



*The Mission of Ohltown United Methodist Church is to make and mature disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*

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*A message from the Pastor*

Two thousand years ago, in the Middle East, an event occurred that permanently changed the world. Because of that event, history was split. Every time you write a date, you're using the resurrection of Jesus Christ as the focal point. So where is your focal point? On the empty tomb or on something more secular?

We had the joy of celebrating Holy Week with our sister churches Smith Corners and West Austintown as we prepared our hearts for Easter. We took the journey from Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday and had the opportunity to experience foot and or hand washing. We remembered the trial, beating, and crucifixion of our Lord on Good Friday. Then, we waited for the joy of the resurrection.

Our Sunrise service found us looking not only at the empty tomb, but at the empty cradle. We saw the life of Jesus on display for us to remember that Easter is more than just any other day. This is the day we realize that *"his unique identity as Son of God was shown by the Spirit when Jesus was raised from the dead, setting him apart as the Messiah, our Master."* (Romans 1:4 The Message)

We were able to share a meal together then worship once again. We were delighted with special music, hymns, and the aromatic fragrance of the beautiful spring flowers that remind us: in Christian tradition, flowers, especially the Easter Lily, signifies rebirth and a new beginning.

Because of our Savior's willing sacrifice, we are all able to experience a new beginning, new life. All we have to do is ask. Have you or someone you love been floundering and not sure where to find forgiveness? 1 John 1:9 states: *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."*

If Jesus was willing to die for you, are you ready to live for him? Christ the Lord is Risen today. Alleluia! Thank you, Lord Jesus for your amazing gift.

Blessings,  
Pastor Teresa

*Opportunities to Worship*

**May 5 ~ Communion Sunday**

This is also Native American Ministries Sunday and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter.

**May 12 ~ Mother's Day**

This is also festival of the Christian Home Sunday and the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter. Please join us as we honor our women and mothers and celebrate the joy they bring to us.

**May 16 at 6 pm  
Baccalaureate Service**

Come and celebrate with the Seniors of Mineral Ridge High School as we recognize their accomplishment and send them off with prayer.

**May 19  
Heritage Sunday  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**May 21 at 10 am  
Humility House Worship**

A time of song, prayer, scripture, and a brief message.

**May 26  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**June 2 ~ Communion Sunday  
and Ascension of the Lord  
Sunday**





Did you ever wonder: "How did that even happen??" This is how: Thank you to Bill Hahn for building the base for our tomb and to Linda Hahn for keeping the palm trees alive and delivering them for Palm Sunday. Thank you to Ambrose Kalasky for the materials donated to build the tomb. Thank you to Jeff McCracken for supervising the cleaning of the carpets. Thank you to Beverly Kalasky for the million and one details she oversees to make every Sunday service happen ESPECIALLY Easter! Thank you, Kevin Hood, for organizing the Easter Breakfast and to the many men that prepared and served it. And also thank you to the ladies that set the tables and provided the beverages. And thank you to everyone that purchased the beautiful Easter flowers to adorn our sanctuary and to Debbie Fisher, Michael Fisher, and Beverly Kalasky for organizing those orders. Thank you to Randy and Cheryl Emrich and Bill and Linda Hahn who returned the sanctuary back to normal following the festivities.

Our Egg Hunt was a big success! We had around seventy people come to the event. The youth were kind enough to fill over one thousand eggs that they then hid. But the biggest thank you goes to Sarah Plant. She is amazing! This fireball saw to it that the eggs were filled, she made cupcakes, provided fresh fruit, vegetables and dip, beverages, AND read the story of Easter to a VERY loud group of sugared up kids! And thank you to each and every one of you that helped by donating to this worthy mission. And finally thank you to the SPRC for sponsoring this event.

A deep appreciation and gratitude for the caring ministry the Mission Committee has extended to the Seaborn 4<sup>th</sup> grade class. Most recently they provided snacks to the students while they were taking their proficiency exams. They also provided a celebratory pizza party after the exams and they spearheaded the campaign to collect playground equipment that promotes physical activity and working together. A special thank you to Joan Gearhart and Lois Ann Phillips for their extra efforts in making sure the children got what they need. And thank you to each and every one of you that found it in your heart to contribute to providing for these children.

Thank you to those who contributed to the Farmer to Farmer donation taken on Maundy Thursday. Thanks to you, we were able to send \$ 394 to this worthy mission.

Ohltown Jr. Church Friends,

Thank you so much for the Valentine. How nice it was to be remembered. It has been quite a while since I attended Ohltown Church but I will never forget the wonderful people there and the things (works for love of God) that we did together. It seems you are still doing them.

Love, in Jesus' Name, Helen Dieter

To my church family,

I would like to thank each and every one of you for my get well cards. Even the funny ones. I have been hanging them on my kitchen door. I can see them every morning. The people who brought food: thank you. The food was excellent.

Now I want to thank you for my birthday cards. I am running out of places to hang them.

Love to each and every one of you.

