



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR | MARCH 2021

RETURN OF THE CIRCUIT RIDER

We are excited to send to you our first revised version of the Circuit Rider. What is the Circuit Rider? For Church of the Saviour, it is our monthly newsletter where we can share more in depth articles, information and pictures with our growing congregation. The Circuit Rider is to help you connect and be aware of all the ministries happening within the life of the church.

Circuit Rider, is a phrase connected to our history as Methodists. In the early days of the Methodist movement, a circuit was made up of two or more local churches (sometimes referred to as societies). In American Methodism,

circuits were sometimes referred to as a "charge." A pastor would be appointed to the charge by his bishop. During the course of a year, the pastor was expected to visit each church on the charge at least once, and possibly start some new ones. The traveling preachers responsible for caring for these societies, or local churches and stations, became known as circuit-riders.

We welcome back our Circuit Rider Monthly Newsletter, one of our many ways of caring for, sharing information, and getting out the mission of Church of the Saviour.

CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR STAFF

**HAVE A QUESTION?
NEED HELP WITH
SOMETHING? KNOW
WHO TO ASK—
CONTACT ANY
STAFF MEMBER AT
ANY TIME!**

Rev. Jenn Lucas, Senior Pastor: jenn.lucas@cos-umc.org
Rev. Vicki Robinson, Associate Pastor: vicki.robinson@cos-umc.org
Dr. Joe Galyon, Director of Worship and Arts: joe.galyon@cos-umc.org
Margaret Butler, Hospitality Coordinator: margaret.butler@cos-umc.org
Jayk Hinze, Youth Pastor: jayk.hinze@cos-umc.org
Janet Size, Membership and Contribution Secretary: janet.size@cos-umc.org
Dave Smith, Director of Operations: dave.smith@cos-umc.org
Dorothy Stadelmann, Building and Office Administrator: dorothy.stadelmann@cos-umc.org
Nick Stockburger, Director of Contemporary Worship: nick.stockburger@cos-umc.org
Erin Sprang, Director of Montgomery Nursery School: erin.sprang@cos-umc.org
Samantha Zeisler, Director of Communications: samantha.stanford@cos-umc.org
David Anderson, Director of Children's Music: david.anderson@cos-umc.org

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR JENN

Greetings Church!

We are currently in the throes of Lent, six-weeks dedicated to repentance, fasting, self-examination, reflection, and preparation for the coming of Easter. This Lent, as a church body, we continue to walk through our Word Alive study (our 40 week journey through the scriptures). For Lent, we are slowly walking through the book of Galatians. I hope you will join me and our congregation as we continue to study the Bible; allowing the Word of God to come alive and active in each of our lives.

Holy Week is the last week of Lent, the week immediately preceding Easter Sunday. Our Holy Week will include Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Worship Services. You will be able to participate either in person (7:00 pm) or online. Links for the services or reservations will be available at the start of Holy Week.

Peace House Ribbon Cutting



Many were happy to see 2020 come to a close, but for Church of the Saviour, 2020, brought the conclusion of our three year Capital Campaign. In this newsletter, you will see a letter from our Trustees sharing all that was accomplished through this campaign and I invite you to read their words. One of the biggest transformations was with the old parsonage, now Peace House.

The Peace House is to be a place to gather, a place for counseling, a place for support, a place for people to find peace and hope. As with the rest of the world, we look forward to slowly opening this house for counseling, support groups, and other intimate gatherings, but before that happens, we want to bless this house with a circle of prayer.

We invite you to join us in celebration and prayer over the Peace House on **March 14 at 4:00 pm**. We will not be going into the Peace House, but will make a large circle around the building and spend some time praying. Personally, I cannot thank you all enough for your generosity and patience as we have completed our Capital Campaign projects. The transformation of this house is amazing and I know it will be used for the transformation of so many in the future. Our staff and Board of Trustees could not be more excited to welcome you all to the Church of the Saviour grounds to bless this house... our Peace House. Look for more details online as we get closer to the date!

Easter

We are thrilled to announce that we will be offering four services on Easter Sunday. We will have **TWO Indoor Services, 8:00 am and 11:00 am, ONE Outdoor Service at 9:30 am** and, as always,

our **Online Worship option**. Reservations are required for our indoor services, and masks are required at all in-person services. (The Easter reservation link will be available beginning Sunday, March 28 at noon.) We are looking forward to seeing you and celebrating the risen Christ together.

Also happening Easter weekend, our Easter Eggstravaganza! Last year we had to reimagine our annual Easter Egg Hunt and this year is no different. We will be hiding Easter Eggs at the houses of all Church of the Saviour kids. There are three different ways you can participate in our Eggstravaganza... filling eggs, delivering eggs, and receiving eggs! What fun!

Service Opportunities

Check out our Serve page to see all of the opportunities for service we have coming up this Spring! Between our Youth Service Saturdays, our UMW programs and the opportunities to volunteer or donate to local organizations, there are tons of ways to get involved. I pray and hope that you will make every effort to participate in these activities and be enriched with your spiritual life.

