

LIGHT POST

JULY 2021

A KING'S WAY ALLIANCE CHURCH PUBLICATION

ISSUE #18

KING'S WAY WELCOMES THE FRANCISCOS

The wait is over!

Our elders have unanimously extended a call to the Central District Office of the C&MA to have Eric Francisco come and become our next Pastor Shepherd. He and his family will be officially joining us on July 1, 2021.

You may be familiar with Eric if you have attended King's Way within the past decade. He has previously worked with Rev. Andy Smith and has served as our Youth Pastor. Shortly after Smith's departure, Eric and his wife Mary were called into full time mission work overseas. They have served in Taiwan for



several years, but have friends and relatives in Japan, Burkina Faso, and Mali as well. They have five children who they love a whole lot.

David Lane, our District Superintendent, will be preaching here on July 11th. We will then hold an installation service for Eric. What happens afterward depends on a lot of things, like finances and the waning pandemic. One such possibility is Envision Cleveland's day service project "Renew The City", which will take place mid-September. But there is work that needs to be done here as well. Head Elder Michael Blankenship says "We want the Lord's blessing and direction as we move to rebuild our footprint in the area and leave the Lord's finger prints on all we touch for Him."

CORONAVIRUS COMPENDIUM

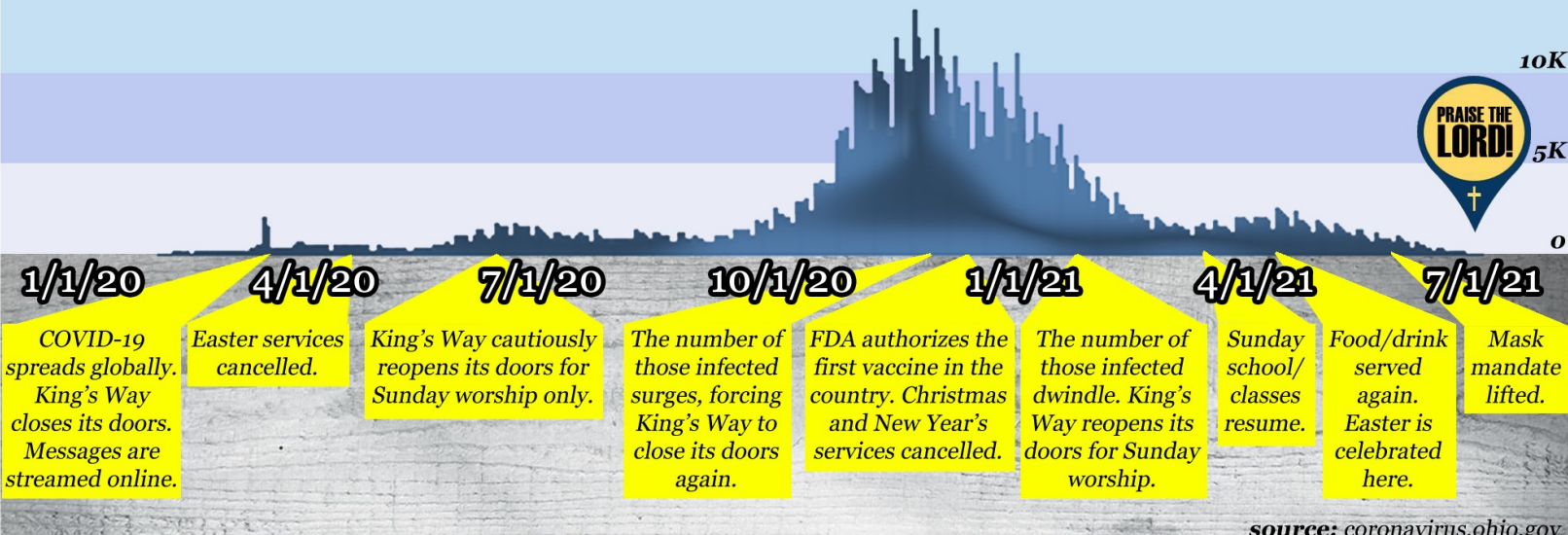
NEW CASES OF COVID-19 CONFIRMED IN OHIO

15K

10K


5K

0



source: coronavirus.ohio.gov



 kwachurch.org

INDEX

MISSION/OUTREACH...
STATE OF THE CHURCH...
EDITORIAL...
THE FUNNY PAGE...

