

THE CHIMES

MARCH 2020



CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR

FROM THE LEAD PASTOR

Lent: It's not just for sadness anymore

When I was in high school, I was invited to present at a community Lenten luncheon for our community's ministerial group. The organizers wanted to include some young people as leaders, and since my dad was a pastor, I was an obvious choice, I guess.



I started with a brief history of the practice of Lent (probably mostly inaccurate). I named some of the hymns of our tradition we sing at that time of year (mostly in a minor key, tonally and emotionally) and offered a summary of the themes associated with the liturgical season: self-denial, sacrifice, and confession. Then I made a confession of my own: "I hate Lent."

Thankfully, my attitude toward Lent has improved. As I've gotten older and grown more in my faith, I've come to see the season of penitence, fasting, and alms-giving as an important part of discipleship. And I have also discovered my need for the quiet contemplation this season brings.

We love the feast days like Christmas Eve, Easter, and Pentecost. We exude plenty of positive energy throughout the year, encouraging one another in our lives of discipleship and reaching for a greater impact on our communities and our world. But we need to tend to the shadow work of our faith, too: confession, honesty, facing our past and present struggles, healing, surrender.

But that doesn't mean we have to mope around with sad faces throughout Lent. In fact, Jesus tells us to "clean ourselves up" (my translation) when we fast. Here's the thing: doing the shadow work helps us truly understand God's incredible gift of grace, which frees us to experience real and lasting joy in our life together.

So let's embrace the season of Lent. We might even find that we love it.

-Rev. Andy Call

LENTEN MIDDAY PRAYER AND EUCHARIST

Wednesdays during Lent
March 4 through April 8
12:05pm in Myers Chapel



LENT SERMON SERIES: Virtues & Vices

The seven deadly sins have become part of our cultural lore, but they're often treated more as a punchline than a caution in our society. Lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath, envy, and pride are part of the human condition, the sinful nature that keeps us from fullness of relationship with God and others. This Lent, we will look more closely at these vices and their corresponding virtues – the God-given antidotes for sin – as we seek to live more faithfully as the people God made us to be.

March 1 - Temperance/Gluttony (Galatians 5:16-25)

March 8 - Charity/Greed (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

March 15 - Diligence/Sloth (Philippians 2:12-15)
UMW SUNDAY

March 22 - Kindness/Envy (James 5:13-18)

March 29 - Humility/Pride (Luke 14:7-11)

Worship Services

8:30 a.m. Myers Chapel
9:30 a.m. Great Hall
11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

TAIZÉ WORSHIP

Join us in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, March 4 at 7 p.m. for a candlelight worship service of prayer, meditation, and reflection.

LENTEN MIDDAY PRAYER & EUCHARIST

Sometimes we arrive at the middle of our week and need centering. Join us on Wednesdays, March 4 – April 8, at 12:05 p.m. in Myers Chapel for prayer, music, and Holy Communion. The service will last about 25-30 minutes.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S SUNDAY IS MARCH 15

Our guest preacher for this year's UMW Sunday is the Rev. April Casperson, Director of Diversity and Inclusion for the West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church. She is an ordained deacon passionate about diversity and inclusion, vocational discernment, and the organizations and systems that recruit, educate and equip leaders for thoughtful, intentional ministry. Rev. Casperson previously served as Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Methodist Theological School in Ohio. She is one of the brightest spots in The United Methodist Church today and we are grateful for the opportunity to welcome her to Church of the Saviour.

HANDS-ON MISSION WORK DAY

UMW invites you to participate in our Fellowship and Hands-On Mission Work Day on Tuesday, March 10 in Calvary Hall, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. (*come when you can*) We will support the following local and international organizations on our Work Day:

- ⇒ **UMC Midwest Mission Distribution Center** - assemble birthing kits, hem flannel for baby blankets, knit infant sweaters
- ⇒ **Days for Girls** - cut, sew, assemble kits for feminine hygiene to "Keep Girls in School"
- ⇒ **Boomerang Bags** - sew fabric bags to replace one-time use plastic ones
- ⇒ **COTS Prayer Shawl Ministry** - crochet or knit Prayer Shawls

Everyone should bring a heart to serve, fabric scissors, and straight pins. Sewers should bring their machines, extension cords, and dark thread. Join us as we participate in our mission to serve women, children, youth, and the environment. Please call the office at 216-321-8880 to make a reservation for lunch (\$5). If you have questions, contact Kevin Schaner at schanerkevin@gmail.com.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Due to your faithfulness, every Saturday during the Upward Basketball season, more than 900 people walk through the open doors at COTS and get to hear and share in the gospel of Jesus Christ. During the winter in Cleveland, there is no happier place on earth than the Great Hall on Saturday.

	January 2020		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$90,274	\$105,761	-\$15,487
Expenses	\$113,004	\$128,785	\$15,781
Net Income (Loss)	-\$22,730	-\$23,024	\$294

Because our monthly Budgeted Income is basically flat across the year, it is not unexpected to see Actual Income lower than what was budgeted in January. The good news is, Income for this January is about \$7,000 higher than last year.

Joe Hicks, Finance Chair
Localjoes216@gmail.com



Celebrating Black History Month: Photos from the Great Hall afternoon worship service, followed by a reception and fellowship.



SOUL SHOP: A WORKSHOP FOR CONGREGATIONS

Saturday, March 7 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Have you wondered how to build faith communities able to engage in safe conversations about suicide? This training will help congregational members and volunteers of **ALL** ages, staff, ministry teams and leaders.

- Become familiar with incidence and impact of suicidal desperation on adults and youth in your community;
- Learn a simple, life-saving method of conversation with someone affected by suicidal desperation; and
- Develop confidence in your skills to make a difference.

