

The Spire

April 2021

New Life in Christ Jesus

Risen

EASTER SUNDAY



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR AND TEACHER



He Is Risen!

The resurrection of Christ is something that has profound meaning for us as believers. Our faith and our trust are founded in the fact that we serve a risen savior -- someone who proved his divinity to us by dying and rising from the grave, just how and when he said he would. Many have promised to come back from the dead, but no one other than Jesus has declared that they would do it and accomplished it on schedule. Father Divine, the well-known religious cult leader of the 20th century, promised that when he died, he would return. His followers, believing his pronouncement, even set a place at the table for him whenever they gather to eat as a group, but to date, he has not returned. Harry Houdini, the world-renowned magician, promised his wife that he would come back. However, by all accounts, his significant absence proved that his magic was only an illusion and that he could not pull off what would have been the biggest trick of his career. By all accounts, Houdini has never been seen since he was buried. These examples teach us that resurrection is not a common nor a normal human activity. Resurrection is a divine manifestation of the power of God.

Over and over again, Jesus promised his disciples that he would rise in three days after his death. On the Sunday after his crucifixion, he did just that. Early in the morning, on the first day of the week, when the women went to his grave to anoint his dead body, according to Jewish ritual law, the tomb was empty, and Mary encountered the risen Christ face to face. Jesus rose just as he promised, proving that he was who he said he was and that he could do what he said he could do.

Our Savior's resurrection reminds us that, we too, shall rise again when Jesus returns, but it also reminds us that we can begin again. Rebirth is a reality because of Christ. His suffering, death, and resurrection enable us to begin anew -- to be transformed from one state of being into another state that is conformed to God's divine will. It encourages us that new life is possible for ourselves, God's church, and the world. It teaches us that no matter what we face, no matter what our challenges may be, we have a future with hope in Christ.

In this season of resurrection, what needs to be resurrected in your life? What needs to be transformed? Where is there a need for the presence of God's Holy Spirit power in your daily existence? What is the change that needs to happen in you? Whatever your answers may be, the reality of the resurrection of Christ is the answer. His resurrection promises resurrection in every area of your life. His resurrection brings about the transformation that all of us need and so dearly desire. His resurrection is the change that can make all of the difference in each of us. My prayer for each of us in this Season of New Life is that we may experience

His resurrection more profoundly than ever before and that we may all walk in the newness of life. May this Easter bring new life to your heart and your home.

Yours because of the Risen Savior,

Rev. Paul

In the know at Mt. Zion...

April 1 @ 7pm
MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP
via Facebook Live & Zoom

April 2 @ 7pm
WOMEN AT THE CROSS
Good Friday Worship Service
via Zoom

April 4 @ 11am
EASTER SUNDAY
Drive-In Worship Service
via Facebook Live & Zoom

April 16 @ 7pm
CULTURAL ARTS
POETRY NIGHT
via Zoom

The Spire is a monthly publication of
Mt. Zion Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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Lady Sadler for the Fee Schedule.

New Life in Christ Jesus The God of a Second Chance

I grew up in the Episcopal Church. On Easter Sunday, before you said "Good Morning," we would greet each other with the words: "The Lord is Risen!" and the response from the person who was spoken to, was, "He is risen indeed!"

As a child, the season of Lent and the high and holy celebration of Easter was a time of renewal. During the season of Lent, we removed all of the winter items and clothing to make room for our spring and summer clothes as well as our spring and summer drapes and other furnishings. Everything was cleaned or made new.

