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Rhonda's Reflections



Today I noticed some beautiful signs of spring happening around us. Daffodils are popping up in my neighbor's yard and other signs of life coming up, and a simple devotion today is to let nature and creation speak.

Life does not let things stay as the way they are. Life is always creating. Life is always changing. That is a great word of hope for us. As difficult and bad as things are, as lifeless as things might appear, life doesn't let it stay that way. Life and new possibilities always emerge.

Creation testifies to this truth. God declares in I Corinthians, "Behold, I make all things new again." And God Does.

As we continue on our journey through Lent to the cross, we think about what led to the promise of new life. It was certainly not an easy path to the cross, yet that is a part of life too. We are reminded that the cross is not the final word. Winter is not the final word.

Life does not let things stay the way they are.

Let us pray:

Lord, we thank you for the promise of new life. Wherever we are in our lives right now, for whatever wintertime we may be experiencing personally, socially, in our world with all that has changed, whatever that might be, whatever fears we have about the future, our faith beckons us to trust that you are a God of new possibilities. That You are a God of life who makes all things new again, who does not let things remain the way they are forever. Fill us with hope of new life. Amen

See you on Sunday, Rhonda



April 10 - Palm Sunday Worship 10:30 - Children Singing

April 14 - Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 p.m.

April 15 - Good Friday Worship 7:00 p.m.

April 17 - Easter Sunrise Service 6:45 a.m.

Easter Breakfast 7:30 a.m.

Easter Worship 10:30 a.m.

AGAPE MISSION

Agape has asked us to switch over to buying these following products: Cleaning supplies, toilet cleaner, spray cleaner, shampoo, body wash, small salt and pepper that come together in cardboard container, cooking oil, and brown sugar.

Thank you for supporting our Agape Mission. Jane Nuss

Helping Each other Adjust to Loss

We can all agree this has been a difficult year, full of challenges and many losses. It has been especially painful for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. HEAL is the St. Paul's grief support group led by Pastor Rhonda Hainer, who is trained to assist persons in times of loss, struggle, or crisis. The HEAL group meets on the third Thursday of each month in the church's old library (next to the Sanctuary) at 1:00 p.m. This group is open for anyone who is seeking comfort, clarity, and hope for a path forward.



EASTER: Eggs, Bunnies, and more

THE COLORFUL SPRINGTIME traditions of Easter include some little-known, centuries-old customs. And the "whys" behind some of these customs and symbols explain how they came about.

Why do Christians eat hard-boiled eggs on Easter:

Early Christians of Mesopotamia were the first to apply this symbol as a visual lesson to the Resurrection of Christ. The actual custom, though, has its roots in folklore. From earlier times, the egg has been a symbol of fertility and immortality. During earlier, pagan rites of spring, many cultures began including the egg as a sign of new life anticipated during planting season.

Why is the "Easter bunny" sometimes a part of Easter celebrations?

Like the egg, the rabbit has also been a symbol of fertility, and comes from ancient celebrations of spring and Anglo-Saxon mythology.

In a blend of Christian and other traditions, the custom of a rabbit (or Easter bunny) leaving colored eggs in the baskets of children was brought to America by German immigrants in the late 19th century.

Why is the lily the Easter flower?

The lily – a tall, fragrant plant with long, pointed leaves – is the symbol of Easter because its shape resembles a trumpet that heralds Christ's Resurrection.

DECORATE THE ALTAR FOR EASTER!

We are asking the congregation to help decorate the altar for Easter!! Donations of spring flowers for the altar need to be in Elevette Room by **NOON** on Saturday, April 16th.



"Welcome Brad and Nam Gehrlich! Brad and Nam will be working as a team in the position of custodian."





Last month, we received a letter from Ms. Wilma Hedin of Swanville, Minnesota. She and her family had vacationed in San Tan Valley, Arizona in early February. Ms. Hedin stated that the house they stayed in had our most recent church cookbook and that she really enjoyed the "Heaven's Grocery Store" column and asked if we had any cookbooks left. We do, and sent her one! How on earth one of our cookbooks made it to Arizona, we will never know. It's a small world!