JOIN US

- 1 SUNDAYS
- 2 SUNDAY SCHOOL/GROUPS...
- 3 WORSHIP SERVICE...
- 4 WEDNESDAYS/SATURDAYS
WORSHIP PRACTICE...

09:30AM
10:45AM

06:00PM/09:00AM





THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

AT A GLANCE

Christians happier in marriage and men more satisfied, but Gen X is in trouble.

- pewresearch.org

Popular video game creator retires after backlash to political donations: 'I'm Christian, pro-life.'

- gamerant.com

Supreme Court rules Christian foster agency can't be forced to place kids with same-sex couples.

- supremecourt.gov

Man contemplating self-harm changes mind after good Samaritan tells him 'God loves you.'

- ktul.com

'Taking back the rainbow': Freedom March declares move of God among ex-LGBT people.

- christianpost.com

NYT issues correction after claiming Babylon Bee is 'misinformation site.'

- notthebee.com

Southern Baptists affirm commitment to racial reconciliation without fight over critical race theory.

- sbc.net

Florida to require daily moment of silence in schools for students to 'reflect, pray as they see fit.'

- news4jax.com

Chinese authorities forcibly detain pastor, wife by chaining door to their home.

- persecution.org

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson quotes the Bible when asked if he believes in God.

- itv.com

Hundreds gather to proclaim name of Jesus at Sean Feucht 'Let Us Worship' summer tour.

- www1.cbn.com

Record percentage of Americans consider abortion 'morally acceptable' in new poll.

- news.gallup.com

Judge rejects Canadian pastor's challenge that worship restrictions violate religious freedom rights.

- cbc.ca

Lauren Daigle becomes first female to top Billboard Christian chart 5 times after 'Voice' appearance.

- billboard.com



THE GREATER FREEDOM

ONLY SALVATION IN CHRIST JESUS PROVIDES THE INNER LIBERTY WE NEED MOST

by **Dr. Maurice Irvin**, former editor of *The Alliance Weekly* and *Alliance Life*

I was in New York City for the celebration of the centennial of the Statue of Liberty during the 4th of July weekend. The crowds were huge and the sights impressive.

During the programs and speeches and songs I repeatedly heard the words freedom, liberty, and independence. The United States of America became independent of British rule in 1776. Across the years millions of immigrants have responded to the call of the Statue of Liberty:

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

and have come to America seeking the opportunities and rights that are provided and protected in this unique land. These facts were the focus of the festivities.

But during the weekend I was constantly reminded that it is possible to be free physically and politically and still to be in spiritual bondage. And unfortunately in North America where individuals enjoy more independence and opportunities than any people in history have ever known there are millions with spirits that are tragically enslaved.

Freedom from Guilt

Only salvation in Christ Jesus provides

that inner liberty we need most. He gives freedom from guilt, the crushing sense of responsibility for wrongs we have done that presses upon our inner beings despite all our efforts to ignore and evade it.

Christ gives deliverance from the power of sin. The average person denies he is enslaved by evil. But our world is filled with broken homes, strife, drunkenness, cursing, immorality, slander, cruelty, corruption, gluttony, injustice, covetousness, and irreverence not because people want these conditions to prevail, but rather because people are driven by the power of sin to behave improperly. Christ can change a person's inner nature. He puts a new spirit within which causes us to love God and want to do right.

Jesus provides freedom from the deceptions of Satan. Without His help we are vulnerable to the twisted ideas and perverted attitudes Satan fosters among men. With Christ we see clearly; we understand truth; we recognize evil for what it is.

Soul-Satisfying Fellowship

Christ gives freedom from the tyranny of things. How sadly many in our world are driven to accumulate more and more possessions to satisfy an inner hunger. How pitifully people buy

and buy in a futile quest for some trinket or treasure that will provide lasting happiness.

Our Savior gives us soul-satisfying fellowship with God so that we do not need things to be satisfied; we do not need houses and cars and boats and jewelry and toys and appliances and collections to find peace, joy, and happiness.

Jesus delivers from the tyranny of time. The frantic pace of life in North America is caused in part for many when they realize that this life is the only one they have. Every tick of the clock takes away something they can never recover. Each passing moment brings them closer to an end after which there are no tomorrows.

But the person who is in Christ Jesus is guaranteed an absolutely endless eternity of bliss and blessing. Thus each day on this earth for him is just one of an inexhaustible supply of days. Passing hours simply lead to never ending additional hours. He need never worry about the passing of time, for His time will never run out.