~Chick Giovanni

My Church Friends,

I didn't prepare for this operation. I had doubts on the outcome, but a miracle happened and I survived. No thanks to me. It was God and I thank him. I don't know what the purpose was. I want to thank each of you for your prayers, cards, calls, and visits. Thank you so much. Perhaps the purpose was for friendship. I especially want to thank Pastor Teresa for her time spent at the hospital and rehab. Thank you my friends, Harold Baringer

Dear Ohltown UMC,

Thank you for your generous donation of four bags of blankets for the patients at Akron Children's Hospital Mahoning Valley. We are grateful for the support we receive from our community and appreciate your part in making our patients' stay much brighter.

Thank you for thinking of those in our care. Please know you have made a difference in the lives of our patients and we truly appreciate your kind generosity.

Sincerely, Akron Children's Hospital Mahoning V.

The SPRC committee isn't a difficult committee but it does necessitate some time on occasion. Thank you Chris Plant and the SPRC for completing the dreaded yearly "Pastor Evaluation forms" that are required by the District. Thank you also for coming up with wonderful goals for our church to reach out to the community. They have set the dates for Family Fun night this summer, Trunk or Treat in October, A Family Cookie Bake in December, winter doldrums relief swimming party in March, and our annual Easter Egg Hunt in April. They work well together and ALWAYS put the needs of the church first. Thank you for all you do.

Our Spring District Conference was held on Saturday, April 6 at Church Hill UMC. Thank you to Cheryl Emrich, Beverly Kalasky, Linda Hahn, Rhonda Harris, and Becky Eckels-Hood for taking time away from their Saturday morning to attend this meeting. There were several workshops about stewardship and it is wonderful that we had some one from our group to attend most if not all of the meetings. Our Church was recognized for paying 100% of our Conference Shared Ministry, and 100% of our District apportionments in 2018. Pastor Teresa was recognized for her 10 years of pulpit ministry. We have an amazing church! It is because of your heart for outreach, caring and giving that the finance committee was able to meet our district and conference obligations. Thank you one and all.



### Special days ahead

Would you like to honor or remember your mother or a woman who is significant in your Christian upbringing? Why not consider donating to the special bulletins and gifts that will be given on Mother's Day. See Pastor Teresa VERY soon if you are able to help.

Father's Day is June 16. Would you like to honor your Dad or the strong male role model in your life? Please consider giving to the cost of the special bulletins and gifts on that Sunday. Please see Pastor Teresa.

Our piano is such a blessing, as is our pianist. Not all churches have the resources to have such a magnificent instrument. We are blessed. Which is why the trustees made the policy when we first got the piano that the only person to play the sanctuary piano is the staff pianist, the occasional paid substitute, or if we have a guest playing for a worship service for special music. We have a piano in the fellowship hall if you need to practice. Not everyone has followed this rule and as a result we have a small but noticeable crack in the keyboard cover and when played without care it is necessary to have the piano tuned more frequently, which is costly to the church. With that in mind, the trustees made the decision to have a lock put on the piano keyboard cover. Beverly has a key and the Pastor knows where the spare key resides. Thank you to the trustees for being good stewards of church property. This was gift covered by the memorial fund and did not come out of the church general fund.

### Communion Stewards

We have wonderful communion stewards. While God issues the invitation, it's the ladies of this committee that set the table. They are the ones that cut those tiny pieces of bread that fit into the cup and pour the fruit of the vine into those miniature cups. Not once did they complain because their germophobic pastor wanted to do the "Double Cup" method to keep our congregation from sharing germs during cold and flu season. Our Chairperson, Sheryl Baringer, is always mindful of this important ministry and invites different people to serve even if they do not serve on the committee. Thank you also to Janet Hood for stepping in and taking charge when it was necessary for Sheryl to be home while Harold was on the mend. Thank you to all who serve on this committee. If you feel called to this ministry please see Sheryl.

### United Methodist Women

UMW will meet on **May 20** at 7 pm for "Women Responding and Serving in Christ's Name" with Linda Hahn. Hostesses are Linda Paulsey and Yvonne Hornberger.

# Opportunities to Pray for One Another



## Prayer Concerns

|                             |                                       |                                |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Al Darby                    | Dawn (lifted by Carolyn Hoxworth)     | Melanie (lifted by Christy)    |
| Ashley Cardwell             | Frank Sloat's son-in-law              | Phil (lifted by Robin)         |
| Ashly (lifted by Jane Bell) | Iris (lifted by Robin Bowers)         | Sophia (lifted by Sarah Plant) |
| Blake Hood                  | LuAnn Allen                           | Rev. Susan Brown               |
| Bud Simkins                 | Marcella (lifted by Linda Whittlesey) | Wanda Armstrong                |
| Chick Giovanni              |                                       | Zack (lifted by Lorna)         |

## Joy

Congratulations to Krista Bowers on her engagement

## Condolences

*Condolences to the Jean Kiger family following her passing*  
*Condolences to the Debbie McKenney family following her passing*  
*Condolences to the Chuck Welch family following his passing*

