



THE VISITOR

April 2019

It's Time to Register for Camp!

Summer camp registration is now open and the early deadline is April 15! There are camps for all ages and interests. Check out ohioucc.org to find dates and descriptions of each camp. Kaylene Biddle can answer any questions you have. Christ Church pays for 50% of the camp fee. So invite a buddy, and start daydreaming about s'mores, vespers, campfires, hikes, crafts, swimming, and so much more as you explore your faith and grow in your relationship with God.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday – April 14

Chancel choir
Telling of Passion Story
Coffee Hour

Maundy Thursday – April 18

7:00 PM Upper Room communion & Prayer Stations
7:45 PM Tenebrae service (sanctuary)

Good Friday – April 19

7:00 PM Community Service at Christ Church

***Easter Sunday – April 21*

7:00 AM Sunrise service
(continental breakfast to follow)
9:00 AM Sunday School
10:15 Sanctuary service; Communion
Chancel choir, brass

**Note new service times and changes on Easter morning.



Holy Week

April Worship

April 7

Communion

Home Communion

April 14

Palm Sunday

Chancel Choir

Carol Choir

April 21 Easter Sunday

7:00 Sunrise Service

8:00 Continental Breakfast

9:00 Sunday School

10:15 Worship; Communion,

Chancel Choir, Brass

April 28

Confirmation Sunday

Chancel Choir

Carol Choir

Parade Float & Candy

VBS coming up in July and once again we are entering a float for the parade. **We need lots and lots and lots of candy. So we are starting our candy drive early.**

We are asking everyone, if you go to the store, pick up a bag of candy from now until the parade.

We will have a BIG Candy collection box in the gathering area. We went thru over 600 lbs. of candy last year. If you would like to make a monetary donation...we will take that too.

We will be starting the construction on the float soon.

If you would like to volunteer, see Valerie Holderman.

Guaranteed – this year's float will be out of this world!!!



From the Pastor's Pen: Living Lent in the Desert

They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today." (Exodus 14:11-13)

What does it mean to live "in the desert" as a congregation? The desert is not a place, but a state of physical, emotional, and spiritual dryness where we feel "desert-ed" by God and all we hold dear. The desert is a "thin" place of limited distraction where we come face to face with God at our most desperately honest. The desert inevitably finds each one us.

I believe the desert has found this congregation. The abundant growth of past generations is absent. The absence of remembered friends is felt. The feeling of abandonment comes out in the complaint: "Where are all the people whose names are on the church roll? Why do they not worship with us on Sunday? Where is everyone?" We feel abandoned and desert-ed.

We feel deserted and so we complain as the Hebrew people did: "God, why have you led us into this desert place?!" We believe the desert is a place to be hurried through as quickly as possible. But what if this is our new normal? What if God has a purpose for Christ Church in this desert that will take a generation to come about? What if our work now is to embrace what is so the next generation may enter the Promised Land of Beloved Community? And what if that cannot be accomplished by sitting around in the comfort of the 1950s? Are we willing to embrace the desert on God's terms? How much are we willing to let the desert change us?

Waiting and watching together with you,

Pastor Mike

Youth News

Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grades)

April 7th: 6-8 pm

April 14th: 6-8 pm

April 21st: No YF, Happy Easter!!

April 28th : 6-8 pm, Last YF until the Fall

Kids Club (K-5th grades)

Kids Club has finished until October. We end our weekly meetings in March because so many kids are involved in sports and other activities in the Spring/Summer. Carol Choir will continue to meet at regular time.



Confirmation visit to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church:

Weekly Confirmation meetings have wrapped up for this year, however there is one more "field trip" we would like you to participate in. On Friday, April 26th we will be traveling to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Canton to worship with them at their Good Friday service. We will meet at Christ Church at 6:00 pm to carpool. The service will start at 7:00pm. Please RSVP to Lisa.

Youth Auction Recap:

Thank you to all the people who donated items, made soup, baked cookies, helped with set-up and clean-up, and bid on items at the Youth Auction!! Because of your generosity we were able to raise \$4,751 for our youth mission fund.



The youth traveling to Heifer Ranch this Summer will take a check for \$237 with us to donate to Heifer International.

Wherever we serve in 2020 we will also take a check to donate to that organization. The rest of the money will stay in our mission fund to help defray the costs of our mission trips and other service work that we do throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support of our youth and the youth program!!

Kids Club Thank You

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out with Kids Club this year. Your dedication to our youth ministry program and our kids is amazing and much appreciated. We wouldn't be able to provide this great program without all of you!

Tea Party

The CUCC Cancer Crusaders will be holding their annual Tea Party on Saturday, April 6, 1:00 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall turned English garden, with finger sandwiches, scones, and many more tea party favorites being served. Tickets are required and can be purchased by contacting Elizabeth in the office (330-683-0715) by April 1. They will also be on sale before and after worship on March 31. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 ages 3-10, age 2 and under are free. Proceeds go to cancer research through the CUCC Cancer Crusaders partnership with The James. Gather the lovely ladies in your life and join us as we spend a quaint afternoon together.

Mission Project Mtg

Are you interested in participating, having fun, exercising/ discovering your creativity, and sharing your talents with friends to support a mission project? Is so, **please gather in the Parlor after church on Palm Sunday to learn more.**

Can't make it? Contact Linda Shafer (330-830-5047) or Anna Davidson (330-465-6761/ email: millsite59@aol.com) for details. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Thank You

Merry Cooks.

