

July 2017

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# The *Chimes*

Newtown United Methodist Church

3546 Church Street, Newtown, Ohio 45244

513-561-6678

Once again it's time for your annual conference report!

I'd like to begin by thanking you for allowing me to serve our God, our church, and you in this way. This year at conference we met some wonderful people, including the Bishop of East Ohio, Bishop Tracy Smith Malone; learned some interesting things, especially from our resident theologian Dr. Elaine Heath from Duke Theological School, and did some great work. I don't have time to put everything down here in this message to you, but I invite you to speak to me if you're interested! Or to check out some of the videos of teaching sessions and worship services by visiting: <http://www.westohioumc.org>

I would, however, like to say a few things that were mentioned there.

We learned that our church cannot expect the people to come to us, just as it is said in Matthew 5:15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. We are the light of Christ and we need to shine in the world we live in. God is doing a new thing in our church, we should, we *need* to be a part of this new, wonderful thing. It can be a scary prospect, stepping out of our comfort zone, reaching out into a community of people not like us, inviting them to a place we call home, and having them bring their unique, and sometimes very different gifts to us, but it will strengthen us as a whole. We were invited to remember Isaiah 43:1- Israel, the Lord who created you says, "Do not be afraid - I am with you always. I have called you by name - you are mine."

On a much lighter note, after 20 years of off and on conference attendance, this was the first year I've ever played shuffleboard, and I got stomped into the ground by our wonderful new pastor. She however, was a wonderful teacher. I look forward to working more with her, learning other things with her and growing as a church body.

In closing I'd like to pose two questions to you all that our Bishop posed to us:

As Christians-

*Why do we do what we do?*

*What animates us about the Gospel?*

Something to think about. Thank you all once more for the opportunity to serve you.



~Marc Starrett

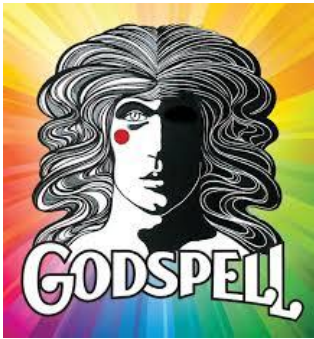
I was in elementary school the first time my family attended the West Ohio Annual Conference at the Lakeside Chautauqua on the shores of Lake Erie when my dad served as our church's Lay Member. If you had told me then that one day I would walk across the stage at Hoover Auditorium to be commissioned as a Provisional Elder and voted into full conference membership as a Clergy person I probably would have looked at you like you had three heads.

Yet here I am, on the other side of the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of the West Ohio Annual Conference looking back on a week that was full of Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, which highlighted our conference's commitment to Risk Taking Mission and Service, and once again proved West Ohio's Extravagant Generosity. I find myself energized for the work that lies ahead and feeling incredibly humbled to have been elected into full conference membership.

I commend to you Marc Starrett's report on page 1. Other highlights from the week included the outstanding 1.2 million dollars raised in *just one day* for the LIGHT THE WAY campaign as we work toward establishing new worshipping communities across our conference. Dr. Elaine Heath reminded us that "God is not bound by our anxiety or our shrunken imaginations." A reminder needed in a time of such heightened anxiety both in our church and in the world. Bishop Tracy S. Malone from the Ohio East Episcopal Area built on that theme and encouraged us to "Be BOLD in [our] witness!" She said "Don't be afraid to use God's gifts in you. Rely on the power of God that is already at work. Be a voice for the voiceless."

As we move forward in our local context here at Newtown United Methodist Church I'm invigorated by the good work done by your leadership team during our Strategic Planning sessions. I'm thrilled to begin sharing those visions and plans with you in the weeks and months to come, both from the pulpit and through continued small group conversations. If we heed our own Bishop Palmer's words to "just make up your mind that you're the light, you just make up your mind that you've been given the light, you just make up your mind to walk in the light," then we will, as he says, "START PIERCING THE DARKNESS." And that, friends, is exactly the kind of work God calls us to. Let's get started.

+ Pastor Katie



Join Pastor Katie for Mariemont Players' production of GODSPELL on Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

GODSPELL is a timeless tale of friendship, loyalty, and love, based on parables according to the Gospel of Matthew. This show will bring to life the stories we will be studying all year as we follow Lectionary Year A which takes us through Matthew's gospel.

Tickets are \$20 each, or \$18 if a group of 10 or more goes. Student tickets are \$16. Please sign up downstairs by July 2<sup>nd</sup> if you are interested.



Ice Cream Social

One of the main themes that repeated itself throughout our strategic planning was a desire for NUMC to be more visible in the community. So we are launching a number of outdoor fellowship endeavors this summer. We invite you to join us for an Ice Cream Social on the side lawn on Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>.

**INVITE A FRIEND!**

## **IPM Back to School Sign Up**

NUMC will host this year's IPM back to school sign up for our area's children. Volunteers are needed to help coordinate the program. Sign up day is Monday July 24<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 p.m. Please contact the church office if you are able to volunteer.

