



Read Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Journey with us, O God, through this day and through this season. May we follow your leading and draw strength from your presence beside us. And in those times and places we feel ALONE, help us to trust you still as Companion and Savior. Amen.

These words from the church worship curriculum “**Seasons of the Spirit**” caught my attention in preparing the worship bulletin for February 21, the first Sunday in Lent. There they were, printed in the left margin of the page I was reading. There it was – one word; a simple word. It stood out. The word “**ALONE.**” All by itself, **ALONE!** As I read and re-read this prayer, that one word continued to stick. One word. Rising up. Flashing, emblazoned and emboldened, as if it were italicized and capitalized, in deepest darkest letters, more than all the other words combined. That one word, “**ALONE.**” We have all seen the word. More importantly, we all have lived the feeling, the feeling of experiencing “**ALONE.**”

As I put my thoughts to the page, I sit **ALONE.** Christina has retired for nights rest, **ALONE.** I write in the family room, “**ALONE.**” A single seasoned apple log “**ALONE**” consumes itself with blue silent flame, adding life, light and warmth in the woodburner. I am writing “**ALONE**” and am comforted. Thinking back over the years, the times of recollection when the thought and feeling of being “**ALONE**” was very real and personal, I recall escaping from kindergarten more than once and running home from school “**ALONE.**” Staying in our big three story house “**ALONE**” for the very first time, while my mother picked up my father at work. I retreated to the dining room to seek the companionship of the “**ALONE**” single goldfish in our small aquarium. I discovered the fish was gone. Disappeared. You can imagine the fear and wondering of a seven year old “**ALONE**” what monster had that fish for lunch and where was this monster, lurking and looking for me, its next meal. I fled the house, “**ALONE.**” Just then, my parents drove into the driveway.

Over the years of our lives and living from childhood fears, through teenage years and lessons of living through adult experiences and learned wisdom of our elders has been for all of us profound in some ways. We are never, nor will we ever, be “**ALONE.**” For there is the very real closeness and presence of the **ONE** who we have come to know as God; the God who loves us and is there for us in every and all circumstances. This is the same God upon whom Jesus depended in the wilderness, during his trial and crucifixion. Life is so often lived by us in places of wilderness – unknown places, in uncertain and unexpected experiences. Places of “**ALONENESS,**” but never places where we wander **ALONE.** As you pass through Lent, and in life through the valleys of shadows, know that God accompanies you, as a very real presence to you. Trust in this God. He is the God who was present to Jesus in his wilderness wanderings as he moved through the stations of the cross. This God has been the God present to this pastor in differing wildernesses, and I have every confidence will be there for you in yours! Praise be to this God who grants us life and life abundantly. **ALWAYS – AMEN.**

See you in church,

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PAGE

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L.I.G.H.T.

Learning In God's House Together

"I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will never walk in shadows but will have the light of life."

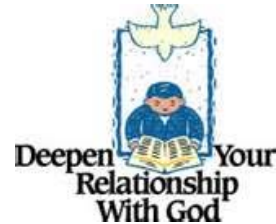
John 8:12

Intergenerational Family Faith Formation

Lenten Bible Study ~ Feb. 17th – March 24th



6:00 pm Potluck Dinner



6:45-7:45 pm ***Fearless*** Bible Study for Adults

Lenten Bible Study ~ ***Fearless*** by Max Lucado

Imagine your life without fear.

Appreciation to all the leaders that will lead us through Fearless;

If you have the book (not necessary to attend) the reading schedule is listed below;

Feb. 17 th	Why are we afraid? Lesson 1: Chapter 1, ~ Robin Jessen
Feb. 24 th	Fear or not mattering, Lesson 2: Chapter 2, ~ Debbie Miller
Mar. 3 rd	Fear of disappointing God, Lesson 3: Chapter 3, ~ Mary Kay Fratoe
Mar. 10 th	Fear of life's final moments, Lesson 4: Chapter 10, ~ Jen Hrehocik
Mar. 17 th	Fear of Global calamity, Lesson 5: Chapter 13 ~ Diane Martin
Mar. 24 th	Fear of God getting out of my box, Lesson 6: Chapter 14 ~Debbie Miller

You can attend just one or all weeks;

Hopefully you can gain peace by the insight found together looking at Fear.

