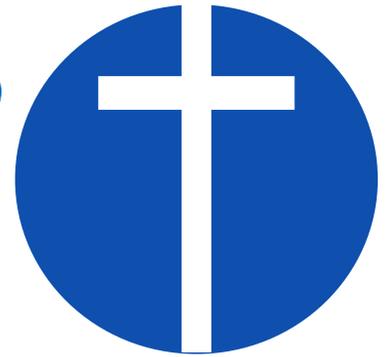


Tower Times

St. John's United Church of Christ
515 East Third Street
Dayton, OH 45402

March 2018



Change is something just about everyone hates, but change is something that seems to be absolutely essential to life. You and I must change, grow, and adapt if we are to survive and prosper in this world; so too is this the case with the life of the church.

In the last few years, we at St. John's have been on a journey of change that has seen us seek to become not just the church of tomorrow, but a church FOR tomorrow. In this theme we've started engaging with new missions, dreamed up new projects with our community, and taken the gospel into places that are very different from any time in our past. All of these endeavours seem to have yielded great dividends for our family of faith; we keep seeing new faces, we keep finding new partners, and we keep helping people understand that they have a place where they are welcome in this world, no matter who they are. This is all well and wonderful, but it's not where our journey of change can stop. Ultimately, if we want to love our neighbours as ourselves, see the building of God's Kin-dom, and the coming of God's Kingdom, we have to be able not just to reach people in new ways, but to teach them of this God Almighty in ways that speak to them.



This concept of teaching people in new and different ways is one that I am quite passionate about. When I was in my doctoral program, I was lucky enough to partake in a fellowship over higher education theory; specifically in learning styles. For many a year a number of cultural institutions have relied on the "sage on the stage" routine -I stand up and talk to you about what I want you to know- as their method of teaching. What we've found, in the last 20 years, is that this

method is only effective to a certain segment of society. Instead of being a "one-size-fits-all" reality, each of us learns and processes in a different way. The four basic ways that people learn are often broken down into: aural (heard), written (read), visual (seen), and tactile (touched). At St. John's, we are very good about engaging aural and written learning, but that really means we are only probably reaching 50% of people in an effec-

tive manner. This lack of effect is something I've been challenging both the Worship Committee and Church Council about for the last year.

I am thrilled to say, that as of this writing, we are making some great strides in beginning to change and address these issues. Firstly, our confirmation class is test-piloting some new ways to bring "touch" to worship. Every week they are present in worship, our confirmands are responsible to sign up for one of three jobs in the service. Those jobs include listening for key phrases in the worship service and tweeting them on the church's Twitter account; they involve taking pictures of moving images in worship and posting them to the church's Instagram account; and they involve the traditional job of prayerfully lighting and extinguishing the altar and other candles each week. The confirmands don't have to be the only people who do all of this, however, YOU are welcome to take part as well. (See me if you'd like more information!)

Additionally, if you've been in worship with us from the 25th of February onwards, you will have noticed some big additions to the sanctuary. Specifically, we've added 80" and 60" digital monitors to the North and West walls of the sanctuary. With these monitors, we hope to be able to present more "visual" items in our Sunday morning worship. (Relevant graphics, banners, and large print for those who can't see well, just to name a few!) Look for more and more visual items to become part of our worship, as we get accustomed to this new technology. Also, if you're a visual person, feel free to help us with graphics and such as you'd like. (Again, see me if you're interested!)

Now, with all that said, I recognize that this is some very new ground for St. John's and new ground can be more than a bit unsettling. In this time of adaptation and change, I hope that you will not only sit back and observe, but bring your questions, comments, and concerns to the church council, worship committee, and to myself as well. Moreover, please know that, just because we are using some new methods, this does not mean we are changing our worship style focus. We are still committed to providing a traditional liturgy, traditional hymn singing, and traditional feel, though, with a few modern upgrades on how we do so.

I hope you're as excited as I am for this new period of change and this opportunity to reach and teach people where they are and for who they are.