Your leader, Rev. Robin Craig, is the Transitional Pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (and a former member of Church of the Saviour). Personally affected by suicide loss, Pastor Robin has done mental health advocacy work at national and state levels, and has been trained in ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) and as a leader for Soul Shop for Congregations.

Register for this informative and practical workshop in the office at 216-321-8880 or email office@cotsumc.org.

GROUP LIFE OPPORTUNITIES

"Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World" by Henri Nouwen is the all-church Lenten study book. When Nouwen was asked by a secular Jewish friend to explain his faith in simple language, he responded with his greatest legacy, "Life of the Beloved," which shows that all people, believers and nonbelievers, are beloved by God unconditionally. This sincere testimony of the power and invitation of Christ is indeed a great guide to a truly uplifting spiritual life in today's world. Sunday School classes and Bible study groups are encouraged to study this book - discussion questions will be provided.

Rev. Amanda Moseng will lead two studies on "Life of the Beloved" - beginning March 4 on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. and during the Thursday evening Women's Bible Study at 5:30 p.m.

Brian Smart will lead a study of this book during Man Talk on Thursday evenings from 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Rev. Gregory Kendrick, Jr., and Rev. Lois Annich will lead a study of the book "I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness" by Austin Channing Brown. The group will meet on Thursdays beginning February 27 from 6:45 - 8:15 p.m. in room 100. Deepening our awareness of the impact of racism on our common life and learning new ways of interacting with one another is part of our commitment to "act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God." The first session will be an introduction to the general themes of the book so people need not have read it. We will have books to purchase at the first session or in the church office for \$17.

Since you will already be coming to church on Thursday nights, plan to join your fellow COTS members and friends for a Community Dinner from 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. in Calvary Hall. Delicious food will be available for a \$5 at-will/able offering. For information about the Thursday evening fellowship dinners, please contact Laura Moseley, Director of Children's Ministries, at lmoseley@cotsumc.org.

Dyann Whaley, Group Life Ministries Chair

JOIN A BOOK STUDY

"Life of the Beloved"

Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Rev. Amanda Moseng, room 100

Thursday

9:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study Group, room 121

5:30 p.m. Rev. Amanda Moseng/Women's Bible Study Group, Parlor

7:30 p.m. Brian Smart/Man Talk, room 121

Saturday

8:15 a.m. Spiritual Fitness, room 121

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Seekers Class, room 228

9:30 a.m. Kingsley Class (March 1 and 8), Bethel room

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Disciples Class, room 161

"I'm Still Here"

Thursday

6:45 p.m. Rev. Gregory Kendrick, Jr. and Rev. Lois Annich, room 100



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Chili Cook-Off Winners

1st Place: Andy Call

2nd Place: Paul Schroeder

3rd Place: Lucy Campbell & Leslie Yost

Most unique/unusual: Eric Lewis



NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Interested in becoming a member of Church of the Saviour? Join us for **Discover COTS** on Sunday, March 8 for a brief, informal meet-and-greet session at 10:30 a.m. in the back of the Great Hall or at noon in Room 100, across from the COTS Café.

For those interested in joining our church, the next membership class called **Ignite COTS** will be held on Sunday, March 29 from 3 - 5 p.m. in the Parlor. Please RSVP and request childcare by calling the church office at 216-321-8880 or email_office@cotsumc.org.



CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR STAFF

Andy Call, Lead Pastor
Gregory Kendrick, Jr., Pastor of Connections
Lois Annich, Pastor of Care Ministries
Amanda Moseng, Pastor of Discipleship
Jennifer Call, Children's Choir Director
Curt Campbell, Director of Youth Ministries
Robert Campbell, Resident
Charles Cotton, Creative Director of 9:30 Worship
Loretta Dahlstrom, Business Administrator
Robert Day, Organist
David Gilson, Director of Music
Cris Hicks, Administrative Assistant
Debbie Johnson, Administrative Assistant, Chimes Editor
Laura Moseley, Director of Children's Ministries
Leslie Myers, Wedding Coordinator
Jill Phillips, 9:30 Worship Leader
Graham Rosen, Production Team Leader
Brian Smart, 9:30 Worship Leader, Gospel Choir Director
Virginia Steiger, Handbell Coordinator
Tarah Taylor, Director of Operations
Dr. Charles D. Yoost, Pastor Emeritus

WEBSITE AND PODCASTING: cotsumc.org

UPCOMING CHIMES DEADLINES

chimeseditor@cotsumc.org

Deadline	Emailed to you
March 20	March 31
April 17	April 28
May 15	May 26

GLOBAL MISSIONS

Last month the Global Missions Committee became aware of the plight of three men who were fleeing violence in the African country of Burkina Faso. The men's village was attacked, their homes were burned, and they each lost several family members. The men were able to travel to the US border, where they requested asylum, and were taken into ICE custody. They were held at a detention facility in Youngstown and an Immigration Judge set a bond of \$15,000 each. A local refugee assistance organization was able to raise \$42,000 for the men's bond, but still needed to raise the final \$3,000. Working with the Church of the Saviour Foundation, Global Missions was able to provide the remaining money to release the men and they are now living at a local church and adjusting to their new lives. Visit our website under Global Missions or [click here](#) to read a letter from the organization that coordinated the men's release. Thank you to everyone in the COTS family. Your support for our mission work makes it possible share God's love with our neighbors.

SENIOR CONNECTIONS VALENTINE LUNCH



EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 4

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday - Sunday, April 5
Maundy Thursday - Thursday, April 9
Good Friday - Friday, April 10
Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 11
Easter - Sunday, April 12

More details in the April Chimes issue.