



LEDGEWOOD LIGHT

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



Rev. Heidi L. Barham, Pastor
Ruth Logan, Pianist



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SPRING 2022

SPRING FORWARD

Each Spring, we move our clocks ahead one hour for Daylight Savings Time. Reminders abound to “Spring Forward” as the days start to shift, resulting in the hours of daylight lingering a little longer each day as we inch closer to Summer. Now, beyond Daylight Savings Time, I don’t think that it is a far stretch to say that we have all been hoping to “spring forward” past the pandemic that has plagued our lives for more than two years as well as past all of the uncertainty and unrest that have seemed to rule the day. But in our haste to spring forward beyond all the trials and tribulations we have endured, we must not lose sight of the lessons we have learned in the midst of them all. The challenges we have faced have given us ample opportunities to grow stronger in our faith, to become more resilient as we press through our struggles, and to extend grace and compassion to those we encounter along the way.

It was gospel artist, Andraé Crouch, who wrote and recorded the song, “*Through It All*,” a little over 50 years ago. The last verse of the song says, “I thank God for the mountains, and I thank Him for the valleys, I thank Him for the storms He brought me through. For if I’d never had a problem, I wouldn’t know God could solve them, I’d never know what faith in God could do” And the chorus simply says, “Through it all, through it all, I’ve learned to trust in Jesus, I’ve learned to trust in God. Through it all, through it all, I’ve learned to depend upon His Word” (*Andraé Crouch, © 1971 Manna Music*). Simply put, the trials we go through are never in vain; they are the stepping stones that allow us to draw ever closer to God.

We may have been through a lot over the last several years and we may likely go through a lot more in the days to come, but the good news is that God remains faithful and God has promised to be with us every step of the way. So, let us “spring forward,” filled with the hope that no matter what comes our way, God will be with us, through it all.

Blessings to you all!

With much love, your Pastor and friend,

Pastor Heidi



Celebrating Our History

(By Jane Gray)

In the early 1960's, the Regional Church Planning Office of Cleveland made surveys on the need for a church in the Geauga County area. Their recommendation was that a Protestant church be established in Russell Township.

In late 1964, Emerson H. Alexander contacted the Ohio Society of Christian Churches about locating a Disciples of Christ church in the area. He located a piece of land at 8261 Kinsman Road in Novelty, and the Ohio Society purchased the 5+ acres at a cost of \$15,000, giving it to the planned church, debt free. They also agreed to help with other cash grants towards the building, furnishings, and pastor's salary. These first grants were given with no repayment necessary.

The Rev. Don R. Bauter was chosen to be the founding minister. He had served in the ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for 23 years and was the Associate Minister of Heights Christian Church, Shaker Heights.

Planning for the church began in December, 1964, at a meeting with Dr. Hoke Dickinson. A Sponsoring Committee was named at that time, and Mr. Alexander served as Chairman. Meetings continued through the first quarter of 1965, and he spent considerable time checking local area details and sending innumerable letters to various persons inviting them to be a part of this venture.

The first service was held on April 4, 1965 at Westwood Elementary School, on Caves Road. There was a Sunday School for all ages, a morning worship service with a full choir and provision for nursery care. An organ was purchased. It, and the other furniture (lectern, pulpit, communion table, etc.), was stored at the school and wheeled out each Sunday for services. Chairs were set up for the congregation.

As the church progressed, much interest and involvement came from members of the community. The temporary name for the church was West Geauga Christian Church.

Its task completed, the Sponsoring Committee was dismissed in June, 1965, and a Steering Committee was appointed. Mr. Alexander also served as Chairman of this committee. It was responsible for the overall management of the church. It was divided into five church departments—Worship, Christian Education, Property, Membership and Finance.

In October, 1965, a Charter was signed by 127 adults and 32 children. By this time the church had adopted the name of Ledgewood Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). On May 14, 1966, approximately 40 persons traveled to Dayton, Ohio, to the State Convention of the Ohio Society of Christian churches. The Charter was presented and confirmed by the Convention at that time.



A meeting was held in the late fall of 1965, and election of officers for the church took place. A Building Committee was named with John H. Payne as Chairman. Groundbreaking for the church took place on September 10, 1967, and work progressed on the building with about one-third done by the end of the year. The congregation was able to move into the building for the first service on July 14, 1968.



