



# THE HAPPENING

March 2016 Minister's column by Rev. Craig Pinley

March 2016

## What's Happening

### Movie Night

Mar 5 Family Movie Night

### Events

Mar 4 Teens to Dare2Share

Mar 5 Men's Prayer  
Breakfast

March Food Madness dinner  
Family Movie Night

Mar 13 Daylight Savings  
Sandwich Sunday -  
Ruebens for sale

Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day

Mar 19 Bunny Brunch

Mar 20 Easter Cantata -  
Palm Sunday

Mar 24 Maundy Thursday

Mar 25 Good Friday

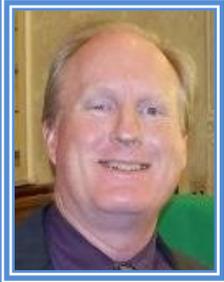
Mar 27 Easter  
Sunrise Service  
followed by Easter breakfast

### Chosen servers

Mar 6 Elders - Jim Miller  
Mar 20 Deacons -  
Becky Taylor

### Inside this issue:

Office of President	4
March Birthdays/Shut-In	6
Community Corner	6
Serving in Worship	6



March Madness has become the brand name for the phenomenon that is the 68-team NCAA men's basketball tournament and the event really begins with conference tournaments that pique the emotions of fans all over the country. I've taken in my share of March madness events either from the comfort of my home (or someone else's) and in various stadiums or other venues throughout the country. And it never fails to amaze me how caught up I

can get into the 40-minute soap operas on the hardwood as 18-to-23 year old strangers act out their yearning to toss or dunk a ball into a round cylinder. This year, with Easter arriving early on the calendar, March Madness takes on a different form for pastors like me. The Lenten season began February 10<sup>th</sup> with Ash Wednesday and we at Redeemer have our share of worship services to recall the death and resurrection of Jesus.

**On March 6**, we'll have a combined worship service at 10:30 a.m., taking communion as a Body. However, the re-dedication of the Margie Childs CE wing at church has been postponed as the YMCA is still using that space.

**(Please note that our March 13 worship services are on our usual 9:45 & 11 a.m. schedule.)**

**On March 19<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30 a.m., we'll host a children's Bunny Brunch at church. I know this has been a great outreach tool for us and I know any help with either providing candy,



eggs, etc. and presence at the event would be appreciated. Thanks in advance to our Youth and Family Team for helping put that together. Kudos to Linda Hoover, Lisa Bowersox, and Debbie Khulenberg for their part in coordinating things.

**On March 20<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30 a.m., we'll host an Easter Cantata in the church's sanctuary as part of our Palm Sunday worship service.

**On March 24<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m., we'll celebrate our traditional Maundy Thursday service in our sanctuary. We've invited local Covenant churches to be part of our service as well.

The following evening at 7 p.m., Covenant Community Church in Fairfield has invited us to share in their Good Friday worship service and I'm excited that we can fellowship together with other area congregations from our denomination. *(continued page 2)*

On Easter Sunday, you will have three options from which to worship in our church, with an 8:30 a.m. breakfast that is open to all.



-At 7:30 a.m., our teens will lead music and assist in our **Sunrise worship**

**service.**

-At 9:45 a.m., we'll host our **Heritage service** in our sanctuary, complete with all the traditional Easter trimmings you've come to appreciate.

-At 11 a.m., our **contemporary worship** service takes place in the family life center. Those who would wish to be baptized would have that occur within this service (a departure from recent years when it has occurred during our Good Friday service).

All of these Easter-related services and events are wonderful if we make the time for them and I want to encourage that – **I also hope you'll come to our March FOOD Madness dinner from 4 to 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> – as this helps unite us as a congregation.**



But March Madness can also be the reality of our busy schedules this month and part of what Lent is all about is creating space for reflection and to let God's spirit prompt you to consider Him and His will in new ways. On Palm Sunday as part of our bulletin, you'll receive a Holy Week devotion pamphlet to help in that process. And I thought I'd add a few 'food for thought' things to help you think of the God story and the Easter story in the coming weeks.

**First**, as you ponder God's larger story for His people, don't forget the Passover story that can be found primarily in the Old Testament book of Exodus. Take time to read the story of the ten plagues and the final evening's events as God delivered as promised when Israel left its oppressors in Egypt.

**Second**, as you read your Bibles in March, review the life of Jesus through the first 10 chapters of the gospel of Mark. Half a chapter per day gets you to the Palm Sunday story in Mark 11 on March 20<sup>th</sup>, and by doing this you'll get a clear and concise version of many of the acts of Jesus during his ministry.