Physical and political freedom is of great value. During the recent holidays I breathed to God prayers of thanksgiving for the privileges we enjoy in North America. But spiritual freedom is greater. Jesus said, "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." Above all else I am grateful for the spiritual liberty which is found in Christ.

PRAYER NIGHT EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 7PM
"ALL GOOD IS BORN IN PRAYER, AND ALL GOOD SPRINGS FROM IT" - SPURGEON

LOST AND FOUND

By Matt Branham
Editor-in-chief

"I don't want to be here."

Thus began a cascade of emotions in my ministry class. I didn't have my homework done. I had zero faith that my life was going to get any better. I was such a mess that there was no way my teacher and his students wouldn't notice. I wanted nothing more than to stop wasting everyone's time and be booted from the program.

But nobody condemned me. Instead, everyone gathered around and prayed for me as I cried uncontrollably. There were many questions, of course, but these people could see that my overall condition was a symptom of a problem that was never fully addressed. *Who* said I was a fraud? *What* was I afraid of? And *why* did I feel this way? I've had a lot of time to find these answers, and one therapist that I was referred to revealed that the framework of my heavenly Father largely mimicked that of my earthly father.

It all started on the night I dropped by my father's office with a bunch of awards from band. *"Finally,"* I thought. *"He will surely be proud of me now!"* But my father simply glanced over them and shrugged them off. *"Is all that really going to matter down the road?"* he asked. He then said that my college

scholarship *"should've went to someone more deserving."* I became enraged and proceeded to slam my plaques onto his desk. It was probably the only time I had the sand to blow up on him. But in my anger, my mind became hijacked with a new mentality:

"Nothing in my past matters. Nothing I'm doing now is good enough. The future is when I can finally be happy."

I stopped being outgoing. I stopped drawing. I stopped being creative. I stopped singing, playing in bands, and doing many other things that made me feel like myself. Because I *HATED* myself, and all I wanted was to be a different person. It didn't matter who – as long as my life was important and in order. *"Nothing in my past matters."*

Of course, it's never that simple. I ended up having an anxiety attack because I was trying too hard to be somebody else. I soon found myself struggling to make it in the real world, which further cemented my present mindset: *"Nothing I'm doing now is good enough."*

But even when things turned around, I still wasn't satisfied. I needed certainty. The future is when everything would be fine. The future is all that mattered. *"The future is when I can finally be happy."* I became so obsessed that I genuinely believed my life was ruined once my grade in class slipped to a 99.5%.

So... what finally changed my perspective on life? What broke the mold for me?

The answer was an old, moldy, mouse-infested box.

As I was getting my living space ready for an exterminator, I was stopped dead in my tracks by the sheer amount of things I had long forgotten about. Crafts. Drawings. Video and music projects. My decorated letterman jacket and awards. I had so many good things going with my God-given gifts, and I made the deliberate choice to abandon them. I was so focused on tracking the changes in my anxiety and depression that I lost track of the changes I made to better myself. But most importantly... the future had already come to pass, and I *still* wasn't happy.

Once I realized this, everything else started to click for me. I started remembering all the times people complimented my work, and how I adamantly ignored them. I could recall when my father regretted what he said, and how I refused to believe him. Once I was able to reckon with my past, I was able to look even further back.

Way, way, way back.

"He [God] hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love."

- Eph. 1:4

So here's my new mentality...

"Nothing in my past matters. Chosen. Before the earth was made."

"Nothing I'm doing now is good enough. To inherit Christ's righteousness before the Father."

"The future is when I can finally be happy." For all time. Done.

Once I was able to rebuild my framework of the heavenly Father, I started to feel that love. I started feeling a renewed passion in many of the things I once cared about. I started to really feel like myself again.

This can be your story as well. If you find yourself not feeling God's love at all – not even a little bit – you may have some things blocking your path. You might even have a box somewhere that needs to be sorted out. It won't be easy to revisit it... in fact, this is probably the hardest column I've ever written. But I wrote all this not because everything is amazing now, but because of His amazing grace.

I once was lost, but now I'm found.

Was blind, but now I see.



**The Light Post is looking for clear testimonies
of saving faith in Jesus Christ.**

**WHAT'S
YOUR
STORY?**

**Who were you before Christ?
When did your life change?
And how has God used you since then?**

SUBMIT YOUR STORY AT KWACHURCH.ORG/NEWSLETTER.

