



CROSS TALK

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by loving, engaging, and serving our neighbors

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CHURCH STAFF

- MINISTER & STUDENT MINISTRIES:
Reverend Katie Osier
- ADMINISTRATIVE ASST:
Pam Moore
- BOOKKEEPER:
Margo Holmes
- ORGANIST/BELLS:
Betty Gross
- WORSHIP LEADER:
Dustin Oliver
- CHOIR DIRECTOR:
Brian Lawson
- NURSERY DIRECTOR:
Diana Langenfeld
- PRESCHOOL CAREGIVER:
Emma Nibling
- PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:
Shannon Miller
- ADMIN COORDINATOR:
Brittany Hurley

FROM YOUR PASTOR

One of our former Canal District Superintendents once suggested to listen to God for one word that would help focus our year. I have been listening intently these past months, and upon hearing this word repeatedly it makes perfect sense.

Resurrection

As we move into the year 2020 (perfect vision if you will, although I know some of our wiser folks would argue different numbers), resurrection is a good word to hear from the Lord. Resurrection is a good word from the Lord at any point, but as we lean into a new leadership structure, into a hope for growth and reconciliation, and continued work in our vision it reassures the church that even after dark days, life breaks forth – abundantly!

While serving on a mission trip, a past student of mine came to me overjoyed. Their group was going to stop an Orthodox church to pray and stand in awe of the tradition. With wide eyes, her Greek heritage stared right into my soul. “I am going back to my roots!” she declared. I smiled, almost laughing on the inside, knowing her family had been United Methodist for a long time. “That’s wonderful! I am excited to hear what you discover as you go back to your roots.”

This memory and the word *Resurrection* inspired me to lead with “my roots” in ministry from 20 years ago. The year will begin exploring childlike faith. It is the dangerous wonder that all humans possess as children, but at some point we lose for whatever reason because, “There is, deep within *all* of us, a *voice*. It speaks continuously, knocking on the door of our consciousness... It shouts to us with a whisper. It is like the wind breezing through a field of daisies, scattering their petals across the sky in a flower snowstorm. It is like a thousand flutes echoing in the middle of the forest. This voice of our childhood is the voice of wonder and amazement, the voice of God, which has always been speaking to us, even before we were born.”

May God give us the grace to position us in a place of listening and losing ourselves to the mystery and amazement that is God come down. May we get lost once more in a dangerous wonder that is childlike faith in Jesus Christ – where our wild abandon loses us to this world and gains the sight and promise of God’s kingdom here and now.

Grace and Peace, Rev. Katie Osier

SCRIPTURAL FOCUS

“When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage.”

Matthew 2:10-11a

~January Birthdays~

- 3 Denny Hartong
- 8 Denise Clay
- 15 Jeremiah Campbell
Sally Fosnight
- 16 Allie Payne
- 16 Jill Lehman
- 20 John Clay
- 24 Kelly Witsaman
- 25 Alex Nibling
- 26 Scott Waseman
Shelly Keller
- 27 Faye Shahan
- 30 Donna Nicol

**If you would like added to our newsletter birthday and/or anniversary calendar contact the office.*

~January Anniversaries~



- 2 Joe & Janice Conley
- 25 Mike & Hazel Trinko
- 31 Vince & Jill Lehman

WITH GRATITUDE

A BIG thank you to Jack Fuerst, Dan Koontz, Eileen Cowgar, Pam Moore, Dana Stevens, Hazel Trinko, Amanda Hostetler, Nick & Matt Sopher for volunteering to serve cookies and punch to our families at our Preschool Christmas Programs. We appreciate the time you took during this busy holiday season to serve. Thank you to Pastor Katie for welcoming our families and friends into the church for each program, as well. We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas!

Shannon Miller, Loving Hands Preschool Director

To my GUMC Family, Thank you so very much for your most generous love gift. Also, thanks to all the Chancel Choir members, Joyful Bell ringers and soloists who share their talents each Sunday. It is an honor to be a part of the music ministry here at GUMC. "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" ~ Love & Blessings, Betty Gross

Greensburg UMC Family, As your newest hire, how do I express my gratitude for including me in your gracious and generous love offering. Your kindness exemplifies the Love you have here at Greensburg UMC. Thank you from the bottom of my heart your gift is very much appreciated.

