

THE TOWERS

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

February 2019

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Transitions & Appreciation

2 Corinthians 9:12-13

¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

This is yet another week in which a broad spectrum of events are going on behind the scenes. As the Board of Ordained Ministry work approaches, I have read over a couple hundred documents so far, as I and a few dozen of my colleagues are studying the culmination of multiple peoples' lives in order to make decisions about whether or not to affirm their requests for ordination. These files we read include their autobiographies, their credit histories, even their psychological profiles (I'm sure many would love a closer look at mine, ha!). In the midst of preparing for this work, I have been a part of services to remember lives cut short. One life was only 15 days young, and the other had decades more time, but in the end there were still many left wanting more time. And then the news came that one of my uncles passed away, and I am unable to attend a family memorial, once again. I think about the many things left unsaid. I think about how many things I leave unsaid.

In Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, the character Mark Anthony shares at Julius' funeral that "The evil that men do lives after them; The good is oft interrèd with their bones.(buried with them)" This too expresses a realization of too many words and acknowledgments left unexpressed. Over the last few weeks, as the winter weather hit weekend after weekend, flowers of appreciation were anonymously shared to acknowledge and to honor. I found myself slightly jealous, as I feel I have to be careful with public praise. It reminds me of

my early years as a pastor, when I used to call members on their birthdays. That is a wonderful thing to do, so long as you don't forget anyone. Once you do, you realize it is safer to not these extra things, in order not to exclude anyone, and in the process you exclude everyone. I have times I want to express appreciation, but when words seem inadequate, too often my default is to say nothing.

2019 is turning into a year of transitions, as Jim Kinnison steps down from being Chair of Trustees, and Nadine Thompson steps down as President of the Methodist Women. This Spring our Adult Ministry Director, Pam Hitchcock, is

retiring after many years of serving youth, adults, and I think 6 pastors. All three have served with distinction and honor. All three would rather see the work get done, than get the credit for that work, but how does one give sufficient recognition? I admit, I don't know. Too often, in order to not offend, I end up doing nothing. But no, not this time.

This week I have been reminded of words left unsaid. I am not letting more be added to that number, at least not today.

Thank you Jim. Thank you Nadine. Thank you Pam.

To paraphrase, the service you have performed has not only supplied the needs of the Lord's people, but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

There are many worthy of thanks who serve at Hoffman in ways small and large, but I felt these particular transitions are happening a bit too quietly for my liking. Are there words of appreciation you have left unsaid to others? Maybe it is time to share them with those you care about.

While hoping to not leave things unsaid, I am,

In His Service and Yours,

thankful appreciate
willing morale performer
recognition value
norale grateful good
positive behavior
stand out above and beyond
ecial pleased team
connected



Hoffman United Methodist Church

January 2019

Board Meeting Highlights

Devotions

Cindy Johnston led devotion with scripture from Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you.....for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" With the new year keep in mind, it is yours to choose how to love, who to be and how to worship. Also, rest our souls in the truth that God will make everything new.

Mission/Ministry Update

Becky Garrett talked about the Children's ministry. The Christmas play was a success. There were 19 kids who participated. There should be many more years of these numbers and shows. Becky is going to be going thru the Christmas collection of costumes and seeing what needs updated.

Family Fun days were well attended in 2018. She plans on having 3 in 2019. One around Easter, summer and fall.

Janet Weeks is subbing for Jennifer Knostman in the preschool classroom. Becky is getting feelers out for someone to be her for Sunday school class, then she can focus on Children's church for a while. Lauren Everage is getting ready to have her baby. Becky is in need of someone to teach the K-1 class in Lauren's absence. Wendy Heisey does a wonderful job with the 2 - 5 grade class. Job well done to all who help.

Pam Hitchcock has been working with Precious Beginnings. Megan Bryson is taking care of most of it now with Becky overseeing it. There are lots of little ones being brought to Hoffman in the next 6 weeks. Please look for these emails or join the Precious Beginnings ministry. Kids Hope has 11 mentors and 11 prayer partners. 4 adults come from Potsdam Church. This has been helpful this year. There are plenty of things going on at Hoffman with the children. Please keep Becky and them in your prayers.

Meeting Attendees

Dick Martens, Katie Poling, Dan Studebaker, Leah Blackburn, Carol Storer, Richard Smith, Cindy Johnston, Patti Wion, Janet Benkert, Pastor Robbie Scott

Trustees Report

The Trustees recently elected Phil McFadden as Chair, David Jay as Treasurer and Brett Beard as Secretary. The activity center now has one thermostat in the center box. The other two boxes are locked and contain relays. Lee Baker installed handrails in the women's bathroom. We decided to put a notice in the bulletin asking for anyone interested in being a trustee or a willing helper. As always thank you to our Trustees!