Jim's Musical Notes O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Psalm 118:1

Bernard was born into a knight's family in a French castle in 1090. He was educated in the fashion of medieval aristocracy, but

he later felt the Lord calling him to the monastic ministry. Being a born leader, he arrived at the monastery of Citeaux with thirty other young men whom he had persuaded to join him.

Three years later, Bernard, twenty-five, founded his own monastery at Clairvaux, a town near the Swiss border. Here he would remain for the rest of his life. He was a brilliant monk, and in time he advised kings and popes from his monastic cell. Historian Harold O. J. Brown wrote, "The ability of one man without political office or power to change history solely by his teaching and example is without parallel until the sixteenth century, when Martin Luther would once again transform Europe from his pulpit and professor's chair in a small town in Saxony."

Bernard fought heresy and helped preserve the doctrine of the Trinity. Yet, he also supported Christian military orders such as the Knights Templar-soldiers living under monastic discipline who fought to preserve European Christianity and fight Muslims in the Holy Land. He advocated a militant faith that depended on both sword and spirit.

This man, then, is a paradox to us. We don't know whether to claim him or disdain him. Perhaps it's best to leave the judgment to God and to appreciate him for his songs, such as this pensive hymn on the sufferings of Christ, "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded."

Here are two lesser-known verses of this hymn. Transport yourself to Bernard's cloister, and hear these words echoing through the dimly lit corridors of the monastery. Consider what the Lord did for you during His six hours on Zion's cross.

Now from Thy cheeks has vanished their color, once so fair; From Thy red lips is banished the splendor that was there. Grim death, with cruel rigor, hath robbed Thee of Thy life; Thus, Thou hast lost Thy vigor, Thy strength in this sad strife. My burden in Thy passion, Lord, Thou hast borne for me, For it was my transgressions which brought this woe on Thee. I cast me down before Thee, wrath were my rightful lot; Have mercy, I implore Thee, Redeemer, spurn me not.

From: Then Sings My Soul, Book 2, Robert J. Morgan, W Publishing Group. 2004



Breaking Bread will be serving from **4:30 to 5:15pm** (unless food is all gone before this). **Grab and Go from your car only.** Looking forward to providing delicious free meals to our community. Every Thursday except the first Thursday of the month.

April 14

April 28

• April 21

BREAKING BREAD COMMUNITY DINNER NEWS

Due to how Breaking Bread is having to serve their meals in a drive-thru fashion, they are unable to use the plastic containers that people have been saving for them. Until Breaking Bread is back serving meals inside, <u>PLASTIC CONTAINERS ARE NO LONGER NEEDED.</u> Thank you.

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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| 4 – Bree Howell | 8 – Savannah Hills |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 6 – Joey Vanderhorst | 13 – Jose Schmackers |
| 7 – Clayton Milner | 23 – Valerie Huffford |
| 8 – Harrison Silber | 24 – Emma Wibbeler |



Not that you ever need an invitation to attend church because all are welcome each and every Sunday, but April 10th is Palm Sunday and all ages of the Sunday School department are singing. We will be waving palms and singing at the beginning of the 10:30am church service. They are doing a fantastic job during practice at Sunday School, so we hope that you will be there to see their performance!

Sunday School lessons in April will all be teaching aspects of the Easter story. We are using a separate lesson book called Easter-rific and the curriculum has many interesting fun ways to teach Lenten at a kid level. Not only do we "teach" we also try to do "visual" for kids and adults. In April, there will be a small wooden cross in the sanctuary that will have our Nursery to Youth pictures on it. Jesus gave up his most treasured possession, and that was his life. Our church "treasures" are our youth. We invite you to come to the cross after church services to see your church treasures and to pray for our youth.

The Christian Education and Nurture committee met on March 2nd to review upcoming events and plan towards the end of the Sunday School year. We have one more meeting before summer, and that is May 4th. The children donated \$200 from their Sunday School offering money for Back Bay Mission to buy cleaning supplies. Jim Huckemeyer delivered those supplies for us when he went to Back Bay Mission to work. Thank you, Jim, for your delivery services.

