



"Making God the Foundation of every Day Living"

The Herald

First Congregational Church of Tallmadge
UCC

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Trailmarkers

The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment. But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. Luke 23:55-24:3



As I write, we are preparing for Easter services, and I am thinking about how we all arrive at church on Easter morning.

Some of us come on Easter with great faith and confidence in the resurrection. Some of us come with more questions than faith, more perplexed than confident. Some of us come because the only way to get to the big Easter meal is to go to church with family. (And we welcome you. That's not a bad reason.) Some of us come not believing at all but wanting to join the celebration.

While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened. Luke 24:4-12

I don't think that the first visitors to the tomb believed much of anything, or had any idea what to make of what they found. The women find the empty tomb and they stand there wondering. They go to tell the disciples what they have seen, and the disciples think that it's nonsense. Peter alone goes to see for himself. And what does Peter do when he has seen the empty tomb with his own eyes? He goes home, just like us!

On Easter, instead of thinking that it's time to get all of our questions about the resurrection answered, what if we did just the opposite? What if Easter is a time for getting our thinking knocked out of joint enough that we can see the world from new angles. Instead of questioning the truth of the resurrection, what if we allow the resurrection to question us?

Where are the places in life where you have given up hope too soon?
What gifts have you buried away out of fear or weariness or distraction?
When have you been surprised by goodness when you expected something worse?

May God's peace be with you,
Matt

WORSHIP SERVICE

8:30 AM WORSHIP

10:00 AM WORSHIP

www.fcctallmadge.org

Phone: 330.633.4931

Fax: 330.633.7010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Sidebar 2

Spiritual/Pastoral Care Corner 3

Christian Education 4-5

Stephen Ministry Prayer List 6

Rebuilding Together Family Promise 7

Classes/support groups 8

Events/Announcements 9-10

Stewardship/Library 11

Women's Fellowship WNI 12

Thank yous Surveys 13

Upcoming Sundays 14

Calendar 15



When you receive this edition of The Herald we will be in the last week of Lent called, Passion Week that begins on Sunday, April 13 with Palm Sunday. On that Sunday we celebrated the triumphal entry of Jesus to Jerusalem and we ended the service of worship with our entry in to Passion Week. During this week we direct our attention to the suffering of Jesus, the betrayal, the execution by crucifixion. Because we have the advantage of knowing the “rest of the story” we know this has a happy ending – or does it?

Over the past five weeks at the Senior Pastor’s Bible Study we have read the book “Who Is This Man?” by David Ortberg, following the texts of gospels; Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Ortberg makes the point that following the death of Jesus there are two days. There is Friday the day of death, followed by Saturday the day of silence. No one knew there would be the resurrection. The followers of Jesus were traumatized, hiding in fear, and most likely attempting to form some type of grounded reason to answer the question; *What just happened?* Knowing their own life was in jeopardy they gathered together in hiding – all except Thomas.

Dr. Shelly Rambo in her book titled “Spirit and Trauma: A Theology of Remaining” reminds us that following any traumatizing event in life all that remains is the trauma. The word “trauma” means “to pierce the heart” or “to pierce the flesh.” This is what remains.

Over the past 10 years I have come into an awareness of the persistent effects of trauma and our cultural denial when we say, “What is done is past, move on.” The devastation of New Orleans is over but the after the storm remains. We can think of this when we remember the devastation of the eastern seaboard coast, and the BP Oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Life does not, nor should it return to “normal.” A new normal emerges from the ruins and we do well to consider how we are changed by the events.

Our Church fathers (sorry in those days women were not welcomed in the circles of ordained leadership) wrote the Apostle’s Creed where it states, “He (Jesus) descended in to hell.” Hell is the god-forsaken place where we are taken against our will through trauma. This is the time of waiting: Friday, Saturday, not knowing or believing there will be Sunday. This is where Jesus “went” on Saturday – this is where the disciples were. They were caught in paralyzing shock. Dr. Rambo asks the question, “What held Jesus and God the Father together in hell?” Her thesis states, “The Holy Spirit.”

When we are often unaware of what will happen next, remember the story of Holy Saturday and the waiting. Jesus’ descent into hell tells me that there is no where we can go, nothing that can happen to us that God is unwilling to go to find us. That to me is hope. Sometimes “Saturday” is a long, long time. I know that there are many who have suffered much and no amount of proclamation of resurrection will undo what was done. We live with the loss and we live in hope knowing that God is with us. This is the Easter message. “He is alive!”

Happy Easter!

