

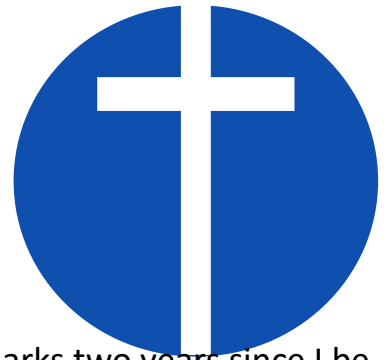
Tower Times

St. John's United Church of Christ

515 East Third Street

Dayton, OH 45402

April 2017



As I sat down to write this, it occurred to me that this April marks two years since I began meeting with the Search and Call Committee at St. John's. Wow. In some ways I find myself asking, "How have two years flown by so quickly?" In other ways, I find myself thinking, "Good grief, it's only been two years?" We certainly have had an eventful first two years together, haven't we? We've welcomed a number of new members and said goodbye to a number of historic pillars in the church. We've stepped into new arenas and tried new things, all while trying to be true to who we have been as a historic church. Some times have been great, other times have been incredibly challenging. Through it all, I can't help but feel that we, as a church and as individuals, have grown in faith and work.

I can say, from a personal perspective, I have definitely watched my own faith grow as we've journeyed together over the last two years. As most of you know, I'm a "do-er." I like to get my hands dirty and I like to be in the midst of whatever needs done. I've learned, in our time together, that sometimes (okay, generally all the time) I need to step back and first say "God, I'm not sure if I can do this, perhaps you can point me in the way we're supposed to go?" That's not exactly been easy, but as I've realized it's less about Adam and more about the one who created Adam, well, I feel like I've watched amazing things -both large and small- take root at St. John's.

The concept of growth is one that, if you've been with us during Lent, you've undoubtedly heard an earful about. Perhaps as you think about where YOU were two years ago, you find yourself thinking, "I'm not sure that I've really grown that much." That doesn't necessarily make you a bad person, nor does it make you a non-spiritual person, but if it's something you'd like to see differently or see changed, I'd encourage you to join us for one of our Thursday studies or perhaps drop by for a Sunday morning. Most definitely try to keep your schedule free for Holy Week this year. (April 10-16th) We'll be having services for Maundy Thursday (7pm), Good Friday (Noon), and Easter Morning (10:30am). Whether you can join us this Sunday, or you only join us for a future time, I hope you will commit to finding your own way to "draw nearer" as we journey through the remainder of this Lenten season.



President's Report

The Spring Equinox is undeniably welcome this year as it ushers in its lengthening days and, I hope, more hours of sunshine with which to complete my chores or simply to catch a few moments to enjoy a good book. (We needn't praise Daylight Savings Time, however...) Mr. Percy Jones has been whipping the choir into shape with some inspiring anthems, most of them anthems that I haven't heard before. I have discovered a new favorite: "Hear Us, Our Father" by George F. Handel. Thank you, Percy! I hope the choir can sing that one again in the future. (That's a hint, I'll even purchase the music for that one, if need be.)

April brings Palm Sunday and Easter celebrations as well as the "Hands-to-Work, Hearts-to-God" group's bi-monthly lunch for the women at the St. Vincent DePaul Women's Gateway Shelter on April 22nd. Make sure to contact Ed Humphrys or me if you would like to participate.

April also means the beginning of baseball season - Hooray! And that means volunteering for Parking Ministry at our Dragons' home games - as well as enjoying the home team games. Please come on down to St. John's to help park cars and have some fun.

My goal in April is to attend St. John's "Spirits" worship service on April 2nd to see firsthand the happenings there and meet some of the Daytonians taking part in our worship alternative. If you haven't attended "Spirits" yet, I invite you to come along and participate.



Vice President's Report:

We are most appreciative of Mr. Percy Jones, who continues to help us with our music program.

Thank you!

As you can see, we are getting the “word out” about St. John’s!

Thurs., March 30 – Webster Station Meeting – 8:00 AM

Several of us will be attending.

Mon., April 3 – 6:00 PM – Think TV – Channel 16/14

St. John’s will be featured on the Leader Board.

Thank you to the St. John’s Members who are making this possible.

Sat., April 22 – Adopt a Park – Earth Day – through Five Rivers Metro Parks

This is an opportunity to clean up our neighborhoods & parks.

More details on the website.

Sat., April 22 – Downtown Library – Grand Opening

We’ve been awaiting this. The library will be beautiful.

April 30 Deadline – Air Camp this summer – Wright Patterson

Do you have a young person interested in aviation? This is a fantastic opportunity!

Classes are for Grades 4-5-6 and 7-8-9.

There is a fee, but (I believe) some scholarships are available.

Chris van Breukelen

Vice President



Budget & Finance Committee

The Budget & Finance Committee met Sunday March 5, 2017 at this meeting
Jeff Gerrior presented the Treasurer's Report for February 2017.

Total General Offerings for February 2017:	Less than 2016 by:	Greater than YTD by:
\$8,832	\$399	\$ 6, 272

Missions included Jeremiah's Letter, donation to City Heart and 5 for 5 totaling \$176, RAMM Expenses of \$297 included Chairlift certification and other minor repairs around the church. Postage (\$75.79) is being kept more in line and should continue to be with more people opting for electronic access, the copier service contract cost of \$284.21 was paid this month. The questions concerning last month's Vectren bill remain unanswered although Jeff did look back at his personal bill and noted that according to DP&L/Vectren the temperatures were colder this year versus last but the committee was still not completely sure that the \$3,287.85 was justified and still question it. It was noted that there was no Vectren bill this month and the March bill was just received and is only approximately \$1,700.



Jeff asked Patty Staley to make a request to Parking Ministry for \$4,419.82 for the Miami Conservancy and \$2,826.10 for Montgomery County Water (\$2,500 estimated for the year and \$326.10 for the shortfall from the prior year). Patty will make the requests to Dave for those amounts.

In Old Business, the committee was updated on the Organ status and that the committee would be working with B&P with respect to the Organ issues. The Committee reviewed both proposals and agreed that Rev. Wirrig would check with Muller to see if they would guaranty their work at the same level (at least) as Peebles-Herzog and if the proposal included the installation of the support system as part of the chest installation. If Muller would provide the guaranty and the proposal includes the installation of the support system, then the Committee would be comfortable recommending the acceptance of the Muller proposal for the \$20,600.00 and the Tune and Assessment not to exceed \$2,550.00 but not to do the optional work at this time.

The issue of the Day Care lease presented so that the committee was aware that we are not proceeding with My Father's House but that we would still source other potential leases with considerable due diligence.

Other updates: Safe Church update – still in process, waiting to get paperwork from Steve Carroll. Website is up and running but having issues with Adobe ICloud and need to get them addressed to get pictures resized and appropriate for the site. Stivers Fundraising is proceeding with another \$80 that came in this month bringing total year to date income for this fund to \$325, payments made this month totaled \$240

leaving a current balance of \$540.

In New Business John Webb's resignation was discussed including the potential impact to the budget for the amounts that had to be paid out. The Committee was advised that the Council will be working diligently to make sure the necessary items are in place to prevent future issues of this nature and that Worship and Council will consider various options for John's replacement including a change of structure of the position.

Jeff Gerrior addressed the matter of having the Boy Scouts back for parking and what the Committee should consider as compensation. It was agreed that a maximum of \$3,000.00 would be recommended this year. Patty Staley will address this to the Parking Ministry Chair.

Council Meeting Minutes from the February meeting were shared with the Committee and the following items were briefly discussed: Historic Register Nomination Proposal and maximum potential impact on budget, Photoshop Editor Package – Adobe Creative Cloud (not working properly – will have checked), Dragons Season Tickets Packages including \$4 VIP parking pass per game (will have to see if this impacts our parking) and windows for doors in Nursery and 104 and Security Cameras (this being put on hold due to the lease being tabled).

The next meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will be Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Guests are welcome.

