

The Community Messenger

ERICA EXTEMPORANEOUS

February 2024



Valentine's Day is a day devoted to love. Red roses with sprays of baby's breath... cardboard hearts filled with decadent chocolate... shoeboxes adorned with tissue paper and aluminum foil set on elementary school desks waiting to be stuffed with messages asking, "Will U B mine?" They still do that, don't they?

Perhaps I need to be a bit more clear. Valentine's Day is a day devoted to showing and telling those we love that we love them in albeit superficial, sometimes almost saccharine ways. Conversation hearts, lacy doilies, plenty of red and pink with a cupid or two thrown in for good measure. Some of us may find ourselves a bit cynical. My favorite Valentine's Day happened in kindergarten and I'm afraid it's been downhill ever since. But I suppose that's another story, isn't it?

This year we have an interesting confluence of events. Ash Wednesday just so happens to fall on Valentine's Day. Our forty days of wilderness wandering begins not with glitter or confetti, but a smudge of ash. We are reminded of our inevitable mortality and our ever-present need for repentance and God's mercy.

In its own way, it is also a celebration of love given voice, given body and soul. It is a reminder that the baby whose birth we have barely finished commemorating will grow into the man who will save us from ourselves, our worst impulses, our scandalous sin. It may not be the kind of valentine to which we have grown accustomed, but it is a deep expression of a love so true, so pure, it nearly takes our breath away.... A love between Creator and created... A love that gives itself completely. That is the love this world needs. That is the love for which we long. That is the love we are promised, if we will only be open to receiving as much.

Take good care~*Erica*



Greetings from Gabby!



Do you like Valentine's Day? I do! I like to make valentines for all of my friends. I do not like conversation hearts, though. I think they taste like I think chalk might taste. Not that I've ever tasted chalk. I prefer chocolate kisses. I like to save the pretty foil to do craft projects. I hope you have a very Happy Valentine's Day, my friends!

~ Gabby



The Youth Group Has Started weekly Gatherings!

🎉 Come Join us! 🎉

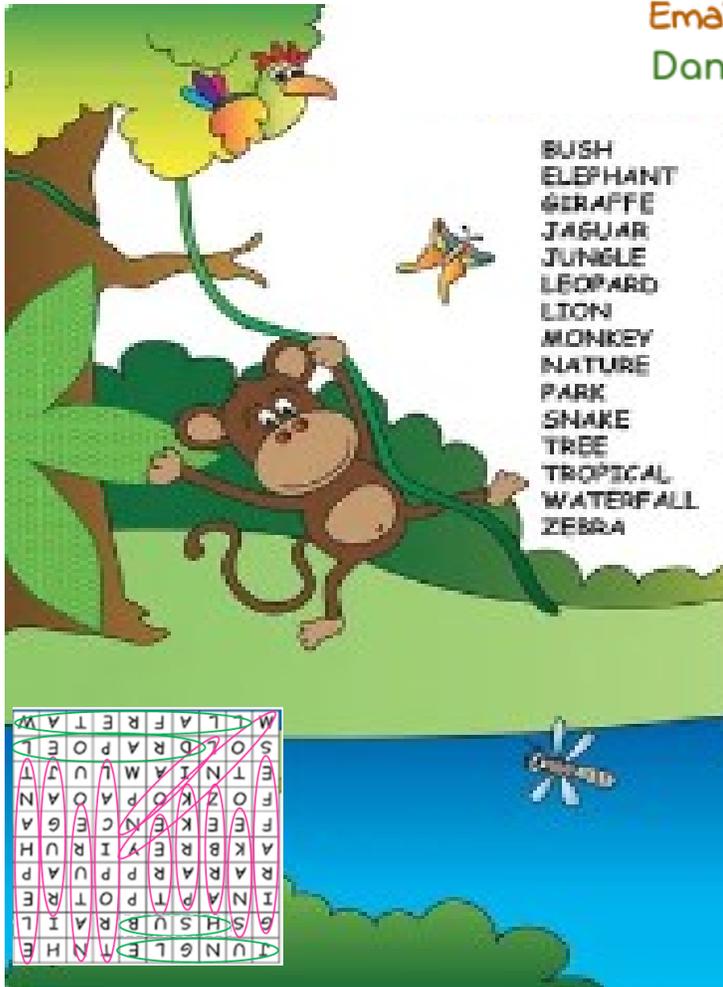
✏️ 1st Grade through 12th Grade ✏️

🕒 Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Before Church (10 am) 🕒

🍩 **DONUTS AND CONVERSATION!** 🍩

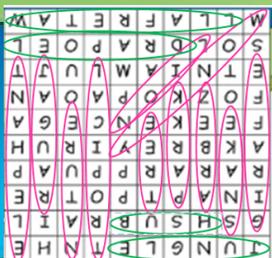


Email Danny with ANY questions:
DannyHCCYouth@gmail.com



- BUSH
- ELEPHANT
- GERAFFE
- JAGUAR
- JUNGLE
- LEOPARD
- LION
- MONKEY
- NATURE
- PARK
- SNAKE
- TREE
- TROPICAL
- WATERFALL
- ZEBRA

