



# The Messenger

Mogadore United  
Methodist Church

March 2020

## Notes from the Pastor

Lent is upon us and as I was burning Sunday's palms for Wednesday's ashes, which is a title of a song, I had to break the palms to fit into the jar I was using for burning. It was fascinating to me how easily they broke and fragile they were. I thought that at times our life is like that, broken and fragile. As I dropped the match into the palms I watched as they turned to dust. During Ash Wednesday Service, the words "**Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return**" is said as the ashes are made in the sign of the cross on a person's forehead. We are reminded of our mortality and repentance on that day and the ashes are a powerful sign of our need for repentance and reconciliation.

In the Old Testament we read about Job sitting in sackcloth and ashes as he mourns the loss of everything in his life. This was a sign of lament and remorse for their sins. It was a time of grief, mourning and sorrow where people would come and sit shiva with a person. This would happen as people sat on low stools during times of mourning.

<sup>11</sup> When Job's three friends heard about all this calamity that had come upon him, each of them came from his own place—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to come and mourn with him and to comfort him. <sup>12</sup> But when they saw him from a distance they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept. Each one tore his robe and threw dust into the air onto their heads. <sup>13</sup> Then they sat with him on the ground for seven days and seven nights. No one spoke a word to him because they saw that his pain was very great. *Job 2:11-13*

They sat with Job who was in great pain, great loss and his friends were present with him. They did not say anything as a reminder that there are times in our lives that we don't know what to say to people who are going through grief and mourning. There are times that we are just present with people. I believe that this is a reminder that we are not only present with people but also that we spend time present with God.

This Lent may it be for you a time to sit in God's presence and just be, not tempted to do anything more or even anything less, but to just be in God's presence doing nothing. I know that this is a struggle for people and at times the idea of doing nothing is unfathomable; especially today with so many options to fill our time with something. So maybe this is a challenge for some, to do nothing, giving one permission just be in the presence of God.

May this Lenten season be a time that we remember, share and live out the presence of God in our lives and the lives of others.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Eric



Don't forget to move your clocks ahead next weekend, March 8, for Daylight Saving Time – also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors!

## Serving Us in March

### Worship Leaders

March 1 Arielle Kluth  
 March 8 Doug Straight  
 March 15 TBD  
 March 22 John Sawicki  
 March 29 Barry Rudy

### Greeters

Brenda Heminger and Carol Jenkins

### Ushers

Patricia Everly, Steve Lambey, Ralph Lowe  
 and Joyce Whitmer

### Altar Flowers

March 1 Fred Slocum  
 March 8 Duke Huth  
 March 15 JoAnn Wolonsky  
 March 22 Kelly Rick  
 March 29 JoAnn Wolonsky

### Hospitality Room

March 1 Judy Daniels  
 March 8 Barry Rudy  
 March 15 Joyce Whitmer  
 March 22  
 March 29

### **Church & Parsonage Repair Project**

To-date expenditures: \$67,375

To-date offering receipts: \$38,495

## Treasurer's Report

Balance in the General Fund as of January 1, 2020		\$25,768.41
January Offerings	16,259.00	
January Disbursements	15,739.63	519.37
Ending Balance on January 31, 2020		<b>\$26,287.78</b>

Our January offerings of \$16,259.00 were a little above normal, and our January disbursements of \$15,739.63 were a little above normal due to first half 2019 property taxes. — *Barry Rudy, Treasurer*



### *March Anniversaries*

*March 9 Larry & Sharon Fitting*  
*March 17 Richard & Connie Heldenfels*  
*March 31 Steve & Sue Vargo*



Each month on the final Sunday of the month we receive a "Loose Coin Offering" to support Open M, a mission of the United Methodist Church reaching out to people in need in Akron with healing, education, and food. Their mission is feeding body, soul, and mind. We are among local United Methodist "partner churches" who pledge regular support of their mission and ministry throughout the year. Our next offering will be gathered **Sunday, March 29**. Baskets for your offering will be available as you leave the sanctuary.

## Bible STUDY Join us!



## Lenten Bible Study

In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience. Books are \$9.00 and the study runs six weeks, starting **Wednesday, March 4, 2020**.

