

THE TOWERS

201 S. Main St., West Milton, Ohio 45383

March 2018

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Life from Death

John 10:7-10 ⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Hello Friends,

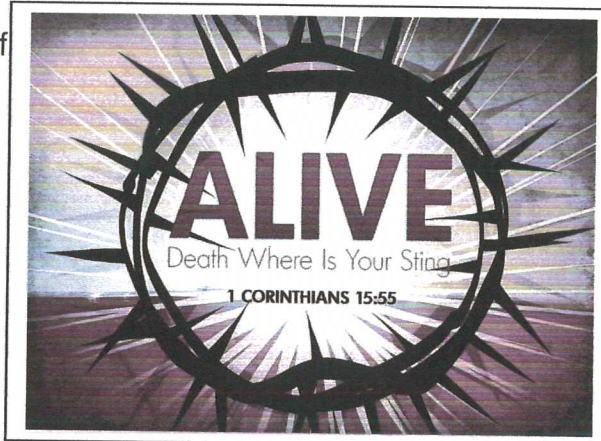
After this month comes to an end, we will once again be on the cusp of celebrating the old, old story of Jesus' resurrection. One of the essential elements of the Christian faith is the belief that because Jesus conquered death, believers have a future hope. We have a hope that when this life comes to an end, when our bodies have taken their last breath, there is a hope for a life to come, with new bodies, in a place prepared for us that has no sorrow, no pain, and no end.

Over the last few months, over what has been a very grief-filled winter, I have led several services now over the faithful making that journey. In those services I have in one form or another shared reminders from Scripture of the hope that lies ahead for those who have put their trust in God, and particularly in Christ as Savior. Among the traditional words lifted up, sometimes at the graveside, are the words, believed shared by monks in the 9th Century, "in the midst of life, we are in death. From whom can we seek help?" The response is from Psalm 124, "Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and hearth."

The Season of Lent in general, and this winter in particular, remind us how fragile we are, and how life is fleeting. Sometimes we can almost see our form and frame, our youth

and vitality, turning to vapor as the writer of James describes.

My inclination is that John 10 is not limited to the resurrection of the future, when we are raised from the dead to be with Christ. I love that the quote is in present tense, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." It does not say, "will have life." The life that Christ offers is not "only" the future home, but is also a "here and now." This is not to be mistaken for "name it, claim it" theology, nor is it to be confused with a promise to be "happy."



But how do we quantify what it is for life to be "full?" Personally, I believe this is as individual as the giftedness we each have from God. One example may be when one gets to gather in a meal with friends and loved ones, and they feel a "fullness" that isn't about the quantity of food. Another might be someone's feeling they have when they know some small thing they did, or a gift they gave is impacting hundreds of people. For someone else it might be knowing they had a small part in the giving and caring

person who some years ago was in the nursery, or a Sunday School class, or was one mentored for confirmation.

In case you feel on the wrong side of this "fullness of life" concept, I will invite you to put before God the "resurrection" you are needing as we march ever closer to the empty tomb once more. Whether you are needing God's life-restoring power in your relationships, or just needing to be able to enjoy the "now," I'm convinced God is still resurrecting today, and thus, our hope is not only for the future, but for now, as well.

May God through Christ grant each of us the abundant life we need today, and forever.

In His Service and Yours,



Hoffman United Methodist Church

February 2018

Board Meeting Highlights

Devotions

Cindy Johnston gave devotion, which came from Deuteronomy 8: 1-5. We need to remember to not only thank God for the specific blessings, but those quiet blessings as well.

Mission Update

Grandma's Kitchen update given by Val McKay. March 21st will be the opening. Grandma's Kitchen has been active for 20 years. Average 100 dine-ins and 100 carry outs, those include homebound. Proceeds go to FISH and Heifer Project International. Leftover food is taken to the abuse shelter, and roughly 60 meals are donated each week. There will be an informational meeting on March 7, 2018 at 10:45 a.m. for those interested in helping with Grandma's Kitchen this season. There are needs for volunteers on Wednesday evenings, as well as a need for a cook, 2-3 hours, once a month.

