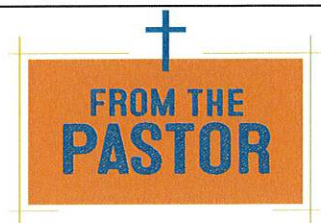




THE ASSISTANT PASTOR

JUNE 2025

Volume 67 Number 6



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We Cannot Stay Long

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Famous British writer, Laurie Lee wrote a travelogue entitled "I Can't Stay Long." He traveled to many places around the world including Holland, Tuscany, Mexico, Ireland, the West Indies, and a film festival in Cannes. He even visited Aberfan, Wales, a year after the disaster that killed many school children. His descriptions of the places were deeply moving and the world was introduced to places that had been relatively obscure. Some of those places in the world became much more interesting and better known.

While it's true that he didn't stay long in any one place on his journey, it's also true that for everyone, we don't stay on this planet very long. Whether we live to age 90 or only age 9, life is short. We don't get to stay long. It's important that we make good decisions and make the most out of our one and only life. It might be a bit easier for us during this time of year when we have Memorial Day and then Independence Day, to celebrate our country and the lives that were sacrificed while preserving our freedom. As Christians, we celebrate the blessed hope of eternal life and the sacrifice of Jesus, who said, "greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13)

It is a reassuring aspect of faith that we are not alone during our temporary stay here in this world. Regardless of our family situation, God is always with us. In the Bible, Joshua was called upon to follow the man that had parted the Red Sea - Moses. It turned out that Joshua later parted the Jordan River, by the same power of God. All things are possible when God is with us! This summer our Vacation Bible School is entitled "Road Trip." It will happen July 13-17. Our leaders will be helping the children to realize that wherever we go, God is there. If we take a trip, God is there. If we stay home, God is there. God is with us. Our children and youth will be "On the Go with God," as we celebrate the Lord's continual presence.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Mo Dunn



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
 July 6 Adam Long and Dan Brown Genna Thomas
 July 13 Pat Sharrits and Martha Britt
 Madi Larimore
 July 20 Brian & Rachel Baker Beckett Sunderland
 July 27 Dan & Keisha Larimore Jameson Thomas
 Aug. 3 Jeff & Mary Weis Rayna Ogle



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



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 \$12,470.

The joy of generosity

He who has received much should also give much. It is essential to give a goodly part of what God has allowed us to accumulate. Otherwise greed and miserliness will seize our hearts and minds. Furthermore, by not giving generously, we will miss the many joys that generosity brings to us. Let us not cheat ourselves of those blessings.

When on vacation

When on vacation, be with us in spirit.
 The rest of the summer, be with us in person.



The Pastoral Relations Committee consisting of six members shall be appointed by the Church Council for a two-year term. Three shall be appointed each year.

The primary purpose of the Pastoral Relations Committee is to support and nurture an open and mutually beneficial relationship between the pastor and members of the congregation. The PRC facilitates communication between the pastor and the congregation. The PRC will serve as an advocate of the ministry and as a confidant of the pastor so as to anticipate and resolve problems that might arise as well as work with the pastor to permit that individual to grow and mature with the congregation. Through the ministry of the PRC, ways can be found to improve or maintain the relationship between the pastor and the congregation to enhance their mutual ministry, to resolve unfruitful conflict, and to assist the church in its mission and ministry. This Committee often acts as a supportive "sounding board" for the pastor and occasionally is called upon to mediate disputes with the pastor that may arise from the congregation. Constructive and caring communication in an atmosphere of confidentiality and trust is essential to the work of the Committee.

The Committee will meet a minimum of once each quarter. (More frequently during the pastor's first year) Maintenance of a regular schedule guards against the PRC becoming a crisis management agent. By providing a regular means of feedback and sharing, the PRC helps to prevent major crises and helps in the building of trust which is crucial to the functions of ministry.

Pastoral Relations Committee members are
 Chair-Sue Grusenmeyer Nancy Watkins
 Ellen Brentlinger Wilma Evans
 Joyce Larimore Derek Mooney



Trustees Meeting

MAY 2025

Members present: Bob Ritchey, Matt Nusbaum, Deb Thomas, Bob Roethlisberger, Travis Watkins, Micah Brentlinger.

