

May 2017

Volume 17, Issue 5

# The *Chimes*

Newtown United Methodist Church

3546 Church Street, Newtown, Ohio 45244

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*The following letter was sent to us by our own Bishop Gregory V. Palmer. Let's keep up the good work! If you would like to see the certificate it is on the bulletin board by the back door downstairs.*  
April 10, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Newtown United Methodist Church:

*One person gives freely, yet gains even more;  
another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.  
A generous person will prosper;  
whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.*  
Proverbs 11:24-25

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. With Easter upon us, we are reminded of God's ultimate gift, that of his son, Jesus Christ. What generosity, that he died and was raised to new life to give us life abundant.

I write today to offer a big THANK YOU for your generosity expressed through your financial support for the connectional church. Your church is one of 574 that supported the United Methodist Church at the 100% level. Thank you. Indeed, the work we United Methodists do within our conference, across our country and around our world is not possible without your financial support. In the past year, your support:

- Made possible life-changing retreat and camping experiences to 4, 131 youth and adults,
- Resulted in education and exploration opportunities for men and women discerning their calls to ministry,
- Caused the near-completion of our "Imagine No Malaria" campaign to reduce by half the death rate of those who contract malaria,
- Helped many churches understand what it means to be in community with citizens returning from incarceration, and
- Allowed us to keep the promise that 100% of all gifts to UMCOR would go directly to relief and disaster support.

These only highlight the things we can do together to support, equip and strengthen local churches, community outreach ministries, develop leaders and participate in global missions. I hope you will take the time to visit [www.wocum.org](http://www.wocum.org) to see and rejoice at the many ways your faithfulness in connectional giving is making disciples of Jesus Christ, renewing the church and changing the world.

The enclosed certificate, while inadequate, shares my heartfelt appreciation for your congregation's faithfulness. Please share and display it in a prominent location. If there is any way that the staff of the West Ohio Conference can support you in the ministry of **"making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world"** please do not hesitate to ask. I remain,  
Your servant in Jesus Christ,  
+ Gregory V. Palmer

## From the Desk of Pastor Katie

Beloved children of God at NUMC,

Jesus commissioned twelve apostles to go into all the world and spread the Good News: The Kingdom of God has drawn near! And to make certain the Good News reached every corner of the known world, Saul had an encounter with the risen Christ on the Damascus Road, an encounter that saw Saul reborn as Paul, sent to the Gentiles to teach about Jesus.

There's a misconception rampant in American Protestant churches today, that "it's the PASTOR's job!" to grow a congregation. Jesus' teaching shows us that nothing could be further from the truth.

**Your** insights are *vitaly important* as Newtown UMC moves forward. And we have been directed by our District Superintendent to undergo a review of our Strategic Plan as the entire District also attends to a visioning process. As a pastor new to NUMC this process is especially important in order to bring me up to speed as to where this community sees itself going in the next 3-5 years. And to allow me to help get us there. Not to mention the fact that I have some new ideas that I would LOVE to share with you too.



A planning meeting on May 6th allows your leadership team to hear your ideas for this congregation. Parking lot and hallway conversations about "we should try this" or "we've never done that way before" are counterproductive and potentially divisive. Your voice, your ideas, your gifts and graces, are what the Holy Spirit will use to reach the community of Newtown and beyond, to speak Good News in a world desperate for it.

All are welcome to attend this meeting and Administrative Council members are gently reminded that they were nominated and elected to this leadership role. Please do all in your power to be there. If you absolutely, positively, cannot be physically present please contact myself or Trudy Flowers to share your ideas so they can be included in these discussions.

Wonder how much fun a planning meeting can actually be? You might be surprised! I really like games and interactive outside-the-box activities. And I hate to be bored! Listen to the words Jesus spoke to his first disciples: "Come and see."

+Pastor Katie



**Please note Pastor Katie will be on vacation in Chicago May 6, following the Strategic Planning session through May 13.**



We have been invited by Bishop Palmer to support the bold leap of starting new diverse worshipping communities and collaborating with congregations to extend their vitality for our mission across Ohio. He has challenged us to join him, and United Methodists from all across the West Ohio Conference in raising at least \$200,000. The offering will be collected at Annual Conference in early June. The mission, Bishop Palmer says, is clear – **to equip local churches to make disciples of Jesus Christ for**

**the transformation of the world... a world of justice, love and peace filled with people growing in the likeness of Jesus Christ.** Our goal at NUMC is to send, at a minimum, \$1 for each person of our congregation to represent 1 new disciple of Jesus Christ. Want to see more disciples? You are free to give more than \$1. Please place your contributions in the offering plate between now and May 28 and mark them "LIGHT THE WAY." Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

### **Save the Date for Vacation Bible School!**

Hero Central VBS will be the last week in July or the first week in August. The date is contingent on when the Newtown Business Association and IPM plan their Newtown Day out.

None-the-less we'll need all hands on deck to make this year a success! With your help we'll take kids on awesome adventures alongside some of their favorite Bible heros and discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God! VBS HERO CENTRAL uses music, science, crafts, recreation and Bible stories to help kids (and leaders) discover their strength in God!



We mentioned above, the Newtown Day Out. Please keep this event in mind. More details and the date as they become available.

## **Missions**

### **IPM Summer Support**

We would like to encourage all of you to support IPM's summer food supply for the kids as school will soon be over for the year. The best food items for this time of year are easy to prepare foods such as mac 'n cheese, peanut butter, jelly, soup, canned lunches (like prepared tuna or chicken salad), protein bars, canned chili, Chef Boy-ar-Dee, juice boxes, drink mixes and nonperishable snacks. If you would like to participate, simply place the items you purchased in the food barrel located near the rear church entrance. Carol and Ned will gladly take the donations to IPM.



Want to see The Chimes in a way you can simply click on a link and easily be redirected to the website? Make sure to check out The Chimes online on our webpage: [www.newtownohumc.org](http://www.newtownohumc.org)

# 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	

## 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)  
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Pastor Katie Steele  
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Clay Anderson

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### 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 \$47.00 (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**.