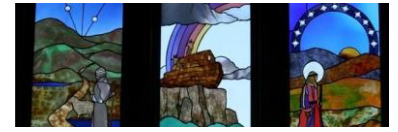




LEDGEWOOD LIGHT

Ledgewood Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
A BEACON ON THE HILL™



Rev. Heidi L. Barham, Pastor
Alissa Bodner, Pianist
Like us on Facebook!

Church Phone 440.338.5844
8261 Kinsman Road, Box 350
Novelty, OH 44072
www.ledgewoodcc.org

APRIL 2018

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN, INDEED!

There are not enough words to express how blessed we were throughout Holy Week as we came together as a family to worship and fellowship with one another. On Palm Sunday, our guest soloist, Kimberly Chambers, blessed us with the song, "Alabaster Box," which tells the story of the woman who anointed Jesus with expensive perfume after washing His feet with her tears and drying them with her hair. During the Service of Tenebrae and Communion on Maundy Thursday, members of the congregation lent their voices to the reading of the scriptures. And Resurrection Sunday was truly a joy as we were joined in worship by many friends and family members and were treated to a delicious coffee hour following the service. Thank you to everyone who made this Holy Week so special! And thank you to Don and June Angle for capturing some of the more memorable moments on film!



A Note from the Pastor:

A couple of weeks ago, I was in the Pastor's study at the church, which is in the process of being redecorated. Everything had been taken off of the walls and as I looked down at the desk, I noticed three crosses that were laying there. I thought to myself that what they say is really true, "A picture is worth a thousand words."

Because there it was, the Easter story, laid out in front of me on the desk.

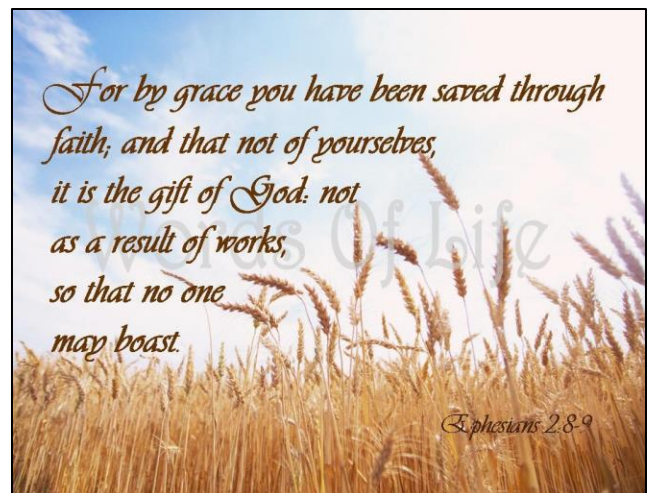


The cross on the left was made from an old palm branch, symbolic of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The cross in the middle, made out of nails, serves a reminder that Jesus chose the nails when He gave His life for us at Calvary. And the third cross on the right is emblazoned with the words, "Amazing Grace." As Paul wrote in Ephesians 2:8, "*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.*"

All I could do was thank God for sending such a poignant message and for sending His Son to give His life for us. Throughout this Easter season, my prayer is that you will be blessed to find similar messages from God that come to us in such simple yet extra-ordinary ways.

Your Pastor and friend,

Pastor Heidi



TAKE MY SON....

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art..

When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands. He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly... He often talked about you, and your love for art." The young man held out the package. "I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this."

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture.. "Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift."

The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected.

The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection. On the platform sat the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?"

There was silence...

Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, "We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one." But the auctioneer persisted, "Will somebody bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? \$100, \$200?"

Another voice angrily said, "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Goghs, the Rembrandts. Get on with the real bids!" But still the auctioneer continued. "The son! The son! Who'll take the son?"

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the longtime gardener of the man and his son. “I’ll give \$10 for the painting...” Being a poor man, it was all he could afford.

“We have \$10, who will bid \$20?”

“Give it to him for \$10. Let's see the masters.”

The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son. They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections. The auctioneer pounded the gavel.. “Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!”

A man sitting on the second row shouted, “Now let’s get on with the collection!”

