

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
Last month we began to explore the four disciplines we are lifting as a community that help us grow in holiness of heart and life: weekly worship, daily devotion, accountable discipleship, and service. Last month we discussed weekly worship; this month we will look at daily devotion.

Spending personal time with the Lord, next to weekly worship, is arguably the most important thing you can do for your relationship with God. There are a variety of names for this practice: quiet time, holy hour, devotion... Whatever we name it, to spend one-on-one time with God daily is vital to knowing who God is, and who we truly are. Without letting the Lord teach us who He is and who we are, a million and one other voices will rush in to fill that void, seeking to form us in their image. If we are not being formed and informed by God's Word and Holy Spirit, we are being formed by other voices and forces. The question is not whether we are being formed or not, but what are we being formed by?

What we are talking about here can be something as simple as 10 minutes (or longer of, course). The important thing is that this time is where one communes with God and cultivates his or her personal relationship with the Lord. Of course, this practice as a spiritual discipline, takes "discipline." The late Henri Nouwen defines discipline as "the effort to keep empty space empty so that God can speak." We are creating some space to hear the Lord. Not long ago we read in the Gospel of Mark that even our Lord needed to carve out time and space to be alone with His Father: "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed" (Mark 1:35).

The two necessary ingredients for this time with God are the Bible and prayer. There is much to be said about these two things and how they overlap and inform each other. One simple way to approach it is to read a short passage, and then to let that passage lead you into praying to God. Our daily Advent and Lent readings follow this pattern. Our hope is that this practice of daily reading and prayer becomes a holy habit - not because it means we are doing more "Christian stuff", but because we will grow in our faith, and in our love for God and people.

When thinking of practical concerns, a consistent place and consistent time each day help this be a fruitful exercise. A particular place that you go to during a particular time, in which you do a particular thing will help establish this as a habit or routine. This is important because we may not always "feel like" it, but we must cultivate our relationship with God especially during those times when our feelings are not in it.

All of us have had the experience of having a song stuck in our head. Sometimes this is a pleasant experience, and most other times it is bothersome. What we listen to profoundly shapes the noise and chatter that goes on in our minds. As we take time each day to be addressed by the voice of God in Scripture and through prayer, may we heed the Apostle Paul's advice from Romans 12:2: "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will."

## In Christ, Pastor Ty <><

## Board Meeting Highlights

## Devotions

Devotion was offered by Denise Ellinger. A devotion for Lent. Lent has two remarkable bookends, Ash Wednesday we are reminded that we are dust, and that God loves us even in our dustiness. Easter reminds us that not even death can keep us from God's unconditional love. The meeting was opened in prayer by Denise.

## Meeting Attendees

Pastor Ty, Les Trittschuh, Wendy Black, Jill Circle, Denise Ellinger, Tina Mathews, Jim Mitchell, David Jay, David Hayes

## Mission and Ministry

Joe is looking for a Summer Retreat for the Youth. Looking at joining the Troy church for a camp; more information to come. In March he is planning a movie night for Middle and High School students, could be a large attendance, please keep them in your prayers.

## Pastor's Report

- Wednesdays in Lent - Meal at 5:30, study begins at 6 p.m. Will break into groups.
- Good Friday Service - At Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 7 p.m.
- Spirit \& Truth Conference April 19 from 7 to 9 p.m. and April 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Stillwater Church, cost is $\$ 49$.
- Solar Eclipse - Monday, April 8, 2024, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the park - Does the church want to do anything?


## Finance Report

- Weeks of operations is 16.96
- Next month to adjust and look at the Endowment funds.
- Look at the CD's \& money market to reinvest in a higher rate.
- Audits are in good shape.
- Hymnals have been ordered.
- A motion was made by Jill Circle to take out of the General Fund $\$ 4850.00$ and move to the General Mission designated to pay for the LifeWise technology fee. This was seconded by Jim M.


## Nominations

Myra Lingle has agreed to be our Lay Delegate.

## Trustees

- Estimate cost $\$ 8,000-\$ 10,000$ for the total wireless hearing system for the sanctuary
- Old Router needs replaced, $\$ 740.00$ for new equipment.
- Paying off the copier debit.