Staff/Parish Relations

Carol Storer and Cindy Johnston attended Staff Parish Committee Training. One topic was how to get people/community into church. One suggestion from the training was to work with and not towards the public, and always go into the work as a humbler learner. Mrs. Johnston spoke about what a wonderful job that Hoffman does with outreach to our community.

Endowment Team

We may have the opportunity for a speaker come and talk to those interested about the endowment fund was mentioned. Sign-ups for the talk was suggested, to see if there was any interest in the congregation.

Meeting Attendees

John Ankerman, Pastor Robbie Scott, Dick Martens, Les Trittschuh, Leah Blackburn, Carol Storer, Tina Matthews, Cindy Johnston, Mike Sanderson, Val McKay

Trustees

Clocks in the activity center were replaced with atomic clocks. There have been no major decisions decided for 2018. Monthly giving was down in January, weather is most likely a factor

Pastors Report

January attendance is averaging 154. Weather is not helping this number. Becky has most things wrapped up during her maternity leave. The Children's Ministry Family Fun Event has been postponed to the summer.

Becky and Pam have finished submitting a grant request to the Miami County Foundation, \$800 for Lunch Bunch and \$3,500 for Bulldog Bags, a total of \$4,300.

The Mission Team had a successful pizza and sub sale. A profit of \$651.40 was made. The next fundraiser will be a bake sale Palm Sunday. There will a meeting March 4th.

Joseph has stated the bad weather of January has hampered some attendance on Sunday nights for the Youth Ministry. The numbers have been no more than 22 and no less than 16, which are still good. There has been a youth covenant he has had the attendees and their parents sign. It is for youth accountability and integrity not only for themselves but the church too. There are 5 kids for confirmation. There is a selective search for the confirmation mentors.

There will be a Ministry Fair again this year. Possible date in early Fall.

Serving Schedule

- Mar 4th** – Altar flowers are in celebration of Cliff & Katie Poling's 40th anniversary
9:00 Liturgist: Valerie McKay **Greeters:** Nadine Thompson & Nancy Lightcap
Ushers: Lee & Becky Baker and Wayne & Susie Spittler **Hospitality:** Jim & Marilyn M. and Val M.
Nursery: 10:15 Kim D. & Teesha B. **/11:15** Jill C. & Becky G.
11:15 Greeters: Ben G., Julia C., & Kathy Koeller **Scripture Reader:** Valerie M. **Sound:** Eric M.
Ushers: Les & Sharon T. and John A. **Media:** Norman H.
- Mar 11th** – Altar flowers are in memory of Nora Eve Raines
9:00 Liturgist: Mike Circle **Greeters:** Bill & Judy Brown
Ushers: Les & Sharon Trittschuh and Phil & Karen McFadden **Hospitality:** Steve K. & Kay W.
Nursery: 10:15 Marcia C. & Lesli R. **/11:15** Kathy Koeller and Cliff & Katie P.
11:15 Greeters: Lisa W., Dick & Mary Ann Martens **Scripture Reader:** Julia C. **Sound:** Jill C.
Ushers: Julia C., Ben G., Sally & Paul Miller **Media:** Norman H.
- Mar 18th** – Altar flowers are in celebration of Larry Thoele's birthday
9:00 Liturgist: Wendy Heisey **Greeters:** Nancy Studebaker & Richard Smith
Ushers: Richard Smith, Jim Scammahorn & Dave Thompson **Hospitality:** Chris & Linda L.
Nursery: 10:15 Jill C. & Patti W. **/11:15** Emily K. & Jennifer Knostman
11:15 Greeters: Kathy Watkins **Scripture Reader:** Ben G. **Sound:** Norman H.
Ushers: Dejon D. & Greg B. **Media:** Michael B.
- Mar 25th** – Altar flowers are in celebration of Eames Circle's birthday
9:00 Liturgist: Les Trittschuh **Greeters:** Carol Bailey & Carol Storer
Ushers: Cliff Poling & Joe Blackburn **Hospitality:** Joe & Leah B.
Nursery: 10:15 Eric & Johanna M. **/11:15** Megan B. & Ben G.
11:15 Greeters: Sally & Paul M. **Scripture Reader:** Dean B. **Sound:** Norman H.
Ushers: Mike & Denise S. and Lisa W. **Media:** Valerie M.



Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary March 2018

- | | |
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| <p>1st - Jerry Pinkerton
 2nd - Pam Hitchcock
 Hannah Scott
 4th - Jim Mitchell
 Cliff & Katie Poling (40 yrs)
 5th - Linda Seman
 6th - Christine Pruitt
 Jim Scammahorn
 7th - Alex Morrow
 10th - Lee Baker
 Nicole Ressler
 Heather Ressler
 Jerry Richards
 Jordan Sanderson
 11th - Mike & Denise Sanderson (29 yrs)
 12th - Ivie Markley
 13th - Jim & Kathy Watkins (47 yrs)</p> | <p>15th - Wilma Fryman
 17th - Jack Everage
 18th - Evan Beard
 Nan Guthrie
 19th - Matthew Burns
 20th - Phil McFadden
 Mark & Vicky House (31 yrs)
 24th - Dan & Erin Studebaker (17 yrs)
 25th - Eric Morrow
 26th - Bill & Judy Brown (47 yrs)
 Eames Circle
 28th - Miriam Miller
 Marilyn Mitchell
 29th - Greg Brubaker
 Robert Cox
 Marilyn Stickney
 30th - John Lawhorn</p> |
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Hoffman United Methodist Church

Mar 2018 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>25</div> <p>9am - Worship 10:15am - S School 11:15am - Worship 6:30pm - Ignite</p>	<div>26</div> <p>6pm - Girl Scouts - B</p>	<div>27</div> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Women's</p>	<div>28</div> <p>9am - Women's 6:30pm - Ladies 7pm - Chancel Choir 7pm - Private Mtg. -</p>	<div>1</div> <p>12:30pm - W Design 7pm - Cub Scouts - 7:30pm - Praise</p>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <p>12pm - Y. Spirits - A.</p>
<div>4</div> <p>Communion 9am - Worship 10:15am - S School 11:15am - Worship 12:30pm - Mission 6:30pm - Ignite</p>	<div>5</div> <p>6pm - Girl Scouts - B 7pm - Visitation 7pm - Y. Spirits Mtg.</p>	<div>6</div> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Women's 7pm - Trustee Mtg. -</p>	<div>7</div> <p>9am - Women's 10:45am - Gma's 6:30pm - Ladies 7pm - Chancel Choir 7pm - Private Mtg. -</p>	<div>8</div> <p>7pm - Cub Scouts - 7:30pm - Praise</p>	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div> <p>12pm - Y. Spirits - A.</p>
<div>11</div> <p>Daylight Savings 9am - Worship 10:15am - S School 11:15am - Worship 6:30pm - Ignite</p>	<div>12</div> <p>6pm - Girl Scouts - B</p>	<div>13</div> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Men's 6:30pm - Women's</p>	<div>14</div> <p>9am - Women's 6:30pm - Ladies 7pm - Chancel Choir 7pm - Private Mtg. -</p>	<div>15</div> <p>Towers' Deadline 6:30pm - Board Mtg 7pm - Cub Scouts - 7:30pm - Praise</p>	<div>16</div>	<div>17</div> <p>? Private Party-B @</p>
<div>18</div> <p>9am - Worship 10:15am - S School 11:15am - Worship 6:30pm - Ignite</p>	<div>19</div> <p>6pm - Girl Scouts - B</p>	<div>20</div> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Men's</p>	<div>21</div> <p>9am - Women's 5pm - Grandma's 6:30pm - Ladies 7pm - Chancel Choir 7pm - Private Mtg. -</p>	<div>22</div> <p>7pm - Cub Scouts - 7:30pm - Praise</p>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div> <p>Y. Spirits - A.C.</p>
<div>25</div> <p>Palm Sunday 9am - Mission Team 9am - Worship 10:15am - S School 11:15am - Worship 6:30pm - Ignite</p>	<div>26</div> <p>6pm - Girl Scouts - B</p>	<div>27</div> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Men's</p>	<div>28</div> <p>9am - Women's 5pm - Grandma's 7pm - Chancel Choir 7pm - Private Mtg. -</p>	<div>29</div> <p>Mail Towers 6:30pm - 4-H - B 7:30pm - Praise</p>	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div>

GRANDMA'S KITCHEN March 2018 MENU

HOFFMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

201 S. MAIN STREET, WEST MILTON 698-4401 Website: HoffmanUMC.org

SERVING MOST WEDNESDAYS BEGINNING AT 5:00 to 6:15 P.M.

