

# The Beat Newsletter

"Love Works Here"

May

2020



It has now been eight weeks since we have worshiped together in our sanctuary. I had to check the calendar to be sure as it seems like it has been eight months! Even so, I am thankful for the way our church family has responded during this unprecedented time in history. We have rediscovered the power of prayer, we have discovered new ways to praise God together as a church and we have embraced the importance of remaining faithful to God and each other. We have also been reminded of the fragility of the gift of human life. We grieve with those who have lost loved ones and rejoice with those who have been blessed with healing.

The good news is that the church is not closed! Technology and the internet have provided the means for us to continue with many vital functions of the church. Our recorded worship services are reaching new people, perhaps even some who would not consider joining us in person. God is in the resurrection business, and e-worship may be one way to bring new life to the church. The convenience and comfort of worshiping in the comfort and privacy of our home is an attractive thing for those with computers and smartphones. Families with small children and those without transportation find it especially appealing. As we continue to seek new ways to reach new people at Millcreek, technology will continue be one of our great partners! Even so, we must not allow the ease and comfort of point and click e-worship to become a substitute for traditional worship. As popular as they are becoming, so-called "digital" churches, churches without a place for her members to gather and worship in person, look more like a website than the body of Christ. Our challenge will be integrating the sacred and historical teachings of the church with a new generation of people seeking a relationship with Jesus.

The fact is that challenges and storms remain a part of life and a part of the church. Remember that God ultimately is the source of all of them. How we choose to recognize and handle them determine how we see ourselves and how others will see us. I pray we will reflect the face of Jesus, even if we look more like a spring dandelion than a pastel colored tulip. Remember that a dandelion can bring joy when picked and sincerely given to someone in love. During this most blessed and exciting season of the year, allow the colors and smells of spring to remind us of new life and new opportunities to grow closer to Him.

Let us stay blessed as we do! Pastor Greg

**MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

**Sunday's 10 am and Wednesday's 10:30 am at Lockwood Campus**

**All information for next months Newsletter is to be submitted no later than the 15th of each month by emailing to [info@millcreek.church](mailto:info@millcreek.church). Please state "NEWSLETTER" in the Subject line.**

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**May 1** - May Day & Friendship Day

**May 3** - Fourth Sunday of Easter

**May 5** - Cinco de Mayo

**May 6** - Nurse's Day

**May 7** - National Day of Prayer

**May 10** - Fifth Sunday of Easter, **MOTHER's Day**

**May 16** - Armed Forces Day

**May 17** - Sixth Sunday of Easter

**May 18** - Victoria Day

**May 21** - Ascension Day

**May 24** - Ascension Sunday, Last Sunday of Easter, Heritage Sunday & Aldersgate

**May 25** - Memorial Day (Observed) - Office Closed

**May 30** - Memorial Day (Traditional)

**May 31** - Pentecost

**The Mahoning Valley District  
SPRING CONFERENCE**  
has been suspended until it is  
safe to gather in person again.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES

(Please make these changes to your copy of the Directory)

Ruth Alli	330-261-0782
Florence Marsteller	Rm. 1319
Elizabeth Penn	sister.epenn@gmail.com
Penny Wells	pennywells@sbcglobal.net
Judy Williams	4843 Westchester Drive, Apt. 213, Youngstown, OH 44515
Ruby Kuhns	Deceased 3/28/2020
Gert Roche	Deceased 4/2/2020
Doris Neal	Deceased 4/14/2020

**IMPORTANT NOTICE - Due to world-wide concern over the Covid-19 Coronavirus, General Conference 2020 has been POSTPONED until 2021. Please watch the East Ohio Conference E-News for new dates and other information . . .** <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/general-conference-to-move-to-2021>

**In addition, all US Jurisdictional Conferences for 2020 are postponed.** Once the dates for the General Conference are finalized, the Council of Bishops will set the date for the Jurisdictional Conference. The plan is for the Commission on General Conference and the Council of Bishops to release a combined announcement of both dates in the very near future.”

