

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

It's that time again!



Parish Paragraphs

Believe it or not, it's time to start planning for Vacation Bible School. Vacation Bible School will be held at Messiah Lutheran, July 18th-July 22nd, and this year's theme is "Planting Seeds". It's all about going green. There will be lessons, games, and many fun activities. We'd like to thank Linda Woodall who has headed this up for us for several years. We appreciate all the time, effort, and love she put in to it. We would like to welcome and thank Kathy P. who had graciously agreed to do so this year. We will be hearing more from Kathy as it gets closer, as our congregation is responsible for the crafts and games this year. We will need volunteers to help with these, as well as to help be shepherds. We ask that you begin to pray about ways you can help with this important ministry for our children. Please contact Kathy P at 419-726-5509 or anyone on the Board of Christian Ed if you are willing to help with time or donations.

VACATION Bible School

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Weekly Schedule:

- Sun, 9:00am —Church School
- Sun, 10:30am —Worship Service
- Sun, 11:30am—Coffee Hour
- Wed, 12:00N—Bible Study
- Wed, 6:00—Simple Supper
- Wed, 6:30 pm—RECESS Worship
- Thurs, 8pm—AA & Al-Anon Meeting



Pastor's Notes

I wonder, sometimes, what it's like for a farmer to read the Bible. I'm sure there are passages we non-farmers read through and find merely interesting—maybe confusing—that a farmer reads through and nods with a profound experience of the truth that is being expressed. One such passage is John 12:24: "Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Farmers are intimately

aware of the yearly process of preparing ground, planting, tending, and harvesting. Jesus suggests that God's design for the earth translates into his design for our lives, and I think the Church has wisely worked out a calendar to accommodate that design.

We've just come out of Lent, a season of turning over the soil of our lives, digging deep and allowing God into some of the things that keep us from truly flourishing in God's Kingdom. We've looked to the Cross and how it addresses our feelings of guilt, shame, worthlessness, loneliness, confusion—and ultimately, the underlying fears. Hopefully, as we've learned about the Cross, prayed, confessed, and turned from these sins and mis-directions, our hearts are a bit more prepared to receive the Gospel seed.

Last Sunday, we celebrated Easter, the Resurrection of Jesus. Jesus is referred to in the Bible as the "first-fruit," the first in a long line of those who will experience Resurrection. As we heard on Easter, we see in Jesus the hope of our own Resurrections by God's power and love (or God's powerful love). We see a hope for the ultimate Resurrection of our bodies as well as the hope that God can cultivate our lives into "Resurrection-stories" to the world right now.

Now, we enter into the Easter Season. We will be looking more at the Resurrection Life, a life where God is growing us into fruitful persons and community. I think there is a brief outline for this Resurrection Life that Matthew leaves us with in the last three verses of his Gospel. This passage is often called "The Great Commission," as it is a calling to live as sharers in God's mission in

Pastor's Notes

Lastly, this Great Commission isn't something we are just talking about, it's something we're doing! Consider joining us with SLAM's 30-Hour Famine, supporting their mission trip, Relay for Life, and of course, Feed My Sheep. Keep up with all that's going on at our website, and you can "Like" us on Facebook for even more opportunities to serve and materials to help you grow.

As one of my good friends said on the Monday after Easter, "Yesterday we celebrated the resurrection. Today...we celebrate the resurrection..." Amen.



Mission Board,

Thank you so much for the opportunity of helping and learning from you during the Easter Breakfast. You all do so much for our church and community so we just want to give you a shout out "THANKS". Also a special thanks for helping us with our fundraising for our upcoming trip to West Virginia.

SLAM Youth

Point Place Congregation,

I would like to personally thank all of you for your support and prayers for our youth this year and for our upcoming mission trip. It is getting very exciting to think before long we will be on a venture into God's mission for us to learn how we can make a difference and share the love. Thank you for your love, care, and guidance.



Peace,

Susan Korecki

FEED MY SHEEP goes south of the border

We celebrated the one year anniversary of the program in April with cake, candles and ice cream! In March 76 diners were served homemade soups – April's dinner was a Mexican Fiesta!

