water that night, six were rescued by the lifeboats. One of them was this young man on the debris.

Four years later, at a survivors' meeting, this young man stood up and in tears recounted how that after John Harper had led him to Christ, Mr. Harper had tried to swim back to help other people, yet because of the intense cold, had grown too weak to swim. His last words before going under in the frigid waters were "Believe on the name of the Lord Jesus and you will be saved."

(Source: **The Titanic's Last Hero** by Moody Adams [Midnight Call, 1997])

REMINDER

Instead of the prayer chain call system used in the past to share information with the congregation such as prayer requests and closing due to snow, etc., we will be using a program called One Call Now. We are using Faith Reformed's account so the call will show on your caller ID as from Faith Reformed.

You received a "test" call last month using this system with Pastor Scott's recorded voice announcing the test. Keep in mind, if you answer or even just pick up your phone, the recorded message will play and will not be left on your voice mail. If you do not pick up the phone, the message will be left on your voice mail system.

If you have a prayer request, please let one of the elders know and they will contact Pastor Scott OR call Pastor Scott direct and he will record it on One Call Now to get the information to everyone.

April 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
<p>3</p> <p>12:00 noon Bible Study/ Fellowship</p> <p>1:00 Worship Service</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Consistory Meeting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00—8:00 Prayer Meeting</p> <p>Ivory Room</p>	6	7	8	9
<p>10</p> <p>12:00 noon Bible Study/ Cupcake Coffee Hour</p> <p>1:00 Worship Service</p>	11	<p>12</p> <p>7:00—8:00 Prayer Meeting</p> <p>Ivory Room</p>	13	14	15	16
<p>17</p> <p>12:00 noon Bible Study/ Fellowship</p> <p>1:00 Worship Service</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Eveready Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00—8:00 Prayer Meeting</p> <p>Ivory Room</p>	20	21	22	23
<p>24</p> <p>12:00 noon Bible Study/ Fellowship</p> <p>1:00 Worship Service</p>	25	<p>26</p> <p>7:00—8:00 Prayer Meeting</p> <p>Ivory Room</p>	27	28	29	<p>30</p> <p>Clean Up Day</p>

April


Birthdays
of the
Month

1	Louise Williams
6	George Mirabelli
13	Edith Myron
19	Phyllis Conover



*Happy
Birthdays*

A sheet of paper with this word puzzle was found in the parsonage basement.

Can you find the names of 25 books of the Bible in this paragraph?

This is a most remarkable puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Roy Clark studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Vicks mentioned it in her column once. One woman judges the job to be so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help calm her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot...that's a fact. Some people will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. The truth is, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have. Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation may help, books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. And punctuation or spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete. Remember, there are 25 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph.

The solution is at the end of the newsletter.



We have a opportunity to send the gospel to closed countries.

This summer, Cru volunteers will head to strategic port cities in southern Europe to share Christ with thousands of people vacationing from North Africa and the Middle East – *people who would be difficult to reach within the borders of their own countries.*

While these individuals and families wait in long ferry lines to return to their countries, the volunteers will be there to send them home with a life-changing gift...*the gospel!*

We will be taking an **additional offering** on **April 10th** during the regular offering time to help supply packs for these volunteers. Please make your check payable to the church and mark it for Cru or put in an envelope marked Cru.

Years ago, a North African man encountered a Cru Port Cities volunteer. His story demonstrates the power of just one evangelism pack...

In the bustle of passing out evangelism packs and sharing the gospel in the port city of Ceuta, Spain, a Cru volunteer turned to discover the bag containing his personal belongings including his Bible had disappeared. As he frantically began to search for it, "Ahmed", a North African man down the street, observed him. He gestured for the volunteer to come over. He'd seen the bag unattended on the sidewalk and had taken it in for safekeeping.

The Cru volunteer was so thankful to get his bag back. "There is something really precious in this bag", he said. "L'evangile (French for the gospel). Ahmed's eyes opened wide, "L'evangile!" he exclaimed. He had heard of the New Testament, but had never actually seen one.

Today, Ahmed is a Christian and has led his wife and children and many others to the Lord. He regularly participates in assembling the packs for distribution. When it's time to head home, he gathers any discarded packs. Once back in North Africa, he leaves them in strategic places where people can discreetly pick them up.

