HUMREWS

HARTZELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JUNE 2,025



From the Leadership Board: lune is busting out all over..........

With that being said or sung, your leadership board would like to update you on the following going into the month of June.

SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY, AUGUST 9TH FROM 9:00 AM UNTIL 1:00 PM

The next two months we will be gathering items from the church: fish fryers, fish fry bins, generators, excess items located in the basement, shed, and closets. This is NOT a rummage of garage sale for the congregation's personal items from home, but a sale for church items only. It could be seen as a

Liquidation Sale, but in truth, we are not liquidating, we are streamlining all the items unused and collecting dust and critters and offering them for sale to the public. The congregation will have first dibs on things, but we are counting this sale as a capital gains fund raiser, proceeds to go to the air conditioning needs in the fellowship hall. We have decided to take our ministry in another direction away from the fish fry and onto the senior center component of our ministry so it makes perfect sense to purge our facilities of unused items someone else can find to be of use. More details to come as to how this will roll out in the next month.



Hartzell continues to receive a Food Drop of produce twice a month. From this produce drop, we offer free produce to our community and congregation as well as donating to NEEDS. In addition to NEEDS, we are now donating to a non-profit, LaSoupe. This organization is dedicated to repurposing excess food, by a team of chefs, to feed those experiencing food insecurity. If you wish to read more about LaSoupe's story, you can find their website at

https://www.lasoupe.org.

Thank you <u>Melissa Norris</u> for the purchase and planting of the flowers in the window boxes in the courtyard and the front entrance.

Thanks to Harold Dreibelbis and his sister, Lynn Dennis for leveling and stabilizing the wooden bench under the tree of the community garden / playground area. They have also planted an herb garden just outside the community garden fencing. As soon as the plants have developed more fully, the fresh herbs are available for picking.

Returning to Gray's Expectations June 13th will be KID'S ART, supported by the Adult Art Class. Please register with Rev. Deb so she can prepare materials. We can't wait to see this year's creations.

Christmas in July will kick off Sunday, July 6th. A new and edited version for 2025 will be presented to the congregation prior to that Sunday. We continue to perfect and modify this

important ministry as the needs are made known to us. It is an integral part of our mission ministry and an exciting addition to our summer activities. It just feels good to know we can make a positive difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Thank you, From Your Leadership Board



June Webb, June 1st
Lynda Tolds, June 2nd
Alivia Coffey, June 6th
Brenda Schwarber, June 6th
Terry Ansteatt, June 7th
Joe Bobbitt, June 9th
Kilian Vonhof, June 10th
Adrianna Spurling, June 11th
Debbie Baldwin, June 12th
Rev. Deb, June 14th
Dan Webb, June 20th





ANNIVERSARIES

David & Sharon Sand June 1st, married 51 years!

Bob & Brenda Schwarber lune 11th

Randy and Khris Watts lune 14th

Joe & Nancy Bobbitt June 18th



Sunday, June 1st, the children who just completed the third grade received Bibles. This year we recognized the children who have just completed the third grade, and we presented 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.



The Graduating Class of 2025 was also recognized. They were:

Kalee Knight: Kalee is the daughter of Adam Knight and leanette and Scott Denlinger. Her grandparents are lack 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 Evendale Lambda Pi (an 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.

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 Gage 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 <u>Ashlyn Fuhrman</u> 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.

Carson Alexander: graduated from Fairfield High School and is the grandson of Linda and Orville Toles

Jordan Alexander: graduated from the University of Cincinnati and is the granddaughter of Linda and Orville Toles

Chloe Stewart: graduated from East Central High School and also received an Associates Degree from Ivy Tech. She is the granddaughter of Nancy Meyer.



We will not be having our traditional VBS this summer, but instead we will be hosting a <u>Family Fun Night</u>. This will be on Wednesday, June 25th from 5:30 PM until 8:00 PM. There will be a petting zoo, ice cream truck, food truck, balloon animals, and face painting. Invite your friends, neighbors, and family. This is a free community event for everyone to have fun.