In May hearty homemade casseroles will be served utilizing some hams and turkeys donated by our friends at Mustard Seed. Turkey pot pies and ham and scalloped potatoes are on the menu along with corn, rolls & butter, salads and assorted desserts on May 31st from 5 – 7 pm. Mark your calendars and come on down and help or just stop by for a meal. Food donations should be left at the church by Sunday, May 29th.

You can be a part of this program by –

Volunteering -

- to help set up for the dinner
- to help cook the food
- to serve during dinner
- to help with clean up
- to help with publicity
- to deliver a meal to a church member's home
- or donating–
- food and supplies



We are in need of donations of

- - canned corn
- - butter or margarine
- - canned assorted vegetables
- - Cash for the purchase of perishable items

Sign up sheets are available in Paterson Hall if you are interested in volunteering or donating, or you may call Tina Mockbee 419 276 0637 or Lori Winne 734 848 4120 for more information.

OUR LIBRARY



The Jesus I Never Knew, by Philip Yancey. We all have an ever-developing image of Jesus in our minds. These images are formed by our families-of-origin, our pastors, the media, our own desires for who we want Jesus to be, and maybe even some Bible passages. Philip Yancey takes us back to the Gospels to take a fresh look at the Jesus described there and finds insights into the person of Jesus that will surprise, disturb, encourage, and challenge you.

The Reason for God, by Tim Keller. Why does God allow suffering? Shouldn't Christianity be more inclusive? Hasn't science disproven the Christian faith? Isn't faith just something to justify believing irrational things? Maybe these are some questions people you know have asked you. Or maybe they're questions you are asking. Tim Keller offers thoughtful responses to each of these questions and more, and then presents why believing in the God of the Bible is both reasonable and life-changing.

On Earth as It Is in Advertising, by Sam van Eman. We are bombarded by messages that offer us hope, peace, success, and changed lives...if we just buy this or do that.



Van Eman takes a fascinating look at how these messages connect to the Gospel message before offering their own little twist on salvation and where it can be found. He helps us see how much our lives are saturated with advertising and hear these messages in a whole new way.



MISSION BOARD UPDATES

In May we will be collecting donations of beverage items for Feed Your Neighbor. Bring in any non-perishable juice, water, or powder mix. Examples are coffee, tea, juice, kool-aid, sports drink, etc. Your donations will be taken to Mustard Seed each week. Thank you for your continued generosity in support of this mission!

The Giving Tree focus in May will be collecting monetary donations for the purchase of flowers which will be planted around the church. The children will be planting flowers around the outside of the church the last week in May. You may place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday marked "Sunday School flowers", or give your donation to anyone on the Mission Board (please do not leave your donation on the Giving Tree table in Paterson Hall this month).



THANK YOU for coming to Easter Breakfast! We raised \$240.00 this year which will go towards the SLAM Mission Trip this summer.

Save the date...

Relay For Life – May 14 @ 1pm – May 15 @ 7am.

Erica Winne



Are YOU Ready to Relay???

Relay for Life is an annual event hosted by the American Cancer Society. In an effort to raise money for cancer research and support for families and friends of those battling cancer, thousands of people across the world participate in Relay For Life. This year, the Toledo Relay will be held on Saturday, May 14 at 1:00pm and run through Sunday morning May 15, 7:00am at St. Francis de Sales High School. We have already started to form a team and anyone is welcome to join! You can sign up for the event by visiting www.relayforlife.org and registering for the Toledo, OH event. You will find *Point Place UCC* listed as a team name. Or, you can notify Ericka Winne and she will be sure you are signed up. The cost is \$10 to participate in the walk.

So.....how can you get involved?

There are a number of ways to participate in Relay For Life!

Become a team member and volunteer to walk (or run) on the track at any time throughout the event. We will need a team of people to walk the track in support of this cause for the entire eighteen hours! We will walk throughout the night because cancer never sleeps!

Sponsor a walker or the Point Place UCC team by giving a donation.

All donations will go to the American Cancer Society.

Help provide water, juice, snacks to those participating in Relay.

Come out to St. Francis High School on May 14 to join in the fun!

There will be games, food, and many other activities – come to support those who are walking too!

Come to the Relay For Life Service at the church on Friday, May 13
Pray!

We will continue to keep you updated as we receive more details. Please contact Ericka Winne (419.349.8167) if you have questions or would like to participate!

