

THE CHIMES

FEBRUARY 2019



CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR

FROM THE LEAD PASTOR

Vide ut invicem se diligant, "See how they love one another." Tertullian of Carthage, one of the early Christian leaders, wrote these words to describe how ordinary Roman citizens viewed Christ. It was not their moral code, their distinctive worship practices, or their diet that characterized followers of Christ, but the care and compassion they had for one another.



Love is still the defining quality of genuine Christian community. At Church of the Saviour, we place a high value on care for one another and for those around us. Our five-year vision is to see the world the way God sees it, and we are living that out this year with an intentional focus on extending the love of Christ to neighbors near and far as we "light the way."

Though we have established ministries like Congregational Care, Eucharistic Ministry, and Meal Train, and though we have great intentions as individuals to care for each other, there are still missed opportunities – needs we aren't aware of, gaps between ministries, or missed communication. Knowing that, I asked the Staff-Parish Relations Committee to help me and the leaders of our care ministries to develop a plan to better coordinate our care.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Church of the Saviour Foundation, we created a one-year position of Pastor of Care Ministries that will be filled by Rev. Lois Annich. Lois has been part of our church for many years in a quasi-staff position as pastoral counselor. This new position will expand her role and utilize her strengths to coordinate our care ministries. Rev. Annich will work closely with Rev. Kendrick and me to meet and track pastoral care and ongoing community support. I am very excited for the opportunity to increase our engagement and to have Rev. Annich as a part of our pastoral team. You will see more of her regularly in worship and other church activities.

"See how they love one another." The early church was known by the love they had for one another. May it be true of us, as well.

Rev. Andy Call

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERIES

Feb. 3: "Lean In"
Jeremiah 1:4-10

Feb. 10: "Change
the Narrative"
Luke 5:1-11

Feb. 17: "Resilient Hope"
Luke 6:17-26

Feb. 24: "Is This Going to Hurt?"
Luke 6:27-38

**Worship at 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, 9:30 a.m. in
the Great Hall, 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

TAIZE WORSHIP

7 p.m., Wednesday, February 6

Join us for a candlelight worship service of prayer,
meditation and reflection.



SOUPER BOWL & CHILI COOK OFF

The COTS Youth and Saviour softball teams will again host the annual Souper Bowl of Caring food drive during the first weekend in February. Please bring non-perishable food items or a monetary donation to Upward basketball games from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, February 2, in the Great Hall, or to worship on Sunday, February 3, to benefit the Heights Emergency Food Center and the Cory Hunger Center.

The food drive campaign will culminate at 6 p.m. Sunday, February 3, when we gather in the Great Hall for our annual chili cook-off and big game watch party. Please sign-up at cotsumc.church/souper19 to let us know if you can help out or contribute to the watch party.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Great is thy faithfulness!

Lamentation 3:23

Last year, your Finance Committee took a different approach toward stewardship and budgeting by embracing a **Campaign of Faith**. Parishioners were asked to prayerfully consider what their financial commitment would be for 2018 with the knowledge these pledges would remain private. This step, or maybe leap of faith, has proven a wise decision because the total giving exceeded the budget by more than \$10,000.

Thoughtful actions were taken by leadership and staff throughout 2018 to monitor and control expenses, which can be a challenge for a church of this size, age and beauty. These steps allowed total expenses for the year to come in more than \$12,000 below budget.

	2018 Actual	Oct YTD Budget	Variance
Receipts	\$1,349,443	\$1,338,7000	\$10,743
Expenses	\$1,325,237	\$1,337,553	(\$12,316)
Surplus	\$24,206	\$1,147	\$23,059

The **Campaign of Faith** continues for 2019 with the assurance that God will remain faithful and that the COTS family is a giving people. Your prayers are coveted as the 2019 Budget will be finalized and approved by the Finance Committee and the Administrative Board.

Please always feel free to ask me, or any member of the finance committee, any questions or share your insights.

Joe Hicks, Finance Chair
Localjoes216@gmail.com

STRENGTHENING CARE MINISTRIES

Thanks to a generous one-year grant from The Church of the Saviour Foundation, I will work (part time) with our various lay caregivers to strengthen our outreach to congregants in need of pastoral care. We are very blessed by the dedicated volunteers whose ministries include being congregational caregivers, eucharistic ministers, meal train providers, and hosts at bereavement receptions. If I've missed anyone, please forgive me as I'm just beginning to "get the lay of the land." I'm really eager to deepen my knowledge of all the wonderful care ministries at Church of the Saviour!

I will serve in this position as a coach and facilitator, "to equip the saints for the work of ministry." I'm excited to help people discern whether they are called to one of these ministries, and will enthusiastically train and support them in their compassionate outreach. I also will continue providing private coaching and pastoral counseling sessions as I have for many years, and welcome any questions you might have about that aspect of my work. I truly look forward to adding a new dimension to my ministry at Church of the Saviour. Thanks be to God for this wonderful community! - Rev. Lois Annich, Pastor of Care Ministries



'HEARTS FOR HAITI' COOKIE SALE



All sales from our 9th annual "Valentine Hearts for Haiti" baking mission will again support the Methodist school in Dondon, Haiti. By baking one cookie at a time, COTS has raised nearly \$20,000 for the students in Dondon. Let's help them some more this year!

We will take cookie orders at church between all services on Jan. 27 and Feb. 3. You may order cookies online, now through Feb. 3, at <https://sites.google.com/view/VHFH>. We will deliver the cookies and have walk-up sales available with a limited quantity at our table on Sunday, Feb. 10, in the COTS Cafe.