Check our website at [www.millcreek.church](http://www.millcreek.church) for updates regarding services and other happenings at the church.

**MAY BIRTHDAY'S**

4th - Elijah Ehret  
8th - Bill Hawkins  
10th - David Whitacre  
11th - Benny Ferone  
13th - Gert Marinelli

16th - Irene Wagner  
21st - Krishawn Shaw  
22nd - Debbie Myers  
25th - Barbara Yonnotti  
31st - Cindy Kramer & Ronald Stauffer Jr.

**IN OUR THOUGHTS  
AND PRAYERS**

Barry Ervin  
Georgia Witt  
Gordon & Rose Milliken  
Irene Wagner  
Louise & Steve Easter  
Marge Whitacre  
Muggs Ashbaugh  
P. Mae White  
Pat Charity & Clara Charity  
Penny Hiller & family  
Ray Mercado & Family  
Ron Miller  
Ruth Mattern (Penny's Sister-in-Law)  
Terry (Dawn Crosby's Brother)  
Tracy (Henry's Step-Sister)  
Verna Wylie  
Vicky LaCivita (Pam Boston's Sister)  
Woody Anderson

**Overeaters Anonymous**  
Will be meeting on Monday's  
from 6 pm -7 pm  
in the Parlor.

*Nursing Home*

**SICK AND SHUT-IN LIST**

Gloria Finkley (shut-in)

Juanita Pasley (shut-in)

John & Dorothy Kaglic - c/o Omni Manor,  
3245 Vestal Road, Youngstown, OH 44509

Florence Marsteller - c/o Hampton Woods,  
1525 E. Western Reserve Rd., # 1309,  
Poland, OH 44514

Esther McClain - c/o Shepherd of the  
Woods, 1500 McKinley Ave., Niles, OH  
44446

Doris Neal - c/o Arbor at Fairlawn,  
5755 S. Cleveland-Massillon Rd., Fairlawn,  
OH 44333

Gertrude Roche - c/o The Inn At Christine  
Valley, 3150 S. Schenley Ave., Youngstown,  
OH 44511



**TO OUR GRADUATING CLASSES OF 2020**

"This is supposed to be your year. This was THE year that your entire schooling was building up to. But it was robbed from you because of this global pandemic. Let's be abundantly clear – you were robbed, and it's unfair. If you're upset, then you should embrace those feelings. Commiserate with one another.

"There is a lot of uncertainty, but districts across the nation are working in creative ways, from abbreviated school years to organizing social events when this subsides, to make this situation the best they possibly can for you. We are all in crisis mode but know that we are all doing everything we can to help during this tumultuous time. You are not forgotten. We are thinking about you. We are here for you. We care.

"There's nothing anyone can say to make up for the time you are losing in what is supposed to be one of the best years of your life. Keep your head up and keep fighting. Our country needs you because you provide hope for our future. This year may not be what you envisioned, but we are all eager to see what you do with it.

**TO OUR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS - CLASS OF 2020**

"You were born when the world was grieving over 9/11.

"You are graduating as the world grieves a pandemic.

"Although your w biggest launches into freedom (birth and graduation) have taken place in the midst of tragedies ...

"Just know that the world is an amazing, loving, beautiful place. It is waiting for you with open arms.

"We grieve with you that your senior year is ending this way.

"But we can't wait to see how you overcome this and soar.

## **Prayers For Those Affected by the Coronavirus**

A new coronavirus disease is spreading rapidly around the world, officially declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11. More than 741,000 people have been infected and the death toll is over 35,100 people. The numbers are increasing daily, and the disease has impacted at least 175 countries.

As Christians, we turn to God in times of fear and uncertainty as we do in times of joy and celebration. Please join us as we pray for God's heart of love, mercy, and truth to dwell in us and show us how to face the challenges posed by the new coronavirus.