A full week of activities took place from October 20 to October 28, 1968, with an Open House, a Concert by the Hiram College Concert Choir, as well as Youth Programs on two nights. The Dedication Service was held on Sunday, October 27, 1968, with an All-Church Dinner the following evening as a climax to the Festival of Dedication.

The original cost of the building site, construction, architect's fee, etc. was \$137,150. A grant of \$25,000 was given by the Ohio Society for Christian Churches. Two Building Fund campaigns had been instituted; and, on February 14, 1969, Frank G. Howard, Chairman of the Official Board and Ira E. Halt, Treasurer, signed a Promissory Note for a mortgage of \$75,000. On April 10, 1983, the mortgage was burned by Mr. Alexander at a Mortgage Ceremony held during the 11:00 A.M. worship service.

Then...



...and now



The Reverend Don R. Bauter was chosen to be the founding minister. He had served in the Christian Church as a minister for 23 years and was Associate Minister of Heights Christian Church, Shaker Heights.



Rev. Don R. Bauter



Rev. David A. Pointer

CALLED TO SERVE

The Ministers of Ledgewood Christian Church

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Rev. Don R. Bauter | 10/65 - 6/67 |
| Ray M. Wolford (Interim) | 6/67 - 12/67 |
| Rev. David A. Pointer | 1/68 - 10/70 |
| Dr. Franklin Minck (Interim) | 11/70 - 6/71 |
| Rev. John F. White | 6/71 - 5/73 |
| Rev. A. N. Hinrichsen (Interim) | 5/73 - 12/73 |
| Rev. Al Osborne (Interim) | 1/74 - 3/74 |
| Rev. Trent Bobbitt | 3/74 - 12/80 |
| Rev. Dick Weller (Interim) | 1/81 - 7/81 |
| Rev. C. Kenneth Hayes | 8/81 - 1/86 |
| Rev. David Greenfield (Interim) | 1/86 - 12/86 |
| Rev. John A. Cox | 1/87 - 12/93 |
| Rev. Dennis D. Sparks | 1/94 - 12/94 |
| Rev. Kenneth J. Kindig | 1/95 - 3/95 |
| Rev. Lauren Odell-Scott | |
| Dr. David Odell-Scott | 3/95 - 11/13 |
| Rev. Heidi L. Barham | 1/14 - Present |



Rev. Trent Bobbitt



Rev. C. Kenneth Hayes



Rev. John Cox



*Rev. Lauren Odell-Scott
Dr. David Odell-Scott*



Rev. Heidi L. Barham

DECLARATION OF RECOGNITION

by the

State Convention of the Ohio Society of Christian Churches

May 14, 1966

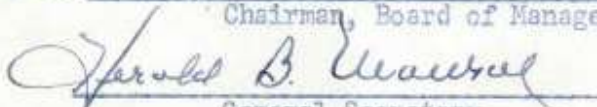
Under the authority of the action taken by the Board of Managers of the Ohio Society of Christian Churches on October 26, 1965, which has been confirmed by the State Convention of the Ohio Society of Christian Churches on May 14, 1966, I do now declare that this new congregation be recognized as the Ledgewood Christian Church of Russell, Ohio and a member of the Brotherhood known as the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ).

In witness thereof, I hereunto set my hand the 14th day of May, 1966.



President
Ohio Society of Christian Churches

Attest: _____
Chairman, Board of Managers



General Secretary

PRAYER FOR NEW CHURCH

Our God and Father, to whom the whole universe is one temple of light and faith, we present to thee this night a congregation of people who are deeply in earnest in the building of a sanctuary.

Thou Holy Spirit, who hast guided the work through great believers in the churches of this state, hear our continued prayers as we make other beginnings.

Thou strong Son of God, whose names graces every church door and is engraved on every altar, speak thou with righteousness and peace, yet command with authority every move we contemplate. May every church be not only a building, but a confession of thy divinity before the community.

We crave for all these churches the faith and fervor of the early Christian intensity of fellowship; and the full missionary zeal of Paul, the apostle.

During these next months and years, we pray thy blessing, our Father-Builder, upon every stone assembled, upon every ceiling made firm, upon every floor for the feet of little children to walk upon.

