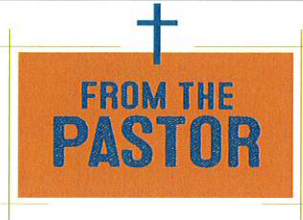


THE ASSISTANT PASTOR



April 2025

Volume 67 Number 4



WE SERVE A WORTHY SAVIOR

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"You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being." (Revelation 4:11)

On Easter Sunday we often sing the song "He Lives," which starts out - "I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today." Jesus is not only a risen Savior, he's a worthy Savior. In the book of Revelation, all heaven begged the question, "who is worthy to open the scroll?" There was only one worthy, the Lamb of God, who had been slain. Jesus is worthy!

In a time of bureaucratic cuts and tariff battles, the financial question is often "is it worth it?" it doesn't only happen with government though, we ask ourself the question quite often; by the way we use our time, our energies, our money, and opportunities. Possibly dozens of times a day we make decisions, quite often without even realizing that is what we are answering that question. Some examples might be - Is it worth my time to watch a TV show? Is it worth some soreness in my back to play tennis? Is this purchase a good deal? When should I dispute an issue with a friend or relative? We make choices often unwittingly by answering the simple question, "what's it worth to me?" By the way, the price tags on certain sins, are actually higher than advertised.

If we asked ourself the question, "what is Jesus worth to me," what might be our answer? Undoubtedly, he is worthy of worship, devotion and service. Dallas Holm sings a song, "If I had it to do all over again." It starts out "If I had it to do all over again, I'd serve Jesus every day of my life. For I find he alone can really satisfy and deliver me from all sin and strife." It's a good plan. Let's serve Jesus every day. He is worth it. Jesus is a worthy Savior!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Mo Dunn

APRIL

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:30pm Deacon & Deaconess	2 6:00pm Bells 7:00pm Choir	3 7:00pm Bible Study	4	5
6 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship 11:30am Christian Education	7	8 7:00pm Trustee meeting	9 6:00pm Bells 7:00pm Choir	10 7:00pm Shalom 7:00pm Bible Study	11	12
13 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship 12:30-4 Spinners Palm Sunday	14 7:00pm 4-H meeting	15	16 6:00pm Bells 7:00pm Choir	17 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service Maundy Thursday	18	19 9:30am Easter Egg Hunt 9am Recycling
20 7:30am Sunrise Service Sunrise Breakfast 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Easter Sunday	21	22 Earth Day	23 6:00pm Bells 7:00pm Choir Administrative Professionals Day	24 7:00pm Bible Study	25 Good Friday	26 4:30pm Chicken BBQ
27 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	28 7:00pm 4-H meeting	29	30 6:00pm Bells 7:00pm Choir			



Trustees Meeting

MARCH 2025

Members present: Matt Nusbaum, Bob Ritchey, Jeff Weis, Deb Thomas, Bob Roethlisberger, Ryan Stewart, Travis Watkins.

Pastor Dunn began the meeting with a devotion centered around "The Priority to Pursue." It emphasized the importance of caring for priorities centered in your heart over material things.

Treasurer Dina Tadena presented the monthly financial report. A motion was made to accept and to pay all bills involved. Motion was approved.

The Trustee's welcomed Lynn Metzger to the meeting. Lynn gave a thorough update on the status of the investments as well as a complete history and accountability to the money involved. His insight and explanation of each investment account was detailed and insightful. He feels that the church has been fiscally responsible in the past years and will continue to do so in the future. We thank Lynn for his expert advice and the many hours of time he has put into maintaining this for us!

Election of officers was held. The slate of officers for the 2025-26 church year is as follows: Bob Ritchey—Chair Travis Watkins—Vice Chair Deb Thomas—Secretary

OLD BUSINESS

Bob Ritchey reported that quotes had been received for replacement of the furnace in the office area. The lowest quote was for \$4300.00 and was submitted by Grothouse Plumbing and Heating in Delphos. Since this project could be completed later, he was asked to check on if they would honor that quote. Project was tabled at this time.

Deb reported that a quote had been submitted by contractor, Scott Parker regarding the Parsonage bathroom remodel project. The estimate included removal of vanity, cupboards, flooring, sub-floor, as well as construction and replacement of sink and toilet as well as vanity and new shelving units. A motion was made and approved to proceed with the project.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob Ritchey reported that the Sound board needs replaced in the sanctuary sound system as well as other areas included in it. He cited that half of the amplifier within the system was not working. Custom Audio Concepts had suggested replacing the system with an updated version along with new speakers. Total cost estimate was \$4028.96. A discussion was held and a motion was made to inquire into using monies from Memorial Fund for this expense. Motion passed.

