



The GRAPEVINE
MAY 2015

Servant Leaders

Tonight I have just come from a volunteer recognition event where over 100 people who are giving multiple hours every week to help the poor came together. It was a gathering of servant leaders. Interestingly because the group is not blatantly Christian, not seen as a church, we use code language, servant leadership, to designate this group who are followers of Jesus. In Matthew 7:14 Jesus spoke about a narrow way. "The gate that leads to life is small and the road is narrow, and those who find it are few." This is the **journey inward** where with intentionality a person grows as a follower of Jesus.

The goal of the **journey inward** that is narrow is not simply to achieve great spiritual depth. Rather it is the foundation and path that leads to the **journey outward**. Having gone inward there is a process of surrendering to the ultimate power of the Divine. This Creative Force moves through all things and manifests in the individual finding expression through the Incarnational Spirit.

The **journey outward** is not following the crowd, but rather a life surrendered and committed to be a life follower of Jesus. There are two ways to go; the wide road which could be called the way of unconsciousness or the narrow road which is the way of consciousness. Jesus' followers not only learn about Jesus but also follow him. Because Jesus showed us another way, the way of service, this group emerges as leaders. They are not necessarily elected positional leaders, but they are leaders in grace and love. Their presence and insights call people to see and experience God through both their words and actions.

Here at Concord we have been seeing the fruit of a number of you who are servant leaders. Over the past 20 months here are some things that I have noticed. There are new lights in the sanctuary. The parsonage got cleaned up, repaired, and repurposed into a ministry house where 5 young adults live. The church paid off all its debt; there was leadership that worked and redesigned our endowment and our investments began to bear fruit. We developed a Missionary in Residence program which has brought joy to us and others; we bought and are continuing to learn and use a new computer program call Church Windows. We welcomed a Deacon into our midst especially to assist on the **journey inward**. Forty persons gave intentional time in the Experiencing God course. We have had a team rethink space and building through the relocation of FISH and scouts. A servant placed all of the existing records of the cemetery into a computerized program. With joy our music program has been reinvigorated and the style of music and people involved has expanded. Hospitality has grown and welcoming people has become a way of building the Body of Christ. We have convened and hosted a number of grief classes. Now we are restructuring all the administrative committees. We have reviewed the church insurance and paid all or our Conference and District apportionments. We have weekly worship and are revitalizing a team for caring for members. As of now five young adults have spoken about their call to Christian ministry and a team of new servant leaders are empowered through the nurturing they are receiving here at Concord.

I believe that this is a season to be encouraged. At least it is for me.

Steve

***Our Mission:** Sharing Jesus with our local and global community for the purpose of transforming the world one person at a time.*

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts: Join us on Sunday, May 3 and May 17 at 6:00-8:30 pm to discover how God has gifted you to contribute to the Body of Christ. We will explore definitions of our God given passion, spiritual gifts, and personal style. Each of us is uniquely created for a purpose. We will complete inventories that give us information about what makes us unique. Plan to attend and discover how serving God can be energizing. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Carry-in Dinner Sunday, May 31st

Please join us for our next carry-in dinner Sunday, May 31st. After our 10:30 church service. Builders Sunday School Class will provide chicken and drinks. Please bring a Large covered dish to share.

THE CONCORD GRAPEVINE

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Every Sunday Morning:
8:30 - 9:00 am Communion Service
9:00 - 9:15 am Hospitality
9:15 - 10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 - 10:30 am Hospitality
10:30 - 11:30 am Worship Service



... KEEPING UP WITH THE CONGREGATION

Thank You...

We want to thank Concord for honoring the birth of our Great Granddaughter, Sophia Marie with the rosebud, card and blanket. The beautiful blanket made by Elsie Kreider is very special to our family.

Richard and Joyce Clingman and family



Dear friends and family in Christ,
Thank you for your support of calls, cards, visits and many many prayers. We have felt your love surrounding us.

Dick and Micki Curtner



YOUTH GROUP

I would like to have the youth come together and do the bowling event on May 2nd from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. And for a community service event for May 9th @ Concord. The time for the May 9th event is TBA.

