

HUM NEWS AUGUST 2021



HARTZELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8999 APPLEWOOD DRIVE

CINCINNATI, OHIO 45236

513-891-8527

hartzellumcblueash@gmail.com

hartzellumc.com

Rev. Justin Fuhrmann, Pastor – jfuhrma@hotmail.com -847-913-4190

Linda Ross, Secretary – hartzellumcblueash@gmail.com – 513-205-1912

Brandon Fine, Custodian – brandonbfine@gmail.com – 513-227-8164

HIGHLIGHTS FROM AUGUST LEADERSHIP BOARD

August is a new month with new things happening at Hartzell. Your Leadership Board is part of that newness. We will be highlighting some items of discussion at the previous month's meeting each month to keep you, not only informed, but connected.

Here are the highlights from the July 2021 meeting.

1. With the recent spike in COVID-19 cases stemming from the delta variant, we are once again asking those people who are not yet vaccinated to wear a mask while in the church building. This includes all children under 12 years of age for whom vaccines are not yet approved. While we are all tired of masks, we learned from Pastor Justin's message last Sunday (7/25) that part of being a disciple of Jesus is being willing to give up rights for the sake of showing love and concern for others. For that reason the leadership board believes it is in the best interest of the church and the community to follow Governor DeWine's recommendation for those who are not yet vaccinated to wear masks while in public places.

2. Beginning Sunday, August 1st, we will begin to add more normalcy to our Sunday Worship. Communion will be offered two ways. For those who feel comfortable, we will have communion stewards serving as we have done prior to COVID-19. We will also have available the pre-packaged communion. This communion pack can be picked up on your way into the sanctuary with the Sunday bulletin.

Greeters will be back as well. Again, with your own comfort level, feel free to shake hands or just offer a friendly, hello. During the Worship Greeting, as well, please do what is comfortable for you.

Ushers are the final piece we are adding at this time. You may drop your offering in an offering plate near the communion cups and bulletins, or you may wait for the Offertory time when the ushers will come to you.

3. Scout Troop 791 is here and active at Hartzell. Aaron Trach completed his Eagle Scout Project in the Fall of 2020. Aaron and his project team of scouts and parents, have beautifully landscaped along the west side of our building. There is even a bench for some quiet contemplation or rest. Thanks, Aaron!

Sam Carlisle is a second scout working toward the rank of Eagle Scout. He presented a proposal to the board for another project to be completed at Hartzell. His proposal has been accepted by the board. Sam will now progress with his next step of design, materials, and funding. More information on this project in the next month or so.

Thanks to all scouts in this troop for the donation of gardening hand tools and a small gas powered tiller as part of the landscaping project.

Thanks to Harold Dreibelbis, our Scout Liaison for his work with Troop 791!

4. Our final highlight is from the Finance Team. This Team is working on a stewardship campaign that will occur later this fall. More information to come.

Blessings!

Nancy, Vicki and your Leadership Board



Friends,

What a joy it has been to worship with you and get to know you this last month. I have truly been blown away by the reception and welcome that I have received as your pastor. While I am still learning about you and the church, I have had the privilege to meet a number of you in the five meet and greets we've had. In addition, I've spent much time working my way through the phone book and calling on shut-ins.

During each of my meet and greets, I've asked the same seven questions to each group: (1) What is going well right now? (2) What is NOT going well right now? (3) What population of people are you not reaching right now? (4) When you think about our church, our community or our world, what keeps you awake at night? (5) What is your greatest passion in life? (6) If you could wave a magic wand in the air and money wasn't an issue, what would you see the church do? And (7) Where do you want to see our church in 5, 10 or 20 years? As I have listened to your responses, I have begun to see your strengths, growing edges, hopes, and dreams as a congregation and I wanted to share some of that here.

Strengths

(1) There is no doubt, the greatest strength of this church is the friendliness of its people. This has consistently been mentioned as the thing people like most about the church and the thing that brought and keeps them here. Hartzell is a place where people feel like home and feel like they belong.

(2) The annual fish fry. This is the thing we are known for in the community. It brings both the church and the community together and functions as a good source of revenue for the church, approximately 15% of our annual church budget. At least two people said, the fish fry was their first contact with the church and it was the thing that eventually brought them to be a part of Hartzell United Methodist. This means people in our community know where we are and who we are. Many churches can't say that. We need to find new ways to leverage this annual event and to make further impact in the community.