Looking Forward

Like you, I am so grateful to be looking forward for the first time in a year of standing in one place. Everything changed March 2020, and of course, a year on, we are in a very different space. The cost in lives, family ties, isolation, mental health, and employment for some, has been astronomical. With a declining number of cases, the growing availability of effective vaccines, and the coming of spring, we are feeling hopeful, and while how we, as a community and a church will ease back into what we previously thought of as "normal" is something I can't imagine quite yet, I am hopeful it is on the horizon.

I am looking forward to being back in the pulpit with our church community physically being in the worship space. I remain thankful I am able to be with our church community virtually each week. I am full of hope as I look forward to Easter and what Christ resurrection continues to bring. As Easter people, we know that even in the tragedies of life, God is at work bringing renewal, new life, new beginnings. Friends, this is good news!



In Christ,

Pastor Jenn Lucas
jenn.lucas@cos-umc.org

LEADERSHIP TEAMS

SERVANT LEADERSHIP BOARD

Meet your Servant Leadership Board for 2021. The board is responsible for casting vision and fulfilling the mission of the church. If you remember, at our charge conference in 2019, a shift was made to combine our Servant Leadership Board and Staff Parish into one team. All the board members have roles and responsibilities for all the functions of the church, but we operated as one team. The board meets the second Tuesday of every month and the meetings are open to the congregation to attend.

Here is your 2021 Servant Leadership Board. Thank them for serving.

Michelle Rowland, 2021 Servant Leadership Board Chair

Rick Huff, *Trustee Chair*; Larry Brueshaber, *Finance Chair*; Mark Combs, *Staff Parish 2021 Chair*; Jennifer Jasper, *Staff Parish 2021*; Sarah Emslander, *Staff Parish 2021*; Lauren Capozza, 2021; Nermine Banke, 2022; Allie Coleman, 2022; Andrew Schmidt 2022; Nick Van Horn 2023

Rev. Jennifer Lucas, Senior Pastor

Rev. Vicki Robinson, Associate Pastor

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rick Huff, Trustee Chair

Heather Christensen 2021; Steve McGowen 2021; Susan Muhlbachler, 2022; Kevin Banke 2022; Rich Constand 2023; Lee Hendrixson, 2023; Mike Size, 2023

Rev. Jennifer Lucas, Senior Pastor

Dave Smith, Director of Operations, Staff

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Larry Brueshaber, Finance Chair

Rick Huff, *Trustee Chair*; Mark Hoge 2021; Chris Philpott 2021; Julia Page, 2022; Kevin Bock, 2022; Andrew Schmidt 2022; Lynn LeRoy 2023; Mark Quarry, 2023.

Rev. Jennifer Lucas, Senior Pastor

Dave Smith, Director of Operations, Staff

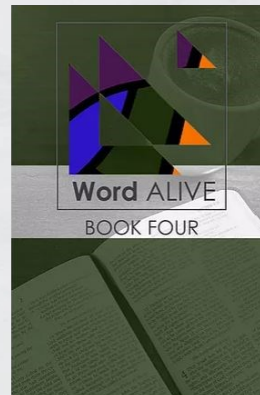
ENDOWMENT

Mike Brooks, 2021; Tina Hudson, 2021; Chris Philpott 2021; Karen Hendricks, 2022; Jen Van Horn 2022; Sean Woock 2022; Deb Coleman 2023; Joe Thorpe 2023; Karen VanWagenen, 2023

Rev. Jennifer Lucas, Senior Pastor

Dave Smith, Director of Operations, Staff

WORD ALIVE: BOOK FOUR



For the Word of God is ALIVE and Active - Hebrews 4:12 NIV

Welcome to Word Alive!

Word Alive is an invitation to walk through the scriptures together as a church body for the next 40 weeks. The Word Alive book is your resource to use in order to fully engage with the scripture and personal reflection.

Beginning in Genesis, we will walk through the books of the Bible and end in Revelation. By making a commitment to participate in Word Alive, you are saying yes to:

Daily

- Reading scripture
- Writing in your Word Alive book

Weekly

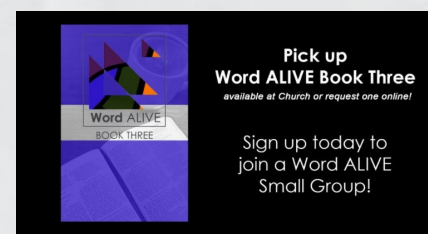
- Worship (online or in-person Worship Opportunities)
- Participating in small group (Zoom or in-person options)

Word Alive is an opportunity to allow the Word of God to come alive in us. We welcome and affirm when we open up the Word for study and prayer, the scriptures will move, inspire, challenge, deepen, and awaken us. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the people of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Goal of Word Alive

As you begin the Word Alive journey, remember that your goal is not to just read through the daily scriptures, take a few notes in your booklet or even gain knowledge of the scripture. All are important and in growing as a disciple of Christ, but our hope is to allow for the Word of God to come Alive in you. The hope is you will get to know the Author, the one who created all things, who created and called you. The hope is our Word Alive journey will unite us in the reality of God's love and learn how you are a part of this amazing story – one that continues to be written today.

Book Four starts soon, but if you don't want to wait, you can stop by the church and get started with Book One, Book Two, or Book Three today!!



