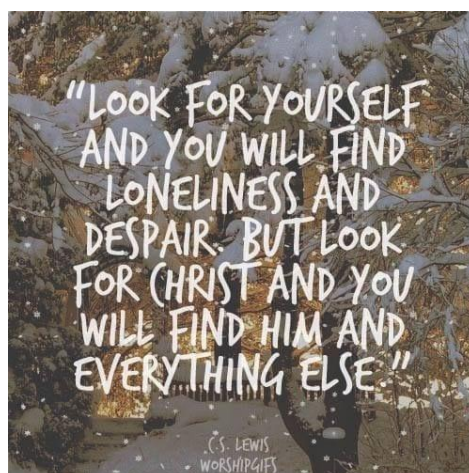
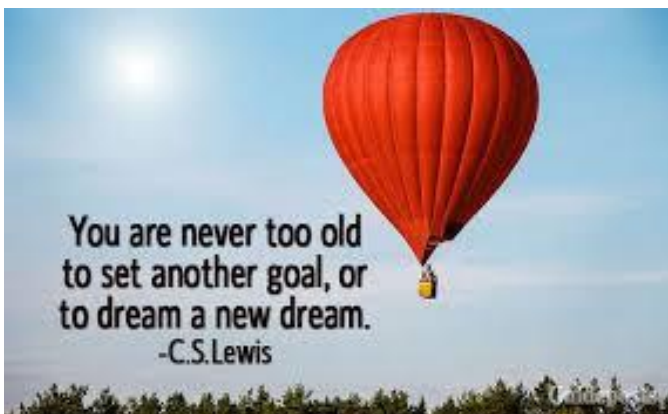
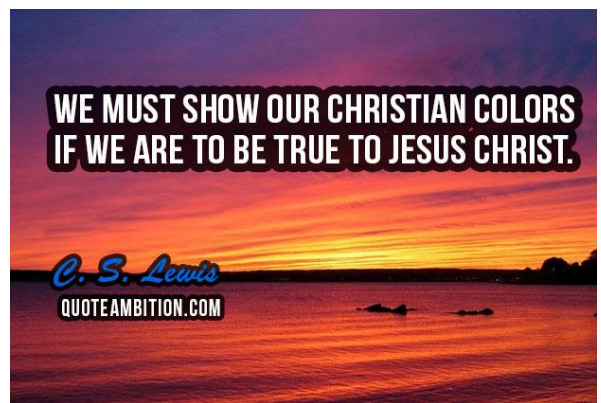
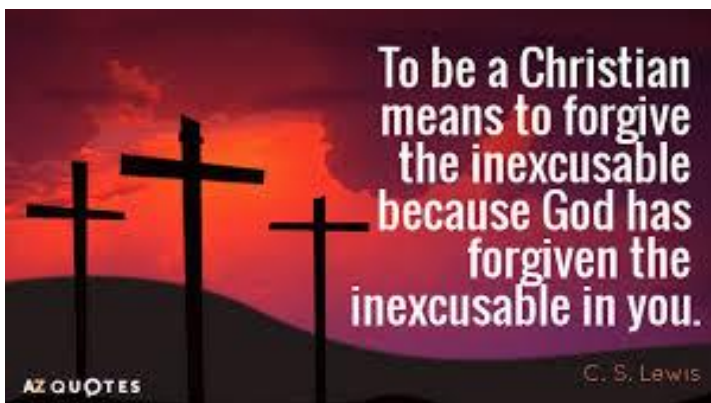


## Reflections!

As I prayed about what to share with you this month, C. S. Lewis came to mind. I'm not sure how many of you have read his books, but they have been very popular over the years with many. I read a couple, but could never really get focused in enough to read more. They always seemed a little strange to me. However, in talking with quite a few colleagues who loves his books, I dug a little deeper in some of his works. Have you ever read his books from a Christian perspective? If not, it might be beneficial to do this.

He has many quotes that are inspiring for life, and quite a few specifically speak of God and Jesus Christ. Consider these that I found as I searched C.S. Lewis' works and quotes to see where I was being led to share. Maybe the Holy Spirit was speaking just to me, but I hope these speak to you positively, too, in some way



Allow God to speak to you through whatever you are experiencing in your day. You may be surprised at how something that seems ordinary can bless you in a whole new way!

Blessings,  
Pastor Ruthie Trigg

# ♥ Welcome to Preschool!

Since school came to an end in May, we have applied for a grant through the state of Ohio. This grant allowed us to purchase new classroom equipment, get reimbursed for the payroll that has been paid out, have carpets cleaned in several of the rooms, and purchase new paper towel and soap dispensers for the preschool classrooms and the two adult restrooms that are in the hallway by the preschool rooms. Our enrollment numbers are looking very good for the fall. As of the middle of July, we have 17 children enrolled. We are also looking to hire an aide for the upcoming school year.



