The Connection

Spencerville Trinity United Methodist Church

April/May 2024

The Pastor's Corner

From the Pastor's Desk:

I know I keep saying it, but time is just flying! I can't believe that we are through Lent and into April already! di and I have survived a near-flood on our lake caused by the torrential rains we've experienced over the past week or so. As a church, we are getting ready to move through the next five Sundays of Easter as we travel through the month of April showers that will hopefully bring May flowers.

Spring is a time of promise, and a time for rebirth. The leaves explode from their tight buds bringing life back into the dead grayness of the trees in winter. Flowers leap from the earth filling the starkness of a seemingly empty flower bed with a bouquet of beauty. Reds, yellows, purples, oranges, blues, and pinks pop out, cautiously at first, and then bursting forth into their full glory.

Fittingly, we celebrate Jesus' resurrection in the springtime, when Jesus' lifeless body that was buried in a dark, musty, stone-cold tomb, burst forth alive and ready to take us with him to the promised land when he returns from heaven.

Jesus described planting seeds in a parable. We find it in Matthew 13:3b-9 where he says, "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly but because the soil was shallow, when the sun came up, the plants were scorched and withered because they had no roots. Other seeds fell among the thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seeds fell on good soil, where it produced a crop - a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear."

God calls us to be spiritual farmers and plant the seed that falls on the good soil. He expects us to produce a rich crop many times what is sewn. We are going to be casting our nets in the next few months to make new disciples. We have activities that have the potential to bring many new faces onto our property. Through our summer kick-off, and vacation Bible school, and other opportunities, it is our mission to encourage those who come to continue to come back and join us in making more disciples for Jesus. We're going to need lots of help during those activities, so be prepared to pitch-in so we can plant those seeds!

Blessings on our spiritual farmers for a bumper crop!

Pastor Mark

"...seeds fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown." Matthew 13:8

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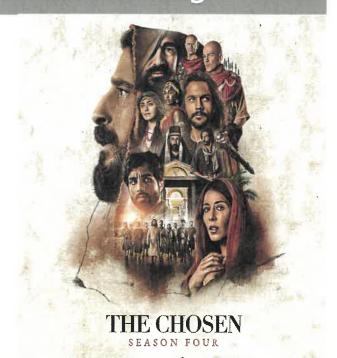
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Real People, Real Hope

Chosen Season 4 Video Screening

Thanks to Outreach Films and the Come and See Foundation we are able to show season 4 of The Chosen for FREE in our church. So on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm starting on Wednesday, April 10th we will start by showing Episode One of Season 4. Each week we will show the next Episode.

If you are new to The Chosen and have not seen Seasons I-3. There are lots of ways to view them. You can download the Angel Studios app, watch on Peacock, Netflix, Amazon Prime, ect. The church does have the DVD of Season Three.



Lakeside For Youth Summer Camp

NOT YOUR TYPICAL CHURCH CAMP

This isn't your typical church camp. There is praise and worship each morning, a missions update and a message to dive deeper into the Bible and start conversations for smaller group settings.

Afternoons are reserved for free time. In the evenings, the camp sings contemporary Christian music. This isn't like singing hymns on a Sunday morning, but a full production band on the stage, with speakers blaring, a light show going and giving it all to God concert.

The evening programs vary- a concert, magician or comedianbut always centered on living the life Christ wants for us. The week is completed with communion and a candlelight walk to the lake.

This summer Lakeside for Youth is offering two opportunities for campers. Senior High and Junior High camp will be the same week this year- June 16-22, 2024. Some events will be together like morning watch, praise and worship and evening programs. Other things will still be separate, such as each group will have their own impact speaker and interest groups.

Senior High & Junior High Camp Week

June 16-22, 2024

\$375 per person (Church Youth Fund will cover this)

There will be a \$60 fee for housing at Hilltop/Golf Cart rental/ Hot Breakfasts per person. We are sharing these items with Cairo UMC.

RSVP for Registration by Sunday, April 28th 2024 to Jenny Byglin.

Questions Contact:

Jenny Byglin Trinity UMC Youth Education Chair 419-234-8658

Emily Byglin Lakeside Camp Youth Counselor in Training 419-604-6772



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Real People,





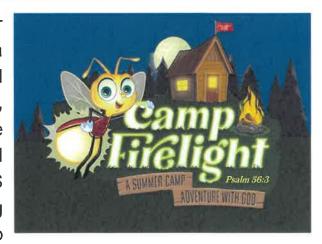


Summer Kickoff

We will be hosting our annual Kickoff to Summer event on Friday, May 31st from 5:00-7:00pm. This is an outreach event geared toward the youth in our community. We will have food, games, bouncy houses and snow cones for the kids to enjoy. We will need LOTS of volunteers to make this event a successful one. Please let Jenny Byglin or the Office know if you would be willing to help with this event. The next Youth Education meeting is Tuesday, April 16th at 6:30pm and is open to everyone.

Vacation Bible School

Our theme for Vacation Bible School this year will be Camp Firelight. We are going to have a Summer Camp Adventure with God! VBS will be held Sunday, June 9th through Thursday, June 13th. We will be serving supper to the campers starting at 5:30pm. Then VBS will run from 6:00-8:00pm each night. Our VBS program will be on Sunday, June 16th during the worship service. Volunteers willing to help during VBS and to help decorate leading up to VBS are always welcome and appreciated. Please contact either Sue Heidlebaugh or Jenny Byglin for any questions.









April 2024

Real People. Real Hope

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 D.O.G. Pound 6:00-7:30pm	4	5	6
7 Church Service 9:15am Community Groups 10:30am	8	9	10 D.O.G. Pound 6:00-7:30pm Trustee Meeting 6:30pm Chosen video 6:30pm	11 Praise Band Practice 6:30pm	12	13
14Church Service 9:15am Community Groups 10:30am Native American Ministries Sunday	15	16 Youth Ed Meeting 6:30pm	17 D.O.G. Pound 6:00- 7:30pm Chosen video 6:30pm	18 Food Pantry 4:00- 6:00pm Praise Band Practice 6:30pm	19	20
21 Church Service 9:15am Community Groups 10:30am	22	23	24 D.O.G. Pound 6:00- 7:30pm Chosen video 6:30pm	25 Praise Band Practice 6:30pm	26 West Ohio Food Bank Distribution 10:00-12:00	27
28 Church Service 9:15am Community Groups 10:30am Compassion Sunday	29	30				







May 2024

Real People, Real Hope

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 D.O.G. Pound 6:00- 7:30pm Chosen video 6:30pm	2 Praise Band practice 6:30pm	3	4
5 Church Service 9:15am Community Groups 10:30am	6	7	8 D.O.G. Pound 6:00-7:30pm Chosen video 6:30pm Trustee Meeting 6:30pm	9 Praise Band Practice 6:30pm	10	11
12 Mother's Day Church Service 9:15am Community Groups 10:30am	13	14	15 D.O.G. Pound 6:00- 7:30pm. Chosen video 6:30pm	16 Food Pantry 4:00-6:00pm Finance Meeting 7:00pm Praise Band Practice 6:30pm	17	18
19 Church Service 9:15am Community Groups 10:30am	20 Leadership Team Meeting 6:30pm	21	22 D.O.G. Pound 6:00- 7:30pm Chosen video 6:30pm	23	24	25
26 Church Service 9:15am Community Groups 10:30am	27 Memorial Day	28	29 D.O.G Pound 6:00- 7:30pm Chosen video 6:30pm	30 Praise Band Practice 6:30pm	31 WOFB Distribution 10:00-12:00pm Summer Kickoff Celebration 5:00- 7:00pm	