Pastor Dunn opened the meeting talking of the habit of a good conscience. A conscience is the heart of a soul and should be led by God and scripture. It was followed by prayer for all those members showing concern.

The treasurer's report was presented by Joyce Larimore who spoke at length of the difficult transition that was being experienced in regards to the Premier Bank converting to WesBanco. Necessary paper work was being taken care of by various committee's involved for enabling this transition to occur. A motion to accept the monthly financial report was made and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Bob reported that some work was done on outside of church on the previous Saturday work day.

Bob reported that the sound system will be installed during the week of June 2. Training will be scheduled for those interested later.

Deb inquired about the intentions for the north parking lot and if anything was being planned for the parking area where trees had been removed. It was noted that it is showing neglect and that the railroad ties were deteriorated and weeds were taking over. Subject was tabled.

Bob reported that a representative from Signs Ohio came and confirmed the previous estimate to replace sign was still in the same dollar amount as previously quoted. After a previous special trustee's meeting, it was decided to switch church insurance to the Advanced Insurance Group (Goodville Mutual). Bob reported that the switch had been made.

NEW BUSINESS

Travis presented pictures of damage that has occurred to the roof over the classroom addition and said that the roof over that area needed replaced. It was decided to get estimates for replacement of

that area as well as an estimate and evaluation of other areas of the church.

Deb requested approval for hosting another church wide garage sale for the Lincoln Highway by Way Garage Sale weekend, August 7, 8 & 9th. Approval was made. More information will be forthcoming. It was pointed out that Susan's computer needs replaced. Further action will be taken.

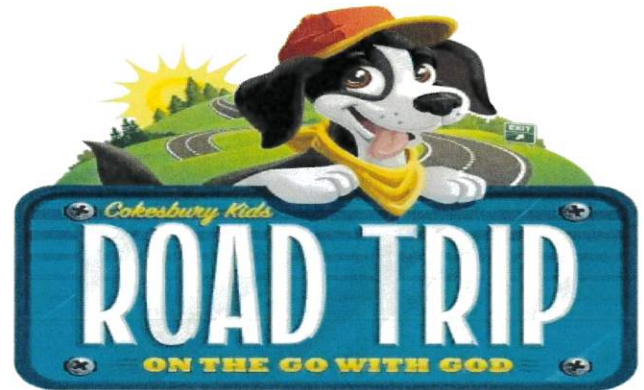
Micah offered to remove dead tree in Parsonage front yard.

The air conditioning system in the parsonage needs serviced. Pastor Dunn will schedule this with Grot-house Plumbing and Heating.

A motion to adjourn was presented and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Thomas, secretary



Mark your calendar for Vacation Bible School! This will be held Sunday, July 13th through Thursday, July 17th from 5:45-8:00 pm. Children from 3 years old up to, and including, kids finished with 5th grade are welcome. Our theme this year is Road Trip- On the go with God.

Anyone interested in volunteering to assist during VBS please contact Emily Diller (emilycdiller@gmail.com) or any member of the Christian Ed committee.



June's Stewardship project is monetary donations to the Lima Rescue Mission. Thank you to all who donated to Vacation Bible School. We collected over \$300.00.

Our July project will be School Supplies.



BOARD of DEACONS

May 2025 Meeting

Members Present: Rachel Baker, George Diller, Fara Ewing, Vi Lloyd, Oren Long, Derik Mooney, Heather Nusbaum, Jeremy Price, Dian Ridley, Kim Stewart and Carol Sunderland

The meeting was called to order by Heather Nusbaum.

Pastor Dunn provided Devotion of 1 Corinthians 9:24 on a race representing Christian life in which Paul states winning the race requires discipline and determination. This devotion was offered after Pastor Mo attended a track meet for two of our youth prior to the meeting.

Old Business:

Pastor Report was presented for the month of April.

New banners were hung up for Holy Week and positive feedback has been received.