PUBLIC INVITED CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE \$7 DONATION PER MEAL Kids Meal \$3

Welcome Back!

We look forward to seeing you again.

March 21st Chicken & noodles
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Fruit Jello
Brownies

March 28th Meat Loaf
Mashed Potatoes
California Blend
Applesauce
Ice Cream Sundae

Menu items are subject to change



EASTER MEMORIALS

Easter Sunday is the day that many in our congregation want to remember special people who have touched their lives. Easter Lilies and Hydrangeas will be ordered from Stockslagers to share with the church in the form of sanctuary decorations. Please mark below your choices. The deadline for ordering flowers is Sunday, March 11th.

Your flowers may be picked up after the second service on Easter Sunday. *(Substitutions may be necessary.)*

	Quantity	Total Price
HYDRANGEAS @ \$11.00	_____	\$ _____
EASTER LILY @ \$ 9.00	_____	\$ _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Your Name: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Hoffman United Methodist Church
201 S Main Street, West Milton OH 45383

People to remember in prayer:



Hoffman Sympathies to: the family of Betty Scherman as she passed away on January 24, 2018

At Home: Phil Blue, Nan Guthrie, Valaria Harshbarger, Dick & Eugenie Markley,
Joetta Perry, and Shirley Richhart

At Centers:

Reba Hellard, 3151 Orders Road, Grove City OH 43132
Eldon Hoke, Piqua Manor, 1840 W High St., Rm 64, Piqua OH 45356
John Jackson, 46 Lavender Pl, Tipp City OH 45371
Wilma Johnston, Koester Pavilion, 3232 N Co. Rd. 25A, Rm 39, Troy OH 45373
Christine Moreland Pruitt, Brookdale Place, 95 Wenger Rd., Apt 310 Englewood, OH 45322,
Jean Truitt, Wedgewood Estates of Mansfield, 6005 Trimble Rd, Rm 101, Mansfield OH 44906
Katie Weeks, 1746 E Silver Star Road #525, Ocoee, FL 34761

Please remember all of our shut-ins with cards and prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The April Tower's deadline will be on March 15th, the mailing date will remain on March 29th.

Remember to 'Spring' your clocks ahead on March 11th

Congratulations a Baby Girl!

Penelope Jane Todd was born February 10th and was 6 lbs., 8 ozs. and 19" long. Levi and Kaitlyn are the proud parents and Amy and Shane Todd the grandparents.

Easter Celebration April 1st

Easter Sunrise Service 7 a.m.
Breakfast 7:45 a.m.
Easter Worship Times 9 and 11:15 a.m.

Grandma's Kitchen Meeting

Grandma's Kitchen will be having a meeting on Wednesday morning, March 7 at 10:45 in the Multi-Purpose room at church. If you have questions, suggestions, concerns, recipes, or menu ideas to share please join us. We have a couple of items to discuss and would like your input.

If you are unable to attend, please call Marilyn (947-1831) or Val (371-4965) or leave notes in the Grandma's Kitchen mailbox so we can consider your valued input.

Grandma's Kitchen Reopens

Grandma's Kitchen will be opening on Wednesday, March 21. Please join us for dinner in the Activity Center from 5:00 to 6:15 or, if it is more convenient for you, we can pack a carry-out meal for you to take home. Meals are \$7; a child's meal with smaller portions is \$3. Please check the menu provided in this month's Towers or on the church webpage.

Grandma's Kitchen has been providing meals for the public for almost 20 years. Anyone is welcome to join us. We have regular guests from West Milton, Potsdam, Laura, Ludlow Falls, Pleasant Hill, Englewood, Union, Troy, Tipp City and several from Darke County with ages ranging from infant to 96. We average 210 meals per week; usually 100 guests dine-in and the remainder are carry-out or delivery to home-bound families in the area.