Church Camp is a favorite time of summer for the youth that attend. Parents, campers and counselors, if you have not let Jane or Joni know that you are attending church camp this summer, please do by April 15th. The CEN committee has decided to pay half of the cost of church camp for campers and our counselors. The committee needs to submit the portion of money that the church is paying towards your camp fees. Camper/counselor fees will need to be paid by May 15th. By allowing us to know by April 15th, that will give church camp time to post our donation to your account so that you have the correct balance to pay off. Church members, if you feel the want to help support our campers with a donation, please let us know. We will soon have a total number of campers/counselors attending and will need additional funds to help them. Our CEN budget is \$1300.00. We will provide an update in April on how much additional funds we will need.

Our Sunday School lessons for three Sundays in April will be teaching the Crucifixion, Jesus enters Jerusalem and The Resurrection. We will have Sunday School on Easter Sunday. The Nursery and Preschool children will continue to learn about people of the Bible. Beginning in May, we will continue to "learn" but have more "fun" in learning and do more crafts. Our last Sunday for Sunday School will be Sunday, May 15th. We will resume for Sunday School in the fall on Rally Day which is September 11th.





Sunday School children will be singing during the 10:30am church service on April 10th (Palm Sunday).



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS

Vacation Bible School is three evenings this year and will be held on May 31, June 1 and June 2. We will send more information home with the youth in early May.

ATTENTION PARENTS/CAMPERS

Please inform Jane Nuss and Joni Leffel if you are going to church camp by **May 1st**, so that the church has time to submit funds towards your camp fees. Please email us, or text/call us. Email: jnjl2021@gmail.com or cell numbers: Joni Leffel 419-305-5610, Jane Nuss 419-305-9629. It is easier for us if you email, call or text us instead of leaving a message for us at the church office. There will also be a signup list in the gathering room.



Church camp info has arrived! Jane and Joni have information in the Gathering Room. If you would like to attend church camp and have yet to register online, please stop in the Gathering Room for camp information.

Grands and Family Camp June 12 to June 15, 2022 (first session) July 13 to July 15, 2022 (second session)

*This camp is grandparent and grandchild (age 4-12)

*Cost: \$245 per adult; \$170 per child.

MMADD Camp (Music, Mime, Art, Dance and Drama: (Ages 7-18) *June 19 to June 25, 2022, Cost \$485.00 each

<u>Just Camp!</u> (Ages 7-18) *June 19 to June 25, 2022, Cost \$485 each.

Sports Camp June 26 to July 2, 2022

(Ages 7-9); (Ages 10-12); (Ages 13-15); (Ages 16-18)

*Cost \$485.00 each

Registration is done online and the parent will have to make a deposit. Please email Jane & Joni jnil2021@gmail.com if you are attending camp, or text us Joni 419-305-5610 or Jane 419-305-9629 that your child is going, so that we may compile the list for the money that the church applies to each camper attending from our church, before April 15th. Before May 1st, the church will

need to send our camp sponsorship to church camp and the balance will need to be paid by the parent by May 15th.

We are a very caring church, if there is anyone that cannot attend a church camp due to financial hardship; please reach out to Jane or Joni. We have members who have mentioned they would be willing to help a camper experience church camp



During March, the Youth Group focused on the season of Lent. We learned about the history and traditions of Lent, including the surprising connection between Lent and pretzels. The youth members also assisted Amy Keller in leading a Passover Seder meal for the Sunday School children, explaining the symbolism and helping them to try out some of the traditional foods. The youth were also encouraged to celebrate the Lenten season individually by giving up something and taking on a spiritual activity to honor the fasting and prayer of Jesus in the desert. Lastly, members of the Youth Group partnered with some teens from St. John's Lutheran church in Celina to host a for-youth, by-youth worship service here at St. Paul's, which was a great reminder that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ.

The youth will again be hosting the Easter Breakfast following Sunrise Service. If you are able to donate a pastry/muffins, it would be greatly appreciated! Thank you in advance.

