

Steeple Notes

February 2021

Message from your Pastor

“Creation, Curse, and Repentance”

Lent begins this year on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Lent is our period of preparation for the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. During the season of Lent, Christians are encouraged to walk with Jesus in remembrance of his suffering and sacrifice. It is a time of humility and sacrifice for Christians.

Ash Wednesday itself usually involves the imposition of ashes on the believer's forehead as a reminder of one's own mortality. The day itself focuses on three themes: creation, curse, and repentance. There are three Scriptures to consider these themes.

- **Creation, Genesis 2:7: Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.** The Creator of all the universe formed human beings. Our very creation is dependent upon God, Who willed us into being.
- **Curse, Genesis 3:19: By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.** In our sinfulness, human beings turned our backs on the fellowship and sustenance God offered. We wanted to be independent from Him, and so God gave us that independence. Unfortunately, that also meant death. Even as we are formed from dust, we return to the dust.
- **Repentance, Psalm 51:7-10: Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.** The curse isn't the end of the story. We can repent and turn again to the God who will renew our hearts and cleanse us from sin.

We will observe Ash Wednesday a little differently this year. Instead of one worship service, I will be present in the sanctuary between 11:00 a.m. and noon, and again between 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. I will be available to impose ashes and pray during those times, drop-in style. I hope you will be able to join me in this time of preparation for Lent.

Little Wonders Preschool



Learning about astronauts:

The children have been busy in January making snow experiments with lemons. They even “went to the moon” to eat the astronauts’ food!



Looking Ahead

Sunday School with Pastor Sara

Sunday , After Worship

2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28



*Wednesday
February 17*



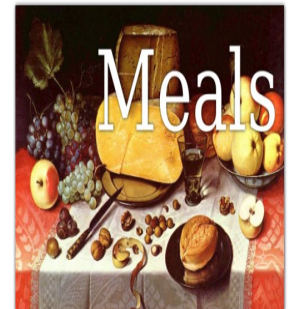
**American
Red Cross**

Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday February 25

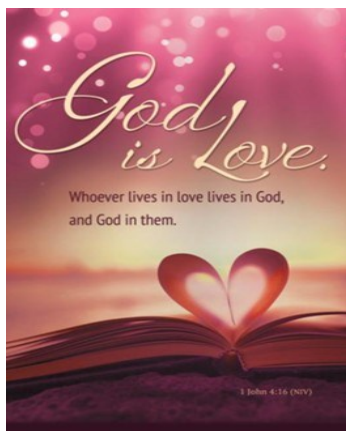
1:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

**Music under the Steeple:
Oberlin Graduate Student
Tigran Buniatyan will be playing
the organ VIRTUALLY Sunday,
February 14, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.**



*GOD IS
LOVE*

(1 JOHN 4:16)



Christianbook.com

*** Hot dog Monday Every Monday**

@ 12:00 p.m.

**• Christ community Meal 2nd & 4th Wednesday
of the month.**

@ 5 p.m.





February 17

Ash Wednesday — Lent Begins

The sanctuary will be open “drop-in” style on Wednesday, February 17th between noon and 1 p.m., and between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m., for prayer and the imposition of ashes.

Lenten Study:

Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross

Beginning Tuesday, February 23rd at 7:00 p.m., we will begin our Zoom Lenten Study on the book “Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross” by Magrey deVega. This book explores “the mystery of salvation through the image of the cross! deVega examines the biblical symbols that point to the meaning, necessity, and significance of Jesus' death and resurrection. His profound insights will deepen your love for God and strengthen your commitment to follow Christ.” To sign up, call the church office Monday-Thursday by Tuesday, February 9th. Books are \$13.00 if you order through the church. The electronic book is available on Amazon for \$9.99.

The
Season
of
Lent



A Message from the Worship Committee:

Worship Guidelines

The Worship Committee would like to thank everyone for their patience during this time of Coronavirus. We know that all of the arrangements for masks and social distancing are a burden, and we appreciate everyone's willingness to do what needs to be done to continue in-person worship.

Recently, at one of our services, the question was raised as to why we must remain seated when singing. It is a good question, and it feels counterintuitive to sit while singing the great hymns of the faith. We hope to explain this decision the committee made and session approved.

