

Parish Paragraphs



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**POINT PLACE
UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST**





LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Easter is a reason to celebrate. We have a God who takes even the certain and fearsome power of death and transforms it into new life. This is Good News for all of us.

As we move forward in the Easter Season, we see that this is also a New Start for all of us. Jesus' new life is not just a re-creation of what was. It is a New Creation! And in this New Creation, we find that the old ways of living, the old motivations, the old conventional wisdom is turned upside down—even made obsolete. The old reward/punishment game has been transcended. And the new life of grace has been fully inaugurated.

Just like the disciples, this can be disorienting. We're not sure we even like this New Creation—especially when we felt like we were just getting the hang of the old way. But the reality is: the old ways and the old story of rewards and punishment ultimately led to death. It is grace and mercy that lead to life.

I know we just went through a season of self-examination (Lent) but it is the very nature of Easter that we would reassess our lives once again. We do this, however, not merely through the lens of sin and death—not merely with an eye to the Cross. We do this in the full sunlight of resurrection shining over the Path before us. We see that indeed mercy and forgiveness is the way of responding to our hurt, that blessing truly resides with the poor and vulnerable and left-behind, that the only way to the fullness of life is through dying to ourselves. How do we know? Because Christ is risen! Because all of that was HIS way, and it could not be defeated by this world, even by death itself.

So what is your path? What is our path? Certainly not the way of fear and self-preservation. Certainly the way of mercy and foot-washing and table-setting and stranger-welcoming and convention-bursting. So whose sins will we forgive? Whose feet will we wash? Where will we set our tables? What strangers need to be welcomed? Which conventions will we cast aside for new experiences of grace?

~ Pastor Jon

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17

WHAT'S COMING UP IN WORSHIP



March 29th: Maundy Thursday

5-7pm: Table in the Park (Uptown Green Park on Madison and 16th downtown); leave church at 4:30pm.

March 30th: Good Friday

11am: Community CrossWalk (meet at Lighthouse, walk to St. John's—parking at each stop)

7pm: Ecumenical Tenebrae Service at RiverPoint

April 1st: Easter Sunday

9:15am: Easter Breakfast

10:30am: Worship w/ Communion

Luke 24: Forgiveness and Resurrection

April 8th: 2nd Sunday of Easter

10:30am: Worship

Acts 1-2: The Church without Direction

April 15th: 3rd Sunday of Easter

10:30am: Celebrate Worship

Acts 3: The Church without Money

April 22nd: 4th Sunday of Easter

10:30am: Worship

Acts 4: The Church without Accreditation

April 29th: 5th Sunday of Easter

10:30am: Worship

Acts 5: The Church without Power

** Thursday (4/5) at 10:00am Worship at Genesis HC **

Cindy will be out of the office 3/29 -4/3 for vacation.

Sunday School News



Resurrection Gardens

The Sunday School children have been studying about the Easter Season. They have learned about the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed. And last week they added “tombs” covered by stones as we prepare for Holy Week. Palm Sunday, we will lead the congregation in waving our palms and look forward to Easter Sunday. We hope you will come to see how life is springing up in our gardens, just as it did on that first Easter.

The focus in the coming months will continue to be on the miracles of Jesus

As a special treat, our Sunday School kids will participate in our Easter Sunday worship service. Look for them at the very beginning of the service!

NWOA Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 28, 2018

“For Such a Time as This”

St. John’s UCC in Genoa, OH

Information and online registration is available on the NWOA UCC webpage www.nwoa.org

We are invited to bring three delegates to this meeting. If you would like to join Pastor Jon, please contact him directly or call Cindy in the office.

growth groups

JOIN ONE AND START GROWING TODAY



Monday Growth Group

April 2nd and 9th at 7:00pm

On the 1st and 2nd Monday of each month this group gathers for fellowship, Scripture, prayer, bible studies, missions, and social time. We gather at various members' homes. All are welcome. If you have any questions about the group, please contact Susan at 419-297-4674 or at sdkorecki@gmail.com.

Elizabethans Women's Group

Monday, April 9th at 6:30pm * DATE CHANGE*

The Elizabethans will meet on the 2nd Monday this month at 6:30pm in the conference room. All women are welcome to this "small but mighty" fellowship group.



Retired Men's Group

****Note New Time****

April 5, 2018 at 9:30am

The **Retired Men's Group** meets the first Thursday of the month at 9:30am. Please join us for coffee and donuts in the youth room at the church. All men are welcome.



Something Brewing April 6th at 7:00pm

This men's group meets at Black Cloister Brewing (Monroe & Erie St. downtown). You don't have to have a beer to enjoy conversation about what God has brewing in our lives and the world around us.



