



East Columbus
United
Methodist Church

A Church for Everyone!

FEBRUARY 2023

GOD



LOVE



*A Note
from
Terry Snyder*

While I was on Facebook at home, I saw a post from a guy who was on the praise team at a church. I got the impression that he is a staff member and not volunteer as it seems he would have had to be there had his church not canceled. He had replied on a friend of mine's post about it being wrong for churches to cancel their Sunday morning services on Christmas day. She had sung with the guy for 6-7 years, so he wasn't a stranger at all. He made a comment saying he was glad that his church had canceled the morning service so that he could celebrate Christmas at home. This was after he said everything she posts is annoying. (She has called out some churches and music that aren't theologically correct, and I guess at times points out where some churches fall short). But, that is a small part of what she posts. She still loves God, but doesn't like the compromises some make. She is a young woman in her twenties, and I respect her for taking such stances.

Anyhow, he was rude to her, and went on to say that he thinks she is extremely annoying these days and that he is sick of reading her "stuff" (He used a different word). He then went on to say that her husband is very creepy looking, gives off very weird vibes, and that he didn't like to be around him. Many had posted responses to him calling him out for his attitude and unkind words by the time I responded. I won't go into details (though I have screenshots of everything to that point and after I responded), but part of what I said was that there are many who would LOVE to get to do what he gets to do. I, for one love that we were here on Christmas day. I wouldn't want to shut down the service whether I was on staff or not. Closing the church on the day we celebrate Jesus' birthday makes about as much sense as a couple intentionally celebrating their anniversary separately states apart. Someone online made the comment about the CEOs (people who attend Christmas and Easter Only) and how we might take away the only (or one of the only) times they attend church at all. Another mentioned the message it sends to people about how serious we are about our faith. When we look at things from those perspectives, it makes our decision even more important.

I know some of you were disappointed that Christmas Eve was canceled (so was I), but I understood it. I want to make sure that this article isn't about that cancellation at all. To my understanding that the decision was made due to weather and temperature / projected conditions and not knowing if the parking lot would even be safe to navigate. Sometimes life hits us in a way that we have to make the best decision we can without knowing all of the details.

As many of you know, we did gratitude month in November. I saw something on lunch today that said something to the effect of "remember that the blessings you take for granted are the same ones that someone else is praying for. This man had obviously taken a lot for granted. I hope some of our words have sunk in to him.

The fact is, nearly everyone can look at someone who at least appears to have more or be in better shape than they. They can see blessings others supposedly have that they lack. By the same token, those same people can look at even people in their own circle (let alone in the world) and see those who are less fortunate. I think I mentioned before about a plate mom had on the wall. It said something like "Thank God for dirty dishes, they have a tale to tell. While others may be hungry, we're eating very well." How would our moods change, how would our outlook change, how would we affect others in positive ways if we would consistently look at how blessed we are instead of what we lack? Have a sore leg? The guy missing a leg (or two) would love to have that problem. Have a car repair bill? The woman walking miles back and forth to work or having to ride the city bus would welcome that problem. Babies crying in church? Praise God they are in church!



Jesus Walking On The Snow

It is winter with white snow falling. The snow on the roads is disturbed by passing cars and becomes dirty. However, the snow that falls on the wide fields shows its clean white color.

I picture Jesus walking on that white snow field. Our Jesus walks on white snow with bare feet. Behind the footprints of Jesus walking, red marks are left behind. The scene is so incredibly white, so the bright red footprints are more clearly visible. The purity with all white and the tear in the bright red stand together in harmony. That harmony is beautiful and painful.

The journey of Jesus' life was beautiful and painful like that. But, we have to remember. When winter passes and spring comes, the flowers will bloom at every red mark scattered along the road Jesus walked.

You are the flower of Jesus Christ. We are beautiful flowers that grow from the red footprints carved in the white snow field. We were bloomed with the love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

We will soon meet the season of Lent. As we walk along the path Jesus walked, I pray that other beautiful flowers will bloom in the places we pass by.

"You are beautiful flower of Jesus Christ."

Love in Christ,
Pastor **Jongmin**

HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL

Troop 549



February 3rd and 4th Scout Sunday Weekend

February 25th Merit Badge Day

January 20th-22nd was the Winter Rendezvous at Maumee Scout Reservation. Our troop leaders ran the One Tough Voyager obstacle course. The obstacle course used a slackline (tightrope) about 2ft off the ground about 25 ft in length. It was over a makeshift pond with blow-up alligators, blow-up snakes. On the tightrope overhead safety line, we hung 3 blow up monkeys. Once they finished the slackline they ran over to use stilts and walk on varied ground. It had leaves, sticks, uphill and downhill sections. It was also a little muddy too. It was a lot of laughs and fun for all the scouts. It was a great success, and the troop was asked to participate in running the obstacle course next year.

February 3rd and 4th is Scout Sunday Weekend. We are planning a trip to Perfect North Slopes to have a tubing outing. Sunday, February 5th is Scout Sunday.

February 25th is the Muscatatuck District Merit Badge Day in Madison, In. This is a great day for the boys to get some of the harder merit badges that are hard to attain during the normal part of the year.

If you know anyone that is interested in scouting or needs to be involved with scouting, the door is always open for their visit on our scout nights. Please feel free to pass my contact information to anyone interested in visiting or joining our troop. Boys ages need to be 11 years old to join and less than 18. Meeting time Thursday is at 6:30 – 8:00 at the Youth Center.

