WESTLAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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### Pastoral Reflections "HOPE"

When was the last time you felt filled with hope? It sounds like an easy question; however, I believe hope can be a tricky thing for some people. Scripture is filled with words of hope. Yet, people talk about "false hope" as if there is never anything for which to feel hopeful. I suspect many of us feel as though there are times when situations overshadow a feeling of hope. As we continue our breakthrough prayer initiative within Westlake UMC, our prayer focus word for the month of May is hope. I encourage each of us to reflect on, and pray about, hope. What hopes have you taken to God in prayer? When have you felt hopeful, and what has made you feel hopeless?

During the civil rights movement in this nation, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. powerfully stated, "We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."<sup>1</sup> In my opinion, Dr. King accurately portrays the tension in which many of us live. We may experience disappointment, perhaps even devastation. However, as followers of Jesus Christ we do have a hope that is beyond the things of this world. We are Easter people! Our ultimate hope does not come from the people and things of this world. Our hope comes from God.

I cannot imagine anything that is more hope-filled than the resurrection of Jesus Christ. As we enter the month of May, I invite you to consider the resurrection of Jesus

*To live so that others will become disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world* 

May 2017

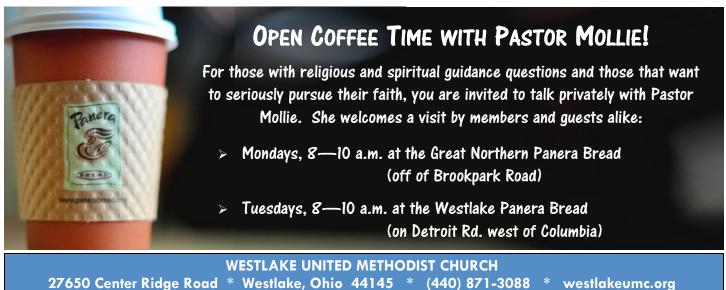
as the lens through which to view hope. Like many of you, I have had times in my life when I needed to really think about the thing that I most hoped would occur. There have been times when the events of life fell short of my hopes and dreams. Being in conversation with our almighty God is a tangible action that we can take to help discern our deepest hope, and cope with the disappointments of life. I invite you to be focused on prayer about hope this month.

It has been a pleasure to chat with you during my time each week at the Westlake and Great Northern Panera locations. I continue to welcome the opportunity for us to talk about the breakthroughs that are happening in your life, and the ones you are praying for right now. As you pray for breakthroughs, I leave you with these words from I Peter 1:3b-4, "On account of his vast mercy, he has given us new birth. You have been born anew into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. You have a pure and enduring inheritance that cannot perish—an inheritance that is presently kept safe in heaven for you."

In the hope of Jesus Christ,

Pastor Mollie

<sup>1</sup> Debbie McDaniel, "31 Powerful Quotes by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," accessed April 19, 2017, <u>http://www.crosswalk.com/faith/spiritual-life/</u> inspiring-quotes/31-powerful-quotes-by-dr-martin-luther-king-ir.html.



Sunday Worship at 8:15, 10:00 and 11:28 a.m.

### THE MESSENGER

# NEWS, SMALL GROUPS, & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

#### **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS**

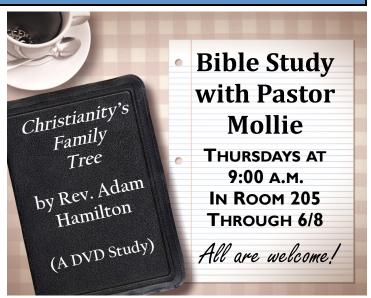
- May 7
   Jean Hutter ...

   In remembrance of Jack Hutter
- May 14Mike & Sue Clark ...In celebration of our anniversary
- May 21 Rainee & Joy Simons
- May 28Diana Stacho... In celebration of<br/>the baptism of Zoe Johnson

Sponsorships are available for our weekly coffee hours following Worship on Sundays. If you would be interested in sponsoring coffee hour, please submit an envelope with the sponsorship amount included (\$35 per Sunday) at the office in the offering plate. We have many openings for September through December! You can find Sponsorship forms on the table near the coffee at Fellowship Hour and in the lobby.

## Men's Belgian Waffle Breakfast A Success!

Thank you to all the church members and others who attended our Belgian Waffle Breakfast! Your generosity will allow us to provide \$500 to each of our two mission projects: Africa University and The Society of St. Andrew. Special thanks to IHOP in Avon who donated all the syrup and toppings, and to the Giant Eagle in Westlake for their \$25 donation.



