



# Cross Talk

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

## FROM YOUR PASTOR

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**CHURCH STAFF**

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The Psalms speak directly from and to the human heart, almost as if breathing in and out the presence of God within us. Unlike almost every other part of the Bible, they are written in undisguisedly human language, often spoken in extremis (an extremely difficult situation) – exactly where very many of us now find ourselves. The Psalms offer us language for coming before God without pretense, to say what we feel with the expectation that God will listen and care.

But as we see in the Psalms and know also from ordinary experience, “saying what we feel” in the context of a mutually committed relationship is just the beginning of a conversation. Sometimes that conversation shows us aspects of ourselves and our situation we had not seen; it may change what we feel.

The hope is that *Sacred Breath: Praying the Psalms for Lent* will generate such conversation for all those who take part in it, helping to move us, as the psalmists themselves so often do, from distress and lament in the direction of trust, hope, and praise.

You are invited to connect to the one who gives us Sacred Breath to live, move, and breathe during this season of Lent. Check out the insert for ways in which you can love, serve, and engage.

***Rev. Katie Osier***



## **ASH WEDNESDAY—MARCH 2 @ 7:00 PM**

Lent is the 40 day season of preparation for Easter. Ash Wednesday begins this season with a reminder that we are mortal, but always held in the grace and love of God. We will sing, we will pray, we will listen, we will confess our failures and we will mark our foreheads with an ancient symbol of repentance.

The service will be held in the Sanctuary this year, as to provide more distance to ensure care and safety. The service will also be live streamed through the website.





**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Jim Campbell
- 4 Gary Cook
- 5 Eric Dando
- 6 Blaine Rossiter  
Pam Dieffenbaugher  
Emme Jefferies
- 9 Morgan Langenfeld
- 13 Michael Snyder
- 14 Kerry Prater
- 17 Andrea Rossiter  
Lyndsay Dimengo
- 20 Emily Cook  
Garrett Cook
- 21 Mark Jones  
Carol Lynn Stratton
- 22 Lauren Kuwatch  
Lillie Flanders
- 23 Carol Kramer
- 26 Clara Cormany  
Justin Oplinger
- 27 Al Leidtke  
Bill Handshumacher  
Richard Stratton
- 29 Sarah Hartong
- 30 Andrea Cowgar  
Tanner Vinciguerra
- 31 Nick Harp  
Staci Schweikert  
Matt Sopher

**MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

- 4 James & Bonnie Kocsis

**THANK YOU FOR MAKING AN IMPACT**

These past months have been a testimony to the generosity and passion for mission Greensburg UMC possesses. Here are ways you have worked to transform lives in and around our community.

Donations from Christmas totaled over \$2000 to Open M, Battered Women’s Shelter, and Rahab Ministries. These ministries are helping women, men, and children find love, peace, hope, and joy in their specific ways.

January Blanket Saturday and Sunday produced over 40 blankets, over 20 mattress covers, and over 30 isolette covers. The energy in the room was powerful—and the joy of the first woman in the NICU to receive a blanket for her twins moving.

The UMW towel drive is providing a healthy self image for families in Green who are trying to deal with difficult circumstances.

And check out the new bench for Loving Hands Preschool that was created by the plastic brought in by YOU!

Thank you for transforming lives through participating in the mission and vision of GUMC!



**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

The United Methodist Women held their first meeting on February 17, 2022. Pastor Katie and seven women were present. We were excited to be together! Our next meeting will be held on March 17th, 2022, on St. Patrick’s Day, in the library at 3:30pm. Feel free to wear green and bring a sweet treat to share! ALL women are invited.

**MASTER KEYS NEEDED**

Greensburg UMC has been blessed with facilities built to be used for God’s honor and glory. Coincident with the privilege of using the church building to accomplish the Lord’s work is the obligation to ensure that it is properly secure at all times. As stewards of God’s resources, this is the responsibility of us all.



At this current time, the office is running very low on Master Keys and needs them to distribute to rental groups of all kind. We all know that we forget to return keys after our assigned responsibilities at the church change or end. To help keep track of keys it takes everyone’s help. If you currently have a key, please contact the church office. We would like to get a better handle on the key situation at the church. Thanks for your help!

**FUNDING THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF GUMC**

OPERATING BUDGET	Giving General	Actual Expenses	Budgeted Expenses
January 2022	\$ 22,663.48	\$ 24,837.23	\$ 25,456.50
Year to Date	\$ 22,663.48	\$ 24,837.23	\$ 25,456.50
BUILDING NOTE	Loan Giving	Monthly Payment	Loan Balance
January 2022	\$ 7,163.80	\$ 1,901.19	\$ 83,733.43

## FAMILY AND CHILDREN MINISTRY: MESSY CHURCH AND GUM CLUB!

*When life is sad. . . God is good.*

*That's the theme for the kids' G.U.M. Club throughout Lent: March and April.*

G.U.M. CLUB, our Sunday class for students K - 5th grades, learned in February that "When life changes, God is good!" Each of our students received their own Bible (that we use each Sunday) and have been discovering how to look up verses and stories. During the month of March we will be concentrating on the season of Lent, "When life is sad, God is good!" Music, activities, crafts, Bible lessons, and puppets will help us explore what Lent means and what we can do during Lent that helps us prepare for Easter. Our next "Messy Church" is March 6. This is an opportunity for families to stay and participate together in the learning and fun. We look forward to seeing all of you!