Nick Frankenhauser
Youth Director

Aluminum Can Recycling for the Youth Group - Thank you to everyone who is saving aluminum cans for the YOUTH GROUP. We will continue to save, collect, and recycle cans. Cans need to be rinsed out and brought to St. Paul's - just leave them behind the curtain under the stairs of the Creation Station door. If you have a lot of cans and would like to take them on to recycling and donate the money, it may be just as easy once they are in your vehicle. Thank you for your support.



KROGER REWARDS UPDATE: Thanks for supporting this program! Our supporters (37 households) who shopped at **Kroger** between **11-1-2021** and **1-31-2022** (SK5720) have contributed to our **\$137.47** total donation. Thank you for your continued support of your local Kroger store.

QUILTERS

Our quilting ladies meet on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to ??? in the sewing room. Questions? Call Margaret Hunter at 419-733-4332. (Note: We don't meet in the summer months)



Our sympathy to the family and friends of the following member(s) who have passed away since the last newsletter:

Michael A. Selby – March 10, 2022



 To the Memorial Fund in memory of Marvalee Rupert: St. Paul's Women's Guild.



Dear members of St. Paul's,

Thank you for the cookies! They are a huge hit every year! Also, thank you very much for the underwear and socks! We needed them so much! Your generosity is heartening! Thank you for caring so much!!

Kyle Zanker Chief Development Officer Liz Bergren Development Director

~*~*~*~*~

Greetings,

Thanks for the Valentine box. It was so nice to hear from all of you. I enjoyed all the notes and the candy was a plus! I miss you and St. Paul's. Thank you.

Janet Swartz

~*~*~*~*~

Dear St. Paul's UCC,

Thank you for your generous gift and the many ways you support the Back Bay Mission! Your gift of Friends of the Mission makes it possible to meet the most urgent needs of the poor and marginalized of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. James Pennington, Executive Director

Dear St. Paul's:

It is my sincere pleasure to thank you for your recent gift from St. Paul's to Heidelberg University. The university is indeed grateful to be the recipient of such a kind and thoughtful gift.

Thank you again.
Cheryl Staib-Lewis
Director of Advancement Services

~*~*~*~*~

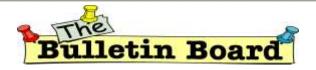
Dear St. Paul's UCC, Thank you to the members of your church for the kind gift to Defiance College. We are always grateful to be remembered by St. Paul's!

Sincerely,
Sheri McCoy
Advancement Services Specialist

~*~*~*~*~

Thank you church family for the thoughtful Valentine's Day bag. I appreciate the gesture and for keeping me and my fellow college students in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you, Courtney Nuss



If you will be going to the hospital or if someone you know is hospitalized, please call the church office and let us know.

- Please call the church office with address corrections or if you do not see your **Birthday** or **Anniversary** listed during the correct month. Call 419-394-3811. Thank you!!
- <u>CALL-EM-ALL</u> Please let the church office know if you are experiencing any problems with the Call-Em-All phone messages. <u>Also, if you would like to be removed from the calling list, listen to the broadcast and at the end follow their directions to 'opt out' of any future broadcasts this will remove your number from the calling list. Thank you!</u>
- Cell phone # for Pastor Rhonda (563) 210-3508
- ** rhainer@bright.net Rev. Hainer's e-mail address.
- smucc@bright.net church e-mail address. Use this to e-mail articles for the newsletter/messages for the Sunday bulletin.
- jnjl2021@gmail.com- Christian Ministry Directors email address.
- franken.nick@gmail.com- High School Youth Director email address.
- cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com to contact Carol Schmidt for the Email Prayer Team Requests.
- spmedia@bright.net to contact Jim Huckemeyer or Rich Spencer email address.
- www.stpaulsuccsm.com church website address and most current worship service videos can be seen here.
- Televised worship service- our worship service here at St. Paul's is shown on <u>TSC cable Digital channel 1 OR non-digital channel 2</u>, every Sunday at 10:30 am and also on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. There is a one-week delay of the service shown.