*Keep these folks in your prayers as they celebrate special days this month:*

### Birthdays

|    |                                                 |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|
| 5  | Harold Baringer, Mason Darby, Becky Eckles-Hood |
| 6  | Marilyn Rhinehart                               |
| 12 | Caleb Hood                                      |
| 14 | Mae Rakestraw                                   |
| 16 | Zackory Goist                                   |
| 19 | Bethany Kalasky                                 |
| 20 | Carolyn Hoxworth, Lindsey Knipp                 |
| 22 | Sheryl Baringer                                 |
| 27 | Robin Bowers, Jennifer Fisher                   |
| 28 | Bailey Hood                                     |
| 31 | Cathy Mellott                                   |

### Anniversaries

|    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| 10 | John & Marcy Sabol     |
| 11 | Bill & Linda Hahn      |
| 22 | Jeff & Merri McCracken |
| 26 | Brian & Krysti Pollock |



*Keep our worship leaders for the month in your prayers:*

### Facts and Figures

|                             | Attendance | Given to the Lord |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| March 31                    | 56         | \$ 1,015          |
| UMCOR collection            |            | \$ 317            |
| April 7                     | 71         | \$ 3,202          |
| April 14                    | 77         | \$ 2,555          |
| Farmer to Farmer collection |            | \$ 394            |
| April 21                    | 109        | \$ 3,242          |

### May Worship Leaders

|    | Liturgists        | Greeters              |
|----|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5  | Frank Sloat       | Randy & Cheryl Emrich |
| 12 | Linda Hahn        | Mike & Laura Fisher   |
| 19 | Becky Eckles-Hood | Marysue Laszacs       |
| 26 | Cheryl Emrich     | Debbie Bogniard       |

# May 2019

Sunday Worship 9:30 am / Sunday School 10:45 am

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Monday                                                                     | Tuesday                                                      | Wednesday                                                                                                  | Thursday                                                                         | Friday                                                                                                                                     | Saturday                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Beverly will be out of the office from May 21 through June 4 on obligation for her other employer. If you would like to help Pastor Teresa in the office for any amount of time, please let Beverly know to make arrangements. Thank you! |                                                                            |                                                              | 1 Quilters 10 am<br>Pastor Teresa out of town<br><b>Choir Rehearsal 6</b>                                  | 2 <b>National Day of Prayer</b><br>6 pm Packard Park Shelter House<br>Free event | 3 District Summer Camp scholarship applications due<br> | 4 <b>Trash and Treasure Sale 9 am – 2 pm</b> |
| 5<br><b>Native American Ministries Sunday</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             | 6                                                                          | 7                                                            | 8 Quilters 10 am<br><b>Choir Rehearsal 6</b><br>Girl Scouts                                                | 9                                                                                | 10                                                                                                                                         | 11 Pastor Teresa off-site wedding            |
| 12                                                                                                                                                       | 13                                                                         | 14                                                           | 15 Quilters 10 am<br>Newsletter deadline                                                                   | 16 <b>Mineral Ridge Baccalaureate 6 pm here at Ohltown UMC</b>                   | 17                                                                                                                                         | 18                                           |
| 19 <b>Heritage Sunday</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 20 Pastor Teresa Clergy Executive Session 9 am – 3 pm<br><b>UMW @ 7 pm</b> | 21 Beverly out of the office<br>Humility House Worship 10 am | 22 Quilters 10 am<br>Girl Scouts                                                                           | 23                                                                               | 24                                                                                                                                         | 25                                           |
| 26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 27 <b>Office Closed</b>                                                    | 28 Beverly out of the office through June 4                  | 29 Quilters 10 am<br> | 30                                                                               | 31                                                                                                                                         |                                              |
| 26 <b>Memorial Sunday</b><br>                                                                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                              |                                                                                                            |                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                            |                                              |

*Looking ahead:*  
Church Picnic  
**June 9** following worship



## Trumbull County National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 2 at the Packard Park Shelter House 6 pm

Free family event

Join us in prayer for our community,  
our nation and praise to our God!



## Trash and Treasure Sale

Saturday, May 4

9 am – 2 pm

## Native American Ministries Sunday

Did you know that more than 20,000 Native American people are part of The United Methodist Church? On **May 5**, we will celebrate Native American Ministries Sunday. We will receive a special offering that directly supports Native American congregations and enables them to authentically minister with their communities while honoring creative expressions of culture and heritage. The offering also provides scholarships for Native American seminary students.

Through our denominational connection and with our offering, we live out our commitment to repentance, healing, forgiveness and love. Let us give generously on May 5.

## Mineral Ridge Baccalaureate Service

Thursday, May 16 at 6 pm

As we help our community celebrate their graduating class, we need some help from you! If you have cupcake platters or tiered trays we can borrow, please let the office know. We have cupcake bakers already lined up; we just need a way to set them out for our guests. Thank you for helping us to make this community outreach extra hospitable!

## Summer Special Music

With our choir on a much deserved summer break, our worship service has need for our music ministry to continue. If you would like to offer special music as a soloist or group, please speak with Beverly to be scheduled. Let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord!



THE BRIDGE  
Ohitown United Methodist Church  
2001 Ohitown Road  
Mineral Ridge, Ohio 44440  
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**  
Teresa C. Smolka, Pastor  
Nancy Goddard, Custodian  
Beverly Kalasky, Secretary

May 2019

Available online at [ohitownumc.com](http://ohitownumc.com)