



Crossbeams

April 2021

A Cheviot United Methodist Church Newsletter

"To Win as Many as Possible"

"Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible...I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means, I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the Gospel, that I may share in its blessings." **1 Corinthians 1:9**

As the Pandemic is showing signs of slowing down and many are looking forward to "getting back to normal", these words of Paul cause me to re-think our desire to "just go back" to the way things were. I say that because the statistics in our current attendance show some surprising and encouraging trends. Prior to the Pandemic, our weekly attendance was averaging 140 people in worship. When the Pandemic hit, with the help of our adventurous and faithful Digital Media team, we began experimenting with creative ways to put our worship service on-line.

Each week, we were noticing that many of you who could not join us in person were watching on *Youtube*. But we noticed something else too. The people watching were not just members of our church—or of any church. We were attracting new people who had found us on-line and had continued watching our services.

When we resumed in-person worship, we felt compelled to continue to offer on-line worship. We knew that there were many members of our church who were not yet comfortable returning to in-person worship. We also wanted to continue to engage the new people who had joined during the Pandemic.

There was a growing awareness that, out of the devastation of a Pandemic, we had discovered a powerful tool to spread the Gospel outside the walls of our church. We began to wonder, "what if we could reach more? What kinds of elements in the service would appeal to un-churched or de-churched people who, for whatever reason were not attending traditional church or never had?"

This same desire, I believe, is what prompted Paul thousands of years ago to write these words in **1 Corinthians 1:9**. A desire to "become all things to all people so that by all means possible, I might save some."

The question for us as we look ahead is, "Are we willing to like Paul, to do the same? Or will our desire for our preferences and our traditions pull us back to "the way things were?"

The results of our efforts since March of 2020 speak for themselves. Since we began our on-line worship services both on *Youtube* and on *Facebook*, our average weekly attendance has grown to 220. That's 80 more people who are now engaged in our worship service in just one year! For that reason, I pray that we will not just "return to normal" but will keep forging ahead with new ways of "becoming all things to all people so that we might reach even more people" in 2021! Thank you for being a church that cares for people outside the walls and who is willing to try new things to reach new people.

I look forward to seeing you in church
and on-line in 2021!

Pastor Carne



Landscape Team – Spring Startup

With the welcome arrival of Spring, the Landscape Team is in need of volunteers with a passion for gardening, weeding, mulching and other “clean-up” tasks throughout the growing season to maintain and enhance the beauty around the church and parsonage. Last year’s group enjoyed great fellowship and worked whenever their time was available, most notably during the cooler morning or evening temperatures of Summer, and *no meetings are involved!*

If you are interested in continuing with or joining the Landscape Team, please contact Sue Duebber: duebbsk4@gmail.com



Thank you to those who have prayed for me, have sent cards, and delivered food while I was recovering from Covid-19.

I appreciate your love.

Juanita Woodburn

Thank you

April

Birthdays to Celebrate

- 6-Apr** Mitchell Barr
- 10-Apr** Kenneth Smith
- 12-Apr** Linda Hoff
- 13-Apr** Terry Webb & Joe Hoff
- 14-Apr** Hunter McGill & Larry Leimbach
- 15-Apr** Ryan McGinnis
- 16-Apr** Barb Scheibling
- 17-Apr** Carol Becker
- 18-Apr** Don McGinnis
- 19-Apr** Joyce Johnson
- 20-Apr** Mark Woodward
- 23-Apr** Eric Bruestle & Lauren Phair
- 26-Apr** Mary Painter-Romanello & Phil Brice
- 28-Apr** Ryan Lawson
- 30-Apr** Callie Summers & Garry Kremer

A Big Thank You From Lois

What an awesome gift I have received from you, my church family. I had an old computer that did not do much at all here at home and now I have a state of the art one in my lovely computer room. I thank you as my church family for the awesome retirement gift. And I have to add that my IT guy, namely Jeff Jena did an awesome job of helping me and spent countless time setting the new one up, answering all of my questions with an awesome amount of patience!

