



Hoffman
Methodist Church

THE TOWERS

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

MAY 2023

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

God Speaking to Our Sense Language

John 20:27-29 27 Then [Jesus] said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." 28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Among the many things I have learned about myself in the last few years has been an increased awareness that certain sounds are bothersome. Unfortunately, there was a season in which the entire Scott household was compiling a list of annoying sounds; a list of things that we did not want to hear, from mysterious high pitched sounds requiring a minor investigation to locate the source, to the somewhat rhythmic thumps of a neighbor playing on a drumset, to the sound of chewing, we found ourselves identifying a wide range of displeasing sounds. However, our senses are wonderful gifts, and if one isn't careful, that search to identify and eliminate the annoyances can accidentally override the discovery of so many wonderful things all around us. Our senses inform us so richly, and they permit us not only to enjoy, but to also "store" events in in our memory with the individual sense being somewhat the "password" for the event. When I am out riding the motorcycle, there are areas with smells that remind me I am riding through an area rich with irises, or honeysuckle, or crops, or even... livestock. I recall on mission trips to Vietnam we would often fly out of Ohio weather that was close to freezing temperatures. Even after multiple trips, when the doors of the airport opened in Hanoi or Saigon or DaNang, that the wave of heat of the night air would still surprise me. The smells of the city at night were the most unique I had ever experienced. I certainly couldn't say all the smells were "good," but the unique scents seemed to lock into my memory. I remember having some grilled shrimp at a restaurant in Dayton, and the seasoning included sriracha (yes, I did have to look up how to spell it), and as soon as I bit into it, I could remember being at a rooftop restaurant in a small village in Vietnam, and could in my mind "see" a young man

experiencing a rite of passage as he was going to "enjoy" consuming the beating heart of a viper. Yup, it was quite a day for us, haha! (you can be thankful I didn't include that picture) One of the psalmists reminds us in Psalm 34:8a to ***Taste and see that the LORD is good.***

How wonderful that I am reminded of the goodness of God with every church carry in dinner I attend! 😊

I wonder what should be said about the connection of our senses to faith? Our faith is certainly informed by our senses, but sometimes I am tempted to think of it as a sense. For some it seems to come so readily, and for others of us it is such a

challenge. I know we are used to the disciple Thomas being labeled a "doubter," but honestly, we too seek for proof before we believe.

You likely remember that the proof the Roman soldiers used to prove that Jesus had died on the cross was thrusting the spear into his side, and blood and water flowed. This proved his death, and his legs did not need to be broken. What was it Thomas wanted as proof to believe? To place his hand at the site and touch the wound that proved Jesus' death. The passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples was a multisensory meal they could see, touch, taste, and smell, all while hearing once more the story of God freeing His people. God has always been willing to speak to our senses.

How wonderful it is that Jesus was willing to speak to Thomas in the language he asked for....touch. We are becoming more aware of the various ways we communicate care and love for each other. Some time back we even talked about love languages, how each of us are affirmed and encouraged differently, some by touch, some by acts of service, some by gifts, words of affirmation, among others.

I am so glad that God is not lacking in any language necessary to speak to hearts today.

Hear, oh church! May we see, touch, smell and taste that the Lord is Good...but I would pass on the viper hearts. In His Service and Yours,

Taste & See That The
LORD IS GOOD
Psalm 34:8

Board Meeting Highlights

Devotions

Devotions were offered by Patti from Rick Warren's Better Together 40 days of community. Meeting was opened with a prayer by Patti Wion.

Meeting Attendees

Les Trittschuh, Wendy Black, Jill Circle, John Ankerman, Kim Dohrman, Patti Wion, Janet Benkert, Chris Long, Wendy Heisey, Pastor Robbie Scott. Also in attendance was Joseph Knostman.

Mission and Ministry

Joseph discussed the summary of the two informational meetings. There were 110 individuals with 100 having voting rights. He shared recommendations regarding next steps pending the disaffiliation vote.

Pastor's Report

February Average notes: overall average: 139.75 (+26 vs January). Logistics for the disaffiliation vote were discussed. Jill volunteered to check member's names at the door. Members must enter through the West Door only. There will be announcements at the Sunday services preceding the March 26, 2023 disaffiliation vote reminding the members of the vote, which door to enter, and that they should be here by 2:45 p.m. to make sure they are eligible to vote. Per the survey there was 85% agreement with the Book of Discipline. Pastor Robbie shared next steps if a disaffiliation vote is reached. There was one individual who attended the membership class. Pastor Robbie discussed the new West Ohio District Map. Hoffman is in the Western Lakes (Western) District. Miami County is at the southernmost point. Pastor Robbie met with Chief Wright at the Municipal building to talk about the possible creation of a Chaplain position. Honorarium of \$100 will be added to the Love Offering for Michael Wayne Smith.

