

The Connection

The Newsletter of Shiloh Church, UCC

March 2021

F R O M T H E



PASTOR

As I center on my thoughts for all of us in this Lenten Season, I am reminded that just about a year ago, our lives as we knew it would be forever changed. We had just completed a successful weekend celebrating Black History and had so many school age children through these doors and showing us their excitement and what they learned about Black History, and then by the following Sunday, we were shutting down due to Covid-19. And for the next 2 ½ months we waited with bated breath to gather each piece of info that we were hearing, and it seemed to change daily as we all learned more and more about this virus, a once in a lifetime occurrence. For many what was normal was shifted to the abnormal way of living. Many hunkered down in their homes, not going out for anything, except maybe to get groceries or medicine. Many started working from home, with zoom calls and conference calls becoming the norm in

day-to-day business. As we continued to journey into this new norm, we started to find ways to have some normalcy, carry-outs for local restaurants took off like a wildfire. Families were gathering around tables again at home to have dinner with one another, and the balance we so desperately were searching for started to gain a little clarity. I for one from day one stated, that the mental health of what we are faced with, will be just as challenging as dealing with the protocols and ways to combat the virus. Boy, has that been the statement of the year. In phone calls, with one another or the occasional visit in safe distance I began to see a shift into the mental side of the equation, none more evidenced than with funerals. The grief that a family feels for the loss of a loved one is so real; I can attest to this. But to now deal with a sense of grief balanced with family members not being able to gather or friends being able to hug and console during these times have made it even harder to find closure in death. Funeral homes have sensed this since day one, and over this past week in contact with Baker Hazel Snider Funeral Home we are wanting together to do something different this year. A service of remembrance for all families probably in November to allow these families to come together, to remember their loved ones and to let them know they are not alone in their grief. If Covid-19 has taught us anything, it is to hold everything we might hold precious and become humble and in a spirit of thanksgiving for the blessings we have received and to remember that during these times especially in Lent that we are not alone in our struggles, fears, doubts, but we simply cling to our relationship with one another, and to gain a focus and clarity to our "Still Speaking God". My prayers of thanksgiving and love to all of you, who reached out with cards, thoughts of love and grace were felt by our whole family. And to our journey in Lent, may we take these moments of solitude and reflection to grow in our

relationship to God, and to Jesus Christ, in the sacrificial journey to the cross, and for the New Life that awaits.

Blessings,
Pastor Jay

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, Savannah Sage-Bryant, Robert Rhoads, Nellie Hoskins

Sympathy

Jackalyn Anthony, Marcia Gilleland

Long-term Concerns

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

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!

MARCH ACTIONEER



This month our actioneer is Teri Ogletree. Over the past 25 years she has led in the discovery and presentation of Black History Celebration the past many years at Shiloh Church, and St. Johns UCC over these many years. I can recollect a year ago, our Black History Celebration was the last thing we did before the shutdown to Covid-19. Teri in these many years have brought together many in the community to celebrate the contributions of those in leadership and to celebrate the contributions of those who have demonstrated their gifts to the glory of God and community. This year however, because of the virus we continue to deal with, that our Live Celebration will not happen. But as I write this to you, I marvel at the idea that someone who has spent 25 years in gathering information and leaders alike with tables of history and art, jewelry and culture that celebrates the contributions of Black History. Teri with her passion for learning and

teaching have taken us all on a journey of conclusiveness, celebration, and coming together as one in the spirit. Her energy each year amazes me in how she brings this all together and cannot wait for what she will bring about in the coming years. Thanks, Teri, for being someone who "Lives the Word, by Serving the World."