(3) Kids ministry. In at least two meet and greets people talked about how the kids ministry team is the strongest team in the church. Due to the impact of MCCI, Vicki has rallied a dedicated team of teachers around her. These teachers are able to offer classes for several different age groups, through junior high. However, all of these volunteers are being used every single week and are unable to be in worship.

(4) Missions. For the size of Hartzell, we do a ton of mission work in the community. Food pantries, school bags, shoe boxes, Christmas tree, jail ministry, Wesley Foundation, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Habitat for Humanity, the community garden, and meals every Wednesday for our shut-ins. Needless to say, I was blown away by how much this church is doing outside the church to be Jesus hands and feet. I have been a part of larger churches that are doing far less with more than Hartzell is doing in the world.

(5) Worship Service. Overall there seems to be a positive vibe regarding the recent changes in the worship service. Positive comments were made about my sermons and John's musical ability. People like the return to traditional worship, hymns, and doxology, though a few miss contemporary songs. On the whole it seems the congregation wants traditional with at some occasional contemporary songs.

Growing Edges and Fears

(1) There is no doubt that the greatest fear and concern of the church right now is its finances. People are genuinely concerned about the future of Hartzell UMC and whether it will be able to continue to exist. At more than one meeting, when I asked where the church hopes to be in 5, 10, or 20 years, the response was "still here." In the same fashion, finances came up more than once in what is not working. If Hartzell is to move forward, we must identify ways to increase giving from our current members, bring in new people from the community, and find alternative methods of generating revenue for ministry. Already, we have begun working toward having a stewardship campaign this fall, implementing new modes of online giving, and setting up Hartzell as a charitable organization via Kroger Rewards.

(2) The growing age of the church and lack of young people. When asked what population we are not reaching, the typical response was either youth or those under 50. People talked about how our current congregation is aging, we are not reaching new people, and how those we have are not able to do what they used to do. COVID-19 only accelerated this problem. In order to move forward into the future, we will need to find ways to build relationships with people and reach the neighborhood around us. In addition, if we are to reach this demographic, we will need to build ministries they want to attend and be willing to make the sacrifices and changes to actually reach them. The question is: Will we?

(3) Communication. From some this was expressed in terms of a need for a better website. For others in terms of a lack of consistent branding. From others, how people and teams just do their own thing and don't pass on information to those who need to promote it in a timely manner. One even mentioned a need for policies to give us common procedures for how we are going to do this work together.

(4) Sunday School. Due to the impact of COVID-19, only 1 adult Sunday School class remains. This ministry (small groups) need to be rebuilt from the ground up.

Hopes and Dreams

All three of these things were mentioned in nearly every single session.

(1) There is a strong desire to see the church grow and be full again. People want to reach out and reach new people and youth, but they don't know how to do that. They have tried events (fish fry, trunk or treat, egg hunt), but nothing seems to work to actually reach people and grow the church.

(2) There is a strong desire to see us do something (anything really) with that big plot of land outside the church. From an educational wing, to movie nights, things for the youth, a gym, a walking path, lease it out for town houses, a farmer's market, or a senior village, a whole host of ideas was thrown out.

(3) There is a strong desire to have a strong music program in the church again. This was expressed in terms of a strong adult choir, children's choir, and handbell choir. A couple people also mentioned a desire for specials and some contemporary music, but for the most part it is clear that most of the people of this church want a fully traditional service with an occasionally contemporary special. This has been supported by the flood of positive comments that came from putting the doxology back.



Prayer concerns

Violet Adkins – ALS – daughter of Manda Allen

Kathie Bates – foot surgery

Carol Hackney – cancer – sis of Cindy Hackney

Helen Jones – fall – friend of Bob Neu

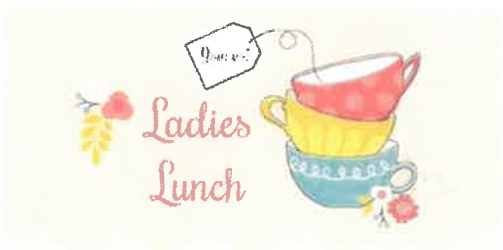
Ray Antoni – fall – Tracy Craft

Mary Pitcairn -severe neck and shoulder pain

SYMPATHY

To the Carolyn Eddy family on her death. Services were Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at Hartzell. She leaves behind 2 sons, Joe and Bob, 2 daughters, Barbara Hopewell and the (late) Nancy Ritter.

Joyce and Sandy classmates of Bill and Sue Watts on their passing.