For more information, email me at derekyost17@gmail.com or my mom Tina at tinadyost@gmail.com. You also can call us at home at 216-991-0779 or talk to us at church.

Derek Yost

Ignite COTS! New Member Orientation 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, February 10

Take the next step towards becoming a member of Church of the Saviour. At Ignite COTS, you will hear from pastors and leaders in key ministry areas and learn more about what it means to be a member/stakeholder. Childcare is available upon request. You may let us know you'll attend by contacting Debbie Johnson at djohnson@chsaviour.org or by calling the church office at 216-321-8880. Walk-ins are always welcome.

If you have any news you'd like us to consider for publication, please send a note to chimes@chsaviour.org.

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP



This new year is filled with new and fresh opportunities to share the immeasurable and gratuitous love of God in a fractured, hurting Church and world. In this season of Epiphany, I am reminded of the biblical story of the three magi who sojourned together with humility and courage to an unknown place in search for Christ so they could worship him.

As the people called United Methodist, like the magi, we have been sojourning together, engaging in prayer, going deeper in dialogue, and exploring new possibilities of how to strengthen and maintain the unity and mission of the Church and maximize our witness in the world. We have dared to go into unfamiliar places and consider unknown paths, with humility and courage, in search of God's wisdom.

And like the magi, as we prepare for the Special Session of General Conference (Feb. 23-26) and the days after, may we be committed to bring our best gifts ... a praying spirit, a humble spirit, and a steadfast spirit ... as an offering to honor Christ and the Church.

My office will provide a prayer that I am asking to be shared in every congregation during worship on Sunday, March 3. This prayer will be available the week of Feb. 25. I am calling all lay and clergy of East Ohio to attend one of the following informational gatherings led by me and members of the General Conference delegation. Specific locations will be announced soon.

- Saturday, March 9 10 – 11:30 a.m. Southern Region of the Conference
- Saturday, March 9 2 – 3:30 p.m. Central Region of the Conference
- Sunday, March 10 4 – 5:30 p.m. Northern Region of the Conference

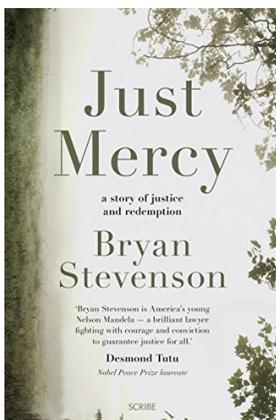
We will present the facts of what happened at the Special Session (what decisions were made), and I will share how we move forward – what comes next – as we live into the mission of the Church which is, and will be, still yet alive!

I ask you to join me in prayer for the mission of our beloved Church and our way forward together. We know that through Christ, all things are possible! I offer this prayer of Jesus as a word of hope and blessing!

"I pray they will be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. I pray that they also will be in us, so that the world will believe that you sent me. I've given them the glory that you gave me so that they can be one just as we are one. I'm in them and you are in me so that they will be made perfectly one. Then the world will know that you sent me and that you have loved them just as you loved me." John 17:21-23

With Love,

Bishop Tracy S. Malone



ROUNDTABLE A SMALL GROUP LEARNING EXPERIENCE

In February, we will focus on the issues of justice and mercy, in line with this month's sermon series, **Just Mercy**. We will read the book by the same name written by Bryan Stevenson, founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama. The book, **Just Mercy**, will be available in the church office.

We will gather February 20 at 7 p.m. in the Parlor to discuss the book and the theme in detail. The Honorable C. Ellen Connally will lead the discussion.

WEBSITE AND PODCASTING: COTSumc.org

MINISTRY TEAM

Andy Call, Lead Pastor

Gregory Kendrick, Jr., Pastor of Connections

Lois Annich, Pastor of Care Ministries

David Gilson, Director of Music

Robert Day, Organist

Charles Cotton, Creative Director, 9:30 Worship Experience

Jill Phillips, Worship Leader, 9:30 Worship Experience

Graham Rosen, Production Team Leader

Brian Smart, Director of Emerging Ministries

Curt Campbell, Director of Youth Ministries

Penny Neisen, Properties Manager

Loretta Dahlstrom, Business Administrator

Cris Hicks, Administrative Assistant

Debbie Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Angela Chambers, Newsletter Editor

Leslie Myers, Wedding Coordinator

Dr. Charles D. Yoost, Pastor Emeritus



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CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR

United Methodist

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Our CHURCH
family

Heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of church members **Florida Henderson**, who died October 24, and **Patricia "Trish" Blakely**, who died December 27, and to Ann Metzel Nielsen on the recent death of her husband, Maurice.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for all of the prayers, phone calls and encouraging cards during my recent illness. I greatly appreciate the care and support from my beloved church family.

Peace and love,
Henry Jones

'Love Your Neighbor' Campaign and Book Study

The Metro Ministries Team continues its year of missions with a campaign during the six weeks of Lent. All members and friends of Church of the Saviour are encouraged to participate — young and old alike! The campaign is called "**Love Your Neighbor**" and is based on Luke 10:27. Watch for details in the **March Chimes**, the weekly **eChimes** and the Sunday bulletin announcements.

The campaign will include a book study for individuals or small groups. The book, ***The Art of Neighboring: Building Genuine Relationships Right Outside Your Door*** by Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon, will be available for \$5 beginning Sunday, February 24. For more information on joining one of the book study groups, check future *Chimes* or eChimes, or contact Juanita Taylor at 330-659-2009 or jajuarez1@yahoo.com.

Juanita Taylor

Love

your neighbor