



First United Methodist Church of Springboro

# The Messenger

March 2018



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Springboro, OH 45066  
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Office Hours:  
Monday—Friday  
8:00—1:00

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Join us for worship each weekend:

Casual Saturday night worship with *Springs* at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday morning worship and Sunday school at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday worship and children's church at 10:35 a.m.



***A word from Pastor Amy....***

“A Month of Transitions”

What comes to mind when you think of March?

March Madness? St. Patrick’s Day? The possibility of warmer weather? March coming in like a lamb and going out like a lion, or coming in like a lion and going out like a lamb? (Personally I am hoping for 2 lambs!)

When I think of March, I often think of a month of transition.

In my household, we transition from basketball to baseball. We support cub scouts crossing over to boy scouts. This year we are also beginning the paperwork for kindergarten!

What sort of transitions are you facing this March?

Maybe you are still grieving the loss of a loved one. Maybe you have a new position at work. Maybe your schedule has slowed down due to injury. Maybe your household is still adjusting to Kirby no longer being on staff. Maybe you are preparing for a new adventure.

No matter if you are facing a transition in the month of March, or your life is on an even keel right now, I encourage you to remember, that God is with us! In our daily schedules and in our times of transition, God is with us!

As Joshua 1:9 proclaims, “I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

God’s presence with us in no more evident than in Holy Week, which we will celebrate the end of March. During Holy Week we transition from the season of Lent to the season of Easter. Holy Week is the key week of our faith, where we journey with Jesus through his transition from life to death to life eternal. That week reminds us that God is with us in daily life, calling us away from sin to follow Jesus. That week reminds us that not even death can separate us from God’s great love for us. That week reminds us that even in our lives we can transition from sin to grace, from despair to hope, from life to eternal life, and through it all, God is with us.

Wherever we go, God is with us! No matter what we face, God is with us! Thanks be to God!

Pastor Amy





### ***Worship In March***

Sermon Series for Lent: Foolish Love

March 3/4

Holy Communion

Foolish Love...is Boundary Breaking

Luke 13:10-17, Mark 7:24-30

March 10/11

Foolish Love...Forgives

Matthew 18:21-35

March 17/18

Foolish Love...is Costly

Luke 15:1-10, Mark 14:3-9

March 24/25

Palm/Passion Sunday

Foolish Love...is Dangerous

Mark 11:1-11 and

selected verses from Mark 14-15

March 29

Holy Thursday Service

7:00 p.m. Springboro UCC

March 30

Good Friday Cross Walk

11:45 a.m. Covenant Presbyterian

March 31/April 1

Easter Sunday

Foolish Love...is the Good News of Jesus!

John 20:1-18

## **March Events**

- 3: Women in Faith
- 3/4: Easter Flower Sale
- 4: Mission 56 Church, Lunch, Fellowship
- 4: Confirmation
- 4: Mission Trip Meeting
- 4: 7th—12th Youth Group
- 5: Prayer Team
- 6: Parent Connection
- 6: 5th—8th Hope House Mission
- 6: Staff Parish Relations Committee
- 7: Otterbein Avalon Visit
- 7: Wonderful Wednesday
- 7: Easter Program Practice
- 7: Choir and Bells Practices
- 10: Adult Social Outing
- 10/11: Easter Flower Sale
- 11: United Methodist Men
- 11: God Squad
- 11: Kids Who Care
- 11: Spaghetti Dinner
- 12: Prayer Team
- 12: Missions Team
- 13: Tuesday Bible Study
- 13: Parent Connection
- 13: Church Staff Meeting
- 13: Finance Team
- 13: Stephen Ministers
- 13: Women in Faith Bible Study
- 14: Otterbein Avalon Visit
- 14: Wonderful Wednesday
- 14: Easter Program Practice
- 14: Choir and Bells Practices
- 15: Lunch with Kim—Junior High
- 17/18: Easter Flower Sale
- 18: Mission 56 Church, Lunch, Fellowship
- 18: Confirmation
- 18: 9th—12th Youth Group
- 19—23: Flooring Installation in Sanctuary

