



THE TOWERS

201 S. Main St., West Milton, Ohio 45383

July 2022



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Juggling towards Hope

Romans 5:1-5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Recently I was able to join an ardent crew of youngsters at one of our local library's many summer programs for the first time in 3 years. Juggling first came into my life at my first apartment in Chillicothe. I was surprised to find a use for it in Chesterhill, as one of the teachers there used it as a reward opportunity for students who were caught up with their assignments. When I returned to Chesterhill to visit the Fireman's Festival while I served in the District Office, I was shocked when one of the firefighters working at the grill looked up, saw me, and shouted "hey Pastor Robbie" as he spontaneously grabbed 3 salt shakers and started juggling them at the grill. I admit it warmed my heart to see a young adult sharing a skill that I was given opportunity to share at his elementary school so many years earlier. I have through the years developed a few instructional highlights for kids to keep in mind while learning to juggle. They build on each other much like the wisdom shared in Romans 5.

The Fail: No one likes to fail, but nothing worthwhile comes easily, and by necessity will require that we experience failures small and large on the way to learning any new skill, including juggling. Those mistakes along the way, and how we adapt and overcome them make possible the end result...our Suffering produces Perseverance.

The Toss: In my opinion the most important part of juggling is mastering the toss. Many times new jugglers focus on the catches, stretching their hands out in all directions to complete the exchanges, but reaching out wildly makes the next exchange that much more difficult. Good tosses are what make the exchanges add together. Usually when reminding children of the importance of the toss, I will mention that we sometimes "toss"

ourselves in all kinds of bad situations; moments when we don't think through how difficult the recovery or the "catch" will be. Many of my most regrettable moments have been situations I "tossed" myself into. Also, the toss is often the easiest to skip or ignore because it is tedious and mundane...it is boring. Doing the same toss over and over again, it really gets old, but when the exercise is done well for enough times, one is no longer thinking about "catching" anything, it is caught without thinking. But, just like anyone who has grown weary of playing the scales on a musical instrument, or grows tired of doing the right thing when so much wrong is all around her or him, Perseverance leads to Character.

The Eyes: For most of my life, multiple people have advised me to "Focus" more (something not as simple as simply choosing to do so, I hope you know). Well, I get to turn the tables in juggling, because if one focuses too much on one object, the other items are likely to be dropped. It is about being able to recognize the larger picture; seeing all that is being kept in the air.

The Happy Place: This is about our mental state. While sometimes temporary anger can help us accomplish a single arduous task, for the most part there is nothing I have accomplished more skillfully through anger. If something is supposed to be a fun activity for us, we may find it necessary to remind ourselves of that, or our progress in the skill will suffer. Character leads to Hope.

The Future: In juggling there is the ever-present question of what to juggle next. Almost all changes in juggling items requires re-evaluation of the toss.

At some point I decided I wanted to graduate to juggling pins, which added spin and rotation into the toss mechanics. There were many fails spanning years, even over a decade, before I was able to juggle the pins. I didn't succeed until just before my first library program presentation after moving here. Three years ago I stepped up to fire torches...of course. I've only juggled the fire torches when lit twice, both times now in front of a crowd of kids. One could say it is my way of understanding that Hope does not Disappoint.

While remembering Hope does not disappoint...and adding "don't juggle salt shakers" to my juggling instructions, I am, In His Service and yours,





Board Meeting Highlights

Devotions

Devotions were offered by Chris Long. He shared a devotion about Servant Leadership The meeting was opened with a prayer by Chris

Meeting Attendees

Katie Poling, Wendy Black, John Ankerman, Patti Wion, Chris Long, Wendy Heisey and Pastor Robbie Scott

Mission and Ministry

No report

Pastor's Report

The average attendance in April was 151 (+15 vs March). JoAnn is finalizing reports for the West Ohio Conference that are due June 1 (a change in deadline from previous years). Norman is continuing to recruit for special music for 9:00 am service during the summer. Becky is very busy with VBS in June this year. Joseph is stepping down from youth ministry at the end of May. Conversations continue for a possible candidate. Pastor Robbie held a successful membership class with 5 participants. There were also 2 transfer members. The church Chromebooks we have used for various classes will no longer be supported by Google Chrome after June but no changes will be made at this time. A list of technology items purchased over the course of the last 2+ years was compiled for the trustees. The decision has been made to not have a mission trip this year. It was also recommended that regular updates be given to the congregation regarding the status of LifeWise Academy.

Trustees

Trustees report was given along with the financial report. Capital Improvement offering was down.

The new projector was installed; the sump pump was replaced in the downstairs children's classroom and a new toilet was installed in the Nursery bathroom. Upcoming projects include: install wood platforms under the units on roof, paint the storage garage (quote has been obtained), mulching and tower room refurbishment.

Finance

The finance report for April was reviewed. Weeks of Operations are 7.90 weeks which compared to last April Weeks of Operations at 6.79 weeks. The Budget Offerings were under goal by \$1,358.64 compared to last April with the Budget Offerings being under goal by \$8,000. For next year's budget, it was recommended to add a budget line item for technology purchase/repair. .