# **SAVE THE DATES!** Special Events during EOCUMC Annual Conference at Lakeside!

#### MONDAY, JUNE 12TH AT 1:30 P.M.

Opening worship and communion celebrated by our new Bishop Tracy S. Malone.

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14TH AT 7:30 P.M.

Service of Ordination for our pastor, Rev. Mollie Gordon Brown, followed by a celebratory reception at the home of Don and Mary Lou Lefelar, 343 Maple Street.



### TRUSTEE SPRING WORKDAY! Saturday, May 13th from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Time to clean up the gardens, spruce up the yard, tidy up inside, and do a few other spring cleaning tasks to make the church welcoming and beautiful! Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can help, and nab a garden bed to help clear out for the morning! Light lunch will be provided for all of our helpers.

# Westlake United Methodist Women GENERAL MEETING

Installation of Officers and Bible Study **THURSDAY, MAY IITH AT 10:30 A.M.** 

All the women of the church and their friends are welcome to attend our meetings, which are on the second Thursday of the month at 10:30. We enjoy lunch at 12:00. Remember to bring your sandwich — beverage and dessert will be provided.



There is always an interesting program at 1:00 p.m. At this meeting, Rev. Bob Remington will install the officers for the coming year and conduct our annual Bible study. Please join us!

# **UMW Flower Sale Pick-Up**

### SATURDAY, MAY 13TH, 10 A.M.-12 P.M.

Please plan to pick up your flowers and plants in the eastern parking lot. Questions? Please contact Mary Klag at (440) 934-8084.

# **Cancelled:** Music in Ministry: Variety Show

The Music Variety show originally scheduled for May 7th has been cancelled. Please watch the bulletin and newsletter for future musical performances and events!



or (440) 871-3088. Thank you!

**COMPASSION & CONGREGATIONAL CARE** 



Stephen Ministers are available **every Sunday morn**ing in Room 203 from 9:00 – 9:30 and also 11:00-11:30 to offer a quiet, reflective time for individual prayer and communion. We also have sets of prayer beads available for you during this time.

All are welcome!

## Caregivers Support Group Monday, May Ist

7:00—8:00 P.M. Westlake UMC, in Rockport UMC, holds

Westlake UMC, in conjunction with Rockport UMC, holds monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month at Westlake UMC. Caregiv-

ers are welcome to bring their care partner. A separate space and activities are available for them, staffed by volunteers. The group is facilitated by Gretty Myers, WUMC Stephen Leader. Please contact Gretty to participate or to volunteer at (216) 701-2067 or email to grettymyers@sbcglobal.net.

### THE MESSENGER

# Mission Opportunities & Updates

# **May Mission Event**



Take a step today for stronger communities tomorrow

The WUMC Mission Team needs your help with a water stop on the morning of race day for the Promise Run to support Ohio Guidestone on **Saturday, May 13th at 8:00 a.m.** Families are welcome to help us support the runners as they power down the Valley Parkway near Wallace Lake in the Metro Park near Berea. Contact Gretty Myers for more info to help on race day, or come run/walk the 10k, 5k or I mile fun run! Gretty: grettymyers@sbcglobal.net or (216) 701-2067.

Race applications are available online at <a href="http://www.hermescleveland.com/roadracing/events/ohioguidestone.asp">http://www.hermescleveland.com/roadracing/events/ohioguidestone.asp</a>

OhioGuidestone is in connectional ministry with United Methodist Church, East Ohio Conference -- provides pathways for growth, achievement and lifelong success, to help children, families and communities become stronger.

# WUMC Adult Mission Trip to Blue Rose Mission JUNE 28TH—JULY IST

A United Methodist East Ohio Conference Mission Opportunity

Come serve with your time and talents assisting homeowners in greater Mansfield area with home repairs while developing relationships and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We will be staying at Camp Mowana in Mansfield, a Lutheran Outdoor Ministries site. The cost is \$245 + cost of meals (TBD) per person. Please sign up on bulletin board in our church lobby or email Gretty Myers at grettymyers@sbcglobal.net

We will meet on Sunday, May 7th at 11 a.m. in the library to discuss more about the trip.