Love,
Dr. John

Spiritual/Pastoral Care Corner

Barbara Rowles, Coordinator, **Hearts In Service** (H.I.S.)

Pastoral: **H.I.S.** ministry has opened my eyes in many ways including God's commandment: *Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.* I also am led to honor all our elders for they have given us reason to honor them by setting an example of their Christian walk, dedication, service, and honorable lives. They have much to share and much to teach. Through H.I.S., I have had the pleasure of visiting and getting to know some of our elder members who have become homebound or must live in a facility where they require care and daily provisions. How hard it must be to let go of independence, however, they seem to know it is best for them and they know when it is time in most cases.

It has been interesting to observe the late passages of life. My heart has been touched by the patience I have witnessed among elderly people, and yes, I have also witnessed impatience and misery at times when life becomes more difficult. For the most part, I have witnessed such bravery, determination, pride of the life they once lived and pride for the person they are and what they have to share with younger generations, setting the example of acceptance with grace. It has been my reward to have shared some time with quite a few. "They are precious in His sight", and in my sight, too.

Spiritual: Recently, in the loss of my mother, and the loss of my father in 2005, I was blessed to be able to communicate with them almost to the end. In the loss of each, I have had the experience of feeling very spiritually connected either with their souls or God speaking to me through symbolic occurrences that seemed very real to me. The day my father passed away on March 28, I opened the door to a beautiful sunny day and heard what must have been the first bird of spring whistling as loud as it possibly could (rejoicing) ~ coincidentally, my father was a champion when it came to whistling! I couldn't help but connect to my father's spirit and knew he was rejoicing! When my mother died January 15, the next day I was sitting at a traffic light on my way to meet with Dr. Wooster about her service. I looked up noticing two birds flying in exact unison, zigzagging through the sky in identical motion, and sailing off together almost as if their wings were connected as their changing directions were so exactly the same. I could not help but again feel connected to my Mom and to my Dad and how it seemed to be so symbolic that they were together again, and I knew they were rejoicing. Even in the midst of loss and tears, there has been joy believing in God's promise of everlasting life.

H.I.S. has given me more awareness that God has guided me and worked through me.

I never knew I had the courage or the proper words to pray with a shut-in, but I have felt moved to do so and the words just flowed. Also, I have noticed when I am putting my effort toward some form of God's work, it seems that joy is so genuine and it often seems to go smoothly as if God is right there making it happen.

Perhaps you are being lead to become involved in one of the caring ministries of this congregation. Maybe you are somewhat like me ~ God is still working on me and I am surely still a work-in-progress. Even considering that, the need is there and God will lead.

Within the **Spiritual/Pastoral Care Ministry** there are many directions that may be of interest to you: **Elder's Fellowship Ministry, Hearts In Service, Life's Journey Ministry, Prayer Chain, Stephen Ministry, Warrior's Journey Home, and Yarning for Peace**, as well as other community ministries that our members are involved with such as **Family Promise, Good Neighbors**, and mission trips to mention a few. Surely any one of these ministries is truly needed work and would bring rewards to one's spirit as well.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

High School Youth

Mission Fundraiser

On Saturday, May 3, high school students are needed to serve at the Starlight Diner fundraising event for the youth mission tour, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Whether you can go on the trip or not, this is a great way to support the ministry of this church and reach out to people in need. In keeping with the 1950's theme, students should wear jeans and a white shirt (even a nice T-shirt). Serving aprons and carhop hats will be provided to complete the look.

Confirmation Sunday May 4

Confirmation students and parents will rehearse in the sanctuary at 9:15. Following worship, a reception will be held.

Mission Tour Meeting

May 11, 9:15 a.m.

High School Graduates

A Senior Dessert on Thursday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m. will honor high school graduates. Families of graduates and the high school youth group are invited to attend. RSVP to the church office by May 4. Graduates will also be celebrated by the congregation in worship on May 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Who is interested in Summer Camp?

United Church of Christ has so many opportunities for your child this summer to experience summer camp. You may see those opportunities on <http://www.journeythehills.org/>. If you sign up early, there is a discounted fee PLUS, we have summer camp scholarships. Please check out the website and find a camp you would like to attend. Then talk with Wendy Brown about a scholarship to help with the cost of camp. If you attend any other church camp and would like to inquire about a scholarship, you can do that as well.

Vacation Bible School

June 22- 26 from 6-8 PM

Under Construction is our theme for VBS this year...All children 4 years old through 5th grade (as of April 2014) come join the VBS activities at First Congregational Church while we enter the Construction Zone. We will learn to serve others with a thankful heart and build on our own relationships with God. Construction Zones are full of activity, hope you will join us!