STAFF OF ST. PAUL'S UCC:

- ... Rev. Rhonda Hainer, Pastor
- ... Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant
- ... Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director
- ... Jim Huckemeyer, Director of Music
- ... Maddy Frankenhauser, Director of Children's Music

- ... Andrea Spencer, Organist
- ... Ann Vogel, Organist
- ... Cynthia Hanover, Pianist
- ... Becky Anderson, Pianist
- ... Brad and Nam Gehrlich, Custodian
- ... Rich Spencer, Audio and Video
- ... Carol Schmidt, Email Prayer Team Contact
- ... Jane Nuss & Joan Leffel, Christian Ministry Directors
- ... Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
- ... Tracy Winget, Nursery Supervisor

<u>EYEGLASSES FOR THE NEEDY</u> - collected by the church school classes. Donated glasses should be placed in the basket at the North entrance to the sanctuary.

<u>Kroger Fund Raiser for the Women's Guild</u> – If you would like to support Women's Guild with the Kroger fundraiser, log on to: <u>www.krogercommunityrewards.com</u> to sign up & register your Kroger Plus card. <u>NPO# is **SK5720**</u>. If you do not use the internet, but would like to sign up, please contact Jane Nuss or Kris Vanderhorst.

<u>LIFT CHAIR</u> is available for 'loan' to anyone in the church who might have a need for it. Please call the church office for more information.

<u>ATLAS 600 VISION MACHINE – QUANTITY OF 2</u> - to assist those who have vision problems with reading books, newspapers, prescription labels, writing personal checks or viewing family photographs - making this possible with video magnifiers.

<u>WALKERS</u> - If you have need of a walker for assistance in getting around, please call the church office. One of our church members has several different type walkers, which are available for loan.

RESTROOM ITEMS: If you have a need for shower chairs, toilet seat elevators and hand-held shower adapters, please call the

church office. One of our church members has graciously donated a few of these items.

<u>LAMINATOR</u> - available in the church office. This is used by the Sunday School teachers for classroom projects and activities and by the office staff. We will also laminate items for church members for a fee of \$1.00 per item (<u>NOTE: maximum size we can laminate is 8 ½ x 11 inches</u>).

<u>OFFERING ENVELOPES</u> - are distributed by quarterly mailing. Please notify the church office if you are not receiving envelopes and would like to be added to this mailing list. Also, PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

<u>COPIES</u> - if you need copies made of any personal items, you may stop by the church office, and we will be glad to make them for you. If it is a large project, it is best to call ahead. Cost for making copies for church members is 15 cents per copy if you use the office paper, or 10 cents per copy if you bring your own paper.

2022 CHURCH OFFICIALS

President of CongregationDarren CaywoodVice-president of CongregationChad LamonPresident of Consistory 2022Susan BraunVice-president of Consistory 2022Kevin Gehres

2022 Members of Consistory

Elders: Janet Gibson Jim Huckemeyer

Joan Leffel Bill Nuss Kevin Gehres Lori Now

Deacons: Vicke Roode Fred Scheer

Carol Waesch Tom Dickman Susan Braun Linda McDonald Jennifer Ginter Susan Spencer
Becky Anderson Jill Dickman
Carol Schmidt Jen Lucas

Trustees: Larry Kill, DeWayne Marsee and Tim Hirschfeld

FINANCIAL REPORT

February 2021:

Current Fund:

| • | Budgeted through February 28, 2022 | = \$ 44,518.84 |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------|
| • | Received through February 28, 2022 | = \$ 31,913.96 |
| • | Expenses through February 28, 2022 | = \$ 35,522.50 |
| • | Received through February 28, 2021 | = \$ 35,854.78 |

Mission Fund:

| • | Budgeted through February 28, 2022 | = \$ | 2,500.00 |
|---|------------------------------------|------|----------|
| • | Received through February 28, 2022 | = \$ | 1,803.00 |
| • | Received through February 28, 2021 | = \$ | 1,377.00 |

Status of 2022 Budget:

Current Fund:

| • | Budgeted through March 30, 2022 | = \$ 66,778.26 |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------|
| • | Budgeted through March 13, 2022 | = \$ 55,648.54 |
| • | Received through March 13, 2022 | = \$ 47,084.98 |

Mission Fund:

| • | Budgeted through March 30, 2022 | = \$ 3,750.00 |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|
| • | Budgeted through March 13, 2022 | = \$ 3,125.00 |
| • | Received through March 13, 2022 | = \$ 2,242.00 |

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MARCH 9, 2022 CONSISTORY MEETING

The regular meeting of St. Paul's UCC Consistory was called to order at 5:57 p.m. by President Susan Braun. Pastor Rhonda opened the meeting with prayer.