Deb reported that the carpet in a couple bedrooms of parsonage had been removed and that the hardwood is in decent condition. Further efforts will be made in regards to cleaning and renovating it.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and was approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Thomas--secretary



The Trustees approved the Hawg Creek Spinners, Weavers, and Fiber Artists to meet in our fellowship hall the second Sunday of each month. Here is a background of the group:

Hawg Creek Spinners, Weavers and Fiber Artists Guild of Northwest Ohio promotes the art of fiber and heritage skills by educating, supporting, and inspiring the fiber arts community.

Fiber Arts include spinning, weaving, knitting, crocheting, felting and other textile handicrafts. Our gatherings foster a sense of fellowship and promote the appreciation of fiber arts through various activities and resources.

Approximately 30 members from 8 different counties in NW Central Ohio participate in our guild which has been in existence since the 1970's. Our monthly gatherings are open to anyone interested in fiber arts. We have no dues. We share ideas, teach and learn from others at our gatherings. We demonstrate at festivals in the area throughout the year.

We have a Facebook page that has many pictures of our activities and we announce our meetings.



Ladies Tea

lovely Welsh tradition!

Laura graduated from Capital University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, then worked in financial services for a couple decades, mostly as an IT project manager, until discovering the Welsh Lovespoon tradition that led her to give up that career and return to the arts.

Captivated by this lovely tradition, she taught herself to carve and developed her own very distinct and delicate style.

She's had several collaborations with world-famous lovespoon carver, David Western, and has been featured in multiple publications, including David Western's "History of Lovepoons."

Though some injuries have slowed down her carving in recent years, she still loves to speak about the history of the art. She will explain a bit of the history, talk about the carving process, and offer some insights into the romantic symbolism often used to distinguish this cherished centuries-old Welsh tradition.

Bring a tea cup and join us for our annual Welsh Tea! Cost is \$10.00 and reservations can be made by contacting Deb Thomas 419-230-4344 or Sue Grusenmeyer at 419-236-0289.

The blessing of fellowship

Between the death of Christ and the Last Day it is only by gracious anticipation of the last things that Christians are privileged to live in visible fellowship with other Christians. It is by the grace of God that a congregation is permitted to gather visibly in this world to share God's Word and sacrament. Not all Christians receive this blessing. The imprisoned, the sick, the scattered lonely, the proclaimers of the Gospel in heathen lands stand alone. They know that visible fellowship is a blessing.

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The Welsh Society of Northwest Ohio will hold a Ladies Tea on Sunday, May 4th from 3-4:30 pm in the fellowship hall of Gomer Congregational Church. Laura Jenkins Gorun, a renowned lovespoon carver will share her knowledge about this



Our next meeting will be held Sunday April 6th. Christian Ed will be hosting the Easter Sunday breakfast. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board for food items to be contributed to the breakfast. Donations welcome to help raise funds for vacation bible school.

No Sunday School will be held on Easter Sunday.

Sunday May 18th will be the last day of Sunday School for the children. A song will be performed during the church service and a luncheon held afterwards.

Vacation Bible School planning is underway. Our theme this year is Road Trip- On the Go with God. More details to come!

In Loving Memory

Linda Lou Alger

November 4, 1942 – November 29, 2024

Memorial Fund:

Don & Diane Enslin, Mary and Dean Alger



Saturday, April 26

4:30 to 6PM

At Gomer Congregational Church

7350 Gomer Road

Carryout only Tickets \$12

For tickets call 419-642-2681

Dinner includes half a barbecued chicken by Chuffers, green beans, applesauce, roll and butter and homemade cookies



Apr. 6	George & Hope Diller	Beckett Sunderland
Apr. 13	Louie & Jan Siefker	Beth Ogle
Apr. 20	Brian & Rachel Baker	Madi Larimore
Apr. 27	Dave & Pam Smith	Norah Baker
May 4	Larry & Deb Stewart	Zoey Diller
May 11	Bruce & Vi Lloyd	Carson Sunderland
May 18	Derik & Sarah Mooney	Wyatt Diller
May 25	Steve & Dina Tadena	Genna Thomas
June 1	Bill Askins and Lori Crider	Rayna Ogle
June 8	Cheyenne & Dian Ridley	Kennedy Larimore
June 15	Micah & Ellen Brentlinger	Beckett Sunderland
June 22	Rod & Nancy Watkins	Beth Ogle
June 29	Travis & Anna Watkins	Madi Larimore



