

# Lithopolis United Methodist Church

*Inviting people to be in relationship with Jesus and each other so that lives and communities are changed*



Craft time during January's Community Dinner.

## In-Between Time

By Charles Martindell

Christmas is over. I write those words on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January, fully aware that it's only 11 months until Christmas Eve! On the other hand, we're over a month away from the season of Lent- those six weeks of intentional prayerfulness leading to Easter Sunday. So, it's in-between time for a few weeks.

During February, we'll be offering a sermon series called "Well-Grounded" which I think fits well with a time in-between the seasons that often receives so much of everyone's attention. That's important for at least 2 reasons.

First, there is such a thing as "ordinary time". I'm not talking about the season of the church year that goes by that name. I'm talking about our ordinary time. Our ordinary days. A regular day at work or school or in whatever description we might attach to just an ordinary day in our lives. So much of life is lived during days like that. Ordinary days.

Secondly, it's still very early in the year. It's not at all too late to re-focus our best intentions for the kind of year we hope 2019 will be. We can re-visit our resolutions or hopes for the year. We can re-dedicate ourselves to living more in step with God's will for our lives.

To help us with this, our "Well Grounded" series connects with Jesus' "Sermon on the Plain" from the gospel of Luke. In Jesus' comforting and also challenging words, we will find all that is needed for living a well-grounded life of meaning, value, and peace. Don't get me wrong. Jesus says some amazing things and his description of what it looks like for God's kingdom to come may leave us challenged in more ways than we'd always like.

Ordinary days are like that too. Rediscovering what it means to be well grounded in the way of Jesus might be just what we need during an in-between time.

## What you'll find inside:

- **Opportunities to Connect & Serve**
- **Different Kind of Christmas Results**
- **Weather-Related Closings**
- **Sunday Volunteer Schedule**
- **Finance Focus**



## UMC Special General Conference

A Special General Conference planned for February 23-26 happens in St. Louis and has been called to try and resolve the long-standing impasse in the United Methodist denomination over church policies related to LGBTQ ministry. It is too soon to know the outcome of this discussion and we'll be sharing information as things become clear. Thank you to everyone who participated in our LUMC

Conversation on a Way Forward held at church on January 27<sup>th</sup>. We left that meeting with an invitation to pray for each other and everyone involved in the General Conference and for our mission as followers of Jesus here. More information will be shared in the future.



## Disciple Now Youth Event

• February 15-17, 2019 •

This local event gives students the opportunity to grow in their relationship with Christ and each other through worship, service, and fellowship. Students will arrive at the church at 6:00pm Friday and will stay the night at host homes. This allows for students to get to know others in leadership within the congregation, and provides a more comfortable environment for small group conversation rather than all ages being together at the church. Our event will conclude after the 10:30 service Sunday the 17th.



## Different Kind of Christmas

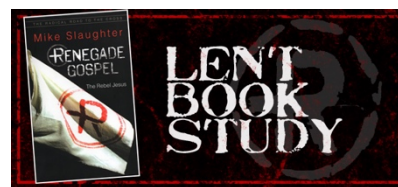
The recently completed Different Kind of Christmas invited us to celebrate the birth of Jesus by putting his love into action. And we did! Thank you to everyone for the generous gifts that raised over \$22,500 to support our partners in ministry: Jessie's World, Good Works, and Henderson Settlement. We are not only sending our gifts. We are also growing in relationship and service as we will have opportunities for hands-on participation in how God is changing lives through these ministries.



## Free Bibles!

Did you know that we have a selection of Bibles available in the library? If you or someone you know can use

a new or slightly used Bible, they are available and free for the taking. They are on the shelf marked "Free Bibles" in the Connection Café. Please help yourself!

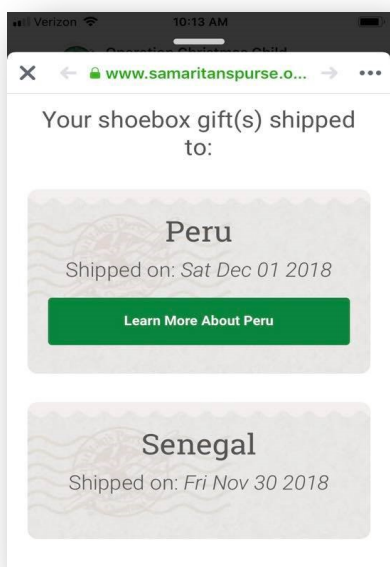


## Lent Study

Watch for opportunities to take part in a special Lenten study based

on the book by Michael Slaughter, Renegade Gospel. Many of the regular Life Groups may choose to read and discuss this book and we'll also be offering additional studies as well.