## Non-Agenda Items

- Code of conduct policy - Pastor Ty has a copy and would like this added to our guiding principles.


## List of important Dates:

March 29 - Good Friday Service at Good Shepherd
March 31 - Easter Sunday
April 13 - TMS-Global Mission event at Tipp City GMC April 19 \& 20 - Spirit \& Truth Conference

## Serving Schedule

## April 7

9:00 Liturgist: Mike C. Greeter: Wendy H.
Ushers: Wayne \& Susie S. and Phil \& Karen M. Hospitality Table: Melodye W.
Nursery: 10:15 Debby \& Steve S. /11:15 Julia C., Wendy H. \& Loralie M.
11:15 Greeters: Ben G. and Janessa M. Scripture Reader: Norman H.

## April 14

9:00 Liturgist: Wendy H. Greeters: Elaine P. and Kathy K.
Ushers: John \& LaVerne H. Hospitality Table: Elaine I.
Nursery: 10:15 Elaine P. \& Sarah P. /11:15 Melodye W., Kim D. \& Rose K.
11:15 Greeters: Dick \& Mary Ann M.
Scripture Reader: Julia C.

## April 21

9:00 Liturgist: Mike C.
Ushers: John \& LaVerne H.
Greeters: Elaine I. and Cathy B.
Hospitality Table: *In honor of our Trustees
Nursery: 10:15 Julia C. \& Kathy K. /11:15 Ben G. and Mallory \& Maple D.
11:15 Greeters: Kathy W. and Ruth L. Scripture Reader: Valerie M.

## April 28

9:00 Liturgist: Les T.
Ushers: John \& LaVerne H.
Nursery: 10:15 Jennifer K. \& Patti W. /11:15 Jennifer \& Anna K. and Jill C.
11:15 Greeters: Paul \& Sally Miller and Marijo S. Scripture Reader: Ben G.
**Please contact Amanda Burns @ (937)524-4290 if you are unable to be a greeter.

## Happy Birthday \& Happy Anniversary

 April 2024$4^{\text {th }}$ - Sharon Trittschuh
Jerry \& Libby Richards (43 yrs)
$5^{\text {th }}$ - Ian Bryson
$6^{\text {th }}$ - Sherynne King
$8^{\text {th }}-$ Sophia Blackburn
Debby Schumann
$9^{\text {th }}-$ Becky Baker
$12^{t}$ - Valaria Harshbarger
$14^{\text {th }}$ - Jim \& Audrey Scammahorn (68 yrs)
$15^{\text {th }}$ - Tom Kinsey
$16^{\text {th }}-$ Libby Richards
$17^{\text {th }}-$ Darin \& Patti Wion (31 yrs)
$19^{\text {th }}$ - Kristine Hayes Dixie Porter
$21^{\text {st }}$ - Marilyn Yount
$22^{\text {nd }}-$ Barb Frazier Jennifer Knostman Tom Weeks
$24^{\text {th }}-$ Cooper Dohrman
$25^{\text {th }}$ - Katie Ellis
$26^{\text {th }}$ - Marijo Schlecht Jeremy \& Wendy Heisey (24 yrs) Lester \& Sharon Trittschuh (55 yrs)
$28^{\text {th }}$ - Kathie Abke Michael Barnes

If your name is not on our birthday and anniversary list and you would like to be added, please email your dates to: HoffmanGMC@gmail.com or call (937)698-4401.

