



Volunteer Ministry Schedules

Welcome Center

June 3

Ken & Darlene Householder
Edna Cox

June 10

Nevin & Joyce Bowers
Kay Sayers

June 17

Russell & Delberta Hedglin
Dottie Greene

June 24

Lou & Lynn Kauffman
Tom Workman

Connection Café

June 3

Denny and Ruth Ann Hiner

June 10

Edna Cox
Leroy Weaver

June 17

Donna Workman
Tom Workman

June 24

Debra and John Shanklin

Worship Liturgy Team

June 3

Tracy Kollar

June 10

Tom Koop

June 17

Kim Liston

June 24

Toni McKee

Communion Team

June 3

Kim Liston

June Counters

Marilyn Koop
Bonnie McQuate

ACCESS

May 27th – June 3

Combined Assessment Team Meeting

Monday, June 4
7:00 PM CUMC Sanctuary

East Ohio Youth Annual Conference

June 8-10

Annual Conference at Lakeside

June 11-14

Combined Service at Christ UMC

Sunday, June 17
9:30 AM

Happy Father's Day

Sunday, June 17

Spire Newsletter Deadline

Monday, June 18

Feast Night

Sunday, June 24
5:00 pm
Dauch Hall

JOSHUA Missions Trip

June 24 – June 29
Steubenville Ohio

A Message from Pastor Allan...



**DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE
FUTURE, GOD IS ALREADY
THERE!**

**“So do not worry about tomorrow,
for tomorrow will bring worries of
its own. Today’s trouble is enough
for today (Matthew 6:34).”**

*These words of Jesus in the Sermon
on the Mount are not easy to put
into practice in our lives.*

As Christians there is an important rule that should guide our lives and all of our living. It is not a simple principle to learn nor live with. We must continually remind ourselves of it because it seems so contrary to who we are and what we should do, but it is critical none-the-less. The rule is—*Don’t worry about the future, God is already there.*

This does not mean that we should not think about the future, nor does it suggest that we should not plan for the future—retirement, sending the children to college—and all that. There is a difference, however, between planning for the future and worrying about it. Jesus never tells us that we should not plan. What Jesus insists on is that we need to orient our lives around the basic truth that God is in charge, and that our lives, therefore, are in God’s hands. There is no safer
Ashland First United Methodist Church

place for us to be than in the caring hands of God.

The philosopher Blaise Pascal once said that it is a wonderful thing to be on a ship that may well be shaken by storms and tossed by the waves but of which we know that, no matter what happens, it will reach the harbor. God has not made our lives a detective story with an uncertain ending but rather God has already revealed what the end will be. No matter what storms may assail us in life, and we know the storms of life can be almost unbearable, if we hold on, if we hope, if we keep the faith, our ships will reach the harbor of God’s safe heavenly haven. The next pages of our daily calendar contain only the prologue of a grand concluding chapter.

Don’t worry about the future, God is already there. Can we learn to live this way? It’s not easy. It calls for a depth of faith on a daily basis that can only be sustained by prayer, devotion, and service. Perhaps there is no better way to say it than the way Jesus—“Don’t worry about tomorrow, each day has enough trouble of its own.”

Wishing you God’s richest blessings,

Allan

**NEW VOLUNTEER
POSSIBILITIES**

Volunteers are needed for the Farmer’s Market Prayer Ministry at Christ UMC. The volunteers would join Pastor Jon or Pastor Allan from 8:30 to 11:00 am and pray with people who stop by. The Farmer’s Market runs on Saturdays starting June 23rd. Let Pastor Allan know if you are interested.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Can you believe that summer is here already? The Children’s ministry team will be taking a break this summer. There will be no Sunday school offered June 3rd through September 2nd. Fall kick off will be September 9th.

Watch for more details coming in the bulletin.





Abigail McFarlin 1
 Kay Smithhiser 6
 Zach Miller 7
 Toni McKee 7
 Dalton Eagle 9
 Paul Shantz 13
 Larry Thompson 18
 Ben Strouse 26
 Don Herr 29

If your name is not listed and you would like it to be, please call the church office.

Office Hours
Monday – Thursday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm
PHONE 419-289-7551

Sunday Worship Hours
Worship – 9:30 am
Sunday School – 10:45 am

Join the Prayer Chain

Please contact the church office if you would like to add someone to the Prayer Chain email list.



Want to spread God's love today? Why not drop a note to a shut-in or visit a church member who is in a nursing home.