J	U	N	G	L	E	T	N	H	E
G	S	H	S	U	B	R	A	I	L
I	N	A	P	T	P	O	T	R	E
R	A	R	A	R	P	P	U	A	P
A	K	B	R	E	Y	I	R	U	H
F	E	E	K	E	N	C	E	G	A
F	O	Z	K	O	P	A	O	A	N
E	T	N	I	A	M	L	U	J	T
S	O	L	D	R	A	P	O	E	L
M	L	L	A	F	R	E	T	A	W





Client Choice Pantry

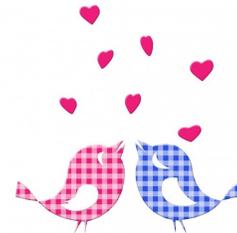


Our food pantry is scheduled for Friday, February 16th during the usual hours of 3-5 pm. Volunteers are always welcome and needed. Optimally, we require 10-12 church member volunteers for a smoothly running pantry. Although we are not asking for our members to bring in milk, eggs and bread, if you would like to contribute money towards these foods, any donation would always be appreciated. Please put the words "Food Pantry" in the memo section of your check. We will always require volunteers to help us unload and stock our shelves and freezers, generally the day before the pantry each month.

Linda Hitmar



Fundraiser for the Organ
Bumper Stickers For Sale
\$5 each



February Schedules

Lectionary for February

DATE	ELDER	DIACONATE SANCTUARY (All Month)	DIACONATE KITCHEN (All Month)
Feb. 4	Sarah Sanders	Hank Kalmar Captain	<u>Sanctuary</u> Linda Raphoon
Feb. 11	Barb Layfield		<u>JHR</u> Jane Walters
Feb. 18	Katy Kell	Anna Marie Ottney	
Feb. 25	Bim Turner	Linda Raphoon	

Feb. 4 2024

Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39

Feb. 11, 2024

2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Mark 1:40-45

Feb. 18, 2024

Isaiah 43:18-25
Psalm 41
2 Corinthians 1:18-22
Mark 2:1-12

Feb. 25, 2024

Hosea 2:14-20
Psalm 103:1-13, 22
2 Corinthians 3:1-6
Mark 2:13-22





Congregational Meeting February 4th

HOWLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP
Parishioners are encouraged to attend

5TH ANNUAL
HOWLAND

men who
COOK

Join us for a sampling of
the best recipes prepared by our
"Celebrity Chefs"

WHEN
Sunday, February 4 th
4:00PM to 7:00PM

WHERE
Howland United Methodist
Church

730 Howland Wilson Road NE, Warren, OH 44484



**ADVANCE TICKET
REQUIRED**

**\$15 Per Person
Available NOW**

Tickets can be purchased
at:

- Howland United Methodist Church Office
- Howland Community Church Office
- Or from any Troop 28 Boy Scout or Troop Leader
- Scoutmaster Reble- 330-207-2511

Celebrity Chefs:

- Mark Taylor
- Brian Burkey Sr
- Carl Clark
- Jack Finch
- Matt Konerth
- Atty. Ned Gold
- Ron Chambers and Marty Boetcher
- Atty. Brendan Keating and Ed Skrobut
- Ken MacPherson
- Justin Pancake
- Chris Schlossnagel
- Jeff Ward
- Eagle Scouts

**Basket raffles and a
50/50 raffle!**

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN NORTH HALL

Donors may report to the North Hall from 12:00-6:00 p.m.

Call 1-800-733-2767 to make an appointment



**American
Red Cross**





Sunday, February 11th—Alan Purdum’s Music to be Featured

The Alliance Symphony will premier Alan Purdum’s “Hymn Tune Suite” in concert on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 3:00 pm in Brush Performance Hall on the University of Mount Union campus. The suite presents five hymn tunes in a variety of settings. Alan is a member of the orchestra and an alumnus of Mount Union’s Department of Music.