**Third**, take a few minutes every day this month to pray for our church. I'll give you a few focus points:

Day 1 – Our men's Bible study meeting 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month, led by Jim Miller

Day 2 – Our children's ministries on Wed. nights and adult Bible studies going on.

Day 3 – Our visitation ministry to seniors and shut-ins.

Day 4 – Our youth ministries, volunteer leader Elijah Balsbaugh, wife Emily and daughter Eden.

Day 5 – Men's breakfast (8 a.m.), March Food Madness dinner (4 p.m.) and Movie night (6:30 p.m.)

Day 6 – Combined worship service at church and all who contribute to make it happen.

Day 7 – Hamilton Area Ministerial Association churches and their ministries



*(Continued from page 2)*

## The Evangelical Covenant Church

- Day 8 – Sew & Sewers and their ongoing ministry to people inside and outside the church.
- Day 9 - Ministries occurring through outside organizations (YMCA, Boy Scouts, ARC, etc...)
- Day 10 – Our secretary Traci Rodulfo, husband Greg, and their family.
- Day 11 – Serve City ministries that so many at our church are part of.
- Day 12 – The seven mission entities that Redeemer supports in our general budget.
- Day 13 – Pastor Craig and Mary and Ellie.
- Day 14 – Our Elder/Deacon boards as they meet under the leadership of Elder chair Dan Childs and Deacon chair Linda Hoover.
- Day 15- Go-Getters ministries and those who provide funeral lunches and other helps.
- Day 16 – Choir director Brad Hoover as he prepares our choir for Easter Cantata.
- Day 17 – Confetti Club and those who oversee this ministry.
- Day 18 – Those who provide nursery care (August Everhart) and who oversee Children’s Church (Debbie Kluenberg and Steve Muller) regularly.
- Day 19 – Our trustees and those who help with upkeep of the church.
- Day 20 – Our Easter Cantata, our choir, musicians, and those who help with Palm Sunday preparations.
- Day 21 – Our consistory meeting, president Sam Lohrer, treasurer Brent Clark, and our unity in making good decisions for the benefit of Redeemer Church.
- Day 22 – Our elderly and their health concerns.
- Day 23 – Our children as we ready them for Holy Week.
- Day 24 – Maundy Thursday service and the hearts and minds of those who attend.
- Day 25 – Covenant Community Church (Pastor Joe Poppino) and Trinity Community Church (Pastor Cathy Kaminsky) as we share our Good Friday worship service with them at Covenant Community. Also our churches in Louisville, KY and Paducah, KY and their ministries.
- Day 26 – For those who don’t know Jesus and to those who will provide the Good News to them.
- Day 27 – For our 3 worship services and all-church breakfast as we celebrate Easter together.
- Day 28 – For post-Easter follow-up with those who may need it.
- Day 29 – For Al Schumm as he prepares to lead April mission trip to Jonesville, VA.
- Day 30 – For families traveling during school breaks after Easter.
- Day 31 – Unity for our Redeemer Church family as we evolve as a congregation.

May God bless you as you push past the March Madness of your lives and focus on the story of Jesus and his love for us during this Lenten season.

IN CHRIST,

*Pastor Craig*



## President of the Congregation



Our first town hall meeting this year was well attended and we had great conversations. We heard some good suggestions and will be working to implement some quickly. As part of our communication plans we will be making available Consistory minutes each month at the Welcome Center. This Newsletter will have more fresh, updated information as we emphasize highlights within our ministries. Monthly we will spotlight a Redeemer Small Group to provide information on who they are, what they do and the leader should you have any questions. Upcoming events are posted on bulletin boards in the hallways, in the weekly bulletins and announced in each service. Redeemer Church has a website ([www.redeemer-church.org](http://www.redeemer-church.org)) where you and the public can find up-to-date information. We also have Facebook pages for communicating with our members and friends. Of course should you have any questions or concerns you can always let any member of the leadership team know and we will work to address it as quickly as possible.

Spring is quickly approaching and we will be scheduling cleanup and repair opportunities for those who are willing and able to help. We need to start maintaining our facility and grounds better (as we heard at the Town Hall meeting) and as funds allow we will make the necessary updates.

I pray for our church, members and friends everyday and I believe that God will show you how to get involved in our ministries and reach others for Him.

In Christ.

*Sam*

## Men's Saturday morning prayer breakfast starting back up!!!!

The "Men's Prayer Breakfast" will be starting back up beginning Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup>. The location will be at the Bob Evans across from the church. It will be on the *first Saturday of every month* and meet at 8am. Our first "Prayer Breakfast" will start March 5<sup>th</sup>.