Belmont Tower
 (2140 Center St., Ashland)
 Kathy Chorpening
 Verla Long
 Carolyn Lowe

Brethren Care
 (2000 Center St., Ashland)
 Ruth Emmons
 Richard Kriens (Bradford House)
 Joan Wenrick

Brookwood Place
 (1998 Center St., Ashland)
 Mary Wirts

Crystal Care
 (1251 E. Main St., Ashland)
 Steve Chorpening

Good Shepherd Villa
 (726 Center St. Ashland)
 Sandy Benson

Kingston of Ashland
 (20 Amberwood Pkwy, Ashland)
 Carol Barnes
 David & Sandra Grindle

Lutheran Village
 (330 Davis Rd., Ashland)
 Cliff Hubler
 Needy Prosser
 Mary Puglisi
 Ireene Thomas

Spire Deadline
 If you would like to submit an article for the July newsletter, the deadline is Monday, June 18, 2018.

Attendance

	<u>Worship</u>	<u>S. S.</u>
4/29	114	70
5/6	119	61
5/13	120	55
5/20	108	72
5/27	99	33

Altar Flowers

If you would like to contribute flowers for the Altar in memory or in honor of a person or event, there is a Altar Flower Sign Up Schedule on the wall in the entrance area. If you sign up for flowers and are having them delivered, please make sure that they are delivered on **Thursday** of that week. They will be placed in a refrigerator to keep them fresh for Sunday.

Caring Connections Ministry

The purpose of the **Caring Connections Ministry** is to keep our church family connected. People with any family concerns, illness, absence from church, meals, visits, etc. can contact Mary Phenege, coordinator at 419-606-3062.

Financial Update

General Operating Ministry Budget

4/29	\$ 2,502.00
5/6	\$ 8,616.00
5/13	\$ 2,905.00
5/20	\$ 3,416.00
5/27	\$ 2,234.00

2018 YTD Current Revenue	\$ 96,861.02
2017 YTD Current Revenue	\$ 105,407.87

GOOD NEWS! The newly signed "Protecting American's from Tax Hikes Act of 2015" makes certain "**Charitable contributions of IRA distributions**" provision permanent.

Note: Those American's subject to RMD's (required minimum distributions) can now elect to have their IRA Custodian send Charitable Contributions **directly from their IRA to an eligible charitable organization**. When these transfers are made directly from the IRA to the Qualified Charitable Organization, the event is nontaxable.

This provision can really be helpful for many senior citizens who have part of their Social Security and the IRA distribution become taxable by eliminating the IRA from coming into income altogether.

If you are subject to RMDs and are planning on supporting any qualified charitable organization, such as the church, please contact your IRA plan sponsor, your investment advisor or accountant.




Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church year round.

Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

Get started today!

Ask for an authorization form in the church office or visit our church website:
www.ashlandteamministry.org.

Pastor's **Bible Study**



Bible Study Offered Weekly

You are invited to join Pastor Jon and/or Pastor Allan each week for an hour of study on the Bible lessons for Sunday worship.

Two times are offered for your convenience:

Tuesday morning @10:00 a.m.
at Downtown Perks
145 West Main Street

Tuesday evening @7:00 p.m.
at Christ UMC
1140 Claremont Avenue

Bring your Bibles with you
and join the conversation!

Reflective Scripture Readings

<u>Daily</u> Psalm 139:1-6 13-18	<u>Sun., June 10</u> 2Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35	<u>Mon., June 18</u> 1 Samuel 13:23-14:23 Galatians 6:11-18	<u>Wed., June 27</u> 1 Samuel 19:8-17 Mark 6:45-52
<u>Fri., June 1</u> 1 Samuel 1:19-27 Romans 8:31-39	<u>Daily</u> Psalm 108	<u>Tues., June 19</u> 1 Samuel 15:10-23 Rev. 21:22-22:5	<u>Daily</u> Psalm 130
<u>Sat., June 2</u> 1 Samuel 2:1-10 John 7:19-24	<u>Mon., June 11</u> 1 Samuel 7:3-15 Rev. 20:1-6	<u>Wed., June 20</u> 1 Samuel 15:24-31 Luke 6:43-45	<u>Thurs. June 28</u> 1 Samuel 19:18-24 2 Cor. 7:2-16
<u>Sun., June 3</u> 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23-3:6	<u>Tues., June 12</u> 1 Samuel 8:1-22 Rev. 20:7-15	<u>Daily</u> Psalm 9:9-20	<u>Fri., June 29</u> 1 Samuel 20:1-25 2 Cor. 8:1-7
<u>Daily</u> Psalm 99	<u>Wed., June 13</u> 1 Samuel 9:1-14 Luke 11:14-28	<u>Thurs., June 21</u> 1 Samuel 16:14-23 Acts 20:1-16	<u>Sat., June 30</u> 1 Samuel 20:27-42 Luke 4:31-37
<u>Mon., June 4</u> 1 Samuel 2:11-17 Romans 9:19-29	<u>Daily</u> Psalm 20	<u>Fri., June 22</u> 1 Samuel 17:55-18:5 Acts 21:1-16	
<u>Tues., June 5</u> 1 Samuel 2:18-21 Acts 15:1-5, 22-35	<u>Thurs., June 14</u> 1 Samuel 9:15-27 Hebrews 2:5-9	<u>Sat., June 23</u> 1 Samuel 18:1-4 Luke 21:25-28	
<u>Wed., June 6</u> 1 Samuel 2:22-36 John 5:1-18	<u>Fri., June 15</u> 1 Samuel 10:1-8 Hebrews 11:4-7	<u>Sun., June 24</u> 1 Samuel 17:32-49 2 Cor. 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41	
<u>Thurs. June 7</u> 1 Samuel 4:1-22 1 Peter 4:7-19	<u>Sat., June 16</u> 1 Samuel 13:1-15a Mark 4:1-20	<u>Daily</u> 119:113-128	
<u>Fri., June 8</u> 1 Samuel 5:1-12 2 Cor. 5:1-5	<u>Sun., June 17</u> 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 2 Cor. 5:6-10,14-17 Mark 4:26-34	<u>Mon., June 25</u> 1 Samuel 18:6-30 Acts 27:13-38	
<u>Sat., June 9</u> 1 Samuel 6:1-18, Luke 8:4-15	<u>Daily</u> Psalm 53	<u>Tues., June 26</u> 1 Samuel 19:1-7 Acts 27:39-44	