KIDS CORNER

March 2021

- 1 Muffins with Michelle
- 4 Muffins with Michelle
- 6 Muffins with Michelle
- 9 Muffins with Michelle
- 10 Music & Mission
- 17 Music & Mission / 456
- 20 PreK Story Time
- 24 Music & Mission
- 26 Family Game Night

April 2021

- 3 Easter Eggstravaganza
- 7 Music & Mission
- 14 Music & Mission
- 17 PreK Story Time
- 21 Music & Mission / 456
- 28 Music & Mission
- 30 Family Game Night

Virtual Sunday School



Each Sunday at 10:00 am we meet via Zoom for age-graded Sunday school. Our lessons follow the Word Alive series and SS to Go bags are available for

families to pick up at the start of each session which contain supplemental, hands-on materials. To register for session 4, you can go to www.cos-umc.org/events

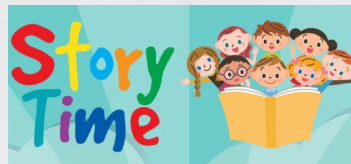
Muffins with Michelle

Families are encouraged to sign up for a virtual conversation with Michelle as a way to get to know one another better. In addition, Dave Anderson will be on the calls so that together we can all share thoughts & feedback on our Children's Ministry programming. Your



family can register for one of the calls at www.cos-umc.org/events or email Michelle at michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org

PreK Story Time



Story Time is for preschool children and their adult companions (& siblings, too). Held on the 3rd Saturday mornings of the month, story time includes

movement, music, stories, and hands-on projects centered around the month's theme. You can register for story time on the events page of the website, www.cos-umc.org/events

Family Game Nights

On the last Fridays of March & April, families are invited to join an evening of fellowship and fun! Depending on COVID restrictions, these FGN will take virtually or in person. You can sign your family up to attend at www.cos-umc.org/events



Easter Eggstravaganza



Because last year's "surprise" Easter egg event was so much fun – and because we are still not able to offer a large

gathering Easter egg hunt – we will be delivering & hiding stuffed eggs in the front yards of families with children ages 0 – 6th grade. If you are interested in participating, you can sign up to a) purchase & stuff eggs, b) deliver & hide eggs, or c) let us know your family is interested in having your yard "egged". Go to www.cos-umc.org/events to sign up or email michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org with any questions.



March 2021

7 – Youth Group (Sr. High: 3-4:30pm; Jr. High: 4-5:30pm)
 12 – Youth Game Night (6-8pm)
 14 – Youth Group
 21 – NO YOUTH GROUP
 27 – Serve Saturday (times tba)
 28 – Youth Group

April 2021

4 – EASTER SUNDAY – NO YOUTH GROUP
 11 – Youth Group
 18 – Youth Group
 24 – Serve Saturday (times tba)
 25 – Confirmation Sunday / Youth Group
 30 – Youth Ministry Bonfire (7-9pm)

Weekly Youth Update



Each Tuesday, our Youth Pastor Jayk, sends out an email update with all the information you want to know about upcoming events & ministry opportunities for students in

grades 7-12. If you would like to register for this email distribution, please email Jayk at jayk.hinze@cos-umc.org

Sunday Afternoon Youth Small Groups

This year, because of the pandemic, we are meeting for Sunday youth group in a slightly alternative way. We are meeting in small groups of 10 or less in rooms around the church where we can be socially distanced and safe. We require all participants to wear their mask throughout our meetings, and we encourage an abundance of hand sanitizing. If you would like to know more about getting connected to one of our youth small groups, please email our youth pastor, Jayk Hinze at jayk.hinze@cos-umc.org

Our groups meet (almost) every Sunday during the following times:

Sr. High (grades 9-12): 3:00-4:30 pm

Jr. High (grades 7-8): 4:00-5:30 pm

Serve Saturdays

This Spring, we are encouraging all students in grades 7-12 to be in service! We are developing multiple ways for students to get involved and give back to their community. These will include



small, in-person team projects as well as mission work that you can do on your own.

We might even have some projects you can work on from the comfort of your home! Be sure to watch the Weekly Youth Update email for more information about these each month & how you can register.

Youth Game Night

On Friday, March 12, all students in grades 7-12 are invited to join us for a night of fellowship and fun! This event will run from 6:00—8:00 pm, and students can sign up for various time-slots to join together with friends while playing some of your favorite table-top games.

You can register for this event online, so be sure to check the Weekly Youth Update for more info!



Youth Ministry Bonfire

On Friday, April 30, we will be hosting a Youth Ministry bonfire from 7:00—9:00 pm that evening!

Stay tuned for more details, but you'll want to mark your calendars now!





Christ caring for people through people

STEPHEN MINISTRY

JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF

Stephen Ministers offer confidential, competent Christian care as they walk alongside people who find themselves struggling with life stress, loss, health challenges, and grief and loss of various kinds. Stephen Ministers serve both members and friends in our faith communities as well those in our surrounding community.

For those who have lost loved ones, Stephen Ministers not only provide caring listening and support, but also make available a series of four books written for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

These books titled, *A Time to Grieve*, *Experiencing Grief*, *Finding Hope and Healing*, and *Rebuilding and Remembering*, by Dr. Kenneth Haug, founder of Stephen Ministries. Dr. Haug experienced the grieving process first-hand after losing his wife to cancer. These books explain the grief process and encourages the bereaved to grieve in healthy ways.

