

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
582 Church Street
Amherst, Ohio 44001

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 AM
Wednesday Breeze Chapel: 7:00 PM
Office Hours: Monday-Friday:
8:30 AM-12:30 PM and 1:00-2:30 PM

No one has greater love than this, than to lay down one's life for one's friends.

HE HIMSELF BORE OUR SINS

MARCH 2024

THE KEY



"And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the **KEYS** of the Kingdom of Heaven."

— MATTHEW 16:18-19

ST. PETER'S U.C.C.
582 CHURCH STREET
AMHERST, OH 44001





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FROM GRIEF TO CELEBRATION

During Holy Week, the congregation follows the footsteps of Jesus from his entry into Jerusalem (Palm/Passion Sunday) through the Last Supper (Maundy Thursday) to his death on the Cross (Good Friday). Red, the color of blood and therefore of martyrs, is the traditional color for Palm/Passion Sunday and the next three days of Holy Week. On Maundy Thursday, White or Gold symbolizes the church's rejoicing in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. **But at the end of the Maundy Thursday celebration, the mood changes abruptly:** all decorations are removed and the Holy Table is stripped bare. The church becomes as empty as a tomb. On Good Friday,

either Black or Red is customary—although the use of no color at all is also appropriate. The Red of Holy Week is sometimes a deeper red than the brighter scarlet color associated with Pentecost.

Instead of finding a sealed tomb, the women who had come at dawn on Sunday are surprised by an angel who announces astonishing news: **"Jesus has been raised from the dead"** (Matt. 28:7). The heavenly messenger invites the mourners to see the empty tomb and then go and tell the disciples that the Crucified One is alive!

The season from Easter to Pentecost is also called the Great Fifty Days, a tradition inspired by the Jewish season of fifty days

between Passover and Shavuot—the feast celebrating the giving of the Torah to Moses. The liturgical color for this season is celebratory White or Gold. When the season ends on Pentecost Sunday, White is replaced with Red. This color reminds the congregation of fire—the symbol of the Holy Spirit. On Pentecost the Holy Spirit overpowered the barriers of culture and race. The first Sunday after Pentecost celebrates the Trinity, and the color again is White or Gold.

Mark Your Calendar:

Palm Sunday (Into Jerusalem) March 24, 2024

Maundy Thursday (Last Supper) March 28, 2024

Good Friday (Jesus death on a cross) March 29, 2024

Holy Saturday March 30, 2024

Easter (Jesus rose from the grave) March 31, 2024

Remember, you are loved!



Pulpit Supply Ministers

*Please give them a
warm welcome.*

Rev. Jim Cunningham

Jim is retired from full-time ministry having served for 23 years as a Board Certified Health Care Chaplain and 15 years as a Parish Pastor in the United Church of Christ. He was Director of Pastoral Care at Fairview Hospital in Cleveland for 10 years. Jim has a B.A. degree from Heidelberg University, Tiffin OH, an M.Div. degree from Lancaster theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA and completed a one year health care residency program at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL. In retirement, Jim is guest preaching, and hosts 2 monthly on-line chat rooms for retired clergy. Jim and his spouse, Charlie, live in Westlake, Ohio with two cats.

Rev. Monica Harmon

As a native Clevelander I am an Alumnus of Myers College, Ashland Theological Seminary, and having completed my Clinical Pastoral Education residency at the Cleveland Clinic those illustrious intuitions and experiences prepared me for the new Associate Minister of UpCAM, I look forward to serving you.

As a believer, I have been serving the Cleveland area for many years in a variety of roles. As an ordained American Baptist minister, I worked as a hospice chaplain for several years and as an Associate Minister at East View United Church of Christ.

Rev. Dr. Don Nichols

He will be leading us in worship Holy Week: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter.

Feb. 19
2024

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

ATTENDEES:

"When a leader in the Church inspires council members with vision, he helps them focus on their real mission so that they are ministering to people rather than merely administering programs." — M. Russell Ballard

Note: This is a summary of the Council Meeting. The official approved minutes are on file and available for viewing in the Church Office.

