

Sixth Avenue UMC Messenger
May/June 2017

Dear Friends,

One of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus, had a little daughter. She was critically ill to the point of death. Seeing Jesus, Jairus fell at his feet in desperation: "Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live" (Mark 5:22-23). Jesus went with him, but on the way messengers came with word that Jesus was too late.

"Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, 'Don't be afraid; just believe'" (Mark 5:36). When they arrived at Jairus' house, Jesus observed unrestrained crying and wailing. Then he goes inside and asks: "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep. Then he took her by the hand and said to her, 'Little girl, I say to you, get up!' Immediately the girl stood up and walked around." (Mark 5:36-42)

I think there is a message here for mothers, fathers, and families. This family came face to face with our Living Lord. But only because of the father's faith. As he was about to lose his little girl, Jairus turned to God's only Son for help. This kind of faith is a living legacy, passed on as a lifeline from one generation to the next.

Let all of us embody that Jairus-kind of faith that believes Jesus still works miracles as we celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day. Let's enjoy the family time we have together this summer. May we seek Jesus in prayer and Bible study everyday. Then, let us worship our Living Lord here at Sixth Avenue UMC or wherever you may be.

May God bless you and your family as enjoy this summer of life!

Pastor Rick

P.S. We will honor, during the worship services, mothers on May 14th and fathers on June 18th!

Our Unspoken Essential Topic

A couple of months ago, the Finance Committee made a presentation to the congregation about the state of the church's finances. Yes, finances or money, that essential topic that nobody really likes to talk about. This article is the promised follow-up to that presentation.

The reason for the presentation is that income has been lagging behind budgetary requirements for several years. When I say budgetary requirements, this includes the base expenses such as salaries, assorted taxes, insurances, maintenance, and apportionments. If you are not aware, apportionments, both district and conference, are what each United Methodist Church is assigned as their portion to maintain the district, conference and numerous national/global ministries of the UMC. Income has usually covered the church's expenses, but has not been sufficient to pay apportionments for several years. Thus, finance has used savings to pay much of apportionments. However, in 2016, total budget income was \$160,000 which was short of church expenses by over \$10,000, not including apportionments. Savings was used to cover the gap, pay all of the district apportionments, and for the first time in years, just one-half of conference apportionments.

January and early February income was at a rate of \$155,000 annually, which would deplete on-hand savings. \$155,000 would be almost \$20,000 short of just church expenses for 2017, with no payment on apportionments. When I say on-hand savings, I mean short term non-designated certificates of deposit which amount to about \$24,000. There is \$45,000 in the Perpetual Memorial Fund that is considered an endowment. The Endowment is designated for a specific purpose, and it takes a vote of the Charge Conference to change the designation for use as general fund monies. Thus, just paying the church expenses would have depleted on-hand savings this year. The budget has been cut to the minimum over the past few years; however, the heating bill, taxes, insurance, etc. are not going down as is likely the case for each of us in our personal lives.

It is good to report that unified budget giving since the presentation has risen the average weekly giving rate to about \$174,000 annually. That amount would likely cover running the church, not apportionments, for 2017. Thank you for your increased efforts. However, that still is short by over \$26,000 annually, or \$500 per week, for apportionments.

The good news is that historically budget income generally gets better in the summer as we have special music and some people come back from being south for the winter. Also, this month is a five Sunday month and there will be two more. Advent and Christmas often provides a bump. The bad news is that the number of family giving units was down to 99 in 2016 from 139 in 2015. Also, statistics show it takes 5 new members to replace the giving of one long term member. Thus, our renewed efforts need to be at least maintained.

In 2 Corinthians 9:7, Paul states that "each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" This is very good spiritual advice which we often refer to in the offertory. But, the unspoken qualification is that Paul did not have real estate taxes, insurances, heating bills, salaries, janitorial supplies, or apportionments to maintain. From a Finance point of view, we should recite "render unto Caesar what is Caesar's, and render unto God what is God's" (Matthew 22:21) during offertory. In other words, give for your earthly bills, it is *only* money. That last part is why we often do not discuss finances, though unfortunately it is an essential topic for any church.

May God be with you each of your days,

Jeff Bender



Christian Love and Sympathy to:

Kay & Bob George on the death of Kay's brother, Jim Nigh on February 20th.

Greg & Jackie Howard on the death of Greg's father, John Howard on February 23rd.

Larry Kilbarger & family on the death of his mother, Virginia Kilbarger on February 25th.

The family of Wanda Ayers upon her death on February 28th.

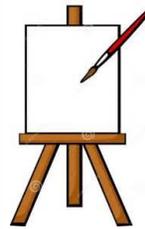
Bob & Karen Trogus upon the death of Bob's father, Gene Trogus on April 9th.

Janet Reynolds upon the death of her sister, Kay Good on April 19th.

Neighborhood Celebration

The Neighborhood Celebration is quickly approaching, May 20th from 1-4 p.m. We are getting ready to start asking for your help, whether it's donations or needed volunteers to help and pass out food and drinks. These are sit-down positions. We are having pulled pork sandwiches, hotdogs, chips, Little Debbie snacks, and drinks; water and Hugs for the little children. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for donations and volunteer times. Please consider helping us to reach out to our community. There is a lot to be done, but if more people help, the easier it will be for everyone.