Thank you, Natasha Harrell



Concord Church Directory

Enclosed you will find an updated church directory. This was printed from our new membership program. If your family is missing from the list or we have a wrong address or phone number, we apologize. Please just write the correct information on the pew attendance pad or call / email the church office. We will send out another directory again in a couple months. Thanks!

The Tapestry and Builders Classes enjoyed the 6th annual Mission Dinner on Sat. March 14th at the home of Stan Eichenauer. Celebrating St. Patrick's Day with green and white decorations and Irish scones and soda bread, the group enjoyed good food, games and fellowship. Over the history of this event, the group has collected almost \$10,000 to be directed toward mission projects, to benefit both local and international areas of need. Most of the local focus has been the Community Table. The national and international support has been directed through UMCOR. Thanks to all who have participated in this mission project.

Thanks,
Juanita and Dick



Thank you for all the cookies for *Kairos Prison Ministry!* Concord very generously donated close to 80 dozen cookies! Thanks for spreading the love of Christ through cookies!



Imagine No Malaria

Thank you for your generosity toward Imagine No Malaria. We raised **\$1,543.08**. That translates to **154** bed nets which translates to at least **154** lives saved. Our contributions will be taken to West Ohio Annual Conference in June. As a conference it is our hope to raise 3.5 million dollars toward Imagine No Malaria by this time.

The church office will be closed on
Monday, May 25th for
Memorial Day!



CONCORD STATISTICS

DEATHS:

March 22, 2015

Josephine Alkire

Northmont F.I.S.H.

We are so lucky to now have forty people volunteering in our F.I.S.H. program. Twenty of us come in weekly on Wednesday – our work day. Others come in when available and still others come in to help with our special events. And of course, the bread route people (our trip to Krogers) come in daily. Many times we're called in on quick notice when something unexpected comes along. Always, someone is willing to come in to help.

We have an exceptional group of people doing extraordinary work for the good of our Northmont community.

In His Service,
Bob and Barb Sullivan

Food for FISH: We will be collecting non-perishable food items for FISH on Sunday, May 3rd. They especially need instant mashed potatoes, boxed variety potatoes, Ramen noodles, and canned fruit and vegetables but any non-perishable food item is welcome. Thank you for your faithful giving to those who are hungry in our community. Please drop the items in the gathering area before service.



Jesus in the Breadline

“For I was hungry, and you fed me.”

Matthew 25:35

2016 Giving Envelopes

In May the 2016 giving envelopes for Concord will be ordered. Envelope choices are weekly, monthly or no envelopes at all (giving through online banking, for example.) If your 2015 envelopes are satisfactory, do nothing and the same type of envelopes will be ordered for your number in 2016.

However, if you want to change, please indicate your choice on the order sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex or call me. Be sure to include your giving number with any change.

Also, I have 17 sets of 2015 envelopes that were left in the Narthex last November. If you did not pick up your envelopes for this year and you still want them, please call me to arrange delivery. Thanks!

Sheila Petteruti
Financial Secretary
Phone: 454-5197

Coming Attractions:

Confirmation & Youth meet each Sunday from 3:30 - 5:00p

Youth Group Bowling - May 2nd 3:00 - 5:00p

Youth Community Service - May 9th times TBA

Discover Spiritual Gifts - May 3rd & 17th from 6 - 8:30p

Church Carry-in Dinner - May 31st after 2nd service

(See enclosed calendar for all church events.
Also for information check our website: englewoodconcord.com)

United Methodist Women

The year is flying by, and we have the busy month of May upon us already. By the time you receive this, we will have had our successful flower sale fund raiser. Thank you to Jan Davis and her team for their hard work, and for lining up a new vendor, the Covered Wagon. Please let us know what you think of the flowers this year, as opposed to prior year's flowers. We welcome your input.

The "Human Trafficking and the Heroin Highway" General Meeting in March was well received with 40+ persons in attendance. Thank you to Binu for his moving insights on labor trafficking. Our free will offering totaled \$110.00, which was split and sent to Abolition Ohio and the Life Enrichment Center. We also were able to bag up 16 dozen cookies for Pat Roth to take to Kairos at Lucasville in April. Thank you, ladies, for baking, attending and donating, and for bringing your husbands with you!

