

The Parish Portrait

Volume 1, Issue 14

April 2011

From the Pastor's Desk

Easter and the Lily of the Valley

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As I prepare this April letter to you, snow is falling. Yet amid the dusting of snow the green of spring, the green of new life is even now breaking through in the beginnings of a lily in the yard just outside my house here on Hall Drive. Thus standing in the cold of snow the lily proclaims that winter no longer has hold of us. New life has come. The witness of Easter is that sin can no longer claim us, death no longer has hold of us for Jesus Christ, the Lily of the Valley is the "first fruits" of the new life of the resurrection. C. S. Lewis shared the following witness about the resurrected Christ: "The New Testament writers speak as if Christ's achievement in rising from the dead was the first event of its kind in the history of the universe. He is the 'first fruits', 'the pioneer of life'. He had forced open a door that has been locked since the death of the first man. He has met, fought and beaten the King of Death. Everything is different because He has done so. This is the beginning of the New Creation: a new chapter in cosmic history has opened." -- *The Joyful Christian* (New York: Macmillan, 1977). Brothers and sisters, Christ is indeed the door to eternal life, the Lily of the Valley.



Through Christ, may we all know the richness of new life, abundant and eternal.

In Christ,

Greg Leigh, pastor

Church Women United

The Church Women United will meet Friday May 7th at 10:30am for their spring luncheon at Salem Presbyterian Church Venedocia. The program will be May Friendship Day, "Living Our Friendship." The program leader will be Mary Lloyd. International fellowship of the Least Coin will be observed. The luncheon will be served at 11:30am with a cost of \$6. Reservation deadline is Saturday April 30th. You can make a reservation by contacting Jean Wittung at 419-749-2053

United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on Wednesday April 6th at 7:00pm in the social room. The program will be Friendship. Person for the meeting is Marie Sanfilippo. Greeters are Eileen Rice and Susie Baska. Hostesses for the meeting are Karen Bullinger and Susie Baska.

Administrative Board

The Administrative Board will meet on the 4th Thursday in April, the 28th at 7:00pm. The administrative board would like to invite all administrative board members to attend. We are deciding on the direction of many important issues that face our church family.

Mission Report

The mission team of six men traveled to Biloxi MS. leaving Convoy on February 19th and working in Biloxi the week of February the 21st. The major project completed was on a community building in a neighborhood park. Once the building is complete, it will be used for your classes, public meetings and craft sessions for the neighborhood kids. The weather was nice and we all enjoyed our week.

We would like to thank the church and the community for their support of the Valentines Dinner and the funds that it supplied to help us with our trip.

On another front, we have decided to send the pickle jar money from the first Sunday in April, the 3rd to the Japan earthquake and tsunami relief.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING

If you would like to have an article published in any of the local newspapers. Please let Vickie Saylor know at: 419-749-2055.

LOAVES OF LOVE

April collections for Loaves of Love has not been announced. Check the church bulletin or contact Shawna Putman or Vickie Saylor.

Church Nursery

It will be available during the worship service. If you would be able to help out a Sunday, please contact Tina Pawlick, nursery coordinator or there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board

Calendar of Events

Finance Board Meeting	April 7 th 7pm
Pie Crust Sunday	April 10 th
Movie Day	April 10 th during SS hour
Youth Bible Study Lunch	April 17 th after Church
Palm Sunday	April 17 th
Contemporary Service Lunch	April 17 th 11:11am
Easter Cantata	April 17 th evening service
Last Joyful Noise Practice	April 20 th
Maundy Thursday Communion	April 21 st 7pm
Good Friday	April 22 nd
Easter Sunrise Service	April 24 th 7am
combined service with	9:30am
Relay for Life Cookie Buffet	May 1 st after Church
UMM Breakfast	1 st Sunday monthly
7:30am	
Administrative Board	4 th Thursday monthly
	7:00pm
Trustees	3 rd Wednesday monthly
	7:00pm
Lions Club Meetings	1 st & 3 rd Monday monthly

Prayer Concerns

Mary Smith, Troy Hammond, Madison Ringwald, Sondra Shepherd, Maggie Bixler, Vickie Troyer, Bryan Stewart, Fritzi Stewart, Jim Ryan, Genia McOmber, Jean McClure, Betty Fortney, Esten Fortney, Ezella McIntosh, Gary Williams, Harold Etgen, Tony Tubleson, Norman Ward, Care Placke, Linda and Wendel Ralsten, PFC Curtis Yetman, Jim Thomas, Cheryl and Jerry Ellis, Bruce Basil, Dick Burden. Unspoken Requests.

When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not over-whelm you. When you pass through fire, you will not be burned; the hard trials that come will not hurt you. For I am the Lord your God, the holy God of Israel, who saves you.

