

The Connection

The Newsletter of Shiloh Church, UCC

February 2021

FROM THE



PASTOR

So, as we now embark on the month of February we are amid winter, and just recently the groundhog told us so. And I bring you words of thought for this month that revolves around the idea of breathing. A great friend reminded me recently of breathing in moments when we become overwhelmed or are in disarray. As I write this to you my mom has passed, and I find myself in ways of trying to find balance between grief and of the work God calls me to do. I am built in such a way where I want to do what God calls of me, but then where is my balance and breath to mourn and recognize the passing of my mother. In its essence we all deserve the right to breathe in these moments and let those other distractions and calls to action to take a breath as well. This is hard for me and I can also understand it can be a struggle for many of you as well.

In all circumstances, God calls on us to take a breath for a reason, to discern, to prepare, to grieve, to be in prayer, to be in quiet, to be..... This is at the essence of why we breathe. When we take a breath, we allow God to take over for a bit and allow us to journey through whatever emotion we might be dealing with, whether its grief, sadness, frustration, anger, even joy or happiness. It gives us balance in our lives to find the balance with grace and love. And in so doing it brings us closer to God!

It is hard for us as humans to embrace this concept to take a breath. We live in such a fast-paced world where we feel the need to jump from here to there. But, in so doing we might lose ourselves in the process. And even more do damage to the spirit to which we are called. With that said, I urge all of us to take a breath, speak to God, be in prayer, and even be in silence to listen to the Still Speaking God to call for work we are called to do when we are ready, because then we will be more prepared to do that work in everything we do.

My prayer for all is that we breathe as I breathe to recognize that we are empowered and equipped in the spirit to be about the work of Jesus Christ, to be about the love and grace we can share, to bring together one another as one in the spirit. If we can do this, we are breathing.

Take a Breath, talk to God, and discern what God calls of each of us, so we can Focus and Act!

Personally, our family appreciates all the love and prayers for the loss of my mom, you are family to us, and we love you all and treasure every one of you.

Blessings,

Pastor Jay McMillen

When a family member or friend within the congregation is ill or in need of assistance, please call the church office and notify us of that need.

Health Concerns

Don McFarland, Paula
Aydelotte, Dick Van Tine,
Janice Eichelberger

Sympathy

Ginnie McMillen, Cynthia Dean Kytola,
Ron Casey

Long-term Concerns

Gene East, Janet Haynes, Jeanne Hazel
Vicki Holmes, Linda Homan, Nellie & Laymon Hoskins
Karen Kanaga, Betty Kosicki, Mary Kreill,
Mike Mastrosimone, Bonnie McCarthy, Joyce McLaughlin,
Jewel Phelps, Melanie & Paul Salata
Lori Stevenson, Lowella Stoerker, Janey Townsley, Mary & Dick Van Tine

Many Thanks

So many folks at Shiloh have sent such thoughtful cards and/or phoned with caring words. Some have generously contributed also. To simply say "Thanks" is an understatement, but my gratitude is heartfelt and so much appreciated! Blessings, Jeanette

PRAYER CHAIN

We would like to have a few more callers on our Prayer Chain. If you would be interested, please call Marilyn Schmidt, 937-836-3262. She will explain how it works and answer any questions you may have. Thank you!

FEBRUARY ACTIONEERS



Our actioneers for the month of February are Art and Cathy Barnes. Art and Cathy who joined us as members a few years ago have definitely been busy as of late. When I shared what seems like a lifetime ago about one of the greatest needs in our community was to serve food as a food pantry to our neighbors in Harrison Township, this couple jumped to the forefront. They approached me over the next couple months to inquire and they jumped to it. Empowered in the spirit they learned all they could about being a food pantry, filling out applications, tried to find shelving that would be needed and spent numerous hours and days going through the process of educating themselves into what it takes to become a food pantry. And after many months of training, they have given this church a great gift. On the fourth Saturday of January we opened our doors to our new Shiloh Church Food Pantry. Their passion to feeding those in this community has translated to

many members of the church and a few from the community to share in what we can do in the spirit. Their time and talent that they have given to this mission is much appreciated from myself and all members of this church and the community. The members and community we serve gives Art and Cathy Barnes a hearty Great Job in their efforts to get this off the ground and skies the limit on this new ministry. Thanks to Art and Cathy for "Living the Word, by Serving the World."