As always, our continued thanks to everyone who supports our children and their activities.



MISSIONS

Mission's first workday with Habitat was Saturday, May 31st. Hartzell provided lunch for the volunteers. Thanks to everyone who helped provide food and drink and to Sandy Ingram and Lynn Dykes for taking the lunch to the site. Missions also contributed \$1000 to Habitat again this year.

NEEDS will continue to be housed at Kenwood Baptist Church and will be open on Tuesday and Thursday to provide food. The drop off place will not be in the back of the church beginning the second week of June. Funding has been cut to this vital community service so we are helping out as we are able, as well as other churches in the area. Vicki Kelly or Linda Maegly are the usual members who drop off our produce the day after we receive it.



LAUNCH will take place on Sunday, August 10th and will be held at Mr. Carmel Baptist Church.

Hartzell members continue to go to Jail Ministry the first Sunday of every month. If you are interested please contact <u>leannie Shilton or Julie Dreigon</u>.





Terry Ansteatt is receiving radiation treatments for skin cancer on his nose. He has also been diagnosed with Macular Degeneration and will be receiving shots in both eyes to help slow down the disease.

Debbie Baldwin is in a memory care facility next to Drake Hospital and she will not be returning to church. Please keep her and Erwin in your prayers as they navigate this difficult time together.

Merry Beckham, Sue Watts' sister suffered a serious stroke and has been slow to recover.

Tom Crowthers has received his recent infusions for Gillian Barre Syndrome. His treatments are ongoing as Gillian Barre is not a curable illness. Page 5







He is recovery very well from his treatments and has begun a new chapter in his life by returning to Swing Dancing!

Dave Dennis continues to have immune issues due to Vexas. Please remember him in your prayers for this is an ongoing disease that requires regular treatments.

Veronica Herrin, nine year old granddaughter of Nancy Herrin has begun treatments for leukemia. Please remember her and her family as they face this stressful time together.

Jackie Howard continues to prepare for back surgery. She is going through the tests and appointments necessary to take this giant step to relieve serious back and leg pain. Please pray for her as she moves forward.

Billie Simpson is homebound with dementia and is being cared for by her sons. Mary Joyce Davenport is unable to worship with us as well as Flo Patterson and Mary DeMember. Please remember these ladies in your prayers.

Jack Ward has relatively sailed through Aortic Valve Replacement. He was in church last Sunday just two weeks from his initial operation. This is indeed a praise report!







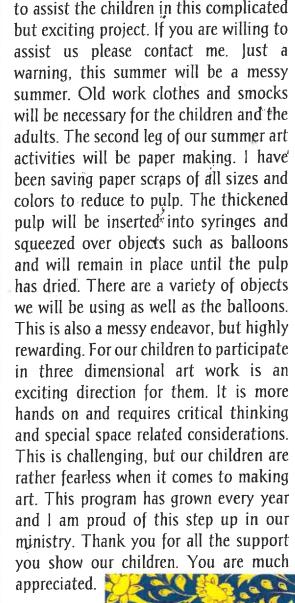


Your newsletter is a few days late because I wanted to be able to report to you the decisions your leadership board made on Tuesday evening. I have requested that you pray for the directions we are taking with the air conditioning in the fellowship hall and with the development of our adjacent acreage. I am pleased to report that your board met for almost three hours Tuesday and decided upon a course of action to deal with the aging and defunct air conditioning system in the fellowship hall. I wrestled with replacing the unit on the roof but that option cost between \$14,000 and \$25,000, and that did not address the aging boiler in the basement. We received three bids and discussed them, but, with all the options available to us we chose to purchase mobile air conditioning units, two units adequately cool the entire fellowship hall area for a cost not to exceed \$10,000. This was a compromise and was decided to be the best option for us at this time, not wanting to incur debt before we made further progress with the County Commissioners and the EPC regarding the ongoing sewer compliance issues. I can assure you that your board has researched our options. Page 6