Over the past thirteen years, the COS Stephen Ministers have provided 105 sets of books to their COS care receivers and provided 55 sets to others who were not in a formal care receiver relationship.

If you know someone who is grieving a loss, please be aware of this resource and contact a member of the Stephen Ministry team or Pastor Vicki Robinson at vicki.robinson@cos-umc.org.

We have a number of resources, including these and other printed materials, and one-on-one interactions.

If you know of someone, or you personally feel that you might benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Vicki Robinson (vicki.robinson@cos-umc.org) or Mary Hoover (513-702-5642).



JOE GALYON—CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!

Church of the Saviour has been blessed to have Joe Galyon at the helm of the Music and Worship Arts programs for 25 years—he started in June 1995! An accomplished musician and visionary, Joe has helped to create beautiful worship experiences for all to enjoy.

Joe Galyon engages people from all walks of life in the music ministry at Church of the Saviour United Methodist. With a passion for developing church musicians of any age, he oversees a program of twenty choral, handbell, and instrumental ensembles that enhance weekly worship and unique liturgical services.

Each week, Joe crafts meaningful experiences in

traditional worship by curating liturgy and music to guide the congregation. Reaching beyond the local church, Joe designs and manages the annual youth choir tour: a nine-day trip with forty teens who sing, ring, and provide mission service.

Whether you are a member of one of his handbell or choral choirs, a member of our church or a member of the community, walking in the doors of Church of the Saviour you can immediately understand why Joe is such a treasured and invaluable member of this staff.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON 25 YEARS JOE,
HERE IS TO MANY MORE!**



CAPITAL PROJECTS COMPLETE – PEACE HOUSE READY

Church of the Saviour took Occupancy of Peace House in November 2020. This was the final step of the 3-year Capital construction projects. These projects were only possible through the generous funding of the Capital Campaign by the church. A financial reconciliation of the campaign will be conducted in the first half of 2021.

Furnishing the Counseling Center and meeting rooms in the Peace House has begun. We have been able to start the Counseling Center furnishing due to a gift from the Severtson Family in memory of Todd Severtson. We appreciate their gift, and it is appropriate to remembrance for Todd who was deeply committed to service for the church and community.

Full furnishing of the Counseling Center has been slowed due to furniture shortages because of COVID. We are waiting to order desks and some chairs that have been out of stock since last summer. The meeting rooms have been furnished with tables and chairs and are ready to use.

*Submitted by: Rick Huff, Current Trustee Chairperson
Russ Naber, former Trustee Chair*

DON'T FORGET TO JOIN US ON SUNDAY, MARCH 14 AT 4:00 PM FOR THE OUTDOOR BLESSING OF THE PEACE HOUSE!



OFFICE REST ROOM RENOVATION & NEW WASHER/DRYER ROOM

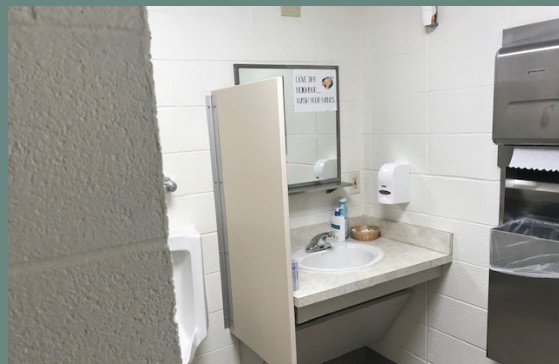
The office Women's and Men's restrooms were renovated in December 2020.

The prior restrooms were completely demolished and upgraded. In addition to the restroom upgrades, the Trustees had the closet by the Women's restroom converted to hold a washer/dryer unit.

This washer/dryer will be used by the Montgomery Nursery School and by the church.



In



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Wow! What a year United Methodist Women have had! COVID-19 did not stop UMW from having fun, fellowship, spiritual growth or focusing on mission opportunities. We want to thank the entire congregation at Church of the Saviour for participating in all of our programs in 2020. Early in the year, we had big plans for another successful year of events and programs and we did

We had a wonderful response to our March Project 5000 program just in time. Then, the stay at home order kept us apart but it did not keep us down. Cancelling our Easter basket delivery and Bingo party at Cooper's Trace Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center was disappointing but the Susanna Wesley members sent them cards to cheer them up. The spring luncheon was cancelled in May with hopes to get together in the summer! Time changed that event as our church opened and closed throughout the summer.

Our desire to raise funds to help missions locally became our focus as we had to cancel our biggest fund raiser-- the annual rummage sale. Joyce Sprecklemeier contacted Denny McKeown's Garden Center to see if we could delay the spring garden sale until the fall and that became a reality! Then for UMW Sunday on September 27, Karen Van Wagenen suggested hosting another Project 5000 to help families in need in our community! Another terrific response from all of you! A wonderful brief video was produced and shown that day. You can still see it on the COS website, under Connect, choose United Methodist Women. Watch it anytime. Thanks to Carole Cobb and Nick Stockburger for making that happen.

Our first online silent auction occurred in October with over 50 items donated by our congregation...thanks to all of you, we made over \$1500. Also thanks to Barb Butz, Marle Billman and Karen Van Wagenen for making this happen.