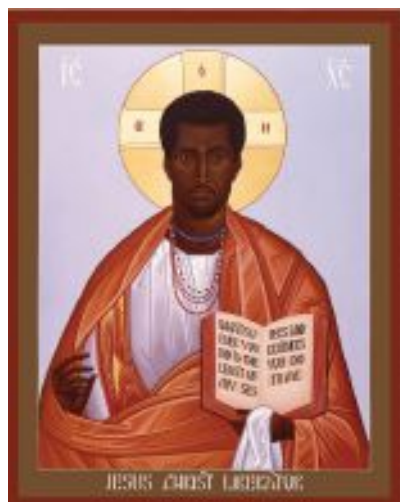
During Lent, we would also fast or give up something. In the African American community, getting new Easter clothes to wear to church was a highlight. And there was always the array of beautiful hats worn by women



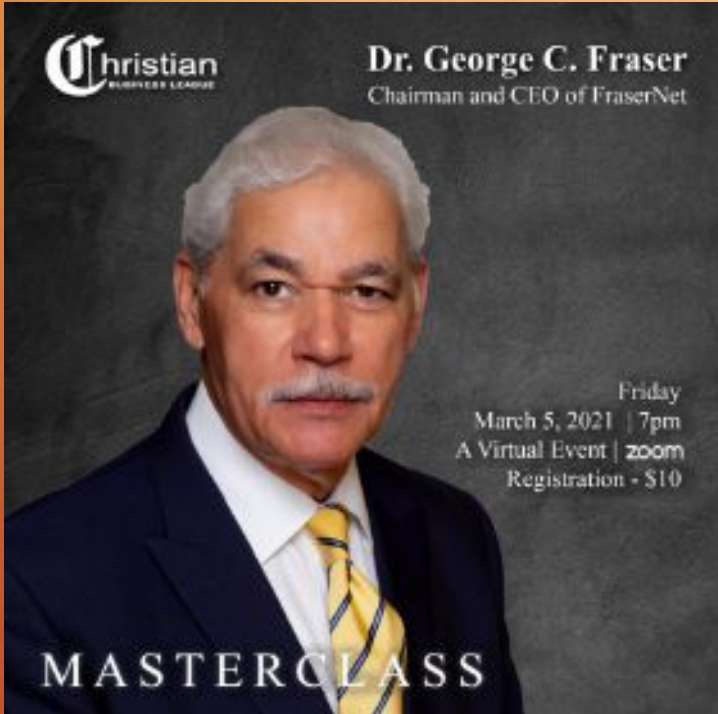
in church. The preparation leading up to Easter would end with a festive meal with family from near and far giving thanks for a risen savior and our confession that Jesus Christ was truly Lord. Easter was and continues to be a very, very special and sacred day.

The resurrection of Christ gives us newness of life. It offers us the opportunity to renew our way of thinking, doing, and being. More importantly, Christ's resurrection informs us to take his life and death more seriously.

Romans 6:4 reads, "Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in *newness of life*. Let's be mindful of this scripture passage as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior until he comes again.