Without his help I would not be able to do what I am doing now.

You are an awesome church family. Thank you so much for thinking of me and for the very special gift which is and will be ongoing as I use the computer on a daily basis.

Although caring for John is not easy, being able to get online, e-mail and enjoy this new computer is helpful in a number of ways.

I will be back to church one of these days.

Thank you also for your prayers and concerns for John and me.

God bless you all.
Love to you, Lois

Thank you!

April

Anniversaries to Celebrate

- 1-Apr** Jim & Cathy Klein
- 8-Apr** Ken & Barb Boesherz
- 20-Apr** Bud & Joyce Hoffman *and* Dick & Carol Becker
- 24-Apr** Dick & Janice Marsh
- 25-Apr** Herman & Renee Heine *and* Bob & Fran Loudin

Resurrection Day is a Day for rejoicing. For Mary Magdalene it became a day of joy and running. The women were first to the tomb and greeted by angels they were told that Jesus had risen just as He said. Later when Mary was at the tomb crying, she heard someone calling her name. "Mary, Mary"-- *that voice sounded so familiar.*

It was her Master, her Lord!

Life had been hard for Mary. Jesus had driven many demons out of her. She had been lonely and alone. Then one day she met Jesus and He had changed her life. She had seen Him crucified, she watched Him die. The One Who had loved her more than anyone else was gone. And then she heard Jesus call her name, "Mary, Mary"! Her sorrow turned to JOY!

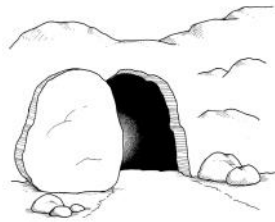
When the women got to the tomb early that Sunday morning the stone was rolled away. It had not been rolled away for Jesus to get out of the tomb, no stone could keep Him in the tomb. The stone was rolled away so the women could see that Jesus had risen just as He had said. God is the great "Stone roller"! You see, Truth cannot be sealed in a tomb. Jesus had said, "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life". **TRUTH** cannot be held down. God's Truth rose from that tomb and was on the loose that Resurrection Day.

The evidence is in and Truth has won. No Roman guard or nothing could keep Jesus from rising again. After His resurrection, He was seen by the women, by the disciples, by the men on their way to Emmaus and during the forty days before His ascension by five hundred other people.

When several people testify in a courtroom that they have witnessed an event, and their accounts are found consistent with each other, their testimony is considered factual. And Jesus was seen by hundreds of people those days after His resurrection. You see, Truth was on the loose and no one could hold Jesus back!

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the Cornerstone of the Christian Faith.

There have been many religions and many leaders of those religions. Those leaders have lived and they have died. They did not rise again.



But with Jesus it is a different story. He is the only One Who died on a cruel cross, was buried in a tomb and rose again from that tomb never to die again! It is that **TRUTH** that is on the loose and no one can stop Him!

Mary heard Jesus call her name. The Risen Christ calls our name, too. Do you hear Him? Put your name where Mary's name is. He is calling to you. He is saying, I created you, I lost you, but I came to this earth to show you how much I love you. I gave My life and died on a cruel cross for your sins. I rose again to give you My Eternal Life. Come home to Me, my child.

I close with this simple illustration which I have shared before. A little boy lovingly made a little boat. It was his boat. He had made it. He took it out on the lake to sail it. He put a heavy string on it to keep from losing it, but a strong wind came up and the string broke and his little boat sailed away. He cried and cried for that little boat. One day he was walking in town and looked in a toy shop window. He could not believe what he saw. There in the window was his little boat. He had made it and he would know it anywhere. He ran into the toy store and told the shop owner that was his little boat in the window. The shop owner said that it was his now and the only way the little boy could have it was if he bought it. The little boy ran home and emptied all the money he had out of his piggy bank. He hurried back to town, ran into the toy store and laid his money on the counter. The man took all the money the little boy had and gave him the little boat. As the little boy walked home, lovingly holding the little boat he said, "Little boat, you are twice mine. I made you, I lost you and now I've bought you back."