LIGHT POST

The Light Post is a publication for the church by the church, published on the first Sunday of every month. The latest issue can be picked up at our welcome desk, and all previous issues can be read online at kwachurch.org/newsletter. If you have a story, prayer, event, or an announcement that you would like to share, you may submit it to our church office or online. All content is subject for approval by the editor.



KING'S WAY
ALLIANCE CHURCH

King's Way Alliance Church is a member of the Central District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Denomination, committed to *changing our world by radically chasing Christ's mission*. For more information on who we are, what we believe, and how we can help you, please visit our website at kwachurch.org.

CONTACT US:

2500 KINGSPOUR WAY
AKRON OH, 44314
(330) 848-1403



fb.com/kwachurch



kwachurch.org/contact

© 2018-2021 The Light Post, Issue #18

KING'S WAY ALLIANCE CHURCH
2500 KINGSPORT WAY
AKRON, OH 44314



PASTOR STILL NOT SURE HOW HE LANDED THIS SWEET JOB WHERE HE ONLY HAS TO WORK ONE HOUR A WEEK

MOON, PA — Local pastor Henry Patters has been in ministry for several years, and he's still not quite sure how he managed to land such a sweet gig where he only has to work an hour a week.

"You'd think there'd be more to pastoring, like visiting people, studying for sermons, planning a service, counseling church members, but nope," he said as he relaxed at home and

prepared to fire up another round of Call of Duty. *"I just show up on Sunday and*

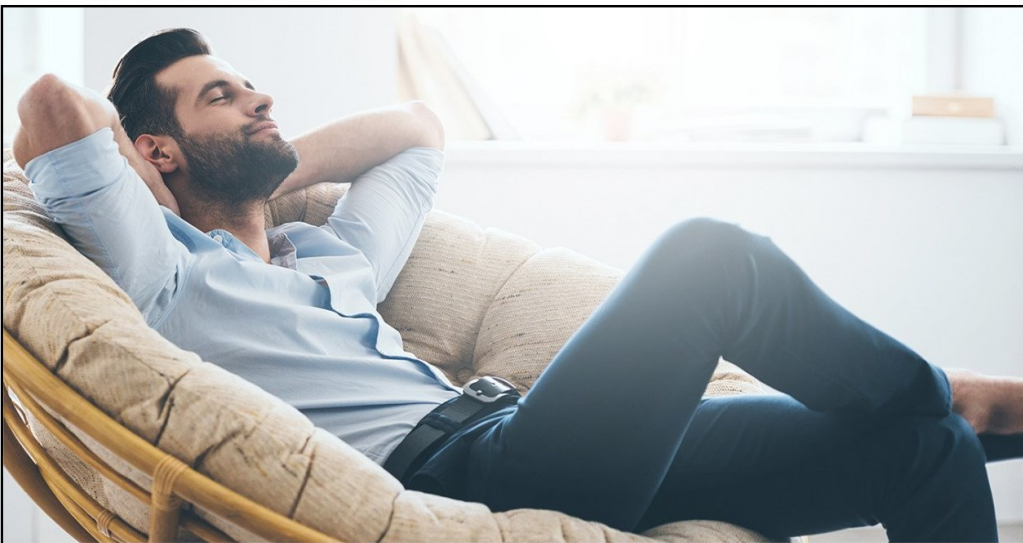
share what's on my heart, and that's literally all there is to it."

He confirmed that there definitely aren't a ton of stressors and sources of

anxiety involved in pastoring, and that it's certainly not a field in which pastors burn out and drop like flies because of all the pressures and spiritual warfare.

"Nope. It's easy street. I still can't believe more people don't take up this line of work."

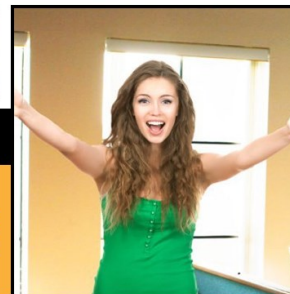
At publishing time, Patters' youth pastor, Carl, still couldn't believe he has a job where he doesn't have to work at all.



IN OTHER SATIRE:

Rookie Move: Non-Giver Makes Eye Contact With Church Usher

Lady You Barely Know At Church Going In For The Hug



For more Christian satire news, visit the Babylon Bee at babylonbee.com or fb.com/babylonbee.