VBS Helper Meeting May 18 at 11:00 PM

Any youth that have graduated 6th grade through 12th grade, I encourage you to help with VBS. We have two youth "construction guides" per group so we need 8 youth each night to help us. Please mark May 18th on your calendar so you can attend our meeting and discuss the theme, assign you to an age group, and you can also let me know what evenings you will be there (any evening you can help would awesome!)



The Vacation Bible School theme this year is ***Under Construction***. The children will be making a birdhouse as their craft during the week as they learn about Serving Others with a Thankful Heart. The birdhouses cost \$5 each, and we are hoping you can help with the cost. There is a bird house on the Welcome Center. Please help STUFF the BIRDHOUSE. We appreciate your support!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Treehouse Preschool Openings

There are only 5 spots open for the fall of 2014. If you have a preschooler or know someone looking for a preschool, come quick as we don't have many openings left. You can talk with Wendy Brown or call the preschool office, 330-630-0704.

Confirmation Boston Tour - Scarves for Boston Marathon Runners

Confirmation students recently traveled to Boston and Plymouth, Massachusetts to visit the historic sites of the Congregational church. On Palm Sunday, they worshiped at Old South Church on Copley Square, as each group has since 2008. Old South Church sits at the finish line to the Boston Marathon. Each year, the church includes a special blessing of the athletes during worship on the day before the race. Last year, after the finish line was bombed, Old South Church took the lead in the community's spiritual journey. A year later, wanting to find a new way to express support and prayers for all those who are ready to run in the marathon, the church began a marathon scarf project, to give knit scarves to runners in the days before the marathon as a tangible symbol of the community's spiritual support. When news got out, thousands of scarves came pouring in from around the country.

On Palm Sunday, members of the confirmation class presented thirty-nine scarves made by members of our Yarning For Peace knitting group and from the knitting club at the Tallmadge library. They will be given to runners ahead of this year's marathon on April 21, the day after Easter. It is a visible reminder that God's Spirit holds us in community, even across great distances, and even if we are strangers.



Caring for “One Another”

The words “one another” or “each other” are used more than 50 times in the New Testament. What this tells us is that God did not create us to be independent. He created us to be interdependent. Here are ten ways to love one another:



1. Be devoted to one another (Rom. 12:10).
2. Give preference to one another (Rom. 12:10).
3. Be of the same mind toward one another (Rom. 12:16).
4. Accept one another by withholding judgment (Rom. 14:1).
5. Accept one another by showing deference (Rom. 14:1–5; 15:7).
6. Esteem [highly regard] one another in love (Rom. 14:5; Phil. 2:3).
7. Build up one another (Rom. 14:19; 1 Thes. 5:11).
8. Counsel one another (Rom. 15:14).
9. Serve one another by showing deference in matters of liberty (Gal. 5:13).
10. Bear one another’s sin burdens (Gal. 6:2).

In what ways can you, as an individual, follow through on these one another actions? You may consider becoming a Stephen Minister. Or you may decide that you should consider accepting a Stephen Minister. If so, you are encouraged to contact: Sharon Harms Letzler at (330) 699-9794 or Rev. Dr. John or Rev. Dr. Matt (330) 633-4931 for more information. Call Ron Mitchell at (330) 633-4055 if you want to consider helping hurting people through Stephen ministry.

We currently have 3 Stephen Ministers in caring relationships. One woman Stephen Minister is available to support you (in the Stephen Ministry program men support men and women support women).

Our Stephen Ministry spring retreat, scheduled for April 30th at 6:30 pm, is open to anyone in the congregation. We will be discussing listening and issues related to caring for someone who is terminally ill as we view the video *Grace and Glorie*. Please sign up at the Welcome Center, if you plan to attend.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Marian Belisle
Carol Carter
Lillian Cochran
Miriam Everhart
Deanna Getowski
Corinne Gorby
Jim Kelly
Dolores Koneval
Bob & Eva Lowry
Jim Mally
Kari Mancuso
Connie Mason
Helen McKee
John Moats
Kathy Nehrenz (*George & Roberta’s daughter in law*)
Cecil Nelson (*Kathy Harris’s father*)

