



THE TOWERS

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

April 2023



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Pure Heart & Steadfast Spirit

Psalm 51:10-12 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Recently our American Flag by Main Street needed to be taken down. The flag was severely damaged, nearly torn in two. This happens from time to time, but in this case the damage was not from the normal wear and tear of the wind and weather. No, this time the source of damage was, of all things, new growth. Specifically, new growth from a memorial tree nearby. A single branch stretched upward and outward at just the right point that its new shoots entangled the flag, and in the midst of the winds, rains, and storms they pulled against each other, and the new growth won the tussle.

I think we are used to new growth being something to celebrate. Maybe you too recently admired flowers blooming as a light layer of snow was covering the ground. We also have recently heard the sound of birds chirping, and we see and rejoice as bare branches start to show the signs of new buds. This challenge with the flag, however, reminded me that we don't always celebrate new growth. Along with the new growth of trees and flowers, there is also the growth of weeds. Along with the sound of young birds, or the sight of young woodland creatures are also the sights and sounds of insects, some of which seem to have no purpose but to be annoyances. There are other new seasons of growth that are also not welcome. My waistline and my forehead both seem to have new growth, and I feel more helpless to stop it the older I get. ☺

In very recent years we have also seen growth in depression, anxieties, suicides, and murders in the world around us. Inflation most recently has for many been a source of the growth of debt for many individuals and businesses. With all these things growing that we don't want to grow, there has also been a growth, unintended I believe, in the chasm

between human beings.

There are times when we can "get ahold of" ourselves, recognize that who we have settled into is not who we really want to be...but sometimes we can feel a little helpless about the feelings rumbling deep within us. This passage has something to say about that. Just as we can go into our gardens of vegetables, or flowers, and can take the garden down to the soil so the very best of the vegetation is able to

grow and blossom; in the same way, God can create in us a pure heart, and God can renew a steadfast spirit within us, no matter what we have been through.

To be fair, there are times of heartbreak that the renewing takes time, particularly in all the forms of grief we suffer in this life. That grief can revolve around the death of persons, but it also can include other deaths we experience. I find many times those who have had to endure a divorce also go through symptoms

often associated with grief. The death of relationships can certainly bring us to our lowest points emotionally, spiritually, and even physically. I for one am thankful I am not only left to my strength alone. And, I am not left alone to try to renew or restore myself. That would also feel helpless.

As far as the flag, once the tree branches had been pruned back to a healthier reach, a flag went up the pole, but not the same flag. No, a new flag was necessary this time. I recall a couple years ago we would hear many around us clamoring for things to get back to normal. However, we found ourselves instead finding new normals for our lives. Admittedly, not all of those were the "normal" we wanted, but it was heartwarming to hear there were some cases in which the new normal was better than the old. God may have something new for you, for me, and for Hoffman, as well. "Create in me a pure heart, O Lord, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

In Jesus' Name, Amen





Board Meeting Highlights

Devotions

Devotions were offered by Janet based on a song by Katy Nichole called, In Jesus Name. Meeting was opened with a prayer by Janet.

Meeting Attendees

Les Trittschuh, Wendy Black, David Jay, Jill Circle, John Ankerman, Kim Dohrman, Patti Wion, Janet Benkert, Chris Long, Wendy Heisey, Tina Mathews, Pastor Robbie Scott

Mission and Ministry

Joe Knostman reviewed results of the Congregation Survey. We have 200 household families that attend or call HUMC their home church. 156 emails were sent out to take the survey. We made 3 Sunday announcements about the survey. 108 responses were received. 75% of the surveys completed wanted to vote on disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church. The board approved for informational meetings prior to a disaffiliation vote to allow church members to ask additional questions and be briefed on survey results. The board approved conducting a church member vote regarding disaffiliation in coordination with the assistance District Superintendent. The information session was set for 3/12/23 at 3pm

Pastor's Report

January Average notes: Overall average was 113.2. On April 23, 2023 there will be a guest speaker/singer, Michael Wayne Smith. The board approved for Grandma's Kitchen to use another option for buying food/products for Grandma's Kitchen with a discount from a Restaurant Depot in Dayton.

Finance

The finance report for January was reviewed and accepted -Weeks of Operation 10.92 weeks. One year ago we were in the negative with our year-to-date budget goal and this year we are in the positive.

Trustees

The trustees report was given. The board approved replacing cabinets in the kitchen in the basement at a cost of \$3100.00 as well as the cost of stripping and re-waxing the floor in the Activity Center (March 22-March 24, 2023) at a cost of \$3170.00

Nominations

No new business.

Staff Parish Relations

No new business.

Non-agenda items

FISH - March 4th & 25th - Double Match days on a \$10.00 gift card.

