

**NORTHRIDGE UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
4610 DERR ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, OH 45503
APRIL 2023



**Happy Easter! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen, indeed!**

Welcome to spring in Ohio. The weather changes upon a whim. March came in like a lamb, and should have gone out like a lion.

Spring is a season of new growth. The gray doldrums of winter are hopefully disappearing. The birds are present and chirping in the mornings. The grass is starting to turn green again. People and landscaping companies are starting to work in their yards. The daffodils are blooming.

Do we feel like new growth is happening in us? Christ's mercies are new each morning.

"Certainly the faithful love of the LORD hasn't ended; certainly God's compassion isn't through! They are renewed every morning. Great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3: 22-23, CEB)

We are re-energizing some aspects of the church that have been placed on hold for three years due to Covid. While the men meet for breakfast on the first Saturday of the month, the women are meeting for lunch on the first Saturday of the month.

In April, the men will meet at the Lions Club for breakfast in support of their Pancake Breakfast. The women will meet at Studebaker's on 41 for lunch at 12 noon.

We recently had cookies and coffee after church. There is a sign-up sheet if you are interested in providing cookies. (We are starting out small—just cookies, nothing fancy—just something to nibble

Greet those around you each Sunday at church. Seek out someone you have never met or someone you don't know their name. Send a card to someone who needs cheering or a note to let them know they are missed. Read the Bible, a Christian author, or listen to Christian music. Spend time talking to the Shepherd. Let us brush off our doldrums and renew our faith!

Karen Grube, Lay Leader

APRIL CHURCH CALENDAR

April 1—Men's Breakfast—Lions Den at 8:30AM

- Walkers at 9:30AM

- Women's Luncheon—

Studebaker's on 41 at 12 Noon

- Easter Egg Hunt for Special

Needs at

1:30 PM

April 2—10:00 AM Worship—New Membership/ Communion

April 5—9:30 AM Walkers; 11:00-Bible Study

April 6—7:00 PM Maundy Service

April 7—Good Friday Service

April 8—9:30 AM Walkers

3PM—Youth Group Easter Egg Hunt

April 9—10AM Easter Worship

April 12-9:30AM Walkers; 11AM-Bible Study

April 16-10AM Worship

April 19-9:30AM Walkers; 11AM-Bible Study

April 22-8AM-CPR Class—See Jody Longberry

9AM—Trustee's Cleaning Day

April 23-10AM-Worship

April 26-9:30AM Walkers; 11AM-Bible Study

April 29-9:30AM Walkers

April 30-10AM-Worship

Don't Miss
Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter
There will be special music at each service.



Trustee's Yard Sale—May 13, 2023
Start going through your house, your garage, your shed, any place that you have things you would like to get rid of. The Trustee's Yard Sale will be held on May 13. Start gathering the items you would like to donate. The date to bring them to church will be announced at a later day. Any questions, please contact a Trustee.
Bob Jacobs



MISSIONS TEAM—APRIL COLLECTION
The Missions Team would like to thank all of those who donated during the Lenten season to Central Community Kitchen and Sheltered, Inc. (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network). During April, we will be collecting items for Sheltered, Inc. They are requesting the following: bedding (twin/full size), towels, pillows, toiletry items, cleaning supplies, disinfectant wipes, laundry products, paper products, baby wipes, diapers (sizes 1-5), trash bags, Ziploc bags, and freezer bags. If you wish to have someone do your shopping for you, please see Cheryl Hinkle.

The Bread Lesson
By Colleen Styer
Dunn County, Wisconsin
(Contributed by Phyllis Hill)

As time is progressing at a rapid speed, many changes, challenges and unknown events are taking place. My thoughts go back to my childhood and remembering my father. He had been a gentle kind of man who had an odd requirement of his daughter before she could leave home and live on her own. His requirement was that she should be able to bake "perfect" bread. Perfect bread indeed! I recall how I had thought the idea foolish! As a dutiful daughter, I had learned to produce the "perfect" bread. I had been proud when I placed the warm, golden-loaf in front of my father. He approved! The pride I felt at the moment almost made my heart burst!

Now, many years later, sitting alone in the quiet of my own home, I realize how wise my father had been. There is a valuable lesson to be learned from making bread. When a person is born, he is like yeast, breathing and living. He grows, rising up, only to get punched down. As he rises up again, he may be punched down somewhere along the way. Eventually a crust forms on the outside to help protect us from the blows of life. However, like the bread, a person must remain soft and warm on the inside, willing to give a slice of himself for others.

We must support each other with compassion through all the transitions that will take place in life and then we will rise up again!



Rev. Ken Woode, Jr.—Pastor
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