**Ongoing Prayers for Our Church
and Community**

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Vicki Johnson (*Jenny Moore*)

Barbara Fenn (*Sally Ann Hull*)

Jon Pickering (*Jane Betts*)

Don Herr (*Chuck and Hazel Ritchey*)

Mary Wirts (*Sally Valentine*)

Doyle Hoverstock (*Jim and Melody Young*)

Cappie Stone (*Stacey Lucas*)

A Secret Place (Christian Retreat Center in
Kentucky) owned by Tim and Julie Barnhart

(Kattie Priebe's parents) (*Kattie Priebe*)

Steve Budd, (*Marlene Brewer*)

Roger Shopbell (*Chuck and Hazel Ritchey*)

Naomi Koons (*Debbie Shanklin*)

Heart of Ohio Emmaus/Chrysalis/Face to Face

Pilgrims (*Melody Barnes*)

Asher Kettering (*Mary Kettering*)

Dillon Crozier (*David Boyer*)

For the refugees coming out of Syria (*Anna Slade*)

Patricia Boyer (*David Boyer*)

Holly Fulmer (*David Boyer*)

(Please call the church office if you would like
to add someone to the prayer list.)



PRIORITY PRAYER GATHERING

**JOIN US ON THE 1ST DAY OF EVERY
MONTH TO PRAY FOR OURSELVES,
OUR CHURCHES, OUR COUNTRY,
OUR COMMUNITY AND EACH OTHER.
THE NEXT PRIORITY PRAYER GATHERING
WILL BE AT FIRST UMC ON
FRIDAY, JUNE 1ST AT 7:00 PM.**

LET'S MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY!



We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to Edith Rowsey, for her years of service with the Bell and Chime Choirs. Thank you, Edith, for your service.

Thank you, Church Family, for the delightful reception and beautiful flowers. Directing the chimes and bells has been a joy for me.

My thanks goes to all those who played regularly or subbed. It could not have happened without them.

Edith Rowsey

THANK YOU ASHLAND TEAM MINISTRY CHURCHES!

On Thursday, May 3rd, Kitty & I were a serious four vehicle accident. Our van was totaled, one of the drivers died and another vehicle damaged. A mother and child and we walked away from it. We were checked out at the hospital, and in spite of bruises, soreness and a few scratches, we are very grateful to be alive. We continue to grieve for the family of the deceased driver, and for the young man who started the chain reaction.

After thanks to God for life itself, we are so grateful for our church families and pastors in the Ashland Team Ministry for your ministry to us after this trauma. You have lovingly supported us with prayers, cards, calls, visits, Facebook messages, food, flowers, the loan of cars (and offers!) and transportation. You have been Christ to us, and we hold you in our hearts.

In light of all this, the only thing we can advise is: enjoy life, treasure every sacred moment, hold those you love tightly, trust God in all circumstances and buckle up!

Tom and Kitty Snyder

Thank you for your prayers for **Bodhi (Hempfield) McConnell** who is now cancer free!! Praise the Lord for His healing.

Thank you for your prayers for **Caleb Loy** who will be getting tubes for the second time. No speech therapy is scheduled at this time. He will be reassessed after the tubes are in. Praise the Lord for this good news!