Several of you have expressed an interest in attending this year's Family Camp at Camp Otterbein July 21-23. And THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER!! It's bound to be a great weekend and we would love to have you join us. Family camp costs \$250 per family. Do not let finances get in the way of attending camp. If you are in need of financial assistance please talk to Pastor Katie. Go to [www.westohiocamps.com](http://www.westohiocamps.com) to register and tell Pastor Katie when you do! She's excited to spend some quality outdoor time with you all. Happy Camping!



## **Calling all Families with Preschool Age Children**

Hamilton County has a free early learning program for low income families? The program is designed to serve 3 and 4 year old children to assist in readying them for kindergarten. If you qualify, there is no cost for the program. More details below from the Family Service Worker, Mackenzie Sanders.

Hello, I am the Family Service Worker with Forest Hills Head Start Preschool Program. Our program is in a classroom at Mercer Elementary, but families can live anywhere in the Forest Hills School District to attend the program. Head Start works with many different families, including those with low income, foster children, and children who need additional supports in the classroom. We work to serve our families and children and help with whatever we can. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to reach out to me or send a parent my way. I look forward to working with all of you and please let me know if I can be of any extra assistance!

Thanks,  
Mackenzie Sanders  
513-262-3970  
Mackenzie.sanders@hcsc.org



IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE! NO, IT'S A HERO CENTRAL VBS VOLUNTEER!!

HERO CENTRAL VBS 2017 will run **July 31-August 4** from **6 – 8 pm.** and we are looking for the best heroes around – YOU – to help take kids on awesome adventures alongside some of their favorite Bible heroes and discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God.

Please sign up downstairs or see Tiffany Sexton or Pastor Katie if you are interested in any of the following roles and plan to attend a pre-VBS training session on Monday July 31<sup>st</sup> from 4-6 pm with dinner provided:

- **Crew Leader** (we need 2-4 adults to lead groups of children through all stations)
- **Assistant Storyteller** (we need 1)
- **Science Station** (we need 2 adults)
- **Crafts Station** (we need 2 adults)
- **Snacks** (we need 2 adults)



Registration is OPEN!  
Visit our Facebook page to find the online registration link.  
**INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!!**



### **HOLLYWOOD JESUS**

A small group study connecting Christ and Culture  
Thursdays in July @ 7:00 PM  
ALL ARE WELCOME

Congratulations to Josh and Anne Haffer on the birth of their newest family member!



If you would like to help by taking the Haffers a meal please sign up at:  
<https://mealtrain.com/n2lq8d>

# Acknowledgements

The congregation of the Newtown United Methodist Church would like to thank the families below for sponsoring the **CHIMES** and the Sunday Bulletins. Information about becoming a sponsor can be found on the church message board section of this issue of the **CHIMES**.

## CHIMES

JANUARY	MARILYN & ROBIN BEATTY
FEBRUARY	DOROTHY LARSSON
MARCH	TOM ZIMMERMAN
APRIL	JON & BARB FRANCE
MAY	CATHY MARTHIS
JUNE	CHUCK & NANCY LINGO
JULY	RICHARD SMITH
AUGUST	RAY AND CAROLE GIBSON
SEPTEMBER	
OCTOBER	
NOVEMBER	
DECEMBER	TERRY NIPPERT

In Memory of Catherine and Edward Nippert

## SUNDAY BULLETINS

JANUARY	MARILYN & ROBIN BEATTY
FEBRUARY	DORI PORTER
MARCH	DOROTHY LARSSON
APRIL	TOM ZIMMERMAN
MAY	JON & BARB FRANCE
JUNE	CATHY MARTHIS
JULY	CHUCK & NANCY LINGO
AUGUST	RICHARD SMITH
SEPTEMBER	RAY AND CAROLE GIBSON
OCTOBER	
NOVEMBER	
DECEMBER	

### Church Staff and Support Personnel Email Addresses

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[Outreach.NUMC@Zoomtown.com](mailto:Outreach.NUMC@Zoomtown.com)  
[Pastor.NUMC@Zoomtown.com](mailto:Pastor.NUMC@Zoomtown.com)  
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Kristy Swift  
Phyllis Fought  
Jennifer McComb  
Pastor Katie Steele  
Robin Steinmetz  
Clay Anderson

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45244

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(513) 561-6678

### Pastoral Needs

If you have a need for Pastoral services, please contact Pastor Katie by calling the Church office at 513-561-6678 or email Pastor Katie at [pastor.numc@zoomtown.com](mailto:pastor.numc@zoomtown.com)

If you have an urgent need after office hours, contact Pastor Katie at home at (513) 843-5520.

### **CHURCH MESSAGE BOARD**

- ❖ If you would like to sponsor the **Chimes** please place a donation of \$49.00 (checks payable to the church) in an envelope marked **Chimes**.
- ❖ If you would like to sponsor the **Sunday Bulletin**, the cost is \$30 per month. Please place your donation (checks payable to the church) in the offering plate marked **Sunday Bulletin**.