

# THE TOWERS

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

April 2019

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

### *Resurrection: Open Tomb*

**Luke 24:12**

**<sup>12</sup> Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.**

With all due respect to Christmas, and the flashiest birth announcement ever....Easter is Our Story...it is nearly THE story, second only in magnitude to the Cross...but without one simple detail might have been ignored. What detail? The tomb.

In our day and age, vaults are normally not seen, but are often part of a the final resting place of our earthly bodies.

They aren't legally required, but are often mandated by cemetaries as a protective barrier for the casket that is beautiful, but incapable of standing the test of time for the elements pressing in on all sides.

The casket is intended to keep the outside world out...the vault essentially guarantees it.

The only reason the tomb was able to shine a spotlight on the cross was due to people on the outside being able to see IN, despite a stone rolled in place to block the entrance, and despite armed guards intended to GUARANTEE the outside world could not interfere with death's "finished" work.

Incredibly, the story does not end with a tomb sealed shut, but standing wide open, awaiting humanity's eyes to see God's glory shining from a tomb that was once filled, but having been opened up now shines God's light on the cross that was occupied by the Savior of the world, and never would, and never could perform that task again. I am speaking in metaphore, for though Matthew's Gospel speaks of the dazzling array of the angel who rolled the stone away, nothing is shared in Scripture about literal light from within the tomb. It took quite a while for the disciples to catch the full understanding of the events they witnessed, or ran from.

Their stories could not have been told as they have been

told for generations....if they had never looked inside a tomb previously occupied... but then empty.

This is not a lesson restricted to the disciples in the past. Multiple Scripture passages in the New Testament speak to the journey all Christians share with Christ, that journey from death into life.

**Ephesians 2:5-5 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-- it is by grace you have been saved.**

All who have accepted God's gift of Grace and forgiveness through Jesus Christ make the journey from death to life, but

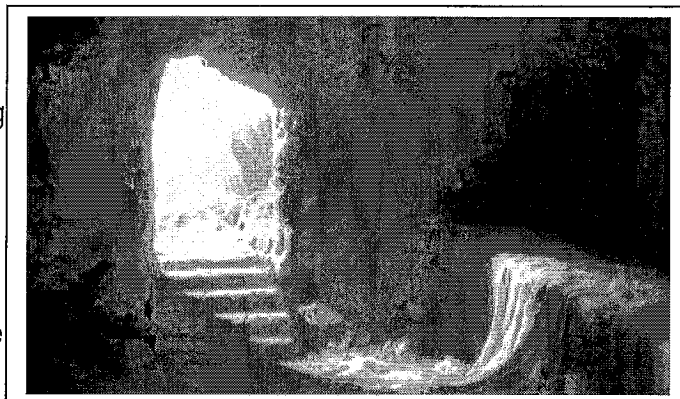
like the disciples, WE are given the privilege of looking into the tombs that formerly contained our corpses, but having walked out of those tombs of self-love, of various sins, we now are able to look into those tombs and ourselves ponder the magnificence of the cross. I believe it is N.T. Wright who wrote that Christ's coronation, the crowning moment of the King of

kings and the Lord of lords was NOT the ascension into heaven, seated at the right hand of the Father, and not at the Resurrection, walking out of the borrowed tomb, but was on cross of Calvary's hill, when he willingly chose to die as THE sacrifice for ALL sin.

I somewhat unapologetically need to tell you some of what is on this page may be heard again on Easter Sunday. Generally speaking, I am not fond of repeating myself, but in this case, the story of the cross and the tomb is not just Jesus' story, it is our story, too.

While remembering my journey from death into life, and inviting you to do the same, I am,

In His Service and Yours,





# Board Meeting Highlights

## Devotions

Dick Martens led devotions guided by a book "Amazing Grace" by Kathleen Norris. Grace defined through the lens of Genesis 28:10-22.

## Trustees Report

Snow removal guidelines have been discussed. A temporarily frozen pipe at parsonage thankfully did not burst. David will be attending a special training in March.