New Business:

Heather discussed the need to make all displays in the church intentional and to organize the storage of the banners. Heather will work with Trustees on new rods for banners. Dian will talk with the Decorating Committee on any changes to banners displayed and to the altar, along with possibly adding banners at the back of the church or over the Amen section.

Care groups within the committee were established to visit our shut-ins monthly.

Candy bars will continue to be given by the committee to any visitors at the time of their visit.

The Deacon and Deaconess will host the Church Picnic on July 20th. The menu for the picnic is hamburgers, hot dogs, corn, chips, dessert, and lemonade. The VBS children performing during church on July 20th.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Stewart, Secretary

The Decorating Committee is sponsoring our church participation in the Lincoln Highway Yard Sales on Thursday, August 7 and Friday, August 8th. We will be accepting donations (NO CLOTHING PLEASE) beginning Tuesday, July 1st. Donations can be brought during church office hours on Tuesday & Thursdays: 8:30am-11:30am or Sunday mornings. You can also contact Hope Diller (419)

236-0469 to set up a time to drop off! Donations will be put in the first Sunday School Room on the right at the North End!

Thank You,

Hope Diller, Deb Thomas & Donna Martin



“Help Me Not Fear”

Father, dear Father, help me not fear,
for you are my shield and great reward.

Father, dear Father, help me not fear,
though briars and thorns are all around.

Father, dear Father, help me not fear.
With you I stand firm. The battle is yours.

Father, dear Father, help me not fear.
My heart is not troubled. I rest secure.

—MaryAnn Sundby



Spend time with God this summer



Thoughts for Father's Day

A careful man I ought to be;
a little fellow follows me;
I do not dare to go astray, for
fear he'll go the self-same way.

I cannot once escape his
eyes; whate'er he sees me do,
he tries —

Like me, he says, he's going to
be, the little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine, believes in
every word of mine:
The base in me he must not see, the little chap who
follows me.

I must remember as I go, through summer's sun
and winter's snow,
I'm building for the years to be, for a little fellow
follows me. —Author unknown

Fire transforming us for the good

For many people, relaxing by a campfire is a
favorite summer activity. Nestling into the
surrounding darkness while gazing into dancing
flames, we sense God's love and let the day's chaos
go. In contrast, Exodus 24:17 describes, "Now the
appearance of the glory of God was like a
devouring fire."

Pastor Steve Garnaas-Holmes offers another
take, writing about God using flames to change us.
(The full poem is here:

unfoldinglight.net/2025/02/24/fire)

God, your presence is like a consuming fire —
not destructive, but transformative,
not the fire of anger but the flame of love,
the fire of glassblowers and bakers
the grace to make us more beautiful, strong and
useful.



Your glory is no tame campfire
where we sit and make
s'mores.

It burns out of our control.
The furnace of your love
roars about our hearts,
remaking us

Teach us to be unafraid. ...

When you bask in firelight glow — and maybe eat
some s'mores! — ponder how God is transforming
you with love, and for the sake of love.

Church office hours
STARTING May 26 are
Tuesday and Thursday
from 8:30 to
11:30am.



Gage Meyer has graduated from The Ohio State
University with a degree in engineering. He has a
position at Honda.



Virginia (Jones) Bok,

April 25, 1935 - March 11, 2025

Memorial Fund: Lowell and Marilyn Bok

Preventing blind spots

About 40% of any vehicle consists of blind spots,
which are responsible for an estimated 800,000 ac-
cidents each year in the United States. People also
have blind spots, and when they're spiritual, they
can have tragic consequences.

Pastor Rick Warren suggests these steps for discov-
ering and overcoming blind spots:

- Pray, asking God to remind you what is true about him — and about you. "Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life" (Psalm 139:24, NLT).
- Ask some trusted Christian friends or family to point out things in you that you can't see. "Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others" (Proverbs 12:15, NLT).
- Finally, ask Jesus to change you. The Bible says the truth will set you free (John 8:32), and Jesus calls himself the truth (John 14:6). So the closer you are to Jesus, the more he will fill you with the truth. As God's truth helps you see clearly, you'll be less vulnerable to self-deception.

