



Connecting with the Cicali Family

I spoke with Kristen Cicali last night and it was great to connect and find out how things were going. Kristen reported that all the kids are doing very well and working hard with home schooling. Eevee continues to practice the Ukulele and is learning the Clarinet. Amelia is perfecting the flute. Kristen shared a funny story of how Sammy decided to cut his own hair (see picture below). The family is looking forward to Spring and getting prepared for their garden.



TRUE VINE TIMES

“Follow Me”

Peter sat in grief and darkness, his days marked by God’s silence. He had publicly denied knowing Jesus just before Jesus was dragged away to be crucified. And now for the past few days, Peter had to process his grief and guilt without any expectation that the pain would stop.

But during the early morning of the third day, Jesus’ tomb was found empty and the stone rolled away. As Peter huddles in fear with the other disciples—trying to process the day’s events—Jesus suddenly appears to Peter *fully alive!*

Instead of letting Peter live with the shame of his past mistakes, Jesus pulls him aside and asks him a question that propels Peter into his purpose:

“Do you love me?”

With this question, Jesus invites Peter to reaffirm the relationship he’d denied. Jesus’ power over death and darkness meant that Peter didn’t have to stay defined by his past mistakes. He could still embrace the call on his life and become the leader Jesus always knew he could be.

Like Peter, you have the opportunity to say “yes” to loving Jesus and being loved by Him. No matter how messy your life looks, or how far from Jesus you feel, there is nothing that can separate you from His love. Your past mistakes or current problems do not dictate your purpose when your life is rooted in Christ alone.

The resurrection reassures us that no situation or mistake is impossible for God to redeem. There is no fear Jesus cannot conquer and no life He cannot heal. No darkness can stand against the power of the risen God who conquered death on our behalf. There is nothing our God cannot do.

SAVE THE DATE

CCAM Annual Church Retreat
Beaver Camp, Lowville, NY
Labor Day Weekend,
9/3/21-9/6/21

[http://www.ccamchurch.org/
beaver-camp.html](http://www.ccamchurch.org/beaver-camp.html)

Easter Story Cookies

These cookies are great to do with the kids. They are to be prepared the night before Easter. The spiritual preparation goes along with the physical preparation of the cookies.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup pecan halves
- 1 tsp distilled white vinegar
- 3 egg whites
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 cup white sugar

Step 1: Preheat oven to 300 degrees F (150 degrees C).

Step 2: Place pecans in a resealable plastic baggie. Crush the pecans into small bits. Read John 19:1-3

Step 3: Put 1 teaspoon vinegar into a medium bowl. Read John 19:28-30

Step 4: Add egg whites to the vinegar. Read John 10:10-11

Step 5: Sprinkle salt into the egg whites. Read Luke 23:27

Step 6: So far, the mixture isn't very appetizing. Add 1 cup sugar. Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16. Beat with mixer on high speed for 12 to 15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed. Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3.

Step 7: Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto parchment paper lined baking sheet. Read Matthew 27:57-60.

Step 8: Place cookies in the oven close the door and turn the oven off. Read Matthew 27:65-66.

Step 9: Go to bed. Read John 16:20 and 22.

Step 10: In the morning open the oven and take out the cookies. Read Matthew 28:1-9.

April 2, 2021

The Mission of Jericho Road

~ by Mark J Schaefer

About 23 years ago, Dr Myron Glick and his wife Joyce had a vision for a health clinic on Buffalo's West Side, an area under-served by the medical community. The West Side also has a large population of refugees from Africa, Burma, Bhutan (Nepali) and other countries. He recently told me of an important CCAM connection: CCAM was one of several churches that supported Dr Glick in getting funding for the new clinic. Since then, Jericho Road has grown greatly in Buffalo, where we have clinics on the East and West Sides, and in Sierra Leone, DR Congo and Nepal, where clinics are already serving thousands of patients each year who previously had little or no access to healthcare.

I have worked for JR for 6 and 1/2 years now. I use a van to transport JR patients to the clinics, hospitals, and specialist appointments throughout WNY. I consider this job as a calling from God, as I help a population that needs special care. All of us at JR are working to fulfill the mission of the Good Samaritan, who helped the suffering man he found on the Jericho Road. This work is very different from the work I did as a lawyer for 20 years! But, I feel that I, along with my co-workers, serve as the hands and feet of Christ here on earth. I am grateful.

I am learning to be patient with the people we serve, and have gotten to know many of them even if we have a difficult time communicating-- many do not speak English. Many also have religious faiths other than Christianity. But, regardless of what they believe, I try to show compassion to them. Whenever possible, I let them know I am a Christian, and hope that my actions are expressions of Christ's love.

God is definitely at work in Buffalo and in JR clinics abroad! I am thankful to be a part of this ministry.