Joan Thomas, Dick Williams
 – The Meadows of Kalida,
 755 Ottawa St., Kalida, OH
 45853

Note from our Pastor/Staff

Pastor Dunn is available to you for counseling and visitation. You can often catch him at church between 9:30am and 11:30am on days that the office is open. However, to ensure you see him, it is best to call or text his phone at 937-855-7665 to arrange a meeting. It could be set for at the office or in a public meeting place or in your residence. He wants to be accessible.!



The electric sign in front of the church needs to be replaced. The goal for the new sign \$25,000. The fund continues to grow with the balance currently at \$8080.00.

Earth-shaking victory

On Ash Wednesday in 2001, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake shook the Seattle area. Charlie and Ann Lewis, co-pastors in Snohomish, Washington, reflected on the timing:

“While most years we prefer to think of Lent as a contemplative journey of faith as we walk with Jesus toward Jerusalem and the cross, this year we are thinking of how God turned the world upside down at Calvary. From the cross, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and his life was finished. Then the earth shook violently, the curtain in the temple was torn in two and rocks were split apart. The God who identified with us in our humanity in the incarnation of Jesus Christ demonstrated in that moment the depth of divine love for us — a love that leads God to choose the path of suffering and sacrifice.

“Three days later, the earth shook again — another violent earthquake, and the stone in front of the tomb was rolled away. Then the crucified Christ threw aside the burial cloths, emerging from the darkness of the tomb to walk in the dew of the grass as dawn was breaking across the sky. God had declared victory over sin and death itself. That victory was for us. ... God has given us a glorious life that extends into eternity.”

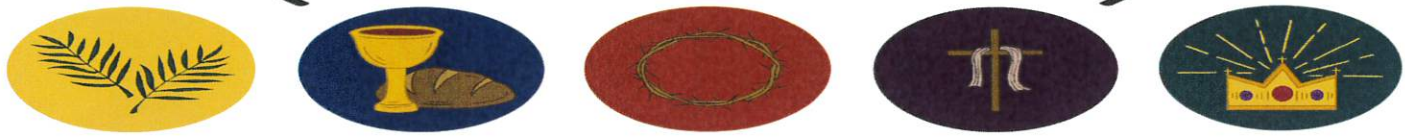
Fun and laughter

“Here cometh April again,” said poet Charles Lamb (1775-1834). “And as far as I can see, the world hath more fools than ever.”

That second observation may or may not be true, but April does indeed begin on a lighter note. April Fools’ Day, which is filled with practical jokes, can also be a reminder to thank God for laughter, joy, funny stories, children’s antics and other things that make us smile.

Then one week after Easter, on what is known as Holy Humor Sunday, some churches celebrate that God played the supreme joke on death. Jesus’ resurrection is cause for joy, smiles and, yes, laughter. Even the Almighty joins in: “He who sits in the heavens laughs” (Psalm 2:4).

Worship Schedule for Holy Week



PALM SUNDAY

10:30 am Sunday April 13, 2024

SUNRISE SERVICE

Our Sunrise Service begins at 7:30am on Easter Sunday, April 20.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Thursday, April 17 there will be a Maundy Thursday service at 7PM. We will be observing the last supper by going to the table eleven at a time for Holy Communion. A very meaningful service.

Easter Sunday Breakfast

An Easter Breakfast of breakfast casserole and muffins will be served immediately following sunrise service until 10:00am or until we run out.



Shalom is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19 at 9:30AM at the church rain or shine for all children up to grade 5. Be sure to bring your Easter baskets. Donuts and juice will be served.



On Sunday, April 20 join us for the Easter service beginning a 10:15am. A cantata "Is He Worthy" will be performed. We will celebrate Holy Communion.