On May 27, the following Graduates were honored:

- Clay Eagle – Crestview High School attending Chadron State in Nebraska
- Grace Stampfli – St. Peter’s High School attending University of Cincinnati (Pre-Med and Psychology)
- Libby Slade - Ashland University, BSSW
- Faith Stiteler – The Ohio State University Bachelor of Arts in World Politics: Economy and Development

The Scholarship committee would also like to thank all of you who continue to support the scholarship program. We could not do this without you.



For your kids this summer: VBS and Camp opportunities



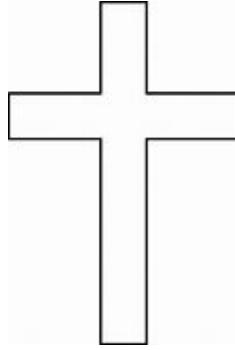
It's Vacation Bible School Time Again!
July 30 - August 3
9:00 AM - Noon
Christ UMC
More details to come!

A SMALL WHITE CROSS

Spreading the word without saying a word!

The History of the Small Cross:

The beginning of the white cross movement where in 2008 an atheist resident town and the town complied with his victory, he wanted the city to remove a Lutheran beginnings. In response, hundreds placing crosses in their front yards. Seeing community, the man removed his display today. Reverend Mark Brandt, lead pastor of the church in Frankenmuth that spearheaded the cross effort, said that he wanted people to understand that the intent of the display of crosses is to be a symbol of love, to unite people – not to become a divisive symbol. It should also serve as a reminder of the responsibility it places on us to live as Christians, not to only have a symbol on the lawn.



traces back to Frankenmuth, Michigan complained about two crosses on a bridge in request to remove them. Bolstered by that cross from the city shield that signified their of residents made their opinions known by this quiet but powerful statement from the complaint. Those simple crosses remain on

In 2012, Lowell Trimmer, a resident of Lancaster, Ohio, first noticed a display of white crosses while on a summer vacation. He brought two home and soon wanted to share some with others. He and his friends from his local church made and distributed 34,000 small white crosses to be proudly displayed throughout the USA and even other countries. At the age of 84, Mr. Trimmer knew it was time for others to carry on the work.

The Willing Workers, a group of volunteers from Magnolia United Methodist Church in Magnolia, Ohio, decided to take on the cross project that has become a movement. They continue today and have made and given away over 30,000 small white crosses.

The Willing Workers small white crosses have made their way to Bucyrus, Ohio. A small group of people in the Bucyrus community wanted to take on this cross project. Not only is this to be a symbol on the lawn, but to be a symbol of Christian love, to unite people and as a reminder of the responsibility it places on us to live as Christians.

If you are interested in displaying a white cross, please contact the church office at 419-289-7551 and we will see that a cross is delivered to you.



Come join the Women Serving Christ Ministry on June 19. We will be meeting at the church at 11:30 AM to car pool down to the Village Point for lunch. On July 17, WSC will be meeting at the home of Sandy Rowsey for a Salad and Dessert carry-in. See Sandy for details.



Game Night

Mark your calendars for Friday, June 22nd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in room 208 for a First UMC Game Night. Watch for more information!

East Ohio Youth Annual Conference 2018
June 8 – 10 at Lakeside Chautauqua

The theme for the weekend is “We Are One” based off the scripture Ephesians 4:3-6. It reads: “3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” Youth and their adult leaders come from all across Ohio to Lakeside Chautauqua for this leadership event to worship, fellowship, do mission work, have fun, and conduct business together. Our line-up for the weekend includes guest speaker Rev. Jasmine Smothers, entertainment by illusionist Zak Mirzadeh, and musical guests Bonray.



East Ohio Annual Conference 2018
June 11 – 14 at Lakeside Chautauqua



Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected is the quadrennial theme. This year we will focus on what it means to be called and equipped as followers of Jesus Christ based on John 15:13-17. The Reverends Kimberly Arbaugh, Chip Freed and Becky Weamer will be leading morning worship. Rev. Dr. Joseph Daniels, Jr. (Baltimore-Washington Conf) is the speaker for Shared Learning on Thursday.

NEW SCHEDULE LINE-UP this year includes the following highlights:

- **Executive Clergy Session** -will be held off-site two weeks prior on May 30 at University of Mount Union
- **Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion** (Mon, June 11, 10:00 AM).
- **Celebration of Retirement** (Mon., June 11, 7:30 PM)
- **Service of Commissioning and Ordination** (Wed., June 13, 4:30 PM)

Meet the New Office Manager

Debbie Dalton is our new Office Manager here at Ashland First UMC. She has been a church secretary for 20 years at her home church of Vermillion Baptist Church in rural Perrysville.

She is an active member of her church being involved in teaching Sunday school, Youth leader, Children’s Church teacher, singing in the choir, nursery worker, and working wherever needed.

Her hobbies include paper crafting, making cards to send to shut-ins at her church, music, and spending time with family and friends.

Welcome Debbie!