Blessings,
Pastor Jay

Day of Caring

Normally we would be promoting the annual Day of Caring Pancake Brunch to take place on the last Sunday in February. This year the event will not happen. But that does not mean the need for the funds raised by the brunch are not needed; in fact, the need has never been greater. The beneficiaries of Day of Caring moneys are the area food banks and homeless shelters. Because of the pandemic and the resulting loss of so many livelihoods these agencies find themselves struggling to meet community needs.

In order to help with this problem, the Day of Caring is designating the last Sunday in February as a Day of Giving. In the past, the tickets to the brunch were \$4 and \$6. Please consider donating at least the amount you would have spent on a ticket, in spite of the fact that you will not have the pleasure of eating fluffy pancakes, spicy sausage, and elegant eggs. We will be taking donations at the Missions table in the Narthex on Sundays, Feb. 14, 21, and 28. If you are not in church, please do Online Giving or send a check made out to Shiloh Church with Day of Caring on the memo line. Thanks so much for your support of this event. The Missions and Social Concerns Committee

2020 Shiloh Church Mission Giving

Appalachia Service Project	850.00
Artemis Center for Alternatives to Domestic Violence	959.80
Church World Service - Blanket Sunday	1,630.00
Church World Service - Disaster Relief	1,679.66
Crop Walk	1,000.00
Day of Caring Pancake Brunch	1,000.00
Doctors Without Borders	1,199.76
Easter Seals Goodwill Adult Day Care (Shiloh House)	719.86
Heifer International Ark	7,725.56
Homefull	959.80
Hospice of Dayton	479.90
House of Bread*	1,520.00
Matthew 25 (pastoral discretionary missions)	1,833.92
Navajo Indian Reservation (Pumpkin Patch)	4,208.89
Northwest Dayton Food Pantry and Northmont FISH**	3,626.13
Oaxaca Trigo y Miel Feeding Project	1,439.70
One Great Hour of Sharing	1,000.00
Our Church's Wider Mission - UCC Basic Support	5,998.68
Rebuilding Together Dayton	6,000.00
Ronald McDonald House	1,000.00
Samaritan Homeless Clinic	1,199.76
Souper Bowl Sunday	2,023.80
St. Vincent de Paul	5,439.70
The FoodBank	1,919.60
Valerie Elementary School - School Supplies	1,079.72
Wheelchair Foundation	95.00
YWCA Shelter Services	959.80
Total financial support to local, national and international missions:	\$ 57,549.04

*plus 226 items of cold weather apparel and supplies donated during Advent

**plus 90 bags of Thanksgiving Day meals

Funds contributed for Shiloh Food Pantry from Golf Outing, Thanksgiving and other sources but not yet expended	\$10,425.75
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The following listing of memorial contributions shows those being honored as well as those who have made gifts that were received prior to January 27th, 2021:

Ministries (Undesignated)

In Memory of James Patton

Sandra Pfennig
Mary Lou Stevenson

In Memory of Patricia Sheaffer

Mona Hobson

In Memory of Shirley Lee

Tami & Lin Rhoads
Connie Neef
Mark & Donna Hangen
Judy Peck
Alan & Eileen Michael
Mary Lou Stevenson
Anonymous
Sandra Pfennig
Marilyn Hess
Sharon Kohnle
Susan DeBrosse
Betty Kidd
Mona Hobson
Charlotte Wolcott

Music Fund

In Memory of James Patton

Roger & Sue Cox

In Memory of Shirley Lee

Melinda Hofstetter
Maureen Aukerman

In Memory of Patricia Sheaffer

Connie Neef

Media Fund

In Memory of James Patton

Connie Neef
Tom Holmes

Flower Fund

In Memory of Charles Hunnell & Edith Bowers

Marlene Hunnell
Bruce & Charla Clap and Family

Deacons Fund

In Memory of Shirley Lee

Tom Holmes

Correction to the January Memorial Contributions:

