

BLOOMFIELD

What's Happening in May?



Outreach/Gathering Table

Thank you for 100 bottles of shampoo and conditioner And 2 bottles of detergent in April. Bidwell was amazed and thankful for all of it. During May we will be collecting bar and liquid hand soap and dish soap. Hoping we can collect 100 of these items.

Then during June and July we will collect food again, We will be emphasizing food that children who are home can prepare themselves. More suggestions will be in June newsletter.

Pastor's Column

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

Colossians 1: 15-18 (NIV)

The Lenten Season has passed, and we have celebrated Resurrection Day on Easter Sunday. It is hard to realize how fast the time passed from Ash Wednesday to Easter. I still have some notes on my desk from planning for the Ash Wednesday service.

As a church we have come together for two combined services, we have enjoyed our traditional hymns, seen the various decorations throughout the Lenten Season, and enjoyed special music. It always is a blessing to be able to come together as a church family

and take part in some of the special occasions during this season.

One thing we did not experience this season at either church was an increase in our worship attendance. Both churches have been praying for growth, young families, and younger people willing to step forward and accept some of the leadership roles. Please continue your prayers God hears them and will answer accordingly.

I believe many churches are dealing with similar issues, a decrease in attendance, delayed effects of the pandemic, a lack of volunteers to start up or maintain programs, and a need for younger families to come or return to worship. It may provide some comfort to know our situation is not unique and yet we as followers of Jesus and caretakers of God's church should heed the call to reach out to others.

On Monday, the Sunday after Easter, I was out for my morning walk/run listening to the radio. They had a short entertainment piece on what television writers try to do for long running shows to spice them up and hopefully keep the interest high. Some writers chose to insert a new character into a family, team, or group. Remember the Brady Bunch and Oliver? Other writers introduce guest stars in the role of other characters, or some may even appear as themselves. Are these actions successful? Maybe, but for the most part we are talking about shows that have a life span of less than ten years.

The piece caused me to think. Does the church need to be spiced up? There never seems to be a shortage of suggestions on

what the church needs to do to attract a newer crowd to not only come to church but to take an active part. Music seems to play a big part with debate between contemporary music versus traditional, choirs or praise bands, enhanced sound systems, and I am sure others that I am not aware of right now. Many articles center on the importance of small group programs but there are two things needed for that, interested people and leaders. That can be a real challenge for smaller churches.

What works? If I knew for sure I would write a book. I believe the church has survived to this point and will continue to survive because our message has not changed for close to 2,000 years. We come together as part of the family of God to share, care, and love one another. Our belief in the Risen Christ is the way to salvation, God loves us unconditionally, and Jesus died on the cross that we may be saved.

Maybe the spicing up of the church comes from each of us. A face to face invitation can be all that is needed to bring others to church. Our willing sharing of the Good News can spice up someone else's life. Who doesn't need that now? Let's spice thing up!

Peace be with you,

Pastor Steve

Financial Report

Financial Report for April 2022

Carried into month	
General and Designated fund	\$46,065.91
Monthly Income	\$5,598.60
Monthly Expenses	-\$3,666.89
End of Month Balance	\$48,147.62
Carried into month Building	\$27,840.32
Monthly Income	\$5,005.00
Monthly Payment	-\$6,000.00
End of Month Balance	\$26,845.32

Financial Report for YTD 2022

Carried into 2022	
General and Designated fund	\$52,096.48
Income 2022	\$17,216.11
Expenses 2022	-\$21,448.92
Year to Date Balance	\$48,147.62
Carried into 2022 Building	\$28,349.88
Income 2022	\$13,085.00
Payments 2022	-\$14,478.04
Year to Date Balance	\$26,845.32



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Pat Dotson - May 19
- John Willard - May 19
- Ron Ruth - May 21
- Elise Stevens - May 21
- Jean Newlin - May 24
- Sheila Powell - May 27
- Bob Dillard - May 29
- Sherry Swinton - May 30
- Glenna Krieger - May 31

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

A May Poem

May is the month when flower petals blossom.

On Mother's Day we write a card to tell Mom that she is awesome.

On Memorial Day weekend, we wear red, white, and blue and barbecue.

And we praise the Lord every day for the month of May!

RUMMAGE SALE

Bloomfield UMC is having a sale on Saturday, June 11 th from 9am to 2pm. It is as in the past being held in Fellowship Hall. Our last sale was in 2019, so it is good that we can again have one. You can bring your donations on these dates Sunday, May 29th from 8:30 to 10:30 am and Sunday, June 5th from 8:30am to 10:30am. Then you can also bring them on Wednesday June 8th from 12:15pm to 4:00pm Thursday June 9th from 11:30am to 5:30pm and Friday, June 10th from 12:30pm to 4:30pm. On Sunday, June 5th after church, we would like help setting up the tables against the wall and down the middle of the hall etc., so they will be ready to start having items organized on them. There are also a few items in basement that will need to be brought upstairs. Also, many of the chairs will have to be put away.

You will also find sign up sheets on the round tables to help work on donation days and on day of sale. They will be out on the table on May 22 nd . Think about how you can help this cause. The church council has made the decision that the proceeds will go toward the principal of our mortgage.

Talk to friends and see if they have items to donate also. No furniture please unless it is a small side table or something that can easily be put in a car by one person. No computers also. If you have any questions, ask Esther or Peggy who are co-chairing this event. Esther's phone number is 515-262-1907 and Peggy's is 515-729-9213.