A huge thank you to those who donated items for, or helped assemble Operation Christmas Child boxes during Second Saturday Serve. A total of 42 boxes were donated to share the love of Jesus with children in Peru and Senegal.



**Dear LUMC Family**

Thank you for your care for us in so many ways, including the generous Christmas gift. We are so grateful for each of you!

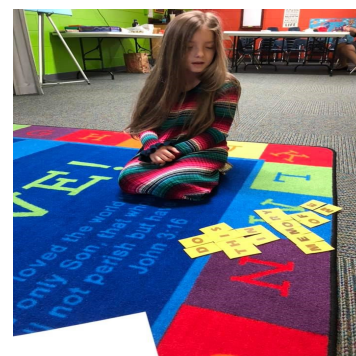
In Christ's Love,

Alex, Michelle, & Micah

**LUMC,**  
Thank you for the candy and fruit. It was delicious. May 2019 bring many blessings to our church and church families.

**Betty Plummer**

**A huge thank you to LUMC from the staff and volunteers at Scioto County Habitat for Humanity!**



Rock City Kids were excited to explore the sacrament of Communion during both services on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. The children learned of the importance of bread in the daily lives of those living during Jesus' time. After hearing a monologue of what the Last Supper would have been like for Jesus and his disciples, we talked about how they would have been feeling. Sometimes, when a friend or grandparent moves away, you may have a stuffed animal to snuggle to remind you of them. In the same way, Jesus left his disciples with special instruction on what to do to remember him. During the discussion, it was understood that even though parents aren't with us in school, or with a babysitter, and not with them physically, they know they are still loved. And that is the same with Jesus. The children did an excellent job with the fun Bible memory challenge verse, "Do this in memory of me." -Luke 22:19. Afterwards, the children joined the worship service to participate in Holy Communion.

DAVE RAMSEY'S



Become  
Financially Fit in  
the New Year!

Financial Peace University is returning to Lithopolis United Methodist Church for nine weeks starting **Monday, February 18th from 6:00-8:00 pm.** Dave Ramsey's well known and proven program has helped many families become financially fit. It doesn't matter if you are just starting out, have just retired, or are somewhere in between - there are great things to learn about your money from this program. By investing some of your time on Monday nights this winter you will discover many ways to make your money work for you, rather than the other way around!

Each class will begin with a simple dinner followed by a video teaching of Dave Ramsey's and then discussion around the subject of the night. We are planning on offering child care as well. Do you have teen-aged children? What better way to start them out in life than to give them the gift of becoming financially fit before graduating high school!

The cost was just reduced to \$109! Sign up through the Financial Peace University website at:

<https://www.fpu.com/1079380>

Contact the church office for information on scholarships. We hope you will join us!

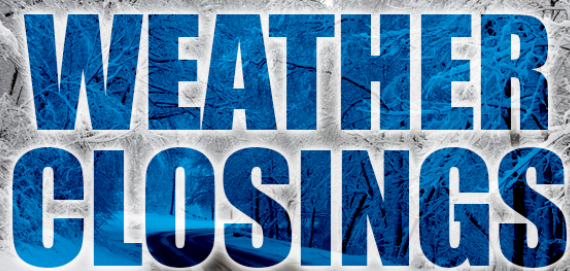
### Leadership Board in 2019

The 2019 Leadership Board Members are:

Eric Anderson (Chair)	Charles Martindell	Bonnie Sallee	Mike Smith
Marlys Fergus (Secretary)	Michael Whetstone	John Fetherolf	Angie Rickly
Holly Mattei	Charles Kennedy	Terri Colbert	Amy Mills
Amy Bratton	Minda Taylor	Lauren Schell	George Tootle
Aaron Farley	Alex Feldman	Doug Osborne	

Meetings happen quarterly on January 15, April 16, July 16, and October 15. These are open meetings, so guests are always welcomed.





# WEATHER CLOSINGS

## Weather-Related Closings

### Level 1 or 2 Roads in Fairfield County

- Sunday mornings: We will still have our regular Sunday services. Parking lots and side-walks will be cared for, coffee will be on. Sunday Volunteers are asked to decide for themselves about attending and should not risk safety in making that decision. Our services may be revised and we will try to post audio and video of the services for those who cannot be at church.
- Group meetings at church: Cancellation decisions are made based on Group leaders' availability to attend, and other factors.

### Level 3 Roads in Fairfield County

- All Sunday and other church events are canceled.



## Second Saturday SERVE

# February 9, 2019

We have three opportunities for serving this month, we hope you'll join us!

• **South Side Roots Kids Cafe program** - The Kids Cafe serves year-round healthy meals. Please help prep meals at their facility to distribute to partner organizations of the Mid-Ohio Food Bank.

Time: 8:30am-12pm.