Calling all women

There will be a luncheon and sharing get together on Sunday, September 19th following worship. Food and drinks provided. Please let Melissa Norris know if you plan to attend, so we know how many to prepare for.

EDUCATION NEWS



Sunday, September 12 will be Promotion Sunday. The children who just completed third grade will be receiving Bibles during Children's moments. Please let Vicki Kelly know if your child did not receive a Bible last year and if they should receive a Bible this year.

The children will begin their new Sunday School classes that day also. After Children's Moments, the children will meet in Fellowship Hall to receive their promotion cards/certificates and to meet their new teachers. After that everyone will go into their new classrooms.

There will be a cookie and punch reception following the Worship Service to recognize the children.



Teachers are always needed and welcomed. Please let Vicki know if you are interested in teaching some amazing children.

You can reach Vicki at 513-324-8137 or Vicki.kelly916@gmail.com.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1. Carol Allen
3. Braylon Dennis
5. Alex Ross
6. Kai Vonhof
8. Max Nordhausen
Sam Patrick
9. Jennie Moses
11. Bill Wade
15. Alazae Resendez
18. Dollie King
19. Doug Nordhausen
Nate Petrosky
20. Hannah Beitzinger
29. Samantha Moses
30. Mike Holtz

Happy Anniversary

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

7. Doug and Michelle Nordhausen
10. Pastor Justin and Melissa Fuhrmann
25. Paul and Carol Toms
Dan and Amanda Waddell

MISSIONS



across the street & around the world

We are on a mission to give back and help where needed. We support many different types and we are sure there is one for you!

FEATURED THIS MONTH: FESTIVAL OF SHARING. We are collecting items for the “kits” listed above. You can fill a complete “kit” or bring any of the items. FOS takes place in September 18th from 9 – noon at Otterbein University in Westerville. All items are on display there for dedication and celebration.

HEALTH KITS

- 1 hand towel (new)
- 1 washcloth (new)
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 nail clipper
- 10 band-aids
- 1 wide tooth comb

SCHOOL KITS

- 3 spiral notebooks
- 1 – 24 count box of crayons
- 1 – blunt edge kid’s scissors
- 1 – pencil sharpener
- 1 – 12” ruler
- 1 – large eraser
- 6 – unsharpened pencils

PLEASE SEE DISPLAY OF “KIT” SAMPLES
IN GATHERING AREA

FLOOD BUCKETS

- 4 – Scouring pads
- 7 – Sponges
- 1 – scrub brush
- 18 – handi wipes
- 1 – 50 oz or 2 – 25 oz liquid detergent
- 1 – 16 oz dish liquid
- 1 – household cleaner (mix with water)
- 48 – 50 clothespins
- 2 – 50 ft. or 1 – 100 ft. clothesline
- 5 – dust masks
- 2 – pair heavy duty dishwashing gloves
- 1 – pair work gloves (cotton with leather palms)
- 1 – bottle non aerosol insect repellent
- 25 – 28 – heavy duty 30-45 gallon trash bags

PLEASE TAKE A LIST FROM THE TABLE OF
ITEMS NEEDED.

FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IS MISSION SUNDAY

PLEASE BRING CANNED GOODS AND NON PERISHABLE ITEMS TO THE ALTAR FOR N.E.E.D.S.

NEEDED ARE INSTANT POTATOES, FRUIT, SPAGHETTI SAUCE, HYGIENE PRODUCTS

HOMELESS NEEDS

NEW SOCKS, GLOVES AND HATS FOR THE HOMELESS

Maslow's Army



Our mission at Maslow's Army is to provide the essential tools needed to become healthy productive members of our community. Through setting and accomplishing goals these men and women are then in the position to reach out to those still battling addiction, alcoholism and mental illnesses.

We at Maslow's Army take a special interest in our veterans and families with children, they are our top priority. Our volunteers work around the clock. Each person is taken through a 5-step process which starts with meeting the basic needs, this allows us to help with their personal securities, relationships, self-esteem and finally self-actualization. Through this peer driven system, those who have once found their situation to be hopeless will come to realize that change is possible.

Typically, every Sunday Maslow's Army hands out free hygiene products to those experiencing homelessness. We are always in desperate need of hygiene items. Soap, shampoo, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and deodorant are some of our major needs. There is a basket on the altar to accept these items

EYE GLASSES – we also accept old eyeglasses/sunglasses and cases for the Lyons Club. There is a container at the Drop Off Center (outside the office).



Currently we are collecting empty pill bottles. They can also go in the Drop Off Center.

We will feature a different mission each month and update other needs as they occur.