Grandma's Kitchen - Re-opens April 12, 2023. serving meals the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Serving Schedule

April 2

9:00 Liturgist: Les T. **Greeters:** Wendy H. and Nancy L.
Ushers: Wayne & Susie S. and Phil & Karen M. **Hospitality Table:** Elaine I.
Nursery: **10:15** Patti W. & Kathy K. / **11:15** Julia C. & Wendy H.
11:15 Greeters: Ben G. and Janessa M. **Scripture Reader:** Norman H.

April 9

9:00 Liturgist: Wendy H. **Greeters:** Elaine P. and Kathy K.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** U.M. Men & Future Seekers Class
Nursery: **10:15** Lesli R. / **11:15** Lesli R. & Lauren E.
11:15 Greeters: Dick & Mary Ann M. **Scripture Reader:** Julia C.

April 16

9:00 Liturgist: Les T. **Greeters:** Elaine I. and Cathy B.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** *In honor of Shelia Shade
Nursery: **10:15** Julia C. & Kathy K. / **11:15** Ben G. & Mallory D.
11:15 Greeters: Kathy W. and Ruth L. **Scripture Reader:** Valerie M.

April 23

9:00 Liturgist: Wendy H. **Greeters:** Carol S. and Carolyn B.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** Jeryl-Ann K.
Nursery: **10:15** Jennifer K. & Jill C. / **11:15** Jennifer K. & Kim D.
11:15 Greeters: Paul & Sally M. and Marijo S. **Scripture Reader:** Ben G.

April 30

9:00 Liturgist: Les T. **Greeters:** Sophia & Stella B. and Joy P.
Ushers: Steve K. & Kay W. **Hospitality Table:** Norman & Joy P.
Nursery: **10:15** Kathy K. / **11:15** Ben G. & Lauren E.
11:15 Greeters: Patti W. and Courtney S. **Scripture Reader:** Beth T.

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary April 2023

4th - Sharon Trittschuh
Jerry & Libby Richards (42 yrs)
5th - Ian Bryson
6th - Sherynne King
Lesli Raines
8th - Sophia Blackburn
9th - Becky Baker
12^t - Valaria Harshbarger
14th - Jim & Audrey Scammahorn (67 yrs)
15th - Tom Kinsey
16th - Libby Richards



17th - Darin & Patti Wion (30 yrs)
19th - Dixie Porter
21st - Marilyn Yount
22nd - Barb Frazier
Jennifer Knostman
Tom Weeks
24th - Cooper Dohrman
26th - Marijo Schlecht
Jeremy & Wendy Heisey (23 yrs)
Lester & Sharon Trittschuh (54 yrs)
28th - Michael Barnes
29th - Marilyn Stickney

Weekly Giving and Attendance Statistics

Date	02-19-23	02-26-23	03-05-23	03-12-23	03-19-23
General Offering	4194.00	3001.00	5254.00	4370.00	5322.00
Weekly Budget Need	4911.00	4911.00	4911.00	4911.00	4911.00
Mission Offering	185.00	95.00	175.00	95.00	5322.00
Maintenance Fund	100.00	500.00	425.00	100.00	40.00
Building Fund & Memorials	178.00	355.00	395.00	75.00	433.00
Online & Physical Attendance					
9 a.m. Service at church	49	48	55	43	56
* Remote viewing	21	19	20	13	9
11:15 a.m. Service at church	85	54	65	64	59
* Remote viewing	7	4	6	11	7
Total Attendance	162	125	146	131	131

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Stained Glass Window Restoration Project

Amount Received: \$ 97,350

Total Project Goal: \$ 109,430 Thank You!

United Methodist Women Meeting
April 27 at 7 p.m.
in Multi-Purpose Room 2/3



Mother/Daughter Luncheon

Where: Hoffman Church

When: May 6, 2023

Time: 11AM-1PM

This event will be hosted by the Methodist Women, with music by cellist Tara Mar Iddings. More information will be coming soon.

Organizational Meeting on April 6 at 7 p.m. in Multi-purpose Room 2/3. Questions contact Becky Garrett.

1 Timothy 4:10-11 "This is why we work hard and continue to struggle, for our hope is in the living God, who is the Savior of all people and particularly of all believers. Teach these things and insist that everyone learns them."



Thank you to everyone who came to our family game night! We had a blast!!

Coming Up Events:

April 22: Dinner at the Park

May 6: Mother/Daughter Luncheon

July 16-20 VBS- To Mars and Beyond

People to remember in prayer:



Hoffman Sympathies to: the family of Eugenie Markley, as she passed away on February 25, 2023.
the family of Joseph Bouck, as he passed away on March 24, 2023.