Jackie Parker
Doris Parson
Gary Rambler
Betty Schoffman
Janet Scoville
Michael Sullivan
Janet Terrell
Ruth Velka (*Stephanie Joyner’s Grandmother*)
Betty Vestal
Tom Walters
Rita Wray
Olive Yohey
Washington Mud Slide victims and families
1st Battalion 145th Armored Regiment [Ohio Nat’l Guard]
Rebuilding Together April 12th and 26th
Confirmation class trip to Boston April 11th – 14th
Family Promise volunteer training April 24th



The power of prayer is needed today in all our lives. We have an active **Prayer Chain** at First Congregational . If you have a concern for health or strength and need help from our Prayer Chain please call: Dorothy Taylor at 330.633.3008 or Karen Sauerbrey at 330.920.1285

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



Rebuilding Together Rebuild Day

Rebuilding Together Adult Mission

Please check out this website to read about the homeowner we will be serving and the repair jobs to be done. <http://rebuildingtogether.org/donorpages.com/RebuildingDay2014/FirstCongregationalChurchTallmadge/> We hope you will consider making a donation toward the \$2500 we must pay for this mission. You can donate directly through the website or make a check out to the church marked Rebuilding Together on the memo line. There are 40+ volunteers giving of their time and skills to accomplish the work of making this home safer and more secure. On Rebuild Day, April 26, we will be posting photos of the team at work. Spread the word and encourage your friends to visit this website to read about our team and other local teams that will be working on Rebuild Day.

News from Family Promise

April 24th is the date of our training here at our church at 6:00 p.m. Would love to see all of our volunteers attend. It will be in the David Bacon room and last about an hour. We will have refreshments.

Thanks so much to everyone who donated to our walk which was called "Get Back on your Feet". We raised \$185.00. At the walk the total money that was raised was \$8100.00 with more to come in, hopefully. It was such a beautiful sunny day for Vivian/Jim McNenny, Cherie Wade, Mindy Hill, Janet McCauley, and Jim/Betty Cottrill to walk the mile around our new place on Voris Street. Thanks again.

The 8th Annual Gold Outing will be held Friday, June 27th at Raintree Country Club in Green. Get your foursome together or join us or we can pair you up with some fellow golfers. The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company has donated a Blimp Ride for Two (2) to be auctioned off at the outing. Come and join us.

Sometimes when families come to Family Promise they have pets, and no place to put them. PetSmart has given us a grant to install dog kennels and cat condos in our new center. PetSmart released a National Press Release on Monday, April 7, and Family Promise is in the release announcing us as one of five Family Promises affiliates nationally receiving the grant. For five days they featured the five awardees on their global Face Book page. The five centers were in the following cities: Akron, Ohio, Cincinnati, Ohio, Montgomery, Ala., Morristown, N. J. and Wasilla, Alaska. We are very fortunate to receive this grant. Go to Facebook.com/petsmartpromise and take a look; the release might still be on there.



CLASSES & SUPPORT GROUPS

The Bible and the News Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Last spring meeting will be May 21. Each week, we discuss a different text from the Bible, and how it connects to the news of our lives or news in the world. Since each week's discussion stands on its own, you are most welcome to join at any time. You won't be lost or trying to catch up. Each Wednesday is a new discovery. Led by Rev. Matt in the David Bacon room.

All God's Children – May 6, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

A supportive group for families and friendships with people who are gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual (GLBT) within our congregation, facilitated by Rev. Matt. We meet in the Heritage Room every month on the 1st Tuesday.

"Exploring Our Faith Through Song and Poetry"

Have you ever been inspired by a song, finding your heart touched and your soul uplifted? Has a verse of poetry ever given words to what you feel or believe?

Please join us for a 6 week journey of exploration into song and poetry and how they touch us and help us grow. Participants will have the opportunity to share from their own experience.

We will meet on Sundays, at 9 am in the Library **beginning April 27.**

This class will be facilitated by Norma Bryant.



alzheimer's association®

Caregiver Support Group

Tuesday, April 29, at 11:00 A.M.

"The Alzheimer's Association's Caregiver Support Groups are designed to provide emotional, educational and social support for caregivers through regularly scheduled meetings. They help participants develop methods and skills to solve problems. The groups encourage caregivers to maintain their own personal, physical and emotional health, as well as optimally care for the person with dementia."

Support group beginning at the First Congregational Church on April 29th.

The group will meet the last Tuesday of every month at 11:00 a.m..

