

April 2018

Volume 18, Issue 4

The *Chimes*

Newtown United Methodist Church

3546 Church Street, Newtown, Ohio 45244

513-561-6678

From the Desk of Pastor Katie

Well, friends, 2018 is charging right along isn't it? I cannot thank the Newtown UMC Family enough for making it possible to be present to our community during the flooding in late February and early March. Our visions to REACH individuals and share God's LOVE were lived into in new and exciting ways last month. Special thanks to Trudy Flowers, Ariel Van Fleet, Clay and Martha Anderson, Jen and Ryan McComb, Beth and Steve Zaugg, Kathy and Emily Bolton, Craig Correll, Linda Baughman, Larry White, Pam Roy, Carol and Rick Roberts, Howard and Jo Ann Preston, Anne Haffer, Sam and Ali Thompson-Falcon, Robert Falcon, Kurt and Maggie Gleich, Bob Kellison, those who cooked for the potluck and everyone else who made the week a smashing success. My profound apologies if I missed anyone!

Special thanks, also, to our community partners for providing food, cleaning supplies, putting people up in hotels and doing all manner of unseen work behind the scenes. Many thanks to Inter-Parish Ministries (Katie Brass & Team), Horizon Community Church (Melody Hamilton), First Baptist Church (Rev. Roger Hauck), LaSoupe (Merret Collister), Mio's Pizzeria in Mariemont, Buffalo Wings & Rings, City Gospel Mission, Lowe's, Confetti Cats (Cheryl Franklin), The Village of Newtown (Becky Fairley), The Newtown Civic League (Chuck Short), The Newtown Police Department (esp. Spencer and Sean), Anderson Township Fire and Rescue, Faith Community Fellowship Church, Miami Valley Christian Academy, and Rebecca Ford. Please support these community restaurants and businesses if you have the chance!

And last but certainly not least, an ENORMOUS *Thank You* to Cathy and Dave Burger who stepped out of the woodwork and served the community tirelessly for two weeks despite dealing with flooding woes of their own. They helped get cleaning supplies and food deliveries worked out, tracked who needed what help, recorded each volunteer and more or less ran the show. Thank you, Cathy and Dave!

I am *beyond* optimistic about the future here at Newtown United Methodist Church and the opportunities the Holy Spirit will continue to bring as we continue to follow God's leading into REACHING, TEACHING and LOVING the Village of Newtown and beyond. In the following pages you will see some new opportunities to reach our neighbors. Our Flood Recovery meals have opened the door to begin a monthly community meal in partnership with LaSoupe and the community organizations listed above. (Look for info on FINAL FRIDAY FEAST) Our Young Adult Group – Young Adults for Article X (Y.A.A.X.) will be organizing and hosting a Free Community Clothing Giveaway. This was already in the works when the flooding came. It seems only even more appropriate now.

We are, indeed, an Easter People. Living in the light and love of the resurrection. Is it easy? Of course not! We had to walk the path of the cross with Jesus to get here. And not everyone believes in the resurrection as we do. Yet, if we take it one day, one encounter at a time we will certainly be able to shine the light of God's love to all we meet. I am blessed to be on the journey with you.

Called to REACH, TEACH and LOVE in Newtown and beyond,

+*Pastor Katie*

The Giving Box is GIVING!

Update by Alida Hart, Inter Parish Ministries



Having just closed for the day, Inter Parish Ministry's Choice Food and Clothing Pantry had a client stop by needing a few essentials to get her through the next few days. After opening their doors to provide basic items, the staff also directed the young mother to The Giving Box at Newtown United Methodist Church. "It was just what our client needed," shared Katie Brass, IPM's CEO. "You should have seen her face light up when we told her the Giving Box even had personal care items like feminine hygiene products!" This mother loved the idea behind The Giving Box and was delighted to know that she could go there any day, any time to get a box of cereal or a can of green beans for her family. IPM's staff and volunteers have been informing clients about The Giving Box and the word is spreading! Turpin High School students, who created The Giving Box, are collaborating with IPM and Newtown United Methodist Church to ensure The Giving Box keeps on giving long after the students graduate. If you want to help keep The Giving Box filled, reach out to teacher Erin Horn at newtowngivingbox@gmail.com. Katie noted, "It's always exciting when the community comes together to help those in need!"