A sister in Christ, Pam Moore—Admin Asst

BLESSED BECAUSE OF YOU

I want to thank everyone who lifted me and my family up with thoughts, prayers, cards and phone calls during this trying time of my mother's death. It has been a long time coming. I know I was being carried, lifted up through it all. You all gave me strength to face each day, one day at a time. That is exactly how God touches and speaks to me, through your actions. I know it, love it, and love you all for your part in it. My family and I are blessed because of you.

A big thank you from the Lola Davis Urban Family.
Sharley

GUMC,

We would like to thank the congregation for their generous love offering. We are so fortunate to work at a church that cares so much for their staff. We have been so blessed over the years to have built relationships with church members, as they sit on our preschool board, volunteer for events, or just pop in to say hi! We are truly thankful for each of you! We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Shannon Miller, Preschool Director and
Brittney Hurley, Preschool Admin Coordinator

HOW KIND OF YOU!

Dear Church friends!

Somehow, just saying "thank you" doesn't seem like enough. But I hope you know how much your kindness has meant to me.

Thank you all for your prayers, kindness, love and concern during my recent illness. God Bless You all!
Lois Witsaman

WITH SYMPATHY

Prayers for Ann Hartong and family on the loss of her mother
Marlilyn Brumbaugh

Prayers for the Family of Lois McGary on her passing on December 17th.



**Friends and family of Greensburg UMC
-the vision still continues as we step into 2020!**

Greensburg UMC invites its neighbors to know Jesus Christ by engaging in acts of service. In the past year, the church has worked steadily into this vision statement – a vision of the desired result of the church. The church has put together health kits and flood buckets, both numbering over 50 each. It has served in the community through dog park dedications and the new Twisted Wilderfest. Greensburg has worked together with Uniontown UMC to lead a Blessing of the Animals, Easter Vigil, and Longest Night service. We have held three community meetings, attended by active church and community partners and leadership. The church works hard to remain focused and moving forward.

This year we begin the One Board Model in joint work with a Vision Team. The goal is to meet them simultaneously so the Vision drives the administrative section of the church. Both One Board and the Team will meet monthly and will work together in devotion and drive. New goals will be set in January, which will be utilized and evaluated each month to keep Greensburg UMC on task to become a people who loves, engages, and serves their neighbors.

You are an important part of this process. Pray for the church and its vision. Pray for the leadership. Respond to the vision by finding a way in which to participate. God has given this church what it needs to take the next step towards becoming what God has named it to be.

If you have any questions or would like to participate in the next steps towards the revelation of a people who love, engage, and serve their neighbors, please contact Rev. Katie (rev.katie.osier@gmail.com). If you have heard a good word from the Lord about promising good works for the church’s future, please do not hesitate to share. I have always found that God plants seeds in many different people, and some times to seeds tend to have similar roots for ministry to grow.



Green Good Neighbors would like to thank the church for the additional use of the church over our Christmas give away at the beginning of December. We could not help as many people to have a nice Christmas without all of your help. Many people volunteered to buy gifts and wrap them, to donate grocery cards for our Christmas food give away and to volunteer their time to organize the gym with all the gifts donated and help the parents pick out gifts for their children. Many people donated Christmas decorations to be given to our families all through December. It has been a very successful year supplying food and clothing to many families and helping over 300 children to have a bright and joyous Christmas.

**GUMC
GREETERS**

JANUARY 2020

9:00am Service
Jack Fuerst

11:00am Service
Dale & Pauline
Bittner

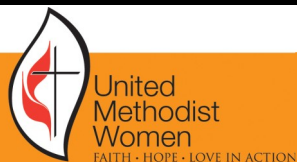
FEBRUARY 2020

9:00am Service
Connie Leonard
And
Pete Peterson

11:00am Service

TBD

**If you feel led to serve in this ministry let the office know.*



Next Meeting: Monday, January 20th at 7pm

Thank You from UMW!

What a great turn out we had at our Christmas Tea! Thank you to all who joined us to celebrate the season and enjoy a spot of tea, some yummy food, a Christmas Carol sing, and some great conversation. It was lovely, you might say!!

Our meetings are held each month, September through May, on the 3rd Monday at 7:30 pm in the Library. Please come to our first meeting of 2020 on January 20. We'll be exploring new ways to serve in mission fields close to home, so please join us and help us make a difference in this, the "150th Anniversary of United Methodist Women."

What's our *Not a Fan* Group Up to Now?