Hermie, Splash Bible study for children with water stories,
lead by the youth group & Ms. Mandi

7:45pm Wednesday Adult bible study





It's open !!! Stop by our NEW SACRED SPACE ~ PRAYER ROOM
 My pray is to encourage everyone to visit our new sacred space room beside the Chapel,
 each season CE will change the prayer stations to reflect the season,
I believe that this type of praying will deepen your relationship with God.
Thanks to Patti Jacko, Amanda Salvino for the extra help with the room setup.

Walk through Holy Week
 on Palm Sunday, March 28th



Easter Sunday, April 4th we will have a Mini coffee hour/ Easter Egg Hunt.
 **** Please bring in your donations of candy by April 1st, so the youth group can fill
 the eggs. Thank you for generosity.*****

**EASTER HONEY BAKED
 HAM SALE!**



Yummy Yummy Yummy Yummy Yummy
 Yummy Yummy Yummy Yummy Yummy!
 When researching other churches for a
 easy, profitable fundraisers for the
 youth group's summer mission trip,
 several said that Honey Baked Ham
 was it! Everyone knows what a
 delicious products Honey Baked Ham
 has available. We will have order
 forms available during Lent, the
 selection includes ham, roasted turkey
 breast, walnut coffee cake, carrot cake,
 lemon cake, coconut cake, mustard,
 mayonnaise, horseradish and nuts.

Points to know!!

- We will take orders for Easter;
- all orders need to be turn in by Palm Sunday service, March 28th.
- The order will be delivered to WPUCC on Maundy Thursday, April 1st.
- You will not have to go to the store, stand in line etc.

The youth group will take care of that!

Orders can come from outside the church as well as our church family.



Jr. High (6th-8th) & Sr. High (9th - 12th)

The word was Love....

Bravo ! Our youth continues to be affirmed by their Church family! I was so proud of all of our young people from our little Elvis ~ Sam to Chris Zmina who had been in the hospital from Monday to Thursday that week. Each and every one of them did their best ... rather be it on stage or serving their table.

Wow, we have fabulous young people! It's my honor working with them.

The youth group raised over \$600 from their spaghetti dinner show for their Mission trip this summer; we still donations being turned in! Applause! Applause! A big thanks to West Park UCC for their support of our future! Robin Jessen for heading up the kitchen, to Ms. Mandy for being my right hand for the entire weekend, the parent's for all the donations / help and the youth for their hard work!

OUR SUMMER PLANS INCLUDE THESE BIG EVENTS

Regional youth event, on June 17th -20th The theme this year is *Challenges, Choices and Consequences*, this powerful event only happens every 4 years. The event will be held at Defiance College, which is almost a backyard location. Cost \$225 per person

Appalachia Kentucky mission trip at the Lotts Creek Community School- Near Hazard, Ky. Cost is only about \$225 per person, which is very affordable for a week's worth of food, shelter, transportation etc.

"Let Your light shine out of darkness." 2 Cor. 4:6

Young Adult Faith Formation

March 7th Field trip to funeral Home 11:30-1:00

March 14th class 11:30- 1:45 ~STUDY AND LEARNING SESSION Do at home,

UPDATE: Wed, 3:30~March 17th new date to the Church house ~ UCC World headquarters



Outdoor Ministry

Camp programming includes adult opportunities as well as children.

**Deadline for Early Registration March 31st,
pays the lowest camp fee!**

******* REMEMBER** West Park UCC shares the cost for camp of 50 %, so that all who are interested can have this wonderful opportunity!

Retreats

*****All Church Retreat May 28-30, 2010*****

Planning during March Coffee Hour, join Ms. Wendy if interested. From March 1st it's only 89 days until the All Church Retreat! Plan on joining your Church family for this annual event... even if it's only for Saturday!