Community Clothing Giveaway

Newtown United Methodist Church's Young Adults for Article X (Y.A.A.X.) is hosting a Community Clothing Giveaway this spring! We will open our doors to the community with music, refreshments and plenty of clothing for the whole family

Saturday, April 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Clothing donations will be accepted beginning on Easter Sunday. Donations may be dropped off the following Sunday, April 8th as well as these following times:

Monday April 2 from 9:00a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Tuesday April 3 from 6:30p.m.-8:00p.m.

Wednesday April 4 from 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

If you would like to help sort and organize items, work the event or learn more please contact Anne Haffer at annehaffer@gmail.com or Jen McComb at outreach.numc@zoomtown.com



Maundy Thursday

Join us on Thursday March 29th as we remember the last days of Jesus. We will begin with a meal provided by Y.A.A.X., a time of teaching, communion and foot washing in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. and conclude by stripping the altar in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. Since there will be an opportunity to have your feet washed if you so choose, please keep this in mind as you decide on appropriate footwear for the evening.

Easter Sunday Schedule

Sunrise Service - 6:30 a.m. followed by a light breakfast.

Easter Morning - 10:30 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt - immediately following service

Easter Egg Hunt

Shortly after our 10:30 am Easter Service, we will be hosting our annual Easter Egg hunt on the lawn for the children. Children from infant through grade school are welcome. If you would like to donate toward this event, we will be accepting Easter Candy and/or cash donations toward the purchase of supplies for the hunt. If you are able to help with the event, please see Tiffany Sexton or Jean Goldey.



Feed the Hungry

FEED THE HUNGRY, our annual special mission outreach event to support Inter-Parish Ministries will kick off this year on EASTER SUNDAY and run for the 6 weeks of Eastertide. In the past, we have found that cash donations work best because we can buy in bulk and make your donations go further. We will happily accept anything cash or food product wise to support this important mission. Please make checks out to the church and mark them and/or your envelope for "Feed the Hungry". Let's see if we can beat last year's total which was: \$11,446 – can we get back to \$15,000? Let's try! Thank you to all for your support of this important mission outreach.



FINAL FRIDAY FEAST

Following the success of our Flood Relief dinners for the community we are going to launch:

Final Friday Feast

“Final Friday Feasts” will be held, well, the final Friday of each month. We’ll be working with LaSoupe and other area organizations to provide a free monthly community meal. The meal will start at 6:30 and at 7:00 we will have a speaker or presenter from the community.



Our first Final Friday Feast will be on FRIDAY APRIL 27TH.

If you are interested in joining the Final Friday Feast ministry team please see Pastor Katie or drop her an email at pastor.numc@zoomtown.com. This will be a true community effort and we couldn't be more excited!

Holy Humor Sunday April 8th

"Bright Sunday" or "Holy Humor Sunday" is the first Sunday after Easter. The Gospels tell us, over and over, that when Jesus was around, the sick were healed, lives were changed and sorrow turned to laughter. God is still laughing, and invites us to laugh, too. Hear the Good News: Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are sent forth to bring healing to the broken, to declare the year of the Lord's favor, and anoint everyone with the oil of gladness. We will celebrate Holy Humor Sunday on April 8 with a visit from Sister Sanctified -- you won't want to miss her! Death, where is thy victory? The tomb is empty! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!!

Pastor Katie on Vacation

Pastor Katie will be on vacation April 9-18th - Please contact Rev. Kathleen Kistner at Armstrong Chapel UMC for any pastoral needs during that time at [\(513\) 561-4220](tel:5135614220)

BON VOYAGE!