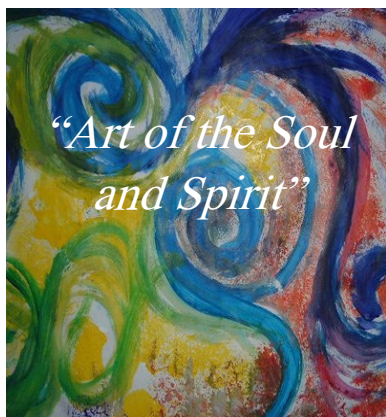
WELCOME ALL CHURCH ARTISTS

(Ages 65 and older)

In preparing for our "Art of the Soul and Spirit" show in May, we need to know how many artists are interested in displaying their works- ceramics, jewelry, wood working, painting, etc.

If you are interested if you would like more information please call Roberta Lewis @ 330-633-5498 or John Huffman @ 330-633-9628.

Please register at the table in the Atrium



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

A Day In The Park for all church leaders on Tuesday evening, May 27th from 5:30 – 8:00 at Shady Hollow Lodge in Akron Metro Park off Sand Run Parkway. This is for all Board of Ministry Chairs, group leaders and Executive Council officers. Please hold the date! More detailed information in the May Herald.

It's that time again...

Board secretaries, Committee chairs, Moderator, Church Clerk, Pastoral staff, Finance, etc. – The “Annual Reports” of the past fiscal year’s activities (June 2013 – May 2014) are due in the office by Sunday, May 18, 2014. Following the May 13th Board meetings, please review your activities and submit a typed report (keep to one page if possible). You may email as an attachment to tallmadgefcc@sbcglobal.net or drop off in my mail box in the copy room.

Thank you for your year of dedication to your church, Nancy Beken

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS:

Beginning June 1, 2014 we will start our new summer worship time. There will be **one Worship service each Sunday at 9:30 AM**. This schedule will last through the Sunday of Labor day weekend, **August 31, 2014**.

WANTED: Piano for Spirit Singers

The Spirit Singers need a small studio or spinet piano for their rehearsals. We’d like a piano in good condition and one that has been tuned on a regular basis. If you know of one, Please contact Nancy Lynn Robinson, 330-784-7463.



YARNING FOR PEACE

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 12 at 7:00 PM in the David Bacon room. Anyone is welcome to join us for needlework and conversation.

Congregators will meet Tuesday, May 6, 12:00 noon at Farmer Boys on East Cuyahoga Falls Ave. If you have any questions , please call Julie Long at 330-926-0527.

Don't forget to **recycle** your old cell phones, iPods and PDA's. The box is in the Atrium Coatroom.



Scholarship Applications

Applications for the Congregation's Scholarship Program are now available in the church atrium. Church members of all ages are invited to apply for scholarships toward all forms of higher education. **Applications must be submitted by April 27 at 11:00 AM**. They will be evaluated on a wide range of criteria, including involvement in the church and wider community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



“ONE FOR THE MONEY, TWO FOR THE SHOW, THREE TO GET READY, AND FOUR TO GO” TO THE STARLIGHT DINER!

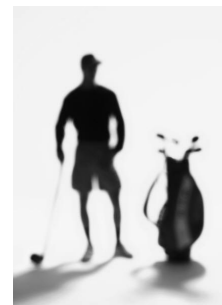
MAY 3, 2014

Come join us for an evening of fun as we travel back to the “Fabulous Fifties” at the Starlight Diner. The Fellowship Hall will be magically transformed to represent this wonderful era from our past. You will be supporting both the adult and the youth missions tours, enjoying music and entertainment from the 50s, playing 50s trivia, and dining on delicious food, all in the same evening! Elvis might even show up to add to the fun. Dress will be casual so feel free to get out your poodle skirts and saddle shoes, your jeans and your t-shirts, if you would like to dress the part. You will have a choice of three entrees when you make your reservation on April 27, OR simply fill out the form inserted in this month’s Herald and return it to the church office. Tickets are only \$30.00 per person for a memorable evening and a great cause. Babysitting will be provided. Make plans NOW to attend. This is something you will not want to miss!
(The Board of Social Action and Missions Ministry)

2014 Golf League - New Season – New Time – New Locations

The golf season will begin Monday, May 5th and we will play through Sept. 29th. We will be playing a different course each week. You will only pay for the weeks you play. No advance payments as in the past. Tee times may vary but the goal is early afternoon. (1-3pm.) In order to have enough tee times I need to know who is interested in playing. You are not making a commitment for the entire year. Locations and times will be available when finalized.

Contact me via email tletzler@neo.rr.com or 330-697-8884
Tom Letzler, Golf League Secretary



Boy Scout Rummage Sale

May 30-31

Boy Scout Troop 361 will be hosting a rummage sale here at the church on May 30-31. The money raised will help purchase camping supplies for the troop as it has tripled in size in the past 3 years. They need more tents, patrol boxes to carry camping supplies, rope and lanterns. We can only collect items from May 27- 29 so if you have “treasures” that are looking for a new home, we would greatly appreciate you donating them to our sale that week.