Location: 3960 Brookham Dr., Grove City, OH 43123

• **Mid-Ohio Food Bank Pantry** - Food pantries have long lines for those waiting to shop for food. Please help the pantry with stocking, delivering food curbside to cars, and helping clients shop.

Time: 11am-2pm

Location: 3960 Brookham Dr, Grove City, OH 43123

• **Foster Care Scrapbook Assembly Party** - Professionals agree: children need their "story" documented and accessible. We will be assembling scrapbooks for children in foster care to help preserve memories and to serve as a point of reference for them.

Time: 1-3pm

Location: LUMC, 80 N. Market St., Lithopolis, OH 43136

Sign up today:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084daead2ba7fc1-february2>

February 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm



## COMMUNITY DINNER

### Menu:

Chicken & noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, gravy, and brownie bar

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2019

9AM SERVICE	2/3	2/10	2/17	2/24
<b>Greeters</b>	Jeffrey Clark Sharon Clark Roger Walker Michael Smith	Carla Jacobs Susan Williams Angie Rickly Michael Smith	David Gillespie Gen Gillespie John Cline Michael Smith	John Cline Stacy Cline Ken Lysinger Richard Beller
<b>Ushers</b>	Bruce Palmer Steve Waibel Chuck Miller Jim Storts	Bruce Palmer Steve Waibel Chuck Miller Jim Storts	Bruce Palmer Steve Waibel Chuck Miller Jim Storts	Bruce Palmer Steve Waibel Chuck Miller Jim Storts
<b>Good Shepherd</b>	David Plumber	Laura Fritz	Linda Milless	Sharon Murphy
<b>Connection Host &amp; Attendant</b>	Sandy Tootle Linda Upperman	Lynn Whetstone Linda Upperman	Susan Williams Bunny Palmer	Emily Miller Linda Upperman

10-10:40AM	2/3	2/10	2/17	2/24
<b>Connection Host &amp; Attendant</b>	Amy Mills	Chrstina Fetherolf Lindy Panian	Minda Taylor Karen Tennant	Shelley Gallion Ruth Blauser

10:30AM SERVICE	2/3	2/10	2/17	2/24
<b>Greeters</b>	Chrstina Fetherolf Cathy Burden	Coffman Family	Gregory Family	Mike Smith Todd Lilley
<b>Well-Wishers</b>	Cathy Burden Lauren Schell	Coffman Family	Ty Hart Aaron Farley	Aaron Farley Todd Lilley
<b>Ushers</b>	Brian Hertlein Jordan Landon	Linda Landis Lynn Landis	Gene Sprang Mike Taylor	Mike Smith Eric Lysinger
<b>Good Shepherd</b>	Cathy Burden	Mike Taylor	Ty Hart	Bob Jones
<b>Connection Host</b>	Judy Ferrone	Lindy Panian	Minda Taylor	Shelley Gallion



# 2018 Finance Focus

Financial data for 2018

## 12/31/2018 Fund Balances

<i>General</i>	\$ 43,963
<i>Building</i>	\$ 42,817
<i>Planned Replacement</i>	\$ 108,353
<i>Endowment Fund</i>	\$ 30,057
<i>Other Designated Funds</i>	\$ 57,717

### **General Fund Activity**

General Fund Operating Revenue = \$565,253  
General Fund Operating Expense = \$517,487

#### Breakdown of Operating Expenses

Personnel \$333,747 (64.5%)  
Conference and District Apportionments \$73,880 (14.3%)  
Facilities Maintenance & Utilities \$69,906 (13.5%)  
Program and Music \$21,680 (4.2%)  
General Office & Administrative Expenses \$18,274(3.5%)

### **Building Fund Activity**

Building Fund Revenue = \$63,759  
Building Fund Expense= \$46,314

#### Breakdown of Building Fund Expenses

Narthex Update \$46,314 (100%)

### **Planned Replacement Fund Activity**

Planned Replacement Fund Expense= \$0

### **Designated Fund Activity**

#### Breakdown of Designated Fund 2018 Expenses

Different Kind of Christmas (collected 2017, disbursed 2018) \$21,448  
Rock City/SMC refresh \$9,600  
Habitat for Humanity Wall Build \$6,151  
Henderson Settlement \$6,000  
Conference Missions (UMCOR/Human Relations/etc) \$5,800  
Worship Technology \$5,283  
Youth/Member Mission Trips \$4,777  
Second Saturday Serve \$3,910  
LUMC Family Support \$3,215  
Food Baskets \$1,772  
VBS Offering (Progeny) \$1,157  
Bloom Carroll Lunch Program \$544  
Other \$775

**Endowment Fund Revenue = \$14,385**

Questions or Comments?  
Amy Bratton  
LUMC Treasurer

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