

## **\*\*From Our Members\*\***

### **Keep In Prayer**

**Dot S Izzy R Carol J Helen P Herb S**

Thursday Evening Worship, 6:30pm

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 am

**Lead Usher for March:** Becky Sparks

### **Lenten Worship:**

During the season of Lent, on Thursday evenings Pastor Wayne will be looking at some of the lesser known books and stories of the Bible. Come and learn more about Esther, Ezra & Nehemiah and some of the New Testament letters we don't commonly read.

**Special Guest:** Sunday, March 4, Mark Fritz will be with us in worship to share his experiences from a recent mission trip to Jordan.

**Palm Sunday:** Holy Week begins March 25 with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

**Maundy Thursday:** Remember Jesus' last supper, trial and arrest on Thursday, March 29. Worship will be at 6:30pm in the sanctuary and will include the celebration of Communion.

**Easter Sunday: Sunday, April 1, with worship at 8:00 am and 10:00 am with our annual Easter Breakfast between services.**

### **Worship Sponsors, for the week of:**

**March 4:** Wayne Chasney, in memory of George Chasney

**March 11:** Dan Mack, in celebration of spring and rebirth!

**March 18:** John and Tina Smith, in celebration of their anniversary

**March 25:** OPEN

Thank you to all our sponsors!

Suggested donation of \$5 goes toward our Local Mission fund.

**Carriage House:** Pastor Wayne and Donna lead worship at the Carriage House on the third Sunday of the month, 1:30pm

### **Follow the Star Walking Program:**

We did it! We walked 6043 miles from Monroeville to Bethlehem between October 15 and February 13. We are a very healthy congregation – keep moving!



### **Christian Education**

The CE committee will meet on February 25 to plan children's activities for March and beyond. Parents, please let us know what you would like to see for activities for your children.

**Summer Church Camp:** Registration is now open at

<https://ohioucc.campbrainregistration.com/>

The church will pay one half of the registration cost for anyone interested in camp.

Check them out at

<http://www.ohioucc.org/outdoor-ministries/>

We extend our sympathy to **Dan Mack Jr.** whose father, Dan Mack Sr. died January 31, 2018 in Florida.

Our sympathy to **Erica & Katie Hosko** on the death of their father, John Hosko on February 14, 2018.

Congratulations to **Bonnie Balduff** & Grandma **Claudia Balduff** on the birth of Bonnie's daughter, Robbi, born January 6, 2018 in Missouri.

Congratulations also to **Jerrod & Abigail Sparks** on the birth of their son, Hayden Lucas, born February 6, 2018.

A HUGE thank you to everyone that helped in any way for a successful chili dinner and cookoff. We had a profit of \$1,021.00. Attend church Sunday, Feb. 25 for the awards to be given for the cookoff. A special thank you to those who sold tickets, made a donation, made chili, cornbread and beverages. It was fun and hopefully see you next year. Thank you again. Ruth, Sue, Sharon and families

Financial Report  
January 2018

Income

Building	\$522
Christian Ed.	\$859
Current	\$7964
Local Mission	\$35
Non Food Bank	\$4060

Expenses

Building	\$2741
Christian Ed.	\$0
Current	\$5839
Local Mission	\$0
Non Food Bank	\$856

Account Balances

American Legion	\$2891
Building	\$1370
Christian Ed.	\$1521
Current	\$1746
Local Mission	\$787
Memorials	\$2668
Non Food Bank	\$12659
Youth Fell.	\$4623

American Funds \$48,384

When you give to the church, the support the ministry of the church. It is so much more than keeping the building open. It is making a difference in the lives of people. Everything we do, from the work of our pastor to our fellowship together, including everyone who comes through our doors whether it be to worship, for the Non Food Bank, an AA meeting or CLI through the week, is part of our mission to share God's love with the world. Thank you for supporting this mission.

A full financial report is available upon request.

**Come and join with us,  
To know God,  
To share God's love,  
And to serve God together!**



## **\*\*Mission and Ministries\*\***

### **2018 Mission Focus: CLI Inc.**

#### **Community Lunch: Thursday, March 15, 11am to 1pm**

Free of charge and open to the public!

Building community together with the people of CLI  
Bring a friend. Come and join us for lunch!

#### **Non Food Bank**

Next Date: March, 9:00am to 2:00pm

We are collecting toothpaste once again

We served 199 households in February.

**Thanks** to our recent donors including;

St. Joseph Catholic School

St. Joseph Parish

Thanks to everyone who drops off items and helps in any way with this ministry.

Thanks to the Huron County Humane Society, Teen Leadership of Monroeville high school, and CLI Inc. for working together to help provide dog and cat food for the Non Food Bank.

**Noisy Offering for March:** One Great Hour of Sharing

**Thank you** to everyone who gave to our Special Offering and Noisy Offering in February to support CUE; Chicago, United and Eden Seminaries!

#### **Little Free Library**

Check out all the Little Free Libraries in our area.