## Pastor's Report

Inclement weather really hurt attendance in January, and the average was 113. Pam Hitchcock has accomplished much in preparation for the Priscilla Shirer Simulcast, is training an attendance tracking volunteer, and is preparing a usher-greeter handbook. A reminder that Pam's hours are reduced from 24 to 20 hours, so some Thursdays she works from home rather than coming to the office for only 2 hours or less.

Becky is taking over writing grants for Lunch Bunch/Bulldog Bags. 2<sup>nd</sup> service will now be offering Children's message, and Pastor Robbie will attempt to condense time in other areas of the service.

JoAnn has completed the required year end reports for the West Ohio Conference.

An attempt is being made for an urban mission context for the summer mission trip.

Norman has provided a great help in finding a couple connection faults in monitor cables which were preventing the Praise Band from hearing themselves.

## Board Study

"7 Practices of Effective Ministry," by Andy Stanley.

## Meeting Attendees

Pastor Robbie, Katie Poling, Dick Martens, Janet Benkert, Carol Storer, Richard Smith, David Jay, Les Trittschuh, Cindy Johnston, and Patti Wion

## Projector Upgrade in A-C.

Between meetings the Board approved funds from Revitalization to be used by Pastor Robbie toward the opportunity to purchase a used projector. It is twice the power of our current projector and should fulfill the needs of the upcoming Simulcast and future special events (there were hopes of rental options, but no reasonably priced options with enough power were found). If registration funds surpass the cost of the event, those will go toward reimbursing the Revitalization fund.

## Finance Report

The 2018 audit has been completed. It is normal for January financials to be rough due to lower attendance, extra bills for snow removal, as well as annual bills that fall in January. There was a "loss" of over \$4,000 in January, but the income, incredibly, was only \$1,000 under the budget goal, and the expenses were similar to previous years.

The devotions will be led by Les Trittschuh in March, and by Katie Poling in April.

The meeting ended with the serving of Holy Communion and in prayer, that whatever was decided at General Conference, our congregation at Hoffman continue to be one body, even as we share from one loaf.

***People to remember in prayer:***



***Hoffman Sympathies to:***

the family of Angela Keller-Wahl, Helen Keller's daughter, as she passed away on March 18, 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, 1'840 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***

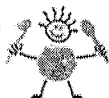
**Emmaus Woman's Share Group**

Tues., April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11 a.m. in Multi-Purpose Room

**International Food Tasting Event Volunteers Meeting**

April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in Multi-Purpose Room

Contact: Kay Wagner



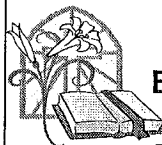
**Young Spirits**

"Look What God Has Done"

April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

M-U Cafetorium

Doors open at 6:15 p.m.



**Easter Celebration April 21<sup>st</sup>**

Easter Sunrise Service 7 a.m.

Breakfast 7:45 a.m.

Easter Worship Times 9 and 11:15 a.m.

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

**United Methodist Women  
Organizational Meeting**

April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room,

All women of the church are encouraged to  
attend this organizational meeting.

Contact Kay Wagner 332-0345

**Good Friday Community Service**

April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Laura Christian Church

***Trittschuh 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Celebration***

*Lester and Sharon invite you to join them as they renew their wedding vows  
and celebrate 50 years together on April 27, 2019.*

*Renewal service at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary,  
with reception to follow in Activity Center.*

*RSVP to 698-5161. No gifts please.*



***Theda's Thoughts***

Submitted by Theda Klepinger

**EASTER**

Consider the crushing events leading to Jesus' death. They are stark reminders of the high cost of true love. Then darkness turned into dawn. The sun has risen and shadows are gone. Easter is an awesome affirmation that has resounded throughout generations, heralding the Heavenly source of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