Present: *Elders:* Lori Now, Bill Nuss, Joan Leffel, Janet Gibson and Jim Huckemeyer; *Trustees:* Larry Kill, DeWayne Marsee, and Tim Hirschfeld; *Deacons:* Susan Braun, Carol Schmidt, Linda McDonald, Becky Anderson, Jill Dickman, Jen Lucas, Jenifer Ginter, Susan Spencer, Fred Scheer, Carol Waesch and Tom Dickman. Also, present were, Pastor Rhonda, and Administrative Assistant Carolyn Garrison.

Minutes:

 Minutes from the February 9, 2022, meeting were reviewed. Lori Now made a motion to approve the minutes.
 Jill Dickman seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report:

 David submitted the Financial Report (with highlighted areas) for the month of February 2022. There being no other questions, President Susan asked to file the financial report for review by the church Administrative Assistant.

President's Report: Susan Braun

No report

Pastor's Report: Rhonda Hainer

- Lent has begun, beginning with the Ash Wednesday service held last Wednesday night and the first Sunday of Lent worship with Holy Communion had 106 in attendance.
- My focus for the midweek service is on healing of our brokenness. Several types of pain will be examined: physical pain, painful memories, forgotten wounds, the pain of uncertainty, the pain of stress and anxiety.
- The cross has fishnet draped across it and people are invited to pick a sting of colored yarn to tie on the netting for prayers and white yarn for prayers answered.
- Rhonda reminded Consistory members that tonight the Lenten service starts at 7pm and everyone is welcome to attend.
- St. Paul's has 18 members headed to Back Bay soon, and Pastor Rhonda asked Consistory members to volunteer to pray for the individual team members as she read the list.

- Since the success of our recent information fair and with the goal of increasing awareness, every Sunday during worship a specific church committee is highlighted, and their function and responsibilities shared.
- It has come to Pastor Rhonda's attention through others who are asking good questions that members do not know what the various funds are that they might contribute to.
 - -For example: On the online giving, there is a mission fund and a mission endowment fund. Why are there two and are the moneys used differently?
 - On Sunday, Becky mentioned maybe four different scholarships. If someone wants to support scholarships, what fund or funds do they contribute to?
 - -How do people contribute to an organ fund? Is there one? Questions such as these indicate that we are in need of a complete, full, detailed list with a description of each fund, and what those funds are used for, and how members may contribute to them. Jen Lucas suggested including when those funds were established. Carolyn will work with David Dickman and create that list.

Loose Offering: April and May already chosen

 President Susan asked here we want to designate the Lenten loose offerings? After some discussion, Jill Dickman made a motion for the Lenten loose offerings to be designated to the UCC Ukrainian Relief Fund. Joan Leffel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Budget and Finance:

No report

Trustees: Larry Kill

No Report

<u>Elders:</u>

• No Report

Deacons: Carol Schmidt/Linda McDonald

 Carol and Linda raised the question of if we can resume passing the offertory plate as well as the distribution of communion during the worship service. The Consistory agreed to both, as well as resuming Passing the Peace handshakes/fist bumps/wave; keeping in mind the comfort level of the individual in the pew.

Christian Education: Joan Leffel

The committee met on March 2nd and discussed the below items:

- <u>Singing in church:</u> Children are singing on Palm Sunday and waving palms.
- Middle Youth Group: Sarah Walter with additional adult help, had an over-nighter recently with 14 kids including the 8th graders. She has a few other things planned before summer.
- <u>Confirmation/Family Life</u>: Amy Keller reported that Confirmation is May 1st with PresentationSunday being April 24th. She is also planning a potluck on Sunday evening, March 13th from 5-7pm with a game included.
- Back Bay Mission support by Sunday School children
 we gave \$200 to be used towards the Back Bay
 Mission trip. There was \$65 in loose offering collected
 that day during worship, so they will receive a total
 of \$265.
- <u>Vacation Bible School</u> curriculum is here and will be a 3-day event on May 31, June 1 and June 2 in the evening. Time to be determined yet. Amy Keller is willing to be our VBS Director. Jane and I will help her as well. Several adults have already offered to help as well.
- <u>Sunday School mission project for Jan/Feb</u> was diapers and wipes for Rustic Hope in Russia, Ohio. They collected 8 packets (or 259 individual diapers/Pull-ups) and 10 packages of wet wipes. The church ladies also donated three baby quilts.
- End and beginning Sunday School dates: May 15 will

- be the last day for Sunday School. Wewill restart on for Rally Day on Sept. 11.
- Flowers for outside the church: typically, the Sunday School children plant the flowers in the landscaping. Because it is difficult and time-consuming for someone to water those flowers all summer, it was decided to put pots at some of the church entrances instead of planting in the ground. Pots will be secured into the ground, or they will be weighted and too heavy for someone to walk off with. We still need someone to volunteer to water the flowers.
- Church camps: It was decided that the church will pay half of the cost of church camp for ourcampers and counselors. If we run short on budgeted funds, which we probably will because we have a lot of kids go to church camp, Joni will make a plea from the pulpit that we need financial help to send those kids. We will send funds to church camp before May 1st, so thatparents can pay their remaining balance before May 15.
- Youth Mission Trip: (see attached report as well). Sarah Walter provided the attached "estimated" expenses for the trip. The dates have changed due to church camp dates were falling at the same time frame. She is willing to take a total of 15 on the trip, that being 4 adultsand 11 youth. The estimated expenses could vary depending on gas prices and if she can get van rental lowered or from a cheaper place, or someone donates the use of their vehicle. The mission trip will be offered to current high school youth. The registration fee (first item on the report) needs to be paid ASAP if Consistory approves for them to go to hold that date. The CEN committee will ask the 15 people going to pay between \$150-\$200 each and the rest of the trip will be paid from the youth fund (which currently has a \$15,413.48 balance). By

withdrawing approximately \$7,112, we will still have a good base to continue to grow the fund through future fundraising. If the group goes on any sightseeing, they may need to pay that themselves. The June 10th Nashville stop is being worked on with Lori Triplett from St. Marys who lives in Nashville to see if they can stay at a church and maybe have time to do some sightseeing while in Nashville. On the way home, they will not have any stops. Christian Education and Nurture is recommending to Consistory to approve the mission trip. Jill Dickman made a motion to approve the mission trip. Lori Now seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Christian Mission and Outreach: Jill Dickman

No Report

Personnel: Jen Lucas

• Consistory will meet in Executive Session.

Stewardship:

No Report

Old Business:

• President Susan updated members of Consistory that we do not have a signed contract for the organ refurbishing, that no one has stepped up to lead a fund-raising project, as well as the fact that we do not have the money to put down to start said project. President Susan asked members of Consistory if we need to table this discussion. Jill Dickman made a motion to table the matter until we have a commitment from someone to lead the fund-raiser. Carol Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion carried. President Susan will update Ann Vogel.

New Business:

 Pastor Rhonda received an invitation by Hospice Chaplain Bob Sweeney to host in our sanctuary. The Annual Hospice Memorial Service which will be held on Thursday, December 1st, 2022, at 6pm. Chaplain Bob will lead the service, but also wants to have the hosting church and pastor to be involved as much as they want. We were scheduled to host last year, but the event was cancelled due to COVID.

There being no further regular business, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm. Staff was dismissed and Consistory went into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Braun, 2022 Consistory President
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant

DON'T FORGET



Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. for the **May 2022 issue** of The Communicator will be **April 18**th.





*EASTER WORD SEARCH



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Jellybeans Easter Spring Bonnet Basket Celebration Candu Fun Bunny Decorate Hunt Sunday Hide Chocolate Parade Lily Chick Flowers Lamb Eggs



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