Our Father, we would also pray that as these new churches are built that all of our older churches shall become new churches in Jesus Christ--- so shall we all worship in pure temples of faith before Thee. Amen

Given at the State Convention
May 14, 1966 by
Rev. Maurice W. Fogle

Remembering Blane Rodney Ruble

(May 11, 1953 – January 20, 2022)

On Saturday February 5th, a host of friends and family came together to celebrate the life of Blane Ruble. Blane, was a charter members of Ledgewood Christian Church, along with his older brother, Barry, and their parents, Bernard Roy and Mary Helen Ruble. He was a graduate of West Geauga High School. Blane was a proud 41-year member of A.A. where he was an inspiration and mentor to countless people in the program. The moving tributes shared at the Service of Celebration all bore witness to Blane's compassion, his dedication, and his desire to help others on their journey to sobriety. He was a friend to many and was loved by all.

Blane and his brother, Barry, were active members of the church the youth group.



Barry and Blane helped with the work on the new church building.

Blane, his older brother, Barry, and their parents were among the 159 people who signed the original church charter.

A photograph of a handwritten list of names on lined paper. The names are written in cursive. The list includes: Janet R. Jones, Betty Buckenidge, Don Breckenridge, Dorothy Bulluck, Howard J. Bulluck, Jean R. Shubell, Roger C. Shubell, Bonnie C. Funk, Robert A. Funk, Mary Helen Ruble, Bernard R. Ruble, and Blane R. Ruble. An arrow points to the name Blane R. Ruble.

Remembering Donald "Don" Schutt (November 13, 1930 – December 29, 2021)

On Saturday, April 2nd, friends and family, gathered to celebrate the life, love, and legacy of our dear friend, Don Schutt. Don was born in Cleveland, to Frank and Hattie (Kalweit) Schutt. He was a long-time resident of Russell Township., and was a proud veteran of post-WWII, having served in the US Marine Corps (1947-1951), having enlisted at age 17. On November 23, 1953, Don married the love of his life, Margaret "Peg" Clifford, and they enjoyed 68 years together! Don and Peg were the proud parents of Douglas, Russell and Krislyn. Additionally they had seven grandchildren, Margaret, Shelby, Charles, Matthew, Adam, Emily and Rachel.



Beyond the love for his family, Don enjoyed pets, which meant there was usually a dog around somewhere. He was a member of Golden Gate Lodge #245 in Chagrin Falls and a Journeyman Carpenter by trade. Although he enjoyed making crafty things in his basement, including toy soldiers for the front stoop, he was very proud of his work as Construction Superintendent for the building of the Terrace Club of Jacobs Field in Cleveland in the early 1990's. Later, one of Don's cherished memories was his opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. in 2011, along with other veterans aboard an Honor Flight. He was one of the attendees chosen to place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Although Don and Peg transferred their membership to the Mayfield United Methodist Church, they maintained their connection to Ledgewood and regularly attended the community breakfast.

We continue to hold Peg and the family in our thoughts and prayers. Don will truly be missed!



A Race to the Finish!

Our charter Cub Scout Pack 3193, consisting of boys and girls from Kindergarten through 5th grade, held their annual Pinewood Derby race on February 13th. Racers designed, built, and decorated cars and competed for fastest car, coolest car, and best design. Forty-two scouts participated in race day, and Liam Eustache, a 4th grade Webelos, took grand prize with the fastest car at the equivalent of 133.7 mph! Congratulations to Liam and Pack 3193!



Prayers for Peace for the People of Ukraine

On Tuesday, March 29th, members of the community and the Chagrin Valley Council of Churches gathered at Triangle Park in Chagrin Falls for a prayer vigil. As the war rages on, let us continue to keep our brothers and sisters in Ukraine in our prayers. We also continue to pray for those in Russia who have opposed the war, many of whom have fled for their lives, along with many others who have been arrested for protesting.



Interfaith Prayer Vigil **Prayers for Peace** **For the Ukrainian People**



**Join with your neighbors of many faiths as members of
Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities
lead prayer vigils.**

Gather to pray for peace

7:00 - 7:30 pm on:

**Tuesday, March 29 at
Chagrin Falls Triangle Park**



Thank you to:
Chagrin Valley Baha'i Community
Chagrin Valley Council of Churches
Church of the Resurrection
Northern Ohio Intercultural Association

A Little **LIGHT** Refreshment:

Lemon Cool Whip Cookies

(www.tastesoflizzyt.com)

Only four ingredients are needed to make up these delightfully simple Lemon Cool Whip Cookies. Make these cookies to fit any occasion by switching the flavor of cake mix!