Finance

The finance report for February was reviewed. Our year to date offering is \$5,000 higher than the same time last year. Weeks of Operations 11.10. If there is a vote for disaffiliation, the Board authorized two of the four authorized signers to close out the Endowment Fund and Credit Union Fund and deposit funds into the Designated Fund.

Trustees

The trustees report was given. Wendy discussed the current projects including the schedule of stripping and waxing of church floors.

Nominations

No new business.

Staff Parish Relations

Met with District Superintendent Jim Wilson along with the board members on March 2, 2023. Staff Parish presented Hoffman's New Pastor Profile. Mr. Wilson answered questions regarding the vote agenda and steps the Board needed to complete.

Non-agenda items

Pending disaffiliation vote outcome, the board will have a ballot is available for voting to affiliate with the Global Methodist Church. A two thirds approval is needed. Wendy H. volunteered to help coordinate transportation for individuals for the vote.

Addendum

The board has met additionally to address issues regarding disaffiliation including: submitting a church profile to the Global Methodist Church to begin the pastor search, dealing with legal issues regarding changing our name, considering the outstanding Boy Scout settlement, etc.

Serving Schedule

May 7

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

May 14

9:00 Liturgist: Les T. **Greeters:** Elaine P. and Kathy K.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** *honoring Wilma Hoover
Nursery: 10:15 Lauren E. / **11:15** Lauren E.
11:15 Greeters: Dick & Mary Ann M. **Scripture Reader:** Valerie M.

May 21

9:00 Liturgist: Wendy H. **Greeters:** Elaine I. and Cathy B.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** Phil & Karen M.
Nursery: 10:15 Julia C. & Kathy K. / **11:15** Ben G. & Mallory D.
11:15 Greeters: Kathy W. and Ruth L. **Scripture Reader:** Norman H.

May 28

9:00 Liturgist: Les T. **Greeters:** Carol S. and Carolyn B.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** Chuck Begley
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.

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary
May 2023

1st - Teesha Beard
4th - Kim Adams
9th - Corinne McKay
Mike Sanderson
13th - Becky Garrett
15th - David & Linda Thompson (23 yrs)
16th - Joyce Herron
17th - Johanna Morrow
23rd - Chris & Linda Long (25 yrs)
24th - Owen Morrow



25th - Helen Keller
Myra Lingle
Dick Markley
29th - Bonnie Brown
Jill Circle
Julia Circle
Levi Scott
Linda Thompson
30th - Carol Bailey
31st - Anna Knostman
Cliff Poling
Bradley & Bonnie Brown (54 yrs)

Weekly Giving and Attendance Statistics

Date	03-26-23	04-02-23	04-09-20	04-16-23
General Offering	3424.00	4254.00	3361.00	5529.00
Weekly Budget Need	4911.00	4911.00	4911.00	4911.00
Mission Offering	90.00	225.00	110.00	275.00
Maintenance Fund	440.00	450.00	135.00	180.00
Building Fund & Memorials	220.00	780.00	75.00	868.00
Online & Physical Attendance				
9 a.m. Service at church	51	56	71	49
* Remote viewing	15	13	12	21
11:15 a.m. Service at church	60	62	57	60
* Remote viewing	4	6	9	5
Total Attendance	130	137	149	135

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Stained Glass Window Restoration Project

Amount Received: \$ 98,870

Total Project Goal: \$ 109,430

Thank You!



The Hoffman Library, located in the north tower, has been reorganized.

There is an eleven page directory, by category, to help you find what you may be looking for. Besides the books there is a large library of DVDs of various authors and topics as well as music. The list of categories is: Bible Studies; Bible Symbols; Bibles & Bible Information; Biographies; Children's Books; Church Leadership; Culture and Political; Favorite Authors; Grief & Healing; History & Archaeology; Humor; Little Books; Little Books Devotionals; Miscellaneous; Parenting/Teen; Prayer.

On top of the small bookcase to the left is a box of books that are free for the taking.

Unbinding Your Heart (3) ; one in a million; A New Earth; 30 Day Church Challenge; Who Stole My Church? (9); Just Walk Across the Room (2); Questions of Life; At The Crossroads; Discerning the Voice of God; A Shepherd Looks At Psalms 23; he Stranger on the Road to Emmaus; Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul (2); Boomerang Joy - 60 Devotions; Power for Living; Medical Ethics - Human Choices; Winning on Purpose; Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper and Prayer of Jabez.

(Special thanks to Susie Spitler and Marilyn Mitchell for organizing the library.)



