

THE CHIMES

Summer 2020



CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR



FROM THE LEAD PASTOR

Since 2019, Rev. Lois Annich has served as Pastor of Care Ministries. She extended her time into 2020 at my request, but is committed to a timeline of ending that role June 30. While we would love to have her continue, we also joyfully celebrate what she is called to do next. I sat down with Lois recently to invite her to share some reflections on her time here.

You've been serving in the role of Pastor of Care Ministries for the last year and a half, but you've been part of the community for many years and connected to Church of the Saviour dating back to the tenure of Dr. Leonard Budd.

I came to Church of the Saviour over 30 years ago when it became a satellite site for The Samaritan Counseling Center, a pastoral counseling agency whose local headquarters was in Lakewood. Although the center closed, Leonard Budd remained committed to the vision of a pastoral counseling practice on site at COTS. Charlie Yoost was also very supportive of that vision, as were Judy Claycomb and you. When you (Andy) asked me to take on additional responsibilities as Pastor of Care Ministries I was delighted to combine counseling with preaching, teaching, visitation, and program development.

The ministry that was most critical when you started in this role was growing our Congregational Care Ministry. How did that ministry grow? Sue Petre and I were trained by a Methodist pastor who has developed a similar program in two other congregations. We took the handoff from Gwen Biggins and Barbara SilverSmith who started the program here. We recruited, trained, and provided ongoing support to our Congregational Care Ministers, and they've done an incredible job of visiting and caring for people in hospitals, nursing homes, and rehab centers. Sue has been an inspiring partner. The Congregational Care Ministers and care receivers will attest to how hard-working, compassionate, and creative she is.

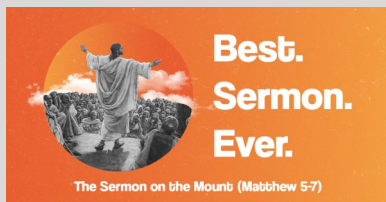


I've heard over and over again how much your presence has meant to people in our congregation. What are some of the things you'll miss from day-to-day ministry here? I'll miss a lot--preaching and participating in worship; visiting people in their homes, hospitals and nursing homes; organizing and leading groups; sharing deep theologically rich conversations with the other three pastors and lay leaders; and enjoying laughter, fun and fellowship with many people here.

I'm so grateful for your leadership and for our collegial relationship. We've joked about how hard I've tried to talk you out of your decision. But this is a joyful transition for you that we want to celebrate. What's next for you? I'm stepping away from my role as Pastor of Care Ministries to simplify and focus. I'm a trained and certified life/leadership coach and I believe God is calling me to focus my energies on coaching right now. I bring a lot of life experience and love helping people of various ages and stages discover the possibilities God wants for them. I also feel called to spend more time with my retired husband and the flexibility of a coaching schedule will provide that. You can learn more about my coaching at www.loisannich.com.

(continued on back page)

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES



Worship continues as a live-streaming option until stay-at-home restrictions are lifted and we have a safe distancing plan in place.

Live-stream of worship is at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday morning, and there are options for you to choose from to watch:

cotsumc.org/live-stream

[Facebook Live](#)

[YouTube](#)

June 7 Trinity Sunday (Matthew 28:16-20)

June 14 - July 19: Best. Sermon. Ever.

June 14 Earthly Treasures (Matthew 6:19-24)

June 21 Anxiety (Matthew 6:25-34)

June 28 Pearls before Swine (Matthew 7:6)

July 5 Asking and Receiving (Matthew 7:7-12)

July 12 Choose Wisely (Matthew 7:13-23)

July 19 Building Well (Matthew 7:24-27)

July 26 - August 30: Breathing Under Water

July 26 Powerlessness and Surrender (Romans 7:15, Isaiah 55:1-3a)

August 2 Honesty and Accountability (1 John 1:5-9)

August 9 Letting Go and Letting God (Romans 9:16, Psalm 51:1-3)

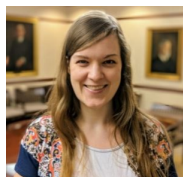
August 16 Making Amends (Matthew 5:23-24, Romans 2:1)

August 23 Staying the Course (John 21:15-17)

August 30 Sacred Bonds (Psalm 46:10, Isaiah 38:16-17, 19)

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Our annual Christmas in July fundraiser returns this year, with some modifications. (Last year we raised more than \$16,000 which directly supports the operations of the church.) This year, the event will be entirely online, and the focus will be on those expenses which have permitted COTS to worship, learn and serve during these unprecedented times. Watch the eChimes for more information.