#### Dear WUMC,

Tom and I recently had the opportunity to go on the overnight mission retreat at Nehemiah Mission with a few of our WUMC friends. As the event approached, my enthusi-



asm waned and I wondered why I had signed up! Tom and I reluctantly packed our sleeping bags, pillows, a few toiletries, and a change of clothes and headed to Nehemiah Mission for this overnight mission trip. I'm glad we followed through it was a great experience.

Friday night was a relaxing evening with thoughtful devotion, engaging conversation, and lively game playing (basketball, since there is a court on the top floor of the mission, and cards)! We enjoyed this time of fellowship and getting to know others in the church better. We slept in a warm comfortable bunk bed, with ladies in one room and gentleman in another. I felt very safe and had a good night's sleep. The next day we had a delicious hot breakfast provided by Nehemiah Mission and got to work. We divided into 2 teams: one went to an elderly woman's house on the near east side to begin reconstruction on a fence. This team of 4 people dug post holes and laid concrete, but more importantly, had tea and talked with the woman about her life and interests. She truly appreciated the conversation and compassion that this team shared with her. The other team stayed at the Nehemiah Mission and helped with the free store that is run by Rocky River UMC. The shoppers are a diverse group of people including all ages and they are so appreciative of the items donated. I helped check in the shoppers; talked with a young girl that was playing with the few toys that were available; helped a lady find just the right pair of jeans; and offered shoes to an older man who was getting them for his lady friend. In the afternoon, this team helped with a few jobs around the mission including scraping an area of the sanctuary that had water damage and removing some doors that they intend to replace.

I am grateful that WUMC and the Mission Team offered this experience. It was truly an opportunity for Tom and me to give back (just a little bit) to an area that is so close to our own comfortable home and have meaningful fellowship with some of my church family. I have recommended this experience to our Christ Care Group and I look forward to doing it again.

~Kim Linger

# Special Opportunity to Support Imagine No Malaria

For the past nine years my friend, Logan Martens, and I have raised money for an amazing charity called Imagine No Malaria. This charity provides bed nets to people in Africa to protect them from Malaria. Malaria is a virus that is carried by mosquitoes that mostly effects the people of Africa. With the support of of Westlake United Methodist Church, and countless others, we have been able to raise over \$80,000 for Imagine No Malaria! In our tenth and final year, our goal is to raise a ten year total of \$100,000. Please help us to get closer to our goal on May 14th, where we will be

taking a special collection for Imagine No Malaria. Please consider donating!! Our support is helping to end Malaria. From 2007 to 2017 the death rate from Malaria has been cut in half. Lets work together to get rid of malaria for good!

Thank you, Molly McNamara



For more information, please check out our website at <u>lvtvgames.wix.com/molly-logan-lemonade</u>



### Ways to Contribute to the General Operating fund of Westlake UMC:

**Direct Deposit:** Scheduled automatic transfers from your checking account to the WUMC account. Please contact Sharon Parks, Finance Manager for the form needed at sparks@westlakeumc.org

**Online Giving:** Use your credit card via our website at westlakeumc.org. In the lower left corner of the home page you will see a button for Online Giving (near "Live Streaming").

INCOME STATEMENT— MARCH 2017												
	March 2017	YTD 2017	2016	YTD 2016	YTD Budget	Annual Budget 2017						
INCOME												
CONTRIBUTION INCOME	\$40,449.35	\$121,015.19	\$56,989.36	\$139,729.44	\$140,866.43	\$580,676.73						
TOTAL INCOME	\$40,449.35	\$121,015.19	\$56,989.36	\$139,729.44	\$140,866.43	\$580,676.73						
EXPENSES												
ADMINISTRATIVE EXP.												
STAFF PARISH EXP.	\$30,188.85	\$88,188.29	\$27,977.02	\$83,478.67	\$91,895.06	\$369,580.33						
OFFICE EXP.	935.81	2,857.92	2,181.49	5,677.11	3,816.33	16,315.40						
FINANCE TEAM EXP.	146.14	655.57	77.40	520.81	485.00	2,720.00						
FACILITIES EXP.	7,692.41	18,026.97	5,274.12	16,994.95	21,795.00	71,830.00						
Subtotal Expenses	38,963.21	109,728.75	35,510.03	106,671.54	117,991.39	460,445.73						
MINISTRY EXPENSE												
MUSIC EXP.	779.97	1,179.97	3.99	365.98	745.00	2,700.00						
WORSHIP EXP.	395.00	783.37	455.20	1,475.54	2,103.75	8,525.00						
EDUCATION EXP.	683.93	1,641.74	705.52	2,791.19	4,300.00	19,590.00						
OUTREACH EXP.	287.32	384.70	672.44	1,531.25	2,126.00	7,586.00						
CONNECTIONAL GIVING	6,902.08	20,706.24	14,743.67	26,029.01	20,457.48	81,830.00						
Subtotal Ministry Expense	9,048.30	24,696.02	16,580.82	32,192.97	29,732.23	120,231.00						
TOTAL EXPENSES	48,011.51	134,424.77	52,090.85	138,864.51	147,723.62	580,676.73						
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	-\$ 7,562.16	-\$ 13,409.58	\$ 4,898.51	\$ 864.93	-\$ 6,857.19	\$0.00						