At Home: Kim Adams, Phil Blue, Valaria Harshbarger, Wilma Hoover, Helen Keller, Winston Klepinger, Cheryl Owen, Mary Maess, Dick Markley, Dixie Porter, Shelia Shade, Theda Sliver, Marilyn Stickney, Jim & Kathy Watkins and Nancy Wolf

At Centers: Dorothy Ginn, Cypress Pointe, 600 W. National Rd. Rm 312, Englewood OH 45322
Sherynne King, Koester Pavilion, 3232 N Co. Rd 25A, Rm 29A, Troy OH 45373
Freda Koeller, Randall Residence of Tipp City, 6400 S Co. Rd. 25A, Rm 109, Tipp City OH 45371
Wendy Long, Trinity Center, 789 Stonybrook, Rm 208A, Fairborn OH 45324
Jennie McNeal, SpringMeade, 4375 S Co. Rd. 25A, Rm 307, Tipp City OH 45371
Janice Turner, Randall Residence of Troy, 2900 Corporate Dr., Rm 105, Troy OH 45373
Monica Winemiller, Koester Pavilion, 3232 N Co Rd 25A, Rm 74, Troy OH 45373

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THANK YOU AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

To my Hoffman Family, I would like to thank everyone for the honor you have given me, the two pages of kind words and expressions of love from the February 12 hospitality table "in honor of ministry" were so special. You are my family and always will be. Love and Prayers, Wilma Fryman

Thank you everyone for your thoughts, prayers, and greetings. I so enjoyed reading them all. You all keep me going! Blessings, Phil & Sally Blue

Hoffman UMC, Thank you so much for your generosity. It was very kind! Dawn Moore

Kid Connection Cards

Please help the children in our church family stay connected with our older generation. We will soon have cards and names of children on a table in the main lobby. You pick a name and a card and then write a note of encouragement. When you are finished return the card unsealed to Becky's mailbox and she will stamp, seal, and send. Thank you!

Elaine's Trivia Question of Month

What does it mean to glean a field?

To my church family, thank you for the cards, flowers, food, phone calls, and especially the prayers that were prayed for me during my recovery. God certainly heard your prayers, healed my knee and especially my soul. I thank God for each one of you! Kathy Koeller

Good Friday Community Service

April 7 at 7 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Collection taken for LifeWise and paper products for FISH.

Easter Celebration April 9

Sunrise Service 7 a.m.
Breakfast 8 a.m.
Worship Times 9 and 11:15 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m. - Check with your class.



Michael Wayne Smith will be sharing through

message and music on April 23 during both our worship services. A love offering will be received.

Church Rummage Sale

June 8th from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. When doing your spring cleaning, remember to save sellable items for the sale.

Sunrise breakfast will be served by the Future Seeker's Class and U. M. Men on Easter Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

Everyone is welcome; we will be serving egg/sausage casserole, sausage gravy and biscuits, coffee cake and drinks. Freewill offering is appreciated. Clipboards will be passed soon at both church services. Signing up is only being requested to give us an idea of how many will be coming, even if you don't sign up ahead of time please come anyway there should be plenty of food for all. Hope to see you there.



Grandma's Kitchen Opens April 12

Please join us for our first meal of 2023 on Wednesday, April 12. Doors open at 5:00 for dine-in and we will serve until 6:15; carry-outs are available during the same hours. Our cost this year will be \$8 per meal and children for \$3. Proceeds will be used toward support of Grandma's Kitchen and donations to local, national and international food programs.

We could use a few more volunteers if you are available for Tuesday morning or for Wednesday morning, afternoon or evening. Shifts are generally 2 hours and involve food prep, packing for carry-out, clean-up, delivery routes, and serving in the dining room during mealtimes. Subs are also needed. Please contact Marilyn Mitchell if you are interested, 937-947-1831 or mbmithcell50@gmail.com.

We look forward to serving you again. Please invite friends, family and neighbors to join you around our round tables for a hot meal, friendly service and a pleasant atmosphere.

GRANDMA'S KITCHEN April & May 2023 MENUS

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 \$8 DONATION PER MEAL Kids Meal \$3

Please note that after many years we have to raise the price of the meal to \$8.00.

April 12th

Beef & Noodles
Mashed Potatoes
Corn
Cream Puffs

April 26th

Lasagna
Tossed Salad
Garlic Bread
Chocolate Delight

May 10th

Meat Loaf
Mashed Potatoes
Peas
Chocolate Cake

May 24th

Chicken & Noodles
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Ice Cream Sundae