Go to the World Map at

<https://littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap/>

**Special Offering:** March - One Great Hour of Sharing

It is easy to feel overwhelmed when we look at all the areas of need in God's world: there is hunger, sickness, and injustice in so many communities. It is easy to feel there is nothing we can do to help. We can feel trapped by hopelessness and fear that what little we can do—won't have an impact.

**But there is hope!**

**Better yet: we are that hope!**

As the Apostle Paul writes, "by the power at work within us," God is able to "accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20). "We are the agents of transformation that God uses to transfigure this world" (Archbishop Desmond Tutu).

Wishing and dreaming of a better world means nothing if we don't realize that God gives us community to practice love and compassion. We cannot only care for ourselves, but we must also care about those around us, both near and far. Our gifts become part of a loving legacy in ways we can't foresee.

Our gifts become blessings to people we don't know and blesses in ways we can't expect. We can make a difference beyond what we can imagine.

### **March 2018: Witnessing Healing, Growth, and New Life**

*I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.  
John 10:10b*

Joy comes in participating and witnessing healing, growth and new life. This is the core of the message of Jesus that is fully revealed during the Season of Lent and Easter.

Six years ago, a refugee from another African country came to live at Inanda Seminary in South Africa. She was bright and eager to learn. During her years, she was always in the top ten of her class, and frequently number one. She was successful in being granted a scholarship to study and today is working for a top accounting firm in the country.

Three years ago, a local girl came through the gates of Inanda Seminary after obtaining a scholarship to study. She was the hope of her family where no one has graduated from high school. As she persisted in her studies, she rose to the top of her class and eventually to number one. She too has received a scholarship to study at the university.

Two years ago, a new student came to Inanda Seminary carrying with her the pain of abuse. Through counseling and support, she can celebrate healing and new life ahead.

Inanda Seminary is more than a school turning out graduates; it is a home of healing, growth and new life. Inanda Seminary is a school that lives up to its motto 'Shine Where You Are' based on Philippians 2:15, "where we are called to shine like stars in the midst of a crooked and perverse world."

*Susan Valiquette recently concluded her time with Inanda Seminary, Durban, South Africa as chaplain and instructor. Her appointment was made possible by your gifts to Disciples Mission Fund, Our Church's Wider Mission, and your special gifts.*

**Monroeville Congregational Community United Church  
of Christ**

Council Minutes of February 13<sup>th</sup> 2018

Present: Becky Sparks, Kim Davis, Scott Horn, Brian Sparks and Shane Zehnder

Wayne opened with prayer; all repeated the mission statement.

January Council Minutes were reviewed by Council Members. Becky asked for a motion to accept the January Council Minutes as read. Motion carried.

**Selection of Officers:** Becky Sparks will remain Council President, Scott Horn was named Council Vice President and Shane Zehnder will remain Council Secretary. Scott motioned to accept the above appointments and Brian seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:**

Worship: 9 (4 Sunday, 4 Thursday, 1 Carriage House)

Church Meetings: 2

Confirmation Classes: 1

Non Food Bank

CACEHR Board Meeting

Annual Meeting and Spaghetti Dinner

Hospital Calls and Member Visits

January worship averaged 57.3 up from the past four years

**Treasurer's Report:** Reviewed accounts with new members of Council. As of the end of January we were \$1,700.00 in the black.

**Mission Committee:** One Great Hour of Sharing is set for March. Lunch with CLI is scheduled for 03/15/18.

**Christian Education:** The Committee is planning activities for Lent.

**Non Food Bank:** Served 162 households in the month of January.

**Welcoming/ ONA:** Welcoming statement approved. We are now the 1497<sup>th</sup> UCC Congregation to meet the criteria for Opening and Affirming.

**Building:** Foyer Ceiling, exit lights and new lights in Pastor's Office complete. Thank you Terry.  
Parsonage windows to be wrapped in aluminum in the spring.  
Parking lot to be sealed this spring.

**Business:** Council Members chose months to usher.

**Upcoming Events:** Lent begins February 15<sup>th</sup>, New Members Class February 15<sup>th</sup>, Guest Speaker Mark Fritz March 4<sup>th</sup>, Maundy Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary, Easter Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup> 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Next Council Meeting set for March 13<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m.  
Submitted by Shane Zehnder



FIVEheartHOME

## **Fisher-Titus Medical Center Health Ministry Program**

Healthy Habits-Newsletter/ Bulletin Insert  
March 2018

March is Nutrition Month and with so much information out there how are you supposed to know what to follow. The simplest guideline is to look at your plate, is half of your plate filled with fruits and vegetables? The other half of your plate should include grains (whole grains are best) and protein with each only taking up approximately ¼ of your plate. When you think along these lines you can easily visualize how you are doing at each meal, just remember the plate does not need to be huge or heaping!

Dairy products are important as well but stick to the fat free or low fat, as well as the amount of dairy you are consuming. One glass of milk is all that is needed at a meal.

Keep in mind it is also beneficial to your health to cut back on sodium, fats and sugars.

If you want more information ask a dietician or look at [www.choosemyplate.gov](http://www.choosemyplate.gov) one of many good sites on the internet.

***“He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house.” Proverbs 15:27a.***