

April 16, 2023

Bringing Forth the Light

Prelude Jen Moser, Organist

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John

*Responsive Reading (From Psalm 16) Pastor John

One: Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;

All: You make my lot secure.

One: The boundary lines have fallen in pleasant places;

All: Surely I have a delightful inheritance.

One: I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;

All: Even at night my heart instructs me.

One: I keep my eyes always on the Lord.

All: With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

*Hymn "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" No. 731

*Prayer of Affirmation and Assurance Pastor John

Father in Heaven, we seek to grow closer to you by strengthening our covenant with you. Today we pledge to surrender to you and to live by the tenets of your Word.

Guide us as we move forward with a renewed sense of commitment to you and compassion toward others. May you bless us and counsel us so that we will be empowered to carry out your will, today and always. Amen!

Prayer of Reflection Pastor John

Prayer of Illumination Pastor John

Truth and honesty form the foundation of our faith.

Integrity and sincerity fortify that base. Today, we once again come together to preserve and promote transparency so that trustworthiness and righteousness will flourish in our lives and in our relationship with others. This we pray in honor of Almighty God, always and forever. Amen!

Call to Confession Pastor John

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, with your death on the cross and your resurrection from the tomb fresh in our minds, we regretfully acknowledge that our words and our actions from this past week have been less than perfect, so we take this time to confess our sins while expressing our deep gratitude for your abundant grace and mercy, which continue to cleanse and restore us. For this great gift, we sing praise to your Glorious Name. Amen!

Prayer of Preparation for God's Holy Word Pastor John

1st Scripture Reading Proverbs 3:1-4 Pastor John

2nd Scripture Reading II Thessalonians 2:13-17 Pastor John

3rd Scripture Reading Matthew 16:24-26 Pastor John

Response

One: Let us Rejoice in God's Holy Word!

All: For His Word brings us Light, Hope and Joy!

*Gloria Patri No. 70

*Hymn "Spirit Song" No. 347

Choral Anthem. "God, My God"

Message "Sign on the Dotted Line" Pastor John

Our Morning Prayer Pastor John

The Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Our Gifts Pastor John

*Doxology No. 95

*Hymn "Take Up Thy Cross" No. 415

Benediction Pastor John

Postlude Jen Moser

WHAT'S COMING UP?

UMCOR Relief Opportunities

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) is the humanitarian relief arm of our denomination, providing assistance for natural or human-caused disasters, including famine, hurricanes, tornadoes, war, flooding, and fires. If you would like to provide assistance to our neighbors across the country and around the world, you can do so by visiting umcmmission.org/umcor.

Church Work Day

Our church is tentatively planning a work day at the home of Paul and Janet Kauffman on Saturday, April 22, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Their address is 1931 East Britton Road, Creston, Ohio 44217. We will be doing some landscaping work and planting. If you would like to participate, please contact Pastor John.

Vacation Bible School

Oak Chapel will join with several area churches to host Vacation Bible School on June 2-3 at Church of the Cross. If you would like to help, please contact our Outreach Team. We also need to encourage young people (Kindergarten through 6th grade) to participate. Information sheets are available in the Narthex. Registration forms will be available sometime in May.

Oak Chapel Has Openings

Do you know anyone who is looking for a church home? If so, Oak Chapel has a number of openings! No experience necessary, and the compensation is out of this world! If you have someone in mind, just let our Evangelism team know, by contacting Steve Moore at 330-317-7445.



Praises and Prayers

Glorious God, as we continue on our journey of faith, we ask you to continue to watch over us, guide us, encourage us, and inspire us. We also ask that you hear our voices as we lift up the following praises and prayers...

Praises

- *For a warm and friendly Maundy Thursday gathering
- *For a wonderful and uplifting Good Friday Cantata
- *For a glorious Easter Sunday celebration
- *For the return of Steve and Carol Gossage from Florida

Prayers

- *For Kim Domer, who had back surgery this past week
- *For Sheila Burkhardt, who is dealing with health issues
- *For Patti Ritchey and family after the passing of her cousin
- *For Mel, who is in need of healing
- *For healing for Connie Garg's brother, Bob
- *For Becky Schlund's friend, Joanie, who is dealing with pain
- *For Donna Garrett, who has entered into Hospice care
- *For Oak Chapel and New Pittsburg during this transition

Upcoming Worship Services

- April 23.....Forgive and Forge Ahead
- April 30.....After You!
- May 7.....Don't Step Back
- May 14.....Dumping Ground
- May 21.....Be There!

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...

Sunday 4/16	Sunday School Classes	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Youth Group	6:30 p.m.
Monday 4/17	Trustees	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 4/19	Choir	7:00 p.m.

Looking Ahead...

Sunday 4/23	Sunday School Classes	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Young Adult Bible Study	11:30 a.m.
Monday 4/24	Prayer Shawl	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday 4/25	Days for Girls	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday 4/26	Choir	7:00 p.m.
Thursday 4/27	4H Meeting	7:00 p.m.



Financial News:

Tithes and Offerings needed each Sunday for budgeted expenses (February 2023): \$3,029

Received last month:

02/05.....	\$1,699.00
02/12.....	\$2,338.00
02/19.....	\$1,325.00
02/26.....	\$3,264.00

As of 2/28/2023, we received about 71% of our budgeted income for February and 92% YTD. We are ahead of last year at this time, which was 65% and 67%, respectively. Both Februarys had higher budgeted expenses than the preceding five-Sunday Januarys. We should see an upward trend starting in March. The Food Pantry is in the black. We're still making a difference. Thank you, Oak Chapel!

**Oak Chapel
United Methodist Church**

April 16, 2023



4203 West Old Lincoln Way
Wooster, Ohio
330-264-2537

www.oakchapelumc.com
John Finn, *Pastor*

*Serving God and Community
through Love, Compassion,
Fellowship, and Caring*

Today's Message...

"Sign on the Dotted Line"