Want to read more? Go to westlakeumc.org

# CHRISTIAN ED & FAMILY EVENTS



## From the Desk of Christian Ed

Mrs. Carol Ryan — cryan@westlakeumc.org

#### THANK YOU!

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders along with Mrs. Janet Hanacek (teacher) and Laura Fow (parent) went to Ohio Guidestone to complete a mission project. They toured the amazing Berea facility. They learned of the history from an orphanage to its multi-program nearly all encompassing support and services. They delivered their handmade fleece blankets and children's book donations, as well as an amazing financial donation of \$1,000 raised via their baking and your loving support. Just when we thought this year's experience could not be any more fulfilling, the kids received one more opportunity.

Ohio Guidestone turned over their donation center to our kids. They could turn bare shelving, and piles of bags and stacks of boxes brimming with donated supplies from all over, into a store. By the time they finished, shampoos were better stocked than Target's best day. Stuffed animals lined racks with faces peering out into the room. Cups sorted, clothing hung, toothbrushes stacked with toothpastes, and even soccer balls found visible storage. There was such a terrific sense of satisfaction from completing this task (and not just because we let them crack bubble wrap one minute for every thirty). The kids know we are to live so others will want to follow Jesus. Moments like this day, we hope stay with them as a reminder of how good it feels to serve in His name.

This amazing opportunity, like projects with the Gathering Place, Westside Community House, and Nehemiah mission, would not be possible without your support and leadership. Whether you bought a cookie at the Bake Sale (or you are Chris Tilton, and you just kept buying goods) or you lent support for the sewing, or you encourage a child, and all who simply lead us through example, thank you. This congregation is many wonderful things. And I am always awed and giddy at your active support of families, children, and youth.

#### THIS SUNDAY EMAILS

For more information on specific class activities, please follow the THIS SUNDAY emails. If you are not receiving such emails, please contact Carol Ryan. **YOUTH/SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH.** Before Lady Gaga asked for a million reasons, Matt Redman gave us 10,000 Reasons (to worship His Holy Name). One might expect to hear a little more of this song, and youth's relationship with God on Youth / Senior Recognition Sunday.



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

Registration for VBS is happening now! Some classes have already filled up (last day to register 5/23). Please check out the link on our website to register your child(ren) for **June 19-23** at St. Ladislas Church. To volunteer for fun, for service, or for the program discount, please contact Carol Ryan.

VOUTHS... Have you heard?May 7thHS Sunday school, Youth Group 5-8May 14thHS Sunday School, no Youth Group<br/>(Happy Mother's Day!)May 21stHS Sunday School, Youth Group 5-8

- May 28th No Youth Activities (Happy Memorial Day!)
- June 4th Youth/Senior Sunday, 10:00 service, Youth Group Start of Summer Party (more details TBA)

June 11th HS Sunday School

QUESTIONS? Contact Rachael Haning, WUMC Youth Coordinator at youth@westlakeumc.org