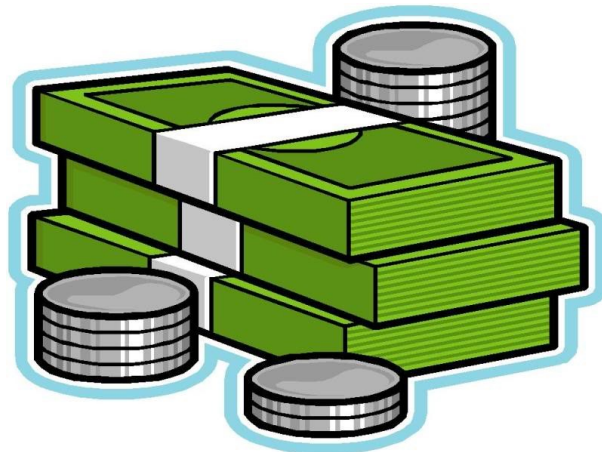
If you have something to add to address to the committee please contact me so that I may have your item placed on the agenda to do so.

Respectfully,

Patty Staley

Patty Staley

Chair of Budget and Finance



Thank you to those members who have contributed to our Stiver's Scholar's fund in March:

Wilfred & Chris van Breukelen

Anita Torgeson

Ethel Burns



WORSHIP

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 9, Palm Sunday 10:30 with traditional palm branches, music

April 13 Maundy Thursday 7 P.M. Holy Communion by intinction

April 14 Good Friday 12 Noon, with lunch to follow.

April 16 Easter Celebration 10:30 A.M. Easter breakfast served 8:30 to 10:00. Holy Communion. Special music.

All services are in the sanctuary.

Pat Kern

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

You may order flowers for beautification of the sanctuary Easter morning. This year we have available Tulips, Daffodils, Lilies all at \$9.50 per pot and Mums, both Daisy and Cushion at 11.50. All come in a 6" foil wrapped pot. Colors will be assorted. Flowers will be taken home following the service.

Order blanks will be in the Sunday bulletin Mar. 26, April 2, 9. If you call the church office to order, be sure to designate "in memory of" or "in honor of". Deadline for orders is Monday, April 10.

Warm Up to Springtime Sunday

On Sunday, April 30th, we will be having Warm Up to Springtime at St. John's UCC. Please take a few minutes to think of people you know whom you can invite to our beautiful historic church. Feel free to invite everyone! Perhaps you know of:

- *Family members and loved ones
- *Friends and neighbors
- *Co-workers or fellow retirees
- *People you know from other organizations
- *Those new to the Dayton area
- *Those looking for a church to attend
- *Those you haven't seen in a while
- *People you've invited to previous church events at St. John's.

Our church service starts at 10:30 am, followed by a nice lunch in our Fellowship Hall.



Please see me for printed invitations you can use (postage included). All you will need to do is address them to your friends and drop them in the mail.

We really look forward to the opportunity to meet new people and renew many friendships.

Thank you!

Steve Boggs

Parking Ministry Report

Well, it's the start of another year for your Parking Ministry Committee! Parking Ministry stays busy all year long, not just during the summer for the baseball games, but throughout the year as requests for allocations are submitted. The Committee must vote on each allocation to decide if we all agree on funding that request.



When Parking Ministry was created 17 years ago, it was set up with a chairman and four voting members (a representative from each of the standing committees of your church council). Only if those individuals agree 100% are the requested funds allocated.

At the beginning of this year, the Parking Ministry balance was \$11,285.81.

Since the beginning of the year, Parking Ministry has made the following allocations:

Request #17-01 from Budget & Finance for Miami Conservancy = \$4,419.82

Request #17-02 from Budget & Finance for Montgomery County Water = \$2,826.10

The Parking Ministry Committee will continue to review and vote on requests sent to us from committees at St. John's. The majority of the requests for funds are repeats for organizations that we have supported over the 17 years we have existed.

April will soon be here, and yes, we need volunteers to help us take donations to allow Parking Ministry to continue to function. There are thousands of baseball fans who only park at St. John's!

