

# THE TOWERS

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

November 2025



### A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Exodus 20:8-11 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. . . . For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

#### Brothers and sisters in Christ,

When are you unreachable? What time of the day or day of the week would I not be able to get a hold of you if I tried?

I am referring to the practice of Sabbath. For many of us, "Sabbath" has simply referred to Sunday because that's the day we worship the Lord, but then that day ends up being just as busy and chaotic as the rest of the week. However, the Lord, in making the heavens and the earth in six days, "hallowed", set apart (the meaning of the word "holy"), a seventh day for rest, for ceasing work. It is a day that is unlike the other days and separate from them.

We all need rest. No matter who we are and how important we might think we are, rest is a nonnegotiable according to the very rhythm of God's creation. A day of rest is not meant to be a luxury or add-on if we have time but built into the fabric of our week. Without a consistent, sustained attention to rest, we are susceptible to burn-out, resentment, depression, and a host of other maladies. Practicing Sabbath can inject some sanity into our rhythms and perhaps highlight the insanity of our other six days, that we are trying to function at an unsustainable pace.

Maybe we need to be reminded that we were not meant to be available 24-7. Neither are we to be "productive" or "useful" all the time. Sabbath is a counter-cultural practice that resists society's practice of characterizing individuals based on their productivity, their usefulness, and their accomplishments. Sabbath insists that our worth comes from God rather than our work that we do.

even if it is work done for God. Sabbath is a reminder that it is not all up to us. Even when we do stop, God continues. The world does not need more of us. It needs more of God. Sabbath holds this truth in front of our faces.

For me, Sabbath day is Friday (Coincidentally, a lot of my fellow pastors have told me theirs is Friday as well). I do not practice Sabbath perfectly, but I do try to do some "Sabbath-y" things. I try to make sure to rest, to pray, to read something spiritually beneficial. I try to be more present to my family. I try not to do church work. I do not schedule or attend meetings. I do not use my phone for church-related communication, nor do I respond to church-related matters until the Sabbath is over. It is a day to be protected, set-apart, and sometimes that can be challenging. The alternative, to be available to all people all the time, also produces issues like those mentioned earlier: burnout, resentment, etc.

Another way to introduce Sabbath into our lives is a practice a colleague introduced me to called "Two-Minute Sabbatical." She encountered it in a book by Christian author John Eldredge. The idea is that, while many of us are busy and carving out extended time with God is a challenge, all of us could probably find two minutes, 120 seconds, in our day to reorient. This can be scheduled or done on an "as needed" basis. The practice is to sit with God in silence for two minutes. Let yourself be in God's presence, aware of His grace and mercy for two whole minutes and see how it reorients you and changes you before you go into the next part of your day.

May you experiment and practice with the Sabbath. May you see it not as a requirement but as a gift from our generous Father.

And may it remind you: God's got this.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Ty <><

## **Board Meeting Highlights**

#### **Meeting Attendees:**

Pastor Ty Williams, Wendy Heisey, Chris Long, Jim Mitchell, Tina Mathews, Joyce Hoffmaster, David Hayes, Myra Lingle, Denise Ellinger, Darin Wion, Matt Burns

#### **Devotion:**

Was given by Darin Wion. Luke 16:10, Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much. Darin & friends showed the love of Jesus, Jesus does use his people to show his love. Darion opened the meeting in Prayer.

#### **Pastor's Report:**

- Charge Conference Schedule it for October 16, 2025 at 7:30pm.
- Combined Service Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 10am. A group congregation picture will be taken out in front of the church after service, followed by a covered-dish luncheon.
- Completed 3 of the 4 studies on hearing God's Voice. Attendance has been around 20 per week.
- Church members can still come and do Trunk-or-treat in the parking lot; the church will not be having their booth this year.

#### **Youth Ministry:**

- Oct. 5 Bonfire at the Knostman's
- Oct. 12 Youth Bible Study
- Nov. 9 Youth Bible Study
- TBD Operation Christmas Child event

#### **Children's Ministry**

• Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025 – Family Pumpkin Carving Night

#### **Finance Report:**

• Weeks of operations is 18.55 ending the month of August 2025.

Edition: September 2025

- 2026 Proposed Budget
- Added to the 2026 budget a new Mission line for Church Planting, \$3,500 Motion made by Denise and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Long. Voted & Approved.

#### **Trustees:**

- David Jay working on property inventory, will be complete by the Conference.
- 2026 Budget has been voted & approved.
- Memorial markers have been ordered.
- Trustees will pay for Security Team cameras.
- Getting quotes to have blacktop surfaces sealed.
- Many other projects were completed the month of August.

#### **Staff Parish:**

- 2026 Staff & Parish Relations Proposed General Budget. Motion made by Matt and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tina. Voted & approved.
- Part of the Church Conference is a in-person walk through of the Parsonage.