## Serving Schedule

- Apr 07<sup>th</sup>** — Altar flowers are in celebration of Jim & Audrey Scammahorn's 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary  
**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:** Norman H. **Sound:** Eric M.  
**Ushers:** Les & Sharon T., Ruthann King, and Ruth Leazer **Media:** Norman H.
- Apr 14<sup>th</sup>** — Altar flowers are open  
**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:** Beth T. **Sound:** Jill C.  
**Ushers:** Julia C., Ben G., and Sally & Paul M. **Media:** Norman H.
- Apr 21<sup>st</sup>** — Altar flowers are in celebration Nate & Brittany Ankerman's birthdays from John & Anita  
**9:00 Liturgist:** Les Trittschuh **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:** Valerie M. **Sound:** Norman H.  
**Ushers:** Dejon D. & Greg B. **Media:**
- Apr 28<sup>th</sup>** — Altar flowers are in celebration of Les & Sharon Trittschuh's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
**9:00 Liturgist:** Tim Benkert **Greeters:** Carol Storer and Peggy Nihizer  
**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:** Amy T. **Sound:** Norman H.  
**Usher:** Lisa W. **Media:** Valerie M.

### Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary April 2019

4<sup>th</sup> - Sharon Trittschuh  
 Jerry & Libby Richards (38 yrs)  
 5<sup>th</sup> - Ian Bryson  
 6<sup>th</sup> - Sherynne King  
 Lesli Raines  
 8<sup>th</sup> - Sophia Blackburn  
 9<sup>th</sup> - Becky Baker  
 Sergei Brubaker  
 12<sup>th</sup> - Valaria Harshbarger  
 13<sup>th</sup> - Shane Todd  
 14<sup>th</sup> - Jim & Audrey Scammahorn (63 yrs)  
 15<sup>th</sup> - Tom Kinsey  
 Cindy Johnston



16<sup>th</sup> - Libby Richards  
 17<sup>th</sup> - Terry & Charlene Beetley (54 yrs)  
 Darin & Patti Wion (26 yrs)  
 19<sup>th</sup> - Dixie Porter  
 21<sup>st</sup> - Marilyn Yount  
 22<sup>nd</sup> - Nate Ankerman  
 Barb Frazier  
 Jennifer Knostman  
 Tom Weeks  
 24<sup>th</sup> - Cooper Dohrman  
 25<sup>th</sup> - Vicky Hause  
 26<sup>th</sup> - Jessica Sanderson  
 Marijo Schlecht  
 Lester & Sharon Trittschuh (50 yrs)  
 28<sup>th</sup> - Michael Barnes

To view the church calendar please visit our website at: [www.hoffmanUMC.org](http://www.hoffmanUMC.org)

# GRANDMA'S KITCHEN April 2019 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

## April 3rd

Baked Spaghetti  
Tossed Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Chocolate Delight

## April 10<sup>th</sup>

Chicken Casserole  
Green Beans  
Slaw  
Angel Food Cake

## April 17<sup>th</sup>

*Closed for  
Easter Week*

## April 24<sup>th</sup>

Polish Sausage  
Cheesy Potatoes  
California Salad  
Ice Cream Sundae

Menu items are subject to change



## fun food fellowship

INTERNATIONAL FOOD TASTING May 4TH 2019

WHERE: HOFFMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Activity Center

When May 4th, Saturday, from 3 to 5 pm

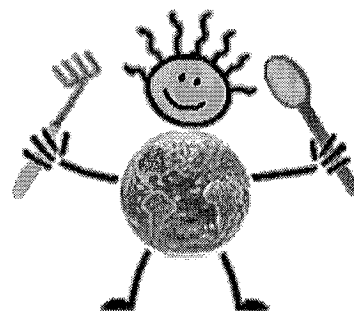
Come and join the fun, 8 countries will be represented

Bring in the community, all are invited

For more information contact Katie Poling 266-3519

Donations accepted

Sponsored by United Methodist Women, Proceeds will go to Missions



## APRIL "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

\$30

Only 15 Tickets left!

Call Pam 698-6511 for info.



### Summer Mission Trip!

Pastor Robbie is organizing a summer mission trip to Zanesville, Ohio June 16-22 for adults and youth. You will be partnering with groups who minister to the impoverished in that area. Rolling Plains UMC will be your base of operations with adventures in eating out on the agenda! Those interested, can sign up for more information at the Information Table.

### Palm Sunday Bake Sale!!

#### **Bakers and Takers Needed!**

This Bake Sale will benefit the Summer Mission Team to Zanesville.

### 5/2 Lunch Bunch for 2019!

Would you like to be a part of feeding hungry kids this summer? Then the 5/2 Lunch Bunch could be just the ministry for you!