The Lifesaving Station

Written by Theodore Wedel and shared with the NUMC leadership during Flood Recovery week. We share it again now with all of you for your consideration and reflection this Lenten season.

On a dangerous seacoast where shipwrecks often occur, there was once a crude little lifesaving station. The building was no more than a hut, and there was only one boat; but the few devoted members kept a constant watch over the sea. With no thought for themselves, they went out day and night, tirelessly searching for the lost. Some of those who were saved, and various others in the surrounding area, wanted to be associated with the station and give their time, money, and effort to support the work. New boats were bought and new crews trained, the little lifesaving station grew.

Some of these new members of the lifesaving station were unhappy that the building was so crude and poorly equipped. They felt that a more comfortable place should be provided as the first refuge of those who were saved from the sea. They replaced the emergency cots with beds and put better furniture in the enlarged building. Now the lifesaving station became a popular gathering place for its members, and they decorated it beautifully and furnished it exquisitely because they used it as sort of a club. Fewer members were not interested in going to sea on lifesaving missions, so they hired lifeboat crews to do this work. The lifesaving motif still prevailed in this club's decoration, and there was a memorial lifeboat in the room where the club initiations were held.

About this time a large ship was wrecked off the coast, and the hired crews brought in boatloads of cold, wet, half-drowned people. They were dirty and sick, and some of them were foreigners. The beautiful new club was in chaos. Immediately, the property committee hired someone to rig up a shower house outside the club, where victims of shipwrecks could be cleaned up before coming inside.

At the next meeting, there was a split in the club membership. Most of the members wanted to stop the club's lifesaving activities because they felt they were unpleasant and a hindrance to the normal social life of the club. A small number of members insisted upon lifesaving as their primary purpose and pointed out that they were still called a lifesaving station. The small group's members were voted down and told that if they wanted to save lives, they could begin their own lifesaving station down the coast. They did.

As the years went by, however, the new station experienced the same changes that had occurred in the old station. It evolved into a club, and yet another lifesaving station was founded. History continued to repeat itself, and if you visit that seacoast today, you will find a number of exclusive clubs along that shore.

Shipwrecks are frequent in those waters, but most of the passengers drown.

*As disciples of Jesus, our primary task is to go and make disciples:
"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." Matthew 28:19*

To put it another way, we are to go and save lives. Unfortunately, we sometimes forget our purpose. We need to recover our passion for lifesaving. We need to be doers of the Word and not hearers only.

"But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves." James 1:22



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	DOROTHY LARSSON
APRIL	RICHARD SMITH
MAY	CHUCK & NANCY LINGO
JUNE	MARILYN & ROBYN BEATTY
JULY	JON & BARB FRANCE
AUGUST	
SEPTEMBER	
OCTOBER	
NOVEMBER	TOM ZIMMERMAN
DECEMBER	TERRY NIPPERT

In Memory of Catherine & Edward Nippert

SUNDAY BULLETINS

JANUARY	DOROTHY LARSSON
FEBRUARY	DOROTHY LARSSON
MARCH	RICHARD SMITH
APRIL	CHUCK & NANCY LINGO
MAY	MARILYN & ROBYN BEATTY
JUNE	JON & BARB FRNACE
JULY	
AUGUST	
SEPTEMBER	
OCTOBER	
NOVEMBER	TOM ZIMMERMAN
DECEMBER	

Office Hours

Mondays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Wednesdays 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Pastoral Needs

If you have a need for Pastoral services, please contact Pastor Katie to make an appointment by calling the Church office at 513-561-6678 or email Pastor Katie at pastor.numc@zoomtown.com

If you have an urgent need after office hours, contact Pastor Katie at home at (513) 582-6811.

Church Staff and Support Personnel Emails

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Office.NUMC@Zoomtown.com
Publicity.NUMC@Zoomtown.com
Outreach.NUMC@Zoomtown.com
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Pastor Katie Steele
Kristy Swift
Phyllis Fought
Robin Steinmetz
Jennifer McComb
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 \$50.00 (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.