Pastors Report

December average attendance was 162. Christmas Eve 7 p.m. was 134 and 10 p.m. was 102. Great turnout! JoAnn is busy with yearly payroll and conference reporting.

Pam is getting the word out on the simulcast that is taking place on April 6th. If you are interested please see Pam for the details.

Church Trac is the attendance software used to keep an accurate record of our attendance. We have recently had to upgrade the software to withhold up to 500 names. What a joy!

With the birth of Ellie Jo, Joseph is spending some time at home with his family.

Pastor Robbie welcomed those new members to the board:

Janet Benkert - Lay Member and Annual Conference

Katie Poling - Vice Chairman

Dan Studebaker - Secretary

Upcoming Events

February 23 - 26 - General Conference

March 06 - Ash Wednesday

March 20 - Grandmas Kitchen reopens

April 6 - Women's Simulcast (Priscilla Shirer)

April 21 - Easter Sunday

People to remember in prayer:

Hoffman Sympathies to: the family of Joyce King, as she passed away on January 14, 2019
the family of Christine Moreland, as she passed away on January 15, 2019



At Home: Phil Blue, Nan Guthrie, Valaria Harshbarger, Charlotte Hepfer, Cindy Johnston, Helen Keller, Kathy Kinsey, Wendy Long, Mary Maess, Dick & Eugenie Markley, Miriam Miller, Joetta Perry, Shirley Richhart, and Monica Winemiller

At Centers: Eldon Hoke, StoreyPoint Troy, 1840 Towne Park Dr. Apt 19, Troy OH 45373
John Jackson, 46 Lavender Pl, Tipp City OH 45371
Katie Weeks, 1746 E Silver Star Road #525, Ocoee FL 34761

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THANK YOU

Congratulations a Baby Girl!

Ellie Jo Knostman arrived on January 15, 2019
Weighing 6 lbs., 6 ozs.
Parents are Joseph & Jennifer
Big sisters: Rose, Anna, & Emma

To my Hoffman UMC family, thanks for all your prayers and support and the visit from Kay Wagner and Karen McFadden; I appreciate all of you! Peggy Nihizer

Thank you for the kindness your congregation has shown with your continued support of our agency. We truly appreciate the generous donation of \$914.51 to our Recreation Department and its many programs. Sincerely, Krista Smith, Riverside Recreation Supervisor

Emmaus Woman's Share Group

Tues., February 5th at 11 a.m. in Multi-Purpose Room

Congratulations to:

- *Lesli Raines who received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Indiana Wesleyan University
- *Cheyenne Barnes who received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Wright State University
- *Bethany Benkert who received her Bachelor of Arts from Ball State University
- *Megan Trittschuh who received her certification as an STNA

Dear Hoffman Family, with people like you in my life, I know I'm deeply blessed. Thank you for doing what you do and for being the kind and caring people you are. Thank you so much Hoffman family, even after all our travels Hoffman UMC is still home.

Love you all and God Bless, Jerry Howard

Dear Hoffman UMC, Thank you all so very much for all of your prayers and cards that I received after my recent surgery. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is so greatly appreciated. With Christian Love, Janet Balsbaugh

Future Seekers' Class Financial Report 2018
Balance Dec 31, 2017 \$1,840.29
Income \$3,561.50
Debits \$3,418.68
Balance Dec 31, 2018 \$1,983.11 Les Trittschuh, Treasurer

Theda's Thoughts

Submitted by Theda Klepinger

A LOVE LETTER You are precious to God and me. What kind of love can I give you to reveal the depth of my devotion? There is love that physically attracts one person to another . . . chemistry they call it. There is love within a family that is a strong bond, seldom broken. Above all, the love I want you to have is spiritual. When hearts are filled with spiritual love, patience and kindness pervade the very air they breathe. Spiritual love is beautiful, eliminating ugliness in all its forms. The love I desire for you is peaceful, overcoming anything that may, even for a moment, disrupt it. I want to "be there" for you. In Christian Love, Your Friend. I John 4:16 God is Love

Thank you to the person who provided altar flowers for my birthday; they were a wonderful surprise!

FEBRUARY "BODY" HEALTH

2019 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
pamhitchcock@hoffmanumc.org
937-698-6511

Going
BEYOND
SIMULCAST
with PRISCILLA SHIRER

Women's Conference with Bible Teacher Priscilla Shirer! Here at Hoffman! April 6, 2019

9:50AM - 5:30PM

Early Bird Registration: Before March 1st

\$25 with Lunch, \$20 Lunch on own.