completed the paperwork necessary, and prepared all the documents to present before the District venture Committee on Development, the EPA, and the County Commissioners. I would like to thank loe Bobbitt for his hours working and innumerable organizing this colossal project. There are so many I's to dot and so many t's to cross and he has prepared a presentation concise, informative, and that is substantial. Howard Dreibelbis Clayton Werner along with Trustee Chair. Melissa Norris researched the bids for the above work and spent countless hours meeting contractors and making reports for us to make our decisions. It was a long meeting, many avenues were discussed, and before we left a decision was made that we all feel is the best decision for our church at this time. Thank you for your prayers and concern. Thank you for your patience and participation. We came together in unity and did what needed to be done and had the best chocolate brownies human kind while we known to deliberated and discussed.

Now onto the Children's Art Program beginning Friday, June 13th at noon. We will be using spray foam to produce sculptures. These figures will be painted and posted on a pedestal for the show at the end of the summer. This project is a very hands on energetic program and will require a great deal of supervision. I would like to thank Nancy Bobbitt, Harold Dreibelbis, Lynn Dennis, Sandy Ingram, and Pat Zartman to volunteering





Our Annual Salad Bar Luncheon was an amazing success. Our fellowship hall was bursting at the seams. The beverages flowed, the food was stellar, the dessert magnificent, the conversation and laughter was abundant. We made \$1800 for the Family Fun Night. Thank you to Sue and friends for their lovely crafts and thank you to everyone who prepared food, served, cleaned up, and participated. It was a great time! Page 7



I will be gone for four days at the end of June for a licensing school required by the conference. This is a must attend seminar. So I will be out of pocket for those four days, to be announced from the pulpit Sunday. I have encouraged by the feed back I have received from the scripture passages, prayers, poems, and requests I have added to the Sunday worship bulletin. Your positive feedback helps minister to you through the week and aids me in the direction you need. Please feel free to suggest other ways I can minister to you throughout the week.

Please know that the Monday morning and Monday evening Bible and book studies, even though they are in full swing, are completely open to anyone who wants to just come and check out what we are discussing and studying. Julie Dreigon has a book study right now and my group in the evening is studying the book of Isaiah, all 66 chapters with notes. You can easily fall right in with us because we recap at the beginning of every session. Both studies periodically take rabbit trails and the discussions vary with the concerns of the people. It is a substantial couple of hours and you are most welcome to take advantage of what we have to offer by way of study.

Tuesday mid morning gathering is lively, diverse, eye opening, and well researched discussion on todays concerns. The topics range and are different every Tuesday, but each time we gather we learn more, feel more engaged in the society in which we live, and it seems to

reduce the fear we have of the future when we voice our concerns and research our problems. This is every Tuesday at 11:00. It is not for the faint of heart, but it is another substantial gathering that grows our spirits and minds, all are welcome.

Harold Dreibelbis is expanding Wednesday Improv. He usually has 6 people participating weekly but has plans to bring in visiting improv artists to liven the atmosphere and broaden the talent. His group is also open for new people interested in exploring their inner actor. A lot of laughter comes from the fellowship hall during this time of fellowship. I think you would enjoy learning about improv and our group is a lively friendly group of people. I have talked enough. I could go on and on about our ministry and I do to about everyone I know. We are blessed to have the safe and comfortable congregation that we have. Thank you for extending yourselves to our visitors and our children. Thank you for your patience with their noise and chaos. Thank you for taking a chance and reaching out to those around you both in church and in. your daily activities. Sometimes we look at the world's problems and our fears for the future and think we have no power to make a difference, but we do have power and we can make a difference by risking and taking the opportunity to reach out to those around us in small but substantial ways. Each gesture, prayer, kind word, or act of generosity furthers the kingdom of God. Thank you for your continual witness. Love to All! Deborah