### **Lay Leader Report**

It is hard to imagine that spring is approaching. At least today it is difficult to think of spring flowers. The ground is covered with three inches of snow as these words are typed. But spring is indeed coming. Along with many in our FUMC family, I associate sights, sounds and even scents with people that are important to me. Flowers serve as reminders for me. Spring daffodils and crocuses are both harbingers of spring and remind me of my father. Many years ago, Dad was just a few days away from entering God's heavenly kingdom when he and I slowly walked around the exterior of his home. It was then that he noticed the spring crocus buds peeking through the soil and he said that the flower buds were a welcome sight. I have sought crocus buds every spring since that day. It was several years later that I saw some crocus buds when I was visiting with my dear friend, Wilhelmina Vinnell. She told me that her dear Sidney had planted those flowers. So today, Carol and I wage a funny battle with the local rabbits over crocus bulbs. We plant a bunch, the rabbits find most, but every year a couple survive to give me that very pleasant memory of those who are dear to me.

Our Lord God knows we need reminders. In Deuteronomy 6: 6 we read that we are to mount a Mezuzah by each doorway of our homes. The previous few verses in Deuteronomy 6 tells us to love the Lord, our God, and that the Mezuzah serves to remind us to do so.

As we move through Lent, I encourage all to remember to love the Lord, our God. Re-

member the depth of Jesus' love for us. When we get caught up in life, our minds can turn to mush and we can be lead astray. Reminders can return our thoughts to God. We should use any means of reminder to reset our minds when we stray: a special hymn, a Mezuzah, art work, a loved one's face or even a spring flower. So, stay focused on Lent, on the Passion of Christ and just how much Jesus loves us.

For just as sure that the flowers will soon rise, our Savior has already risen! Rejoice in this, be attentive during Lent, and celebrate the Risen Lord on Easter Sunday.

- David Finney

### **March Events Continued from Page 3**

- 19: Prayer Team
- 20: Tuesday Bible Study
- 20: Church Staff Meeting
- 20: Trustees
- 21: Clearcreakers
- 21: Otterbein Avalon
- 21: Wonderful Wednesday
- 21: Easter Program Practice
- 21: Choir and Bells Practice
- 22: Newsletter Folding
- 22: Lunch with Kim—Springboro Inter.
- 24: Youth Event—Cedar Mania
- 25: Junior High Church, Lunch, Fellowship
- 26: Prayer Team
- 27: Stephen Ministers
- 27: Tuesday Bible Study
- 27: Church Staff Meeting
- 28: Otterbein Avalon Visit
- 28: Choir and Bells Practices
- 29: Maundy Thursday Service
- 30: Cross Walk

*Details found in this newsletter*



### ***Appointment***

We are pleased to announce that Vicki Robinson has been appointed as Supply Pastor to Asbury UMC in North Hampton (near Springfield) beginning March 1. We celebrate with Vicki as she begins her life in ministry but we also will miss her at FUMC. Please pray for Vicki and her family in this time of transition.

### ***Easter Flowers***

The Flower Committee will take orders for Easter flowers before Saturday evening services on March 3, 10 and 17 and after both services on Sunday, March 4, 11 and 18. The deadline for ordering is noon on March 19. Flowers will be \$10 each (paid when ordered) and can be purchased in memory or honor of someone. Varieties available are hyacinths, lilies, tulips, and daffodils. The hyacinths and tulips will come in assorted colors. The flowers will be used to decorate the altar on Easter morning. They will be provided by Flowers by Roger, Inc. After Easter services, you are welcome to take home and enjoy your flowers.

### ***Sanctuary Flooring***

As part of our First Steps church improvement campaign, we will be laying new flooring in the altar area of the Sanctuary the week of March 19. We are excited to have these improvements put in place due to the church family's generosity.



## **Holy Week**

### ***Holy Week Worship Schedule***

- **March 24 and 25, Palm/Passion Sunday** services at our regular times. We will celebrate Jesus' entry with palm waving by the children and Symbols of Holy Week stations.
- **March 29, 7:00 p.m.—Maundy Thursday:** Service at United Church of Christ, 5 West Mill Street
- **March 30, 11:45 a.m.—Cross Walk on Good Friday:** The walk will begin at Covenant Presbyterian, 415 N. Main Street and proceed south down Main Street. It will conclude with a short service at Springboro United Church of Christ. Join us in the annual procession in remembrance of the walk Jesus took on Good Friday.
- **March 31 and April 1—Easter:** Services will be held Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:15 a.m. and 10:35 a.m. Please join us as we celebrate Christ's resurrection with special music, flowers and the shared joy of our church family! There will no Sunday school that day so families can worship together.



