

MARCH 2007

Faith Community United Church of Christ

Dialog



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... from the pen of Pastor Van Brussel

Why should we go to church?

As the Lenten season started on Ash Wednesday, I wish to say a few words about why we go to church.

1) The first and foremost reason is that God asks us to: "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy," as it says in the Commandments. We go to show our thanks to God for all that He has done for us. We go out of respect, we go out of duty, and we go to give thanks. It's first of all about God and not about us.

2) We go to church because of the words from scripture in John 6 where Peter says, "Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!" We go to church because there we are reminded of the gifts God gives and the benefits of having a relationship with Him.

3) We go to church to give. We give back a portion of what we have as an offering in gratitude for all God gives. We go to church to give to others because God gives to us. That giving might be monetary, it might be support and love, and it might be time and abilities.

4) Lastly, we go to church to get the grace and forgiveness we need to make it through another week. We go to church to hear again that God loves us and accepts us as we are, where we are. And God challenges us to work toward being more Christ-like!

Now ... did you notice I did not say anything about going to church because of the music, the building, if one likes the Pastor, or the service makes one feel good. That may happen, but it is not one of the primary reasons for going to church ... it is just a bonus! ***See you in church!***

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Library News



As you travel through Lent this year, why not do something different? Your library can be your travel guide. Our Lenten display contains several works of fiction which can give you insights into events and personalities which strictly factual accounts cannot. What is really enlightening is to read more than one author's interpretation of the same event. Two thought-provoking novels have recently been added to our collection. *The Messiah* by Marjorie Holmes concludes her trilogy about Jesus' life begun in *Two from Galilee*, and continued in *Three from Galilee: The Young Man from Nazareth*. The naturalness and genuine emotion of Holme's prose effectively brings to life Jesus, his family and followers. She has created a thoughtful, stirring reconstruction of Jesus' ministry, from the wedding feast at Cana through the Crucifixion and Resurrection. In *Jesus: A Novel* Walter Wangerin's beautiful descriptive language evokes the sights, sounds, smells, sensibilities and politics of the world in which Jesus lived. He especially focuses on the personality of Jesus' mother, sharing her perspectives on the events of his life as well as those of Gospel writer John. These and other works of fiction and non-fiction and some videos are included in the library display. For a memorable Lenten journey, take advantage of your library resources.

Since our Lenten worship includes pot-luck dinners, this is a perfect opportunity to expand the library's recipe file. If you will bring your special recipes, I will copy them and return them immediately. I'll do the transcribing. Copies will be placed in the file for all to enjoy.

Gloria Parker

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to ...

March 3	Melissa Stroud
March 4	Judy Walle
March 6	Peggy Walters
March 8	Matthew Phillis Charlene Reese
March 19	Catherine Garvin
March 22	Darlene Stark
March 24	Joe Kowalski
March 25	Erin Cole
March 27	Amanda Hammack
March 30	William Stark
March 31	Don Amsden

Happy Anniversary to ...

March 7	John & Inez Reichard
March 31	Lowell & Sheron Kern



MARCH 13
Good Bunch
Gathering
11:30 a.m..

The Good Bunch will meet on Tuesday, March 13 at 11:30 p.m. at Dolly & Joe's Restaurant, 1045 S. Reynolds Rd. Sign-up on the sheet on the hallway bulletin board or call Phyllis or Jacques Reitzke to make a reservation. Hope to see you all there.

Remember in Prayer...



Dick Bader
Dorothy Van Brussel
Ron Loe



Lenten Schedule Worship Opportunities

The penitential season of Lent has already started with our Ash Wednesday service on February 21. In this article I would like to outline the rest of our Lenten Mid-Week and Holy Week schedule for you to mark down on your personal calendars so you can schedule your busy time to be part of these worship experiences. The schedule is as follows:

Each Wednesday will begin with a potluck at 6:30pm followed by our worship time at 7:30!