THANK YOU COTS FOUNDATION

Thanks to support from the Church of the Saviour Foundation, Rev. Amanda Moseng will continue in her role as Pastor of Discipleship through the remainder of 2020.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

According to the "State of the Plate" survey that was released on April 22, two-thirds of churches surveyed have seen a decline in giving with many down more than 30%. Only 8% of churches reported an increase in giving and **COTS is in this elite 8!** As of the end of April, COTS has seen a \$22,000 (6%) increase in giving over last year. What is equally exciting is we have been able to share our blessing with many others who have struggled during the pandemic.

	YTD April 2020		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$410,655	\$423,630	-\$12,975
Expenses	\$422,006	\$473,702	\$51,696
Net Income (Loss)	-\$11,351	-\$50,072	\$38,721

Year-to-date April expenses are below budget by over \$50,000. Much of the variance can be explained by timing and from the reduced costs associated with the temporary closing of the building.

Joe Hicks, Finance Chair
Localjoe216@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2020!



Will Balding
 Orange High School
 College of Wooster: Biology



Daniel Farkas
 Shaker Heights High School
 Butler University: Marketing



Kaiya Billingsley
 St. Martin de Porres High School
 Cuyahoga Community College: Biology



Caitlin Bocks
 Shaker Heights High School
 University of Michigan: Biomolecular Science



Jack Johannessen
 St. Ignatius High School
 Denison University:
 Pre-Engineering & Jazz Piano



Logan Kovalck
 Cleveland Heights High School
 Akron University: Exercise Science



Anna Donsky
 Beaumont School
 The Ohio State University: Undecided



Kate Evans
 Orange High School
 The Ohio State University: Environmental
 Sustainability & Conservation



Sophie Popovich
 Laurel School
 The Ohio State University: Biochemistry

THE CHALLENGES OF CARING DURING CRISIS



(AP Photo/Jean-Francois Badias, File)

Even a decade into the descent called Alzheimer's, Dad knows his life story, loves his family, and remains interested in his birthday. We convened a family gathering on Zoom to mark his 89th, hoping the virtual connection would spark recognition of his family's devotion. Looking at the tiled images of family along with Dad and the masked activities director of his nursing home in Rochester, NY, I winced as I thought: "I hope this is not the last birthday I ever celebrate with Dad."

We laughed, sang Happy Birthday, and asked Dad about his cards and gift. He never spoke. He rarely looked in the direction of the screen. His eyes closed. His mouth dropped open. His dignity had drained away long ago and it seemed like I was watching water slowly drain out of a sink. Dad has been dissolving into unseen pieces for years. I never imagined that a national health crisis would leave me to wonder: "Will I see him alive again?"

Visits have long been bittersweet for me. But the feeling of helplessness was compounded by the emptiness of a virtual birthday party. Alzheimer's is beyond cruel by itself. To be denied the simple joy of a birthday party leaves me asking "Why? This can't be. Why are Dad's loved ones denied? Where are you, Father!?"

Linda's father suffered a mild stroke in February. Now with the virus closing access to his facility, Linda struggles daily to engage him in speech and physical therapy exercises via Skype. He routinely hangs up, changes the settings, or eliminates contacts on his borrowed iPad. After hours of attempts to assist virtually, she turns to working on his finances, taxes, and medical bills. "I feel like I'm drowning" she says.

The stinging irony of our both being blocked from seeing our diminished fathers is crushing. Every day I ask God to accompany me on this journey. Knocked to my knees I can only look up and remember that "my times are in your hands."

Steve Merriam

FROM SEEDS TO BLOOMS

Graban Family Assembly Line



Matt, Miki, Luke, Anna Kate, and Madeline Graban took the initiative to offer encouragement to several folks in our congregation by assembling spring boxes: a simple DIY garden kit. They hope the kit will provide a nice distraction from being quarantined as members watch their seeds grow into beautiful flowers. Luke, Conor Richards and David Verhage delivered the boxes.

