



Worship

From Pastor Phil

April Showers Bring May Flowers

Sundays 10:15 AM
Holy Communion

April 7	Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:32-35	
1 John 1:1—2:2	
Matthew 28:11-15	
April 14	Third Sunday of Easter
Act 3:11-21	
1 John 3:1-7	
Matthew 28:16-20	
April 21	Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:1-5	
1 John 3:16-24	
John 10:11-18	
April 28	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:6-11	
1 John 1-11	
John 15:1-8	

When I was growing up, every spring people would trot out that old saying, “April showers bring May flowers”. The rainy days are necessary for the blossoming of color that announces the coming of spring and the onset of summer.

Paul, in a more profound way wrote something similar: ¹⁶ *Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.* ¹⁷ *For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.* ¹⁸ *So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*

The secret to not losing heart (not giving way to despair in hard times), according to Paul is to not become fixated upon our current situation, whatever that may be, but to remain focused on the foundation that doesn’t crumble and the promises that do not disappoint. Specifically the hope (which in Biblical language means certainty) we have in the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ.

Paul wasn’t saying we should be naïve about troubles in the world, or to ignore them. He had tremendous challenges and difficult circumstances in his ministry that he lays out in some of his letters. But he understood that all these hard things were temporary, even death.

The Christian poet, George Herbert, wrote these lines of defiance even in the face of death speaking to death in the hope of Christ:

*Spare not, do thy worst.
I shall be one day better than before;
Thou so much worse,
that thou shalt be no more.*

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be **no more death**’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Sunday School

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistants



April 7 Carl & Zo Redman
 April 14 Carl & Zo Redman
 April 21 Carl & Zo Redman
 April 28 Carl & Zo Redman

Lectors



April 7 Pam Moyer
 April 14 Stacey Kiesel
 April 21 Cindy Bridinger
 April 28 Linda Grover

Communion Bread Bakers



April 7 Tom Nahm
 April 14 Kathy Heyman
 April 21 Zo Redman
 April 28 manna

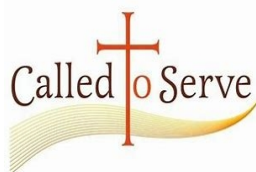
Coffee Brewers



The Java Café is open, with coffee being served Barista style and with snacks available.

Happy Birthday

April 1
 Sarah Traxler-Lamming
 April 8
 Grace McKechnie
 April 12
 Jessica Johnson
 April 14
 Lindsay Felske
 April 16
 Christine Chauvaux
 Corey Coppes
 April 17
 Tom Trout
 April 18
 Sadie Johnson



When the congregation called pastor it set his ministry priorities to be focused on teaching, preaching, leadership, and leadership development. While pastor plays a role in congregational care, many of these tasks were committed to be fulfilled by the congregation caring for each other. While the most visible functions of Congregational Care are coffee fellowship before service, after service activities, and family meals such as the Annual Picnic and Oktoberfest, much more happens behind the scenes:

- Card ministry to shut-ins
- Visitation and communion to shut-ins and residents of senior facilities
- Rides to church and other appointments as needed
- Keeping pastor aware of needs for his involvement

This requires the effort of many family members. If you can help get in touch with Dave Murray who lead the Congregational Care Team.

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Youth Sunday School

- April 7- Jeremiah
- April 14- Daniel
- April 21- Meshach, Shadrach, & Abednego
- April 28- Ezra/Nehemiah



The April Mission Baskets we are collecting for Sisters in Shelter.



The next **Women of Faith** gathering is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 7 PM at Family of Faith.



If you need a ride to church on Sundays, can provide a ride, please let David Murray know. Also, if you can visit any of our shut-ins, please let David know.

Renovation Team Update: We are nearing agreement on a design that would enable us to shift all activity to the 170 West Davis facility within the budget imposed by our available funds. The classroom and worship center wings will be delayed until more resources are provided. We will have a multi-purpose room, a kitchen, handicap accessible restrooms, a conference room, and a fellowship nook. We are also looking at sealing the roof, exterior siding, and possible underground connection to electric. Some of the construction drawings required for permits and bids are already in progress. The remainder will be completed after finalizing details for certain portions of the facility.

Facility Update: Plans are being developed to remove the stumps and brush behind the facility at 170 West Davis as well as grading and stoning the parking lot. For safety and use of the proper equipment we are negotiating this work with local contractors. Funding will be taken from the building fund. We believe by handling this task separately from the rest of the renovation we can realize savings toward the overall project.



Midweek Bible Study

Paul had only a brief time to establish the church in Thessalonica before being forced out of town by persecution leaving behind a fellowship composed completely of new Christians. Concerned for the survival and health of this vulnerable fellowship, Paul sent his protégé Timothy to investigate. The report was better than expected. While still working through the challenges of being new to the faith even as they were persecuted, the fellowship stood strong. These letters reveal how Paul helped them address many of the changes of learning to live as a follower of Jesus. Join us each Tuesday at 1:30 PM or 7:00 PM at the mall facility to examine what he communicated to them and how it can guide us in our own challenges.

Grieving a loss?

Find hope and healing after the death of a loved one.

Join us at **GriefShare®**

Weekly grief support group

Family of Faith Lutheran Church
870 W. Market Street Unit 15
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
419-448-4880

6:15-8:00 PM - Mondays
February 19, 2024 - May 13, 2024
(Tiffin Mall entrance in back)

Contact: for more information & to register: 419-448-4880 or go to:
<https://www.griefshare.org/groups/177735>

Facebook

Website

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Thank You's

Family of Faith Lutheran Church,

We are so thankful for your commitment to the Baby Bottle Blessing Campaign! Because of your generous hearts we are able to help those in need on a daily basis. We are so thankful that you choose to help Heartbeat. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.