CBL Masterclass with the Master Networker Mr. George Fraser

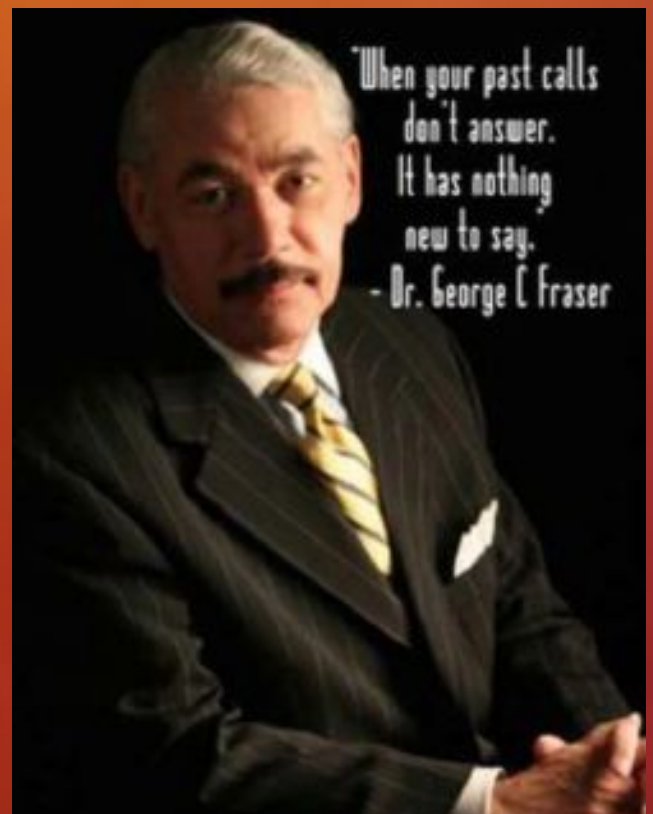
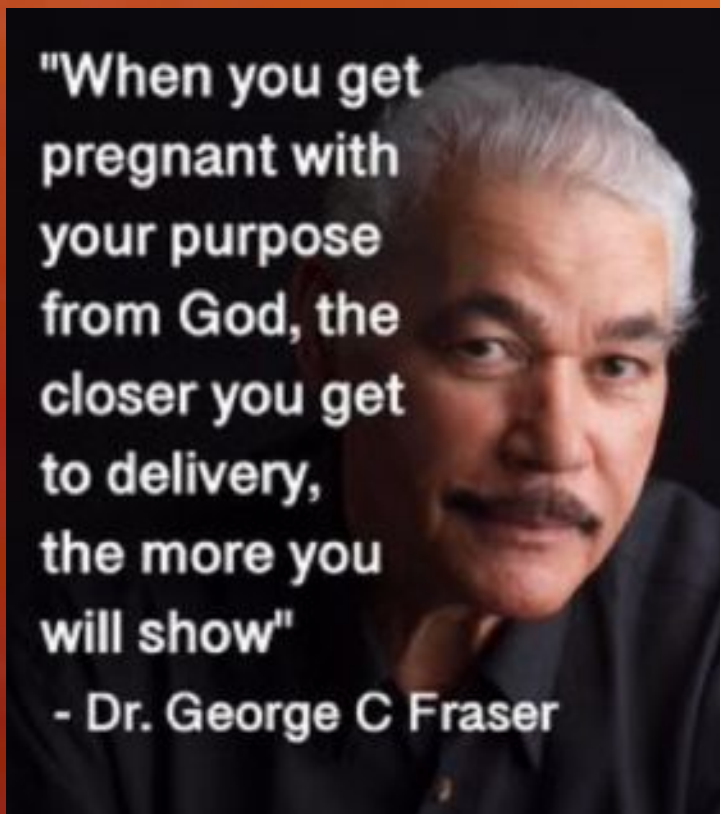


On Friday, March 5, the Christian Business League hosted another stellar edition of their Master Class Series with America's networking guru, renowned author, Dr. George C. Fraser. Dr Fraser, a Clevelander, hosted the annual Power Networking Conference which was held in Cleveland until it became too large and moved to other major cities across the United States.

Fraser, who was introduced by his good friend and CBL Co-Chair Joyce Shinn, fielded questions from Rev. Paul, Co-Chair of the League, for about 40 minutes. He then entertained questions from the Zoom audience. The Zoom participants for this Master Class included individuals from all over the US, and abroad. Many participants were familiar with Dr. Fraser's reputation and were excited about the opportunity to interface with him in the Master Class setting.

The League is looking forward to their Trail Blazer Tribute, honoring Dr. Otis Moss, Jr. on Friday June 25, at 7 p.m. via Zoom and its Annual Unfurl Sunset Event, on Monday, July 26, at 6 p.m at Lakeside Yacht Club.

Additional League activities for the year include the Sixth Annual Mike Shinn Memorial Golf Outing on September 11 at Black Brook Golf Club; two additional Master Classes featuring renowned physicist and professional speaker, Dr. Julian Earls, on September 17 at 7 p.m.; and master marketer, Alexandria Johnson Boone, on December 3 at 6 p.m.



Mt. Zion Members in the Spotlight



Beginning June 1, Dr. Timeka Rashid will begin her new role as Vice President for Student Affairs at Baldwin Wallace University. Dr. Rashid previously held the position of Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs at Cleveland State University.



