

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings Church Family,

As I write these words, we are quickly approaching Special General Conference on February 23-26. It is likely to be a pivotal time for our denomination and many expect that the United Methodist Church will look different than it is now. For many people, this causes great fear and anxiety. My prayer for us is that even with what looms over us, we would stay focused on walking with Christ through the season of Lent and Easter.

One of the verses that has been at the forefront of my prayers has been the first part of Matthew 24:6

You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed...

Every time I read this I have to pause. I have been very blessed that throughout my whole life; war in the traditional sense has never taken place within the bounds of my country. Terrorism, yes, but nation against nation on home soil is something I have never experienced. So, when I read these words, I try hard not to pass over them. Because for the Disciples to whom Jesus says these words, war happened all the time. The Romans fought the Jews and constantly put down uprisings. The Romans fought the Persians and Israel was on the border of those two great empires. In Jesus' home town of Nazareth, he undoubtedly watch armies of Roman soldiers walk a main road in the valley below. War was common. The turmoil, heartache, injustice, and violence of war was well experienced by everyone. Yet Jesus tells his Disciples, do not be alarmed when you hear war is coming.

What the United Methodist Church is currently going through pales in comparison to war. Yet I think Jesus' words still apply to us. Throughout the centuries the Church in all its denominations has been through much, yet it has survived it all. Not only war but corruption, pestilence, heresies, and more. In times such as these it becomes all the more important to cling to the Gospel and remember the great story of Jesus Christ. In this season of our lives we do that by walking through Lent and Easter.


So, spend more of your time on prayer, fasting, and searching your own soul than being alarmed. Use our quiet communion Wednesdays to grow close to God. Partake in every Holy week service. Engage in mission to those in need. For these are the things that have lasted throughout the ages. They endure even when wars end.

Pastor Jonathan

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March 2019

~ March 2019 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5 pm GUMY 30-hr Famine	2 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Women's Emmaus SG 5 pm Chris Cakes Set-Up GUMY 30-hr Famine
3 9:30 am Prayer Circle 9:30 am Choir 12 pm Chris Cakes Pancake Breakfast 3:30 pm Denominational Update	4 7 pm Cub Scouts	5 7 pm Boy Scouts	6 Ash Wednesday 7 pm Ash Wed. Service	7 6:30 pm Men's Emmaus SG 7 pm GriefShare	8	9 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Women's Emmaus SG 
10 Daylight Savings 9:30 am Prayer Circle 9:30 am Choir 6 pm Boy Scouts Ctne Mtg	11 7 pm Cub Scouts	12 10 am Lillian Faith 7 pm Boy Scouts	13 7 am—7 pm Quiet Communion	14 Pastor Jonathan on Emmaus Walk 6:30 pm Men's Emmaus SG 7 pm GriefShare	15 Pastor Jonathan on Emmaus Walk	16 Pastor Jonathan on Emmaus Walk 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Women's Emmaus SG
17 Pastor Jonathan on Emmaus Walk 9:30 am Prayer Circle 9:30 am Choir 5 pm GUMY Sr	18 7 p.m. Leadership Team 7 pm Trustees Mtg 7 pm Cub Scouts	19 7 pm Boy Scouts	20 First Day of Spring 7 am—7 pm Quiet Communion 	21 6:30 pm Men's Emmaus SG 7 pm GriefShare	22 6 pm Feeding His Children Prep	23 7 am Feeding His Children 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Ministry Table 9 am Women's Emmaus SG
24 9:30 am Prayer Circle 9:30 am Choir 4 pm GUMY Jr.	25 7 pm Cub Scouts	26 7 pm Boy Scouts	27 7 am—7 pm Quiet Communion	28 6:30 pm Men's Emmaus SG 7 pm GriefShare	29	30 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Women's Emmaus SG
31 5 pm GUMY Sr						

April 2019

~ April 2019 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7 pm Cub Scouts	2 7 pm Boy Scouts	3 7 am Quiet Communion	4 6:30 pm Men's Emmaus SG 7 pm GriefShare	5	6 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Women's Emmaus SG
7 9:30 am Prayer Circle 9:30 am Choir 5pm GUMY Sr. 6 pm Boy Scouts Ctme Mtg	8 7 pm Cub Scouts	9 10 am Lillian Faith 7 pm Boy Scouts	10 7 am - 7 pm Quiet Communion	11 6:30 pm Men's Emmaus SG 7 pm GriefShare	12	13 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Women's Emmaus SG
14 9:30 am Prayer Circle 9:30 am Choir 1 pm Baby Shower (Leslie Mayes' daughter) 5 pm GUMY Sr. 	15 7 pm Cub Scouts	16 7 pm Boy Scouts	17 7 am - 7 pm Quiet Communion	18 6:30 pm Men's Emmaus SG 	19 Good Friday 7 pm Good Friday Service	20 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Women's Emmaus SG
21 8 am Easter Morning Worship 8:45 am Easter Breakfast 10:30 am Easter Morning Worship	22 7 pm Cub Scouts	23 7 pm Boy Scouts	24	25 6:30 pm Men's Emmaus SG	26 6 pm Feeding His Children Prep	27 7 am Feeding His Children 7:30 am Men's Emmaus SG 9 am Women's Emmaus SG
28 9:30 am Prayer Circle 9:30 am Choir 12:00 pm Water Walk 4 pm GUMY Jr.	29 7 pm Cub Scouts	30 7 pm Boy Scouts				

Missions

Chris Cakes Pancake Lunch!!

