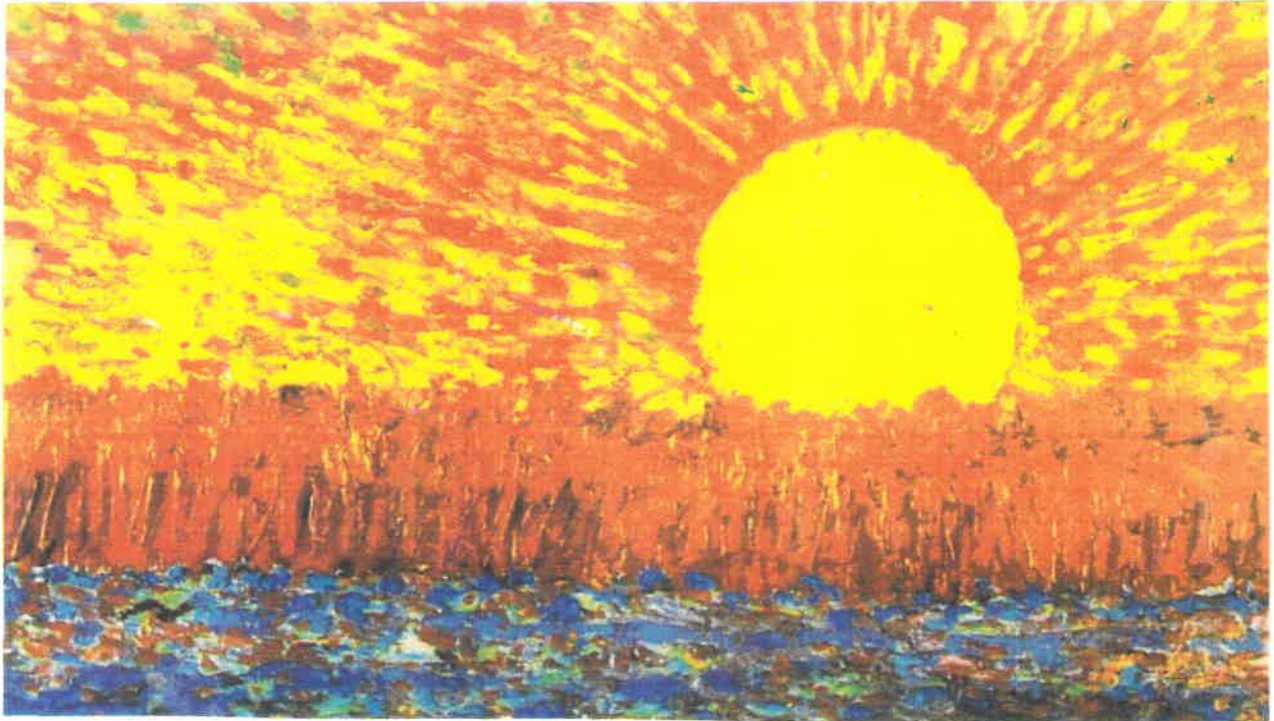


HUM NEWS

HARTZELL UMC MAY 2025



FROM YOUR LEADERSHIP BOARD

April showers bring May flowers, well if that is true, we should have flowers sprouting from every nook and cranny. Flowers! Flowers! Everywhere! I know every single person in our congregation has been caught in an April downpour. We are looking for some sunshine to light our path into spring and summer.

Continued work in the Fellowship Hall. The new logo for Gray't Expectations is a rendition of Van Gogh's The Sower. The sun is a setting sun and that represents the senior center, but the Sower is still sowing seed even under a setting sun and that is exactly what we are doing with our daily activities. Yes, we are an older congregation, but we participate in ministry to our members and friends and the surrounding community and beyond. We offer daily activities for learning and recreation designed to spark our minds and spirits. Harold Dreibelbis has creatively adapted Van Gogh's painting to fit the space for our logo. Three dimensional letters will be

placed over the painting and it will be a dynamic welcoming image for entrance into our Fellowship Hall. Painting has begun on the left side wall and in the kitchen. Artwork by the adults and children will appear regularly along that wall as the work is created. We are making lesson plans and ordering supplies for the Children's Art Program to begin June 13th, We will need a head court to begin. Our activities will be three dimensional this summer and the adults will be assisting the children in these projects. We look forward to an exciting creative summer!

Your LEADERSHIP BOARD continues to take care of our church's business. All ledgers are balanced, in order, and up to date. It is gratifying to hear how the membership is pleased with the direction the board is leading us. Our various projects and ministries are thriving and we thank you for your continued support and prayers. Your feedback has been uplifting
From Your Leadership Board

May

BIRTHDAYS

May 1st: Monica Werden
May 2nd: Joyce Berling
May 3rd: Franky Petrosky
May 4th: Isla Flakne
May 6th: Dan Willmott
May 11th: Andi Penley
May 12th: Melissa Dennis
May 13th: Ken Petrosky
May 17th: Leslie Petrosky
May 23rd: Linda Maegly
May 29th: Dan Timney
May 31st: Lynnsey Craft
May 31st: Amanda Waddell

May

ANNIVERSARIES

Keith and Melissa Norris May 9th
Zack and Terry Riggins May 14th

Thank You!

