

## From the Desk of Pastor Katie

I may be fairly new to ministry, but I am familiar with the old joke (sometimes said rather seriously), that pastors only work on Sundays and just in the mornings. But here is what the 2016 Book of Discipline (BOD) expects clergy to do:

The Responsibility of elders (ministers) are derived from the authority given in ordination. Elders have a fourfold ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service and thus serve in witness and service of Christ's love and justice. Elders are authorized to preach and teach the Word, to provide pastoral care and counsel, to administer the sacraments, and to order the life of the church for service in mission and ministry.

**Word:** (1) To preach the Word of God, lead in worship, read and teach the Scriptures, and engage the people in study and witness. (a) to ensure faithful transmission of the Christian faith. (b) To lead people in discipleship and evangelistic outreach. (2) To counsel persons. (3) To perform the acts of marriage and burial (including grief counseling) (4) To visit in the homes of the church and the community, especially among the sick, aged, imprisoned, and others in need. (5) To maintain all confidences inviolate.

**Sacrament:** (1) To administer the sacraments of baptism and the Supper of the Lord (a) To prepare the parents and sponsors before baptizing infants or children. (b) To encourage reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant. (c) To encourage people baptized in infancy or early childhood to make their profession of faith. (Confirmation) (d) To select and train deacons and lay members to serve communion. (2) To encourage the private and congregational use of the other means of grace.

**Order:** (1) To be the administrative officer of the local church and to assure that the organizational concerns of the congregation are adequately provided for. (a) To give support, guidance, and training to the lay leadership. (b) To give oversight to the educational program of the church. (c) To be responsible for organizational faithfulness, goal setting, planning and evaluation. (d) To search out and counsel men and women for the ministry of deacons, elders, local pastors, and other church-related ministries. (2) To administer the Church in their Appointment, Annual Conference, and General Church. (a) To administer the provisions of the Discipline. (b) To give an account of their pastoral ministries to the charge and annual conference according to the prescribed forms. (c) To provide leadership for the funding ministry of the congregation. (d) To model and promote faithful financial stewardship. (e) To lead the congregation in the full and faithful payment of all apportionments. (f) To care for all church records. (3) To participate in denominational and conference programs and training opportunities. (a) To seek out opportunities for cooperative ministries. (b) To be willing to assume supervisory responsibilities within the connection. (4) To lead the congregation in racial and ethnic inclusiveness.

**Service:** (1) To embody the teachings of Jesus in servant ministries. (2) Order the life of the congregation for discipleship in the world. (3) To build a caring and giving community. (4) To participate in community, ecumenical, and inter-religious concerns.

## Pastor's Letter Continued

Whew! When looked at all together that can feel like quite a lot. As I have been reflecting on my first full year at Newtown UMC I have become ever more aware at just how much I have to learn. I try to keep before myself at all times that this Provisional Period of my ministry is sacred time, holy time, to be set apart and used to learn as much as I can. To that end I must extend my deepest thanks to all of the faithful members and friends at Newtown UMC for shepherding *me* through this first year of ministry. Special thanks to **Trudy Flowers** for her expert guidance through our visioning process in 2017 and leading our Administrative Council, to **Diane Mallstrom**, Chair of SPRC as she took on a lion's share responsibility bringing a full time pastor on board in her first year, **Jennifer McComb** our Board of Trustees Chair for walking me through the ropes of caring for our physical facility, **Clay Anderson** who was as new as I was in his role of Treasurer and also had his work cut out for him with a full time clergy person (clergy taxes are something else!) and to the staff, **Phyllis Fought, Robin Steinmetz, Craig Correll, Kristy Swift, Tiffany Sexton** and **Arial VanFleet** as they have extended grace and patience as I have lived and grown into this new role.

Here's to a most excellent 2<sup>nd</sup> year of ministry together!

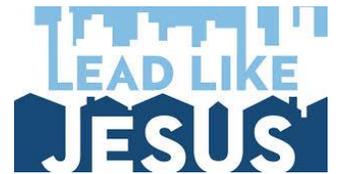
Called to REACH, TEACH, and LOVE the Village of Newtown and beyond,

+Pastor Katie

## Leadership Retreat with Suzanne Allen

ATTENTION all 2018 Administrative Council, SPRC, Trustees, Finance and Nominations Committee members. Our 2018 Leadership Retreat will take place **Friday February 2 and Saturday February 3.**

The Assistant to the District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Suzanne Allen will be coming to lead us as we continue to listen to God's voice. We will gather at **6:00 p.m. on Friday Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>** for a meal and our first session. We will continue at **9:00 a.m. on Saturday Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>** and run until 3:00 p.m. Because we will be laying the foundation for our work together as God's people in the Village of Newtown, this retreat is vitally important to the future of NUMC. Thank you in advance for making every effort to be in attendance.