Singing is one of the riskier Covid transmission behaviors. You may remember that at the start of the pandemic, musicians were especially hit hard. This is because when we are standing and singing, our diaphragms push air out more forcefully than when we are simply talking. However, if we remain seated, the air is not pushed out as forcefully.

Oberlin College asked that we submit our worship guidelines in order to permit our organist to continue working with us. Because we remain masked and seated while singing, and because we limit the amount of time in the sanctuary, he is allowed to continue working with us. They were very skeptical about him returning to us at all, but having stronger guidelines moved the needle.

Every congregation has its own Covid guidelines. Some churches have suspended worship altogether. Some churches don't wear masks and stand to sing. Some churches don't sing, and have no music at all. Each situation is different. The guidelines we have were prayerfully considered by our Session, and we believe them to be, at this time, the most appropriate for our setting.

We thank you for your understanding, and look forward to the day when we can finally remove our masks, stand and sing, and incorporate all the elements of worship in our services.

Thank you ...



I am the resurrection and the life.
The one who believes in me
will live...
John 11:25


Dear church family -

We would like to Thank you.
Thank- you for your thoughts, prayers and cards
during our mother's hospitalization, her stay at
Parkvue and her last days at Sally's home. Mother
loved talking about her friends, neighbors and
her church family. Knowing that you cared,
brought happiness and joy to mom's life.

May God Bless,
June Carolyn Harden Taylor 9 Oct 1934 - 21 Dec 2020
Holly Farmer - Lamb
Sally Kottowski



THANKS for
YOUR HELP



Angel Tree Program

Thank You First Party Church for allowing the
Huron Salvation Army Service Unit to place
Christmas Angel Tree Children's Gift wishes
at your place of business!
We were able to help 115 children with Christmas
gifts. The kids all live in the 44839 zip code area.
This was made possible through the Angel Tree
locations like yours. Thanks Again!

Thanks so much to all of you. Every year
you have been faithful in helping the Salvation
Army achieve the goal of helping needy folks.
Thank you!
Roxane

What's Happening



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

2/3— Dan Robertson
2/10—Thomas Work
2/13— Craig Johnson
2/14—Doug Brown, Harold Wright
2/17— Martha Eileen Stewart
Donna Myers (Church Treasurer)
2/18—John Arthur
2/22 — Patti Smith
Dawn Fleming (Church Secretary)
2/25— Debbie Schippel, Witmer Symmonds
2/26 Jenny Hagy ...Phillip Hopkins



DESSERTS NEEDED FOR CHRIST'S COMMUNITY MEALS

If you are a dessert baker, put your skills to work by donating a homemade dessert for the Christ's Community Meals. Homemade desserts are included in each take-home boxed meal distributed to those in need every Monday noon and on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings. Mondays usually find 140-150 coming for lunch; Wednesdays average 200. These free meals are prepared and distributed -via drive-thru- at Huron's First Presbyterian Church, thru the efforts of the ecumenical Christ's Community Meals volunteer team.

Like to bake cakes, cookies, or pies? Your sweet contribution would be appreciated. For details about how to join the team, contact Jane at 419-370-9274.



Prayer Calendar

2/7—Christ
Episcopal Church
Pastor Michael Floyd
2/14— Light House
Assembly of God
2/21—St. Peter
Catholic Church
Father Jeff McBeth
2/28— Huron United
Methodist Church
Pastor Pamela Sayre



February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 HDM @ 12 p.m. Prayer group @ 1:00	2	3	4	5	6
7 Worship @ 10 2-Cents- Meal Adult Sunday School 10:45	8 HDM @ 12 p.m.	9	10 Christ Community Meal @ 5 Session @ 7 p.m.	11	12	13
14 <i>Happy-Valentine's Day</i> Worship @ 10 Adult Sunday School 10:45 Music Under the Steeple @ 3:00 *VIRTUAL ONLY*	15 HDM @ 12 p.m.	16	17  Distribution of Ashes & Prayer 11a-12p & 6p-7p	18	19	20
21 Worship @ 10 Adult Sunday School 10:45	22 HDM @ 12 p.m. Prayer Group @ 1 Steeple Notes Due	23	24 Christ Community Meal @ 5	25 Red Cross Blood Drive 1p-6p 	26	27
28 Worship @ 10 Adult Sunday School 10:45						