A gracious and heartfelt thank you to Alice Hughes for providing wonderful uplifting music for the past couple of months. Her talent and dedication have touched our hearts every Sunday. When we asked her to play interim she was happy to do so, but she does not want to do it every Sunday. The flowers on the altar this Communion Sunday are in honor of her time and talents and given with much love.



Family Ministries

From Vicki Kelly, Chair of Family Ministries
and Co-chair of the Leadership Board

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 19th at noon. It was a great time for everyone, including the adults. We had Kona Ice, Pizza, Cookies, Music, and Prizes. Many thanks to everyone who brought in candy, eggs, stuffed the eggs, helped to place eggs outside, made cookies, played music, served pizza, took photos, and showed up to have some fun and fellowship. Many thanks to the Easter Bunny for his special appearance.

Sunday, June 1st is GRADUATION SUNDAY! We will be recognizing the Class of 2025. The following grads are:

- Kalee Knight: Kalee is the daughter of Adam Knight and Jeanette and Scott Denlinger. Her grandparents are Jack and Patty Crane and her brother is Evan. Kalee is graduating from Princeton High School where she plays the viola in the symphonic orchestra, played volleyball and is a member of the National Honor Society. She volunteers through Phi Lambda Pi (an Evendale Youth Organization). She will attend Ohio State University in the fall and explore her major. Kalee has also helped for many years with VBS and has performed in many of our Christmas programs.
- Lauren Black: Lauren is the daughter of Robin and Mark Black and granddaughter of Lynn Dykes and she will be graduating from Scott High School
- Devon Fairbanks, son of Sophie and grandson of Jan Tubbs is graduating from Scarlet Oaks and Deer Park High School
- Jacob Sizemore, grandson of Sandy Ingram is graduating from Ohio University. Page 2

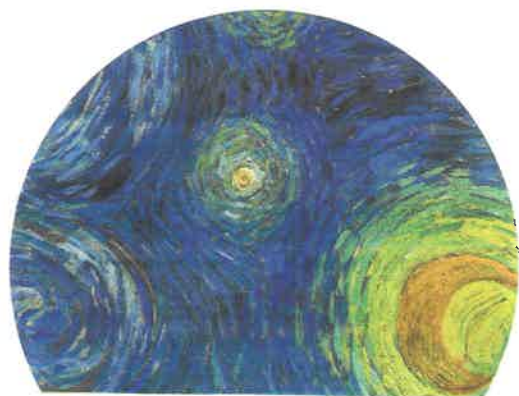
- Wyatt Jessen: Wyatt is the son of Werner and Toby Jessen, grandson of John and Jeanie Shilton and great grandson of Bev Paul. He has a younger brother Cage Jessen. Wyatt is graduating from Little Miami High School where he is a member of the marching band.
- James Dreigon, son of Julie Dreigon, grandson of Marge Freshley will be receiving a Bachelor's Degree in History from the University of Cincinnati.
- We would like to give a shoutout to Ashlyn Fuhrman who is graduating from Harrison High School and will be attending Ball State in the fall.
- Addie Leasure is graduating from Piqua High School and will be attending Ohio State University in the fall.

June 1st is also the day we will recognize the children who have just completed the third grade, and we will be presenting them with Bibles. The children are:

- Will deBord: (also known as Batman) attends Monroe Elementary. Will is the son of Heather and Billy deBord, brother of Kennedy and grandson of Kathie Bates. Will loves to play flag football, baseball, lacrosse, and basketball. He loves to go to Kings Island where he is tall enough to ride all the big rides.
- Rebecca Harvey: Rebecca attends Maple Dale School. She is the daughter of Neurissa Harvey and sister to Timothy and Nathan, Rebecca enjoys swimming and reading.
- Brecken Oram: Brecken attends Madeira Elementary. He is the son of John and Amanda Oram and brother to Park and Holland, and nephew to Vicki Kelly. You can always find Brecken playing volleyball, soccer, baseball, and basketball. He enjoys fishing at Lake Herrington and riding his dirt bike.
- Jacob Waddell: Jacob attends Blue Ash Elementary. He is the son of Dan and Amanda Waddell and brother to Nathan. Jacob loves to play soccer both inside and outside. He has a sweet tooth and enjoys video games and Legos.

During the worship service on June 1st we will honor our children and following communion we will have a reception to celebrate our children. We hope you all will make plans to attend.

On Wednesday, June 25th from 5:30-8:30 PM we will be having FAMILY FUN NIGHT. Honey Hill Farm will be bringing a petting zoo. We will also be having a food truck, ice cream truck, face painting, and balloon animals. This is for all ages. Bring your family and friends for a great time!