Opportunities to Serve



FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

We will pass out bags on Sunday April 1st and collect them the following week on the 8th.

April Focus: April Showers! Please bring in non-perishable beverages to help hydrate our neighbors in need.



"If you have faith as a mustard seed" Luke 17:6

MUSTARD SEED MINISTRY

Mustard Seed is grateful that the worst of winter is behind us. We are very grateful for the generous donations of coats and hats that helped our clients through the cold months. All of the extra help over the past few months, plus the donations of Easter treats and baskets, have been an added blessing. Thank you for your constant support of the Mustard Seed ministry.

"If you love me, feed my sheep."
John 21:15-19

Monday, April 9

Dinner at
RiverPoint Ministries
2862 131st Street

Tuesday, April 17

Mexican Dinner
Dessert
Coffee, Juice, Water

Tuesday, April 24

Spaghetti & Salad
Garlic Bread
Dessert
Coffee, Juice, Water



Tribute to Mothers

The Elizabethans are again sponsoring the "Tribute to Mothers" in order to raise funds for folks at Fairhaven Retirement Home in Upper Sandusky, Ohio, who are on "benevolent care". For a donation of \$1 or more we will print the name of your mother, living or deceased, in a special folder to be distributed on Mother's day, May 13th. **Please make your check payable to Point Place UCC.**

Please use the form below and print the names of those you wish to honor or remember. Include your name and donation for each name, and turn in your form to:

Bonny Beebe or Jim Armstrong by May 9th.

The three categories are:

"In Honor of" - living mothers

"In Memory of" - deceased mothers

"Honorary Mother"—someone who has been like a mother to you—an aunt, a special teacher, a neighbor, etc.

If you have questions please call:

Bonny Beebe 419 726 5074 or Jim Armstrong 734 848 4895

The Tribute to Mothers

(please print names legibly) Please use back for more names.

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Honorary Mother _____

My gift of \$_____ is enclosed. Phone _____

Signed: _____

Celebrate

Anniversaries

- 1 Harley and Tina Mockbee
- 20 Curtis and Alison Osmun
- 23 Mark and Melissa Mayfield

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please contact the office.



the
birthday club

Birthdays

- 4 William Beebe
- 7 Bonny Beebe
- 8 Lynette Thayer
- 13 Jim Debth
- 13 Nancy Harrington
- 14 Bill Reimschuessel
- 19 Linda Woodall
- 20 Dick Berkhoudt
- 22 Pat Ambrose
- 24 William Ramp
- 24 Ashley Seybold
- 26 Abby Geletzke

The Birthday Club

The Birthday Club celebrates our Birthdays of the month with a lunch at a local restaurant. Look for April's lunch details in a future Worship Folder.

Financial Information for February 28, 2018

	2/28/18	Year to Date (2/2818)
Total Income	\$ 8,307	\$ 15,222
Total Expenses	—\$ 10,372	—\$ 22,425
Net Income	—\$ 2,065	—\$ 7,203
Balance in General Checking Acct 2/28/18		\$18,334.30
Money designated to Funds (FMS, Celebrate)		(\$13,888.97)
Amount available in General Funds 2/28/18		\$5,455.33

THE GIVING TREE



The Monday night Growth Group is still sponsoring the **Giving Tree** but we're trying something new. Instead of asking for different items each month we'll be emphasizing our **Manna Bag Mission project** all year. We need travel size personal items such as shampoo, soap, lo-

tion, toothpaste and also, tooth brushes, combs, socks, water bottles, gloves, small bags of snack food or granola bars. When the bags are complete they will be on the Giving Tree table in Paterson Hall. We're asking everyone to take one or two at a time and give them away to someone in need.

SAVE THE DATE—POINT PLACE VBS!

The Point Place/ Shoreland community VBS will be held at Messiah Lutheran Church from June 18-22. The theme is still TBD. We will be joyfully corralling the pre-school groups this Summer! If you are interested in being a point person for the church, please talk to Pastor Jon.

Just For Laughs

Secret of a Long Life

Grandpa Jones was celebrating his 100th birthday and everybody complimented him on how athletic and well-preserved he appeared. "Gentlemen, I will tell you the secret of my success," he cackled. "I have been in the open air day after day for some 75 years now."

The celebrants were impressed and asked how he managed to keep up his rigorous fitness regime.

"Well, you see my wife and I were married 75 years ago. On our wedding night, we made a solemn pledge. Whenever we had a fight, the one who was proved wrong would go outside and take a walk."

~A cheerful heart is a good medicine ~ Proverbs 17:22

**POINT PLACE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Address service
requested

*To care for one another
as God cares for us.*