President: Christine Burman	Congregational Rep: Susan Conkle
Vice President: Judy McCurdy	Congregational Rep: Stacy Gleason
Past President: Mary-K Kirsch	Congregational Rep: Kaye Koler
Secretary: Tom Hollstein	Congregational Rep: Don Ramsey
Treasurer: Karel Schieferstein	Congregational Rep: Joan Whitman
Trustee Rep: Geoff Gatz	Visitor: Sally Readinger,



Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Christine Burman, and began with a prayer from Vice President Judy McCurdy.

Secretary's Report: (Tom Hollstein)

- No comments or questions concerning the January minutes.

MOTION MADE: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 15, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING, WITH NO CORRECTIONS NOTED. MOTION MADE BY GEOFF GATZ AND SECONDED BY STACY GLEASON. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Preschool Report:

- Enrollment is going well. Both morning classes are full, and about 1/3 full in the afternoon classes.
- We held a Suzin L candy fundraiser for Easter with orders to be turned in last Thursday.
- We will be travelling to the Lorain County Metro Parks for a maple sugaring field trip.
- Next Preschool Board meeting will be March 14th at 6:30 PM.

Treasurer's Report: (Karel Schieferstein)

- "Refunds" entry refers to payments made by the insurance company to the church.
- Accountant Michelle has a question about December which has delayed the January report. She will meet with Lauri Hubach to resolve the issue.

Financial Secretary's Report:

- Pass-Throughs to be approved.

MOTION MADE: TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE PASS-THROUGHS OF \$115 FOR OCWM AND \$50 FOR CIRCLE SIX. MOTION MADE BY STACY GLEASON AND SECONDED BY GEOFF GATZ. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Spiritual Life Report: (Judy McCurdy)

- Will examine membership list with Pam Miskov.
- Made several visitations.
- Will coordinate with Compassionate Care in near future.

Compassionate Care: (Joan Whitman)

- Nothing to report at present.

Altar Guild: (Lynn Hollstein)

- Thanks to all members for working well with visiting pastors.

Trustee Report: (Geoff Gatz)

- Kaminski Builders has finished the roofing work.
- Lakeland Glass has repaired three doors. They are a pleasure to work with.
- An unfortunate problem has occurred with salt getting tracked in. We have been unable to thoroughly clean it. The solution will be to strip and re wax the floors in the spring.
- We are gradually implementing the use of our own floor mats.
- We replaced the elevator lights with LEDs.
- Major Problem: Rotting wood paneling in Fellowship Hall. It will be investigated by Shinsky Builders. Making repairs and eliminating the cause will be a significant expense. We hope to have a solution for repair by the next council meeting.
- Trustees' financial situation: initial donation from anonymous donor was \$19,000; Circle Six donated \$2,000; insurance payments of \$2,730 and \$4,103; plus another anonymous donor has paid for the sanctuary lights. This totals almost \$29,000. This makes an excess of almost \$6,000. Question: should this excess be used for building maintenance, or should it be put into the General Fund? Consensus was to use it for maintenance.

Circle Six: (Sally Readinger)

- Next meeting is March 5 at 6 PM. At 7 PM, a presentation on the Great Amherst Train Wreck by Tom Jewell. The congregation is invited.

Tech Report: (Mary-K Kirsch)

- Each new pastor is different, requiring orientation for best broadcast results.
- Editing for Facebook is a challenge.

Website: (President Chris Burman)

- The new website looks very good. It is easy to maneuver and very informative.

Fill-In Ministers: (President Chris Burman)

- Kaye is working closely with them, advising on our order of service and practices.
- Christine previews each one before contacting.
- The ministers usually suggest music and hymns. Kaye makes sure they are appropriate for our style, i.e., not too progressive.
- It's getting difficult to find appropriate fill-in ministers, as they seem to be in high demand. Many churches are searching for ministers.
- We have the same minister scheduled for all of Lent and Easter, and one minister for all of April, trying to get some consistency.
- The Bell Choir will do a service in June.
- We will probably continue with fill-ins well into the fall season.

Financial Team: (Mary-K Kirsch)

- We have opened a Huntington Bank Visa card with 4% return on purchases.
- Opened a money market account with 5% interest.
- Might remove Financial Secretary, Becky Woods, from the checking account to prevent appearance of potential conflict of interest since she oversees the incoming funds.
- Geoff, Karel, and Mary-K are now on the Schwab accounts.
- Recommend that the Schwab account investments be changed from 30% equities/70% bonds (extremely conservative) to 60% equities/40% bonds (more aggressive). This should result in higher returns on our investment.