## March Events

### Wonderful Wednesdays

Our winter session of Wonderful Wednesdays continues until March 21. The evenings include a group devotional at 6:30 and then breakout into various studies until 8:00. Topics for the second half of the winter session include:

- *The 5 Love Languages*: There are many ways to say, "I love you." Sometimes we use our words; sometimes we show love through our actions. Dr. Gary Chapman believes that there are five fundamental love languages, and often in relationships we rarely have the same love language! Come explore with Pastor Amy these five love languages, and learn better ways to communicate with your spouse, your children, your friends. Take the assessment prior to class at [www.5lovelanguages.com](http://www.5lovelanguages.com).
- Kids Club for ages 4 through 4th grade
- Mission 56 and Junior High (5th—8th grade)
- High School (9th—12th grade)
- Choir and Bells Practices
- Nursery for the youngest attendees

We hope you will join us for great small groups and fellowship this winter!



**Don't forget to move your clocks forward 1 hour on March 11**



Our annual Spaghetti Dinner will be on Sunday, March 11. This joint effort between Women in Faith and the Youth Group will have one seating at 5:00 p.m. The three course dinner includes salad, spaghetti and meatballs, bread and dessert. Tickets are \$8 for adults if purchased in advance or \$10 at the door and \$5 for children (whether purchased in advance or at the door). Tickets will be sold on Saturday, February 24 and March 3 and Sunday, February 25 and March 4. We encourage advance purchase of tickets to help with planning purposes and to ensure you are able to partake in what is certain to be a great meal!

### Adult Social Outing

The next adult social outing will be to Spring Valley Trap Range on Saturday, March 10. Please watch for specifics in upcoming bulletin inserts. For more information, please contact Brian Schlise at 937-272-6167 or [brianschlise@habeggercorp.com](mailto:brianschlise@habeggercorp.com).

### Upcoming Special Youth Events (See page 13 for details)

- March 4: Mission Trip meeting for youth and parents 7:00—7:30. This year's mission trip will be June 26—July 1
- March 24: Cedar Mania 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. RSVP's needed by March 10



### ***Interfaith Hospitality Network***

The Interfaith Hospitality Network families will be with us April 1 through April 8. Please consider giving the gift of your time and work in preparing meals or doing activities with the children or most importantly, being an overnight host or hostess (the easiest job). Please contact Jennifer Fry if you can help out. Or you may sign up online at <http://bit.ly/2BSTvur>



### **Easter Party**

Our annual Easter Party will be held following services on Sunday, April 8. We will celebrate the good news of Christ's resurrection with a meal, fun Easter activities for all ages and, of course, an Easter egg hunt. The main dish for the meal will be provided. Donations of fruit and veggie trays and desserts will be welcomed. Kim Crosen is also accepting donations of small, wrapped candies to use for the Easter eggs. These can be dropped off in her office. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the meal or activities, please contact Rebecca in the church office at 937-748-2612 or [rebeccafumc@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccafumc@gmail.com).

### ***Easter Program—Because He Lives***

On April 15 during both Sunday services, our children will present an Easter program. Please see page 10 for information on practices. The children are very excited about sharing the good news of Jesus' resurrection with you through the play.

### ***Stephen Ministers In Service Training***

Stephen Ministers will hold an in-service training event on April 15. The focus will be on the heroin epidemic. All are welcome to attend. Please watch for more information in the April newsletter and bulletin inserts.



### ***The Little Mermaid, Jr.***

The Springboro Junior High show choir will present a production of the Little Mermaid Junior on March 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. Performances will be in the Springboro High School Auditorium. Advance tickets are on sale until February 28 and are \$5 for student/children, \$6 for senior citizens and \$7 for adults. Advance tickets can be purchased by contacting Chris Wylie at 937-748-3953 x2506 or [cwylie@springboro.org](mailto:cwylie@springboro.org). All tickets sold at the door are \$8.



| March 2018 |        |         |           |          |        |          | Calendarpedia<br>for your calendar |
|------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Sunday     | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |                                    |
|            | 25     | 26      | 27        | 28       | 1      | 2        | 3                                  |
| 4          | 5      | 6       | 7         | 8        | 9      | 10       |                                    |
| 11         | 12     | 13      | 14        | 15       | 16     | 17       |                                    |
| 18         | 19     | 20      | 21        | 22       | 23     | 24       |                                    |
| 25         | 26     | 27      | 28        | 29       | 30     | 31       |                                    |