Nominations

No report

Staff Parish Relations

An inspection of the parsonage was conducted and there was no change from the last one in October of 2021.

Non-agenda items:

June 3-4 Annual Conference
June 16 Church Garage Sale
June 26-30 Vacation Bible School
July 26 @ 6:30 Safe Sanctuary Training
July 28-Aug 9 Pastor Robbie Vacation
July 31 Pulpit Supply Rev Tim Benkert
Aug 4 @ 6:30 Safe Sanctuary Training
Aug 5-7 Art Show
Aug 7 Pulpit Supply Rev Tom Weeks
Aug 7 Church Picnic

Serving Schedule

July 03

9:00 Liturgist: Les T. **Greeters:** Wendy H. and Nancy L.
Ushers: Wayne & Susie S. and Phil & Karen M. **Hospitality Table:** Wendy H.
Nursery: 10:15 Patti W. & Kathy K. / **11:15** Julia C. & Wendy H.
11:15 Greeters: Ben G., Julia C., & Kathy K. **Scripture Reader:** Norman H.



July 10

9:00 Liturgist: Wendy H. **Greeters:** Elaine P. and Joy P.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** Richard & Marcia S.
Nursery: 10:15 Lesli R. & Kat G. / **11:15** Lesli R. & Lauren E.
11:15 Greeters: Dick & Mary Ann M. **Scripture Reader:** Beth T.

July 17

9:00 Liturgist: Les T. **Greeters:** Elaine I. and Cathy B.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** Jim & Marilyn M.
Nursery: 10:15 Julia C. & Kathy K. / **11:15** Ben G. & Mallory D.
11:15 Greeters: Kathy W. and Ruth L. **Scripture Reader:** Tim B.



July 24

9:00 Liturgist: Wendy H. **Greeters:** Carol S. and Peggy N.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** Joseph & Jennifer K.
Nursery: 10:15 Jennifer K. & Jill C. / **11:15** Jennifer K. & Kim D.
11:15 Greeters: Paul & Sally M. and Marijo S. **Scripture Reader:** Ben G.

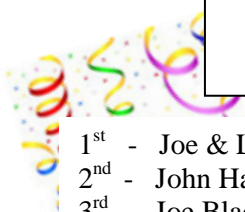
July 31

9:00 Liturgist: Les T. **Greeters:** Sophia & Stella B.
Ushers **Hospitality Table:** Phil & Karen M.
Nursery: 10:15 Kathy K. / **11:15** Ben G. & Lauren E.
11:15 Greeters: Patti W. & Courtney S. **Scripture Reader:** Julia C.

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary July 2022

- 1st - Joe & Leah Blackburn (16 yrs)
- 2nd - John Hayes
- 3rd - Joe Blackburn
- 4th - Dane Studebaker
- 7th - Erin Studebaker
- 10th - Cathy Brown
Chris Moran
Dan Studebaker
Tim Wright
- 11th - Mike & Jill Circle (41 yrs)
- 14th - Kathy Watkins
- 16th - Dustin Jay

- 17th - Chris & Val McKay (48 yrs)
- 21st - John & Carol Carter (49 yrs)
- 23rd - Elaine Pickering
- 25th - Ed Johannes
Jean Sanders
Beth & Larry Thoele (40 yrs)
- 26th - Amanda Burns
- 27th - Janet Weeks
- 29th - George Everage
Griffin King
- 30th - Tim Koeller
Eric & Johanna Morrow (16 yrs)



Weekly Giving and Attendance Statistics

Date	5-22-22	5-29-22	6-5-22	6-12-22	06-19-22
General Offering	4035.00	5542.00	4305.00	4449.00	6463.00
Weekly Budget Need	4793.00	4793.00	4793.00	4793.00	4793.00
Mission Offering	655.00	240.00	350.00	80.00	305.00
Maintenance Fund	160.00	705.00	255.00	35.00	205.00
Building Fund & Memorials	215.00	185.00	280.00	35.00	273.00
Stained Glass Windows	.00	30.00	100.00	.00	100.00
Online & Physical Attendance					
9 a.m. Service at church	58	61	63	54	49
* Remote viewing	15	15	18	16	19
11:15 a.m. Service at church	61	55	49	51	49
* Remote viewing	8	3	6	3	5
Total Attendance	142	134	136	124	122

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Stained Glass Window Restoration Project Amount Received: \$ 93,495
 Total Project Goal : \$ 109,430 *Thank You!*

"Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." Acts 16:31



We had such a great VBS week!
 We wanted to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who was willing and able to help decorate and participate in our Rocky Railway VBS experience.