Crafts



We are also having crafts for everyone. We are asking for about 200 painting canvas. The size we need are 8x10. You can get the 8X10 size at Ollie's for \$1.69. Hobby lobby and JoAnn Fabrics also carry them, but I'm not sure of the prices. Lura Goff works there and says there and says they have plenty in stock.

I want to thank Pastor Rick Jones, the congregation, and the prayer group. Thanks be to God! I have no cancer at this time. I am truly blessed and grateful for where I am in my life. I ask for your prayers for my mother Marge. GOD BLESS YOU ALL! I will be making a contribution to the great 6th Ave. United Methodist Church. God Bless!



Yours Truly,
Tommy Smith



I want to thank the staff, volunteers and members for their time, prayers and thoughts.

Kilbarger Family



Graduates

We will recognize our graduates on May 21st. Please call the church office with the name of your graduate.

To the 6th Avenue Congregation:

I wanted to say how grateful I am to God and the Amazing church family at 6th Ave. United Methodist Church. God worked wonders and we raised \$1700.00 in less than 4 weeks and covered my entire trip! It is reassuring to know that God is looking out for me and that I can look forward to this life changing experience. I cannot express how grateful I am to everybody and how moving it is to see a community coming together and raising this kind of money. This just proves how Great the Lord is and the wonders that he can work in & through each of us. So Thanks for the many prayers & your continued support through this trip.

Zene Brunney



Annual Conference June 4th—7th

Pastor Rick and Paul Jassogne will be representing Sixth Ave. UMC at Lakeside, Ohio. The Bishop's Annual Conference offering is entitled, *Light the Way Campaign*. The offering will be used for starting new diverse worshipping communities and collaboration with congregations to extend their vitality for the United Methodist Church's mission across West Ohio. The goal has been set at \$200,000. The West Ohio Conference has already made significant progress over the last year of identifying, assessing, training, and preparing a new band of church pastors. At the same time, vital congregations are reaching out in new ways to those who live on the margins of life.

New Address!



Rev. John and JoAn Glick have moved. Here is their new address:

Brookdale Senior Living
4000 Lakeview Crossing – C14
Groveport, Ohio 43125

The 2017 Altar Flower Chart is posted by the pastor's office. Feel free to sign up for any open dates available. The cost is still \$25.00. You can take home the flowers after the service on the date you paid for. If you want them to go to someone or somewhere else, just let one of our ushers know.
Thank you!



Here are the open dates:

July 16, 30
November 19
December 17, 31

Thank you very much!



The next date for Progressive Euchre is Tuesday, May 23rd at 6:00 p.m. in the parlor. Please bring your own drink and/or snack. All are welcome to come and play. Feel free to bring others with you. The more, the merrier. I'm looking forward to another fun night of cards and fellowship.



A Mother's Love

A Mother's love is something
that no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion
and of sacrifice and pain,
It is endless and unselfish
and enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it
or take that love away . . .
It is patient and forgiving
when all others are forsaking,
And it never fails or falters
even though the heart is breaking . . .
It believes beyond believing
when the world around condemns,
And it glows with all the beauty
of the rarest, brightest gems . . .
It is far beyond defining,
it defies all explanation,
And it still remains a secret
like the mysteries of creation . . .
A many splendored miracle
man cannot understand
And another wondrous evidence
of God's tender guiding hand.

Helen Steiner Rice

*Watch for the musical drama
"We walked where Jesus walked"
Presented by:
One Voice of Lancaster
A Capella Chorus
June 4, Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
&
June 7, Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Asking only for a 'Love Offering'*



God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it ... Dad

Author Unknown



Happy Anniversary



ANNIVERSARIES – MAY

Jerry and Donna Dickson	May 19
Paul and Thelma Dilliard	May 20
William and Doris Shauger	May 26
Edward and Sandy Gurile	May 28
Pete and Kara Reed	May 30
Todd and Jackie Suman	May 30



ANNIVERSARIES – JUNE

William and Rita Cattran	June 2
William and Roxanne Alspaugh	June 6
Curtis and Sarah Witham	June 11
John and Vicki Miller	June 14
Nick and Diann Mogavero	June 15
Larry and Sara Jo Hedges	June 16
Bob and Kay George	June 18
Pastor Rick and Janet Jones	June 18
Mark and Stephanie Brunney	June 22
Bob and Mary Ledgett	June 22
Gregg and Tammy Witham	June 23
Tim and Lori Schaffer	June 24
Fred and Barbara Beougher	June 28
Edward and Sonya Chaffin	June 28
Larry and Alice Moneypenny	June 28



Happy Birthday!