MISSIONS

The Missions Committee will meet on Sunday, May 4th following the Worship Service. Missions will have a workday with Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, May 31st. Hartzell is also responsible for the lunch that day as well. See Jeanie Shilton and Lynn Dykes to volunteer.

Jail Ministry meets at church the first Sunday of every month to go to a halfway house or to a correctional facility. They will be going to the Talbert House in May. See Julie Dreigon and Jeanie Shilton for details as to how you may participate.

The second and fourth Wednesday of every month we have a produce drop. Linda Maegly's niece, Lauren, brings produce from the Food Bank to our church. Some of the produce is distributed, some taken to NEEDS, and the rest of it is picked up by LaSoupe. LaSoupe has a tremendous network to supply fresh homemade soups to shelters, ministries, and individuals throughout the city. They also rescue food from grocery stores and restaurants for distribution. We are proud to be part of their network!

Young @ Hartz

Sue Watts, the fearless leader and organizer of the activities for Young @ Hartz has had a pretty rough month and is only now feeling better and almost back to her normal cheery self, but she is not 100%, even though she has begun crafting for the May Salad Luncheon. Details for the luncheon and any Young @ Hartz outing will come by email and the pulpit in the next week, Look for details!



Prayer Requests

- Kathie Bates is recovering from pneumonia and heart related issues
- Debbie Baldwin is settled in to her memory care facility. Sue Watts and Erwin have information about her
- Tom Crowthers is recovering from Jillian Barre Syndrome and has made great strides these past couple of weeks. The doctors say it will take him at least six months to regain his strength, but at present he has returned to swing dancing
- Melissa Norris is recovering from thumb and wrist surgery and should return to work next week. She would like to thank everyone for their cards, calls, texts, and prayers during her surgery and recovery.

- Jackie Phillips continues to have back pain
- Bob Schwarber is scheduled for many tests during the month of May. He is being treated for blood clots in his lungs as well as heart related issues. Please continue to pray for him and Brenda.
- Jack Ward is having heart issues and may need open heart surgery. We will keep you posted.
- Please remember those who are unable to worship with us: Mary Joyce Davenport, Mary DeMember, Flo Patterson and Billie Simpson

















SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Tracy Craft will be attending ordination services this coming weekend in New York. She will be ordained a Deaconess in the United Methodist Church. She has worked hard for this ministry and we congratulate her and wish her much success as she begins a new phase of her ministry. We are praying the Lord will open the perfect door where her gifts, talents, and calling can be used to most benefit his kingdom. Please continue too keep Tracy in your prayers as she studies and travels, Hartzell is her home church and she will be sent out from our midst for good works. We will have a special prayer for her during service this Sunday.












From our Astor



I was sitting alone in the Fellowship Hall on one of the couches. It was dark outside and the lights were off in the church because I was getting ready to leave for the night. I lingered there and began to mull over in my mind all that goes on in our Fellowship Hall every day and every week. I was trying to hear the sounds of the various activities in my mind and trying to be a fly on the wall while the events were happening. I imagined toddlers eating grapes and cheese, Cub Scouts chasing one another before the meeting started, Yoga mats and older women in strange positions on the floor. I also heard the sounds of Dominos when they click and hit one another before the game begins, Being a fly on the wall that sound was not so irritating, but if you are not part of the game and are trying to concentrate on a book, that sound is a rumbling freight train barreling through a stream of consciousness. It is not smart to try to read on Thursday morning, or any morning actually because there is something always taking place, activity is always lively. It is better to listen and observe than to concentrate. Periodically I do sit behind the scenes shielded by a divider and listen to the sounds of life filling our facility. Tuesday mornings I do not observe but participate in discussions that are not debates but "information sharing with a twist." It is not a Bible Study, although spiritual ethics are involved. We gather over good confections or a casserole and try to make sense of our world and its dilemmas.



I cannot speak about Hartzell without speaking about all the talking that goes on around painted tables or designed conversation venues. It is not mindless or idle chatter, but in-depth conversation that is building character and deepening relationships. It is a purpose driven gathering of men and women who refuse to waste away being entertained by a screen of some sort and reach out to one another with a spirit of competition if cards or dominos are involved and a substantial desire for spiritual and mental connection. Making new friendships and deepening old ones takes energy, time, and purpose. We provide a place for all of that and a place to stretch the creative energies and produce a product. Art Class for the young and old is a great way to spend an afternoon. We offer an alternative to monotony and loneliness. Busy hands and minds reaching out to one another and sharing. I love our church. I love the sounds that float through the hallways. Saturday afternoon Alice Hughes practices in the sanctuary and old hymns filter from behind the altar and down into the Gathering Area, It is pleasant and calm. The Spirit is quiet and consuming, signaling all is well in this world and in the next. Sit and muse, drink of cup of coffee or tea, and relish the idea of having a place to belong, celebrate, and expect its gift.

Love to All,
Deborah