MOTION MADE: TO CHANGE OUR SCHWAB INVESTMENTS FROM 30% EQUITIES/70% BONDS, TO 60% EQUITIES/40% BONDS. MOTION MADE BY MARY-K KIRSCH AND SECONDED BY TOM HOLLSTEIN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- There are several "fund" categories in our budget that are no longer used or are exhausted. The Finance Committee recommends eliminating these "fund" categories in order to simplify our financial reports. This does not mean that actual money is being moved, since these funds are just sub-categories of the General Fund.
- The simple explanation is that the church's money is in one of these places: The endowed funds; the unendowed funds; and the checking account. One exception is the recent donation of \$50,000, which has been placed in a money market fund for emergency use only.
- The Finance Committee recommends that the following funds be eliminated: Board of Christian Ed, Children's Library, Fitness, which is already at zero, Regular Library, Memorial, Mission, Oberlin Music Students, which is at zero, Pastor's Fund, Stained Glass Window, which is at zero, and Wedding.

MOTION MADE: TO REMOVE THE RECOMMENDED LINE ITEMS (FUNDS) FROM THE FINANCIAL REPORT. MOTION MADE BY GEOFF GATZ, AND SECONDED BY DON RAMSEY. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- When the Finance Committee was created by motion at the September council meeting, the committee's authority was not clearly specified. To clarify, the Finance Committee shall oversee all out of ordinary expenditures, and exceptional income, such as grant money, donor gifts, etc., with the exception of the Trustees who have spending authority up to \$2,500.

MOTION MADE: THAT ALL OUT OF THE ORDINARY EXPENSES BE APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE BEFORE DISBURSEMENT. MOTION MADE BY MARY-K KIRSCH, AND SECONDED BY STACY GLEASON. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- The anonymous donor of the \$50,000 has pledged to match an additional \$50,000 in contributions from the congregation in a special gift matching program. This money would be used to rebuild the Walker Fund, aka the Future Fund which has been depleted over the past several years. After discussion it was agreed that this should involve a special presentation to the congregation, tentatively in April.
- Discussion about the direct deposit fees for church and preschool employees: \$6 per employee per month. How should this fee be covered, whether paid by church or by employee, or divided between both? After discussion it was agreed that the church will pay the full \$6 for its 3 employees, and will pay the additional \$2 for the 4 preschool employees who are being covered for \$4 each by the preschool.

MOTION MADE: THAT THE CHURCH WILL PAY THE DIRECT DEPOSIT FEE OF \$6 PER EMPLOYEE PER MONTH FOR THE 3 CHURCH EMPLOYEES, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, ORGANIST, AND JANITOR. THE CHURCH WILL ALSO PAY THE PRESCHOOL PARTIAL FEE OF \$2 PER EMPLOYEE PER MONTH FOR THE 4 PRESCHOOL EMPLOYEES, WITH THE PRESCHOOL PAYING THE INITIAL \$4 PER EMPLOYEE PER MONTH. MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY-K KIRSCH, AND SECONDED BY TOM HOLLSTEIN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- After discussion it was decided to extend the coffee hour into the summer months, not run by Circle Six, but hopefully by volunteers.
- The need for a church historian was voiced, and Linda Gatz volunteered to fill the position.
- Sue Conkle repeated the plans for the rummage sale to be held this summer. Items can be brought in beginning in June. An early presale may be offered.

MOTION MADE: MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY KAYE KOLER, AND SECONDED BY SUE CONKLE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting ended at 8:41 PM with a prayer by Judy McCurdy.

Respectfully submitted, February 21, 2024

Tom Hollstein, Council Secretary



MARCH SERMON SCRIPTURE READINGS

3/3 John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

3/10 John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

3/17 John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 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. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

3/24 Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

3/31 John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen

... continued on the bottom of page 7

Get to Know Your Preschool Staff



How well do you know our preschool staff? We thought we'd change up the "Get to Know Your Neighbor" article to, "Get to Know Your Preschool Staff". We hope this article will bring us closer together in knowing more about our teachers, as we serve God as one family.