A prayer of praise

Creator of the heavens, the sun, the moon and the stars,
Who have determined the mind-boggling number of the stars
and given names to every single one of them,
We can't begin to fathom why you would bother yourself
with mere human beings and care for mere mortals.
Yet you stoop to lift up the downtrodden,
heal the brokenhearted, and bind up their wounds!
We call on sun, moon and shining stars to praise you!
By Jesus, our Morningstar, lead us out of darkness
into the light of your truth and grace,
and fill our mouths with praise to you!
Make us wise, O God,
so that we may shine like the bright stars in the sky,
leading many out of darkness to see your righteousness.
By the transformative power of your Spirit, we pray. Amen. —from *The Wired Word*

Holy ground

For me, there's nothing quite like taking off my sandals in the summer and walking through the grass. But when our sons were infants, neither shared that love of going barefoot. When we'd attempt to lower them to play outside, they'd raise their legs, trying not to touch the tickly, prickly, green ground.
"Do not come any closer," the Lord warned Moses through the burning bush. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground" (Exodus 3:5, NIV). In God's presence, Moses faced a turning point: either resist God's instructions or obey, leading the Israelites out of Egypt.
Maybe taking off my sandals this summer can remind me that I'm standing in God's presence. I may not hear a booming voice, and I might just be standing at the kitchen sink doing chores. Or I might be at a barbecue, with the opportunity to truly listen to my neighbors. God's presence permeates life's big moments as well as the mundane. How can you "take off your sandals" and enter what God has for you?—Janna Firestone

Tips for gardeners

"Love is to the heart what the summer is to the farmer's year," said evangelist Billy Graham. "It brings to harvest all the loveliest flowers of the soul." Without summer, our gardens would disappoint, and without love, our hearts wouldn't bloom.
The warmth of summer and love aren't the only ingredients required for abundant physical and spiritual crops, however. Discernment and persistence ensure fruitful yields in both areas. "Unless we know the difference between flowers and weeds, we are not fit to take care of a garden," advised Clyde Francis Lytle. "It is not enough to have truth planted in our minds. We must learn and labor to keep the ground clear of thorns and briars, follies and perversities, which have a wicked propensity to choke the word of life."

The gift of the Bible

Certain parts of the Bible are hard to understand — and even harder to explain to children. But the late Rachel Held Evans made a start, and then coauthor Matthew Paul Turner completed *What Is the Bible?* This picture book can help adults as well as kids receive the gift of Scripture.
The Bible is often described as a library of books. Held and Turner explain that it's also many different kinds of writing: stories, poems, wise sayings, songs, letters. Scripture tells of Creation, good and evil rulers, miraculous events, animals that spoke or brought food to hungry people, even monsters! The best part, the authors write, is that "in the Bible we meet Jesus, who teaches us new things about God, faith, and ourselves" — above all, that God loves us. "And if a story in [Scripture] is confusing or scary or sad, we can imagine how Jesus, who loves us, might tell us that story."
Bible scholars call this "the canon within the canon." As Christians, we read all other parts of Scripture through the lens of the Gospels, where we meet God *in person*, as Jesus. Similarly, 500 years ago Martin Luther called the Bible "the cradle that holds the Christ." That's a word-picture even children can grasp!



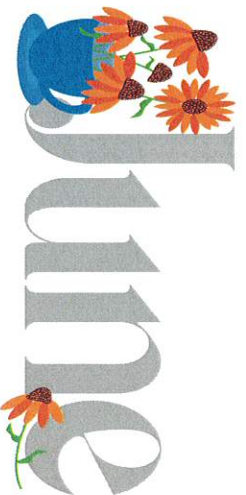
2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10:15 am Worship	2 7:00pm 4-H	3 7:30pm Deacon & Deaconess	4 7pm Bible Study	5 7pm Bible Study	6 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	7 2:00pm Wedding
8 10:15am Worship 11:30 am Christian Education 12:30-4pm Spinners, Museum <i>Pentecost</i>	9 7:00pm Trustee meeting	10	11 7pm Bible Study	12 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	13 2:00pm Wedding	14 <i>Flag Day</i>
15 10:15 am Worship <i>Father's Day Trinity Sunday</i>	16	17	18 <i>Juneteenth</i>	19	20 9 to Noon Recycling at Uncle Al's	21
22 10:15 am Worship 11:30am Pastoral Relations Committee	23 7:00pm 4-H	24	25	26	27	28
29 10:15 am Worship	30					