Here we go, St. John's! :)

Lofty Words

From Rev. Jeffrey Campbell, Music Director

Our St. John's Choir is leading the congregation in a **Lenten Moment** during Sunday services. The Lenten Season has many wonderful purposes and themes. One important part of Lent is meditating upon Jesus' death on the Cross. The Bible relates seven times Jesus speaks from the Cross. Each week we are focusing on one of those sayings, with the seventh word being on Good Friday. In Advent, we light a candle each week until Christmas. During Lent, we are extinguishing a candle each week until Good Friday.

The Kyrie is an ancient part of Christian worship. Essentially it is praying for mercy. This year as we sing the Kyrie, a choir member will sing out in Latin and the congregation will respond in English. We will join Christians from over the centuries and from all over the world today as we sing:

Kyrie Eleison: *Lord have mercy!*

Christe Eleison: *Christ have mercy!*

Kyrie Eleison: *Lord have mercy!*

Postludes during Lent will be some great old Gospel hymns. We want to remember the death of Jesus, but still leave worship inspired and joyful. The first two Sundays have been "*There Is Power In the Blood*" and "*Can It Be?*"

Thank you to all who contribute to our **Stivers Fund** that supports the participation of our students from there. **Logan** and **Camryn** certainly add a lot to our worship and congregational life. We count on their vocal leadership in the choir and are blessed by their solos and duets, as well as Camryn's piano offerings. In the near future, watch for Logan to prepare and direct a choir anthem and for Camryn to sing Bach's "*My Heart Ever Faithful*" in German.

I am excited about some guest musicians who will be here for Palm Sunday and Easter. **Raymonde Rougier** will be playing "*The Palms*" on Palm Sunday and well as accompanying **Renee Franck-Reed**, singing "*The Holy City*". On Easter we will welcome **David Wion** to our piano bench! I am waiting to hear from a vocalist for that Sunday.

Spring comes during Lent. Yay! Keep a song in your heart and a prayer on your lips!



March, 2018 Tower Times – VP Report

General Info: Sun., March 11 – Daylight Savings Time – Clock Springs Forward

MATCHING FUNDS:

Through matching funds, we will be able to provide good publicity for St. John's through these upcoming Public Radio/TV Campaigns:

WYSO – Radio – Week of March 5

WDPR – Radio – Week of March 18

THINK TV – Mon., April 16, - Sat., April 21

By pooling our contributions, we are able to provide publicity for St. John's. We are not asking that you take dollars away from your St. John's donations. However, if you are supporting these other organizations, consider being part of the St. John's team.

Please contact me. Chris van Breukelen, 885.4784

GOT SCHOLARSHIPS?

Dayton Foundation – ScholarshipCONNECT

<https://www.daytonfoundation.org/scholars.html>

Applications now available: Closes: **March 9, 2018 - 4pm.**

1200 students received assistance through this valuable resource.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris van Breukelen



Budget & Finance

The Budget & Finance Committee met on Sunday, February 18, 2018. Unfortunately, I was ill and unable to attend. The Committee in my absence did review the December and January Treasury reports and covered several issues on my prepared agenda. I will provide a detailed report in next month's Tower times that will hopefully bring everyone up to speed on the happenings in Budget and Finance. My apologies for the lack of information this month.

Respectfully,

Patty Staley

Patty Staley

Chair of Budget and Finance

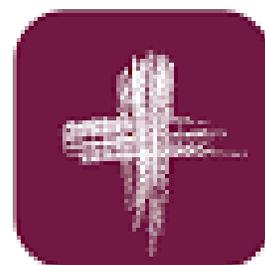
WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday's noon service marked the beginning of the Lenten season for us. Pastor Adam's theme ***What we Believe*** will lead us through an examination of points of our faith - what they mean and how they call each of us to be. Plan to be with us the next six weeks to share in worship and study. Bible study group Thursdays at 11 (get an indepth look at the coming Sunday's scriptures/'Believe' sermon topic). Our contemporary study group 'Discovering Islam' Tuesdays at 7 we will be challenging and contrasting our beliefs through this video series

Pastor Jeff has ***Lenten Moments*** - something new this year but similar to our Advent candle lighting. Each Sunday in Lent our worship service will include a musical selection, scripture and prayer based on the Seven Words of Jesus from the Cross. This part of our morning service will be led by our choir members. Guest artists for Lent and Holy Week will include familiar names Rougier, Franck Reed, Wion and others. Jeff's postludes during Lent will be favorite old hymns (lots of Baptist ones we understand).

