

Heart Beat Newsletter

Zion United Methodist Church Loving God, Loving People, Serving the World

March, 2022

Pastor Carol's Comments

Lent is upon us. Church historians tell us that in the early days of the Church, candidates fasted before their baptism, which often took place at Easter. In the 4th century, some Christian communities observed a 40-day fast before the "Triduum": Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. Bishops and theologians specializing in church law began specifying what could not be eaten during Lent: no meat or meat products, dairy, or eggs, even on Sundays. Marriage, a joyous ritual, was also prohibited during the Lenten season. The idea was to avoid self-indulgence during this time of repentance.

Many people give up something and give the money they save from that daily latte or candy bar to charity. Others take on something that will deepen their relationship with God. My daughter and I are reading a book together: *Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life* by Tish Harrison Warren. It's about being attuned to the holiness of all that we do. You're welcome to join us!

Another option is using the time you spend washing your hands as devotional time. I've prepared a little booklet of 40 hymns—one for each day of Lent. (Sundays aren't counted, because they are considered "Little Easters.") Each one takes about 20 seconds to sing or say as a prayer—the length of time it takes to wash our hands. The booklets will be on the table in the narthex.

The possibilities are limited only by your own imagination. May you be blessed as you observe a holy Lent!

The UMC and Ukraine

The UM community in Ukraine is quite small but is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with church leadership in Ukraine as well as in the countries welcoming those who are fleeing the war.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is providing humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to other countries. 100% of Advance contributions go to the designated cause.

Donations may be made to Advance #982450. For information about how to donate, call 888-252-6174, go to https://umcmission.org/umcor, or see Pastor Carol.

News Around Zion

Electronics Recycling Day Brings in Tons

We collected 11,786 pounds of e-waste at our 5th Annual Electronics Recycling Day. This was somewhat less than last year, which was not unexpected, since 2020 was a year when many people upgraded their electronics to meet the demands of working and going to school from home.

Cookie Delivery Brings in Smiles

Thanks to all our bakers, packers, and container-decorators, Whitehouse public servants received sweet treats on Valentine's Day. Pastor Carol had the fun job—taking two containers each to the Fire Dept., Police Dept., Village Offices, Post Office, Library, and the nursing home. The cashier at the post office lit up when she saw



the boxes. "Are these from the church?" she asked. "I was just remembering the cookies you brought last year." The nursing home staff was dealing with a COVID outbreak. No one was seriously ill, but it still increased the demand on caregivers. So, the cookies were greatly appreciated.

Ham Loaf Dinner

In spite of terrible weather (rain, ice, snow, wind, anyone?), we had a terrific turn-out for the ham loaf dinner. While final financial figures aren't yet available, we sold 125 meals—more than in recent years. We also had very little in the way of leftovers. At a "debriefing" meeting, we discussed what worked well and what we might want to adjust next year, but there's no question that the night was a success!





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Lent at Zion

Our cooperative Ash Wednesday services with Hope went well, with a mid-day service at Hope and the evening service at Zion. Both services were well-attended.

Our Lenten Bible study, "The Death and Resurrection of the Messiah," began on 3/3 and continues through 4/7. Join in anytime. Meetings begin at 2 and last about an hour. All are welcome!

Holy Week will include our Holy (Maundy) Thurs. service on 4/15 and Good Friday observance on 4/16, both at 7:00 p.m.

What's Your Love Language?

Just for fun, I asked everyone to fill out a survey to let me know what your love languages are, either based on the quiz or on what you have learned about yourself. The instructions were to mark your top two languages.

I was on the mark with my prediction that many of you would speak the love language of Acts of Service: of the 12 forms I got back, 8 marked Acts of Service. The rest were pretty evenly split:

Affirming Words 5

Gifts 3

Quality Time 5

Physical Touch 3

Can you guess what mine are? (The answer is under the word search clues.) ~~ Pastor Carol

Planning Continues for VBS

If you would like to be part of the planning team for Vacation Bible School, please let Pastor Carol know. She will make sure you are kept in the loop.

Church Information

Pastor Carol Williams-Young 10926 Maumee St. P.O. Box 2457 Whitehouse OH 43571 (419) 877-5820

Worship at 10:25 a.m. Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

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Find us on Facebook: whitehousezionumc

Website:

http://www.zionumcwhitehouse.org

Women of the Bible Word Search Celebrate Women's History Month with this word puzzle!

Y M I V P B M A F P I F X S J V B F M C D H J S O S A R A H N W A U Q U C R U S L P H Z L W K R R N J H A K E B E R N L A V Y V Y SOEAXCV $z \times v$ ZBHMCVCZMN MOHHWWYHMARTHAQRF OCGCHY U B V В ZSUZDR IBSSWURPOEDE $G \times M + K F$ F IMXMOADXRZORBATHSHE MYALXTEQCZRAHABPHH I P V I N B L N E T I T Y T A C J U Z Y Q V Z L R T U Z S V O V D W E G R R L C Q E A H J A E G I O B F K W T R H K U O O E T Q D E D J C M C M B V H R Q A D J P B P E T U N OLBMIXEXBVLPHPEERJDF I E T W L G U I R M C H I Z V P K I D Y F H E R Q A Q L U H X N E Z T Z E B C S N U U C S Z C L LHGLEYLKHTBJYAIAJSKE A K S U H W T A I O G Q H X Z E Y P IMOANQSMGSQDMYOVJMB J Y N U I I E Z U F C M I H S E M I A W M N M V A B G U X X I I S L E H C A R OAXLDQULEIPERQPMKSUKP Q H V X Y M A R Y M A G D A L E N E E Y O L E P K N K M F C M Y D A P N Y X T X M B L H O K P M

Zipporah Hannah
Dorcas Eve
Bathsheba Mary Magdalene
Rachel Rebekah
Elizabeth Dinah
Jezebel Rahab
Ruth

Esther Deborah
Martha Sarah
Mary Miriam
Leah Gomer
Delilah Anna
Queen of Sheba Naomi

Pastor Carol's love languages: Physical Touch & Affirming Words.

Upcoming Events

Thursdays through 4/7, 2:00 p.m., Bible Study

Tues., 3/8, 6-7 p.m., Girl Scout Troop #16232

Sun., 3/13, Daylight Savings Time begins

Tues., 3/15, 4-6 p.m., Food Pantry 6:30-7:30 p.m., Girl Scout Troop #10143

Wed. 3/16, 6:00 p.m., Church Council meeting

Tues., 3/22, 6-7 p.m., Girl Scout Troop #16232

Mon., 3/28, Preschool Spring Break begins