Also featured will be Maira Liliestedt, Professor of Piano at the University of Mount Union performing Rachmaninoff’s “Piano Concerto No. 2”. The orchestra will also perform Dvorak’s “Czech Suite, Op. 39”; and Roger Zahab’s “Circular Dancing”.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors/veterans and free for all students. Student and child tickets must be ordered by phone or in person. Tickets are available online at mountunion.edu/boxoffice or through the Mount Union Box Office at (330) 821-2565. Box Office hours are from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Monday—Friday when classes are in session. The Box Office will also be open for ticket sales one hour before the performance.



The Celebration Band will return in Sunday morning February 11, playing “Mardi Gras” music in anticipation of the beginning of Lent. The band will provide joyous hymns and selections to enliven our morning service.



NEW BOOKS

THEY MAKE A GREAT GIFT FOR THE HOLIDAY!

\$15

It's Cookbook Time!

HCC Cookbooks

AVAILABLE NOW






Pancake Breakfast Saturday,
February 3rd and March 2nd in
South Hall, 9 AM to 11 AM

An All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast will be served on February 3rd and March 2nd from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children. The breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, and beverages. Volunteers will be needed for this monthly breakfast. Sign up sheets will be available at the church or contact Patty DiGiacobbe to volunteer.

Patty

Easter Fundraiser Will Begin Soon

An Easter Pie Fundraiser will begin soon. Pies from Gardner Pie Company in Akron can be ordered through March 6 with a pick up date of March 21. Flavors provided include Apple, Apple Walnut, Cherry, Berry and Peach. Pies will be \$15.00 each. They come frozen and unbaked. Baking instructions will be included. Consider picking up an order form and asking your friends and family to order some pies.

Orders can also be placed through a form on our website at <https://howlandcommunitychurch.org/fundraisers>.

Patty



GAB SALE

COMING SOON

BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

APRIL 5TH & 6TH, 2024

More Information to Follow





Howland Community Church

February
2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6-8P Girl Scouts (NH)	2 Groundhog Day 	3 9-11A Pancake Breakfast—SH  Bob Holinbaugh 1P—NA Mtg--NH 6P—AA Mtg-NH
4 9:30A Youth Group 10A-Worship 	5  12-6P Red Cross Blood Drive 7P Boy Scouts-NH	6  Diane Andrews  Betty Arblaster  Denise Newhouse  Bim Turner	7 6P—Trustees	8  Sue Blosser	9	10 1P—NA Mtg NH 6P—AA Mtg-NH
11 9:30A Youth Group 10A-Worship 4-6P Girl Scouts (NH)	12 7P Elders 7P Boy Scouts-NH  Jeanine Abruzzi  Jill Garlock	13  Randy Baker  Kenton Thigpen  Taylor Waid	14 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 12:00 Noon Service 7P Service  ♥ John & Rita Bobco	15 6-8P Girl Scouts (NH)	16 3-5P Client Choice Food Pantry 	17 1P—NA Mtg-NH 6P—AA Mtg-NH
18 9:30A Youth Group 10A-Worship  Bonnie Diglaw	19 6:30P Finance 7P Official Board 7P Boy Scouts-NH  Harmon Andrews 	20 MARCH NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	21  Jill Lewis	22  Sara Andrews	23	24  FFM 11A-12:30P (SH) 1P—NA Mtg-NH 6P—AA Mtg-NH
25 9:30A Youth Group 10A-Worship 4-6P Girl Scouts (NH)  Tonya Rollison	26  Harm Andrews III ♥ Larry & Marilyn Rambo 7P Boy Scouts-NH	27	28  Judith Minogue  Becky Vandegrift	29		

HOWLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

198 Niles Cortland Rd. S.E.
Warren, Ohio 44484

FEBRUARY

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 163
Youngstown, Ohio

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

HOWLANDCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG

E-mail: hccced@gmail.com

Phone: 330-856-3628

Fax: 330-856-4496

2024



The Community Messenger is the monthly newsletter of the
Howland Community Church

(affiliated with the Disciples of Christ, United Church of Christ, and International Council of
Community Churches). Our church is **"A House of Prayer For All People."**

We offer Sunday School for children and a fellowship gathering after Worship.
Communion is served every Sunday.



OFFICE HOURS



Monday—Thursday
9:00AM—4:00PM
Friday
9:00AM—Noon

Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

Articles for
Next Month's
Newsletter are
Due Feb 20th



Reverend Erica Brown, Senior Minister

Danny DeMarco, Youth Pastor

Andrew Purdum, Director of Music

Rita Bobco, Finance Manager

Linda Mikula, Administrative Assistant

Minta Pitts, Custodian