*It's Charge Conference Season again!*

**It is currently the time when the Staff Pastor Parish Relationships Committee (SPPRC) will be meeting to review the work of the congregation and the pastor this past year. We fill out required forms after much discussion and look toward next year to see what God has in store for us in the year and years to come.**

**Pastor Ruthie will be meeting with the District Superintendent on  
Monday, Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.**

**The SPPRC meeting with the District Superintendent will be  
Thursday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at North Canton Faith UMC.**

**The 2022 Charge Conference, which everyone is welcome to attend, will be  
Saturday, Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00am at Wadsworth UMC.**

**This meeting will be held with all other Canal District United Methodist churches, and we will be voting on our church reports and our 2023 leadership. If there are any questions concerning this information**

# Joys



Wedding Congratulations to: Bruce's & Ruthanne's granddaughter;

Martha's granddaughter, Bekah; and Mark's & Lynn's son Scott.

Margaret Moedt has moved back from North Carolina and now lives in Wooster.

Dorothy Gillman has been taken off hospice care.

Our Annual Conference collected \$1.5 million in 2 years to build a women's dormitory at Africa University. Our church helped with this! Ground has been broken and building has begun!

Family reunions being able to resume

Pam Hartman happy to be back in church after having a hard time beginning dialysis.

Becky, our secretary has a new, used car. Safe travels! Answers to prayers!

Enjoying God's beautiful creation!

## Concerns

Lauran - young woman in coma following a motorcycle accident

Pastor Ruthie's granddaughter Charley - tick bite

Pastor Don's step-dad in care center & mom - health

Bonnie Ayers - heart

Danny Baker & Paula Burkhardt

Ana McClain's Grandpa Tim

Rae & Duane Smith

Eileen Williams and family, as she is in The Avenue Care Center

Anne Salyer - broken hip

Pam Hartman - dialysis treatments

Mike Knapic - back surgery

Those with Covid & other viruses

Marilyn Hofacre's daughter-in-law Christa

Leigh Litman's sister, Loretta - recurrence of cancer

Continued prayer for Dick B. to remain healthy

Nancy (& Butch) McMillan

Anita (& Don) Vohar - health

Harry & Nancy Britton

Robin Kirkhart & Pat Meglich

Judy King (Becky's mom)

Ruthie Schumacher

Dorothy & Dick Gillman

Pauline Rastorfer

Betty Gift

Lovell, Bruce Lindenmuth's sister - cancer

Debbie Baker (& her husband, Rev. David Baker) - stroke recovery & cancer

Pastor Joyce Williams (& Jack) - cancer

Annibale & Mohr families, Mary Lynn (cancer is receding ☺)

Disaster & Violence victims

Summer Safety for children

UMC Camping Ministries

Traveling mercies

Ukraine/Russia War

Our country & area communities

**Our sympathy to any family & friends who have lost loved ones:**

Ruth Groves - Bob Hopton's sister

Robert Myers - Eileen Williams' son-in-law, Cheryl's husband

Renee Carr's father (Renee is our Preschool Director)



## ***Fireside Chat***



Fireside Chat with the Finance Chair

Dear Friends,

My Granddaughter's wedding was beautiful. Will have new update next month.

God Bless,

*Martha Baillis*, Finance Chair

## **Trustee's Corner**



Items since last month:

- (7) Trustee's plus Martha & Sandy spread 11 yds. of mulch, trimmed all shrubs and edged sidewalks by parking lot.
- Schar replaced capacitor on west sanctuary heat pump.
- Bob Hopton & Joanna replaced ceiling tile in west preschool room.
- Pressure sprayed picnic tables and pavilion pad before Block Party.
- Purchased new toilet for west preschool restroom.
- Installed 3 wireless security cameras on parking lot light poles.
- (5) Trustees trimmed weeds in parking lot after June Meeting.
- Cleaned/sealed PVC drain joint under parsonage sink.



One day your life will flash before your eyes.  
Make sure it's worth watching.

*~unknown*

# Food Pantry

Our July Food Pantry was a bit different. There was no Community Dinner & we passed out Food Pantry items on Tues. July 19<sup>th</sup> thru Thurs. July 21<sup>st</sup>, 9am-1:30pm and on Wed. July 20<sup>th</sup>, 4-5:30pm. We had 19 families, 65 people, 28 sets, and 4 new families this month. We will return to our normal Food Pantry/Community Dinner for Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>, 4-5:30pm with set-up on Tues. Aug. 16<sup>th</sup>, @ 6:30pm. The sign-up sheet for the Community Dinner will be available Sunday August 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> out on the table in the narthex.