Our 26th year of Gifts from the Heart looked questionable over the summer months but Lisa Borchers, chairperson, led the way to a very successful year! Karen Van Wagenen helped set up the Sign Up Genius and Bonnie Nesbitt helped collect backpacks for Wesley Chapel Mission Center. An overwhelming response came in from all of you! Thanks a million for shining the light of Christ to our community.

Our Christmas program held via zoom allowed over 50 women to participate in sharing Christmas mementos in small break out groups and playing Bingo! What fun with prizes too and an awesome gift bag with a handmade coaster by Jenny! We gave Lisa Borchers the 2020 Special Mission Recognition Award and pin for her 5 years of Gifts from the Heart program leadership. Thanks to organizers--Jenny Motley, Karen Van Wagenen, Euphazine Reid-Kendall and Dorothy Stadalman for a memorable evening. Good times despite COVID-19.

Our small groups have been meeting via zoom and are very happy to see one another to connect. Who knew how tech savvy we can be! Please try to connect on zoom with one of these small groups. The Lydia Needlecrafters have been busy as well. I want to share what they have done with year. (See the attached report).

We have big plans for 2021 also so stay tuned to the Newsflash for up to date information.

Thanks to Sam Stanford and Pastor Vicki Robinson for helping our dreams come true with an up to date UMW page on the church web site. Check it out! If you want to be a part of this dynamic group of women who change the world around them with their actions, spiritual gifts, skills, time and talents, contact Leah Hondorf, Nominations Chairperson. Or call me, I would be happy to chat about my passion—United Methodist Women—who focus on improving the lives of women, youth and children all over the world!

As Adam Hamilton says in his book, 'Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas', UMW's Wednesday night Advent Bible Study, "We are God's plan for changing the world. We are not just passive recipients of God's love and grace. As we become children of the light, we cannot keep that light within ourselves. It is meant to spill out from us naturally and touch the lives of others." (Pages 140-141). Thank you to Teri Ballard for leading this Bible Study group!

"You are the light of the world. Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:14, 16



Happy 2021 and hope to see you sometime this year in person!

Pam Senefeld
UMW President

The Mothers and Daughters Group will not meet in March due to varying spring break schedules. We look forward to seeing you again in April!

Lydia Needlecrafters meet the first and third Wednesday of every month at 5:30 pm in a ZOOM meeting. During the quarantine, we have been busy knitting prayer shawls, baby blankets, baby hats and scarves for students leaving foster care. Many recipients give feedback about how their prayer shawl helped them so much and how appreciative they were about the gift and the effort that went in to creating it. If you know someone in need of God's blessings and warmth, call Donna Steinmetz (513-563-7144), call or text Pam Senefeld (513-314-5042), email Bonnie Nesbit (bonniepnesebitt@hotmail.com), or contact Pastor Vicki at church.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The **Third Tuesday Morning Hannah Group** will meet on March 16, 2021 via Zoom from 9:30 - 11:30 am. The regular meeting will occur during the first hour. Then, our speaker, Mr. Gage Woolly, Communication Specialist & Volunteer Coordinator, will present at 10:30am on Bethany House Services. BHS provides a sanctuary for desperate homeless families in need of help to achieve stable housing and income. Their shelters meet each family's immediate needs for safety, housing, food and other necessities.

Parents receive resources and info needed to help them obtain a living income, organize a comfortable home and provide a nurturing environment for their children. Family homelessness is a community crisis in Cincinnati. A drastic shortage of affordable housing, the COVID-19 health crisis, and job loss has increased the numbers of families seeking shelter. We must do more to ensure no family and no child in Greater Cincinnati goes without the basic need of shelter. While much of Greater Cincinnati is thriving and has experienced growth over the past decade, many in our community still struggle with high poverty. Supporting, educating and stabilizing families by getting them on a path to independent living is one of the most important ways our region can support the fight against poverty and break the cycle of generational homelessness in families.

Details for Zoom will be communicated closer to the event.

THINK SPRING



It's back again - The United Methodist Women's Annual Spring Gardening Fundraiser with Denny McKeown's Bloomin Garden Center. It's time to brighten up those grey days of winter by

thinking "Spring" and start planning your summer gardens, and landscaping as well as any future spring gift needs. The dates this year will run from Sunday, April 18—Sunday, May 9 which includes Mother's Day. UMW will receive 10% of all sales during the three weeks of the Fundraising Days which will benefit numerous local, global missionaries, and charities..

So, if you're starting to "Think Spring" and what you'll be planting, now is an excellent time to start. Gardening, growing flowers and vegetables was bigger than ever last year. so it's not too early to get a head start. In case you live where you are unable to garden, you can still support our fundraiser thru the purchase of gift cards from Bloomin for any of the various year end gift occasions coming up such as gifts for school teachers, graduations, Mothers Day, etc. Even though the pandemic prevented last year's Spring Gardening Fundraiser, we had a very successful response with our first time Fall Fundraiser so you won't want to miss out. Look for more info to come in April. In the meantime, questions may be directed to Joyce Spreckelmeier at H-891-1434, C-470-1962, or gardner@cinci.rr

PROJECT 5000 RETURNS ON PALM SUNDAY MARCH 28

Project 5000 is founded on an unforgettable experience in the life of Jesus... the feeding of the 5,000. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish offered by a small boy and multiplied them to provide more than enough food for the multitude of 5,000. This is a wonderful way for your family to spend time sharing with others and sharing our love of Jesus.