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH COTS FRIENDS FROM AFAR

Fred and I are staying in Arizona until the virus is no longer a threat. We are doing well, and particularly enjoy checking in with the church on our devices. We routinely Zoom with Kingsley Class on Tuesdays, (we've been members since 1968!), and listen to our pastors' messages as they connect with us each week. It is very comforting to hear their voices. David Gilson has sent several encouraging messages to choir members, and hearing the music is very uplifting.

We are located in Sedona, in Yavapai County, where there have been 177 confirmed cases and two deaths, as of May 11. We feel fortunate to have a comfortable home with an amazing view. Since we are looking a little shaggy, I sent a picture of our view instead of a picture of us. We go to the grocery store infrequently, always masked and gloved. There are no group activities to participate in, so we are mostly at our home.



We hope this finds all of you well and dealing with our shared situation. We feel that we are blessed, with a home, food, church and family that keeps in touch. May you be blessed, as well.

Mary Lou and Fred Sykora

UMW FLEA MARKET SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE



United Methodist Women had to cancel the Spring Flea Market. At this time we are not sure what is going to happen with the Fall Flea Market. As things change around the Covid-19 pandemic we will make the appropriate decisions about the Fall Flea Market. We ask that you keep saving your best fleas as we eventually will have a very robust sale.

In June each year the United Methodist Women have a Memorial Service to recognize the women who have died in the past program year. Due to the closure of the church to all activities, we have had to cancel the service this year. Our June newsletter is being devoted to honoring these women who have entered their eternal home. The women we are honoring this year are: Rosemary Dabson, Martha Manning, Lenke Treible, Leo Skidmore, Bess Ficken, Alice Schueneman, Christine Norman, and Gretchen Satz.

I invite you to share your memories of these women by sending a note to Connie Carihfield, President UMW, ccarihfield@sbcglobal.net or to 5665 Grace Woods Dr., Unit 216, Willoughby Ohio 44094. We will share your memories in future UMW Newsletters.

COVID-19 CLOSURE UPDATE

At the time of this publication, Church of the Saviour remains closed to normal activities. A Task Group on Reopening has been appointed by Rev. Call to determine guidelines for phased reopening and benchmarks we need to meet in order to move through the phases. Our highest priority is the health and safety of those with whom we are called to be in ministry. As this remains a fluid situation, information will be shared with the congregation as it becomes available through our website, email, social media, and direct mailings. Thank you for your prayers and support as we make our way through uncertain time, trusting in God's presence and guidance to lead us.



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; Kris 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

Our **CHURCH**
family

- * In memoriam: Stephen Harris (May 16, 2020)
- * Virginia Dunkelberg's daughter, Ruby, died on April 25. Marilyn Meadows is Virginia's sister and Ruby's Aunt.
- * Leta Hickey's father, Tom Houston, died on Sunday, May 3.
- * Schen Griest's grandmother, Irene Bass, died on May 4.
- * Joan Angle's mother, Delores Zink, died on May 18.

The collage consists of 20 images arranged in a grid-like fashion, comparing famous artworks with their real-life inspirations. The images are as follows:

- Top Row:**
 - Left: Frida Kahlo's self-portrait with a flower in her hair.
 - Middle: A woman in a black hat and striped shirt, holding a small object.
 - Right: A painting of a person lying on a wooden floor, wearing a pink shirt and a hat.
- Second Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a man in a blue uniform and a woman in a white uniform.
 - Middle: A painting of a man in a blue uniform and a woman in a white uniform.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.
- Third Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Middle: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.
- Fourth Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Middle: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.
- Fifth Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Middle: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.
- Sixth Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Middle: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.
- Seventh Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Middle: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.
- Eighth Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Middle: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.
- Ninth Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Middle: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.
- Tenth Row:**
 - Left: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Middle: A painting of a woman in a black dress, standing next to a table.
 - Right: A painting of a woman's face, looking upwards.

I hope people listened to your sermon (April 26) about John Wesley's teachings on vital piety and social holiness. My hopes and prayers are that this church will be a place where people learn and grow deeply in both those dimensions. The two are inextricably linked! The world is beset by fear, racism, bigotry, and division of every kind. As we are nurtured by God's grace we will have the guidance and strength to reach out to the world with healing love. And as we reach outward we will be drawn back into the center of God's love for us. As we used to say in the last church I served, it's "Journey Inward/Journey Outward!" May Church of the Saviour continue on that journey with joy!