## InReach Helping Hands

As a reminder, the InReach Committee (chaired by Kelly Rick) has come up with a list of individuals to volunteer their help to you, such as picking up prescriptions, grocery shopping, doctor appointments, etc. Please call anyone on the

following list when you have any needs:

Michele Acord: (330) 628-9577  
(Cell: 330-607-4387)

Judy Daniels: (330) 604-7337

Russ Hull: (330) 628-1552

John Sawicki: (330) 699-5902

(Cell: 330-715-2151)

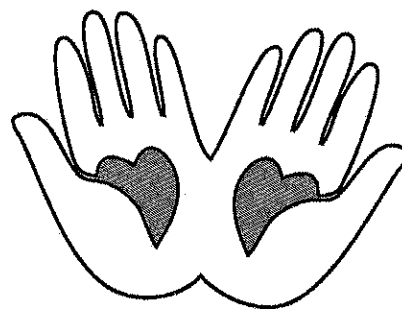
Bette Sawicki: (330) 699-5902

(Cell: 330-575-4877)

Harry Smith: (330) 794-9032

Forest Thorn: (330) 628-1894

JoAnn Wolonsky: (330) 628-1540 (Cell: 330-400-1438)



## A Message from the Youth Leader

With March upon us, we have some great activities coming up for our young people, so prepare to mark those calendars!

We will be having more Youth Group meetings than ever in March! Our current schedule is March 8, March 15, and March 22. **THREE** Sundays in a row! Come join us for a time together to unwind, laugh, and experience fellowship together. We meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. Friends and family are always welcome! Should the schedule need to change due to any circumstances, I will let you know!



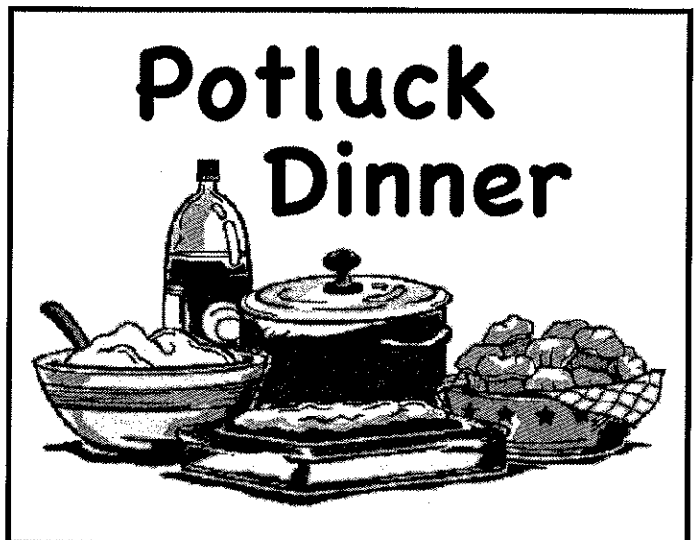
Every summer, there are two major events for the youth of our church: Youth Annual Conference and Lakeside Institute. Both are rich with experiences that shape and encourage our young people to be devoted, faithful followers of Christ and his church. In order to ensure that we can provide to send our group to these events, we will be hosting a Cake Auction Fundraiser at the end of the month on Sunday, March 29. Our kids will make cakes to be sold to the highest bidders! All proceeds and donations will go towards our fees for Youth Annual Conference in June, and then towards covering our youth going to Lakeside Institute in July. Please consider supporting our youth and help us raise the necessary funds we need to make these experiences a reality for them! Together, we can get there! More details are to come in the following weeks.

If there are any questions or concerns, please do reach out to me!

Peace,  
Caleb Lipocky, Youth Leader  
Cell: (330) 217-5263  
Email: [mogadoreumcyouth@att.net](mailto:mogadoreumcyouth@att.net)

## Potluck Dinner on Sunday, March 29

In conjunction with the youth's cake auction, there will be congregational potluck luncheon following worship on Sunday, March 29. Be sure to mark your calendar for this church family event!



## 2020 Lenten Sunday Evening Services

Date	Location	Preacher	Choir	Spec. Music
3/1	Lakeview	K. Kesler	S. Arlington	Fam. of Faith
3/8	Sawyerwood	S. Martin	*Sawyerwood	Wedgewood
3/15	Mogadore	F. Higgins	Firestone Plk.	Clearview
3/22	S. Arlington	E. Kluth	Lakemore	Mogadore
3/29	Wedgewood	R. Shultz	Fam. of F.	S. Arlington
4/5	Fam. of Faith	E. Peterson	Wedgewood	Lakeview

\*Sawyerwood will also do some special music on 3/8.