*Amy Dvorak, along with Pastor David and Beth Weyrick, lead the G.U.M. Club each week.*

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**Sundays in March @ 10 AM:** March 6: Messy Church  
March 13, 20, 27—Sunday School JAM: When Life is Sad... God is Good

**March 6 @ 5-7 PM—Student Ministry Worship Work AND Follow up Parent Meeting at 6:30 PM**

We continue our work for Student Ministry Sunday, intermixed with creative fun in order to get our juices flowing! PARENTS—we will meet at 6:30 PM to follow up with YAC and Reach Out and plan fundraisers.

**March 13 @ 5—7 PM—Student Ministry Fellowship**

Game on! Game night is here—bring friends! We will be playing all sorts of games that night—from running to board to electronic to trivia. Bring a tablet, phone, or other device. Plan for a crazy night!

**March 20 @ 3-5 PM — Lenten Choir Concert provided by First UMC Epworth Youth Choir**

For those of you who went to Heart 4 the City and golf this summer, we are welcoming that group back to Greensburg UMC so they can share their singing talents, and spend some time in fellowship with us. The concert will start at 3 pm in the sanctuary, followed by a reception and some play time. Come support our fellow youth brothers and sisters from a different nook of the body of Christ! Concert is open to all—you do not want to miss this Sunday!

**Mission:** Bring in small items for care packages for College Students. Can you find some trinkets so we can fill the boxes the first week of April! Bring in items each week!



## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION—SUNDAYS @ 10 AM

As community built around conversation, this provides an opportunity to talk with others of all ages about the scripture and lesson of the day. Bring your morning beverage with you—any one is welcome. There are 2 ways to connect:

Online via Zoom | Meeting: 892 6692 8296 | Password: 977418

The group meets in the Fellowship Hall, inside the church.  
Masks and distancing are strongly encouraged while indoors.

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**Greensburg UMC**

2161 Greensburg Rd,  
North Canton, OH 44720

330.896.1936  
www.greensburgumc.net

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**LOVE, ENGAGE, SERVE OPPORTUNITIES: COME BE PART OF THE GUMC COMMUNITY!**

Donate items for the Care Packages going to Shut ins and college students by March 27

Serve on the Care Team or continue the conversation about Bed Brigade on Tuesday, March 8 @ 6:30 PM

Come to UMW on Thursday, March 17 @ 3:30 PM

Engage with Messy Church or Student Ministries on March 6 by participating or volunteering

Sing in the choir and praise band to praise the Lord during worship

Participate in the Trex Plastic Recycling Challenge—drop off plastic and become a bag dropper : New Bench for Green Good Neighbors starting Tuesday, February 1

Support the transformational ministries of the church by your

**Prayers** (pray for ministry and people)

**Presence** (come and participate)

**Gifts** (Donating items and/or Providing a Financial Gift)

**Service** (Lead or Volunteer to make gathering a success!)

**Witness** (Tell others about it and invite)



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**CROSS TALK DEADLINE**

All articles for the Newsletter need to be submitted to the Office, no later than the 20th. If you wish to be included in the birthdays and anniversary lists or wish to volunteer for an activity or group, please contact the office. Volunteers are always welcome. Thank you, Pam Moore ~ Admin Asst

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## SACRED BREATH: PRAYING THE PSALMS FOR LENT

Lenten opportunities for all ages to experience Holy Conversation with God and with others. Further details on [greensburgumc.net](https://www.greensburgumc.net). Email [office@greensburgumc.net](mailto:office@greensburgumc.net) or call 330-896-1936 to RSVP for meals and receive more information.

### **WEEKLY PRAYER EXPERIENCE: SUNDAYS WEEKLY @ 9 -11 AM**

A new prayer experience is available as part of the worship service as well as the 10 am hour. Home boxes can be requested by emailing or calling the church.

### **WEEKLY LENTEN PSALM STUDY WITH SOUP AND SANDWICH MEAL: WEDNESDAYS (STARTING MARCH 9) @ 6:30 PM IN THE GATHERING AREA**

Gather with folks to go over the Psalm of the week as we share in our reflection of the prayer experience. RSVP at worship or via church office. Donations appreciated.

### **LENTEN CHOIR CONCERT: SUNDAY, MARCH 20 @ 3 PM IN THE SANCTUARY**

Cuyahoga Falls First UMC Epworth Youth Choir will be sharing their Lenten Choir Tour Concert. This concert provides a musical connection to *Sacred Breath*. A free will offering will be collected for the group. Reception will follow the concert.