Play Ball!!!

Our church coed softball league seems to be taking shape. We will be playing other church teams from Tallmadge and games will be played at 6:15 p.m. on Thursdays at Lion’s Park. This is a co-ed league so there has to be at least a minimum of 5 women on the field every inning, and the batting line up alternates men and women. If you want to be on the team please register in the atrium at the table for softball sign up.

The league will be managed by the Tallmadge Recreational Department, Mr. Randy Keen.



STEWARDSHIP

Hello, my name is Mike Carter and I am the chairman for the Board of Stewardship. This past winter has been one of the coldest with record snowfall in recent history, which seemed to occur on Saturday evening and/or Sunday morning. The meteorologists called this "Polar Vortex" that just kept circulating! Understandably the weather affects weather and the weather affects church attendance and church attendance affects the offerings. When we give to the church we are investing in the ministries we value and care about. As the board chair I was considering several fund raising events to increase revenue for operating expenses when a couple of long term members said, "Mike, all you have to do is ask." Well, being grateful for that sage advice, I am asking that we get caught up. At the end of last year, December 31, we were about even with income to expenses. Then the polar vortex happened with January, February and March being hard winter months and gifts received dropped off. At this point, fiscal year to date, we are \$44k off our budget; or about \$15k a month, or \$3.6k a week. I am inviting you to consider the auto deduction if you are not already in that program. Last year through promoting the program our church went from \$3,000.00 a month to \$9,000.00 a month. As we enter our pledge campaign for this year please consider signing up for the auto deduct program. So, I am officially "asking" for your help in reversing the polar vortex by investing in the ministry of our church. Polar Vortex envelopes will be available through this month's Herald and available in the pews. We are hoping to "catch up" as we start our 2014 – 2015 campaign on April 27. Thank you for your time and consideration. May God bless you and your family.

Mike Carter, Chair of the Stewardship Board of Ministry

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOKMARKS



Hello Everyone,

Wishing everyone a lovely spring even if it doesn't get here until June. At least we're having some days with sunshine.



This month I want to tell you about a series of novels that have been around for a long time. They are by Jan Karon. If you have never read any of her books you're missing some delightful reading. They take place in a fictional town of Mitford. Middle aged bachelor, Father Timothy Kavanagh is Rector of the Episcopalian Parish of Mitford. A large black uncontrollable dog "adopts" him. He discovers, by chance, the dog can be settled down when Father Tim quotes scripture. He calls him "Barnabas."

Then a new neighbor moves in next door to Father Tim, with her cats. Father Tim and Cynthia become good friends, over the hedge, then.....well, you read and see what's next. The first five (5) books are on the shelf and there are four (4) more on shelf by the clock. I strongly suggest you read these novels in order. I promise you will enjoy them and all the residents in Mitford.

Have a nice Easter with your families and friends. Until next month..

God Bless

Jo Hostutler



We are looking forward to the May groups work. AARP is on Friday, May 23rd.
We are asking for donations of food, your time and help in the kitchen OR money contributions.

Please contact a Co– Chair: Marlene Kares 330-633-1295

Betty Cottrill 330– 923-8517

Jo Berry 330-633-8905

Brenda Bagnoli

Marian Belisle

Pam Birch

Linda Bors

Margarete Boschert-Birdsall

Kim Doan

Elaine Engle

Amy Floran

Vicki Hettinger

Janet Highsmith

Mallory Hawley

Sherri Hawley

Jennifer Hostutler

Jo Hostutler

Suzanne Kiewit

Joyce King

Teri Lucas

Audrey Peterson

Judy Peverall

Terri Poff

Sandy Ray

Mary Ann Roebuck

Jean Showalter

Ermon Thrasher

Paula Victor

Marie Walters

Judy Woerz

Pat Woodling

The Quilters have a beautiful “Antique Quilt” to sell. Tickets are on sale with a suggested donation of \$1.00 each. They will be sold through April 27. The winning ticket will be drawn on May 4th. Women’s Fellowship paid for a \$1,000 repair on the dishwasher and bought a new refrigerator for the Atrium kitchen for \$700. We need this sale to help replenish our funds. A big thank you for supporting Women’s Fellowship!