Wendy Kosakowski
P r e s c h o o l D i r e c t o r



My name is Wendy Kosakowski. I have been the director/teacher of the preschool for 18 years and teaching for 31 years. I can't believe how time has flown by. I guess the saying is true. **"If you love what you do, you never work a day in your life."** It's been a joy and privilege working with all the children over the years and getting to know their families. I have seen many friendships forged in preschool that continue over the years. When I started my job at the preschool, I had to hire all new staff. I hired two aides and Ms. Nail as a teacher, and she is still working with the school to date. As the years progressed, we had enough students that wanted to come to our school that we added another classroom. **Now, we have 102 students enrolled in the preschool. I credit my wonderful staff for all their hard work and dedication to making our school great!**

COVID arrived in March of 2020. I remember getting the call that schools were to close at the end of the week. Over the next couple of months, we had to come up with creative ideas to keep the children engaged and learning with our private Facebook page. The following school year we were back at work wearing mask. My staff helped the children and parents feel comfortable and safe coming back to a school setting. We made the most of a stressful situation and turned it into a fun year.



The thing that I am most proud of is how the preschool gives back to the community. We held many mission projects over the years which include the Blessing House, Lorain County Dog Kennel, Food Pantry, Wild Hooves Animal Rescue, and sent items to soldiers overseas. Also, over the past few years we joined in with St. Peter's UCC in helping with the Samaritan's Purse, "Operation Christmas Child".

I have been married for 30 years and have three children and one granddaughter. When I am not teaching, I enjoy traveling, hiking, kayaking, reading, and being around friends and family. Oh, I forget to mentionMy three favorite months are June, July and August.

... continued from page 6. 3/31 John 20:1-18

wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw

Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.



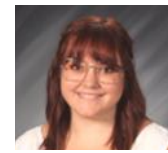
Wendy Kosakowski



Heather Nail



Kerri Kobylka



Ms. Stempowski

FEBRUARY

The best possible introduction for children to the world of learning.

This month, the children will work on the letters Zz, Ll, Rr, and the number 9. March is full of many activities for the preschool. We will be having an

Easter party where the children will decorate their own egg. Spring break starts **March 25 through April 1.** School resumes on April 2.

The Preschool is now enrolling for the 2024-2025 school year. For more information, call the preschool at 985-1972.

Wendy Kosakowski
Preschool Director

Suzin L Chocolates Fundraiser

The preschool will be selling Suzin L Chocolates for Easter. If you are interested, an order form will be in the church office. All orders are due by March 6. Please make out a check to St. Peter's UCC Preschool. The candy will be ready for pickup on March 19. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!



YOGA with Mary-K

Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM
Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM

Our Wednesday morning, and Thursday evening class will meet in the lower level of St. Peter's Church. Please arrive by 8:25 a.m. for the morning class, and by 5:55 p.m. for the evening class. Enter through the door by the Chapel.

"YOGA with Mary-K" is for anyone who needs lengthening, stretching and loosening as we target the fascia, connective tissue and joints to develop strength and restore flexibility. Bring your own mat, a water bottle and wear comfortable clothes.

Mary-K is a RN/BSN, with over 12 years of yoga teaching experience, and 30 years of personal practice. Cost is \$10 per class.



Start saving for our **SPRING RUMMAGE SALE!**

Fellow Church Members, as you Spring Clean your house, save your unwanted items for the Church Rummage Sale *and* tell your friends and family too!

Starting in June, items can be brought to the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar! The Rummage Sale will be:

Friday, July 19 from 5-8 PM

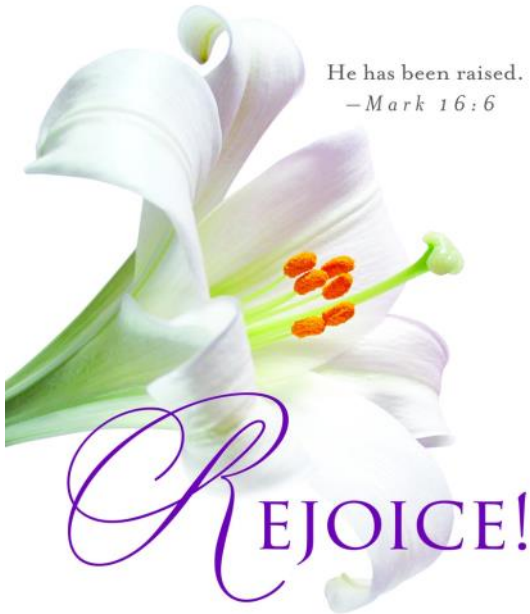
Saturday, July 20 from 9 AM-3 PM

No clothing or shoes please.