**Upcoming  
Council  
Meeting**

## Administrative Council Meeting Dates in 2018

*All regular meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall*

February 2-3, 2018 (*Leadership Retreat*)

March 12, 2018

May 14, 2018

July 9, 2018

September 10, 2018

November 5, 2018

## Lenten Bible Study

Often times when we approach Lent we think about things we might give up. Have you ever thought instead about adding a spiritual practice for 40 days? This Lent consider joining Pastor Katie for a Lenten Bible Study.

The study will be offered:

Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Feb 14 (Ash Wednesday Service is class 1) – March 28

Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Feb 15 – March 29

Suggested book donation: \$7



## Ash Wednesday

Newtown UMC will hold an Ash Wednesday Service On February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Also on Ash Wednesday, we will hold an "Ashes-to-Go" outreach event. The event will happen in 3 hour time slots at the morning commute (7:30-8:30 a.m.), lunch time (11:30a-12:30p) and evening commute (4:30-5:30 p.m.). During this event, community members can drive in, receive ashes and we will ask if they have any prayer requests we can help with. We will also offer an invitation to our Easter Services.



WE NEED YOUR HELP! Invite all you know to stop by or if they are not able to, ask if they have a prayer request we can lift up for them. If you are able to lend a hand on site this day, please see Pastor Katie. Our Ashes-to-Go will take place rain, snow or shine.



## NUMC to Host American Guild of Organists

Our M. P. Rathke, Opus 8 organ is a featured instrument on the upcoming Cincinnati Chapter of the American Guild of Organists' organ crawl. On Monday, 12 February guild members and visitors from the Tri-State area will tour our church, and play the organ. For more information visit [cincinnatiago.org](http://cincinnatiago.org).

## District News

### **Calling All House Flippers!**

Are you skilled with fixing up houses?

There are several congregations that need help stripping wallpaper, painting and updating bathrooms with tile, new fixtures, etc. Are you a retired contractor/construction worker, or do you know one in your church? Is your UMM or UMW group looking for a project? Do you just love working on houses? We need you!

Interested people should **contact Todd Anderson at [ohiorivervalley@wocumc.org](mailto:ohiorivervalley@wocumc.org)**.



## Calling All Women Singers:



### **NUMC Women's Choir Will Honor Loved Ones Affected by Cancer, Sunday, 25 February**

Have you or your loved ones been affected by cancer? It seems that no family has been left unscathed by this horrible disease. Join us on Sunday, 25 February, when our Women's Choir will honor and uplift women, men, children, and their families who have fought and are fighting cancer as we sing Cincinnati composer Alex Gartner's new anthem "Your Heart Is My Heart" (2017). Gartner and Cincinnati choral conductor and breast cancer survivor Sandra Thornton's stirring poetry

alternates the ancient and deeply personal Latin prayer "Libera me Domine" (Lord, deliver me) with messages of solace and strength: "I will be with you. . . and I will lift you up" and "I am a warrior, and I'm not going anywhere." Please stand with us in supporting those who are affected by joining us, and inviting your friends, for a few short rehearsals on Sundays in February from 10:00 to 10:15 A.M. to prepare and sing this exquisite music and relevant text on Sunday, 25 February. Contact Kristy Swift [music.newtown@zoomtown.com](mailto:music.newtown@zoomtown.com) for more information.

# 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  
FEBRUARY  
MARCH  
APRIL  
MAY  
JUNE  
JULY  
AUGUST  
SEPTEMBER  
OCTOBER  
NOVEMBER  
DECEMBER

MARILYN & ROBIN BEATTY  
DOROTHY LARSSON  
DOROTHY LARSSON  
TERRY NIPPERT  
In Memory of Catherine & Edward Nippert

## SUNDAY BULLETINS

JANUARY  
FEBRUARY  
MARCH  
APRIL  
MAY  
JUNE  
JULY  
AUGUST  
SEPTEMBER  
OCTOBER  
NOVEMBER  
DECEMBER

DOROTHY LARSSON  
DOROTHY LARSSON

### 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 Staff and Support Personnel Email Addresses

[Facility.NUMC@Zoomtown.com](mailto:Facility.NUMC@Zoomtown.com)  
[Music.NUMC@Zoomtown.com](mailto:Music.NUMC@Zoomtown.com)  
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[Outreach.NUMC@Zoomtown.com](mailto:Outreach.NUMC@Zoomtown.com)  
[Pastor.NUMC@Zoomtown.com](mailto:Pastor.NUMC@Zoomtown.com)  
[Publicity.NUMC@Zoomtown.com](mailto:Publicity.NUMC@Zoomtown.com)  
[Treasurer.NUMC@Zoomtown.com](mailto:Treasurer.NUMC@Zoomtown.com)

Craig Correll  
Kristy Swift  
Phyllis Fought  
Jennifer McComb  
Pastor Katie Steele  
Robin Steinmetz  
Clay Anderson

### NEWTOWN UMC VISION STATEMENT

Newtown United Methodist Church is called to REACH individuals, TEACH our community about God and to extend God's LOVE to all the world.

### 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.