### Church Groups Meetings/Schedules

#### Women In Faith

The next meeting of Women in Faith meeting will be Saturday, March 3 at 9:00 in Fellowship Hall. We will make plans for helping our youth group with the Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, March 11. Ticket sales for the dinner will be held before and after services on the weekends of February 24/25 and March 3/4. WIF has been asked to take care of ticket sales and to provide cakes for 150 desserts. As usual, there will be brunch, coffee and tea at the meeting. We also want to thank everyone who contributed to the Cookie Walk fundraiser. It was a big success and lots of fun for everyone. For information about Women in Faith, please call Judy Cook, Barb Mills or Jean Reazer.

#### Clearcreakers Senior Group

The Clearcreakers will meet March 21 in Fellowship Hall. The program will be "Songs of the Decades", performed by Dick Coyle. We will have a potluck lunch - please bring a casserole, salad, or dessert to share. Please remember to bring your own eating and serving utensils. The March "helpers" are Vivian Betty, Lee Campbell, and Judy Kehl. For questions, contact Mary Jane Hansel or Vivian Beatty. Please note: "Clearcreakers" follow the same inclement weather closing as Springboro Schools.

#### United Methodist Men

The men of FUMC will meet for breakfast and a brief study session on Sunday morning, March 11, at 8:00 am. We invite men and older boys of the church to join us that day for breakfast, fellowship and study.

With regard to the spring mission trip, the United Methodist Church mission organization, Volunteers in Mission, is now establishing work sites in Florida to enable hurricane Irma recovery work. We can indeed wait for these work sites to be fully functioning or we can look to other locales. Though not related to hurricane Irma, work sites are available as close as West Virginia, at which we would do poverty relief and/or flood recovery.

For any potential mission trippers, please indicate your preference of West Virginia or Florida to David Finney at shakerdavid@hotmail.com or 937-572-2130.

#### Other Group Meeting Dates

- March 6—Staff Parish Relations Comm.
- March 12—Missions Team
- March 13—Finance Team
- March 13 & 27—Stephen Ministers
- March 20—Trustees





### ***West Ohio Conference Summer Camps***

Each summer, the West Ohio Conference offers a variety of summer camps at their three facilities—Camp Otterbein, Camp Wesley and Camp Widewater—for children, teens and even families! If you are interested in learning more about the exciting summer adventures they offer, the church office has a copy of their 2018 Summer Camp Guide. Please stop by to learn more or go to [www.westohiocamps.com](http://www.westohiocamps.com).



### ***FUMC and Bright Beginnings Creation Camps***

Online registration will begin soon for summer Creation Camps, a joint venture between First United Methodist and Bright Beginnings Christian Preschool. Half day, full day and extended day options will be available for eight weeks this summer, beginning the week of June 4. Please watch the bulletin insert for information on when camp registration will open.



### ***Are You Burdened?***

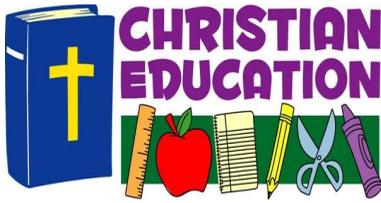
Paul makes a distinction between carrying your own load and bearing burdens. Loads are the ordinary, everyday stress that we all experience, but burdens are those stresses that beat us down and are too heavy for one person to carry. Paul tells us to carry our own load, but to help bear each other's burdens.

That's what Stephen Ministers do. When the load becomes a burden—through a death, diagnosis, divorce, job loss, or other crisis—a Stephen Minister is there to help bear that burden with confidential, one-on-one, Christ-centered care.

If you or someone you know is bearing a burden, talk to Pastor Amy, Zandra Woody or Susan Raihala about Stephen Ministry. No one should carry a burden alone.

***"After every darkness there is light.  
After every winter there is spring.  
And after every discouragement  
there is a dream.***

***There is hope for tomorrow because  
of your faithfulness day after day,  
year after year,  
generation after generation."***  
***Dr. Robert H. Schuller***



### ***Tuesday Bible Study***

The Tuesday morning Bible study continues their study of 1 Peter using *The Early Christian Letters for Everyone* as the class book and the associated study guide, both by N.T. Wright. The Bible study meets every Tuesday except the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 in the music room.