After finishing an eye opening study on the Holy Spirit by Jim Cymbala right before Christmas, we felt led to move right into **another study by Pastor Cymbala, this one on prayer. On Sunday, January 5th**, we'll begin a 6 week video based study entitled *When God's People Pray*, which leads us to a better understanding of the amazing transforming power of prayer in our churches as well as in all aspects of our lives. Please consider being a part of this group as we learn and share together to build our faith and our friendship. **Our start time is 6:00 pm, twice a month, September through May. We are generally finished by 8:00 pm. We meet in the church library, and we would love to see you there!**

If you have questions, please call Judy Martin at 330-607-3061.

FUNDING THE MISSION AND VISION OF GUMC



OPERATING BUDGET	Giving General	Actual Expenses	Budgeted Expenses
November 2019	\$ 18,100.21	\$ 18,707.22	\$ 25,813.26
Year to Date	\$245,987.68	\$260,276.66	\$307,378.99
BUILDING NOTE	Loan Giving	Monthly Payment	Loan Balance
November 2019	\$ 1,465.00	\$ 2,624.10	\$135,889.51
BRIGHT HOPE FOR TOMORROW	Total Given	Pledged	Balance Available
	\$240,713.62	\$233,143.96	\$ 36,095.65

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY ... *Loving, Growing, and Helping Together*

January 4 | 2:00—4:00 PM | Family Ministry—Movie and Blanket Night

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, January 4 as we come together with our families to create blankets and coverlets for Akron Children’s NICU.

This winter also begins a new curriculum in Sunday School. The Pre-K to 3rd Grade group has Flabbergast – a series on God’s amazing miracles. The 4th through 6th Grade has O Little Town – the places where Jesus visited. This curriculum has been enjoyed by our students. They are encouraged to invite a friend for the fun to expand. See you on Sundays!



STUDENT MINISTRY... *Finding an identity in Christ through fellowship, study and service*

Student Ministry

January 5: Serve Week.

Delivering Coverlets and Blankets to Akron NICU and assisting with the tear down of Christmas decorations. Noon—3pm

January 12: Questions Week.

How do I connect the Bible to my life? (Pt 1)

January 17-19: GUMC Student Ministry Retreat –

DEADLINE JANUARY 12

January 26: Questions Week.

How do I connect the Bible to my life? (Pt 2)

Confirmation:

Friday, January 24, the confirmation class will be traveling to Temple Israel for their Interfaith Service. Details will be available from their teachers, Vince Lehman and Mark Nicols.



WINTER RETREAT

Greensburg UMC Student Ministries

Friday, January 17 (6:30 PM) - Sunday, January 19 (2:00 PM)

Cost: \$20 + Snack and Beverage to Share

Students in grades 6-12 are invited to mark calendars and invite friends to our first Winter Retreat. Students will need to bring a snack and beverage to share. We will spend the weekend enjoying winter fun, fellowship, and devotional time together.

Please register online by Sunday, January 12. Contact Rev. Katie Osier with any questions.



Greensburg UMC, Contacts, Holidays in United States

Jan 2020 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Preschool Closed						
			New Year's 5pm - Caregive	5:30pm - TOPS		9am - Walking 2pm - Family
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Preschool Communion & 9am - Modern 10am - Sunday 11am - Traditi 5pm - Student 6pm - Not a 6:30pm - Troo	6pm - Green 6pm - Pack	8am - Prescho 6pm - Green	9am - Good 6:15pm - Joyfu 7pm - Commun 7:30pm - Chan	9am - Prescho 5:30pm - TOPS 6pm - Green 7pm - Troop	8am - Prescho 7pm - Green	9am - Walking 10:30am - Sibs 2:30pm - SibeH
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Bucket Sunday 9am - Modern 10am - Sunday 11am - Traditi 5pm - Student 6:30pm - Troo	1pm - Ladies 6pm - Green 6pm - Pack	8am - Prescho 9am - Green 6pm - Green	9am - Good 6:15pm - Joyfu 7pm - Commun 7:30pm - Chan	9am - Follow 5:30pm - TOPS 6pm - Green 7pm - Troop	Student Ministries Winter 9am - Walking	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Student 9am - Modern 10am - Sunday 11am - Traditi 6pm - Not a 6:30pm - Troo	Martin Luther Preschool 6pm - Green 6pm - Pack 7pm - Partrol 7pm - United	8am - Prescho 6pm - Green	9am - Good 6pm - Green 6:15pm - Joyfu 7:30pm - Chan	5:30pm - TOPS 6pm - Green 7pm - Troop	Troop 335 (boys) 5pm - Confirm	Klondike 9am - Walking
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Troop 335 9am - Modern 10am - Sunday 11am - Traditi 5pm - Student	8am - Prescho 9am - AARP 6pm - Green 6pm - Pack	8am - Prescho 1pm - AARP 6pm - Green	9am - Good 6:15pm - Joyfu 7:30pm - Chan	5:30pm - TOPS 6pm - Green 7pm - Troop		



Registration for the 2020-2021 School Year will begin next month. If you, or someone you know, have a child who will be 3 by September 30, 2020 through 5 years of age, we would love to show you what Loving Hands Preschool has to offer!! Tours available upon request.