April

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Bryan Evans
- 2 Sue Wannemacher
- 3 Sue Grusenmeyer
- 4 Kimberly Stewart
- 5 Richard Bok
- 6 Brock Burden
- 7 Carol Fitzgerald
- 8 Cynthia Neubert
- 9 Emily Siefker Hollar
- 10 Christopher Thomas
- 11 Ethan Ballard
- 12 Katie Siefker Battershell
- 13 Joe Siefker
- 14 Darlene Herriott
- 15 Betty Fogt
- 16 Suzanne Metzger
- 17 Heather Nusbaum
- 18 Brent Lloyd
- 19 Ethan Roberts
- 20 Debora Reichert
- 21 Brionna Jackson
- 22 Jeanette Frysinger
- 23 Amy Garman
- 24 Andrew Griesdorn
- 25 Pat Kohn
- 26 Tara Roethlisberger Counts

- 24 Keisha Larimore
- 25 Steve Tadena
- 26 Kathleen Larimore
- 27 Madison Nicklaus
- 28 Chad Schwatzengraber
- 29 Sarah Wilkins
- 30 Matthew Metzger
- 31 Pam Evans
- 32 Janet May
- 33 Jennifer Nichols
- 34 Kenzie Koontz
- 35 Penblwydd Hapus i chwi!
(Happy Birthday to you in Welsh)

ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Maurice & Leanne Dunn
- 17 Lisa & Michael Coonfare
- 22 Mike & Pat Kohn
- 25 Jim & Susan Siefker
- 27 Denise & Ron Myers
- 29 Heather & Dana Koontz

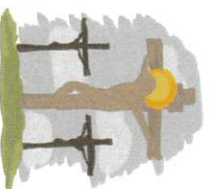
SPECIAL DAYS

- Holy Week, *April 13-20*
- Palm Sunday, *April 13*
- Maundy Thursday, *April 17*
- Good Friday, *April 18*
- Easter Sunday, *April 20*
- Secretaries Day, *April 23*



Bible Quiz

From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms.



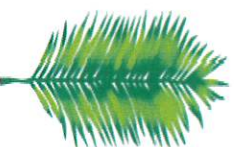
What were they?

- A. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- B. "I thirst!"
- C. "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- D. "It is finished!"

Christian symbol

PALM BRANCH —

When Jesus entered Jerusalem days before his death, crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches, common symbols of victory and rejoicing. Churches still use them to remember that occasion, knowing that Jesus' crucifixion was the ultimate triumph over sin and death. As early as Leviticus 23:40, God commanded Israel to use palms in a festival of rejoicing. In Revelation 7:9-10, Christian martyrs carry palm branches as they praise the Lamb before God's throne.



"My Easter Dove"

There came a dove, an Easter dove,
when morning stars grew dim;
It fluttered round my lattice bars,
to chant a matin hymn.

It brought a lily in its beak,
aglow with dewy sheen;
I caught the strain, the incense breathed,
and uttered praise between.

It brought a shrine of holy thoughts
to calm my soul that day;
I caught the meaning of the note,
why did it fly away?

Come peaceful dove, sweet Easter dove!
Above earth's storm and strife,
sing of the joy of Easter-tide,
of light and hope and life.—
Henrietta Cordelia Ray (1849-1916)

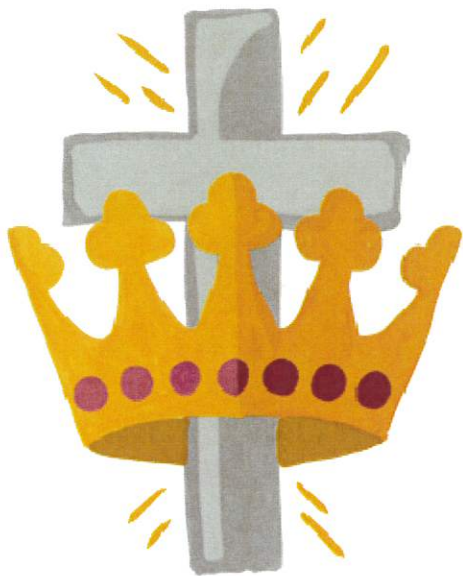


Bible Quiz Answer: A (See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1.)

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Hope for Holy Week

As you travel with Jesus through Holy Week, don't lose heart. He is your Palm Sunday King. He will always come to you and give you the best of what he has to offer because of his humble attitude and his devotion to his mission.

When you see this Savior who personally cares for you, you can't help but join the believers of old to give to the Lord your best and most precious treasures of your heart and life, and then to join with all believers saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

—Peter Sulzle