### ***Cornerstone Class***

The Cornerstone Class meets in the music room on Sunday mornings at 9:15. In March Barb Geiger will lead the class discussion around the theme of "Growing Older & Wiser." Whether we consider ourselves "young" or "middle-aged" or "senior citizens" or prefer no age label at all, we grow wiser as we consider and apply the timeless truths of the Scripture. For more information on the class, please contact Barb Geiger.

### ***Holy Java***

Holy Java will continue their study of *He Chose the Nails* by Max Lucado through March 18. With his characteristic insight, Lucado examines the extraordinary circumstances surrounding Christ's crucifixion and explains why the cross is central to our own search for significance.

On the 25th, the class will begin a new eight week study of *The End of Me* by Kyle Idleman. This study explores four of the beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount. In the first

section of the book, each chapter will focus on a different paradoxical teaching of Christ. In the second half, you'll look at real-life examples of people who have lived the upside-down life that Jesus describes. Only when you come to the end of yourself will you begin to be transformed into the whole, blessed person God made you to be.

Holy Java meets in the conference room on Sundays at 9:15. For more information on the study and the class in general, please contact Maria Dershem.

### ***Women in Faith Bible Study***

The Women in Faith Bible Study continues their study of *Parables from the Backside, Volume 2* by J. Ellsworth Kalas on March 13. They meet on the second Tuesday of each month in the conference room at 7:00 p.m. All women in the church are invited to join the study. For information on the study, please contact Lorraine Sower.

### ***Easter Program—Because He Lives***

On April 15 during both Sunday services, our children will present an Easter program. Practices are 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays during second service and Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 (February 21-March 21). Any child age 4 and up is welcome to participate. Please see Kim Crosen if you have any questions.

### ***Confirmation***

The confirmation class will meet on March 4 and 18 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the music room.



### **Bright Beginnings Buzz**

In February our preschoolers lived out our Bible verse “Love never ends” (I Corinthians 13:8) through Valentines Day parties and “Someone Special Days”.

In March, we will have visits from people working in a variety of professions as part of our Community Helpers week. The Bible verse will be “Love your neighbor as you love yourself” and the fruit of the spirit will be Faithfulness.

Our preschool ministry is thriving thanks to the wonderful teachers and individuals God has sent us. Over the years we have been affirmed in many ways that this ministry is what God intended. We continue to thank Him for the opportunity to help 340 children learn, not only their ABC’s and 123’s, but also who Jesus is and how He works in their lives. This church ministry is helping to change and shape lives.

### **2018-2019 Registration**

Bright Beginnings registration for the 2018-2019 school year is underway. Classes are very full for next year already. If you are interested, please contact Kim Crosen as soon as possible. Kim can be reached at 748-2612 or kimfumc@gmail.com.



### **A.C.E.**

At A.C.E., our before and after school program, we had a fun-filled February. We had multiple parties including a Fun Friday Football day before the Super Bowl, a beach party and a Valentines Day party. We packed in a lot of fun for a short month! In March, ACE students will continue learning about the continents. If you would like to know more about our A.C.E. program, please contact Kim Crosen.



In March, the Bright Beginnings’ Parent Connection group continues their Table Talk series for parents (including church families) on *The 5 Love Languages of Children*. The series will be held on Tuesdays from 12:00 to 1:00 and will run until March 13. Then on March 20, they will have a Table Talk on *Faithfulness—The Myth of the Perfect Parent*. Both lunch (\$5) and childcare are available. Please contact the Becky Frost at bbcp-fumc@gmail.com to RSVP.

On March 19 the “Parents with a Purpose” group will help stock the shelves at SCAC. Childcare will be provided (please let Becky know if needed).





**Kids Who Care: K—2nd grades**

**God Squad: 3 & 4th grades**

**Contact: Kim Crosen**

***kimfumc@gmail.com, 937-748-2612***

### ***Kids Who Care***

This month our Kids Who Care will be traveling to North Park for a picnic, park pick-up and play! Each child should bring a picnic item to share with friends. Please RSVP. A follow-up email will go out with more details. Our picnic will be March 11 from 3:00 to 4:30. (This event is weather permitting.)