That is exactly what Jesus did for us. He created us, lost us to sin, but came to this earth and became one of us so He could show us His love for us. He bought us back as He died on that cross for our sins and then rose again to give us His Eternal Life.

Yes, Truth is on the Loose.

Receive His love today.



Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study

The Bible Study, open to all women,
Is entitled:

**Here We Go Again...
Reading the Bible in a Year...or Two.**

We meet every 1st and 4th Thursday
7pm, via ZOOM.

*Should this change, an all church e-mail will be
sent out with revised meeting location and
other information*

We are using the book:
**A Women's Guide to
Reading the Bible in a Year**
by Diane Stortz.

We will not finish in one year (more like two
years), but the wonderful thing about the Bible
is that you can always join in at any time.

New members are always welcome to join us.

Questions? Contact --
Pam Outt: peoutt@cinci.rr.com

April 1 no meeting -- Maundy Thursday

April 22 1 Kings 7-22 & Ephesians 1-6

*"The Bible is the only book whose Author is
always present when one reads it". --Anonymous*



Saturday Morning Women's Bible Study

♦ All women are welcome to join the Saturday
Morning Woman's Bible Study.
Invite friends & relatives, too !!

♦ **We meet every other Saturday,
using the ZOOM app.**

♦ We begin at 8am and finish around 9:15am

In April, we will be finishing one study and
beginning a new one:

--**Finish The Joshua Code:
52 Scripture Verses
Every Believer Should Know**
by O. S. Hawkins:

April 10 Revelation 22:20 & Ecclesiastes 12:13

--**Begin The Bible Code:
Finding Jesus in Every Book of the Bible**
by O. S. Hawkins
book available on Amazon.com,
or contact Pam Outt at office@cheviotumc.com

April 24

Finding Jesus in Genesis – Genesis 22:2, 12-13

&

Finding Jesus in Exodus – Exodus 12:3, 5-7, 13

Questions? Contact--

Vicki Groh: vgroh@zoomtown.com ,

Mary Ann Jacobs: majacobs@ritter-andolph.com

or

Pam Outt: peoutt@cinci.rr.com

Feel free to begin joining us at any time.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study is currently meeting via
ZOOM Saturday's at 8am.

E-mail Mark Woodward:
markwoodward082@gmail.com
for the link.

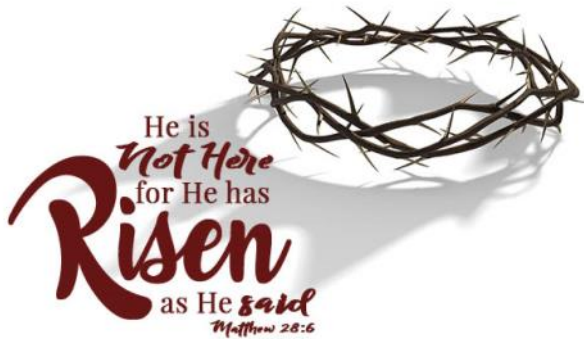
Scarlet Oaks Nursing Facility Ministry

A new ministry of the **Go Local team** of **Invite /Connect** is the *Scarlet Oaks Nursing Facility Ministry*. Mary Painter-Romanello mentioned how so many of the residents at this facility are without any family and resources. Most of the residents come from difficult and unfortunate backgrounds. So to begin our ministry with them, in February, the children of the church made valentines for every resident! Mary said that they absolutely were overwhelmed and so grateful to receive them. It was decided to do an Easter outreach to them. We will be giving each assisted living resident and staff member an Easter bag filled with homemade cookies, a handmade cross pin, a colored cross bookmark, Easter candy and a special note from Pastor Carrie. We will also be hosting at the facility an Easter Egg Hunt April 3 at 2pm for the children of the staff, grandchildren of the residents and our own church children. We would love for you to bring your children and grandchildren. We can use your help also!!! Thank you to the Hospitality Team, Crafters, Youth and Amanda Thomas for their donations to the Easter Bags.