After March 1st

\$30 with Lunch, \$25 Lunch on own.

Tickets will be available this month at both services and can also be purchased in the church office throughout the week.

Call Pam 698-6511 for info.

Priscilla, who is Tony Evan's daughter, has every bit of the "fire of the Spirit in her belly", as her dad does. Our women's groups have done several of her Bible studies and we agree, she is an amazing Bible teacher! You will not be disappointed if you come to experience Worship, prayer and study under her tutelage during this live broadcast.

Can't Make It? We also have the opportunity to re-play this within 30 days, so if you would like to attend, but cannot on April 6th, let us know. We will try to accommodate a small group in a more intimate setting at a later date if there are enough who cannot make it on April 6th.



Mark Your Calendars:

Usher-Greeter Training in March!

Usher-Greeter Training will take place in the sanctuary on Monday, March 11, 2019 from 6:30-7:30pm. This is for all ushers and greeters, new or seasoned.

We will have a little fun with some role plays, work through the new Usher-Greeter Training Guide and we will also have a lesson on the chair lift for those who are still not sure how that works.

Greeter Needed for First Service

Due to one of our greeters stepping down, we have a need for a greeter on the fourth Sundays of the month at first service. This is an important job, being on the front-lines and the first person to welcome not only our regulars, but especially our visitors. Call me at 698-6511 if you are interested.

Volunteer Positions Announced—Training Provided

- **Attendance Tracker:** We are looking for one or two people to be trained on the attendance tracking database we use. Data entry skills and good follow through are important abilities. This can be done from home, but you will have to pick up pew pad papers from the ushers after the services. This position reports to Pastor Robbie and JoAnn.
- **Summer Lunch Bunch Statistic Tracker:** This would be a person who compiles the weekly Lunch Bunch statistics (# of meals, volunteer hours) on Excel spread sheets and writes an end of the summer report for grant writing purposes.

Contact Pam if interested in these "behind the scene" ministries.

Emmaus Reminders

The next three Emmaus Walks are:

Women's Walk #105, February 21-24, 2019 @ Normandy UMC

Men's Walk #67, June 20-23, 2019 @ Sulphur Grove UMC

Women's Walk #106, July 18-21, 2019 @ Sulphur Grove UMC

Contact an Emmaus "grad" or Pam for more information if you are interested in this Spirit-lifting weekend!

###

The Emmaus Women's Share Group meets at Hoffman on the first Tuesdays of the month at 11AM.

Serving Schedule

- Feb 03rd** — Altar flowers are in memory of Martha Farmer from Tina Mathews
9:00 Liturgist: Valerie McKay **Greeters:** Wendy Heisey & Nancy Lightcap
Ushers: Lee & Becky Baker and Wayne & Susie Spittler **Hospitality:** Chris & Linda Long
Nursery: 10:15 Jill C. & Teesha B. / 11:15 Kim D. & Wendy H.
- 11:15 Greeters:** Ben G., Julia C., & Kathy Koeller **Scripture Reader:** Andrew C. **Sound:** Eric M.
Ushers: Les & Sharon T., Ruthann King, and Ruth Leazer **Media:** Norman H.
- Feb 10th** — Altar flowers are in celebration of Wayne & Susie Spittler's 55th anniversary on Feb 22nd
9:00 Liturgist: Wendy Heisey **Greeters:** Bill & Judy Brown
Ushers: Les & Sharon Trittschuh and Phil & Karen McFadden **Hospitality:** Tom & Janet Weeks
Nursery: 10:15 Marcia C. & Lesli R. / 11:15 Kathy Koeller and Cliff & Katie P.
- 11:15 Greeters:** Lisa W. and Dick & Mary Ann M. **Scripture Reader:** Amy T. **Sound:** Jill C.
Ushers: Julia C., Ben G., and Sally & Paul M. **Media:** Norman H.
- Feb 17th** — Altar flowers are in celebration of Rose Knostman's birthday from Grandma & Grandpa Thoele
9:00 Liturgist: Mike Circle **Greeters:** Richard Smith and Elaine Iddings
Ushers: Richard Smith, Jim Scammahorn & Dave Thompson **Hospitality:** Tim & Janet Benkert
Nursery: 10:15 Jill C. & Patti W. / 11:15 Emily K. & Jennifer K.
- 11:15 Greeters:** Kathy W. and Amanda B. **Scripture Reader:** Norman H. **Sound:** Norman H.
Ushers: Dejon D. & Greg B. **Media:**
- Feb 24th** — Altar flowers are in celebration of Lydia Garrett's birthday
9:00 Liturgist: Les Trittschuh **Greeters:** Carol Storer
Ushers: Cliff Poling & Joe Blackburn **Hospitality:** Joe & Leah Blackburn
Nursery: 10:15 Eric & Johanna M. / 11:15 Megan B. & Ben G.
- 11:15 Greeters:** Sally & Paul M. and Marijo Schlecht **Scripture Reader:** Matt B. **Sound:** Norman H.
Usher: Lisa W. **Media:** Valerie M.