Given the growing needs of our community, COS United Methodist Women are sponsoring our annual Project 5000 food drive on Sunday, March 28. Similar to our food drive in September, our aim is to make Project 5000 contactless, safe, and simple for everyone in the midst of the pandemic. Sign Up To Donate Food - Go to the Sign Up Genius link below to see the list of needed food and tell us how many bags of food you'd like to donate. Purchase as many food items on the list as you can find and pack your donated food in a large reusable plastic or cloth bag.

If you'd prefer to make a cash donation in lieu of purchasing food, you can donate money on Sign Up Genius using a debit/credit card or mail a check to Mary Ann Bell at 6061 Bayberry Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45242. Please make your check out to COS-UMW and write "Project 5000" in the memo line. On UMW Sunday, March 28 from 12:30-3:00pm – Bring your bags of donated food to COS for contactless drive-up drop off. Food & monetary donations will be distributed to food pantries at York Street UMC, State Ave UMC, Brecon UMC, Wesley Education Center, NEEDs, Princeton Closet, and Blue Ash Backpack Bundles.

We are also looking for volunteers to help collect food, and drivers are needed to take food to the pantries. Gloves, masks, and hand sanitizer will be provided to help keep you safe. The Sign Up Genius link to donate food, money or volunteer is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080848aea62bab9-project5>

Contact Karen Van Wagenen at 325-2849 or kvanwag@aol.com if you have questions or need help signing up. Thank You!

PROJECT 5000 FOOD LIST

2 (12-15 oz.) cans of meat; 2 (14.5 oz.) cans of vegetables; 2 (14.5-15 oz.) cans of fruit; 2 cans of soup or 4 packages of ramen; 2 boxes of macaroni and cheese or 2 boxes of rice; 1 (16 oz.) package dry spaghetti; 1 (24 oz.) can spaghetti sauce; 1 box hot cereal; 1 (16 oz.) jar of peanut butter; 1 (18-20 oz.) jar of grape jelly; 2 packages ready-to-eat pudding or jello cups (4 packs); 1 (28 oz.) can baked beans; 2 (8.5 oz.) Jiffy corn muffin mix. Variety in canned items is helpful. Typical vegetable items include beans, peas, corn, carrots, beets, etc. Typical fruits include peaches, pears, pineapple, fruit cocktail, etc. Canned meats to consider are corned beef, beef stew, tuna, chicken, etc. Please avoid gourmet, exotic, or spiced foods.



DISASTER FUNDS NEEDED FOR LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO

Last week's ice storm caused extensive damage in Lawrence County due to fallen trees, burst pipes, and downed power lines. Many homes are under a boil advisory, and some residents may be without power for weeks to come. In partnership with New Hope UMC in Proctorville and Chesapeake UMC, both located in Lawrence County, the West Ohio Conference is providing funds for bottled water, non-perishable food items, and heating fuel.

Donations to the West Ohio Disaster Response Fund allow us to provide immediate relief to communities across West Ohio when disaster strikes. Click [here](#) to make an online donation or mail a check to West Ohio Disaster Response, 32 Wesley Blvd, Worthington, OH 43085.

MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES: COLLECTION BIN

Church of the Saviour is officially the first city of Montgomery Clothing Collection bin location for Matthew 25 Ministries. The bin is in our parking lot and is a collection point for new and gently used adult and children's clothing and accessories.



Matthew 25: Ministries welcomes adult and children's clothing of all sizes, summer and winter clothing, coats and winter accessories. Matthew 25 asks that donated clothing is clean, free of fraying, tears, holes and stains, has functional zippers or other closures, no missing buttons and no odor. Underwear and socks must be new and in original packaging.

Items that are donated to Matthew 25 are sorted and evaluated for quality, appearance, geographic and cultural appropriateness. Every person regardless of their circumstances deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. Matthew 25's criteria for clothing is simple – if you would not be willing to wear the garment yourself (quality not style) do not give it to someone else.



Matthew 25: Ministries is responding to the severe winter storm that swept across the south this week, causing heavy snowfall and freezing temperatures across the state of Texas and other southern states. Effects from the storm led to mass power outages across the region leaving millions without power for most of the week. The extreme cold also caused water pipes to burst in homes and businesses, causing many parts of the state to be under a boil advisory as well. There have been 47 deaths attributed to the winter storm nationwide, 30 of which were in Texas. While an end to the frigid conditions is in sight this weekend, the recovery from this storm system will be long-term.

Matthew 25: Ministries had supplies in the area as part of ongoing support, and partners were able to use those supplies to respond to immediate needs. Additional truckloads of aid loaded with supplies such as bottled water, all purpose cleaner, batteries, sanitizer, food, and personal care supplies are scheduled for shipment next week to partners in affected regions.