We are also delivering an Easter Bag to each of our shut-ins!

If you would like to be a part of this new ministry, contact Mary Ann Jacobs:

majacobs@ritter-randolph.com



Sandwiches for Our Daily Bread

Again, thank you to the dedicated volunteers who have been providing sandwiches to Our Daily Bread monthly.

For the month of February, twenty-one CUMC members donated over 500 sandwiches! You are so appreciated by the hundreds who receive the sandwiches you make each month.

Our April "Sandwich Day" will be Thursday, April 22. We will be making all sandwiches at home, and will delivering them to church from 8:30am to 9:30am. If you plan to make sandwiches for April, please contact Barb Scheibling [jwscheibling@fuse.net] by April 18, to let her know if you will make PB&J, or meat and cheese (no meat that contains pork), and how many.
PLEASE DON'T ASSUME THAT WE KNOW YOU ARE MAKING SANDWICHES EVERY MONTH.

A reminder will be sent closer to the 22nd, with more specific details for any newcomers.

Remember to save your plastic Kroger bags. ODB uses lots of them for bagging lunches.



Our Daily Bread®

Thank you, and Blessings! Women's Ministry

Cheviot United Methodist Church is returning to Red Bird Mission!

Red Bird Mission has been providing ministries in the Appalachian Mountains since 1921. Today the need remains critical in this isolated, rural distressed area. Chronic poverty, lack of jobs, poor housing, and rugged mountainous terrain provide obstacles to a fuller life for the residents of this area. Red Bird Mission and Clinic strives to meet these needs through ministry in five areas: Education, Health and Wellness, Community Outreach, Economic Opportunity, and Community Housing Improvement.

Please consider attending Red Bird this year!! *This will be our 8th annual trip.*
We *KNOW* you will be blessed as you are a blessing.

When: October 24 thru 29, 2021

Cost: \$425/person for full week or \$212.50/person half week (scholarships are available)

Why: To change lives (including yours)

Website: www.rbmission.org

Please contact Cathy Davis: 513.368.4782 or cdavis612001@yahoo.com
with any questions.



One Day Trip to Red Bird

BUS going to Red Bird Mission.....ALL are Welcome!

Have you ever wondered what Red Bird Mission is all about? This is YOUR opportunity to visit and support Red Bird by bringing donated items from CUMC to the mission. WHO KNOWS.....you may want to return in October for the Red Bird Mission Work Camp!!

When: Saturday, April 24

Time: 7:30am to 8:30pm

Why: To bring all donated items to Red Bird Mission *AND* to tour the grounds/area of Red Bird in the Appalachian Area of Kentucky (3 ½ hour drive to Beverly, Kentucky)

How: We will be on a chartered bus, donated by *Croswell VIP Motorcoach Services*. THANK YOU to Croswell!

****Bring money for lunch/dinner.**

Please contact Cathy Davis:
513.368.4782 or cdavis612001@yahoo.com
with any questions and to advise if you are planning on joining the fun!

Spring Cleaning for Red Bird Mission

When: Sunday, April 18

Time: 10:30am to 12pm

Please consider donating to Red Bird Mission when cleaning out your closets this spring!

Needed Items:

- ALL Clothing (new or gently used)
- Small kitchen items
- Toys
- Blankets
- Sheets
- Towels
- Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
- **No furniture, please****

All donations will be placed in the Parsonage (house across from the Bell Tower) until the bus leaves to Red Bird Mission April 24th.