We operate as a non-profit mission project for Hoffman Church. Our "profits" are donated to local, national and international food missions such as FISH and the Heifer Project. We provide approximately 60 free meals per week to local families in need and also donate the leftover food from each meal to the Franklin House (family abuse shelter) in Troy. Your purchased meals make the mission aspect of Grandma's Kitchen possible. Some facts from last year:

Open 33 weeks
6897 meals served
67 different volunteers
2954 volunteer hours
\$1154 donated to Union Township FISH
Approximately \$4000 worth of food donations to the Franklin House

Please join us on March 21 as we begin another year of Grandma's Kitchen.

Grandma's Kitchen Volunteers Needed

We need approximately 35 volunteers each week for Grandma's Kitchen. Scheduled work times are Tuesday morning (food prep), Wednesday morning (packing for carry-outs), Wednesday afternoon (cooking and final set-up) and Wednesday evening (delivering meals, serving meals and clean-up) with time commitments ranging from 1 hour to 4 hours. Our cooks, who usually work for 4 hours on Wednesday afternoons, usually work just one Wednesday each month. Our volunteers have several "perks": a free meal from Grandma's Kitchen each week they work and the fun, fellowship and satisfaction that result from working together in service to others.

If you are able to work one of those times—as part-time help, full-time help or as a sub— please call the church (698-4401), Val McKay (371-4965) or Marilyn Mitchell (947-1831) or sign up on one of the volunteer clipboards. Clipboards will be passed around the congregation at both services in late February and early March and one will also be left in the kitchen. If you have questions about what each job involves, please call Marilyn or Val.

MARCH "BODY" HEALTH

2018 ADULT MINISTRY NEWS

"to prepare God's people for works of service so
that the body of Christ may be built up..." Eph. 4:12

Contact: Pam Hitchcock

937-698-6511

pamhitchcock@hoffmanumc.org

Kairos Prison Ministry Cookies

Needed by February 28th



Join in the Kairos Cookie Ministry! Homemade cookies are a tangible expression of Christian love and an indication of God's concern for a group of people who seldom encounter either in the course of their daily lives. Your loving sacrifice will provide "bread" that shines the Light of God's Grace into the darkest corners of a prison unit. A typical Kairos Weekend will go through thousands of dozens of cookies which are distributed to inmates, correction officer, support staff and yes, even team members! Please make as many as you possibly can. They will NOT go to waste! May God bless you for the gift of baking!

Information and Instructions are at the Information Table by the office. Deliver your home-baked, zip-lock bagged cookies to Hoffman Feb. 28th and place in the marked box UNDER the Information Table.

Men's Bible Study to Resume March 13th

On Tuesday, March 13th, @ 6:30P the Men's Study Group will start again. Meet in the basement.



Time to Think LUNCH BUNCH!

Though Lunch Bunch is four months away, it is not too early for everyone to be praying about how God might use you for six weeks this summer. We will have a BIG need for a **Super-Shopper** who will, every two weeks, take an inventory of supplies and then go shopping. We also have needs for **Kitchen Coordinators**, **Kitchen Workers**, and **Craft people**. I would also like to work with someone who would be willing to eventually coordinate the summer program. Pray and then give me a call or drop me an email!



Summer Family Mission Trip UPDATES

NEXT Meeting Sunday, Mar.4th @12:30

There is still time to join the team—non-refundable commitment deposits of \$30 per person are due at the March 4th meeting. Total cost of the trip will be approx. \$260, with more fundraising efforts to help with costs. Remember children of all ages are welcome, however under the age of 12 they must be accompanied by a parent. Our youth group is also planning to be a part of the team. See Youth Director, Joseph Knostman for the Youth details.

Mission Team Bake Sale Palm Sunday, March 25th

There will be a bake sale after both worship services to support the mission team. You can help them in **TWO** ways: You can donate baked goods for them to sell and/or you can buy your Easter goodies for a donation of any amount. If you can donate baked goods, bring your goodies to either worship service or to Sunday school. Thanks!

Thank You for Your Sub and Pizza Orders!

The Mission Team thanks all of you who purchased subs and pizzas! It was a very successful fundraiser. Thanks to Tom's Pizza for giving us the opportunity to do this.

Mark Your Calendars for April 29th

We will sponsor a Unity Service and Meal. There will be one service at 10AM followed by a meal. Donations will go to the Mission Team. More details in the April Towers.

