

THE CHIMES

SUMMER 2019



CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR



From the Lead Pastor: Living with Ambiguity

As human beings, we are hard-wired to desire clarity. We prefer black/white, either/or, us/them concepts because they allow us to neatly categorize situations and people. When we encounter ambiguity or tension, we long for resolution – for things to return to neat categories we can easily comprehend and manage.

Perhaps that is why this time in the United Methodist Church is so challenging. We are in a place of ambiguity when it comes to how we relate to people of different sexual orientations. The process of “A Way Forward” was anything but, leaving us more unsettled than before. The actions of the special session of General Conference are still being challenged, and new groups have been formed to offer their own strategies and future paths.

In our own congregation, there is considerable unrest. Those who identify as conservative-leaning feel unjustly portrayed as hateful and closed-minded. Those who identify as progressive-leaning feel disappointed that we haven’t taken a stronger stand for what they see primarily as a matter of justice. People on both sides and everywhere in between feel called to act but are frustrated because it is unclear what action will make any difference.

That’s why right now I appreciate the leadership of our Administrative Board. They could have adopted a strong but divisive statement or crafted a safe but meaningless one. Instead, they recognized that we would all benefit from going deeper in understanding what God says and by listening to one another. To that end, they have begun creating a new round of study and conversation to help us better understand human sexuality: *What does the Bible actually say about sexuality? What do all those letters mean (LGBTQIA+)? How do tradition, reason, and experience inform our faith?*

That process will not lead to unanimity, but it will help all of us to grow in knowledge and in faith. It might even bring a little more humility when we try to speak for God. Maybe that is the most important lesson we can learn in this time of ambiguity.

Rev. Andy Call

JUNE/JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship times (unless otherwise specified) are 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall & 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

June 2, “Who Tells Your Story” (Conclusion of Questions Google Can’t Answer) (John 9:1-25)

June 9, Pentecost/Confirmation (Mark 9:2-9)

One worship service at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

June 16, Faces of Our Faith: Queen Vashti (New Sermon Series) (Esther 1)

June 23, Faces of Our Faith: Jonah (Jonah 4)

June 30, Faces of Our Faith: Woman with the Alabaster Jar (Luke 7:36-50)

July 7, Faces of Our Faith: Deborah (Judges 5-6)

July 14, Faces of Our Faith: Puah and Shiprah (Exodus 1)

July 21, Faces of Our Faith: Daughters of Zelophehad (Numbers 27)

July 28, Faces of Our Faith: Eutychus (Acts 20)



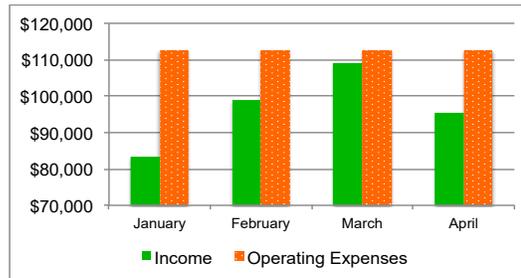
FACES
OF OUR
FAITH
BOLD & UNTOLD STORIES

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Year-to-Date Income through April was \$62,345 below what was budgeted. This shortfall in income was mostly offset by \$43,298 of reduced expenses, resulting in a \$19,047 deficit. Income for the first four months of 2019 was below monthly Operating Expenses, with January and April showing the largest gap.

YTD Mar 2019	Year-to-date April 2019		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Giving	\$388,653	\$450,998	-\$62,345
Expenses	\$430,622	\$473,920	\$43,298
Net	-\$41,969	-\$22,922	-\$19,047

This consistent giving deficit has stimulated conversation and some concern among leadership. To continue to rely on reduced expenses to offset the shortage in income is inconsistent with the Church's vision and commitment for 2019.



We anticipated some reaction to the outcome of General Conference in February, and we understand that has evoked many strong emotions and uncertainty among our church family. It is our hope the uncertainty that lies ahead will not negatively impact each of our commitments to our local congregation and ministries.