Bruce McIntosh

Scoutmaster

812-374-9009

brucemcintoshbsa@yahoo.com



Happy Valentine's Day, East Columbus!

Last week, I went with a mouse friend and her little ones to a restaurant. Her young son asked if he could say grace. As we bowed our heads he said, "God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if Mom gets us ice cream for dessert....And Liberty and justice for all! Amen!"

Along with the muffled laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard an older lady remark, "That's what's wrong with this country. Children today don't even know how to pray. Asking God for ice cream! Why, I never!"

Hearing this, the young child burst into tears and asked, "Did I do it wrong? Is God mad at me?"

As I glared at the lady, Jamie's Mom comforted him explaining that God hears all of our prayers and God was certainly not mad at him for asking for ice cream. On his way to the cashier, an elderly man approached our table.

He winked at Jamie and said, "I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer."

"Really?" he asked.

"Cross my heart," the man replied. Then, in a theatrical whisper, he added (indicating the lady whose remark had started this whole thing), "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes."

Naturally, the young ones got ice cream at the end of the meal. While his older sister dug right in to her sundae, Jamie stared at his ice cream for a moment, and then did something I will remember the rest of my life.

He picked up his sundae and, without a word, walked over and placed it in front of the older lady. With a big smile he told her, "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes; and my soul is pretty good already."

Sometimes, we all need some ice cream. Sometimes, the "ice cream" comes in the form of a precious, trusting little child who, rather than glare at the devil's minion, shares his ice cream in hopes of saving his soul. May you share your ice cream and the love of Jesus with someone else today.

I hope God sends your favorite ice cream today....with all of the calories removed, of course!

Your Valentine, Timothy



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6pm-Choir	2 6pm-Church Council Mtg. 6:30pm-Scouts	3	4
5 Communion Scout Sunday 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday School	6	7	8 6pm-Choir	9 6:30pm-Scouts	10	11
12 9am-Worship 10:10am Sunday School 5pm-Grace's Table	13		15 6pm- Choir	16 6:30pm-Scouts	17	18
19 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday School	20	21	22 6pm-Choir 5pm-Ash Wednesday Service	23 6:30pm- Scouts	24	25
26 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday School	27	28				



- Feb 08...Mike Mattern
- Feb 10...Betty Schaefer
- Feb 11...Robert Brown
- Feb 14...Gerald Walker
- Feb 18...Robert Murphy
- Feb 21...Kathy Henry
- Feb 24...Karen Miller
- Feb 28...Bob Fear
Amanda Jo (AJ) Henry

News



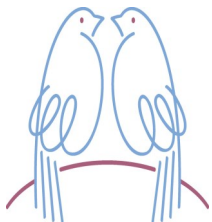
From the Mail Box...

Thanks for all your prayers, cards, calls and food during our illnesses. God Bless each of you for your kindness.

In Christ Love, Tom & Mary Gorman

Be a Love Bird

Many stories about the origin of Valentine’s Day have come down through the centuries. There’s no definitive story, but most revolve around the imprisonment of Valentinus (St. Valentine) for his disregard of Roman law.



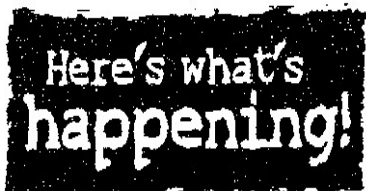
Many legends are also associated with Valentine’s Day. For example, because birds seemed to arrive and mate in some countries in mid-February, human couples came to be called “lovebirds.”

In 1667, the first recorded Valentine card was printed. Today, people will give their sweethearts countless millions of cards and acres of heart-shaped boxes filled with candy. But why wait for Valentine’s Day to share love with others? Remember Jesus’ words in John 13:34: “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.”



*In Memory of
Dorothy Walker
Who went home to her
Heavenly Father
January 6, 2023*

Our condolences to the family of Dorothy Walker.



Church Council Meeting will be held Thursday, February 2 at 6pm.

Grace’s Table Dinner Church Sunday, February 12 at 5:00 pm in the Youth Center.

Ash Wednesday Services will be held Wednesday, February 22 at 5pm.



A Day for Ashes

Since the Middle Ages, Christians in the so-called Western Church have observed Ash Wednesday (the seventh Wednesday before Easter) as the first day of Lent. On this day, in many churches, worshipers receive ashes on the forehead as a reminder of their sorrow for their sins. The ashes are often made by burning palm branches left over from the previous year’s Palm Sunday. Ash Wednesday is February 22 this year.

The Paper Recycle Dumpster will be removed from our parking lot soon due to the company charging for the service. You can take your papers to the Columbus/Barth. Recycling Center 720 S. Mapleton St. It is a drive thru. You don’t have to get out of your vehicle. They will unload it for you.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR BETTY SCHAEFER

Open House for Betty’s birthday at Brown County Health & Living, Nashville, 2-4pm February 11 in the Meeting Room



East Columbus United Methodist Church
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Return Service Requested

Jongmin Lee, Senior Minister
Angie Sherfick, Adm. Assistant
Terry Snyder, Music Director

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Pastor Email: jongmin.lee@inumc.org
Worship Director Email: music@eastcolumbusumc.org
Church Website: www.eastcolumbusumc.org

9:00am-Worship Service
10:10am- Sunday School

OUR CHURCH MISSION
Growing the Family of God by Making
Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.