**Hymn Sing: 6 p.m. Worship Service: 6:30 p.m. (Note new times!)**

### LENTEN SERVICE & EASTER BREAKFAST FOOD DONATIONS

In-Reach is organizing both the refreshments for after our Lenten service on Sunday evening, March 15 and our annual Easter Breakfast before the 10:30 service on Sunday, April 12. There are two sign-up sheets on the main bulletin board awaiting your signature and donated items of choice. And if you are able to help with either of these events by setting up, serving or cleaning up please let Kelly Rick. We appreciate your help and look forward to fellowshiping with you!

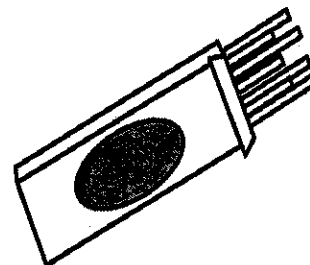
**Mountain of Food: Friday, March 20** is the next Open M monthly food distribution. Meet at the church at 7:30 A.M. to carpool.

### Good Neighbors

- March 1 Peanut butter & jelly
- March 8 Cereal
- March 15 Bars of soap
- March 22 Spaghetti and spaghetti sauce
- March 29 Bring in whatever is on sale!

God loves you and so do I! Thank you for all you do.

— Judy Huth



East Ohio Conference UMC  
CONNECTING NEIGHBORS

Saturday, March 7

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Wedgewood UMC, 2350 Wedgewood Drive, Akron

The local church is a place where people connect—with God, with each other, and with the community. People naturally turn to the church in times of crisis, seeking meaning, peace, and healing. A church that is prepared can help mitigate the emotional and spiritual impact of disaster, and may be a place of hospitality and sanctuary in a time of critical need. A plan can speed the immediate response and help lessen those feelings of confusion, loneliness, and isolation that are so common after disasters.

The Connecting Neighbors Leadership Training Program will prepare you for your role in guiding others to:

- Develop a disaster plan that fits with the church's mission
- Connect the church to outside resources and to the community's emergency plans
- Identify types of disasters likely to impact the church community and the needs that may arise
- Assess the church's resources to meet those needs
- Identify the church's role in disaster readiness and response
- Create a plan to manage volunteers
- Assign responsibilities
- Develop a system of communication.

The event is free, but we're asking everyone to register in advance so we can plan for lunch! Register by March 3 online at

<https://connectingneighborsakron.eventbrite.com> or by calling Melanie Thomas at 330-499-3972 ext. 102

## **Electronic Church Directory is here!**

Now that you have had time to review the new Church Directory, did you know that LifeTouch offers an electronic version for your smartphone or any other electronic devices? If you have a change to your address, phone or email, they can be made instantly on the electronic version by the directory administrators. If you would like instructions on receiving the link to the electronic directory or report a change, please e-mail one of the contacts below.

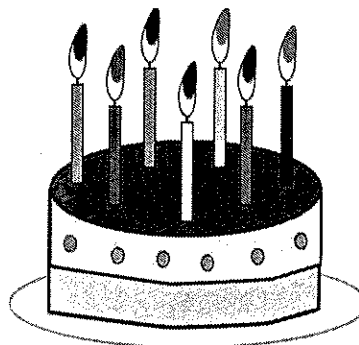
Kathy Lang: [kathylang60@gmail.com](mailto:kathylang60@gmail.com)

Kelly Rick: [ksrick@aol.com](mailto:ksrick@aol.com)

Joyce Selzer: [mogadoreumc@att.net](mailto:mogadoreumc@att.net)

## March Birthdays

March 3 Annie Westfall  
 Vi Carpenter  
 March 4 John Lange  
 March 8 Riley Straight  
 March 12 Steve Vargo  
 Duke Huth  
 March 13 Cheryl Rinehart  
 March 21 J.J. Lange  
 March 23 Judy Daniels  
 Brenda Heminger  
 March 24 Nerine Gasaway  
 Carol Groh  
 March 26 Roger Stefan  
 March 29 Josie McInturff



## Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt

A free community pancake breakfast and Easter egg hunt is scheduled for **Saturday, April 4**. Breakfast will be served from 9 to 11 a.m. and the egg hunt will be at 11 a.m.