The Worship Committee requested and received a \$3,250 grant from Parking Ministry to cover purchase and installation of visual monitors in our sanctuary. ***Worship styles*** have changed greatly in the last several decades. We want to provide the best methods of communicating with our congregation

Lent





and any visitors at our worship services.

For the first time in several years, a **Confirmation Class** is set to begin. Three young people will study the faith now until confirmation on Pentecost. Look for them to take an active part in our Sunday services.

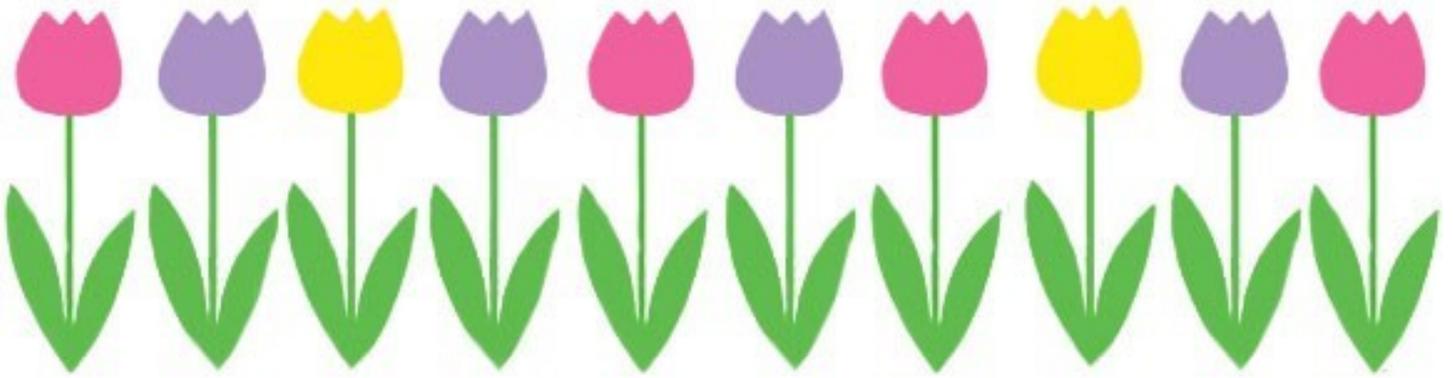
Speaking of changing

styles, this confirmation class will not be the old question and answer memorization study many of us experienced years ago. The most up-to-date technology will be employed in their course of study.

Praygrounds - we continue to discuss and plan for a more inclusive way for our young children to feel a part of worship by being in the sanctuary during a service. Ethel Burns of Christian Nurture and Sharon Dunkle, our Nursery person, both attended this Feb. 13 meeting. We have information from churches, via internet, that have successfully implemented such a program.

Dates - Tuesdays 7-8 Study 'Discovering Islam'; Thursdays 11-Noon Bible study; Holy Communion first Sunday Mar. 4; **Friday March 23 at Noon St. John's hosts Washington, DC Gay Men's Chorus**; Mar. 25 Palm Sunday; Thursday 29 Maundy Thursday 7 p.m. with communion; Mar. 30 Good Friday 12 Noon; Easter April 1 Breakfast 8-10, service 10:30. Easter communion. PLEASE NOTE there is NO LUNCH following Good Friday service; the item in Feb. Tower Times was in error.

Pat Kern



EASTER FLOWERS

Once again flowers will be available to order for beautification of our sanctuary Easter morning. Tulips, Daffodils, Lilies at \$9.50. Two kinds of mums - Daisy and Cushion can be had for \$11.50 each. All come in 6" foil wrapped pots. Colors will be assorted. Please note mums are not hardy. Order blanks will be in the Sunday bulletin beginning March 4, 11, 18. Deadline is week of the 18th. You may designate 'in memory of' or 'in honor of'. Flowers will be taken home following the Easter Service.