Contact Shannon Miller at smiller1950@sbcglobal.net or 330-896-1936.

Tuesday, January 7 at 8 am

Registration begins for CURRENT STUDENTS

Tuesday, January 14 at 8 am

Registration begins for RETURNING FAMILIES/SIBLINGS OF CURRENT STUDENTS AND CHURCH MEMBERS

Tuesday, January 21 at 8 am

Registration begins for NEW FAMILIES

SIBSHOPS ~ On Saturday, January 11, our first *Green Sibshops* event of the brand new decade will be held in our Fellowship Hall. We will combine our 3rd through 6th grade and our teen groups this month, from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. A couple times a year we bring these two groups of great kids together and it's always fun.

Just in case you are hearing of *Green Sibshops* for the first time, it's a wonderful program for typically developing siblings of kids with special health and developmental needs, and we are privileged to host two groups of these great kids once a month at our church. We feel so blessed to have the support of our church. We will soon be celebrating four years of *Sibshopping*, and are always anxious to share what we're doing with others, so those who might benefit and their parents will find out what it's all about. What it's all about is fun for these kids and youth. A safe, and recreational event just for them, where they can meet others in similar life circumstances, share the joys and challenges involved in that role, and just have a good time. There are printed cards available that explain just what a *Sibshop* is, and we would be very appreciative if you would take some to share with family, friends, neighbors, and others to get the word out. Please call Judy Martin (330) 607-3061 if you have questions or would be willing to help us promote *Green Sibshops*.

HELP TOWARDS THE MAINTENANCE AND MINISTRY OF THE BUILDING ~ TRUSTEES

One of the questions frequently raised in the process of switching to One Board is, "how are we going to have Trustees know when to come and fix things?" Honestly, this is a fair question. The board has 3 persons dedicated to this organization of persons and resources to be sure that things needing attention get the attention they need.

The first thing to help us in that direction is to place information in the database as to the skills and availability people have for various jobs that require some labor. On Sunday, January 12, we will have a form to complete for all church participants stating their skills, availability, and preferences to know who to call when something arises. Our trustees, new and older, will work together to secure the best list possible. This card is for ALL ages to fill out individually. Persons of any age have skills they can offer the body of Christ for its maintenance and improvement while bringing the message of Christ alive.

Keep in mind, this is not a "we will call you all the time" list. The more persons from the church that complete the form, the more hands and more options the church has. Please make sure to take the time to fill one out and turn it into the church.

Greensburg UMC

Church location:
2161 Greensburg Rd,
North Canton, OH 44720
MAILING ADDRESS:
PO Box 155
Green, OH 44232

Church Phone: 330.896.1936

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Check us out!
www.greensburgumc.net

DO YOU KNOW?

This is a new addition to our newsletter. The church historian (Pat Stiles) will be submitting a question each edition and provide you with the answer in the following month's edition. Hope you ENJOY it!

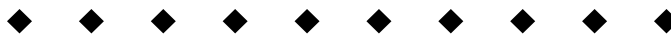
QUESTION: How did Conrad Dillman and his family help the Evangelical Church prosper in Greensburg? (answer will be in the February 2020 newsletter)



QUESTION from December Newsletter: What is the name of the man and his family that brought the Evangelical Church to Green Township?

ANSWER: What is the name of the man and his family that brought the Evangelical Church to Green Township?

In about 1813, Conrad and Catherine Dillman and their family came from Eastern Pennsylvania looking for good farm land. They built a log cabin and started farming on what is now Greensburg Rd. Conrad was concerned because there were no Evangelical preachers in the area. He took his Bible and traveled among the settlers, teaching, exhorting, and praying. He was not an ordained minister but because of his work he became the forerunner of the Greensburg Circuit of the Evangelical Church.



Newsletter

Don't miss out sharing all the Good News that is happening at Greensburg United Methodist Church!

All articles for December Newsletter need to be submitted to the Office, by Wednesday, January 15th.