This year will be especially challenging due to two events. We will be asking for volunteers to help us with parking for The Celtic Dancers at the end of July (the number 1 single

day revenue generator ever), and for the Liederkrantz German Picnic in the middle of August. Both events occur when the Dragons will not be playing.

Remember: Parking Ministry's continued success **depends solely** on our volunteers.

Dave Abbott, Chairman

Parking Ministry Committee



We want to take a moment to celebrate a milestone birthday with Mr. Dave Abbott. Mr. Abbott is a special part of our church family, and we would love it if you would help us celebrate him on April 23rd. Bring him a card or give him an extra hug. Thanks, Dave, for being you. Happy Birthday!

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Memorial Contributions were made this month by Philomene King in memory of Betty Wendeln, Mark Neubauer and Gerald Schenking.

The Dayton Gay Men's Chorus will be selling flowers in May. Flowers may be slightly different than the picture. Order forms are downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. You can contact Tom Austin if you have any questions.



Munch a Crunchy Snack

Sometimes there's nothing more satisfying than munching away on a candy bar when we're stressed—one study found stressed adults craved crunchy and salty snacks more than usual. But that salty crunch doesn't have to be so sugary—a handful of trail mix or a bag of celery sticks will work just as well.

Tower Times Submissions

Have something you'd like included in the Tower Times? The deadline to have something in May's publication will be Monday, April 24th. Please email your article to office@stjohnsuccdayton.org or drop off a hard copy to Chere in the office. Thank you!

April Celebrations

Birthdays:

1st Helen Rex

6th Heather Sturgill

8th Chere Hile

23rd Dave Abbott

23rd Jillian Carroll

24th Doug Goudy



Flowers & Fellowship

Flowers for the altar in the sanctuary can be purchased each week to help beautify the worship service and then take and enjoy in your home. Sign ups for the flowers are on the corner by the coat rack beside Reverend Adam's office, and priced as follows: one bouquet is \$13.75 and two bouquets are \$27.50. Flowers can be dedicated in memory or in honor of a loved one or event. Checks can be made to the church with indication that they are for flowers. Thank you for participating in this tradition.

4/2 - Pat Kern & Family in memory of Barry Kern

4/9 - Palms provided by the Worship Committee

4/16 - In Memory of John Schiller by Butch & Betty Lou Martin

4/23 - In Memory of Karen Yates by the Yates Family

4/30 - In Honor of our children by Doug & Pat Goudy

Fellowship hours are open for sign up as well. Please contact the church office if you can help supply snacks and refreshments for our weekly fellowship hour here at St. John's. A new sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall for your convenience.

4/2 - Clark, Goin & Martin families

4/9 - Jeff Campbell, The Goudy Family, and Jill Johnson

4/16 - Easter Breakfast

4/23 - The Norton Family

4/30 - Steve Boggs & Friends

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 10:30 Worship Service	27	28	29 8:30 Breakfast Club	30 11 Bible Study 7p Contemplative Prayer	31	Apr 1
2 10:30 Worship Service	3	4	5 8:30 Breakfast Club	6 11 Bible Study 7p Contemplative Prayer 7p Dragon's Game	7 7p Dragon's Game	8
9 9 Budget & Finance Meeting 10:30 Worship Service	10 7p Dragon's Game	11 7p Dragon's Game	12 8:30 Breakfast Club 6:30p Council Meeting 7p Dragon's Game	13 11 Bible Study 7p Contemplative Prayer 7p Maundy Thursday Service	14 12p Good Friday Service	15
16 10:30 Worship Service	17 7p Dragon's Game	18 7p Dragon's Game	19 8:30 Breakfast Club 7p Dragon's Game	20 11 Bible Study 7p Contemplative Prayer	21	22 10:30 HTWHTG @ St. Vmca
23 Warm Up to Spring Sunday 10:30 Worship Service	24	25	26 8:30 Breakfast Club	27 11 Bible Study 7p Contemplative Prayer 7p Dragon's Game	28 7p Dragon's Game	29 7p Dragon's Game
30 10:30 Worship Service 2p Dragon's Game						