Matthew 25 is requesting donations of the following types of items to supplement existing supplies and for distributions and restocking during their Texas winter storm response:

- Monetary Donations: Donate online, mail checks to Matthew 25: Ministries, 11060 Kenwood Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242 (100% of donated funds designated for the Texas winter storm will be used for the purpose intended)
- Cases of bottled water (12- and 24- count)
- Personal Care Products: Antibacterial soap, hand sanitizer, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, body wash, deodorant, lotion etc.
- Cleaning supplies: Laundry detergents, general cleaner, sponges, bleach (powdered form is preferred), mops, scrub brushes, buckets, rubber gloves etc.
- Paper products: Toilet paper, paper towels etc.
- Baby and infant supplies: Diapers, wipes, diaper rash ointment, baby wash, baby shampoo, baby lotion etc.
- First-Aid items: Bandages, gauze, pads, first aid tape, antiseptic creams, hydrogen peroxide, alcohol, latex gloves, instant cold packs etc.
- Clean-up Supplies: Protective eyewear, work gloves, masks, shovels, screwdrivers, saws, trash bags etc.
- Candles and Flashlights: If necessary, please include the appropriate size batteries with any flashlight donation.



INSPIRING YOUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

WE ARE AUDIO/VISUAL TECHS

FIND YOUR PLACE TO SERVE

Audio Visual Techs help create an atmosphere where people can experience the presence of God. Team members operate audio, video, lights, and graphics to support the mission and message in worship. No experience is required. We provide all the training you need. Email Nick Stockburger today and get started.

[Learn more about Audio Visual Techs](#)

PRAISING GOD THROUGH OUR MUSIC...AND OUR CARING

Because of COVID-19, much of the music we enjoy during our normal Sunday church services has gone silent. For a while during the Summer, some of it came back as we went to outdoor weekend services. But as Winter set in, and COVID-19 once again exploded, church no longer reverberated with song as scientists warned that singing helps to spread the respiratory virus.

Though these restrictions are understandable, they rob congregations of an important aspect of our Christian faith. As noted by Apostle Paul in **Ephesians 5**, believers should be *"filled with the spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."*

During this time, however, our contemporary **Praise Band & Tech Team** has tried to stay active. They have performed and provided technical support for outdoor services when the weather was warm, and practiced, and with the help of the tech team, recorded songs for use in online services as the weather grew colder and COVID-19 grew in intensity.

And under the leadership of **Nick Stockburger**, our *Director of Contemporary Worship and Media*, the group also took on another role during this time. It all started when Nick encouraged our [Praise Band & Tech Team](#) members to use an App called **GroupMe**. According to their website, "*GROUPME makes it easy to stay in touch with the important people in your life.*"

Response to the app started off slow. But then, an interesting thing happened. **Praise Band & Tech Team** members found that they could use the app to stay in touch and support each other as the COVID-19 pandemic grew in intensity and length.

One of the first ways this emerged was when Nick began having recordings of the band that were created for online services posted in GROUPME. Since our team has over 12 members, not everyone plays or provides tech support every week. So, posted recordings allowed all team members to share in the music and to congratulate and encourage those who had produced the "latest hits".

As time went by during the pandemic, life continued to change and challenge the team. Friends and family members contracted COVID-19; others became ill; others had family members who become ill or passed away; others challenged themselves by applying for promotions and a long interview process, all while trying to keep up with family and their *current* job.

As these challenges grew in number, **Praise Band** members found a new use for the GROUPME app. They began to communicate these concerns and to seek support and prayers from the team. And the team took up the challenge.

Since that time, not a week goes by where someone hasn't experienced a tough situation, a bit of depression, a family member that has died, a friend who is experiencing a challenge. And as soon as the word gets out, the prayers start coming in through the GROUPME app.

And soon these chats became conversations – members asking for prayers, prayers offered, members offering updates on the challenges, and members offering congratulations, or encouragement, or condolences, or sometimes just the right word to help someone get through the day.

A GROUPME posting to the team on *Christmas Eve* seems to sum it all up: *"It has been amazing to read everyone's comments and to realize how much we have grown as a group over the past year. We are now more than just a praise band / tech support team; we are also a caring community that watches out for each other, and for others in need. Here's hoping the time is short until we can once again praise God through our music, Together."*

And just in case you're thinking that it would be great to be a member of such a caring group, we are always looking for musicians with experience playing **guitar** (acoustic, electric, bass), **piano/keyboard**, **drums and percussion**, and **vocals**, as well as **tech support** volunteers for handling sound and video recordings for indoor / and outdoor services. Most of our team members volunteer 1-2 times each month on a rotating schedule.

If interested, Nick Stockburger can be reached via email at Nick.Stockburger@cos-umc.org.

ADVENTURERS UPCOMING EVENTS



Who are the Adventurers? This mission of this group is to offer several outreach fellowship programs that are not age restricted but are geared to all Baby Boomers, Empty Nesters, and Seniors (or those who

will admit to being one). There is no membership – you are invited to come whenever and to whatever tickles your interest or imagination – and it's a great way to meet other Church of the Saviour folks.

Mark your calendar we will be

"Firing Up the Grills", on

Wednesday, September 15. We are

having our 1st post COVID event!

Enjoy a visit with your friends, grilled

hamburgers and hot dogs (or bring

your own meat) and some little Corn Hole fun (for those who

want to participate). Bring a dish to share. Water and sodas

will be provided. We won't know which Blue Ash Shelter until

June but watch for updates. This will be open to all COS

Adults. Sign up information to come.



