

March At a Glance

Monday 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Lifetree Café
Bible Study

Committee Meetings
03-09-17 @ 10:00 a.m. Ministry and
Worship
03-13-17 @ 7:00 p.m. Christian
Education
03-16-17@ 7:00 p.m. VBS Meeting

**March Events to Mark on
your calendar now**
*March 1 Ash Wednesday-
Service at 7:00 p.m.*

*March 8 Lenten
Bible/Book Studies
Begin*

*Times
Noon and 6:00 p.m.
every Wednesday
through Lent. Carry in
Lunch and Soup
Suppers.*

**If you would like to
purchase the book for
Bible study please contact
Pastor Donna. 335-2028*

Fellowship Groups
10:00am Thursday
Twisted Stitchers

(join the Stitchers for crafts and
conversation)

6:00 p.m. Thursday
Choir

(Got a song in your heart. Come and sing.
Perfection not a requirement!)

SINGLES MEET ON 03-27-17
For lunch, fellowship and a friendly game of
Mexican Train

 Pastor's Page 



Blessings,

March has just begun and with it the first day of Lent. In the church, Lent is usually a time of reflection, prayer, and repentance. This year we will be looking at Lent through a slightly different lens. In our Lenten book study, we will be reading "He Chose The Nails," by Max Lucado. This story explores what God did to win our hearts. Therefore, we will be exploring not only the strength and depth of God's love for us, but our own capacity for love and how we can work to increase our capacity for love.

In addition to our book study, Partners in Hope continues to share our building with us on Tuesday evenings from 5:30 to 8. They have graciously invited us to join their Pilates class at 6, free of cost, and then to join them for dinner at 7, also free of cost. Please stop by some night and check it out.

Worship during the Lenten season should prove to be very exciting. We have several new things planned including a children's skit on April 2; lyrical dancing by some of our youth during church service; and new music as well as your old favorites. On Maundy Thursday we will have a dramatic production as well as the stripping of the altar. Please see me or any member of the Ministry and Worship Committee if you are interested in a role in this drama. On Easter Sunday, we will have our traditional Easter brunch. During service on Easter Sunday, we will flower the cross with fresh cut flowers.

The Lenten season should prove to be a wonderful time for prayer and renewal. The weather is getting warmer, spring is nearly upon us, and the Lord's blessings are surrounding us. The flowers are beginning to emerge, and the birds are returning to nest. It is a time to reflect on our blessings and give thanks for all the wonderful things God has done, and continues to do, in our lives.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Donna

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Council approved getting an automatic software backup capability for \$29.00/year and providing our secretary/bookkeeper one day Word training at UVCC for \$115.

Economic Justice committee continues to plan discussion groups at our church.

During March, Membership/Outreach will be collecting underwear and socks for the Well Child Clinic.

We will have Ash Wednesday/service on March [†] and also a Maundy Thursday service. There will be a skit during one Lenten Sunday service.

A grant request has been submitted to the Troy Foundation for updates to the electric system and upstairs bath for the Parish House.

Council agreed to try some fund raisers this year.

Stewardship, Finance & Mission

Attendance	FEBRUARY 2016	Avg. 42
Income:		Attendance
Feb. 5	\$ 2,596.00	36
Feb. 12	\$ 1,779.00	40
Feb. 19	\$ 1,185.00	47
Feb. 26	\$ 1,237.00	45

Council President

As I'm sure you remember, when we prioritized our ideas in January, Stewardship rose to the top of the list. Stewardship can be interpreted in a variety of ways, especially in a church. According to the dictionary, stewardship refers to *the conducting, supervising, or managing of something, especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.* Many times church members take this to mean "We have to increase our giving." And the unspoken second part of that thinking is "But we can't give any more."

Going back to the dictionary, let's look at *the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.* Many many people have worshiped at St. John's, and now St. John's has been entrusted to our care. It is our responsibility to take care of the building and to take care of each other. We are currently in the process of refurbishing our building. And we are currently in the process of refurbishing our ministries and missions. The bottom line is that these efforts come with a price tag.

And so we return to that money issue. Because all of us are giving as much as we can, Council has begun to look for other sources of funding for the care of St. John's. We are currently investigating some new fundraisers: a painting party, a craft show, and assisting with upcoming community events. Rather than ask you to donate more money to the church, we will be asking you to donate time and effort to these fundraisers.

As that Sunday School song goes, "I am the Church, you are the Church, we are the Church together."

Ginny Beamish
Council President

Membership Outreach

During the month of March Membership and Outreach is asking for donations of undies and socks for newborn to 14 years of age. These items are collected for the Well Child Clinic at the Troy Health Dept.

Children who come to the clinic with tattered or no socks or undies are given your donations.