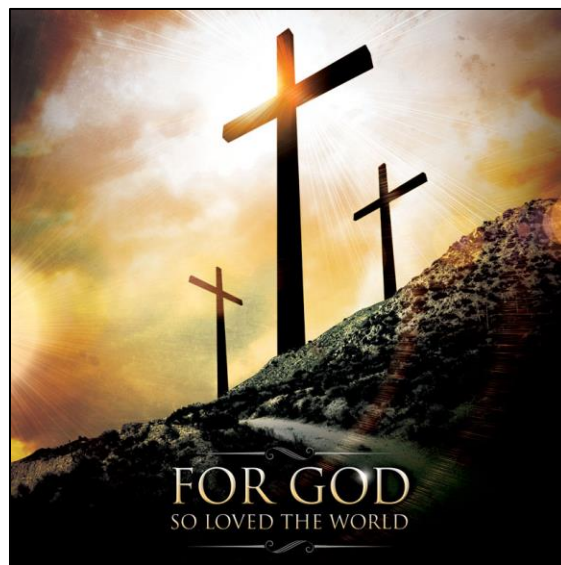
The auctioneer laid down his gavel. “I’m sorry, the auction is over.”

“What about the paintings?”

“I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will... I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings. The man who took the son gets everything!”

God gave His Son over 2,000 years ago to die on the Cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is: “The Son, the Son, who’ll take the Son?”

Because, you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything!



THE TURNED-OVER APPLE CART

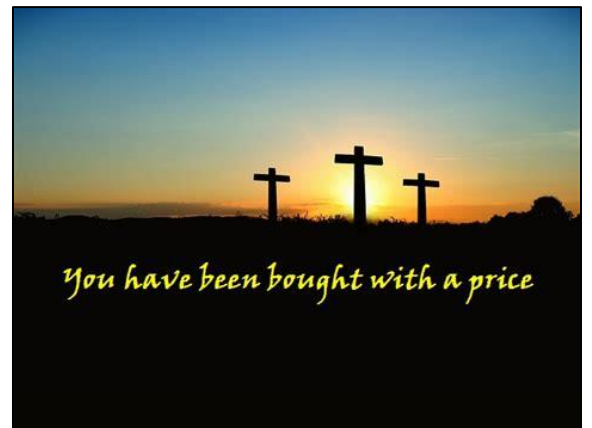
A few years ago, a group of salesmen went to a regional sales convention in Chicago. They had assured their wives that they would be home in plenty of time for Friday night's dinner. In their rush, with tickets and briefcase in hand, one of the salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table which held a display of apples. Apples flew everywhere! Without stopping or looking back, they all managed to reach the plane in time for their nearly missed boarding. All but one. He paused, took a deep breath, and experienced a twinge of compassion for the girl whose apple stand had been overturned. He told his buddies to go on without him, waved goodbye and told one of them to call his wife when they arrived at their home destination and explain his taking a later flight. Then he returned to the terminal where the apples were lying all over the terminal floor. He was glad he did.



The 16-year old girl was totally blind! She was crying softly, tears running down her cheeks in frustration, while at the same time groping helplessly for her spilled produce, as the crowd swirled around her – no one stopping and no one to care for her plight. The salesman knelt on the floor with her, gathered up the apples, put them back on the table and helped organize her display. As he did this, he noticed that many of them had become battered and bruised. These he set aside in another basket.

When he had finished, he pulled out his wallet and said to the girl, “Here, please take this \$40 for the damage we did. Are you okay? She nodded through her tears. He continued on and said, “I hope we didn’t spoil your day too badly.” As the salesman started to walk away, the bewildered blind girl called out to him, “Mister...” He paused and turned to look back into those blind eyes. She continued, “Are you Jesus?” He stopped in mid-stride, and he wondered. Then slowly he made his way to catch the later flight with that question burning and bouncing about in his soul, “Are you Jesus?”

Do people mistake you for Jesus? That’s our destiny, is it not? To be so much like Jesus that people cannot tell the difference as we live and interact with a world that is blind to His love, life and grace. If we claim to know Him, we should live, walk and act as He would. Knowing Him is more than simply quoting Scripture and going to church. It’s actually living the Word as life unfolds day by day. You are the apple of His eye even though we, too, have been bruised by a fall. He stopped what He was doing and picked you and me up on a hill called Calvary and paid in full for our damaged fruit. Let us live like we are worth the price He paid.



A Little **LIGHT** Refreshment

Apple Squares

3 eggs	1 T. cinnamon
1 ½ cups sugar	1 t. baking soda
1 cup oil	¾ cup chopped walnuts
2 cups flour	4 apples, peeled and chopped
½ t. salt	

Blend eggs, sugar and oil with a fork. Add dry ingredients and mix well. Add apples and nuts. Bake at 350° in a 9 x 13-inch pan sprayed with non-stick spray for about 30 minutes or until golden brown.