Questions? Please contact:
Sue Conkle (440) 537-1749 or
Kaye (440) 988-4965.

EASTER LILIES

GIVEN IN MEMORY & IN HONOR OF LOVED ONES



Order deadline for Easter Lilies is March 8.

You still have time to order your Easter Lily(s). If you did not get an order form in your bulletin, please contact the church office to place your order. Cost is \$8.00 per Lily. Kaye will be happy to fill out your order form in person or over the phone. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter's UCC. Thank you!

Remember, there are 3 options for picking up your lily(s). Please mark your order form accordingly. Thank you!

- I will pick up my lily(s) immediately after Easter Sunday Service.
- I will leave my lily(s) as a donation for Compassionate Care mission.
- I will contact the church office to pick up my lily(s) during office hours.



One Great HOUR OF SHARING

We will have special envelopes in the Sunday bulletin on March 10th to support this great cause that has reached a milestone of ...

75 years of sharing!

Jesus teaches that faith calls for action. Sharing our light, is the expression of God's love here on earth and leads to making blankets, staffing food pantries, cooking meals, building houses and schools, signing petitions for worthy causes, and protesting injustices. On any given day, light is shining because we are there through our gifts to OGHS.

Share the light. Give generously.

Circle Six Meeting Tuesday, March 5 at 6:00 PM



Circle Six's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5 at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Members are asked to bring a snack to share. The congregation is invited to attend our scheduled program which will begin around 7:00 PM. The program is on "The Great Amherst Train Wreck" presented by Tom Jewel on behalf of **The Amherst Historical Society**. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely, Sally Readinger, President



MARCH EVENTS

- Mar. 3 Communion Sunday
Rev. Monica Harmon
- Mar. 6 Circle Six Meeting, 6 PM
- Mar. 7 Compassionate Care, 10:30 AM
- Mar. 8 Order Lily Deadline**
- Mar. 10 Rev. Jim Cunningham
- Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mar. 20 St. Elizabeth Homeless meal, 4:30 PM
- Mar. 24 Palm Sunday, Rev. Dr. Nichols
- Mar. 28 Maundy Thursday Service, 7 PM
Rev. Dr. Nichols
- Mar. 29 Good Friday no service
- Mar. 31 EASTER, "He is Risen!", Rev. Nichols

Spiritual Life: 1-4 PM, Mondays

Choir Rehearsal: Sundays, 9 AM

Handbell Choir: Thursdays, 7 PM
(no bell practice Mar. 7 and Mar. 14)

Coffee Chats: Sandstone Coffee House
Wednesdays 9-11:00 AM

YOGA with Mary-K

St. Peter's lower level, Wednesdays, 8:30-9:45 AM and Thursdays, 6:00-7:15 PM



ST. ELIZABETH HOMELESS SHELTER

2726 Caroline Ave., Lorain

Every 3rd Wednesday of the month volunteers help feed the hungry. On Wednesday, **March 20**, we will need volunteer(s) to serve starting at **4:30 PM**, or you can bake cookies or cupcakes. If you want to help or have questions, please call Betty Pekare at **440-245-1231**.

"... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me" Matthew 25:35



BIRTHDAYS

"MAY HE GRANT YOU YOUR HEART'S DESIRE AND FULFILL ALL YOUR PLANS!"

PSALM 20:4

June Nau	March 01
Susan Cherry	March 03
Lloyd McGinnis	March 09
Audrey Huber	March 10
Heather Bring	March 12
Donald Ramsey	March 13
Earl Wiegand	March 13
Carol Faragher	March 14
Robert Bruce	March 22
Kelly Dupaski	March 24
Carol Murphy	March 25
Russ Cambarare	March 26
Douglas Haney	March 26
Karen Bruce	March 28
Audrey Montgomery	March 30



Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10th.
Set your clocks 1 hour ahead before going to bed Saturday.

The history behind St. Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early 17th century and is observed by the Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Lutheran Church. The day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, and, by extension, celebrates the heritage and culture of the Irish in general. On Saint Patrick's Day, it is customary to wear shamrocks, green clothing or green accessories. Saint Patrick is said to have used the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, to explain the Holy Trinity to the pagan Irish.