Mission Update



The youth group collected the donations with Ms. Mandi for delivery on Feb. 13th from the Souper Bowl of Caring on Feb. 6th. We had \$17 of Cash donations and 293 items, an assortment of 84 food items plus 209 cans of soup, for The Bread Basket. Thank you for your generosity.



Teeter Totter Marathon

February 12th -14th

We had 10 youth with 2 leaders from West Park UCC who spent the night on Feb. 12th at Middleburg Heights UCC. While there we helped raise \$800 during the first 15 hours of the 48hour event from donations from the street.

When I checked back right before the end of the event they had raised \$5500 from the street, beating last year by \$1500, with more donations still to come in. The money will go to support Church Street Ministries, Haiti and St. Paul's. The total from 2009 was \$7500 with \$4000 from the street and \$3500 from the church and other sources.

Happy St. Patrick's Day! ☺

Maundy Thursday Seder Meal

The Passover Seder is a religious service and festive family meal that recounts the story of God's deliverance of the Israelites from slavery. To recall that great deliverance, the elements of the traditional Seder meal symbolize historically significant features of the Israelite experience. This meal is important to us as Christians because it was at a Passover meal that Jesus instituted Communion. Please join us Thursday April 1, 2010 at 6:00 pm as we learn together about this important part of Jesus life. Watch the bulletins for more details and reservation sheets.

LOCAL MISSION WORK AVAILABLE!

If you have some free time and want to stay in town, medWish International can use your help. This is a wonderful organization started here in Cleveland in 1993. Their purpose is to recover and recycle usable medical supplies that healthcare providers must discard. These items would otherwise wind up in our landfills. Volunteers are needed to sort the medical supplies into appropriate bins, to prepare for shipment to developing countries. You can go the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 10 – 12:30 p.m., or Tuesdays and Fridays anytime from 9-4 p.m. Contact Amy Elliot, Volunteer Coordinator, at 216.692-1685, or see Pat Rust.



Dear Church family and friends, I want to thank all of you for the cards, visits, and phone calls during Bob's illness and the many expressions of sympathy at the time of his death. To Pastor Larry for his late night and early morning visits to the hospital with me. My most sincere thanks, thank you to Pastor and Jim Furry for a very beautiful and meaningful memorial service. To the ushers and especially the committee in the kitchen working with Elaine Barry – you provided a wonderful service. The Bible says there is Faith, Hope and Love. I have Faith; I have Hope, and we certainly have felt Love. In Grateful Love, Dianne Eisenbarth

THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO CAME TO WORK MORNING! Bob Arcuri, Dennis McCormack, John Gibson, Joe Gibson, Jim Zmina, Félix Miranda, Lois Cole, and Bryan Hrehocik. Our next work morning will be March 13, 9-12 noon.

*Thank you for all the cards and prayers. They really helped me through my surgery and recovery.
Pauline Lamb.*

Dear Secret Prayer Pal, Thanks for the gifts I've received for Christmas and Valentine's Day.
Blessings, Bill Barry

OUR LECTIONARY FOR MARCH - Pink Envelope will be One Great Hour of Sharing

March 7: Third Sunday in Lent

Worship ~ Communion ~ L.I.G.H.T ~ Coffee Hour, Bartter Hall ~ Confirmation Field Trip
Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; I Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

March 14: Fourth Sunday in Lent

Worship ~ L.I.G.H.T ~ Confirmation Class
Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; II Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

March 21: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship ~ L.I.G.H.T ~ Board and Committees meet
Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

March 28: Palm Sunday

Processional Worship ~ L.I.G.H.T. ~ Walk Through Holy Week
Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

Special Announcement - The Trash and Treasure Sale will be held in 2010

The Trash and Treasure Sale is scheduled for Thurs, Sept. 16 and Fri., Sept. 17 with the preview sale for members of the church on Sunday, Sept. 12. Mark your calendars and start saving items to donate for the sale. This event is always a good money maker for the church. Complete details at a later date. If you have any questions, call Lynne Rice 440-333-3605 or email Lynne_Rice@ameritech.net.

The Super Bowl Sub Sale was a Super Success! Thanks to everyone's support, the sub sale made a profit of \$650, which will go to the general operating fund! Go WPUCC!