### ***God Squad***

In February, we did a little bit of fundraising and a little bit of service! We did our annual "Sub" Sale which was very successful. We hope all who ordered enjoyed their subs! We thank you all for your support!

God Squad will meet on Sunday, March 11 from 12:00 to 2:00 to work on Random Acts of Kindness (RAK). More information will follow soon via e-mail and in the church bulletin. If your child is in 3rd or 4th grade and you would like to receive information on God Squad, please let Kim know.

## **MISSION 56**

***5th & 6th grades***

**Contact: Kim Crosen**

***kimfumc@gmail.com, 937-748-2612***

- **Every Friday – LIFT (Grades 6 - 8):** LIFT (Living in Faith Together) meets after school until 3:30 p.m. at Springboro Junior High.
- **Sunday, March 4 – "Church, Lunch & Fellowship" (Mission 56 Youth):** 10:35 a.m. Sunday morning service, lunch and a time of fun and fellowship. Pick-up will be around 3:00 p.m. One parent volunteer needed to assist with lunch and fellowship time.
- **Tuesday, March 6 – Hope House Mission: Center for Women and Children:** Provide dinner and games or crafts for the women and children of Hope House in Middletown from 4:00 - 6:45 p.m. **Please RSVP if you plan on joining us.**
- **Sunday, March 18 – "Church, Lunch & Fellowship" (Mission 56 Youth):** 10:35 a.m. Sunday morning service, lunch and a time of fun and fellowship. Pick-up will be around 3:00 p.m. One parent volunteer needed to assist with lunch and fellowship time.
- **Thursday, March 22 – Lunch with Kim at Springboro Intermediate:** Kim will provide drinks and dessert. Youth are asked to pack their lunch.



*7th & 8th grade*

**Contact: Kim Crosen**

***kimfumc@gmail.com, 937-748-2612***

### Weekly Activities

- **Sunday Night Youth Group:** There will be Junior High Youth Group on March 4 from 7:30 to 8:30 following the Mission Trip meeting (see below). Youth will be training for the Spaghetti Dinner service at this meeting.
- **Every Friday – LIFT (Grades 7 - 8):** LIFT meets after school until 3:30 p.m. at Springboro Junior High.

### March Special Events

- **Sunday, March 4—Mission Trip Meeting (for 8th graders):** If you are interested in attending the mission trip on June 26-July1, please plan on attending this meeting with your parents from 7:00—7:30.
- **Tuesday, March 6 – Hope House Mission: Center for Women and Children:** Provide dinner and games or crafts for the women and children of Hope House in Middletown from 4:00 - 6:45 p.m. **Please RSVP if you plan on joining us.**
- **Sunday, March 11—Help Senior High with Spaghetti Dinner.** Please watch for text or e-mail with more information on help needed.
- **Thursday, March 15 – Lunch with Kim at Springboro Junior High:** Kim will provide drinks and dessert. Youth are asked to pack their lunch.
- **Saturday, March 24—Cedar Mania:** Leave church at 9:00 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m.

after event and dinner. RSVP's needed by March 10.

- **Sunday, March 25 – “Church, Lunch, & Fellowship” (Junior High Youth):** 10:35 a.m. Sunday morning service, lunch and a time of fun and fellowship. Pick-up will be around 3:00 p.m. One parent volunteer needed to assist with lunch and fellowship time.

### *Confirmation*

The confirmation class will meet on March 4 and 18 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Music room.



*9th—12 Grades*

**Contact: Brian Schlise**

***Brianschlise@habeggercorp.com***  
***937-748-9711 and 937-272-6167***

Activities for March include:

- **March 4:** Mission Trip meeting from 7:00 to 7:30 followed by training for Spaghetti Dinner from 7:30 to 8:30
- **March 11:** Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser
- **March 18:** Youth Group from 7:00 to 8:30
- **March 24:** Cedar Mania—Leave church at 9:00 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m. after event and dinner. RSVP's needed by March 10.

If you want more information on our Senior High Youth Group or any of the planned activities, please contact Brian Schlise.





## Love. Grow. Serve.

- **Kroger Community Rewards Program:**

Please register our church as your Kroger Plus Community Rewards recipient. Through the program, we earn a quarterly check based on your purchases at no cost to you. Money earned goes to our First Steps Campaign. Questions, please contact Mariel Pesavento.

- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Crocheters and knitters are needed to make prayer shawls for those in our church experiencing a difficult time in their life. The finished shawls will be blessed. If interested, contact Sonia Dermis.