Isaiah 43:2,3 TEV

<p>Hospitality Table Sign Up Sheet</p> <p>There is a sign up sheet to help fill the Sunday morning hospitality table with sweet treats. If you would like to help, the sheet is located in the vestibule. The treats are a welcome blessing on Sunday mornings.</p> <p>Time to staw thinking Volleyball</p> <p>Its time to start thinking Volleyball we will be organizing the teams beginning in May. If you are interested, please contact Nikki Beougher. We have two teams, one recreational and the other is more power volleyball. Any girls 13 or older are welcome to play.</p> <p>Flower Calendar</p> <p>The Flower Calendar for 2011 is hanging in the vestibule. Weekly flower cost is \$27.00.</p> <p>Sinn Diaper Drive</p> <p>Ongoing diaper drive for the Sinn Twins. They are in newborn size and they can be dropped off in the vestibule under the coat rack.</p> <p>Graduating Seniors...really your parents</p> <p>We would love to recognize graduates with a spotlight in the May Parish Portrait. If you would like your senior recognized please provide a photo and short biography to be included. Please have them to Stephen King by no later than April 25th. Be careful, we could you some old pictures from the church archives too.</p> <p>Card Shower</p> <p>There will be a card shower celebrating the 85th birthday on April 8th of Rev. Gene McCormack, who was pastor here from 1965-1969. Please send cards to:</p> <p>Eugene McCormack 264 Cedar Court Leipsic, OH 45856</p>	<p>YWCA Clothing Drive</p> <p>The Van Wert YWCA is having a clothing drive from now until May 1st. Needed are gently used women's career clothing-all sizes, dresses, suits, dress pants, blouses, dress shoes, new and unopened make up, jewelry, new panty hose. There will be baskets in the vestibule to place the donated items. The loan closet is being created to assist women in the YMCA's transitional housing program to have appropriate clothing for job interviews and jobs. For more information contact Van Wert High School Senior English Class, 419-238-3350.</p> <p>Van Wert Girl Scouts</p> <p>The Van Wert County Girl Scouts are planning a summer camp with a Civil War Era theme. We are looking for materials to make each girl an outfit to wear. We will also be looking for volunteers to help sew them together. Please contact Nikki Beougher at 419-749-4175 or Delta Dingus at 419-238-4448 if you would like to help. Thank you.</p> <p>Convoy Preschool</p> <p>The Convoy Preschool will be sponsoring a chicken BBQ to held next Sunday April 3rd. The menu includes chicken quarters, potatoes, green beans, applesauce, roll and cake. The chicken will be prepared by "Gibson Barnyard BBQ." They will be serving in the village parking lot from 10:30am-1:30pm and the cost for each mean is \$7. Please see Tona King for tickets. Carry out only.</p> <p>Fort Wayne Rescue Mission</p> <p>Easter Sunday our church family will be sending members to serve dinner at the Fort Wayne Rescue mission. Larry Dealey has donated 100 pie crusts to be filled and taken to the Rescue Mission for their Easter Dinner. If you would like to volunteer, please see Jon Hall.</p>
--	--

Contemporary Service

A Contemporary Service is offered every Sunday morning at 11:11 a.m. This is held at the former Hall Lumber office downtown, located along the railroad tracks east of Main Street. It's a service filled with songs and praise. It is a casual and more relaxed service than 9:30 service. We still offer all the same sacraments.

The Service is hosted by our praise band called "Crossroads". Members include:

Guitarist Pastor Leigh Lead Vocal Jeff Gleckler, Keyboard Laura Leigh, Drums Fred Fegley, Bass Guitar Jordan or Jon Leigh.

Casual dress such as jeans, T-Shirts, and ball caps are acceptable at this service. Refreshments are offered to be enjoyed throughout the service. Not on time for the beginning, not a problem. You're welcome to come in and join us whenever you get there. It's very informal. You're always welcome to come join us.



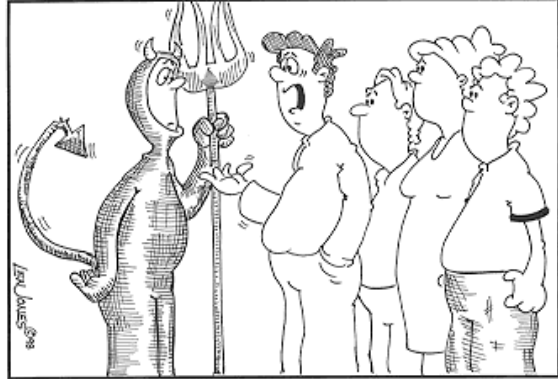
Enter to Worship...Depart to Serve

*Convoy United Methodist Church
Sycamore and Main
P.O. Box 128
Convoy, Ohio 45832*

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Comic Relief

ALTAR EGO by Len Jones

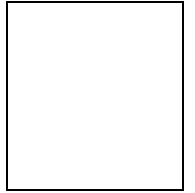


"We know... nobody wields a pitchfork like you Lance. But quite frankly we're getting a bit concerned. After all, the play's been over for three weeks and we need to get the suit back to the rental shop!"

Don't forget to check us out on the web at www.convoyumc.org for service streaming and more content about what's going on at Convoy United Methodist.

*Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321*

Convoy United Methodist Church
Sycamore and Main
P.O. Box 128
Convoy, Ohio 45832



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321