Join us! Compassionate Care Meeting, March 7 at 10:30 AM

Joan Whitman, Team Leader | 440-320-8923 | rwhitman1@oh.rr.com

We meet the 1st Thursday of the month in the Fireside Room at 10:30 AM. Joan Whitman is the Team Leader. If you have any questions regarding Compassionate Care, or would like to join our group please contact Joan.



Are you in need of Prayer? Call Joan Whitman, contact person for the Prayer Team 440-320-8923

Please call or email Joan or the office if you would like to be added or removed from **THE KEY** prayer list shown below. Also, if you want to keep your prayer *confidential*, we can add your name to the list for our Prayer Team.



Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Karin Andy
Judy Baker
Lois Barnes
Roger Becker
Family of
Fred Beiswenger
Richard Berry
Linda Brown
Shane & Todd Brown,
sons of Linda Brown

Family of Joyce Darakis
Tudy Diaz
Valentino Dziak
Don Flock
Bob Hennes, nephew
of Joan Whitman
Jim Koler
Denise Kropp,
Joan Whitman's niece
Jean Marsh

Bev Mischka
Glenn Miskov
Audrey Montgomery
Darlene Mudrich
Carol Murphy
June Nau & Family
Kaye Oswald & Family
Serita Reyes
Sharon
Janet Siron

Sue Smith
Sherry Spratt
Mary Ann Sterna
Jean Swift & Family
Elaine Thompson
Gloria Versace

Sharing is Caring

For the month of February, we collected **66** food items!

Your monthly commitment to support the Weekend Children's Backpack Program helps feed the children in our community. You can still donate 'regular food items' in addition to the Backpack Program, as many families are still in need.

Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church. We greatly appreciate your donations, along with Good Shepherd and those receiving food items. Thank you Pam for delivering each month.

Suggestions for the Weekend Children's Backpack Program:

Single Serving PB & Jelly	Peanut Butter Crackers	Small Bag Chips
Canned Soup (Pop top lids)	Individual Cereals	Small Bag Pretzels
Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)	Granola Bars	Fruit Cups
Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)	Oatmeal Packages	Jello Cups

THANK YOU *for* YOUR DONATIONS!



'TRULY I TELL YOU,
JUST AS YOU DID IT
TO ONE OF THE LEAST
OF THESE WHO ARE
MEMBERS OF MY FAMI-
LY, YOU DID IT TO ME.'

MATTHEW 25:40



ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

582 Church Street, Amherst, OH 44001

We are currently searching for a new pastor. If you need help, please contact Christine Burman, our Council President or me at the phone numbers or email below. Thank you.

Office Phone: (440) 988-4965
Office Hours: Monday-Friday
8:30 AM - 2:30 PM
12:30 - 1 PM lunch



Kaye Oswald
Office Administrator
(440) 988-4965
admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 AM | Sunday School: 10:00-11:00 AM

Please visit our website, www.stpetersamherst.org to make your donation electronically via Breeze or PayPal. Also, we now have the ability to accept donations by TEXT! If you would like more detailed information, please contact the church office.

Executive Council

Christine Burman, Council President	(440) 522-8035	president@stpetersamherst.org
Judy McCurdy, Council Vice President	(419) 366-2828	judymccurdy4@gmail.com
Tom Hollstein, Council Secretary	(440) 988-8066	tomholls06@gmail.com
Karel Schieferstein, Treasurer	(440) 988-2459	treasurer@stpetersamherst.org
Mary-K Kirsch, Past President Moderator	(216) 559-6160	marykkirsch@gmail.com

St. Peter's Preschool

Wendy Kosakowski, Administrator & Teacher	(440) 985-1972	preschl@stpetersamherst.org
Heather Nail, Teacher & Asst. Administrator		
Kerri Kobyłka, Teacher		
Taylor Stempowski, Teacher's Aide		

St. Peter's Website and Social Media Addresses

Website: www.stpetersamherst.org	Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/StPetersUCCOH
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpetersuccamherstoh	YouTube Channel: St Peters UCC Amherst



At St. Peter's we work together in love to build strong foundations for our lives in Christ. This firm foundation allows us to put **"Arms and Legs on Christ's love in the world."** We believe that God is calling you to be embraced by God's radical love and to be a part of this foundation of faith.

Please remember St. Peter's UCC in your estate planning. Thank you!