Thank you all so much for taking the time to prepare and deliver a meal to our family. We truly appreciate it. And it was delicious! We hope to be back in church soon.

The Ballentines

Treasurer's Report

February 28, 2019

	Month of Feb. '19	YTD	Last Year
Current Fund			
Income	\$23,808	\$ 40,942	\$ 44,756
Expenses	\$22,619	\$ 46,960	\$ 48,580
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 1,189	\$ (6,018)	\$ (3,824)
Benevolent Fund	\$ 6,367	\$ 8,123	\$ 12,639
Love Offering	\$ 610	\$ 610	\$ 1,196
Pastor's Emerg. Fund	\$ 823	\$ 1,165	\$ 1,226

Brian Amstutz, Treasurer

Easter Flower Order

It is time to order your Easter flowers! Put your order in the offering plate or drop it off in the office by **April 8**.

	# of plants
Daffodils \$9.00	_____
Tulip \$9.00	_____
Easter Lily \$9.00	_____

Name _____

In Memory of _____

Consistory Minutes – March Meeting

- Christian Education Committee reported that Sunday School recognition will be May 19. Vacation Bible School will have a Mission to Mars theme, and a float will again be entered in the 4th of July parade.
- Fellowship Committee reported that the next potluck will not occur until May due to other events. The Ice Cream Social is scheduled for July 14.
- Anna Davidson reported that she is exploring a project for Missions and will report back to consistory.
- Worship Committee reported that Ash Wednesday service was held; Maundy Thursday service will be at 7:00 p.m. on April 18; the community Good Friday service will be held at Christ Church at 7:00 p.m.; Easter services will be as follows - 7:00 a.m. sunrise service followed by a continental breakfast, and the 10:15 service. A hymn sing has been suggested as part of the 150th anniversary celebration.
- 150th Anniversary Committee has invited Cantate Singers to perform at Christ Church for their fall concert.
- Green Team noted that Stewardship of the Earth Sunday is April 7.
- Bridging Team is planning to set up a welcome desk in the gathering area by May.
- Governance and Ministry team presented an update on their work on the church constitution.

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

4/02 Angela Craft	4/14 Matthew Diehl
Margaret Maupin	Jaren Hershey
Michael Thompson	4/15 John Robart
Marc Shupp	4/17 Brad Nussbaum
4/03 Corbin Tompkins	4/20 Kendra Romanchik
Liam Gardner	4/21 Bill Duffy
4/04 Paul Gehres	4/22 Valerie Holderman
Ric Tompkins	Hannah Legan
Cayleb Gehring	4/25 Kristi Perry
4/05 Taylor Lehman	Sarah Finney
4/06 Henry Weyrauch	Anderson Musser
4/08 Karen Stoll	4/26 Linda Orosz
4/10 Bronson Loera	Katy Kropf
4/11 Mary Helen Meeks	Robin Stocker
4/12 Lee Nussbaum	4/27 Kevin Kropf
4/13 Mary Lou Bupp	4/28 Makenzie Bupp
Jan Miller	
Tanner Hostetler	

Anniversaries

4/01 Denny & Sally Curtis
Brian & Mary Weeman
4/20 Don & Linda Bilderback
4/21 Roger & Betty Kohler
4/23 William & Linda Lacy
Chad & Noelle Findley
4/24 Kyle & Jennifer Brown
4/25 Josh & Carolyn Crall



Bakeless Bake Sale

The "Friends (Volunteers) of Chapel Hill" (our UCC Church Home located in Canal Fulton) are having their annual 'bakeless' bake sale to raise funds for the **many** services they provide to residents. Make checks payable to "Friends of Chapel Hill" and mail to Chapel Hill Community, 12200 Strausser St. N.W., Canal Fulton, OH 44614. Or give checks to me and I will mail with my donation. —Questions? Call Joanne Burkey 683-2666

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00p Spiritual Council	2	3 6:30p Carol Choir 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	4 5:30p Friendship Meals 7:00p Deaconess Meeting	5	6 9:30a Zumba with Zara 1:00p Tea Party
7 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour 11:30a Parish Nurses-BP's 1:00p Home Communion 2:00p FH Reserved 4:00p Confirmation II & Mentor (Bread Baking) 6:00p Youth Fellowship	8 1:00p Care Ministries Cabinet	9	10 6:30p Carol Choir 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	11 5:30p Friendship Meals 6:00p Governance & Ministry	12	13 9:30a Zumba with Zara
14 PALM SUNDAY 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour 6:00p Youth Fellowship	15	16	17 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	18 MAUNDY THURSDAY 5:30p Friendship Meals 7:00p Communion & Prayer Stations 7:45p Tenebrae Service	19 GOOD FRIDAY 7:00p Community Good Friday Service at Christ Church	20 9:30a Zumba with Zara
21 EASTER SUNDAY 7:00a Sunrise Service 8:00a Cont. Breakfast 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship; Communion, Brass, Chancel Choir	22	23	24 6:30p Carol Choir 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	25 5:30p Friendship Meals	26 6:00p Confirmation to Greek Orthodox Service	27 9:30a Zumba with Zara
28 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour 6:00p Youth Fellowship	29 7:00 Christian Ed.	30 5:00p FH Reserved				