Double Chocolate Banana Muffins

1 ½ cups all-purpose flour	½ t. salt
1 cup sugar	¼ t. baking powder
¼ cups baking cocoa	1 ⅓ cups mashed bananas
1 t. baking soda	⅓ cup vegetable oil
1 egg	1 cup miniature chocolate chips

In a large bowl, combine dry ingredients. In a small bowl, combine the bananas, oil and egg. Stir into dry ingredients, just until moistened. Fold in chocolate chips and fill lined muffin cups ¾ full. Bake at 350° for 20-25 minutes or until done.

Yield: about 1 dozen



A Little LIGHT Humor...

(Knead a lift? Here is some rye humor for you. I hope you get a rise out of it and it doesn't fall flat. Oh well, I tried! After reading this, you will understand.)

The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday in Minneapolis of a yeast infection and traumatic complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71.

Doughboy was buried in a lightly greased coffin. Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay their respects, including Mrs. Butterworth, Hungry Jack, the California Raisins, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies and Captain Crunch. The grave site was piled high with flours.

Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded.

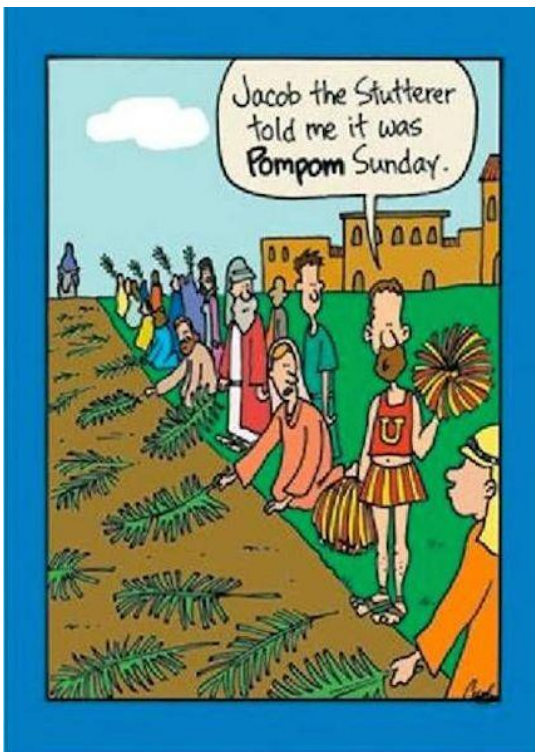
Born and bread in Minnesota, Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not regarded as a very smart cookie, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes. Despite being a little flaky at times, he still was a crusty old man and served as a positive roll model for millions.

Doughboy is survived by his wife, Play Dough, three children: John Dough, Jane Dough and Dosey Dough, plus they had one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart.

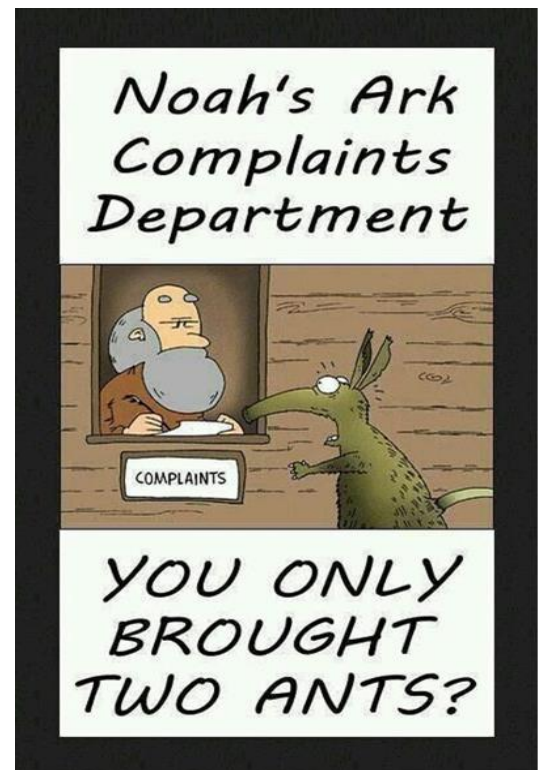
The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 min.

If you smiled while reading this, please rise to the occasion and pass it on to someone who is having a crumby day and needs a lift!

(Author unknown – humbly submitted by a dear friend)



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS...