Barb Collier
Bookkeeper
Heartbeat Hope Medical

Pastor and Peggy thank the congregation for the many cards, warm words, and offers of support on the occasion of his mother's death. It is so good to be part of a Family of Faith.

In answer to questions. The funeral will be held at Faith Lutheran in Grand Rapids, Michigan where she and her husband were charter members since its beginning in 1952. The date will be Saturday April 27th at 11:00am with visitation beforehand and a luncheon after. Pastor will be taking an extended weekend to attend to details and spend time with family. Members of our congregational family will lead the service on the 28th.

We know you are all with us. If you are so moved to do something concrete to show your care, please do not purchase flowers or plants. My mother was very interested in our new facility so the best honor you could show would be a memorial contribution to the building fund here at Family of Faith in the name of Maxine Moerdyk.

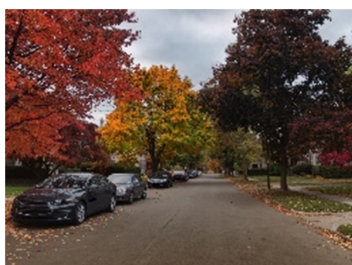
Christians mourn but not without hope.
Pastor Phil and Peggy



Getting to Know the Neighborhood

We are moving toward becoming a church, not in the Northwest Tiffin neighborhood, but of the Northwest Tiffin Neighborhood. Our facility is not to meet our needs for a place (although it will), it is a place for our neighbors to gather with us for many different reasons and a home base for us to reach out to our neighbors – to the best possible neighbors to them.

How well do you know our new neighborhood?
Some suggestions:



Drive the streets of the Northwest Tiffin neighborhood. Learn the layout. Learn the street names. Locate businesses, parks, churches, schools, or other landmarks. Get a feel for the neighborhood. Cover as much of it as possible. Get off the main streets and cruise the residential streets.



Take a walk. Being on foot allows you to see, hear, and even smell details you miss when you are in a car. Pick a safe place to park. Take a stroll around that part of the neighborhood. If you get the chance, say hello to one of our new neighbors. Maybe have a conversation with them. Make sure you listen to them to get to know them more than you talk about yourself or the church.



Sit in a park on a weekend. Pick out a nice day and find a table or bench from which to soak in the sun and watch the neighborhood go by. Check out who else is using the park. What age groups? What activities? Even if no one is there, think about how this park might be a place for us to interact with neighbors or help make the neighborhood a better place.

Vision Team Highlights

● **Pastor's Report - Pastor Phil:** Pastor Phil submitted his report before the meeting (previously distributed).

● **Finance - Mike Cholodewitsch:** Mike was unable to attend, but he did submit his report:

He has been gathering information regarding phone, cell phone and internet rates. He has been in contact with both Verizon and Spectrum. He has been told we can keep our current phone number. He is waiting on one piece of information from Verizon before the finance committee makes any decisions.

Shirley is in Florida; therefore, a financial report is not available.

The finance committee has decided not to contact any lenders until we have a better estimate for renovations.

Paperwork has been initiated to convert the stock options that were gifted to the church. Shirley will update me when she returns from her vacation.

● **Facilities - Tom Nahm:** Pastor Phil reported that the exit door crash bar has been fixed. Also, the new copier has been installed and is now easier to operate.

Nothing will be done on the HVAC systems at this time.

Tom reported that he had two companies look at the future parking lot at West Davis. The land needs to be graded so stone can be added. Tom will request written estimates.

● **Worship - Kathy Falter:** Kathy reported that people have volunteered to read during the Lenten services and it has gone well. Pastor Phil said that was one of Jim Vassar's goals - get more people to read during worship services.

Peggy Moerdyk has readers for the Maundy Thursday service.

Pastor Phil reported there will be an ecumenical Good Friday service at First Presbyterian.

● **Spiritual Development - Melissa Jameson:** Melissa reported that the adult Sunday School started a new series entitled "The Mission of Jesus."

Peggy Moerdyk and Linda Grover have activities for the kids up to Easter.

There were nine women at the last Women of Faith meeting. Peggy Moerdyk and Beth Nahm gave a presentation about GriefShare. Afterward, we put together

snack bags and Mary Lou Traxler gave neck and shoulder massages. Melissa reached out to Hope's Landing for our April meeting, but hasn't heard from them. Pastor said that he would contact the lady in charge.

● **Congregational Care - Dave Murray:** Dave reported that the soup luncheons and suppers have been going well. He talked to Linda Grover for what type of help she may need for the Mother's Day brunch.

Dave needs a list of the shut-ins and who is visiting them. Kathy A. will get him that list.

● **Outreach - Karen Kline:** Karen reported that \$360.16 was collected for Heartbeat Hope Medical.

This month we are collecting peanut butter for Haiti and next month we will be collecting for Sisters in Shelter.

● **Volunteer Coordination/President's Report - Randy Schwartz:** no report.



Deadlines: Bulletins - Thursday each week.

Newsletter - the 25th of each month.

Please be mindful of the deadlines, so that the production of these important materials can be done in a timely fashion.

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Praying Angels Ministry
Prayer Requests: 419.448.4604
or e-mail: hietgirl@aol.com

Office Hours: The church office is open from 2-5PM, through the week.

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Vision Team President: Randy Schwartz