Dan Childs has offered to head up the group getting started again. The purpose of the group is to provide fellowship with our Redeemer brothers in Christ. This is a perfect opportunity to strengthen and create new relationships with those you go to church with. There will be a short prayer and or devotional prior to breakfast. So get your calendars out and circle the first Saturday of each month.

We would love for you come and see what our "Prayer Breakfast" is all about. Please feel free to invite a "friend" from church or someone not at Redeemer that might enjoy the fellowship. It's a great way to start your day!

What: Men's Prayer Breakfast

Where: Bob Evans across from the church

When: March 5<sup>th</sup>.....1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month

Time: 8am

## “SMALL GROUP” PICTURES

### *Say Cheese!*

In March, I'll be taking pictures of the *Small Groups* at Redeemer. It will only take a few minutes. I'll have chairs set-up and be there at the beginning of your meeting time. Thanks ahead of time!

*Karen Schumm*



### Corn Beef Sandwich **SALE**



Our mission team headed to Covenant Mountain Mission Bible Camp in Jonesville, VA will be hosting Sandwich Sundays to raise funds for team projects. These Rueben Sandwiches are delicious! Mark your calendars and plan to have a great lunch.

March 13<sup>th</sup>  
April 10<sup>th</sup>



- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| March 20 <sup>th</sup> | Easter Cantata – One service at 10:30 am  |
| March 24 <sup>th</sup> | Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm  |
| March 25 <sup>th</sup> | Good Friday service at Covenant Community Church in Fairfield   |
| March 27 <sup>th</sup> | Easter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunrise Service @ 7:30 am</li> <li>Easter Breakfast @ 8:45 am</li> <li>Heritage Service @ 9:45 am</li> <li>Praise Service @ 11:00 am</li> </ul> |



Redeemer Church has been approved as a Nonprofit Organization in the new Kroger Community Rewards Program. Please visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) to register your Kroger Plus card.

Redeemer's NPO # is 80053.



The Evangelical Covenant Church



**REMEMBER OUR SHUT IN'S**

Redeemer Church has a number of members who are either confined to their homes or residing in Care Centers. Please remember them with a card or call. Remember, if you send a card please be sure to add "Redeemer Church" after your name!

Norma Gammell  
Heartland of Woodridge  
3801 Woodridge Blvd Apt B-402  
Fairfield, OH 45014

Evelyn Warner  
c/o Andrew Lampl  
130 Farmington Drive  
Hamilton, OH 45013

Willard & Hester Childs  
2877 Long Pine court  
Hamilton, OH 45011

Janet Evans  
200 Lindale Drive  
Fairfield, OH 45014

Zelma Miller  
386 S. Eastview Pkwy  
Hamilton, OH 45011



**New Address**

Doris Hall  
94 King James Dr.  
South Dennis, MA 02660

Brian Hall  
2600 El Camino Dr.  
Middletown, OH 45044

Ed Crowthers  
#8 Landmark Crescent  
Hamilton, OH 45013

**Serving in Worship**

Liturgists

March 6 Rose Marie Stiehl  
March 13 Stephanie Tillman  
March 20 Brent Clark  
March 27 Lisa Mannix

Prayer Intercessors

March 6 Mary Van Lieu & Lori Lohrer  
March 13 Charlotte Burkhart & Nancy Henry  
March 20 Linda Hoover & Lisa Mannix  
March 27 Carol Moore & Mary Van Lieu

Flower Chart

March 6 still available  
March 13 still available  
March 20 still available  
March 27 still available

Ushers

1st Service

March 6 Ron & Mary Sue Peters, Dewayne & Sharon Grammel  
March 13 Brent Clark & Lisa Mannix, Richard & Joan Riley  
March 20 Larry & Charlotte Kachner, Duane & Claudia Cantrell  
March 27 Carol Moore, Karl Oakley, Faye Muddell, Bill Grubbs

2nd Service

March 13 Duane & Claudia Cantrell  
March 20 Lori Lohrer & Lee Skorupa  
March 27 Karen Wittmer & Carol Hahn

**Birthday list**

- 03/01 Carol Hahn
- 03/02 Claudia Cantrell
- 03/03 Kathy Swope
- 03/04 Brianna Creech
- 03/05 Janet Grissom  
Sadara Courtney
- 03/07 Ken Hyatt
- 03/10 Kimmy Roberts
- 03/15 Austin Bowling
- 03/16 Leslie Bowersox
- 03/22 Natalie Hecker
- 03/25 Brian Taylor  
Travis Avery
- 03/27 Sheri Doane  
Brian Hall
- 03/30 Bev Litz
- 03/31 Hester Childs  
Susan Hall



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

**Condolences**

Prayers and Christian love to the families who have lost loved ones.  
David Grissom, passed 1-31-16  
Olin Kincer, passed 02-03-16