The Missions Team's annual Chris Cakes Pancake Luncheon will be Sunday, March 3 after morning worship. Prepare to 'catch' your lunch and visit with church family and friends. The Lillian-Faith Circle has graciously sponsored this year's luncheon so all donation proceeds will benefit Good Works, Inc., in Athens County. Come hungry and enjoy!



Good Works Walk for the Homeless

The annual Good Works Walk for the Homeless will be Saturday, February 23 starting at 8:30 a.m. in Athens, Ohio. This is an eye-opening experience and you will be glad you attended. Mark & Heather Salva plan to attend; how about you?

Good Works "Wishes" and "Needs"

Good Works maintains a current "needs" and ongoing "wish" list on their website and we will collect items from those lists that you donate from now until February 22. Mark & Heather Salva will deliver them to Good Works. The lists is on their website: www.good-works.net.

Feeding His Children at Claire UMC

We continue to feed hungry folks each month at Claire UMC in south Columbus. What a blessing this ministry is to us and, we pray, to those who gather at Claire. We also provide toiletry items to the Greater Groveport Area Human Needs Food Pantry each month and this helps folks stretch their money. YOU are always welcome to join this ministry.

COMING SOON:

JAM Seeds

Jackson Area Ministries (JAM) collects and distributes seeds to people in many counties to grow their own gardens. This helps folks to have good, fresh food and eat healthier meals. Collection baskets will be at sanctuary entrances in March; the deadline will be April 1. For any questions, please see Shirley Boston.

Liberian Scholarship Program

We plan to kick off our campaign for Liberian student scholarships for the 2019-2020 school year in April. This is a wonderful opportunity to enable a child to attend school for a year and have a chance for an education they might otherwise not obtain. Pledge forms will be available then also.





FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS

Once again, we would like to decorate the outside cross on Easter Sunday morning with flowers. Please bring a few flowers to help our church celebrate the beautiful Easter morning!

ASH WEDNESDAY- MARCH 6

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Christians have traditionally used the season of Lent to be a time of reflection, repentance, and refining one's character. This service will be at 7:00 pm and will include the imposition of Ashes. Childcare will be available.

QUIET COMMUNION- MARCH 13-APRIL 17

Quiet Communion will be available every Wednesday during the Lent from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. There will be meditative materials along with the consecrated communion elements. You can spend as much time as you wish.

PALM SUNDAY-APRIL 14

All Children are invited to participate in the palm branch processional during our service. Simply arrive 10 mins. early to hear directions. We will also have the first part of our Easter Cantata this Sunday. Come celebrate the Passion story through song.

LILLIAN FAITH BAKE SALE-APRIL 14

The Lillian Faith Circle will be holding their annual Bake Sale on April 14 in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the church service. Plan to come and buy "goodies" for Easter. There will be a variety of baked goods, for a great price.

VIOLA LUELLEN SCHOLARSHIP- APRIL 15

The Viola Luellen scholarship deadline is April 15. This scholarship is for members of Groveport United Methodist who are studying in the fields of ministry, nursing, or education. Applications are in the church office. Questions, see Jean Ann Hilbert



MAUNDY THURSDAY- APRIL 18

On Thursday, April 18, we will be doing the Living Last Supper at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This service will take us back to the Upper Room and allow us to listen in on the disciples as they reflect upon Jesus' words that one of them would deny Him. Come and join us for a very special service and invite your neighbors and friends. Childcare will be available.

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 19

This year we will be hosting a Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm. This quiet somber service will walk through the final moments of Jesus' life and prepare us for the great news of Easter morning. Childcare will NOT be available.

EASTER EGG HUNT - APRIL 20

On Saturday, April 20, we will hold our Easter egg hunt for all children through 6th grade. The day will begin at 11:00 a.m. and will include a story time, craft time Easter egg hunt. We will conclude the day with lunch. Children will be placed by age in groups for the activities and the egg hunt. We need donations of wrapped Easter egg candy to stuff the eggs, or monetary donations may be made and candy will be purchased or to help offset the cost of the lunch. We also need volunteers to help fill the eggs, cook the meal, clean up, and oversee the egg hunt. Thank you for your consideration! Make sure you save the date!