Future 2018 Emmaus Walks

See me or others who have been on Emmaus walks for more information.

Women's #104 - Jul 19-22, 2018 at Sulphur Grove UMC

Men's #66 - Aug 23-26, 2018 at Sulphur Grove UMC,

Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church
7505 Taylorsville Road,
Huber Heights, OH 45424

"Jesus said, "Let the little **children** come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Mark 10:14

Each Sunday our children are learning a lot of information about Jesus and the Bible. Our nursery for the month of March will be focusing on how Jesus loves each of them. Our preschool Sunday school class will be learning about the 10 Commandments and the second service preschool class and the elementary Sunday school class will be continuing their lessons on Jesus' life. A big thank you to all our volunteers each Sunday who make the lessons fun and memorable for each group of children.

If there is anyone who would like to put on a winter/spring family fun night, similar to last year's family fun night, please see Becky Garrett. Due to having a baby soon, Becky cannot be in charge, but is willing to give guidance and help to anyone who has interest in leading a family fun night.

Sunday School Hour

10:15-11:10

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Preschool Children's
Church Hour

11:15-12:15

Children's Director: Becky Garrett
RebeccaGarrett@hoffmanumc.org
937-524-7220

Young Spirits Performance

March 25th

7pm

Bake Sale

March 25

10:00-12:30

Sunday School Teachers needed

Sunday night volunteers needed

Youth Director: Joseph Knostman
JosephKnostman@hoffmanumc.org
937-573-7212

"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."

1 John 4:4



A lot of things happening in March! The deadline to sign up for the Mission Trip this summer is March 1. Deposit of \$30 is due. We will be going to Athens, OH on June 17-23. If interested, see Joseph for more details! As a fundraiser for the mission trip, we will be holding a bake sale before and after church services on March 25. We will need plenty of both 'bakers' and 'takers'.

Also on Palm Sunday weekend is the Young Spirits performance. Please come watch our community's youth as they sing about hope and love this Easter season. Ignite will be going together on Sunday, March 25 at 7pm, in place of our normal meeting time.

Confirmation classes have begun, so please be in prayer for both our youth and their mentors. Thank you to the mentors who stepped up to lead the youth. You are helping to shape the future.

X

hoffman
united methodist church
201 S Main Street
West Milton OH 45383

X

the **open door**
come as you are

Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Tipp City, OH
Permit No. 26

X

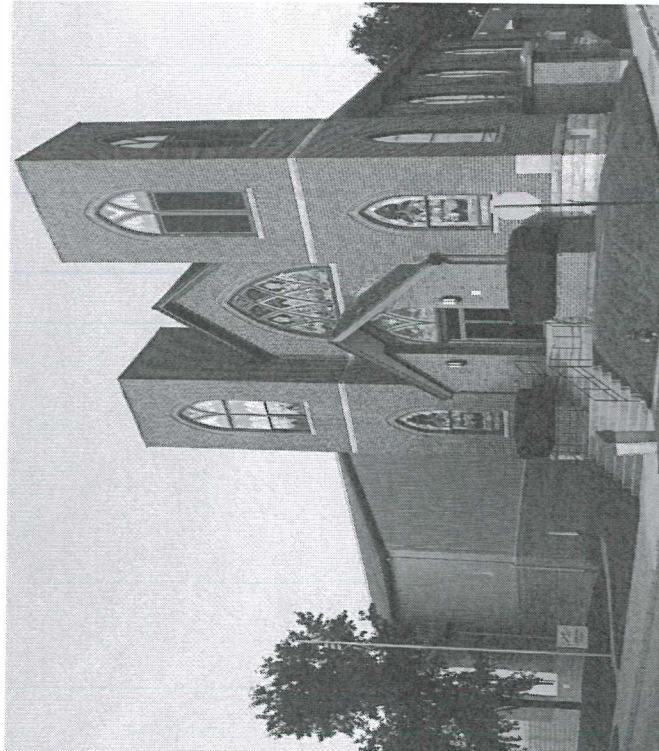
Return Service Requested

Place Label Here

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**TOWERS
THERS**

**March
2018**



HOFFMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Time: 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

(937) 698-4401 Website: HoffmanUMC.org

Pastor Robbie Scott