Upon graduation in 2022, Hasim Rashid, son of Dr. Timeka Rashid, has accepted an offer to further his academic and athletic career at the United States Navel Academy.



Dr. Aaryn Green, daughter of Linda Green, has accepted the position as the Assistant Director of Research, Professional Development, and Academic Affairs for the American Sociological Association in Washington, D.C.

POETRY NIGHT

April 16, 2021
@ 7 p.m. via Zoom

The Cultural Arts Ministry
Mt. Zion Congregational Church, UCC

GRIEF SHARE[®]

You are not alone



Mt. Zion Parakaleo Ministry presents:
GriefShare

Grieving the loss of someone close to you?
Find comfort and support with *GriefShare*.

A 13-week seminar/support group
March 4 – June 3, 2021
Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. EST
held virtually via Zoom

Cost: \$15, scholarships are available
Materials will be sent via mail
directly to participants.

For more information and to register for the spring
2021 class, please go to:
<https://www.griefshare.org/groups/132016>

MT. ZION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 1, 2021

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Worship Service
7:00 pm

Via Facebook Live and Zoom

Mt. Zion Congregational Church, Sisters in the Spirit Present

Women at the Cross Virtual Good Friday Worship Service

APRIL 2, 2021 @ 7PM
VIA ZOOM

REGISTER TODAY AT
MTZIONCLEVELAND.COM OR ON
MT. ZION'S FACEBOOK PAGE

REV. PAUL HOBSON SADDLER, SR., SENIOR PASTOR
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Rev. Dr. Susan K. Williams Smith
Guest Preacher