2 Corinthians 9:7 says, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Joe Hicks, Finance Chair (Localjoes216@gmail.com)

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As we approach the mid point of the year, we encourage our fellow parishioners to review their financial commitments to the Church of the Saviour and all its ministries. As we celebrate Pentecost and welcome our new confirmation class, it is a good time to redouble our efforts to support our youth, our mission of outreach and all who are a part of our congregation.

Our revenue stream is lagging behind year-to-date from 2018. While we believe that our faith-based giving will ultimately prove to be successful, there are still challenges that remain for 2019. Though our congregation, like all congregations, faces an uphill challenge in our present climate, it is imperative that we remain as one spirit committed to God and supportive of one another. The ministries that we have in place provide for congregational growth while meeting the needs of others through outreach. Please continue to do all you can to support the mission of Church of the Saviour.

Dick & Cindy Helton, Co-Stewardship Chairs

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Many thanks! Thank you to every one who has contributed to the **Rich Hiles Memorial Habitat for Humanity** project so far. By your generosity we are now 8 percent OVER our \$70,000 goal! Many thanks, also, to Stephen and Supriya Draviam for the wonderful meal served on Sunday, May 5, to benefit the project! We are excited that construction on the home is expected to start in early June (assuming city permits are fully processed by then).

Pete Evangelista, Metro Ministries Team Lead



**COTS & NEW LIFE CATHEDRAL
EAST CLEVELAND SERVING DAY**

Saturday, June 1

Our spring East Cleveland Serving Day will start with continental breakfast and Sending Out worship at 9 a.m. at NLC, 16200 Euclid Avenue, with the community serving occurring from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., followed by a deli luncheon at COTS. Contact the church office to sign up. Come serve and enjoy the fellowship!



VBS 2019: Power Up! June 24-27 from 6-8 p.m.

The digital world takes over COTS Kids this summer for Vacation Bible School! Kids will team up as they work together to explore the wonderful power of God. We are so excited to raise our game with your kids. Each evening we will also have a Fortnite Dance Tournament. Our teams will put their dance moves to the test and compete for a mystery prize to be awarded to the winning team.

Interested in volunteering for this epic event? We would love to have you participate in any of the following ways: Sign In and Sign Out, Master of Ceremonies, Music Leader, Crafts/Creative, Dance Tournament Master and more! To register your child (PreK-5th), please visit <http://cotsumc.church/vbs-2019>.

Please let Laura Moseley, Children's Ministries Coordinator, know if you'd like to "game" with us. lmoseley@cotsumc.org; 614-395-8706

CHIMES DISTRIBUTION UPDATE

Starting with the next issue of *The Chimes* in mid-August, hard copies will no longer be mailed but will be made available at the church. This is to help reduce the cost of printing and mailing as well as the impact on our environment. It costs \$21.83 to print and mail *The Chimes* to each household per year.

We will continue to mail *The Chimes* to homebound members and those living out-of-town. If you are local, we invite you to view *The Chimes* online at cotsumc.org/chimes/ or pick up your hard copy outside the church office the next time you're here. Thank you for helping Church of the Saviour be good stewards of our finances and the environment!

UMW SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

All are invited to United Methodist Women's annual Service of Remembrance at 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 4, in Myers Chapel. This service remembers women of our congregation who have died in the past 12 months. Family and friends are invited to share favorite memories. Following the service, all are welcome to a luncheon in Calvary Hall. No RSVP required.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Beginning the week of June 3, the church office will close at 4 p.m. on Fridays. Summer is also the time that our office staff are able to enjoy some much-needed vacation, so there will be times when the office will close at 3 p.m.