- **Loaves and Fishes Ministry:** Our church is blessed to have a Loaves and Fishes Ministry which provides meals for church members at critical family times. If you are interested in providing meals on an occasional basis or would like more information, please contact Tina Yeamans .

- **Dorothy Lane Market Good Neighbor Program:** This program allows the church to earn money based on your spending at DLM. Just complete a Good Neighbor Form and designate our church. We are listed as First United Methodist Church – Springboro and our program ID is 815. You can find the forms in any DLM stores or online at: [www.dorothylane.com/clubdlm/goodneighbor.pl](http://www.dorothylane.com/clubdlm/goodneighbor.pl). **Re-registration is needed each year.** We made over \$125 in 2017.

### **Volunteer, Mission & Outreach**

**Opportunities** Please contact Rebecca in the church office ([rebeccafumc@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccafumc@gmail.com) or 748-2612), unless otherwise noted, if you are interested in any of these opportunities.

- **Fellowship Hosting:** The Fellowship Committee is looking for volunteers who want to help us with just one or two events per year (e.g. Chili Cook-off, Rally Day, etc.).
- **Cookies:** If you are interested in providing treats for fellowship time between the services, there is a sign-up sheet on the fellowship table or through the Church Needs link in Pastor Amy's weekly e-mail. Treats do not need to be homemade or be cookies—any treat is welcome. We also appreciate the weekly donations being made to help off-set our expenses.
- **Gordon Food Service:** If you are shopping at GFS for the church, please be sure to let them know we are part of the *Gordon Go!* program, which earns points for future discounts off purchases. We are listed as Springboro First United Methodist Church (account #2038279). Please note, purchases have to be for the church. Points cannot be earned on personal purchases.

### **Box Tops for Education**

Our Missions Team continues to collect Box Tops for Red Bird Mission in Kentucky to benefit their schools. They also collect Tyson food labels. There are bins in which to place the box tops and labels located in the black stand across from the music room. If you need more information on the program, please contact Arlene Brown at 937-272-5857. Thank you.

## ***Volunteer, Mission and Outreach Opportunities Continued***

### ***Easter Meals for Local Families***

In response to the study we did last year on *When Helping Hurts*, the Missions Team is rethinking some of our mission projects, including how we handle Easter Meals. For years, we've collected a pre-set menu of items. Last year, we took a step back and asked ourselves why and the answer was, "Because that's how we've always done it."

This year, we are asking the congregation to "sponsor" a family to allow them to purchase their own food. In the next few weeks, look for envelopes for donations. Our sponsored families will be given a \$20 Meijer **food only** gift card to spend on the food they choose versus being given something they might not want/need. This will allow families the option of buying things their family will eat, and the potential option of purchasing fresh produce versus canned. Watch for a tracking of our progress in Fellowship Hall coming soon! We helped 130 families last year; let's challenge ourselves to make that 150 people this year. Donations are needed by March 25.

Thanks, as always, for sharing God's love with our community.

### ***Seed Collection***

It's time to get ready for spring! The Green Thumb Garden Project of the Jackson Area Ministries helps people who have lost their jobs, senior citizens, families on low or fixed incomes by providing seed packets. The seeds needed for this year are beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn, cucumbers,

green bush style beans, lettuce, radishes, spinach, greens, squash, pumpkins, and turnips. They will also take cash donations to purchase bulk corn and bush bean seeds and seed potatoes and tomato plants. The deadline for the seed collection will be Easter Sunday, April 1. Thank you for your generosity in prior years!

### ***Otterbein Avalon***

Springboro's Otterbein Avalon Center holds worship services on Sundays at 1:30. David Finney, CLM, assists with this service and encourages those who would like to help the elderly residents to also attend. Please bring a warm smile, a desire to help with wheel chairs, and a love of Christ to our weekly worship services.

In addition there is a weekly BINGO game on Wednesdays at 1:00. Again, bring smiles and a fun-seeking attitude to Otterbein Avalon, Springboro, located off of Bunnell Hill Road. For more information, please contact David Finney at 513-727-4395 or shakerdavid@ hot-mail.com.

### ***Medical Driver Ministry***

If you find you need someone to drive you to and/or from a medical appointment, our church offers a Medical Driver Ministry. This ministry is a free gift of love to members and friends with no charge or fee. We look forward to providing medical transportation whenever and wherever needed. To schedule a medical driver, please contact Harold Masteller.