Since 2008, we have been making hot, nutritious lunches for kids and their families three days a week (M-T-W) for 6-7 weeks in June and July.

#### 2019 Help Needed

- Monday Kitchen Coordinator—recipes and help provided
- Child Check-in Monitors—Either M-T- OR W
- Food Donations—Look for the Sign-up in May

Call Pam or Becky 698-6511 for more Info.

**The Lunch Bunch organizational meeting will be Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 2PM.**

### Second Service Security

PLEASE NOTE: All doors *except* the Main St. (East) door to the Sanctuary will be locked after the Second Service has started in order to protect our children. Thank you!

### Emmaus Reminders

*The next two Emmaus Walks are:*

**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.



# SPARK!

children's ministry

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

Easter is coming up fast and thank goodness for spring!

## Children's Events coming soon:

Sunday, April 14 Palm Sunday: waving of Palm branches

Sunday, April 21 Easter Sunday

Saturday, May 4 Family Fun Day at West Milton Park:  
carry-in luncheon, 11:00 am-whenever, rain or shine

Sunday, May 26 Kids Hope Day at Church

A huge thank you to Janet Weeks and Courtney Wion for helping with the children's Sunday school classes the past few months!! We truly appreciate it!!

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

## Dayton Dragons

April 12

\$10

## Young Spirits

April 14

2 pm

## Easter-NO IGNITE

April 21

## Ignite

Grades 6-12

Sundays

6:30-8:30 pm

## April 2019

"See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land."

*Song of Solomon 2:11-12*



Welcome spring! All 6-12 graders are welcome to join us every Sunday night from 6:30-8:30 pm for fun, food, fellowship, and faith! Through April we will be continuing devotion time with guest speaker Brett Barnes. Invite your friends!

We have lots happening this month, so make sure to stay tuned for updates through Remind and Facebook. Friday, April 12 we have a party deck reserved at the Dayton Dragons baseball game. Families and friends are welcome, tickets are only \$10. See Joseph and buy yours today! We've gone the past two years, and it is always one of the favorite Ignite events.

Sunday, April 14 there will be no regular Ignite. Instead we will be going to the Young Spirits Palm Sunday performance at the school. April 21 is Easter, so no Ignite, enjoy celebrating with your families!

Youth Director: Joseph Knostman  
[JosephKnostman@hoffmanumc.org](mailto:JosephKnostman@hoffmanumc.org)  
937-573-7212

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

X

the **open door**  
come as you are

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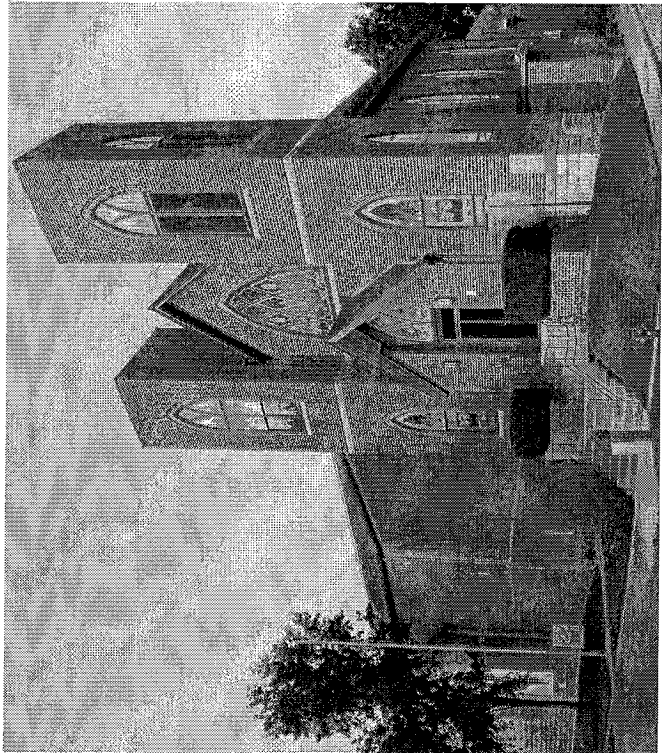
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TOWERS  
THERS

April  
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