

"The Means of Grace: Preaching and Praise;
Tell Us and Remind Us!"
2 Timothy 4:1-5; Ephesians 5:17-21

"The Spirit of God maketh the reading, but especially the preaching, of the Word, an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith, unto salvation." (The Westminster Shorter Catechism)

"The Means of Grace are the lifeblood of sanctification and the believers chief resource in the pursuit of holiness." (Jerry Wragg)

"God designed you to grow with the Body, for the Body, because of the Body (Ephesians 4:15-16). We have been called to feed on the means of grace within the church and be a means of grace within the church."

- How is Preaching a Means of Grace? (2 Timothy 4:1-5)
 - *Significance:*
 - All Scripture is breathed out by God (2 Timothy 3:16).
 - Scripture is our Spiritual Nourishment (Matthew 4:4).
 - The Word of God is the means for Salvation (Romans 10:17) and Sanctification (John 17:17).
 - The Word is given to be preached (2 Timothy 4:2; 2:15, 24-25).
 - How is Preaching Received as a Means of Grace?
 - *In light of eternity:* God asks preaching to be both given and received in light of eternity.
 - *In every season:* It is to be preached regardless of what is going on in life and it is to be received regardless of what is going on in life.
 - *In knowing:* I need these three things to be healthy spiritually. 1) I need commanded. 2) I need correction. 3) I need encouraged.
 - *In Self-awareness:* Sound doctrine assaults my sin and my ears naturally will at times reject it. There are a plethora of teachers who tell people what they want to hear (Jeremiah 5:30-31; Amos 8:11-12).
 - *Follow the example:* 1) Be sober minded. 2) Endure suffering. 3) Evangelize. 4) Obey God.
- How is Corporate Praise a Means of Grace? (Ephesians 5:17-21)
 - How is Praise Received as a Means of Grace?
 - *Mission:* To discern what is pleasing to the Lord, to walk in wisdom, to understand what the will of the Lord is, or "to be filled with the Spirit."
 - *Means:* To speak and sing biblical truths to one another because it strengthens the saints.
 - *Attitude:* I sing and speak for God's glory, with everything in me, with a thankful heart, regardless of what is going on in my life, that I may be useful and available to God.

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of April we are collecting monetary donations for Heartbeats. For more information about Heartbeats and what they do, please see the board on the back table. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please just make sure to note that it is for Heartbeats.

★**HEALTHTREE MOVES FOR MYELOMA:** We are putting together a team to participate in the 5K/1 Mile Walk happening on Saturday, June 3rd at Wolfe Park in Columbus, Ohio — the race starts at 9am, and the cost is \$35 per person. If you are interested in participating in this, please see the board on the back table for more information, or see Joel Decker for any questions you may have. To register for the event, you will need to go online and register with Team Legacy.

★**LADIES SPRING BRUNCH:** Ladies, we are having a Spring Brunch on Saturday, May 6th, at 10am, at Jen and Breanna's house (981 Lawnview Avenue). There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the Spring Brunch. All of the ladies are invited to join us for this time of fellowship together. Please consider carpooling, since parking is limited!

★**TRANSMISSION OF SCRIPTURE:** We will be starting a new Sunday Teaching Class at the end of May. This class will be on the transmission of Scripture — how we got the Bible. It will be every Sunday, from 4-5pm, in the Fellowship Hall. This is a 6 week class that will be taught by Pastor Jeremy. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, if you are interested in participating in this class, please sign-up!

★**MEMBERS MEETING:** On Sunday, April 30th, we will be having a Members Meeting immediately following the worship service. This meeting will be to discuss and vote on the operating budget for the rest of 2023, as well as voting on By-Law additions and changes. If you are currently a church member, please plan on staying for this meeting!

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner THIS Sunday, April 23rd, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!