#### **List of Important Dates:**

November 2 All Saints Sunday
November 4 Election Day Dinner
November 8 Veteran's Day Program

November 22 Craft Show

November 26 Community Thanksgiving Service at Potsdam C.O.B

November 30 First Sunday of Advent

December 3 Wednesday Advent Study begins

Next Meeting is October 16, 2025.

#### **Serving Schedule**

Nov 02

9:00 Liturgist: Wendy H. **Greeters:** Wendy H. and Marcia S.

**Ushers:** Wayne & Susie S. and Phil & Karen M. Hospitality Table: Sharon & Les T.

Nursery: 10:15 Kathy K. /11:15 Luana D., Wendy H. & Loralie M.

11:15 Greeters: 3rd - 5th Grade Class Acolytes: Anna & Emma K. Scripture Reader: Tim B.

**Nov 09** 

9:00 Liturgist: Jerry D. Greeters: Elaine P. and Kathy K.

Hospitality Table: Tim & Janet B. Ushers: John & LaVerne H.

Nursery: 10:15 Elaine P. & Sophia B. /11:15 Kim & Cooper D. and Rose K.

11:15 Greeters: Dick & Mary Ann M. Acolytes: Loralei M. & Rose K. Scripture Reader: Ben G.

**Nov 16** 

**9:00** Liturgist: Monica S. Greeters: Elaine I.

Ushers: Dan & Erin S **Hospitality Table:** Patti & Darin W.

Nursery: 10:15 Carol C. & Pam H. /11:15 Ben G. and Kathy K.

11:15 Greeters: Kathy Watkins Acolytes: Dalton M. & Lily M. **Scripture Reader:** Norman H.

**Nov 23** 

9:00 Liturgist: Becky G. **Greeters:** Carol S. and Carolyn B.

**Ushers:**. David & Dawn J. Hospitality Table: Beth & Larry T.

Nursery: 10:15 Jennifer K. & Patti W. /11:15 Jennifer & Anna K. and Jill C.

11:15 Greeters: Paul & Sally M. Acolytes: Will H. & Matthew G. Scripture Reader: Lily M.

**Nov 30** 

9:00 Liturgist: Wendy H. Greeters: Sophia & Stella B.

Ushers: Steve K. & Kay W. Hospitality Table: Chuck B.

Nursery: 10:15 Kathy K. & Luana D. /11:15 Janessa M. and Kelly & Paige S.

11:15 Greeters: Patti W. & Courtney S. Acolytes: Lydia G. & Paige S. Scripture Reader: Ben G.

\*\*Please contact the church office (937)698-4401 if you are unable to be a greeter or have switched Sundays. Thanks!

#### Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary

November 2025



Linda Long

Joel Benkert

John Ankerman Wendy Heisey

10<sup>th</sup> -Jim Balsbaugh Judy Brown

Kendra Hemminger 12<sup>th</sup> -



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.

13th - Lynn McFarland

14<sup>th</sup> - Christy Harris

16<sup>th</sup> - Logan Burns

17<sup>th</sup> - Lee & Becky Baker (47 yrs) 23<sup>rd</sup> - Denise Ellinger

Josie Knostman

25<sup>th</sup> - Greg Lingle Chris Long

30<sup>th</sup> - LaVerne Hennemyre

#### **Weekly Giving and Attendance Statistics**



	9-21-25	9-28-25	10-5-25	10-12-25	10-19-25
General Offering	5170.00	5565.00	8366.00	5772.00	5729.00
Weekly Budget Need	5269.06	5269.06	5269.06	5269.06	5269.06
General Mission Offering	472.00	171.00	436.00	399.00	260.00
Maintenance Fund	245.00	141.00	461.00	310.00	80.00
Building Fund & Memorials	238.00	63.00	683.00	1180.00	103.10
Online & Physical Attendance			combined		
9 a.m. Service at church	93	76	130	87	70
* Remote viewing	10	16	7	15	15
11:15 a.m. Service at church	49	38	-	56	43
* Remote viewing	4	6	-	5	6
Total Attendance	156	136	137	163	134



#### SHARE A POINSETTIA

It is time to order poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary during the Christmas Eve services. They will be displayed on Christmas Eve and can be picked up after the 10 p.m. Christmas Eve service. If you wish to share with us, please fill out the form and return it with your payment by **Sunday, November 30.** Our supplier is Andy's Garden and the cost is \$9 each. Make checks payable to HoffmanGMC.

	(Please Print Names Carefully)	How Many		Total Price
In memory of	of	White	x \$9 =	
In honor of _		Red	x \$9 =	
Given By		Marble	x \$9 =	
Your Phone	Number	Pink	_ x \$9 =	

(We may have to substitute color choice.)