ELIZABETHANS



Our April Meeting began with coffee and delicious pineapple upside-down cake and buttery apricot bars prepared by Doris Towers and Wanda Franks. Ruby Usher then read a touching story titled "Grandpa's 79th Birthday" along with some humorous readings from columnists Kathy Mitchel and Marcy Sugar. Lois Fallon too had some really funny sayings from nuns and designated April as Holy Humor Month! Ruby ended with a prayer.

Ruby then asked Bonnie Beebe to give the financial report, which listed \$82.55 in the Elizabethan General Fund after expenses and \$438.31 in the Penny Fund. Plans to buy new coffee makers for church kitchen are put on hold to determine if there is more need elsewhere. Bonny also reported that new signage for our elevator was installed, brass plates for moderator, and various postage and gift costs were used from Penny Fund.

The Mothers Day Tribute Collection, arranged and managed so carefully by Donna Armstrong, will again be sent to Fairhaven Home for the Aged in Upper Sandusky.

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!



Birthdays



- 1 Amanda Hartley
- 1 Tara Chesko
- 4 Nancy Bright
- 5 Terry Brocus
- 10 Tami Wioland
- 17 Sarah Slater
- 17 Charles Smith
- 22 Justin Marshall
- 24 David Meiers
- 27 Gigi Rider
- 28 Jaycie Swick
- 29...Nicole Trudeau
- 31 Cindy Trudeau

Anniversaries

- 2 John and Dena Hammye
- 15 Bob and Nancy Harrington
- 20 Terry and Donna Serviss





BULLETIN BOARD

SHARE YOUR MUSICAL TALENTS THIS SUMMER



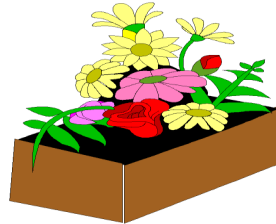
Are you musically inclined? Play an instrument or sing? The Board of Diaconate invites you to share your talents with the congregation this summer. Please sign up to share your talent during worship by choosing a Sunday on the sign up sheet in Paterson Hall. Individuals and groups are encouraged to choose their date early – before they're gone!!!

Rummage Sale Notice:

Being we have had lack of help it was decided to have only one Rummage Sale this year sometime in August. We will keep you posted as to the exact date.



Yard Clean Up



On Saturday, May 7th, at 9:00 a.m. we are asking for volunteers to help us spruce up the church grounds. Please bring your rakes or any other garden to you need and help us clean up all the winter debris.

The Board of Trustees

General Fund		
	MARCH	Year-to-Date
Expenses	7,630.66	27,963.63
Income	18,680.74	36,427.84
Difference	-11,050.08	-8,464.21

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS



In Honor of:

Gail Church
Chris Fairchild
Sarah Ashley Marica
Norma Meiers Socks
Ginny Seybold
Rachel Spain
Kimberlee Wioland

From:

Bonnie Meiers
Tami Wioland
Tami Wioland
Bonnie Meiers
Jamie & Tina Mockbee
Chuck & Leslie Geletzke
Tami Wioland

In Memory of:

Andrew Alfano
Cindy Cosgrove
Carol Aurandt
Ken Fallon
Ken Fosnaught
Larry Fosnaught
Ralph Franks
Chuck & Joyce Geletzke
Florence Johnson
Kathy & Bob's parents
Rachel Ann McCreight
Doris Mansue
Dell Moharter
My First Church Friends
Harold & Eleanor Price
Linda Reimschuessel
Robert Seybold
John & Una Shuba
Douglas Spencer

From:

Andrea Aricchi
Jim & Tammy Cosgrove
Jamie & Tina Mockbee
Lois Fallon
Gwyneth Minicozzi
Gwyneth Minicozzi
Wanda Franks
Chuck & Leslie Geletzke
Maynard Johnson
Kathy Placzkiewicz
Bonnie Meiers
Gwyneth Minicozzi
Betty Moharter
Kathy Placzkiewicz
Chuck & Leslie Geletzke
Tricia Crane
Jamie & Tina Mockbee
Mike & Deb McMullan
Gwyneth Minicozzi

also purchased by Betty Miller Plants