Dates to write down:
July 26 or Aug. 4: Safe sanctuaries training
 6:30PM (pick one date)
Aug. 21: Blessings of the Backpacks and Prayer Walk at 4PM
Aug. 22: Teacher Luncheon

Traditional Service
9AM

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Sunday School Hour
10:15-11:10AM

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Open Door Service
11:15AM

Children's Director: Becky Garrett
 ragarrett15@gmail.com
 937-524-7220

People to remember in prayer:



Hoffman Sympathies to: the family of Joetta Perry as she passed away on May 24, 2022

At Home: Phil Blue, Valaria Harshbarger, Wilma Hoover, Helen Keller, Theda Klepinger, Winston Klepinger, Dick & Eugenie Markley, Mary Maess, Dixie Porter, Jim & Kathy Watkins, and Nancy Wolf

At Centers: Dorothy Ginn, Cypress Pointe, 600 W. National Rd. Rm 312, Englewood OH 45322
Sherynne King, Koester Pavilion, 3232 N Co. Rd 25A , Rm 29A, Troy OH 45373
Freda Koeller, Randall House, 6400 S Co. Rd. 25A, Rm 109, Tipp City OH 45371
Wendy Long, Trinity Center, 789 Stonybrook, Rm 208A, Fairborn OH 45324
Jennie McNeal, SpringMeade, 4375 S CO RD 25A, Rm 307, Tipp City OH 45371
Janice Turner, Randall Residence of Troy, 2900 Corporate Dr., Rm 105, Troy OH 45373
Monica Winemiller, Koester Pavillion, 3232 N Co Rd 25A Rm 74, Troy OH 45373

THANK YOU AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



United Methodist Women's meeting

Thursday, July 28th at 7 p.m. Questions contact Jan Weeks (937)540-8234

Art Show

Opening Reception: Aug 5th 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Show Hours: Aug 6th 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Aug 7th 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Applications @ HoffmanUMC.org or on information table outside the church office. Deadline is July 12th

Annual Hoffman UMC Picnic

Sunday, August 7th from 2:30 p.m. to ?

At the home of Marty and Wendy Black at 5839 S Jay Road, West Milton. We will swim, beginning at 2:30 p.m., so dress accordingly. Dinner will be ready at 5:30p.m. This will be a carry-in dinner with meat, condiments, table service, and drinks provided. Please bring a covered dish to share and a folding chair . . which you don't have to share. . .questions please call Mike C. at (937) 623-5731.

Church Family, thanks so much for the prayers, cards and concerns after my recent knee surgery. They were all appreciated.

*Taylor Beaschler and her
Grandma & Grandpa Hennymyre*

To my dear church family, thank you for all the remembrances for my birthday. The flowers, calls, cards, and prayers were so appreciated. I miss being with you in person on Sundays, but I haven't missed a Sunday watching live online.

God Bless You All, *Shelia Shade*

GRANDMA'S KITCHEN July 2022 MENU

201 S. MAIN STREET, WEST MILTON 698-4401 Website: HoffmanUMC.org

SERVING the 2nd and 4th WEDNESDAYS BEGINNING AT 5:00 to 6:15 P.M.

PUBLIC INVITED CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE \$7 DONATION PER MEAL Kids Meal \$3

July 13th Baked Spaghetti
Tossed Salad
Garlic Bread
Brownies

July 27th Barbecue Polish Sausage
Macaroni and Cheese
California Salad
Ice Cream Sundae

Menu items are subject to change

X

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U. S. Postage Paid
 Tipp City, OH
 Permit No. 26



Return Service Requested

X

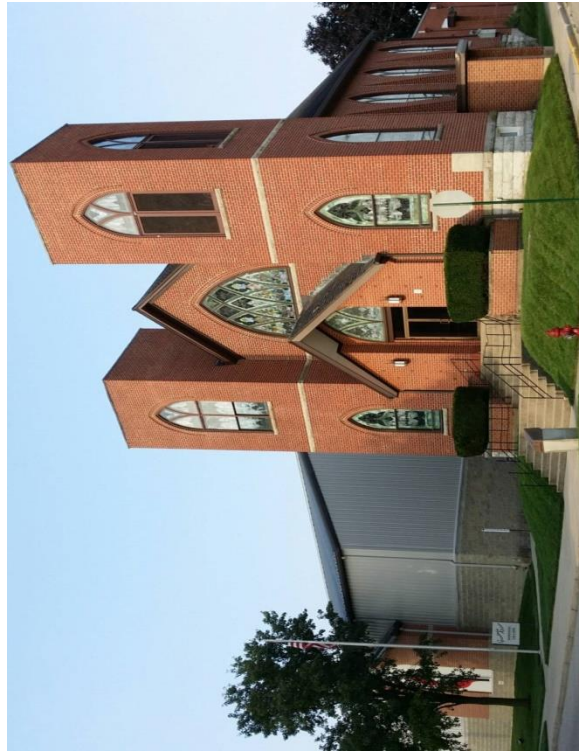


July
 2022

T O W E R S
T H E R E

Place Label Here

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HOFFMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Worship Time: 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
 Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.
 (937) 698-4401 Website: HoffmanUMC.org
 Pastor Robbie Scott