We also thank Deb Roth for many things: for leading the Tuesday night "Experiencing God" Bible study for us; for leading the Blooming Grace retreat; and for setting up the wonderful Stations of the Cross during Holy Week! We hope you were able to see it. It was amazing and she has been a blessing to us all.

Coming up we have the opportunity to attend a UMW Miami Valley District spiritual growth retreat. They are holding several gatherings around the conference, and this one will be very near us at Union UMC. "Resurrection Women Revisited" will begin with a gathering at 9:30 am on Saturday, May 23. This is a free event, includes lunch, and will end by 2:00 pm. You are to bring yourself, a friend, and your Bible. Please see the bulletin board in the narthex to sign up for this event, and to indicate if you are interested in carpooling. Any seniors needing to be picked up, please call Naomi 771-0245.

Our next General Meeting will be on Saturday, May 16 at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Dawn Dewey, from the Wright State University Library, will present a program on "Women With Nerve: Dayton Women at the Turn of the 20th Century." Again, anyone wishing help with transportation, please call Naomi.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

May 1 (Fri.) - flower pick-up in the narthex 1:00-5:00pm

May 2 - Mothers and Others event -- CANCELLED

May 6 (Wed.) - Executive Board Meeting 9:30 am in the Lounge

May 16 (Sat.) - General Meeting: "Women With Nerve" program at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall

May 23 (Sat.) - Spiritual Growth Retreat "Resurrection Women Revisited";
9:30 am - 2:00 pm at Union UMC

June 17 (Wed.) - Circle meetings/picnics:

Joy/Tillie Marie Circle will picnic at the home of Betty Craig for lunch

Esther/Sarah Circle will picnic at 6:00 PM, place TBD

Come and enjoy Christian fellowship with other great women. Together, may we find where God is working, and join Him!

Questions?? Contact Naomi Wilson, church liaison 771-0245



May Birthday List

Please join us in wishing these Concord friends a Happy Birthday!



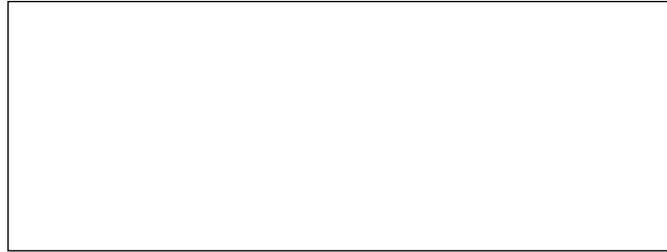
May Birthdays

5/01	Rick Norris William Wetzel Jacob Slemker
5/02	Judy Wagner
5/03	David Shellabarger Sara Harris
5/04	Cathi Link
5/05	Barb Hern Mike McKinniss
5/06	Glen Perram
5/10	Andrea Norris
5/11	Matt Thomas
5/12	Lorae Gels Alaina Helsinger
5/13	Leia Lander
5/16	Kate Nealeigh
5/18	Max Ratliff
5/20	Joyce Saylor Kay Reichert
5/22	Audre Nelson Elaine Gill
5/26	Don Reichert
5/29	Jack Thomas Bobbie Grise
5/31	Bryan Herrington Lacey Vickers

We are sorry if your name is missing from this list. Please call the office or write it on the attendance pad so we can wish you a Happy Birthday. Thanks!



Non-Profit Org.
PRSRT STD
Brookville, Ohio
45309
Permit No. 42



May 2015

Community Groups: Several of the Experiencing God groups will be beginning a new study the week of April 27. You are invited to join the new study – we would love for you to be a part of a community group. Sign up on the bulletin board in the lobby.

Sunday morning 9:15-10:15 am at Concord – Lectionary Scripture Readings.
Contact Dan Schoulties

Sunday evening 6:30 at the ministry house –

Tuesday morning 10:00-11:30 am at Concord – *Journey Inward Journey Outward*.
Contact Steve Gill

Tuesday evening 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Concord - Women's Study - *Twelve Women of the Bible*.
Contact Debbie Roth

www.inglewoodconcord.com