- "Queen Ester" show at Sight and Sound Theatre
- "Deck the Halls" at the America Music Theatre
- Guided tour of the Amish Country-side with stops at Amish Craft Farm and Bake shop
- Hershey's Chocolate World (make your own chocolate bar)
- Stop at Flight 93 Memorial and more

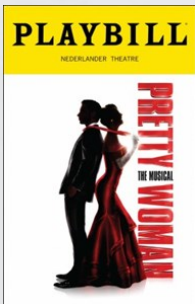
For a detailed flyer email Jane at jkieninger@aol.com. This trip is a White Star tour excursion for COS members and guests.

Questions? Contact Jane at 513-489-6022.

UPCOMING – Other activities that you might enjoy (all ages):

Bridge Group – COS Bridge group is currently not meeting due to COVID.

Men's Lunch Group – Zooming (right now) Every Tuesday at 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. Bring a sack lunch. Share stories, views of current events and explore almost any topic. All men are welcome. Group Leader is Ed Daniels with help from Arnie Penix. If you are interested call Ed at 891-4564 or email him at edaniel3151@gmail.com to get the zoom link. No reservations are required.



"Pretty Women" a fun Broadway musical at the Aronoff, Wed., October 13, 8:00 pm show, \$60.00. The musical show is based on 1990s film of the same name. I have limited group seats in rows G and H of the Loge. Dinner together before hand is optional. If you want to join us, call or send an email to Jane Kieninger (513 489 6022, jkieninger@aol.com) by Aug. 8, 2021. Seats are limited.

COS on the Go AGAIN! Fall 4

day 3 night motorcoach tour to

Pennsylvania Amish-land

and Hershey, PA. Monday

November 8 through

Thursday, Nov 11. Cost \$570

(double occupancy). \$50

deposit will hold your spot. Mail your check made out to 'COS'

to Jane Kieninger 211 Legacy Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45249 (fully

refundable until final payment). This trip is limited to 40

passengers. Deposit deadline is July 15, final payment due

September 13.



Trip includes:

- 3 nights lodging, 3 Breakfasts, 3 dinners



Matthew 25 Mission

Opportunity – Friday, April 9. 9:00. Starting in April this COS mission will meet the 2nd

Friday of every month (with a couple of exceptions) from 9:00 to 11:30 am at Matthew 25, 11060 Kenwood Road. Matthew 25 is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization. Typical jobs could involve sorting clothes, or pill bottles or hospital supplies to send to needy areas in the USA and abroad. Come and see how fun and fulfilling service can be! Meet us at Matthew 25 at 9, then lunch together afterwards (optional). Group coordinator is Leslie Bricker. Please sign up by contacting her at mobricker@msn.com or 513 410 2267. Or go on your own – call Leslie with sign up information.

Matthew 25 Ministries is currently scheduling individuals (16 years and older), households/families of all ages, and small groups for volunteer shifts Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00—4:00 pm **STARTING MARCH 1ST**. You will work for a two hour shift, under the supervision of the staff at Matthew 25 Ministries. Most often you will be sorting clothes, pill bottles and hospital supplies, getting them ready to be shipped to places all over the world where a need is identified.



BUILDER'S ARE GOING CAMPING

Join the Builders as we go to Jellystone Park Mammoth Cave, located in Cave City, Kentucky. We are going Thursday, June 24 through Sunday, June 27. Families will book individual cabins or tent campsites. If you would like additional information, please contact Carrie Feldmeyer at 655-5714 or benfeldmeyer@yahoo.com

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/1	Andrea Bell Ed Daniel Sophie Galyon Luke Gratsch		Jackie McCarthy Reagan Miller Matt Morris Alex Pinkerton		Benjamin Wolper 3/16 Patrick Coggins Charlotte Combs Cindy Morgason		Leah Hondorf Mary Hoover
3/2	James Greer Melody Overton	3/10	Craig Shuholm Hayden King		3/17 Henry Brueshaber 3/18 Jack Earl	3/26	Addie Heinen Ryan McCarthy Carl Sims
3/3	Marshall Bohannon Melody Scharfenberger		Mary Lou Miller Nora Moushey		Jake Isakson Maggie Jones	3/27	Ellie Feldkamp Zoe Shiparski Kevin Stockmann
3/4	KC Cooper Vera Meakin	3/11	David Schepppler Ella Jobe		3/19 Brian Gratsch Karen Hendricks	3/28	Caroline Keeton
3/6	Linda Constand Lynn LeRoy	3/12	Evanne Volz Ashley Gratsch		Jim Stephenson Joe Thorpe	3/29	Aria Oliver Marcallene Shockey Micah Wolper
3/7	Katie Anderson Megan Forsthoefel Rosemary Haas Clarie Kahl Andrew Sper	3/13	Elli Boni Logan Delker Joyce Miller Henry Petach		3/20 Starla Clark 3/21 Zoe Hams Mary Jane Sper	3/30	Dave Meakin
3/8	Dick Bittner Abi McGowan	3/14	Britt Raymond		3/22 Charlotte Locke 3/23 Linda Anderson Gretchen Feldkamp Ellen Mains	3/31	Jan Kelly
3/9	Bob LeRoy	3/15	Jim Haas Bryce Lindsay Sandy Norton		3/25 Lucas Duwel		