REGULAR SCHEDULE

Worship Service	Sundays – 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School for all ages	Sundays – 10:00 a.m.
WOW Bible Study for all ages	Every First Sunday 12:15 p.m.
Official Board Meeting	Next meeting, Thursday, April 19 th 7:30 p.m.
Ledgewood Men's Fellowship Free Breakfast	Every Third Saturday 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Disciple Women's Bible Study	Every Third Saturday 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 1st *Resurrection Sunday!* He is risen indeed!

Tuesday, April 17th *Tax Day* the day on which individual income tax returns are due to the federal government.

Sunday, April 22nd *Earth Day* - Worldwide, various events are held to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day events in more than 193 countries are now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network.

Friday, April 27th *Fourth Friday Family Fun Fellowship* - Join us at 7:00 p.m. for a time of family friendly fun, food and fellowship. For more information, please contact Elder June Angle (440) 564-5912 or Pastor Heidi Barham (216) 376-8875.

An advertisement for a breakfast event. At the top center is a photograph of a plate with pancakes, sausage, and a small bowl of butter. Below the photo is a large red rectangular box with white text. The text reads: "LEDGEWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH", "FREE", "MONTHLY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST", "SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018", "SERVING 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM", "Menu includes: Pancakes, Scrambled eggs, Sausage", "Salmon patties, Orange juice, Coffee, Tea", "... and more!", "Questions??? Please call Jeff Angle 440.564.5912". Below the red box, the address "8261 Kinsman Rd." is listed, followed by "(Rt. 87 just west of Rt. 306)" and "Novelty, Ohio 44072". In the bottom left corner is the website "www.ledgewoodcc.org". In the bottom right corner are logos for "Givelify" (with the tagline "Tap. Give. Done.") and "facebook" (with the tagline "LIKE US ON").



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Pastor Heidi Barham	April 6
Cade Jeric	April 9
JoAnn Seckel	April 15

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Janet Kesler	May 7	Jeana Morris	May 11
Elsie Mohr	May 10	Blane Ruble	May 11
Tim Srnka	May 10	Jim Lucas	May 13
Marilyn Lucas	May 11	Gwen Washington	May 31



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Ruth Ann & Don Angle	April 27
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MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Kim & Kevin Gearhart	May 19
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REMINDER

The Ledgewood Christian Church Youth Ministry continues their outreach efforts to collect donations for the on-going support of the Geauga County Hunger Cupboards. We have been partnering with the Burton United Christian Church (the location of one of the county's seven food cupboards) in answering a “special need” each month. For April, we are collecting packaged side dishes (i.e. mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, etc.) The bin for donations is located in the narthex. As always, your contributions of non-perishable foods and “special need items” are all greatly appreciated!



You're Invited!

Please **SWING** by to learn about Next Step, a program of Family & Community Services, Inc., going to bat for young adults in need.

Baseball Season Opening Celebration!

Batter up for some fun! Wear your favorite baseball gear!

Please join us

April 11, 2018 at the Lantern of Chagrin Valley
5277 Chillicothe Rd, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

NEXT STEP BASEBALL SEASON OPENING RECEPTION 2018!

Come to enjoy old and new friends, represent your favorite team, and learn about a unique & essential program that is helping youth in our communities!

Schedule of Events:

5:00pm – Snack on ball park favorites and chat with other fans
6:00pm – A brief presentation by Andrea Pollock, Director of Next Step, about this program
Party until the 9th inning is over!

Mission of Next Step:

To empower at-risk young adults in their path to achievement.

We believe that it is unacceptable for any youth to suffer as victims of crime, neglect, abuse and/or crisis. In Geauga County the Next Step program is firmly committed to providing follow up support in a compassionate, progressive way to every young victim – for as long as it is needed. Next Step provides victimized youth, age 18-24, caring assistance in their transition from a difficult adolescence toward a stable, functional adulthood. The urgent and immediate challenges we address with these young adults include homelessness, poverty, and physical and/or emotional health issues. Next Step, a non-profit program of Family & Community Services, Inc. (FCSOHIO.ORG) offers them support that can alter their path for life.

Affirmative RSVP: Please email Jeanne Wild at JeanneWild08@gmail.com



Can't Come, But Still Want to Support This Important Program?

Please consider sending a donation to this 501c3 nonprofit organization to:
Next Step/Family & Community Services, Inc.,
13211 Aquilla Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024

Thank you for your interest and support!

For more information about our program:

Phone number: (216) 990-0524
Website: <http://fcsserves.org/program/next-step>