#### People to remember in prayer:



At Home: Helen Keller, Cheryl Owen, Mary Maess, Shelia Shade, Theda Sliver, and Jim & Kathy Watkins

At Centers: Johnnie Bouck, Brookhaven Assisted Living, 1 Country Ln, Rm 112, Brookville OH 45309

Dorothy Ginn, Cypress Pointe, 600 W. National Rd., Rm 312, Englewood OH 45322

Wendy Long, Trinity Center, 789 Stonybrook, Rm 208A, Fairborn OH 45324

Jennie McNeal, Otterbein Senior Life, 4375 S Co. Rd. 25A, Rm 307, Tipp City OH 45371

Marilyn Stickney, Randall Residence W. Milton, 217 Doris Drive, Rm 112, West Milton OH 45383

Monica Winemiller, Vancrest of Upper Valley, 3232 N Co Rd 25A, Rm 8, Troy OH 45373

#### THANK YOU AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

My Church Family, my heartfelt thank you for the love shown me on my 80th birthday! The cards, flowers and gathering with so many precious faces filled my soul.

Your sister in Christ,

Kathy Koeller

#### **Daylight Savings Time Ends November 2.**

Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday, Nov. 1

## 165th Election Day dinner on Tues., Nov. 4 from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

Homemade chicken pot pie, mashed potatoes, green beans, slaw, dinner roll, assorted desserts, plus a beverage. Dine in or carry out.

**\$14 donation for pies needed,** we are asking for donations to cover the cost of purchasing pies. Mark your donation pies.

#### **Honoring All Veterans**

and their families on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 2 p.m. in the Activity Center; the public is invited!



Thank you for all the cards, prayers, words of encouragement and hugs for staff appreciation month.

You're the best! JoAnn

#### Pledge Sunday is November 9

Estimate of Giving cards are available on table in sanctuary.

## Hoffman's Annual Craft Show Saturday, November 22 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Volunteer opportunities for the Lunch Cafe' and the Women's Ministry Booth for booth help and anyone who would like to make/donate homemade items for the booth. Anyone wanting to have a booth at the Craft Show, the cost is \$30.00 and only homemade items can be sold. Please call Tina Mathews at 937-545-2131 with any questions.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes will be collected on Nov. 23. Please fill a box either in person or online. There is more information about filling the boxes and a stack of boxes to use in the lobby. If you fill a box online please let Becky know so that we can count it as a part of our church giving. On Nov. 23, bring your filled box to the sanctuary to be blessed.

Community Thanksgiving Service, Nov. 26 @ 7p.m. at Potsdam Church of the Brethren. 22 Cross Street

#### Elaine's Trivia Question of Month

Who assisted David in naming the music directors for Solomon's temple?

**Christmas Staff Gifts** will be presented to the staff at the December 6 Christmas party in appreciation for all their hard work. Please mark your donation "Staff Gifts" by Nov 30. Thank you, David H. & Joyce H.

#### Hoffman GMC Family Christmas Party Saturday, Dec. 6

More information will be in the November bulletins.

#### **Youth Ministry Update**

**Sunday, October 5** We had about twenty youth present at a bonfire at the Knostman's. S'mores, wagon rides, games, and Pastor Ty shared his testimony.

**Sunday, October 12** We held our monthly Bible study. We started by playing a game called "Ninja". Our Bible Study covered topics such as the Ten Commandments and how the Bible was put together.

Sunday October 26 Halloween Movie night

**Upcoming Events:** 

November 9 - Youth Bible Study

**TBD:** Operation Christmas Child Shoebox packing

Union Township FISH has been looking for volunteers to serve as Food Pantry Manager and Trustee for several months now. No one has volunteered yet! Food Pantry Manager is the biggest need at this time. Neither position requires that a volunteer be available at all times – the time required is based on how many requests for assistance we receive. As these are volunteer positions, there is no set schedule.

Thank you, Steve Barga (937)698-3848

See information sheet on west bulletin board.

#### **Advent Study**

Wednesdays, Dec. 3, 10, & 17 6:00 -7:00 p.m. study All the adults together in the A.C. for the study; the kids/youth in the basement.

#### **Early Newsletter Deadlines and Mailing Dates**

**December Towers Deadline is Nov. 13**The December Towers will be mailed Nov. 20

January *Towers* Deadline is Dec. 11
The January *Towers* will be mailed Dec. 18.

"For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive vou." Matthew 6:14



A huge thank you to all who helped with the Pumpkin Carving Party! We had a blast!!

Nov 2- Dec 28 we will have all the children come down to Children's Church after the children's message in second service.