BIRTHDAYS - MAY

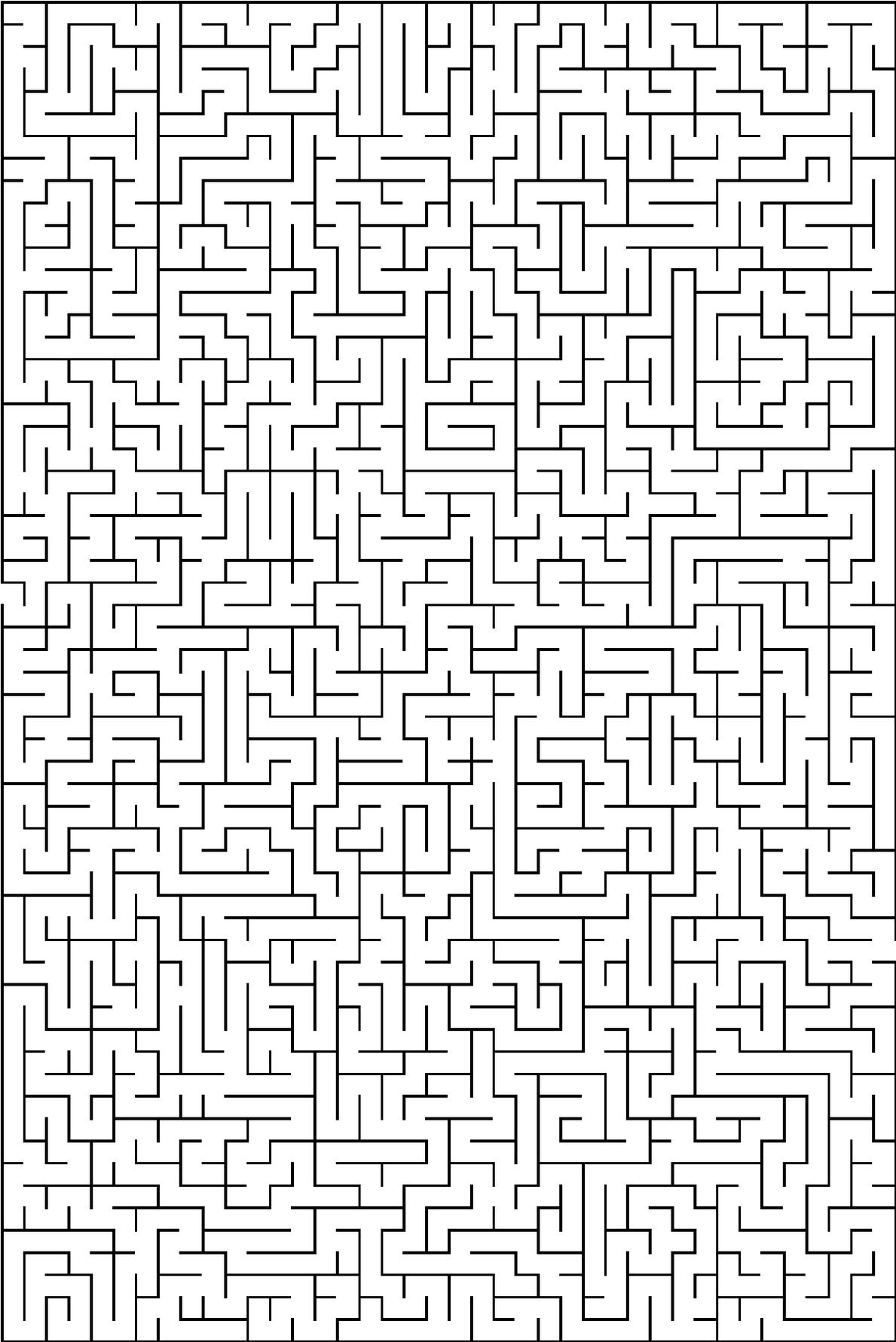
John Miller	May 1
Judy Fahrer	May 3
Connie Cox	May 4
Nathan Trogus	May 5
John Mongold	May 6
Justin Chaffin	May 9
Sue Hockman	May 11
Alaina Baker	May 12
Alan Fick	May 14
Karen Trogus	May 14
Abby Tener	May 16
Max Thomas	May 17
Sam Strawn	May 18
Lou Burgett	May 19
Emily Maiden	May 19
Eileen Jadwin	May 20
Jodi Van Dyke	May 23
Shirley Mowery	May 24
Elizabeth Singer	May 25
Grace Singer	May 25
Ruth Bowland	May 27
Lura Goff	May 29
Bernadette Shahan	May 29
Vickie Bender	May 30



BIRTHDAYS - JUNE

Sandra Gurile	June 1
Beth Cree	June 1
Gerry Flowers	June 2
Jerry Dupler	June 4
Ian Smith	June 4
Jeff Wright	June 4
Dorothy McClurg	June 6
Tom Boch	June 7
Charles Crist	June 7
Brent Baker	June 8
Jean Gray	June 11
Cassie Andrews	June 13
Louise Carpenter	June 13
David Zartman	June 13
Norma Hite	June 16
Robert Page	June 16
Larry Downs	June 17
Tammy Witham	June 17
Jane Patterson	June 27
Larry Raymond	June 29
Shawn Andrews	June 30

Here's something to try in your spare time!



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