FAMILY BULLETIN BOARD

Five new Congregational Care Ministers were commissioned on Sunday, May 19: **Joan Angle, Margaret Thomas, Jim Thomas, Valenta Ward-Gravelly, and Susan Ziegler.**

Condolences to:

Pat Zimmerman on the death of her brother, Paul, and sister-in-law, Margaret
Donald Morton on the death of his sister, Gwendolyn.
Steve Harris on the death of his father, Major.
Jennifer Whatley Williams on the death of her mother, Alice.

High School Graduates

Senior pictures and more information about each student can be found on the bulletin board by the Reinberger entrance.

My'quan Barnes: Ginn Academy
Zaida Billingsley: St. Martin de Porres - Tri-C
Beckett Blocker: Laurel School - Dickinson College
Samuel Blocker: University School—Emory University
Emily Cassidy: CH/UH
Glennis Covault: CH/UH - Case Western Reserve University
Will Farrall: Shaker Hts HS - Miami University
Lauren Hailey: Beaumont School - Ohio University
Molly Johnson: Brush HS - University of Cincinnati
Julia Kiefer: Brush HS - Franklin and Marshall College
Caroline Kiker: Shaker Hts HS - Ohio Wesleyan University
Adam Lubell: Orange HS - Marshall University
Celia Pelfrey: Shaker Hts HS - Cleveland Institute of Art
Ben Ritts: Shaker Hts HS - Carpentry Apprenticeship
Kyle Short: Barrington Academy - Work and college
Spencer Short: Barrington Academy - Ohio Northern University
Lyle Yost: Shaker Hts HS - The Ohio State University

College Graduates

Jacob Myers graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in health science with a pre-occupational therapy emphasis from the University of Findlay.

Deshawn Pate received his Masters in Sports Management from Ohio Christian University. Deshawn was a former student in the East Tech Mentoring Program. His undergraduate studies at OCU were supported by the church's Urban Scholar's Grant.

BREATHE RESPITE

This unique ministry will be returning to our community on Friday, July 19. Families with children who have special rights are invited to join us for an evening of joy, rest, discovery and connection. What are "special rights" anyway? Many are familiar with the phrase "special needs." We believe that every person is created in God's image and every person has a "right" to be met where they are.

For more information, please contact Shane Grist at griestse@yahoo.com.



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

Curt Campbell, Director of Youth Ministries

Laura Moseley, Interim Children's Program

Coordinator

Penny Neisen, Properties Manager

Shelbi Tedeschi, Newsletter Editor

Dr. Charles D. Yoost, Pastor Emeritus



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Pentecost is a big deal. The Third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, comes upon the apostles fifty days after Easter (Pentecoste=fiftieth day in Greek). Pentecost also represents the start of the Christian church. Jesus said that after he left the disciples, he would send us God's Spirit. (Can you imagine?!?!) He was passing to us the responsibility of sharing his Good News with the world, and giving us exactly what we need to do it. That's worth celebrating!

So on June 9, our entire congregation will come together for one worship service at 10:30 a.m. We will also celebrate the growing of our church as several youth confirm their faith in Jesus and commit to a life of discipleship as members of Church of the Saviour. Confirmation is a big deal, too. Cake will be served following the service. We hope you will join us!

CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEEDS OF THE SAINTS

Do you ever think about our members who have served Christ's church through the years and are now confined to their homes or nursing facilities because of poor health or other life issues? Do you ever wonder if you might be called to support them? In Romans 12:13, St. Paul encourages us to "contribute to the needs of the saints," and while he doubtless was referring to their financial needs, it would not be a far stretch to also interpret the needs of the saints as spiritual and emotional.

Our Eucharistic ministers take communion to our homebound members every month and enjoy meaningful visits with them. Could God be calling you to participate in faithful outreach to the dear souls who can no longer take part in church activities but are never far from our hearts?

Here are a few simple action steps you can take: please pray about this, and call or email me. I'd love to talk to you about this topic. I can assure you that it's one of those situations where you will be more blessed than you could ever imagine! I look forward to hearing from you.

Rev. Lois Annich, Pastor of Care Ministries
revlois@yahoo.com