SAVE THE DATE: VBS 2025: July 5-9, 2025

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Sunday school 10:15-11:15

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Children's Church for Preschoolers

\*Starts after we sing\*

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Nursery is open during Sunday school and Second Service

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

	HOFFMAN G	LOBAL METI	HODIST CHURC	H 2025 FINANCE	REPORT
		Genera	al Budget and Missio September 30, 202	ons	
REGU	ILAR OFFERING		MONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE	
1010	First Sunday		6,651.00	61,717.00	
1020	Second Sunday		5,322.00	53,712.00	
1030	,		5,060.00	44,669.00	
1040	,		5,565.00	46,357.00	
1050	,		0.00	17,230.00	
1060	al Regular Offering Misc. Income		22,598.00 135.00	223,685.00 751.50	
	tal Income		22,733.00	224,436.50	
10	an income		•		
		BUDGET	PAID OUT	YEAR-TO-DATE	BALANCE OF
		FOR YEAR	THIS MONTH	PAID OUT	BUDGET
	IECTIONAL FUNDING	0.000.00		0.050.05	7.10.00
1	Connectional Funding AWAC 3% - 100% p	9,000.00	0.00	8,256.37	743.63
2	Connection Funding GMC 1% - 100% paid Total Connectional	3,000.00 12,000.00	0.00	2,896.97 11,153.34	103.03 846.66
		12,000.00	0.00	11,100.04	840.00
	TRIES				
3	Hospitality	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
4	Outreach	750.00	0.00	115.78	634.22
5	Worship	750.00	0.00	460.82	289.18
6	Music	750.00	100.00	406.54	343.46
7 Ω	Assimilation Vacation Bible School	750.00 750.00	0.00	0.00 626.87	750.00 123.13
8 9	Children's Ministry & Holiday Parties	750.00	11.25	352.01	397.99
10	Youth Ministry	750.00	0.00	256.57	493.43
11	Ministry Resource Fund	5,000.00	-18.79	848.25	4,151.75
12	Mission Support	13,500.00	-1,000.00	6,750.00	6,750.00
	Total Ministries	24,500.00	-907.54	9,816.84	14,683.16
	Total Million	2 1,000.00		0,0.0.0.	,0000
OFFIC	CE, MEDIA, & TECH				
13	Finance & Stewardship	900.00	0.00	1,194.32	-294.32
14	Office Supplies & Postage & Copier	4,200.00	695.11	2,850.11	1,349.89
15	Media Subscriptions	4,000.00	410.74	3,607.78	392.22
16	Technology	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Total Office, Media, & Tech	10,100.00	1,105.85	7,652.21	2,447.79
-	F & PARISH RELATIONS				
17	Pastor Parish	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
18	Staff Salary	121,895.34	11,074.60	85,421.88	36,473.46
19 2	Health Ins. Pension & Self Funded Portion	30,375.16 6.278.76	2,482.73 431.06	22,356.27 4,312.26	8,018.89 1,966.50
21	Acct. Reimbursement-Pastor	4,000.00	129.66	1,765.55	2,234.45
22	Hoffman Family Benevolence	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
23	Pulpit Supply	500.00	0.00	300.00	200.00
24	Employer Payroll Taxes	5,966.74	476.44	3,979.26	1,987.48
25	Moving Allowance	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
26	Conference Deligate	600.00	0.00	170.00	430.00
	Total Staff & Parish Relations	171,166.00	14,594.49	119,305.22	51,860.78
	TEES				
27	Maintenance	2,400.00	0.00	1,764.20	635.80
28	Utilities, Monitoring, and Service Contracts	30,630.00	1,992.33	21,014.38	9,615.62
29	Building Insurance	5,700.00	520.08	4,680.76	1,019.24
30	Real Estate Taxes Parsonage	3,450.00	0.00	3,167.44	282.56
31	Snow Plowing & Yard Work	7,815.00	125.00	5,147.75	2,667.25
32	Janitorial Supplies Capital Improvement Fund	1,030.00	96.05	551.66	478.34
33	Total Trustees	5,200.00 56,225.00	0.00 2,733.46	2,600.00 38,926.19	2,600.00 17,298.81
**To	tal General Budgeted Expenses	273,991.00	17,526.26	186,853.80	87,137.20
MISSI	ONS				
34	Local Missions	6,500.00	96.11	8,561.81	-2,061.81
35	Global Missions	2,500.00	1,000.00	9,000.00	-6,500.00
36	MU Council of Churches	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00
	Total Missions Expenses	9,250.00	1,096.11	17,811.81	-8,561.81

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Return Service Requested

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November 2025

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HOFFMAN GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

**E31** 

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Worship Time: 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

Email: HoffmanGMC@gmail.com Website: HoffmanGMC.org Phone: (937) 698-4401

**Pastor Ty Williams** 

Χ