STIVERS

Thanks to Annita Torgeson and Chris and Wilfred Van Breukelen for recent contributions to our Stivers' fund during February.

Christian Nurture

The Christian Nurture Committee will be sponsoring Easter Sunday Breakfast.

Breakfast will be served from 8:30am until 10:00am.

There will be no after service Fellowship Hour on Easter Sunday.

If you, your family, and friends will be attending Easter Sunday breakfast, please let the members of the Christian Nurture Committee know in advance so that we will have an idea of how many people will be in attendance.

The Members of Christian Nurture Committee are:

Karen Clark

Pat Goudy

Anita Hedeker

Jill Johnson

Ann Morrissey

Ethel Burns

Please know that if you decide on Easter Sunday Morning that you want to have breakfast with us before the service and you didn't inform anyone on the committee, by all means please come and have breakfast with us before the service!

Ethel Burns



Breakfast

Thank you, Dee Goudy, for volunteering to crochet hats for the newborns at Brigid's Path.

Brigid's Path is one of the local missions that is supported by St. John's.



Happy Birthday, Steve Boggs!

Steve, your St. John's Church Family appreciates all that you do in keeping our building and parking lots looking great.

Steve, you are appreciated!

Love,

Your St. John's Family



March Celebrations

Anniversaries

22nd Steve and Nadia Carroll

Birthdays:

12th Janice Zahn

13th Rose Papenbrock

13th Ursula Parabek

13th Keandra Singleton

19th Barbara Singleton

23rd Thelma White

25th Jeff Gerrior

25th Lynne Yates

26th Dee Goudy

Flowers & Fellowship

Flowers for the altar in the sanctuary can be purchased each week to help beautify the worship service and then take and enjoy in your home. Sign ups for the flowers are on the corner by the coat rack beside Reverend Adam's office, and priced as follows: one bouquet is \$13.75 and two bouquets are \$27.50. Flowers can be dedicated in memory or in honor of a loved one or event. Checks can be made to the church with indication that they are for flowers. Thank you for participating in this tradition.

Fellowship hours are open for sign up as well. Please contact the church office if you can help supply snacks and refreshments for our weekly fellowship hour here at St. John's. A new sign up sheet will be in the basement fellowship hall soon for your convenience.

Flowers

3/4 - In Memory of Helene Klenk & Marjorie Durst from the van Breukelen, Norton & Abbott families

3/11 - Dottie Norton

3/18 - In Memory of Lloyd Boggs by Steve Boggs

3/25 - Worship Committee

Fellowship Hour

3/4 - The Harker Family

3/11 - Carry In—Building & Property

3/18 - Fellowship Committee

3/25 - Women of St. John's

In
 Loving
 Memory

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Tom Norton by:

Mr. & Mrs. Botteri

Linda Murray

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Emma Sheridan by:

Linda Murray

Anne Pepiot

Ron & Nancy Duckson

Wilfred & Chris van Breukelen

Tony & Ann Morrissey

Norm & Janet Neubauer

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Helen Skeen by Butch & Betty Lou Martin.

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 ● 10:30am Worship Service	26	27 ● 7pm Discovering Islam Study	28 ● 8:30am Breakfast Club	Mar 1 ● 11am Bible Study	2	3
4 ● 10:30am Worship Service	5	6 ● 7pm Discovering Islam Study	7 ● 8:30am Breakfast Club	8 ● 11am Bible Study	9	10
11 ● 9:15am Budget & Finance Me ● 10:30am Worship Service	12	13 ● 7pm Discovering Islam Study	14 ● 8:30am Breakfast Club ● 6:30pm Council Meeting	15 ● 11am Bible Study	16	17
18 ● 10:30am Worship Service	19	20 ● 7pm Discovering Islam Study	21 ● 8:30am Breakfast Club	22 ● 11am Bible Study	23 ● 12pm Gay Men's Chorus DC (24
25 ● 10:30am Worship Service	26	27 ● 7pm Discovering Islam Study	28 ● 8:30am Breakfast Club	29 ● 7pm Maundy Thursday Servi	30 ● 12pm Good Friday Service	31

For tickets to the concert, go to <https://haveagayday.yapsody.com/event/index/186571/>.