



March Edition of the Christian Pilot



Greetings to my Raytown family! It is such a blessing to go into yet another season connected as family. I cannot express with words how amazing it was to see both PowerShift and Raytown Christian Church joined together, having such an amazing fellowship. I enjoyed hosting the Family Feud, and I still chuckle at the competitiveness, as well as getting the opportunity to see all of us in rare form! Thanks to Jenn, my partner in fellowship for helping spearhead such a great event.

While we are approaching the spring season, I am excited to take off the layers, set my clock forward, and begin to look at my life through the lenses of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us take this time to reflect on how he stopped at nothing to make sure that we had access to the Father. That, my friends, is how the SON has shined in our lives. During this time of Lent, let us make no mistake that He has paid the ultimate price and for that we will forever be grateful. I love you all with the love of the Lord! Be blessed.



If you use the church kitchen, should it be for a group event, your Sunday school dinners, the monthly potluck, Coffee Fellowship, or if you just want to learn the ins and outs of keeping the kitchen clean, maintained and up to code you are highly encouraged to attend this training with Mary LaPlante. It's very important to understand the steps required to keep the kitchen operating smoothly.



I have always thought of Lent just as a time to give up something that I truly enjoy. This year I thought I would do a little research about the deeper meaning of Lent. I found an article from Christianity.com titled "Why is Lent 40 Days." Forty days is very symbolic in the Christian religion.

- "Jesus' 40 days of fasting and temptation in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11)
- Moses spending 40 days on Mount Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments (Exodus 34:28)
- Elijah's 40- day journey to Mount Horeb (1 Kings 19:8)
- The 40 days of rain during the Great Flood (Genesis 7:12)
- The Israelites' 40 years of wandering in the desert (Numbers 14:33)"

While I know about each of these events, I plan to spend some time during Lent reading these passages and thinking about the meaning of each of these as far they concern those that experienced them and their meaning in my life today.

Lent is usually a time of personal reflection, prayer and spiritual renewal rather than strict fasting or an obligatory practice. As we observe Lent this year, let's think about how we approach our obedience to God. As we choose to fast, give to charity, serve the poor or memorize Scripture, we offer small personal sacrifices in order to draw us closer to God. While we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter, we must remember to do these things willingly as Christ told his disciples in Matthew 6:16-18 (ESL):

"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may

not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees you in secret will reward you.”

Each of us has our own way of preparing for the resurrection of Jesus on Easter morning. Make sure you are doing it to show your gratitude for Jesus’s sacrifices for each of us.



March events:

- Raytown Christian Church (RCC) is collecting hard candies and plastic Easter eggs to support the Raytown Egg-Extravaganza. The Easter Egg Hunt is an exciting event for the kids in the Raytown area and is enjoyed by both the children and their parents.
- The Raytown Chamber of Commerce is holding their March meeting at RCC on the 26th of this month. The featured speaker will be Keith Winge, the Community Development Director for Missouri Main Street Connection. This will be the first Chamber meeting held in our Inspiration Center, and we are excited to welcome the Chamber members and interested Raytown citizens to our warm and Jesus-loving church.

April upcoming events:

- RCC’s Outreach Ministry will provide Easter baskets for the children at the River of Refuge Transitional Housing apartments. We want to assure that all baskets include the Resurrection story, along with candy and treats!
- RCC will support the Raytown Main Street Association’s Easter Parade. We provide a staging area for the fantastic floats, an area for float registration, and coffee and donuts for participants. This is a great way to share our beautiful church building and some of the amazing members here!

Outreach is always interested in our congregation’s thoughts and ideas on how to reach out to our community! Please feel free to find an Outreach team member and share your thoughts or drop a note in the Outreach mailbox located in the reception area of the office.

Our first and foremost goal is to help the unchurched say “Yes!” to Jesus.



A graphic with a green background. At the top, the text "Knights of Columbus Fish Fry" is written in a bold white font. Below it, the text "Every Friday during Lent: March 7th 14th, 21st, 28th and April 4th , 11th from 4:30 – 7:00 PM" is written in a white font. In the center is an illustration of a plate of fried fish and french fries. To the right of the plate, the text "Adults - \$15.00 Children 6 to 12 - \$7.00 5 and Under - Free" is written in a white font. Below that, the text "Clergy, police, firefighters, and all first responders in uniform are free as a thank you for their service" is written in a smaller white font. At the bottom, the text "Enjoy a great meal with fried and baked fish, fried shrimp, vegetables, potatoes, coleslaw and bread. Menu changes every week." is written in a white font.