February 28, 2007 (2nd Wednesday in Lent)
Potluck 6:30pm

Worship 7:30pm
Individualized liturgy for this specific Wednesday. Reading of The History of the Passion of Our Lord / 'Before the Passover'
Phone dialog between Pastor and Peggy Knapp
Sermon text: St. Luke 19:5/Alone and Friendless

March 7, 2007 (3rd Wednesday in Lent)
Potluck 6:30pm

Worship 7:30pm
Individualized liturgy for this specific Wednesday. Reading of The History of the Passion of Our Lord / 'The Last Supper and Gethsemane'
Phone dialog between Pastor and Phyllis Rietzke
Sermon text: St. Mark 10:17 / The Impossible Made Possible

March 14, 2007 (4th Wednesday in Lent)
Potluck 6:30pm

Worship 7:30pm
Individualized liturgy for this specific Wednesday. Reading of The History of the Passion of Our Lord / 'Apprehension and Trial'
Phone dialog between Pastor and Jacqui Adams
Sermon text: St. John 4:7 / Diversion

March 21, 2007 (5th Wednesday in Lent)
Potluck 6:30pm
Worship 7:30pm
Individualized liturgy for this specific Wednesday. Reading of The History of the Passion of Our Lord / 'Jesus Before Pilate and Herod'
Phone dialog between Pastor and Bob Stoos
Sermon text: St. Mark 5:8 / Desperation

March 28, 2007 (6th Wednesday in Lent)
Potluck 6:30pm
Worship 7:30pm
Individualized liturgy for this specific Wednesday. Reading of The History of the Passion of Our Lord / 'The Sentence and the Way of the Cross'
Phone dialog between Pastor and Amanda Hammack
Sermon text: Matthew 27:22 / Indecision

HOLY WEEK - Palm Sunday (April 1, 2007)
Regular services w/ **Communion** 10:30am

HOLY WEEK - Thursday (April 7, 2007)
Worship 7:30pm
Individualized liturgy for this special Thursday of Holy Week
Sermon text: St. John 31-35 / Lift up your hearts!
Communion

HOLY WEEK - Good Friday (April 5, 2007)
The church sanctuary will be available between 12 and 3pm for your personal devotions on this most holy of days. You may come and go as your own schedules permit.

EASTER SUNDAY - April 8, 2007
Sunrise Service 8:00am
Breakfast following (for those who come to sunrise and for those who come to regular time...serving between 9:15 and 10:15)
Easter Celebration Worship Service 10:30am
Communion both services





			WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.	2 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 	3
4 <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> Worship, 10:30 a.m. Feed Your Neighbor Choral Practice, 10 a.m.	5 Block Watch, 6:30-7:30 p.m.	6	7 <i>Mid-Week LENTEN Service</i> Potluck, 6:30 p.m. Service, 7:30 p.m. 	8 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.	9 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	10
11  Set clocks ahead 1 hour <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i> Worship, 10:30 a.m. Choral Practice, 10 a.m.	12	13 THE GOOD BUNCH, Dolly & Joe's Restaurant, 1045 S. Reynolds Rd., 11:30 a.m.	14 <i>Mid-Week LENTEN Service</i> Potluck, 6:30 p.m. Service, 7:30 p.m. 	15 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bible Study, 10:30 a.m. <i>Jiggs Dinner</i> 5 to 7 p.m. 	16 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. <i>DIALOG DEADLINE</i>	17 
18 <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i> Worship, 10:30 a.m. Choral Practice, 10 a.m.	19	20	21 <i>Mid-Week LENTEN Service</i> Potluck, 6:30 p.m. Service, 7:30 p.m. 	22 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bible Study, 10:30 a.m. <i>COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m.</i>	23 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	24
25 <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i> Worship, 10:30 a.m. Choral Practice, 10 a.m.	26	27	28 <i>Mid-Week LENTEN Service</i> Potluck, 6:30 p.m. Service, 7:30 p.m. 	29 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.	30 Office Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	31

Bible Review

by J. VanBrussel

Have FUN!

- 1) What kind of man was Boaz before he married?
- 2) What do they call pastors in Germany?
- 3) Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?
- 4) Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?
- 5) What kind of motor vehicles are mentioned in the Bible?

Answers:

- 1...Ruthless
- 2...German Shepherds
- 3...Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.
- 4...Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.
- 5...Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden in a "Fury." David's "Triumph" was heard through the land. Also, the disciples probably drove a Honda as they were all in one "Accord."



50th Anniversary Faith Community UCC

Faith Community Church met for its first worship service in June 1957 as a mission church of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. That same month the United Church of Christ was formed from the union of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Christian Church.