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary

February 2019

1st - Tim & Lisa Wright (36 yrs)
 2nd - Bret Beard
 4th - Ed & Sandy Johannes (58 yrs)
 5th - Leah Blackburn
 6th - Amy Todd
 9th - Danielle Lawhorn
 10th - Luke Frazier
 Penny Todd
 Darin Wion
 14th - Bret & Teesha Beard (26 yrs)
 15th - Luke & Barb Frazier (62 yrs)
 16th - Steve Kraus
 Nancy Studebaker



17th - Janet Balsbaugh
 Rose Knostman
 19th - Marcia Smith
 Lester Trittschuh
 20th - Sandy Johannes
 Terry & Wendy Long (37 yrs)
 21st - Silas Raines
 22nd - Roy Nickels, Jr.
 Wayne & Susie Spittler (55 yrs)
 23rd - Janet Benkert
 24th - Olivia Bryson
 25th - Nancy Lightcap
 26th - Lydia Garrett
 28th - Terry Long

Hoffman United Methodist Church, Holidays in United States

Feb 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)

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

SPARK!

children's ministry

"And He took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them."

2019 has started with a lot of snow. Just a reminder that Hoffman now has Facebook Live, so if you cannot get to church due to a weather event, please check it out!!

Needed:

1 K-1 Classroom Teacher for the months of January, February and March. The curriculum is ready and the kids are wonderful!!

1 Preschool Classroom Teacher- would teach every third month (starting in March). The curriculum is super easy to teach and the kids are wonderful!!

1 K-5th Grade person for Second Service to lead a children's church... curriculum is already bought.

Sunday School Hour

10:15-11:10

Preschool Children's Church Hour

11:15-12:15

Children's Director: Becky Garrett
ragarrett15@gmail.com
937-524-7220

Bowling Night

TBA

@ Miami Lanés

Ignite

Grades 6-12

Sundays

6:30-8:30 pm

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

February 2019

"Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow."

Psalm 51:7



Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped out in January as I took some time off to welcome our newest baby girl to the family. Ellie Jo was born January 15, and is beautiful and healthy. I want to extend a special thanks to our guest speaker Bret Barnes for teaching for several weeks.

As we look forward to February, Tim Benkert is going to be doing devotions for the upcoming month. We are also planning a bowling night, so stay tuned for details. Because of the winter weather, always make sure to check your Remind messages and/or Facebook for updates or cancellations. If you need information on how to get connected, contact me.

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

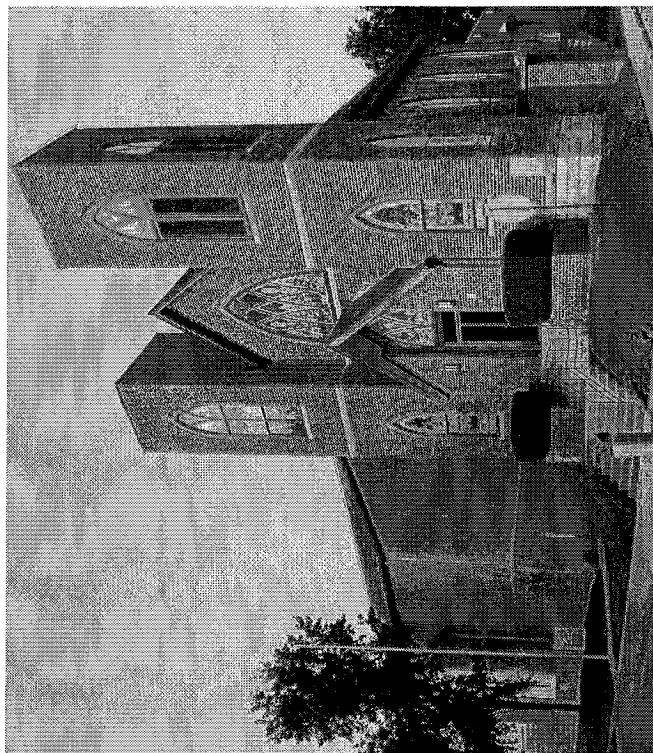
Return Service Requested

Place Label Here

L

TOWERS
THERS

February
2019



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