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	Sat	6	Kapferer-Gaul Wedding 4:00 pm	6—8pm ChristCare — J/L. K. (F. Hall)	13 Trustee Spring Work Dav 8am–	12pm JUMW Flower Sale Pick up 10am–12 pm	12—5 pm Oberlin Choristers	20		6—8pm ChristCare — //L. K.		27				
	Fri		Kapferer-Gaul Wedding Rehearsal 6:00 pm		12			19			L. Swisher (Sanct/FH)	26				
17	Thu	5	Bible Study (205) CWRU (107) UMW Board Mg (105) Marijuana Anon(100)		Bible Study (205)		Choir Rehearsal			Harijuana Anon (100) Handbell Choir CC — DL (205) Choir Rehearced			Bible Study (205) UMW Missions (FH) Marijuana Anon(100)	CC — DL (205) Choir Rehearsal		
		4	9 am 10am 10am 5:30pm	6:15pm 7 pm 7:30pm	11 9 am	10am 10:30am 5:30pm 6:15pm	, рш 7:30pm	18	9 am	6:15pm 6:15pm 7 pm 7.30pm		25	9 am 10am 5:30pm	7 pm 7:30pm		
ろ	Wed		Purl Girls (100)	Parish Nurse Available Arthritis Exer. (103)		_	ChristCare-JMc (205) ChristCare-JMc (205) Car Cruise Mtg (105)			Purl Girls (100) Parish Nurse Available Arthriris Exer (103)			Purl Girls (100) Parish Nurse Available Arrhritis Even (103)	0_		Purl Girls (100) Parish Nurse Available Arthritis Exer. (103)
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MA	Tue			Oberlin Choristers (FH) 11:28 Rehearsal		Oberlin Choristers (FH, Sanct, 104 & 105)	Last rehearsal Missions (205)				I I:28 Rehearsal			I I:28 Rehearsal		11:28 Rehearsal
2		2		5:00 pm 7:30pm	6	5:00 pm	7:00pm	16			7:30pm	23		7:30pm	30	7:30pm
	Mon	1	12:30pm ChristCare-EP (100) 7pm ChristCare-G/JL (105) 7pm Leadership Council (205)	7pm Caregivers Group (100 & 107)	8	12:30pm ChristCare-EP (100) 12:30pm Games N Such (FH) 7pm ChristCare-GI/L (205)	7:30 pm 11:28 Rehearsal	15	12:30pm ChristCare-EP (100)	7pm ChristCare-G/J.L (205) 7pm Finance Cmmte (107)	Messenger Deadline	22		12:30pm ChristCare-EP (100) 7pm ChristCare-G/J.L (205)	29 Office Closed	MEMORIAL DAY
	Sun						Youth Group 5—8 pm (FH)	14	12:45pm L. Swisher private piano rehearsal		Mother's Day	21	_	Youth Group 5—8 pm (FH)	28	Z Johnson Baptism

#### **BETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

#### 27650 Center Ridge Road CHURCH **UNITED METHODIST** MEZLFYKE

westlakeumc@westlakeumc.org www.westlakeumc.org 8805-178 (044) Westlake, Ohio 44145

11:28 a.m. (Contemporary) \*(IsnoitiberT) .m.s 00:01 (Reflective) (Reflective) **Je didshow Vebrug** 

\*Live-streamed via our website



**ΥΑΙΕΡ ΜΑΤΕRΙΑL-DO NOT DELAY** Mailed April 26th, 2017

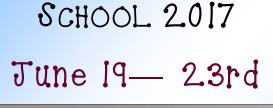
### - MESSENGER ARTICLES FOR JUNE: DUE MONDAY, MAY 15th -

Rev. Ron Dietrich Rev. Diana Guyette Rev. A. Renee Jacobs Rev. Don Lefelar **Rev. Bob Remington** Rev. Dr. Richard Lehto Rev. Tom Taylor Rev. Dr. Richard Parks

**OTHER PASTORS CONNECTED TO THIS CONGREGATION:** 

**Rev. Mollie Brown Annie Kaschube Betsy Kaiser Carol Ryan** Don Lefelar **Ellie Peiffer Gretty Myers** Jeanette Albrecht Jeanne Halaby **Jill Farkas** Joshua Konow Kathy Tafuri Lynne Wolf Morgan Lux Patti Barnes **Rachael Haning Rich Gallo** Sharon Parks **Stephanie Fries** 

Senior Pastor: mgbrown@westlakeumc.org Organist, Children's Choir & Handbell Choir Director Nursery Assistant Christian Education Director Visitation Pastor Small Group & Welcoming Ministries Stephen Ministry Coordinator Nursery Assistant Nursery Assistant Custodian Director of Adult Choir Volunteer Parish Nurse Office Assistant Nursery Assistant Nursery Coordinator Youth Coordinator 11:28 Worship Leader Finance Manager Church Operations Manager WUMC Librarians: Nanci Danburg & Katie Salis



VACATION BIBLE



#### WESTLAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF