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As the pastor of Greensburg UMC, I have struggled as what to write this month. Do I address the sermon series? Do I address the Special General Conference? Do I offer words of encouragement in our concern and fear? What word of the Lord is appropriate for us all this month?

So, I am going back to one of my core verses to hear God's voice once more: "So we have known and believe the love God has for us. God is love. Those who abide in love, abide in God and God abides in them. (I John 4:16, NRSV)" God is love: pure, plain, simple.

This love, this agape (unconditional) love is to be the driving force of the church – through Christ. This agape love has the power to overcome the brokenness humanity has from the fall. This agape love has the power to change and uplift hearts – to bring about healing from heartache, discomfort, injustice, violence, and pain. This agape love conquers fears and cancels out sin, if we allow it to do its work in us. This agape love is what binds us all together – because this agape love IS GOD.

As Greensburg does its visioning, as we consider our mission (making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world), as we look towards the future of the church, look inward – how is the love that is God burning within you? And in that love, can you and I be audacious enough to pray for the church, its leaders, its mission, its vision, and continue to make love a growing movement of

Christ's body into the city of Green, into the nation, and into the world?

How is God calling us back to God's center, which is love? How is God leading us forward in God's center, which is love? How will we know and be known in God's agape love?

Local and Global Church family: in Christ, I love you and I pray for you, individually and collectively. May we all continue to know and believe the love God has for us, that we might better love one another.

In Christ's Ever Embracing Love,

Rev. Katie Osier

01
God Love.
Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.
1 john 4:16 (NIV)



When Helping Hurts Study and Series

Greensburg UMC has begun the series *When Helping Hurts*. The series challenges the listener to reconsider poverty from the biblical standpoint of the fall, and from that point move to asset building relationships with those in poverty. The hope is the series will reorient and further strengthen the processes and connections the church already has in its current ministries and in the ministries to come out of visioning – that Greensburg UMC might be further recognized as a people who encourage and build up the community through Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Beyond Sunday morning, there are two offerings for in-depth conversation for the study held in the library of the church. They are:

Sundays, January 27 – March 3 at 6:00pm – bring a snack to share Wednesdays, January 30 – March 6 at 1:00pm – bring a sack lunch or a snack if you would like

All are welcome. If you are not able to attend the small groups, but would like to study this series further, please check out **<u>chalmers.org/resources/the-small-group-experience/</u>.</u> If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rev. Katie Osier.**

Special Session of General Conference February 23 – 26, 2019

Information is currently available and live streaming will be offered at umc.org during the Special Session of General Conference if you are interested.



Please pray daily for the global church as we approach this session.

http://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2019-special-session



Beginning Lent Together Tuesday, March 5 | 5:30 pm | Fellowship Hall Wednesday, March 6 | 7:00 pm | Chapel

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. It is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism.

Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

To begin the season of Lent as a family of Christ, Greensburg UMC is hosting a back to back worship event. Tuesday, we gather to make your own pancake. Bring your desired mix in or topping for your pancakes and a side to share. We will make pancakes and eat together. Following our meal, we will share in worship as we prepare the ashes for the Ash Wednesday service by burning last year's palms.

Wednesday, we gather to acknowledge our own frailty and the need and praise of a loving Savior. Worship will be held in the Chapel, followed by the lighting of luminaries to honor the hope we have in Christ. You are invited to bring family and friends as the universal church begins this journey of preparation for Easter. Hope to see you there!



Time for our UMW Winter Tea February 18 | 6:30pm



Yes, there's always time for tea, so we hope you will join us for a hot cup of tea in our beautiful, warm church! Invite a neighbor, daughter or granddaughter, or even someone you sit near in church. Everyone is welcome! We can promise it will be fun and a warm spot in the depths of a cold winter. Watch for sign-up clipboards circulating before and after services. We'd love to have you bring your favorite teacup or mug!

Mountain Top 2019

It's time to sign up for Mountain TOP 2019! Lots of planning is well underway, and this is sure to be another great trip! This year's theme is *Courage*!

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6



If you need information or a registration form, please contact Tara Beamish at <u>tara.beamish@gmail.com</u>.

If you are ready to sign up, please complete the registration form and return it to Tara (in person, scan/email, send me a picture - whichever is easiest!). Each participant is asked to contribute \$300 toward the cost of the trip. Please submit this payment to me by March 3 so we can finalize our registration and submit payments to MTOP. (If you prefer, you can make a one-time payment or installments, either is fine with me.) More information will be coming soon regarding fundraisers, meetings, training, etc, including a full schedule of events, so you can mark your calendars.

I am looking for some volunteers to help coordinate these events - let me know if you are interested!

Looking forward to another great trip to the Mountain this year!



Green Good Neighbors would like to thank Rev. Katie and all the people who helped serve drinks and food on the Wednesday during the extreme cold spell. The clients and volunteers appreciated it very much. Because of the extra help, we were able to deliver many boxes to senior citizens who were not able to come out in the weather. It was a sacrifice for everyone to come out on such a cold day, but it was all worth while knowing that we were able to give food to people that truly needed it .



New Phone Extensions

Rev. Katie:	1021
Lynne Wisard:	1022
Brittney Hurley:	1023
Shannon Miller:	1024
Margo Holmes:	1027
Pat Stiles:	1029
Betty Gross:	1031
Alexander Miller:	1032

February 5 **Abigail Barrett Reese Cowgar** February 7 February 13 **Cassidy Chaffinch** February 14 **Jim Kocsis** February 16 **Gina Laterza** February 17 **Avon Peterson**



February 18 February 20 February 25 February 26 February 28

Ryan Osier Sydney Rossiter Jaclyn Oplinger **Gary McLaughlin Cassidy Calaway** Linda Bethel

Anniversaries Bob and Pam Milhoan February 4

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed and you would like it to be included in the newsletter, please put a note in the collection basket for Lynne in the office and it will be added.



The prayers and sympathies of the church are extended to The family of Dorothy Cormany upon the passing of her brother, Bob Beougher, on January 29, 2019





them up in the office. Please let us know of any updates.

Church Financial Comparison - January 2019

Giving General

3,493.00

\$ 37,607.11

\$ 26,060.26

Monthly Payment

Actual Expenses

\$ 2,624.10

Budgeted Expenses

\$ 27,308.01

Loan Balance

\$160,979.06

December 2018

BUILDING NOTE

December 2018

Loan Giving \$



Special Family Ministry Missions Event Details February 10

Join us as we show God's love to our community who cannot worship with us on Sundays. We will be preparing Valentine's Day care packages for our college students and shut ins.

We are in need of the following items:

pens	small notebooks
hand sanitizer	Ramen noodles
chap stick	candy
small flashlights	squeeze balls
tissue paper (to lin	e baskets/boxes)

small Kleenex hand lotion cookies word search books





On February 10, all Sunday Schools will be involved in preparing these packages. Adult classes will sign Valentine's Day cards, Children's Ministry and Confirmation classes will make crafts, and the youth will help decorate the boxes and box the gifts.

As a local missions trip, Youth Ministry families will hand deliver these packages from 2:00pm-5:00pm to various shut in locations. If you are interested in volunteering to driver or have your child be a deliverer, please see Alex. There will be signup sheets at youth. 5





one ministry, and together all of us as a church are one family.

We Are Family Picture Collage!