IN TOUCH WITH ZION.....

Zion's Italian Buffet February 14 was a great success and netted a \$400. profit. Pastor Joyce, starting March 1, will begin working on structuring a project to help teenage mothers, who are drop-outs from high school, complete their education and become productive members of society and good mothers for their children.

Zion has made renovations with new shelving both on the first and basement floors. Now cases of paper goods can be readily stored and inventoried in the basement. All food is now stored on the first floor. Large plastic bins have been purchased and stocked with clothing and shoes that have been donated by West Park UCC and other donors. This makes clothes available at a moment's notice and often the needs are so urgent that there's **less** than a moment's notice.

Zion is expanding their food services to include catering meals for WRA meetings. WPUCC members are invited on Pantry Day, the last Wednesday of every month, to see an importantly necessary part of their Hunger Center--providing food for area people to take home. The hours are 1:30-2 for seniors only and 2-4 for the general population. Last year the Pantry passed out food for over 20,000 meals and our church is a part of that achievement. There were 2,228 people served from the Pantry and 8,309 Hot Meals were served at Zion's dining room.

Not only humans are fed. Many low income people own cats, their only source of companionship and love. Often the people give their last piece of food to their beloved cats! Pastor Joyce is asking if we will collect bagged or cans of cat food which she doles out on the basis of need. She has a close friendship with both owners and their cats. There will be a large container in which we will collect cat food.

FRIENDSHIP GUILD MARCH 10, 2010

Our Ash Wednesday Service in February, which took the place of our regular meeting, included the imposition of ashes and communion and was a sacred time for all of us as we began Lent led by Vicki McGaw, whose message prepared us for Ash Wednesday and the days ahead. Guests from neighboring churches participated in the Service of Worship and the Fellowship Hour that followed.

On Wednesday, March 10 our "nimble needles" will gather at 10 o'clock to sew puppets. Our Brown Bag Lunch will follow at noon with hostesses Elaine Barry, Jean Clark and Nancy Olsen serving beverages and dessert. Be sure to bring your quarters for Pete, pennies for our collection and extra money to purchase greeting cards from The Card Shoppe.

Our special guests, Bev and Bill Stives, were here in March 2008 telling us about their Medical Mission to the Dominican Republic. They are returning to hold us spellbound once again as they tell us about their "African Adventure". They will have our rapt attention as they take us to Africa and let us see through their eyes the wonders of this African continent and its people.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



1	Kim McFadden	14	Diane Kragt
2	Nancy Krueger	19	Elaine Obert
	Kathy Moreland	21	Jaret Bostwick
5	William Cunningham		Tricia Melton
	Evelyn Faulkner	24	Jean Garlitz
6	Larry Shank	25	Ed Gamary
7	Richard Schweichler	26	Janet Beutel
8	Emma Borrelli		Kristen Dobransky
	Edward Fowler		Maynard Murch
10	Aimee Bonsell	30	Kathy Sandoval
11	Krista Zaharewicz	31	April Hill Jackson

(Don't forget to use your Birthday Envelopes!)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

of 40 Years or More

Larry & Marilyn Shank – 03-29-69

Janice and Dennis Jones – 03-31-67

Please call the church office if you are ever omitted or if your birthday is incorrect. Also, if you have reached your 40th Wedding Anniversary, please let us know! Thanks!

Progress Report From The Treasurer – Operating Budget

2010 Annual Operating Budget	\$265,493.00
Required Income Per Week	\$5,105.64
Avg. Rec'd. Per Wk YTD 2/14	\$6,004.61
Required to date: thru.2/14	\$35,739.48
Received to date: thru.2/14	\$42,032.25
Received from Contributions	\$32,239.26
Received from all other sources.	\$9,792.99

The first seven weeks of 2010 resulted in income of \$6,292.77 over the budget requirements. This was mainly due to pre paid 2010 pledges the first week of January; and a catch up rent payment in January.

To maintain cash flow in January, due to the low beginning balance of \$932.07, it was necessary to transfer \$15,000.00 from the Endowment Fund. This amount is not included in the income shown on the report.