Sign up for Amazon Smile to support Red Bird Mission

Do you like to shop on AMAZON? Please consider signing up for *AmazonSmile* to benefit Red Bird Mission. [Go to smile.amazon.com]

Red Bird Mission, Inc., recently received a donation of \$542.05 from AmazonSmile – at no cost to you or other customers. **AMAZING!!!**
CUMC shoppers represents 10% of the total donated to RED BIRD, so far! *Thank you!*

AmazonSmile's impact:

- \$5,540.15 to Red Bird Mission, Inc.
- \$241,928,506.19 to all charities in the US
- \$266,896,659.48 to all charities worldwide

Westfed Food Pantry Update



Several area Kroger stores are offering tall (17") paper grocery bags at checkout again. Each month, the pantry needs 150-200 bags. We appreciate your recycling with us if you have access to the large bags.

All unexpired, non-perishable foods, cleaning products, and toiletries are welcome.
Our emphasis for April is BBQ sauce, ketchup, mustard, and mayo.

Non-perishable items requested are cereal, jelly (plastic bottles), crackers, canned fruits and vegetables.

Pork and beans, toothpaste, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce (plastic or metal cans) are always needed.

Items may be left in the Westfed baskets outside Werner Lounge or brought to the Women of Hope food drive April 17 in the front parking area 10am - Noon.

Monetary donations may be made through the church website,
(listed under Community Ministries - accessed from the online *eGiving* link)
during Sunday services, or by mail. [checks made out to CUMC with memo: Westfed]

Thank you for your generous support of our neighborhood pantry.

The GOOD Book Club of the Month!

Our March selection is:

The Church of the Small Things
by Melanie Shankle

How can we view our daily tasks as the holy and precious callings that they are? Melanie Shankle invites us to look at what we may think of the mundane every day tasks as something special. "Often God does extraordinary things in our most mundane moments of faithfulness."

The small things.....they are not always small.

Join us April 14, 7pm, via Zoom.

Questions?

Contact:
Vicki Groh
vgroh@zoomtown.com

or

Mary Ann Jacobs
majacobs@ritter-randolph.com



OUR CHEVIOT SCHOOL MINISTRY CONTINUES TO GROW!

Thank you to all who donated either books or funds for their purchase to bless the Kindergartners and 1st graders with 2 new books! We were able to donate to Cheviot School 320 books! Each had a bookplate saying that they were given by Cheviot UMC and a Dr. Seuss bookmark!

Thru your generosity, 160 children have been encouraged to read!
Be watching for news on what our next ministry opportunity will be with Cheviot School !!!

Contact Vicki Groh or Mary Ann Jacobs if you would like to volunteer to plan/participate in activities:

Vicki Groh
vgroh@zoomtown.com

or

Mary Ann Jacobs
majacobs@ritter-randolph.com





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Cheviot United Methodist Church **How to Reach Us**

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Pastor | Reverend Carrie Jena pastor@cheviotumc.com |
| Prayer Requests | office@cheviotumc.com |
| Contemporary Worship Leader | Greg Goodwin gpgoodwin7.gg@gmail.com |
| Church Secretary | Juanita Woodburn office@cheviotumc.com |
| Choir | Carol Gangwer cgangwer@fuse.net |
| Bells | Marcia Lucas mslucas@zoomtown.com |
| Traditional Worship Leader | Anne Schummer piano@fuse.net |
| Custodian | Lindsey Bethel custodian@cheviotumc.com |
| Event Promotions | communications@cheviotumc.com |

Church Office
513.662.2048
office@cheviotumc.com

Worship with Us...

Worship Services

9:10am
Blended Worship
in the Sanctuary

Bible Studies

See our website or call the office for
information and to learn how to join
our online studies during the week.

Contemporary Worship
is temporarily suspended

**View Pastor Carrie's
Sermon Message**

* Go to *youtube.com*
* type "Carrie Jena" in the
Search box.

...this April

*Our vision is to connect and serve all people so that lives are transformed
and empowered through the love of Christ.*