Weekly Giving and Attendance Statistics

| Date | 02-25-24 | 03-03-24 | 03-10-24 | 03-17-24 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| General Offering | 3647.00 | 4961.00 | 6845.00 | 5521.00 |
| Weekly Budget Need | 4692.00 | 4692.00 | 4692.00 | 4692.00 |
| Mission Offering | 270.00 | 325.00 | 230.00 | 674.00 |
| Maintenance Fund | 520.00 | 300.00 | 225.00 | 37.00 |
| Building Fund \& Memorials | 95.00 | 320.00 | 125.00 | 95.00 |
| Online \& Physical Attendance |  |  |  |  |
| 9 a.m. Service at church | 74 | 62 | 86 | 82 |
| * Remote viewing | 8 | 12 | 10 | 10 |
| 11:15 a.m. Service at church | 61 | 73 | 61 | 75 |
| * Remote viewing | 6 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Total Attendance | 149 | 151 | 162 | 176 |



## GRANDMA'S KITCHEN April \& May 2024 MENUS HOFFMAN GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

 201 S. MAIN STREET, WEST MILTON 698-4401 SERVING MOST WEDNESDAYS BEGINNING AT 5:00 to 6:15 P.M. PUBLIC INVITED CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE \$8 DONATION PER MEAL Kids Meal \$3Please note that after many years we have to raise the price of the meal to $\$ 8.00$

| April 10 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ | Beef \& Noodles | April $24^{\text {th }}$ | Baked Spaghetti |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mashed Potatoes |  | Tossed Salad |
|  | Corn |  | Garlic Bread |
|  | Cream Puffs |  | Chocolate Delight |
| May $8^{\text {th }}$ | Meat Loaf | May $22^{\text {nd }}$ | Chicken \& Noodles |
|  | Mashed Potatoes |  | Mashed Potatoes |
|  | Peas |  | Green Beans |
|  | Cake |  | Ice Cream Sundae |

Menu items are subject to change

At Home: Phil Blue, Wilma Hoover, Helen Keller, Nancy Lightcap, Cheryl Owen, Mary Maess, Dick Markley, Dixie Porter, Shelia Shade, Theda Sliver, Marilyn Stickney, Jim \& Kathy Watkins and Nancy Wolf

At Centers: Barb Frazier, Brookdale Centennial Park, 350 Union Rd, Rm 132, Englewood OH 45322
Dorothy Ginn, Cypress Pointe, 600 W. National Rd., Rm 312, Englewood OH 45322
Valaria Harshbarger, SpringMeade, 4375 S Co. Rd. 25A, Rm 413, Tipp City OH 45371
Sherynne King, Koester Pavilion, 3232 N Co. Rd 25A, Rm 29A, Troy OH 45373
Freda Koeller, Grace Brethren Village, 1010 Taywood Rd., Rm 66, Englewood OH 45322
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
Monica Winemiller, Koester Pavilion, 3232 N Co Rd 25A, Rm 74, Troy OH 45373

## THANK YOU AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you all for the cards, thoughts, and prayers for all of the requests I've asked upon you for family and friends. You all mean so much to me and I appreciate you all. Love,
Janet \& Jim Balsbaugh

I would like to thank everyone from our church family for the love, prayers and cards in appreciation of my $80^{\text {th }}$ birthday party. Jerry Pinkerton

To my church family, words cannot express how thankful I am for all the cards, calls, visits, and prayers during the last year. God has been faithful and true to heal my body and to continue to strengthen me. God Bless You All! Nancy Lightcap

Global Methodist Women Meeting April 25 at 7 p.m.
in Multi-Purpose Room 2/3

## Church Rummage Sale

June 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. When doing your spring cleaning, remember to save sellable items for the sale.

## Grandma's Kitchen

Don't forget that Grandma's Kitchen opens on Wednesday, April 10. We will be serving meals in the Activity Center the $2^{\text {nd }}$ and $4^{\text {th }}$ Wednesdays of each month through October from 5:00 to $6: 15 \mathrm{pm}$. Carry-outs are available; call ahead (937-698-4401) or just stop by. Meals are $\$ 8$ for adults and $\$ 4$ for a child's reduced portion meal. All are welcome. You do not need to attend Hoffman to come and enjoy a meal with us-or to volunteer. Feel free to invite family, friends and neighbors to join us for a hot meal, friendly service and a pleasant atmosphere. Proceeds from Grandma's Kitchen go to local, national and international food ministries.

If you are interested in volunteering, please call Marilyn Mitchell, 937-947-1831 or email mbmitchell50@gmail.com. We could still use a few more volunteers and subs.

Elaine's Trivia Question of Month
Name the articles of the Armor of God?