To help celebrate our 50th Anniversary and look to the future of ministries here at Greensburg UMC, we are using our theme this year, WE ARE FAMILY, to do a collage. Bring a copy of a picture (so that we can add it to the collage - it may need to be adjusted to fit) of your family interacting with one of our programs. Our goal is to have the collage to be filled throughout the year with new ministries to show us that every ministry at Greensburg UMC whether it be Potlucks, Mountain T.O.P., Youth Ministry, Children's Ministry, VBS, Adult Sunday School, Camps, Good Neighbors - is

February 2019

SUN 27 9am Contemporary Worsh 10am Sunday School 11am Traditional Worship	MON 28 9am AARP Board Meeting 11:30am Dogs with Dad 5:30pm Green Soccer	TUE 29 • 11:30am Dogs with Dad • 5:30pm Green Soccer	WED 30 • 9am Good Neighbors • 6pm Green Youth Basketb	THU 31 5:30pm TOPS-107,108 6pm Green Youth Basketb. 6pm Scouts Girl Troop Par	• 7am Men's Breakfast	SAT 2 9am Walking Group 9am Gentle Yoga 11am Cub Scouts Pinewoo
 12pm MTOP Meeting 2 more 3 Communion 	 6pm Cub Scouts 4 5:30pm Green Soccer 	5 5:30pm Green Soccer	 7:30pm Chancel Choir 6 9am Good Neighbors 	 9am Preschool Board Mee 	8 7 am Men's Breakfast	 1pm Vision Session 9 12am Troop 335 Camping
 adm Contemporary worst 10am Sunday School 11am Traditional Worship 3 more 			 5pm Wriein reiping huits (5pm Caregivers Support 6 6pm Green Youth Basketb 2 more 	 Jon Scouts Girls Troop Cc 	 Acouptin Faterliss wight out 6pm Troop 335 Camping 8pm Troop 335 Camping 	 9 am Scouts Leadership SI 9 am Walking Group 5 more
10 Bucket Sunday Scout Sunday • 12am Scouts Lock In • 9am Contemporary Worsh 5 more	11 1 pm Ladies Lunch Bunch I 5:30pm Green Soccer 6pm Cub Scouts	12 • 9am Green Good Neighbor • 5:30pm Green Soccer	 13 9am Good Neighbors 9pm When Helping Hurts (6pm Green Youth Basketb 6:15pm Joyful Bells 7:30pm Chancel Choir 	14 • 5:30pm TOPS-107,108 • 6pm Green Youth Basketb.	15 Preschool Closed Tam Men's Breakfast	16 • 9am Walking Group
17 9am Contemporary Worsh 10am Sunday School 11am Traditional Worship 5pm Youth Meeting 2 more	18 Preschool Closed • 8am Green Girl Scouts Wo • 5:30pm Green Soccer • 6pm Cub Scouts • 6:30pm UMW Ladies' Tea	19 5:30pm Green Soccer 6:30pm Finance Meeting-L 7:30pm Trustees	20 • 9am Good Neighbors • 1pm When Helping Hurts ' • 6pm Green Youth Basketb • 6:15pm Joyful Bells • 7:30pm Chancel Choir	21 • 5:30pm TOPS-107,108 • 6pm Green Youth Basketb:	22 Tam Men's Breakfast Spm N. Canton Girl Scouts	23 9am Walking Group 12pm Cub Scouts Blue & C
24 • 9am Contemporary Worsh • 10am Sunday School • 11am Traditional Worship • 5pm Youth Meeting 2 more	25 • 9am AARP Board Meeting • 5:30pm Green Soccer • 6pm Cub Scouts	26 Tpm AARP Meeting 5:30pm Green Soccer	27 • 9am Good Neighbors • 1pm When Helping Hurts ' • 6pm Green Youth Basketb • 6:15pm Joyful Bells 2 more	28 • 5:30pm TOPS-107,108 • 6pm Green Youth Basketb:	Mar 1 • 7am Men's Breakfast	 9am Walking Group

Greensburg United Methodist Church P.O. Box 155 Green, OH 44232

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Greensburg United Methodist Church Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Sunday Service Schedule

9:00am 10:00am 11:00am **Modern Worship Service Sunday School Traditional Worship Service**

Phone: 330.896.1936 After Hours: 330.595.9074 office@greensburgumc.net rev.katie.osier@gmail.com

www.greensburgumc.net www.loving-hands.org

PO Box 155 Green, OH 44232 2161 Greensburg Road N. Canton, OH 44720