Blessings

Pastor Jay D. McMillen

Mayonnaise for March; shopping for the pantry

The Shiloh Food Pantry is a success, even if we're only getting started! About 15 volunteers have devoted 200 hours to build shelves, pack food boxes and turn the west end of Omega Hall into a free grocery to feed hungry families in the Shiloh neighborhood. Although we've stocked 3,738 pounds of food, the Dayton FoodBank doesn't always have everything a family needs. That's why we're launching a monthly drive for items that echo the first letter of each month's name. March is for mayonnaise, mustard or other condiments to flavor a dish, sandwich or salad. So when you're on your weekly shopping trip, just pick up a jar of mayo or mustard or bottle of catsup and drop it in the grocery cart in the foyer at church. Or if you're not coming to church that week, put your shopping successes into the green donation box outside of Door 4 on the north side of the parking lot. No matter what food you buy or where you deliver it for the pantry, we ask that you think safety and avoid glass jars and bottles. Plastic and metal containers are best for our clients and volunteers

BLESSING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS

We continue to collect items to make up blessing bags for the homeless.

You can help by:

- purchasing some of the needed items listed below and placing them in the basket located in the Gallery area at the far side of the mailboxes.
- picking up completed bags to have on hand in your car to give out to those you might encounter that could use a blessing.

Currently needed items: (Please purchase small, pre-packaged containers/items so we can include a larger variety of items in the bags. Travel size works well.):

Chapstick	Band-Aids	Granola/Cereal Bars
Baby Wipes	Tissues	cracker/cheese packs
Deodorant	Hard candy/mints	Raisins
Foot powder	Peanuts	New socks
Energy Bars	Gum	Trail mix
Fruit snacks	Hot cocoa/Spiced Cider Mixes/Tea bags or on-the-go coffee mixes	
\$5 Restaurant gift cards		

Thank you for helping to meet the needs of others in our community. Shiloh continues **Living the Word by Serving the World!** Shiloh's Front Porch Ministry

REBUILDING TOGETHER DAYTON Saturday, April 24, 2021

Members and friends of Shiloh Church will once again participate in **Rebuilding Together**



Dayton, a program which takes place in nearly 150 cities across the nation each year on National Rebuilding Day. Businesses, churches and community organizations provide workers, supplies and funds to repair, clean, beautify and make accessible the homes of low-income, elderly and disabled people from their own communities. Last year 20 Shiloh

volunteers experienced wonderful days of fellowship besides repairing and painting interior walls, remodelling a kitchen, fixing electric, replacing doors, laying flooring, installing vent covers, replacing attic stairs and performing some siding repair, roofing and landscaping. This year, Shiloh will join the effort by sponsoring Rebuilding Together financially and by providing volunteers for Prep Day on April 10th and for National Rebuilding Day on April 24th. We are signing up volunteers now since the Rebuilding Together office needs to know our numbers by early April. Please note that many types of jobs are available, so volunteers do not need to be especially skilled or physically fit. Just **contact Sue Cox at rasmcox@gmail.com** or 937-836-4155 to indicate your availability. **COVID protocols will be followed.** Let's work to be good neighbors to the needy in our own community and come out in force to make **Rebuilding Together Dayton** a success.

The following listing of memorial contributions shows those being honored as well as those who have made gifts that were received prior to February 24th, 2021:

Ministries (Undesignated)

In Memory of Ellen "Ginny" McMillen

Charlotte Wolcott
Mark & Donna Hangen
Jennie Eisnaugle
Connie Neef
Mary Lou Stevenson
Frank & Margie Davis
Diane Meier
Linda Bryan
Alan & Eileen Michael
Randall & Leslie Leverage
James Shepler & Judith Roeder
Hank Vaughan
Judith Dunker
Carl Bomboy
Tom Murph
Tom Holmes
Kimbal & Julie Ragan
Janet Poe