SPRING SPECTACULAR

WNI will be presenting our annual tablescapes and potluck supper on Monday, May 5, 2014 at 6:30 pm in the Atrium. Anyone who wishes to may create a table theme. A sign-up sheet will be available before and after church on Sundays, April 20th, 27th and May 4th.

Please bring a dish to share that will serve 8-10 people. (No serving utensils– the church provides these)

Last names beginning with :

A to J– Main dish

K to R– Salad

S to Z– Dessert.

Our featured speaker is Jan Householder, founder of “The Giving Doll Ministry”, and her topic is “The Giving Doll”

Program Chairs for this spring spectacular are Elise Bennett, Carol Penn, and Marie Zimmer.

Please come, bring friends and enjoy this lovely spring event!

Dear Church Family;

First, I wish to thank everyone who kept Jonnie in their prayers during his illness. I often told him how this congregation had been praying for him he just smiled and said he felt them.



Second, thank you for the sympathy cards and the kind words said following the loss of Jonnie, what a comfort those words were to Jon and I. From the flowers given by the church, to the lovely memorial service officiated by Dr. John and Dr. Matt, to those who donated food, those who helped in the kitchen, and the awesome ladies serving the luncheon, THANK YOU, Jon and I felt so much love. Everyone in this congregation is a blessing from God.

***Take care and much love ,
Karen and Jon Sauerbrey***

REMINDER: If you have not completed a columbarium survey, please pick one up at the Welcome Center, complete it and return it to the survey box under the columbarium display. ***We value your opinion and thank you for your thoughts.***

Men's Ministry Questionnaire

In an effort to better understand how the Men's Ministry can serve and interest you, we'd like to ask you to rate your interest from 1-5 each of the following areas and topics:

(5: Very interested 4:Interested 3: Average 2: Not so Interested 1: Not Interested at all)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Group Discussion Topics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outside Speakers | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Book Discussions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner or Lunch Events at Church | <input type="checkbox"/> One-day or 1/2 day retreats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner or Lunch Event Outside of Church | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Within Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meetings Outside at Member's Houses | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Outside Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please list) _____ | |

Any other comments, questions?

Please place in the weekly offering, or hand into the Church Office...Thank you for your feedback!

UPCOMING SUNDAYS/SERVICES

Greeters



Preaching Schedule:



April 20 Dr. John Schluep
April 27 Dr. John Schluep
May 4 Dr. Matt Wooster
May 11 Dr. John Schluep
May 18 Dr. John Schluep

April 20 Mark & Lesley Bowers, Jim & Judy Salmond

April 27 John & Wanda Strott, Suzanne Creswell, Karen Jones

May 4 Jim & Carolyn Mackey, JoAnn & Carl Wyler

May 11 Jim & Kendall Taylor, Kim & Gary Fulton

May 18 Jack & Shirley Gron, Monna Arch, Suzanne Creswell

Altar Flowers



April 20 Easter Flowers
April 27 Margaret Bumpas, Lisa Penrod
May 4 Kathy Buser
May 11 Carolyn Villers
May 18 Judy Peverall

April 20 Gary Myers, Larry Robinson, Bob Davis, Christie Speicher, Gary & Kim Fulton