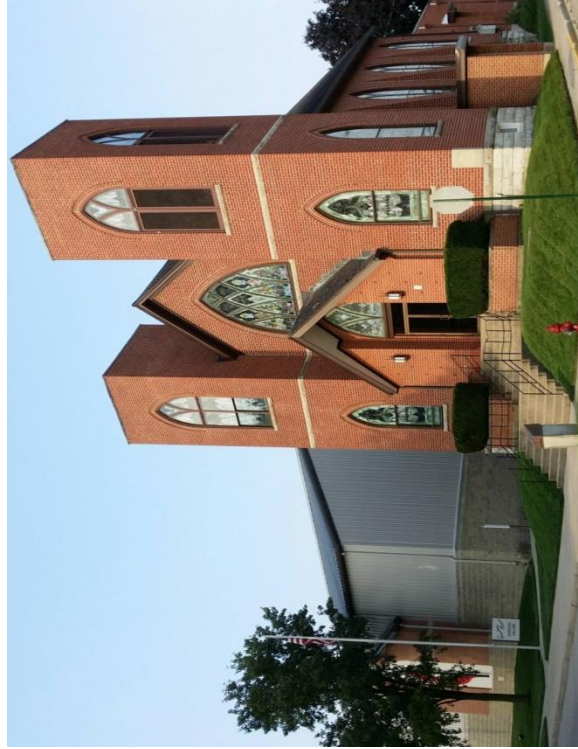
Menu items are subject to change

HOFFMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2023 FINANCE REPORT					
General Budget and Missions Budget					
February 28, 2023					
REGULAR OFFERING		MONTH		YEAR-TO-DATE	
1010	First Sunday		5,789.00	10,961.00	
1020	Second Sunday		6,283.00	14,468.00	
1030	Third Sunday		4,194.00	8,745.00	
1040	Fourth Sunday		3,001.00	5,587.00	
1050	Fifth Sunday		0.00	5,141.00	
Total Regular Offering			19,267.00	44,902.00	
1060	Misc. Income		99.00	249.00	
**Total Income			19,366.00	45,151.00	
		BUDGET FOR YEAR	PAID OUT THIS MONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE PAID OUT	BALANCE OF BUDGET
APPORTIONMENTS					
1	Conference Apportionments	18,287.00	1,523.83	3,047.70	15,239.30
2	District Adm. Apportionments	1,994.50	166.17	332.30	1,662.20
Total Apportionments		20,281.50	1,690.00	3,380.00	16,901.50
MINISTRIES					
3	Hospitality	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
4	Outreach	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
5	Worship	750.00	0.00	138.32	611.68
6	Music	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
7	Assimilation	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
8	Vacation Bible School	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
9	Children's Ministry & Holiday Parties	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
10	Youth Ministry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Total Ministries		3,100.00	0.00	138.32	2,961.68
OFFICE, MEDIA, & TECH					
11	Finance & Stewardship	900.00	385.62	443.82	456.18
12	Office Supplies & Postage & Copier	4,000.00	263.00	695.00	3,305.00
13	Media Subscriptions	3,500.00	404.44	1,332.69	2,167.31
14	Technology	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Total Office, Media, & Tech		9,400.00	1,053.06	2,471.51	6,928.49
STAFF & PARISH RELATIONS					
15	Pastor Parish	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
16	Staff Salary	122,288.11	8,729.84	19,642.14	102,645.97
17	Health Ins. & Pastor PIP Payment	31,680.00	2,647.52	5,107.43	26,572.57
18	Pension	11,053.51	925.54	1,851.08	9,202.43
19	Acct. Reimbursement-Pastor	4,000.00	316.32	366.31	3,633.69
20	Hoffman Family Benevolence	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
21	Pulpit Supply	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
22	Employer Payroll Taxes	5,724.34	421.12	879.00	4,845.34
23	Moving Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Lakeside Conf Deligate	550.00	0.00	0.00	550.00
Total Staff & Parish Relations		176,345.96	13,040.34	27,845.96	148,500.00
TRUSTEES					
25	Maintenance	2,400.00	-244.80	-221.81	2,621.81
26	Utilities, Monitoring, and Service Contracts	29,482.00	2,613.80	4,913.33	24,568.67
27	Building Insurance	4,868.00	0.00	1,417.50	3,450.50
28	Real Estate Taxes Parsonage	2,980.00	0.00	1,600.45	1,379.55
29	Snow Plowing & Yard Work	5,510.00	415.00	935.00	4,575.00
30	Supplies	1,000.00	0.00	246.05	753.95
Total Trustees		46,240.00	2,784.00	8,890.52	37,349.48
**Total General Budgeted Expenses		255,367.46	18,567.40	42,726.31	212,641.15
MISSIONS BUDGET					
31	Conference Apportionments - World Service	5,000.00	416.67	833.30	4166.70
32	District Mission Apportionments	1,994.50	166.17	332.30	1662.20
33	MU Council of Churches	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00
34	Annual Mission Project	600.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
35	Advanced Specials	547.50	0.00	0.00	547.50
Total Budgeted Missions Expenses		8,392.00	582.84	1,415.60	6976.40

Return Service Requested

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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

April
2023

T O W E R S
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