### **Pray for people who are infected with COVID-19 or facing quarantine.**

*Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses.*

*Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them.*

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.—*Philippians 4:6 (NIV)*

### **Pray for people at higher risk of developing the disease.**

*Dear Lord, we lift to You our concern for people who are more likely than others to become severely ill from COVID-19 — the elderly and people with chronic health conditions. Protect them from harm and be their comfort in this time of uncertainty and, for many, preventive isolation from loved ones.*

### **Pray for medical professionals, caregivers, and researchers responsible for fighting the new coronavirus.**

*God, as more people get sick, healthcare workers and first responders are working longer hours with fewer supplies and with more risk of contracting the new coronavirus themselves. Renew their energy and sustain them on long shifts. Bring Your protection upon them as they work with patients. Multiply their supplies so they have the protective items needed to stay safe on the job.*

*Inspire and invigorate the research doctors developing better tests to diagnose the virus, create vaccines to prevent it, and identify protocols to eliminate the disease's spread.*

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.—*Psalms 23:4 (NIV)*

### **Pray for leaders responsible for making decisions about the new coronavirus.**

*Father, we seek Your wisdom daily. Be with people making decisions that affect the lives and futures of our families, communities, countries, and the wider world. We pray that they communicate clearly, truthfully, and calmly — with each other and with the public — and that their messages are received and heeded. May truth and empathy be the touchstones of people setting policies for our protection.*

He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers ...—*2 Corinthians 1:10-11 (NIV)*

**Our sincere condolences to the families of Gert Roche,  
Doris Neal and Dorothy Kaglic on their passing.**

## Prayers For Those Affected by the Coronavirus

### Pray for families adjusting to new ways of life.

*Holy Spirit, as families adjust to everyone being home as businesses and schools close, we ask that You guide people in their new realities. Give spouses grace for each other. Prompt worn-out parents to speak words of kindness and encouragement to their children. Help children find creative ways to experience the beauty of all You have created and continue learning.*

Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.—*Psalm 57:1 (NIV)*

### Pray for business owners and families facing financial stress.

*Jesus, we thank You for Your faithfulness in how you have guided and equipped people in their jobs and have provided in the past. It can be scary and overwhelming not knowing how bills and obligations will be met or to not be able to provide for families. As people feel financial strain during the uncertainty, bring them comfort and peace, reminding them that You are there for them. Provide for them in their times of need.*

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.—*John 14:27 (NIV)*

### Pray for the disease to stop spreading.

*Almighty God, we know that everything is in Your sovereign control. We ask that You keep this new coronavirus from continuing to spread. Give government officials the ability to safely handle people arriving from other countries. Help people decide to stay home instead of traveling or going out needlessly. Holy Spirit, remind people to wash their hands properly. And while it may be heartbreaking, comfort families as they decide to keep their distance from elderly or other high-risk family members.*

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea ...—*Psalm 46:1-2 (NIV)*

#### **Boardman Campus & Offices**

4570 Lockwood Blvd.  
Youngstown, OH 44511

#### **Youngstown Campus**

1205 Elm Street  
Youngstown, OH 44502

#### **Pastor Greg Calko**

330-533-6358  
pastorgreg@millcreek.church

#### **Debbie Myers, Office Manager**

Phone: (330) 782-0573  
Visit us: [www.millcreek.church](http://www.millcreek.church)  
E-mail: [info@millcreek.church](mailto:info@millcreek.church)

#### **Millcreek Community UMC**

##### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Wednesday-Friday  
9 am - 2 pm

##### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

##### **Boardman Campus**

9:00 am Power Hour  
(Praise, Pray & Proclaim)

11:00 am Blended Service  
(Praise, Pray & Proclaim)

**Pastor Calko is available for visits.  
He can be reached at [pastorgreg@millcreek.church](mailto:pastorgreg@millcreek.church)  
or by phone at 330-782-0573.**

**Millcreek Community United Methodist Church - Boardman Campus**

4570 Lockwood Blvd.

Youngstown, OH

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