Thank you to all of our helpers! We couldn't do it without you!



## Bible Studies

A group of women meet on Thursdays at 6:30pm, and are led by Betty Winchell and Sara Ullman. Another group of women meet at 10:00am led by Pastor Ruthie, also on Thursdays.

There is always room for more to attend!

Titles of current & upcoming studies and tentative dates:

**CURRENT**     Surrendered: Letting Go and Living Like Jesus



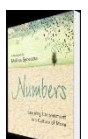
9/8<sup>th</sup> - 10/27<sup>th</sup>     The Longing in Me: Studying the Life of David



11/3<sup>rd</sup> - 12/29<sup>th</sup>     Jude: Contending for the Faith in Today's Culture



1/12<sup>th</sup> - 2/23<sup>rd</sup>     Numbers: Learning Contentment in a Culture



3/9<sup>th</sup> - 4/20<sup>th</sup>     What Love Is: Letters of 1,2,3 John



Keep checking for any updates.



## August

1<sup>st</sup> - Sally Schwab  
25<sup>th</sup> - Elizabeth Booth

5<sup>th</sup> - Trevor Knapic  
27<sup>th</sup> - Larissa Richards



## August

16<sup>th</sup> - Mickey & Joanna Shankland

17<sup>th</sup> - Barry & Shirley Youmans

### **Rittman UMC Rummage Sale**

*Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022: 9:00am-2:00pm*

*Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022: 9:00am-1:00pm*

Start gathering things that you want to put in the sale and you can bring them to the church. If you are able please take your things downstairs to the Jr. High room at end of hall. If you are unable to do that, you can put you things on the tables in the social hall. More information will be coming soon.





## Mary's Meanderings

### **Stewardship of our leisure time** by Rob Blezard

- I commend enjoyment, for there is nothing better for people under the sun than to eat, and drink, and enjoy themselves, for this will go with them in their toil through the days of life that God gives them under the sun. Ecclesiastes 8:15
- Busy-ness keeps us from living with joy and peace in today's 24/7 world, but Scripture reminds us that this is hardly new. Ecclesiastes was written some 2,500 years ago! Ecclesiastes does not give license for mindless pleasure-seeking, but rather affirms that our hard work should be balanced with time for relaxation and enjoyment with friends and family.
- Saints and mystics have long touted the need for rest and renewal. In the monastic tradition it's referred to as otium sanctum – Holy Leisure. Not just wasting our free time, but using it for renewal. As steward/disciples, we aim to use our leisure time wisely. Here are some ideas:
- Keep the Sabbath: God actually commands us to stop working one day per week, as Exodus 20:8-11 makes clear. But there is no prohibition against leisure. (Why else would God give us a day off?)
- Plan your vacation: Even if you're taking a STAYcation, plan your time for maximum rest and enjoyment.
- Manage your schedule: Are you a slave to your appointment book, driven by other people's priorities? Put yourself first – scheduling in time for leisure. Even if it's just 30 minutes here and there!
- Find an activity you like: What do you do just for you? Discover – or REdiscover – what brings you joy, then make time to do it.
- Socialize: Friends and family make life enjoyable. Spend time with them.
- Invest, don't waste, time: Many activities pass the time but don't give back much in renewal or refreshment. Choose activities wisely.
- God expects us to work, but not work ourselves to death. Sabbath and leisure time provide means for us to find balance in our life, as well as friendship, love, renewal and purpose.

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## *God's kids say and do the funniest things*

When he returned from Sunday School, a small boy was asked by his father what he had learned.

The boy replied: "The teacher told us the story about God sending Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When they got to the Red Sea, Moses and his engineers built a pontoon bridge.

Everyone walked across to safety. Then Moses used his walkie-talkie to call headquarters for reinforcements.

They sent bombers to blow up the bridge, and the Israelites were saved from the Egyptian soldiers."

"Are you sure that's what the teacher taught you?" his father asked.

"Well, not exactly, Dad," the boy answered, "but if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it."

### **An Everlasting Love**

As high as the sky is above the earth, so great is his love for those who respect him.

*Psalms 103:11*

The big news of the Bible is not that you love God but that God loves you; not that you can know God but that God already knows you! He tattooed your name on the palm of his hand. His thoughts of you outnumber the sand on the shore. You never leave his mind, escape his sight, flee his thoughts. He sees the worst of you and loves you still. Your sins of tomorrow and failings of the future will not surprise him; he sees them now. Every day and deed of your life has passed before his eyes and been calculated in his decision. He knows you better than you know you and has reached his verdict; he loves you still. No discovery will disillusion him; no rebellion will dissuade him. He loves you with an everlasting love.

*~Charles Swindoll*