People to remember in prayer:



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

Thank you all for the prayers and the birthday, anniversary, and get well cards we received over the last several months. They were all so greatly appreciated.
Love and Blessings, Janet & Jim Balsbaugh

Thank you for all your kind words and blessings. I really enjoyed being a part of your friendships and activities. Bless You, Kim Adams

Special thanks to Erin Studebaker for the years she volunteered to record attendance. We appreciate your willingness to do this task and will miss working with you.

Thanks to everyone for supporting Michael Wayne Smith when he performed during services on April 23.

Church Garage 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. Items can be placed behind the partitions on the stage in the Activity Center. Thanks

Mother/Daughter Luncheon

Where: Hoffman Church
When: May 6, 2023
Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

We will be serving: lasagna, salad, fruit, roll and dessert. This event is hosted by the Methodist Women, with music by cellist Tara Mar Iddings

Art Show Committee planning meeting - Monday, May 8 at 7 p.m. in Multi-Purpose Room 2/3 for those interested in helping with the show. The Art Show will be held August 4 thru 6. Call John A. at 937 478 2078, if attending meeting.

Save the Date: Veterans Day Program at the church on November 12 at 2 p.m.

Elaine's Trivia Question of Month

In what book are the Ten Commandments?

GRANDMA'S KITCHEN May 2023 MENU

May 10th

**Meat Loaf
Mashed Potatoes
Peas
Chocolate Cake**

May 24th

**Chicken & Noodles
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Ice Cream Sundae**



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:

May 6: Mother/Daughter Luncheon 11-1PM,

**Menu: Lasagna, Salad, Bread and Dessert
Entertainment: Tara Mar Iddings on the cello**

July 16-20 VBS- To Mars and Beyond

Traditional Service
9AM

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Sunday School Hour
10:15-11:10AM

...

Open Door Service
11:15AM

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



HOFFMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2023 FINANCE REPORT					
General Budget and Missions Budget					
March 31, 2023					
REGULAR OFFERING		MONTH		YEAR-TO-DATE	
1010	First Sunday		5,254.00	16,215.00	
1020	Second Sunday		4,370.00	18,838.00	
1030	Third Sunday		5,322.00	14,067.00	
1040	Fourth Sunday		3,329.00	8,916.00	
1050	Fifth Sunday		0.00	5,141.00	
Total Regular Offering			18,275.00	63,177.00	
1060	Misc. Income		231.50	480.50	
**Total Income			18,506.50	63,657.50	
		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	4,571.53	13,715.47
2	District Adm. Apportionments	1,994.50	166.17	498.47	1,496.03
Total Apportionments		20,281.50	1,690.00	5,070.00	15,211.50
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	-192.00	-53.68	803.68
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	115.55	384.45
9	Children's Ministry & Holiday Parties	500.00	115.55	115.55	384.45
10	Youth Ministry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Total Ministries		3,100.00	-76.45	61.87	2,922.58
OFFICE, MEDIA, & TECH					
11	Finance & Stewardship	900.00	0.00	443.82	456.18
12	Office Supplies & Postage & Copier	4,000.00	566.09	1,261.09	2,738.91
13	Media Subscriptions	3,500.00	217.53	1,550.22	1,949.78
14	Technology	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Total Office, Media, & Tech		9,400.00	783.62	3,255.13	6,144.87
STAFF & PARISH RELATIONS					
15	Pastor Parish	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
16	Staff Salary	122,288.11	8,929.84	28,571.98	93,716.13
17	Health Ins. & Pastor PIP Payment	31,680.00	2,647.52	7,754.95	23,925.05
18	Pension	11,053.51	925.54	2,750.20	8,303.31
19	Acct. Reimbursement-Pastor	4,000.00	0.00	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	366.30	1,245.30	4,479.04
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	12,869.20	40,688.74	135,657.22
TRUSTEES					
25	Maintenance	2,400.00	100.00	-121.81	2,521.81
26	Utilities, Monitoring, and Service Contracts	29,482.00	1,908.67	6,822.00	22,660.00
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	0.00	935.00	4,575.00
30	Supplies	1,000.00	-9.06	236.99	763.01
Total Trustees		46,240.00	1,999.61	10,890.13	35,349.87
**Total General Budgeted Expenses		255,367.46	17,265.98	59,965.87	195,286.04
MISSIONS BUDGET					
31	Conference Apportionments - World Service	5,000.00	416.67	1,249.97	3750.03
32	District Mission Apportionments	1,994.50	166.17	498.47	1496.03
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	1,998.44	6393.56

Hoffman
Methodist Church
201 S Main Street
West Milton OH 45383



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Return Service Requested

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HOFFMAN 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

May
2023

T O W E R S
T H E

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