A committee has been working to plan a celebration of the anniversary, and the designated weekend is June 9-10, 2007. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the festivities. The schedule is as follows:

Saturday, June 9, 2007

5:00 p.m.—
Gathering for Renewed Friendships (in the Narthex)
6:00 p.m. —
Dinner by reservation; freewill

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offering (in Fellowship Hall)
7:00 p.m. —
Celebration program (in Sanctuary)

Sunday, June 10, 2007

10:30 a.m. —
Celebration Worship Service (in Sanctuary)
11:30 a.m. —
Luncheon and Fellowship (in Fellowship Hall)

More information will follow; please contact a committee member if you have memorabilia or historical documents and pictures you would like to share. The committee members are: Nancy Barrios, Ruby Burkey, JoAnn Diefenthaler, Dorothy and Joe Kowalski, and Susie Telljohann.



Dear Friends at Faith,

Thank you for your love and concerns, cards, and prayers. They meant a deal to me during Lowell's illness and passing. God bless you!"

Jan Wolff

Thank you for all the great thank you cards. I don't know what occasion sparked them, but they were definitely appreciated. Also, thanks to all of you for your love and support during this whole difficult year for me.

B.J. Lord

Notes from Council ...

- Mary Pinkley will be our new organist.
- The Jiggs Dinner will be Thursday, March 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adult tickets, \$7.50, under 12, \$3.
- A memorial service for Lowell Wolff will be held on Saturday, April 7 at 11 a.m. with a luncheon after.
- When there is communion, it will be given up front with the bread eaten first and then the wine or grape juice next. The cups are to be placed in a box next to the altar.
- The tentative schedule for the 50th anniversary was established. (See article this page.)

From the finance director

The finance committee will meet the first month after each quarter. In other words—April, July, October and January. The committee will meet on the 2nd Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Anyone interested in joining the committee, please see Mary Anderson.

Welcome New Member

Welcome to our new member, who was accepted into the congregation during a worship service last month.

Jacquie Adams
2338 Timberlawn
Toledo, OH 43614
419-382-6189



Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song. They give him \$100."

The third boy says, "I've got you both beat. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes two people to collect all the money!"

A police recruit was asked during the exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?" He answered, "Call for backup!"

An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she wrote, "They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead."

(LAUGHS THANKS TO PASTOR VAN BRUSSEL)



The Apostles' Creed

Every Sunday we have opportunity to say a 'creed'...a statement of belief and often times we can utilize different wording, however, its base is the Apostles' Creed. For your information I wish to point out these profound words of our belief system come directly from the Bible such as:

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth... Genesis 1:1
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son...

..... Mark 1:11
our Lord. John 20:28

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit... Luke 1:35
and born of the virgin Mary. Luke 2:7
He suffered under Pontius Pilate...

..... Mark 15:15-20
was crucified..... Mark 15:24
died... Mark 15:37
and was buried. Mark 15:46

He descended into hell..... I Peter 3:18-20; 4:6
On the third day he rose again. Mark 16:6
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. I Peter 3:22
He will come again to judge the living and the dead. Mark 13:26-27; Acts 10-42

I believe in the Holy Spirit... Matt. 28:19
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, Eph. 2:19-22; 5:25-27
the forgiveness of sins Eph. 1:7
the resurrection of the body, Phil. 3:20-21
and the life everlasting. John 3:16
Amen. Rev. 22:21

...AND WHO SAID YOU COULDN'T QUOTE SCRIPTURE?

Way to go...Pastor J. VanBrussel

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At this writing, we are up to our curly locks in snow with more to come. I hope as you read this, you are picking daisies outside. Whichever the case may be, our rummage sale will take place May 4 and 5, 2007. Please keep your calendars free for the week of April 29 through May 5—all members, non-members, men and women. Lunch will be served all workers Monday through Saturday at noon.

We will sell almost anything you can donate, but to be helpful here is the usual list:

We need your clothes of all kinds, (even underwear), shoes, purses, ties, belts, swim suits, bedding, blankets, pillows, books, puzzles, work-ing appliances, tools, dishes, children's clothes and toys, coats, boots, craft items, golf, tennis, and bowling items, and especially furniture, and Christmas things, or any other items you can think of. (Please do not bring large Christmas trees, traverse curtain rods, or car tires.)

Bring your goodies and grubbies to church any morning Sunday, April 29 through Thursday morning, May 3. Sign up in the hallway (even if you can only spare an hour or so.)

Please bring tables for us the first of the week with your names on the undersides. We really need YOU. You will have first choice shopping, have fun, eat together and fellowship all week along with much appreciated work with all proceeds donated to your church general fund.

Many thanks to everyone

Phyl Rietzke

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