A poster and laundry basket has been placed in the Narthex during March for your donations. Thank you. Membership and Outreach Committee.

Lifetree Café

Lifetree Café is open at 7:00 pm on Mondays in the Lifetree Café here at St. John's. It is open to the public and anyone who wants to come. Lifetree Café welcomes all ages. We learn how God and Jesus Christ work in our lives and through stories and sharing their stories with each other during table discussion.

FELLOWSHIP AND SNACKS SUNDAY MORNINGS

The café is open on Sunday mornings from 9:30 am to 10:15 am.

Come in and enjoy snacks and drinks. We have cold drinks, coffee, water for tea, donuts, and other snacks. We invite everyone to partake of these items. Pick some up before going to Sunday School or if you don't attend Sunday School come in for fellowship. I hope everyone will support this program and if you are interested in helping, we have room for more people on the fellowship team and the host team.



News About Our People

Prayer Concerns

Please include the following people in your prayers and thoughts: Em Finney, Steve Barkett (son-in-law of Phyllis Anderson), Caroline Gillis, Marjorie Roeth, Louanne Stockstill, Phyllis Anderson, Patty Thornton, Teresa Beltz (friend of Melissa Stanley), Glenn and Carol Lytle, Jim Jeffryes, Robert Flora (Nancy Nadolny's brother with AML), Beulah Bowers, Mary Ann Cornell (Nancy Smith's sister), Harold Friend's Family, Rebecca Daniel (friend of Carolann Stanley who was severely injured in automobile accident).

Remember Our Home Bound

Mrs. Phyllis Hansford, Room 143
Sycamore Glen Health Center
2175 Leiter Road.
Miamisburg, OH 45342-5710

Mrs. Caroline Gillis
Sterling House of Troy, Rm 219
81 S. Stanfield Road
Troy, OH 45373

Lawrence and Rita Kroger
The Springs of Escondido
1261 W. Washington Ave.
Apt. 215
Escondido, CA 92027

Mrs. Marjorie Roeth
855 Timber Lane
Troy, OH 45373

Economic Justice Team News

The United Church of Christ has endorsed the consumer boycott of Wendy's until the fast-food giant signs on to the Fair Food Program. A parade in support of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and its boycott of Wendy's takes place at 1 P.M. Sunday, March 26, in Columbus. If you 'd like to attend and need a ride, please contact Deb Hogshead at 332-0443. Thank you.

Happy Birthday to You!!!
March

07 Steven Overmyer
08 Emme Eichhorn
09 Janet Walpole
14 Ginny Beamish
17 Becky Friend

2017 CHURCH LEADERS

Council

*Caroline Maslowski, Treasurer (18)
*Patricia Robinson, (18)
Ginny Beamish, President (18)
*Nancy Nadolny, Secretary (19)
Aaron Johnson (19)
Rob Brower (19)
Liz Fessler (20) Vice President
Deb Hogshead (20)
Vacant (20)

Ministry & Worship

Ginny Beamish (20)
*Becky Pierce-Chairperson (18)
Barbara Gibbons (18)
*Barb Neer (19)
Liz Fessler - Council Rep.
Barb Bartel (20)

Membership/Outreach

Joyce Huston (17)
Melissa Stanley (18)
Kathy Holt (19)
Joan Meredith (19)
Aaron Johnson - Council Rep.
Jo Ann Kropp (20)

Memorial and Endowment

Nancy Nadolny (20)
Robert Shoemaker (18)
*Carletta Gritzmaker (19)

Board of Trustees

Joyce Swank (20), Secretary (17)
*Kim Thorpe (18)
Paul Schaffner (18)
Nevin Fessler (19)
*Rob Brower (19)
Rob Brower - Council Rep.

Christian Education Committee

Amy Lucas (18)
Joyce Heffelfinger (18)
Traci Kropp (19)
Patricia Robinson - Council Rep.
Erin Kaveloski (20)
Vacant (20)

Sunday School Teachers

Amy Lucas
Patricia Robinson
Joyce Heffelfinger
Mike Beamish
Erin Kaveloski

Pastor: Reverend Donna Morton

Secretary: Barb Owen

Bookkeeper: Jim Amend

Custodian: Roger Hale

Organist: Ginny Beamish

Chancel Choir Director: Becky Pierce

Children's Choir Director: Joyce Swank

Head Usher: Mike Beamish

Nursery Workers: Erin Kaveloski and Mickie Rowe

Sound Technician: David Robinson

Communion Elements: Joyce Heffelfinger, Jennifer Lucas, Noah Lucas

Lay Visitation Ministers: Matt and Becky Pierce and Liz McClure, Mike and Ginny Beamish,
Caroline Maslowski and Ruth Simpson, Nancy Smith and Beulah Bowers, Nevin and Liz Fessler.