Ingredients:

1 box lemon cake mix (15.25 ounces or a traditional 9x13 box cake mix)

2 cups frozen whipped topping (thawed)

1 large egg

To roll the cookies:

1/2 cup powdered sugar

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- In a medium bowl, combine the cake mix, Cool Whip and egg. Stir until well mixed.
- Place the powdered sugar in a small bowl. Drop the cookie dough by teaspoons into the powdered sugar and roll the dough to coat.
- Place the balls 1½ inches apart on a baking sheet that has been covered with a non-stick baking mat or sprayed with cooking spray.
- Bake the cookies for 8-10 minutes. Remove them from the oven when they are set, but before they get too brown.
- Remove the cookies from the cookie sheet and place on a cooling rack to allow them to cool. Makes about 20 cookies (2 ½" in diameter).



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...



REGULAR SCHEDULE

Worship Service

Sundays – 11:00 a.m. *in person or via conference call at (339) 207-7394*

Official Board Meeting

Next meeting, Thursday, May 12th at 7:00 p.m.

Fifth Friday Family Fun Fellowship

April 29th at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 10th

Palm Sunday! Jesus made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem to waving palm branches and shouts of praise, “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” only to be crucified days later. Palm Sunday marks the start of Holy Week leading up to the celebration of Resurrection Sunday.

Thursday, April 14th

Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae and Communion at 7:00 p.m. We gather together to commemorate the day when Jesus celebrated his final Passover with His disciples and washed their feet in an extraordinary display of humility.

Friday, April 15th

Good Friday is the Friday of Holy Week and commemorates the crucifixion, suffering, and death of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, April 17th

Resurrection Sunday / Easter Sunday commemorates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead on the third day after His crucifixion and burial. It is the culmination of the Passion of Jesus, which is preceded by Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, prayer, and penance. We rejoice because Christ is risen indeed!

Friday, April 22nd

Earth Day - Various events are held worldwide 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.

Thursday, May 5th

National Day of Prayer is observed on the first Thursday in May when Americans are encouraged to give thanks and turn to God in prayer and peaceful meditation. The theme for 2022 is “*Exalt the Lord, Who Has Established Us*” based on Colossians 2:6-7.

Sunday, May 8th

Mother’s Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. It is celebrated on the second Sunday in May and traditionally involves presenting mothers with flowers, cards and other gifts.

Monday, May 30th

Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May to honor the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------|--------------|----------|
| Ledgewood Church | April 4 | Rita Johnson | April 11 |
| Pastor Heidi Barham | April 6 | JoAnn Seckel | April 15 |
| Cade Jeric | April 9 | | |

MAY BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|---------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| Elsie Mohr | May 10 | Jim Lucas | May 13 |
| Marilyn Lucas | May 11 | Peg Schutt (1930) | May 22 |
| Jeana Morris | May 11 | Gwen Washington | May 31 |

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|-------------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| Karen Jeric | June 9 | Sue Johnson | June 27 |
| Al Jaite | June 25 | Ja'Meir Washington | June 28 |
| June Kocsis | June 26 | | |



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Ruth Ann & Don Angle April 27

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Kim & Kevin Gearhart May 19

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Jeana & Clint Hardman June 17
Marilyn & Jim Lucas June 25

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 and your help is needed more than ever. We continue to work in partnership with the Burton United Christian Church (the location of one of the county's seven food cupboards). At this time the Geauga Hunger Task Force is asking for:

- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Salad Dressing
- Mayonnaise
- Coffee/Tea
- Peanut Butter
- Vegetable Oil
- Sugar
- Flour
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruit
- Cans of Soup/Stews
- Cans of Meat (Tuna, Chicken)
- Jelly
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Pasta
- Non-Sugar Cereal
- Jell-O or Pudding
- Juice
- Spices or Seasoning
- Crackers
- Spaghettios
- Syrup
- Pancake Mix
- Popcorn

Please call the church at (440) 338-5844 or call Pastor Heidi at (216) 376-8875 to schedule a time if you have items you wish to have picked up.

As always, your contributions of non-perishable foods, paper products and “special need items” are all greatly appreciated!

REMEMBER, HUNGER NEVER TAKES A HOLIDAY!