Music Fund

In Memory of Linda Peterson

Women's Board

In Memory of Evelyn Holmes

Women's Board

Shiloh Church - UCC
Summary of Income and Expenses for Ministries

For the period of January 1 through December 31, 2020

	Actual	Budget	Variance
MINISTRIES INCOME			
Covenants & Offerings	319,133.44	380,000.00	(60,866.56)
Seasonal Offerings	5,585.00	6,300.00	(715.00)
Use of Building (Including Weddings)	30,205.40	36,000.00	(5,794.60)
Misc (Lamp of Faith, Tapes, etc.)	90.00	1,050.00	(960.00)
Fair Income	13,926.05	12,000.00	1,926.05
Rebates	5,078.91	2,000.00	3,078.91
Interest Income	319.00	1,000.00	(681.00)
Coffee	-	100.00	(100.00)
Total Income	374,337.80	438,450.00	(64,112.20)
MINISTRIES EXPENSES			
Pastoral Expenses	95,362.05	96,100.03	(737.98)
Christian Education	(58.05)	1,250.00	(1,308.05)
Church Boards & Design			
Deacons	538.67	525.00	13.67
Stewardship	309.86	600.00	(290.14)
Growth & Marketing	1,267.00	2,500.00	(1,233.00)
Worship Board - Music Ministry	73,473.42	77,501.52	(4,028.10)
Worship Board - Media Ministry	8,192.47	10,470.05	(2,277.58)
Property Committee - Building	124,431.95	194,018.36	(69,586.41)
Administrative	74,643.88	84,210.41	(9,566.53)
Total Expenses	378,161.25	467,175.37	(89,014.12)
Income minus Expenses	\$ (3,823.45)	(28,725.37)	24,901.92

Where were we a year ago?

	<u>As of 12/31/19</u>	<u>As of 12/31/20</u>
Covenants and Seasonal Offerings	348,826.07	324,718.44
Other Income	51,925.89	49,619.36
Total income	400,751.96	374,337.80
Total expenses	426,830.51	378,161.25
Income minus Expenses	(26,078.55)	(3,823.45)

Other Transfers in

Endowment - Div., Int., Growth only	10,000.00	-
Memorials	6,640.00	8,716.00
Cares Act Fund (PPP) Loan	-	56,247.00
	16,640.00	64,963.00
Endowment - Baseline	1,177,025.60	1,178,575.60
Endowment - Actual Balance	1,098,855.99	1,262,094.84

WORSHIP WITH US!

February 7, 2021 5th Sunday after Epiphany

I Corinthians 9: 16-23

Mark 1: 29-39

Topic: "Healed"

Theme: The Good News of the Spirit.

February 14, 2021 Transfiguration Sunday

II Corinthians 4: 3-6

Mark 9: 2-9

Topic: "LED"

Theme: Love, Empowering, Displayed.

February 17 ASH WEDNESDAY

Joel 2: 1-2; 12-17

Matthew 6: 1-6; 16-21

Topic: From Sinfulness to Grace

February 21, 2021 1st Sunday of Lent

I Peter 3: 18-22

Mark 1: 9-15

Topic: "Revealed"

Theme: Christ is revealed to all.

February 28, 2021 2nd Sunday of Lent

Romans 4: 13-22

Mark 8: 31-38

Topic: "Journey to New Life"

Theme: The journey becomes the sacrifice.

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

Shirley Foreman 02/01
Linda Thiele 02/01
Anita Hake 02/02
Teresa Pur Hall 02/02
Roni Sedor 02/02
Michele Waymire 02/02
Annabelle Glanton 02/03
Elaine Johnson 02/03
Lori Rieker 02/03
Matthew Jergens 02/04
Casey Sierschula 02/05
Lorna Weeks 02/05
Marcia Gilleland 02/06
Carol Oldham 02/06
Donna Knab 02/07
Mary Van Tine 02/09
Mallory Woods 02/09
Kathleen Glover 02/11
Douglas Harlow 02/11
Sharon Lundstrom 02/12

Terrence Bradley 02/14
Beverly Warren 02/15
Brad Harvey 02/16
Eileen Michael 02/17
Carol Lawler 02/18
Doris Murph 02/18
Lisa Rice 02/18
Norma Timmerman 02/18
Marcie Adenuga 02/19
Zoe Hittner 02/20
Jennie Eisnaugle 02/22
Jill Jones 02/23
Kim Wachter 02/24
Keith Aukerman 02/25
Molly Skinner 02/25
Ed Crosthwaite 02/29