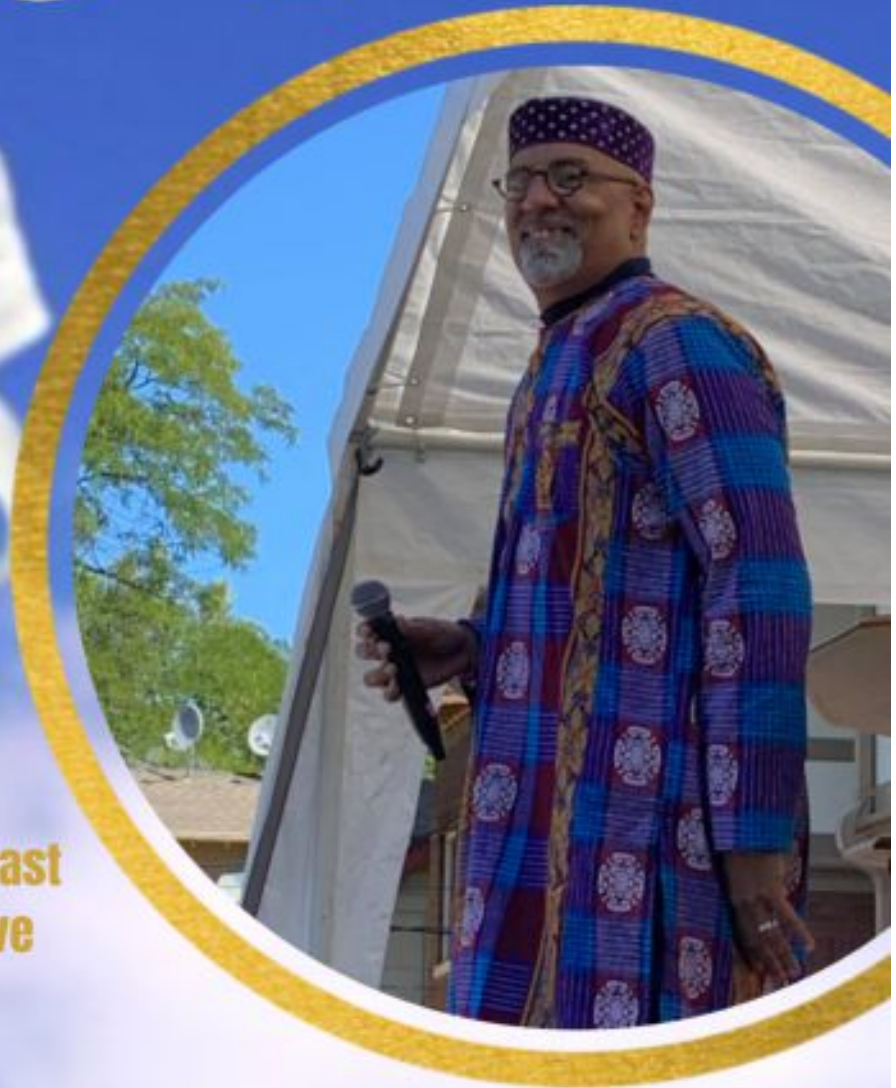
Pat Harris
Psalmist



Mt. Zion Congregational Church, UCC
Rev. Paul Hobson Sadler, Sr., Pastor

Easter Drive-In Service

**View our Broadcast
on Facebook Live
and Zoom**



APRIL 4, 2021 @ 11 A.M.
Mt. Zion's Parking Lot
10723 Magnolia Dr., Cleveland, OH 44106

**Please Register with Lady Kim at
mtzioncleveland@gmail.com**

APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Day of Sabbath for Rev. Paul			1 MAUNDY THURSDAY 5:30pm FA via Zoom 6:30pm GriefShare 7pm MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE via Facebook Live	2 GOOD FRIDAY 7am Prayer Call 7pm WOMEN AT THE CROSS via Zoom REGISTRATION REQUIRED	3 11:00am Deacon Board 1:00pm Christ. Stewds Rudolph Bacchus Kevin Wynne
4 EASTER Drive-In Service 7am Worship Prayer Call 11am Facebook Live WORSHIP 12:30pm Coffee Hour & Children's Church School via Zoom	5 Kathleen Dorsey	6 7:30am Care Shep. 6pm FA via Zoom	7 7am Prayer Call 10:30am Bible Study 2pm Staff Meeting 7pm Bible Study Josie Lindsey	8 5:30pm FA via Zoom 6:30pm GriefShare	9 7am Prayer Call	10 10am Sacred Conversations via Zoom 11:30am Mission & Outreach
11 7am Worship Prayer Call 11am Facebook Live WORSHIP 12:30pm Coffee Hour & Children's Church School via Zoom	12 Rev. Nayiri Karjian Christopher Shannon	13 7:30am Care Shep. 6pm FA via Zoom Noah King	14 7am Prayer Call 10:30am Bible Study 2pm Staff Meeting 7pm Bible Study	15 5:30pm FA via Zoom 6:30pm GriefShare Robert Upshaw, Jr. Ulysses Tyler	16 7am Prayer Call 7pm via Zoom POETRY NIGHT	17 10:00am New Mbrs Orientation Alexander Booth
18 7am Worship Prayer Call 11am Facebook Live WORSHIP 12:30pm Coffee Hour & Children's Church School via Zoom	19 Ernest Malone, Jr.	20 7:30am Care Shep. 6pm FA via Zoom Carson Burrows Tara Murphy	21 7am Prayer Call 10:30am Bible Study 2pm Staff Meeting 7pm Bible Study Stacey Polk Marvin Richards, Jr.	22 5:30pm FA via Zoom 6:30pm GriefShare 7:00pm CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING	23 7am Prayer Call Patricia Harris Jennifer Ryba	24
25 7am Worship Prayer Call 11am Facebook Live WORSHIP 12:30pm Coffee Hour & Children's Church School via Zoom	26 Sandra Berry	27 7:30am Care Shep. 6pm FA via Zoom	28 7am Prayer Call 10:30am Bible Study 2pm Staff Meeting 7pm Bible Study	29 5:30pm FA via Zoom 6:30pm GriefShare Flossie Brisker Wesley Oliver	30 7am Prayer Call 7pm Covenant Couples Carmilla Perry Murphy	