### **UMCOR**

Dear Friends in Mission:

Thank you for partnering with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Through your gift, you are helping to provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupts life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own.

Through the compassion and solidarity of faithful friends like you, UMCOR is able to provide comfort to those impacted by disasters like earthquakes and storms, food for the hungry, and healthcare to those who otherwise would have none. These are just a sampling of the good works that gifts like yours make possible. One hundred percent of your gift through The Advance, the designated giving channel of the United Methodist Church, will go directly to the people who need it most. Thank you for giving so generously.

Roland Fernandes, General Treasurer  
Mary Andreolli, Executive Director of Communications, Advance & Fundraising  
General Board of Global Ministries

(Note: Our church family gave \$1,250.00 to UMCOR through the Christmas offering).

### **SCAC**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your 2017 donation of \$270.00 to the Springboro Community Assistance Center (SCAC).

The SCAC, a 501©(3) organization, was created in 2007 to assist families in need of food, clothing, household items and financial assistance. We were proud to celebrate our 10th anniversary of community service this past year.

The goal of the SCAC is self-sufficiency and an improved quality of life for all family members. Your donations make a difference in the lives of others.

Thanks again for your support!  
With gratitude,

Wendy Ford  
Executive Director

### ***Personal Thank You's***

Dear First United Methodist,  
Thank you all for the lovely cards, caring hugs, and kind words of condolence on the loss of my father. I have truly felt the warm embrace of God's love shining through all of you during this sad time. Our family is blessed to be part of this church family.  
- Rebecca Delbridge

### ***Cookie Walk***

Women in Faith would like to thank everyone who donated goodies for our annual cookie walk. We would also like to thank everyone who purchased treats. It was another successful fund raiser for Women in Faith thanks to all of you!

### ***Celebrating a March Birthday***

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1: Maria Dershem   | 18: Stephanie Bindemann  |
| 3: Kaylee Smith  | 19: Margot Borst   |
| 4: David Finney, Jack Eley,<br>Belinda Mallett, Logan Miller | 20: Charlotte Harris, Don Stiens Jr.                           |
| 6: Grace Combs   | 21: Mark Mosch, Christopher Delbridge,<br>Daryl Hams, Zoe Hams |
| 8: Sharon Joseph   | 22: Joy Lightcap   |
| 9: Todd Smith  | 23: Yolanda Mosch, Curt Winzeler,<br>Pat Foley                 |
| 10: Matthew Keyser   | 24: Kyle Lalich  |
| 11: Zandra Woody, Claire Veren                               | 26: Noelle Boley   |
| 12: Lynn Jackson   | 27: Brenda Landefeld, Kyle Richard                             |
| 13: Trisha Engle   | 29: Jennifer Dunn, Howard Johnson                              |
| 15: Bob Crosen   | 30: Edward Pesavento, Chase Thelen                             |
| 17: Marjorie Poff  |  |

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### ***Celebrating a March Anniversary***

- |                        |                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 18: Doug & Carol Dean  | 26: Larry & Zandra Woody         |
| 21: Jim & Joanne Young | 31: Christopher and Karen Thelen |

*If we have missed your birthday or anniversary,  
please let the church office know so we can add you to our list.*

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### ***March Volunteers***

|          | Liturgists                      | Acolytes              | Cookies                 | Altar Flowers           |
|----------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| March 4  | Patti Hammett<br>Kara Hampton   | Open<br>Faith Hampton | Open                    | Katie & Daniel<br>Veren |
| March 11 | Belinda Mallett<br>Beverly Haun | Open<br>Open          | Open                    | Open                    |
| March 18 | Belinda Mallett<br>Joy Mindling | Noah Townsend<br>Open | Bill & Patti<br>Hammett | Open                    |
| March 25 | Patti Hammett<br>Jane Gregg     | Noah Townsend<br>Open | Open                    | Open                    |



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
60 EAST NORTH STREET  
SPRINGBORO, OH 45066

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
POSTAGE PAID  
SPRINGBORO, OH 45066  
PERMIT NO. 13

Address service requested

Time Dated Material

*First United Methodist Church of Springboro*

*"Keeping First Things First!"*

*"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well."*

*Matthew 6:33*