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 21

Easter Sunday, April 21, we will be doing some special things as we come together to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. The following will be the schedule for the day:

8:00 am Worship

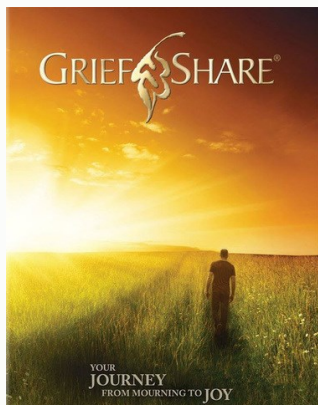
8:45 am Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall.

9:15 am Childcare for the morning starts

10:30 am Worship

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - VOLUNTEERS

The Children's Ministry is in need of volunteers to teach and assist in Junior Church and Sunday School. Thank you to everyone who currently volunteers! This opportunity is on a rotating basis. It is a wonderful way to get to know our youth. For more information, please contact Susan Stauffer at (614) 783-3280 or E-mail susanstauffer27@gmail.com.



2019 CAMP

NOW is the time to be registering for a FUN and EXCITING adventure that awaits us all through the West Ohio Conference United Methodist Church Camps & Retreats! If you, or someone you know, is interested in camp for kids and/or families who would like to get away from the home routine and reconnect with Christ while exploring His beauty at its best and making memories that you'll never forget, then Camp Otterbein, Camp Wesley and Camp Widewater are the places to be!! Please contact Brandi Mahr, Cans for Kids/GUMC Camp Coordinator at (614) 592-9966 for a Camp Booklet and more detailed information!

GRIEF SHARE

The GriefShare small group is a friendly, caring group of people who understands your circumstances and will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. The grieving process is complicated and lonely but you do not have to go through it alone. GriefShare is a 13-week video seminar series that features the nation's most foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. The video seminars are combined with support group discussion of the materials presented during the video.

Groveport UMC is currently sponsoring a GriefShare group on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. The group is open to anyone in our community or surrounding area who has experienced the loss of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. Please share with your family, friends and co-workers. If you would like to learn more about GriefShare, check out the website at <http://www.griefshare.org/about>.

Registration is not required but if you are interested, please contact Vicki Babbert at 614-537-7081 or send an email to groveportgriefsharegroup@gmail.com.

LILLIAN FAITH RUMMAGE SALE-MAY 17 & 18

Once again the Lillian Faith Circle will be participating in the Groveport Community Garage Sale in May. When you are doing your Spring cleaning, please consider donating to our cause! Household goods, small appliances, towels, tablecloths, books, puzzles and welcome. Also, kids toys or games. Donations can be put in the back of the Fellowship Hall. Please NO clothes or shoes. And, no TV or computer equipment. More details to come!

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY 2019 MAY 30 -JUNE 1

Save the Date!



**HELP
ME
HELP
YOU**



We will be creating a new pictorial directory this Spring. Please mark your calendars to make sure you can join one of our sessions. As we get closer to the dates, we will have online and before/after church sign-ups for photo sessions. We will also need hosts and hostesses for time slots during the photo sessions and folks who can supply cookies or refreshments. Watch for emails to sign up to help with the photo sessions. Thanks, Jennifer Hertl! Photo sessions: May 30; May 31; June 1.

Help me to help you!! If you have anything that you would like to have shared with our church family (put on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter and/or sent out on our informational email) to help get the word out about what your committee/team is doing or will be doing, please send that to me at info@groveportumc.org and let me know how you would like to have it shared. I will only send things out that I am asked to share... so please let me know! Thanks for helping to keep our church family informed! Jennifer Hertl, Communication Chair GUMC

MISSIONS -UPDATE

Samaritan's Purse: Last November, OUR CHURCH did a great job of filling **65** shoeboxes with goodies, clothes, toys, supplies and LOVE for children around the world. Thank you all!

Angel Tree Christmas Ministry: THANK YOU to all who purchased, sorted, wrapped and delivered gifts to children whose parent/guardian is incarcerated through our Prison Fellowship/Angel Tree Christmas Ministry in December. We served 4 families with a total of 13 children.

Mitten & Hat Tree: YOU all out did yourselves COVERING our Mitten and Hat Tree with hats (may handmade) and gloves in December. It was a wonderful sight! We delivered **38** hats and **8** pair of gloves to Groveport Elementary School and the same number to Glendenning Elementary School. They were very glad to receive these. Thank you all!

LILLIAN FAITH - UPDATE

As a result of many fundraising events in 2018, the Lillian Faith Circle was able to donate to several charity organizations including UMCOR for the first time. Thank you GUMC for your support.

HEATHER ON SPRING BREAK

Heather will be on Spring Break Monday, March 25 through Friday, March 29.



MARCH/APRIL, 2019

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