### **PALM SUNDAY SERVICE @ 10 AM AND CATERED BRUNCH @ 11 AM: SUNDAY, APRIL 10**

Join the celebration march from the Fellowship Hall to the Sanctuary at 10 AM. Following the service, a catered brunch will be provided in the Fellowship Hall. Reservations requested.

### **HOLY THURSDAY SERVICE: APRIL 14 @ 7 PM IN THE SANCTUARY**

Holy Communion and Tenebrae

### **MOUNTAIN OF FOOD: APRIL 15 @ 9-11 AM GOOD FRIDAY MISSION @ OPEN M IN AKRON**

Meet at the church at 8:15 AM to travel to Open M to help sort food for distribution.

### **EASTER VIGIL: APRIL 16 @ 10:30 PM - 12:30 AM @ UNIONTOWN UMC ON CLEVELAND AVENUE**

Experiential Service of Word and Light as we welcome the first hour of Easter. Led by Vicar Derek Kubilus and Rev. Katie Osier.

### **EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE: APRIL 17 @ 10 AM IN THE SANCTUARY**

Gather together for the celebration of the risen Christ!

## Upcoming Dates

March 2  
7 PM Ash Wednesday Service  
Sanctuary

March 6  
9 & 11 AM Services  
10 AM Messy Church

March 13  
9 & 11 AM Services

March 20  
9 & 11 AM Services  
3 PM Epworth Youth  
Choir Concert

March 27  
9 & 11 AM Services

April 3  
9 & 11 AM Services  
10 AM Messy Church

April 10  
10 AM Palm Sunday  
Service @ Sanctuary  
11 AM Catered Brunch

April 14  
7 PM Holy Thursday  
Service @ Sanctuary

April 15  
9-11 AM Open M  
Mountain of Food

April 16  
10:30 PM Easter Vigil  
@ Uniontown UMC

April 17  
10 AM Easter Service

**MARCH MISSION FOCUS: CARE TEAM****CARE PACKAGE ASSEMBLY: SUNDAY, APRIL 3 @ 10 AM**

The Care Team is a vital part of the ministry of Greensburg UMC—transforming both care givers and care receivers through the power of Christian fellowship and love. Here's how you can partake in the Care Ministry this month:

**WALK:** Pray for college, post-hi students and shut-ins who will receive care packages and notes

**JOG:** Donate funds or care package supplies during the month of March.

Checks can be made out to Greensburg UMC, with the note Care Packages. Items for care packages include: lotion, chap stick, individual Kleenex packages, individually packaged snacks, portable hand sanitizers, stickers or window clings, and the like. Place them in the wicker bin marked Care.

**RUN:** Bring your packaging skills Sunday, April 3 @ 10 AM in the Gathering Area—Our quick assembly line will prepare our boxes and bags for delivery quickly. These will be delivered that week to bring the joy and hope of Easter to come!

Join the Care Team: Contact Liz Brenneman (330-212-2209) See information below.

How are you being called to make an impact in the lives of those who are post hi Students and/or Shut ins?

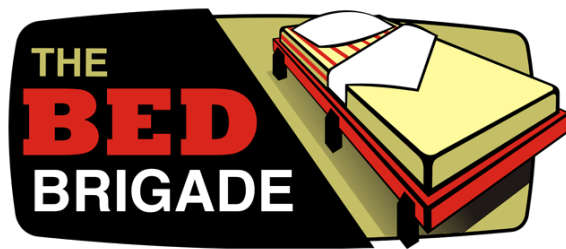
**CARE TEAM—HELP NEEDED**

Hello everyone, from the Care Team!

We are in need of a few people to be on the team to help calling members who may be ill or home bound for some reason. We call our friends, at least monthly, to see how they are doing, then inform the rest of the team.

Due to the pandemic, the team is not making home or hospital visits, unless there is a specific circumstance. When visiting, we follow the safety protocols put into place by the facility.

Please call Liz Brenneman (330-212-2209) for questions or more information. This is an amazing ministry that transforms the care givers and care receivers. We would love to have you on the Care Team!

**THE BED BRIGADE MEETING: MARCH 8 @ 6:30 PM**

7 representatives from Greensburg UMC visited Bed Brigade. Meanwhile, others have gathered additional information. On March 8 @ 6:30 pm, the prayer and conversation about Bed Brigade will continue. The meeting will be available in person and via Zoom. Please check the Crosspoints Email for the Zoom connection. If you are unable to be at the meeting and would like to know more, please contact Rev. Katie (rev.katie.osier@gmail.com).

**LAWN MOWER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

It is that time again! If you are able to volunteer time to mow the grounds at the church( except the ball field area), we need you to sign up! Depending on the amount of volunteers we get will determine how often you would have to mow. We usually begin the season around Easter and go until early November. In the past the rotation has been every 6-8 weeks. Please reach out to the church office if you are willing to commit. Or email: pam.moore@greensburgumc.net