April 27 Mark & Leslie Bowers, George & Patsy Lowe

May 4 Jon & Mindy Hill, Pam Birch, Shelley Williams

May 11 Larry & Bea Clarke, Mark & Cathleen Clark

May 18 Jim & Dee West, John & Wanda Strott



Church Attendance

March 16

8:30 Worship 42
 10:00 Worship 286

March 23

8:30 Worship 46
 10:00 Worship 244

March 30

8:30 Worship 32
 10:30 Worship 212

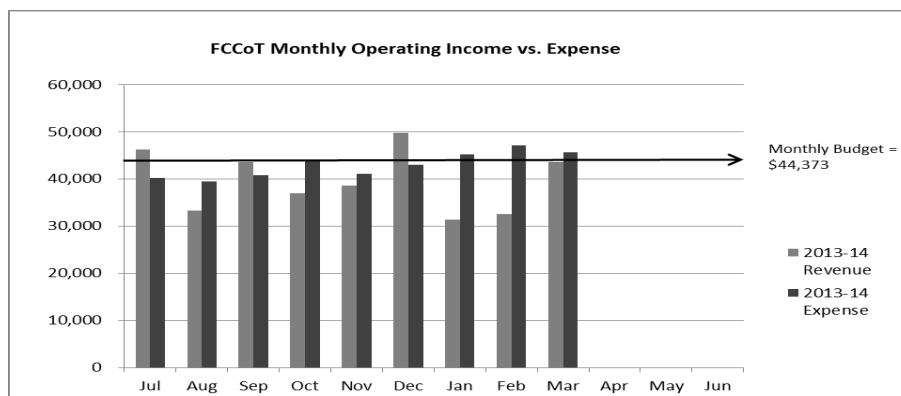
April 6

8:30 Worship 38
 10:00 Worship 278

April 13

8:30 Worship 62
 10:00 Worship 282

General Operating Fund Note: During March, 2014, receipts of \$43,537 were \$836 **below** the monthly budget. Actual expenses for March were \$45,656 leaving a **deficit** for the month of (\$2,188) and a year-to-date **deficit** of (\$30,863). Signing up for electronic transfers remains an easy way to meet your monthly pledge goals, especially during the winter months when we need a little extra support to meet seasonally higher expenses. Faith Offerings can also be mailed to the Church Office. Please continue to support the SCRIP Program for both your day-to-day and big ticket purchases.



April/May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
20 EASTER 7:00 Sunrise 8:30 Worship 10 am Worship	21 Church Office Closed 7 pm Heritage	22 7am Bagnoli Bible Study	23 9 am Quilters 9:30 The Bible & the News 7writers circle	24 9:30 WF Brd. 2 pm Golden Tones 6:00 Family Promise 6:30 Chancel choir 8 Chancel Ringers	25 12 Noon AARP	26 Rebuilding Together
27 8:30 worship 10:00 am Worship 11:15 SPCM 6 pm WJHM	28 7 pm Heritage	29 7am Bagnoli Bible Study 11:00 Alzheimer's Caregiver's support group	30 9 am Quilters 9:30 The Bible & the News 6 pm Stephen Ministry 7 writers circle	1 2– Golden Tones 6:30 Chancel choir 8 Chancel Ringers	2	3 Starlight Diner
4 8:10 Prayer Chain Communion Confirmation 8:30 Worship 10 am Worship	5 6:30 WNI Program 7 pm Heritage	6 Election 7am Bagnoli Bible Study 12:00 Congregators 2:00 sr. advisory 7:30 All God's Children	7 9 am Quilters 9:30 The Bible & the News 7 Writers circle	8 2 -Golden tones 6:30 Chancel choir 8 Chancel Ringers	9	10
11 Mother's Day 8:30 Worship 10 am Worship 6 pm WJHM	12 7: Heritage 7 Yarning for Peace	13 7am Bagnoli Bible Study 7 board mtgs 8:15 Exec. council	14 9 am Quilters 9:30 The Bible & the News 6 pm Stephen Ministry	15 2– Golden Tones 6:30 Chancel Choir 7 Senior Dessert 8 Chancel Ringers	16 Deadline for Herald	17
18 8:30 Worship 10:00 Worship 11:15 VBS meeting for helpers— D.Bacon	19	20 7am Bagnoli Bible Study 6:30 Card making stamping	21 9 am Quilters 9:30 The Bible & The News Herald	22 2– Golden Tones 6:30 Chancel choir 8 Chancel Ringers	23 12 AARP	24

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DATE: April 16, 2014

Spiritual/ Pastoral Care Ministry Contacts

Pastoral staff	Rev. Dr. John Schluep <i>Senior Pastor & Warrior's Journey Home Ministry</i>	330.633.4931	jschluepfcc@sbcglobal.net
	Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster <i>Associate Pastor</i>	330.633.4931	mcwooster@yahoo.com
Heart's in Service	Barbara Rowles	330.733.2008	34babs@sbcglobal.net
Life's Journey Ministry	Leslie Taylor	330.687.0881	ltaylor@services4aging.org
Prayer Chain	Dorothy Taylor	330.633.3008	
Stephen Ministry	Ron Mitchell	330.633.4055	Mitchell_rd@hotmail.com
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	Sharon Letzler	330.699.9794	
Yarning for Peace	Dee West	330.633.4421	dwest890@aol.com

Staff E-Mail Addresses

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Wendy Brown	Director of Christian Education	wbrownfcc@sbcglobal.net
Nancy Lynn Robinson	Director of Music / Organist	nrbgp@aol.com
Denise Daniels	Chancel Ringers	Jackpsych@aol.com
Bill Hoover	Finance Administrator	bhooverfcc@sbcglobal.net
Steve Ristich	Head Custodian (Mon-Fri, Day Shift)	
Teresa Snyder	Assistant Custodian (Mo,Tu,We & Th)	
Mark Bell	Assistant Custodian	