

THE CONNECTION

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SPRING IS HERE!

In the familiar scripture of Ecclesiastes 3 we read *"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."* As we journey through this Lenten season we find this to be so true and so applicable to our lives today. This time of the year we have the excitement of seeing new life beginning to emerge through the spring flowers, the grass beginning to green, trees budding, and experiencing all the spring rains.

As a church family we, too, have the opportunity and challenges of embracing change and new life. Change can be challenging but also can be invigorating. Let's embrace change and all that God has for us and is calling us to accomplish in the coming months.

Pastor Dan and Vanessa have been a blessing to all of us here at Westside. Their leadership in worship and ministry has assisted us in spreading our gifts through the golf cart ministry at the Allen County Fair, sharing their experiences in mission work, partnering with Family Promise, and accomplishing building improvements. Pastor Dan is feeling God nudging him in another direction and will be leaving the pastoral leadership at Westside at the end of June.

The Pastor Parish committee has met with the district superintendent, Rev. Jim Wilson who took our church profile to the Conference Cabinet meeting and we have been so blessed in just one short week we were assigned pastoral leadership for the coming conference year.

Pastor Paul Scannell and his wife Marla will be leading us beginning in July. Pastor Paul is pastor at Elida St. Paul Church and we will share his ministry with the Elida St. Paul Church. The Leadership Team will work closely with both pastors as we move forward for this transition of leadership.

LOOKING AHEAD FOR APRIL

Sunday, April 6, 2025

5th Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m. Sunday School, Family Life Center
10:15 a.m. Worship Service

Liturgist: Pam Ditto
Song Leader: Pam Ditto
Pianist/Organist: Eileen Hartles
K.I.D.'s Connection: Jessica Schelb

Scriptures: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalms 126
Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Passion/Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School, Family Life Center
10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship

Liturgist: Phil Osmon
Song Leader: Pam Ditto
Pianist/Organist: Eileen Hartles
K.I.D.'s Connection: Sally Leidy

Scriptures: Psalms 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14-23:56; Luke 23:3-49



OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE AND NEWS

Church United Pantry (C.U.P.) appreciates and needs the non-perishable food items our church family shares with them. In addition each month specific items are requested.

Westside has been asked to assist in the month of:

April – Soap and/or Body Wash

UPDATE ON HAPPENINGS AROUND OUR COMMUNITY AND CHURCH

- **Ark@Westside** is available for showers, birthday parties, meetings, and social gatherings. If you missed the ribbon cutting and dinner last month, maybe you haven't seen the newly renovated space that is ready to receive you and your friends. Contact the church office where you can leave a message and a return call will be made to you to answer your questions and take your reservations.
- Interested in singing? Anyone interested in sharing in the music during worship are invited to join the group on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary to practice a special number to be shared during worship on Palm Sunday, April 13.
- Change is always upon us! We are always looking for you and your talent --- what can you share with your church family? Prayers? Sending cards? Liturgist? Usher? Greeter? Sound booth? Children's program? Offering Counter? Communion Stewart? Hostess for Connection Café?

A message from our Lord Jesus in the words of Sarah Young's book Jesus Is Calling.

"Stop trying to work things out before their times have come. Accept the limitations of living one day at a time. When something comes to your attention, ask Me whether or not it is part of today's agenda. If it isn't, release it into My care and go about today's duties. When you follow this practice, there will be a beautiful simplicity about your life: a time for everything, and everything in its time.

*A life lived close to Me is not complicated or cluttered. When your focus is on My Presence, many things that once troubled you lose their power over you. Though the world around you is messy and confusing, remember that **I have overcome the world. I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have Peace.***
Ecclesiastes 3:1; John 16:33

Connection ♥ ⇄ ♥ Corner

(Information and opportunities to help others and to help you!)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Ron Farley
Connie battling breast cancer
Peg Beery
Phyllis Peter's Family
Dave & Helen McElderry
Jack & Becky Crabtree
Joyce DeAngelo
Errol Plate
Grace Harriman

HOME/HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME

Springview Manor
Dewey Taylor
Kesler Estates
Pat Bunn
Home Bound
Beverly Shade



Anniversaries:

April 12 Jeff & Cindy Crawford
Eugene & Jacqui Dill

Birthdays:

April 18 Emily Sharp
27 Clarissa Frail

Greeting cards are in the Café for your use.
Help yourself to the one you need.

FUTURE DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

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Each Sunday Morning – Sunday School is at
9:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center

10:15 Each Sunday Morning join in worship
in the church Sanctuary

9:00 a.m. Each Wednesday morning the
Upper Room Gathering in Connection Café

April 14 7:30 p.m. Leadership Team Meeting
in the Narthex. All are welcome.

April 17 5:00 p.m. Westside provides a light
Meal for the Family Promise families.

MARCH/APRIL UPPER ROOMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

**IN NEED OF A GREETING, GET WELL, BIRTHDAY CARD? CHECK OUT THE CARD
RACK IN THE CONNECTION CAFÉ – “TAKE A CARD – SEND A CARD”**

Have a Blessed Week!