

Mid-March Updates

Easter Sunrise at Bethany

Because many of you have been fully vaccinated and may feel comfortable joining an in person worship, we have decided to hold our annual Easter Sunrise Worship in the parking lot at Bethany UCC. We will begin at 7:00 a.m. with the following safety measures still in place. We will still maintain social distancing, wear masks, and will not include congregational singing or breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. There is absolutely no pressure to attend! We will still offer the option of Zoom worship at 10:30 a.m. We want you to feel safe at all times, so please continue to make the choices that are best for your own health.

One Great Hour of Sharing

March is our opportunity to reach beyond the limits of our local congregation to participate in One Great Hour of Sharing. One Great Hour of Sharing is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. One Great Hour of Sharing also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. We will receive this offering on March 21, but you have until the end of March to participate. Just write OGHS in the memo line of your check and it will be included in this special offering.

LINC for Lent

We are continuing to gather Hygiene Kits for our Lenten project. As a member congregation in Linked In New Creative (LINC) Ministry, we are participating in a community collection of hygiene kits for delivery to those in crisis. Instructions for how to assemble the kits are on our website. You may bring your assembled kits to the church for delivery to those in need.

Property News and Needs

The Property Committee has received bids for some needed work around the building. The moisture and paint problems in the basement will need to be addressed in two ways. First, we need dirt added to the outside walls so that the slope moves water away from building. Then, we will need to have the affected walls of the basement scraped, sealed, and painted.

Caleb Reel, who already does our yard maintenance, submitted a bid to add the dirt to the outside beds. His bid was very reasonable and the Council approved the decision to hire Caleb to complete that portion of the work.

Kemp Sigmon submitted a bid for scraping, sealing, and painting the basement walls. Again, his bid was very reasonable and the Council approved the decision to hire Kemp to work on the interior of the basement.

The outdoor work will need to be completed first and when Caleb finishes the re-sloping we will ask for an outdoor workday to mulch the beds and trim the bushes.

If you want to know the specifics of costs and how any of these decisions were made, please contact Eddie Ervin, Property Committee Chair, or Larry Sink, Council President. We want you to be informed!

Finally, water from the church parking lot is running onto our neighbor's lawn. We will be placing a curb to reroute water in the near future. You'll get an update on that project as soon as the estimates are collected.

Let's Go GREEN!

Becoming a Green Congregation is good for the environment and good Creation Care. We are ready to start the conversation and learn how to go green. If you are interested in being part of a Green Team, contact Pastor Kathy to get on board. We will participate in an educational meeting to learn what steps to take and how to get started. What a wonderful way to celebrate Spring!