Many people like Ahmed live where Christian resources just aren't available but they long for the truth!

Every \$5 we give will provide ONE evangelism pack which contains a New Testament, gospel-centered books like "More Than a Carpenter", a culturally relevant DVD about Jesus, even reading materials for children. Cru has found that one evangelism pack will reach as many as seven people with the gospel message.



Cupcake Coffee Hour
Sunday, April 10
12:00 noon

If Students Wrote the Bible

Instead of God creating the world in six days and resting on the seventh, He would have put it off until the night before it was due and then pulled an all-nighter.

The Last Supper would have been eaten the next morning--cold.

The Ten Commandments would actually be only five--double-spaced and written in a large font.



Clean-Up Day



Share in the work and fellowship.
Spend an hour or half the day.
There's something for everyone to do!

Any questions or if there is anything that you would like to see done at your church, just let Bret Clark know or slip a note in his mailbox anytime.



Saturday
April 30



If Students Wrote the Bible

New edition would be published every two years in order to limit reselling.

Forbidden fruit would have been eaten because it wasn't cafeteria food.

Paul's letter to the Romans would become Paul's email to abuse@romans.gov.

Reason Cain killed Abel: they were roommates.

Reason why Moses and followers walked in the desert for 40 years: they didn't want to ask directions and look like freshmen.

April Mission of the Month



The Gideons International is an Association of Christian business and professional men and their wives dedicated to telling people about Jesus through sharing personally and by providing Bibles and New Testaments. While they are known worldwide for their work with hotels, they predominantly share Scriptures in schools and colleges, prisons and jails, hospitals, and medical offices. To date, they have placed over 2 billion Scriptures with support from churches like ours.

"The majority of Gideons live and serve in their local communities, making us very effective and efficient because they know the local language, customs and the locations of the hotels, schools, prisons and hospitals where Bibles and New Testaments need to be distributed. Sometimes, we're able to establish local groups of Gideons in countries where traditional missionaries aren't allowed.

Bibles and New Testaments are personally distributed by members of The Gideons to students in the 5th grade and above, prisoners and police, fire, medical and military personnel and anyone else Gideons witness to individually.

Another Gideon endeavor to reach youth is The Life Book movement.

WHAT IS THE LIFE BOOK?

GOD'S WORD IN A SMALL, INTERACTIVE BOOK THAT STUDENTS LOVE TO HAND OUT.

The Life Book contains a short recap of the Old Testament, the entire Gospel of John (ESV), scriptural answers to issues teens face, and an opportunity to trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Throughout The Life Book there are interactive handwritten reactions in the margins from 5 characters including an adult youth leader, and four teenagers ranging from an agnostic to strong believer. The physical properties of the book are similar to a CD case (5" x 5") and can be viewed online at: thelifebook.com/read.

Life Books are given as gifts by students to their classmates and friends during school.

To date, over 22.6 Million Life Books have been distributed by over 1.5 million students.

Gideons International provides these books free to church youth leaders for their youth members to pass out. They are required to give out as many copies as they receive. In other words, if the church received 500 copies, the youth of that church are required to hand out 500 copies to other youth.



[Click here](#) for a downloadable pdf version of The Life Book.

For more information about Gideons International go to <http://www.gideons.org>.

Solution to word puzzle.

Can you find the names of 25 books of the Bible in this paragraph? This is **a most remarkable** puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, **keeping** himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **john** boat. Roy Clark studied it while playing his **banjo**. **Elaine** Vicks mentioned it in her column once. One woman **judges** the **job** to be so involving, **she brews** a cup of tea to help calm her nerves. **There** will be some names that are really easy to spot...that's a **fact**. **Some** people will soon find themselves in a **jam**, **especially** since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. The **truth** is, **from answers** we get, we are forced to admit **it usually** takes a minister or scholar to see some of them **at the worst**. Something in our **genes** is responsible for the difficulty we have. **Those** able to find all of them will hear great **lamentations** from those who have to be shown. One **revelation** may help, books like **Timothy** and **Samuel** may occur without their **numbers**. And punctuation or spaces in the middle are **normal**. **A chipper** attitude will help you **compete**. **Remember**, there are 25 books of the Bible **lurking** somewhere in this paragraph.