Kansas City's First Mobile 3D Mammography Coach

Early detection through mammography saves lives – yet only 60% of eligible women in Kansas City/Raytown area get annual breast cancer screenings.

Diagnostic Imaging Centers’ mobile 3D mammography coach is on the road to change that, bringing the hope for better health to the Kansas City metro and beyond – saving time, saving money, saving lives.



The Mobile 3D Mammography Coach will be at the Raytown Mid-Continent Public Library (6131 Raytown Road) on Tuesday, March 18th from 9am – 4pm. Call to schedule your appointment today (913) 344-9989.



Ribbon Cutting at Teeshia's Sandwiches & Scoops

Teeshia's Sandwiches & Scoops would like to invite you to their ribbon cutting ceremony on **Friday, March 21st, 2025** from 2:00p to 3:00p with ribbon cutting ceremony at **2:30p**.

Stop by their shop, **6152 Raytown Trafficway**, and see what they've got cooking. Stick around and grab a bite to eat before you go!



The Raytown Chamber along with the City of Raytown have been meeting since 2023 to talk about what the area will look like during the 2026 World Cup.

If you would like to be on this committee, please contact the Chamber office today.

Chamber Staff 816-353-8500 OR

Send Email to: president@raytownchamber.com



On March 2, Raytown Christian Church and PowerShift spent a fun filled night of dinner, fellowship and games. What a great time we had getting to know each other. Special thank you to everyone that made Game Night a success, Jenn and Ryan, Pastor Michael, Mary LaPlante and family, Wayne Oyler and of course everyone that attended and those that helped with the cleanup.

Many have asked for more of these types of activities to be planned. Volunteers would be needed to help plan these activities. Please let us know if you would like to help with planning.



Mark your calendars!

On Saturday, April 12th at 3pm in the RCC Sanctuary the Raytown Community Choir will present their Spring concert. We're hoping to serve refreshments following the concert so keep an eye out for an opportunity to help welcome the community to our wonderful church!



I know it feels like Christmas was just yesterday, but here we are at the beginning of Lent and preparing for Easter. While we try to make every day a celebration of Jesus' resurrection, Easter is special because many people will show up who don't have a relationship with Him.

That's why we need your help. We need you to pray for the people God will be sending to us this Easter. We don't want to get so caught up in planning a great experience that we neglect to pray for God's blessing. Here are some specific areas where we'd love for you to join us in prayer:

1. Pastor Michael as he prepares the message.
2. For our volunteers, lay leaders and musicians who will be serving during Easter and the weeks beyond.
3. For people who are far from God who will be walking through our doors this Easter. We pray especially that God will soften their hearts toward our message and that they will hear the gospel clearly and accept it.
4. For wisdom and strength to deal with difficulties as they arise.
5. For JOY to fill all our hearts as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus!
6. For God to open the hearts of many and for them to come to know him!

Thank you so much for praying for us! We're looking forward to seeing how God answers these prayers in the coming weeks.

God Bless,
Your Worship Team

PS & RCC Game Night!





FAMILY FEUD





***Join us on the 1st Sunday of the month!
Bring a dish to share and plan to spend
some quality time with your church family!***



RCC's March Potluck



Guide to Holy Week

RaytownCC.org

at Raytown Christian Church
6108 Blue Ridge Blvd



Palm Sunday - April 13

Sunday before Easter, celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Palm Sunday Breakfast 9-10am ~ Worship 10:30am



Maundy Thursday - April 17

Thursday before Easter commemorating the Last Supper.

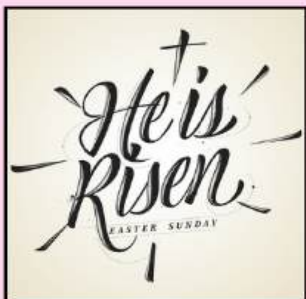
Tenebrae Service - 6:30pm



Good Friday - April 18

Friday before Easter. Most solemn day of the church year. Observes the day Jesus was crucified.

PowerShift Worship Center Good Friday Service - 7pm



Easter Sunday, April 20

Hallelujah! Christ has risen! Join us in worship as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!

Worship - 10:30am