In Memory of Cynthia Dean-Kytola

Alan & Eileen Michael

In Memory of Marcia Gilleland

Alan & Eileen Michael

Deacons Fund

In Memory of Shirley Lee

Brian & Lisa Salata

Music Fund

In Memory of Ellen "Ginny" McMillen

Melinda Hofstetter

Matthew 25 Fund

In Memory of Ellen "Ginny" McMillen

Brian & Lisa Salata

Flower Fund

In Memory of Shirley Lee

Larry & Carol Oldham

In Memory of Ellen "Ginny" McMillen

Larry & Carol Oldham

Shiloh Church - UCC
Summary of Income and Expenses for Ministries

For the period of January 1 through January 31, 2021

	Actual	Budget	Variance
MINISTRIES INCOME			
Covenants & Offerings	52,101.83	42,750.00	9,351.83
Seasonal Offerings	-	-	-
Use of Building (Including Weddings)	100.00	100.00	-
Misc (Lamp of Faith, Tapes, etc.)	-	-	-
Fair Income	-	-	-
Rebates	108.66	100.00	8.66
Interest Income	0.98	125.00	(124.02)
Coffee	-	-	-
Total Income	52,311.47	43,075.00	9,236.47
MINISTRIES EXPENSES			
Pastoral Expenses	6,708.12	6,708.12	-
Christian Education	-	-	-
Church Boards & Design	-	-	-
Deacons	(200.00)	-	(200.00)
Stewardship	71.02	75.00	(3.98)
Growth & Marketing	244.68	250.00	(5.32)
Worship Board - Music Ministry	5,954.92	5,961.24	(6.32)
Worship Board - Media Ministry	2.69	415.63	(412.94)
Property Committee - Building	12,864.02	16,606.03	(3,742.01)
Administrative	10,002.36	9,788.59	213.77
Total Expenses	35,647.81	39,804.61	(4,156.80)
Income minus Expenses	\$ 16,663.66	3,270.39	13,393.27

<u>Where were we a year ago?</u>	<u>As of 1/31/20</u>	<u>As of 1/31/21</u>
Covenants and Seasonal Offerings	37,379.45	52,101.83
Other Income	3,047.44	209.64
Total income	40,426.89	52,311.47
Total expenses	32,120.36	35,647.81
Income minus Expenses	8,306.53	16,663.66
<u>Other Transfers in</u>		
Endowment - Div., Int., Growth only	-	-
Memorials	80.00	570.00
	80.00	570.00
Endowment - Baseline	1,177,025.60	1,178,575.60
Endowment - Actual Balance	1,134,716.99	1,262,094.84

WORSHIP WITH US!

March 7, 2021 3rd Sunday in Lent

I Corinthians 1: 18-25

John 2: 13-22

Topic: " Built on a Foundation"

Theme: We build kingdom on our faithfulness.

March 14, 2021 4th Sunday in Lent

Ephesians 2: 4-10

John 3: 14-21

Topic: "Live in the Light"

Theme: Come from the darkness and despair.

March 21, 2021 5th Sunday in Lent

Hebrews 5: 7-10

John 12: 20-33

Topic: "The Preparation"

Theme: The time is coming for the sacrifice.

March 28, 2021 Palm Sunday

Psalm 118: 1-2 ; 19-29

Mark 11: 1-11

Topic: "The Entrance to Jerusalem"

Theme: His entrance will lead to his death.

Holy Week Maunday Thursday April 1, 2021

Readings from Mark 14: 1- 15: 47

Topic: "His Death is Coming"

Theme: How will this death lead to New Life?

★ HAPPY ★ BIRTHDAY!

Margaret Salata 03/01
Shawn Miller 03/02
Thomas Parnell 03/02
Anthony Poly 03/03
James Sollenberger 03/04
Megan Kreill 03/05
Douglas Gerhart 03/06
Paul Hamilton 03/08
Marion Bodiker 03/09
Stacey LaBreck 03/09
Tia Smith 03/10
Thomas Ellingson 03/12
Bob Keeler 03/12
Dave Tiley 03/12
Julie Ragan 03/14
Maureen Aukerman 03/15
Keith Berry 03/15
Lauren Anne Wergowske 03/17
Lindsay Secrist 03/18
Brittany Barnhart 03/19

Dawn Bolin 03/19
Sharon Gilliland 03/19
David Sleppy 03/19
Tom Taylor 03/19
Lenora Walter 03/20
Kyle Sierschula 03/21
Eric Woods 03/21
Brian Sheaffer 03/23
Jenny Schidecker 03/28
Bill Broomhall 03/29
Colleen Freeze 03/30
Ed Crosthwaite 02/29