Donations of candy to fill the eggs, along with help to cook, serve and clean-up after the breakfast are needed. You may place your candy donations in the baskets in the church hallway. Please contact the church office if you can help.

## 2020 Easter Flower Orders

Deadline for orders is Sunday, March 22, 2020

Quantity                      Total

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 8.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily  
(6-inch pot/1 stem)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 16.25 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily  
(8-inch pot/2 stems)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 8.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Red Tulip

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 8.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Pink Tulip

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 8.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinths  
(Please indicate blue, pink or white)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 8.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Mums (yellow)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 8.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Mums (coral)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 13.75 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Azalea

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 13.75 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_ Hydrangea

Ordered By \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Attach check payable to Mogadore United Methodist Church.





Hello everyone!

Not long ago I was ready to get my household better organized and found some interesting techniques in organizing my clothes. In doing this initially to better my closet, I found that I started looking at my items a little differently. The scripture for this month is from 2 Corinthians and the message for me was the abundance in my closet could be providing more items for the various organizations that need clothing. Sharing abundance with others is just the right thing to do. And I have to say my closet looks great!

The scripture for this month is from 2 Corinthians;

I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. As it is written, "The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little." (2 Corinthians 8:13-15)

Our message this month is Call to Prayer and Self Denial and I am very excited to hear Barb Syke lead us at this month's UMW meeting March 24, 7pm! Devotions by Carol Groh, Hostess will be Sonia Stockett.

Our Circle meetings:

Miriam: March 4<sup>th</sup>, 12pm

Naomi: March 16<sup>th</sup> 6pm at JoAnn Wolonsky's home

Rebecca: March 11<sup>th</sup> 7pm at Patricia Everly's home

Reminder - Our Lions Dinners will be March 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> - please let Joyce Calderwood know how you can help!

Blessings,

Sonia Stockett

# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>First Sunday in Lent 9 a.m. Video Series 10:30 a.m. Worship/ Communion 6 p.m. Lenten Service at Lakeview UMC in Barberton</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>6 p.m. InReach Committee</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>10:30 a.m. Bible Study Noon Miriam Circle 7 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>6:30 p.m. SPRC 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Connecting Neighbors at Wedgewood UMC</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>9 a.m. Video Series 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Youth Group 6 p.m. Lenten Service at Sawyerwood UMC</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>7 p.m. Executive Committee</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Lions Dinner 7 p.m. Rebecca Circle 7 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>9 a.m. Video Series 10:30 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Lenten Service at MUMC 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Youth Group</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>6 p.m. Naomi Circle</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6 p.m. Portage Patchers 7 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 7:30 a.m. Open M Mountain of Food</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>9 a.m. Video Series 10:30 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Lenten Service at S. Arlington UMC 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Youth Group</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>7 p.m. UMW</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Lions Dinner 7 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Youth Lock-In</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Loose Coin Offering for Open M 10:30 a.m. Worship Potluck &amp; Cake Auction following worship 6 p.m. Lenten Service at Wedgewood UMC</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>				

**Church Staff:**

Pastor: Rev. Eric Kluth

Church: (330) 628-1232

Parsonage: (234) 813-9040

Pastor's Cell: (216) 785-6798

Youth Ministries Leader: Caleb Lipocky

Email: [mogadoreumcyouth@att.net](mailto:mogadoreumcyouth@att.net)

Cell: (330) 217-5263.

Accompanist: Fran Snyder

Choir Director: Clay East

Custodian: David Smith

Secretary: Joyce Selzer

**Sunday Hours:**

Adult Sunday School @ 9 a.m.

(September through May)

Children's Sunday School @ 9:15 a.m.

(September through May)

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

**Office Hours:**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

«First\_Name» «Last\_Name»

«Location»

«Address»

«City» «State» «zip»

**Mogadore United Methodist Church**

3828 Mogadore Road, Mogadore, OH 44260

(330) 628-1232 Email: [mogadoreumc@att.net](mailto:mogadoreumc@att.net)

Website: [www.mogadoreumc.org](http://www.mogadoreumc.org)

Find us on FaceBook!

**We Invite You**

- to join together in worship, outreach, fellowship, and spiritual growth ...
- to strive together to follow the example of Jesus Christ ...
- to grow together to demonstrate Christ's love and service to others.