2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
10:15 am Worship	7 7:00pm 4-H meeting	8 7:00pm Trustee meeting	9	10	11	12
6					Independence Day	
10:15 am Worship	14 5:45 -8pm VBS	15 5:45 -8pm VBS	16 5:45 -8pm VBS	17 5:45 -8pm VBS	18 9 to Noon Recycling at Uncle Al's	19
13						
10:15am Worship 12:30-4 Spinners 2-4 Museum open 5:45 -8pm Vacation Bible School	21 7:00pm 4-H meeting	22	23	24	25	26
20						
10:15 am Worship 11:30am Picnic	28	29	30	31 7pm Bible Study		
27						



Birthdays

- 1 Jan Siefker
- 2 Andy Olds
Mark Metz
- 4 Jim Siefker
- 5 Gabriella Nusbaum
- 7 Kiel Diller
- 8 Gage Myers
- 9 Colton Ewing
- 10 Teena Ebbeskotte
- 12 Claire Henderson
- 13 Jay Tadena
- 18 Katie Knoderer
- 26 Cheyenne Ridley
- 27 Dorothy Born
- 28 Betty Metzger
Megan Frank
Christian Long

29 Amelia Page

30 Hope Diller

Penblwydd Hapus i chwil!
(Happy Birthday to you in Welsh)

Anniversaries

- 1 Steve & Rita Siefker
 - 3 Oren & Michele Long
 - 14 Caryn & Ron Robinson
 - 18 Deb & Bob Ritchey
Sarah & Kyle Brenneman
 - 20 George & Hope Diller
Brian & Ann Knoderer
 - 23 Cynthia & Scott Neubert
 - 25 Rachel & Brian Baker
 - 26 Dan & Keisha Larimore
 - 28 Marty & Deb Thomas
- Special dates**
- Pentecost, *June 8, 2025*
Flag Day, *June 14, 2025*
Trinity Sunday, *June 15, 2025*
Father's Day, *June 15, 2025*
Juneteenth, *June 19, 2025*
First day of summer, *June 20, 2025*

Bible Quiz

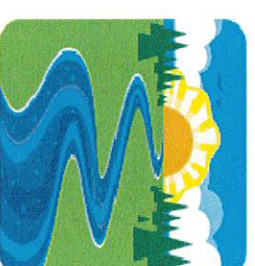
Who said to the prophet Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD"?



- A. Reuben, for selling Joseph into slavery
- B. Jacob, for deceiving Isaac and stealing his brother's birthright
- C. Rahab, a prostitute
- D. David, considered Israel's greatest king

Christian symbol

RIVER — In the Bible, rivers (and other bodies of water) often represent deliverance, salvation, freedom and cleansing. The Jordan River is especially



prominent: The Israelites crossed it to enter the Promised Land after God delivered them from slavery, and John baptized Jesus (and many other people) there. The image of crossing the Jordan River has long been a metaphor for death — crossing from earthly to heavenly life, from worldly struggles to the bliss of God's kingdom, from physical ailments to the wholeness of a resurrection body.

"Live in the world as if only God and your soul were in it; then your heart will never be made captive by any earthly thing." —John of the Cross

Bible Answer: D (See 2 Samuel 12:13.)

JULY

Birthdays

	21	Gary Watkins Diana Barnt Chris Britt
	22	Gabrielle Garman
	23	Gayle Alger
	24	Brittney Jackson
2	25	Jaden Coonfare Adam Long
3	26	Dean Alger
5	28	Kayla Martz Grant
9	29	Debra Stewart Tom Lloyd
11	30	Samantha Nusbaum
12	31	Rod Clevenger
13		Penblwydd Hapus i chwi! (Happy Birthday to you in Welsh)
15		Anniversaries
16	7	Mark & Sue Wannemacher Kiel & Emily Diller
19	10	Andrea & Tracy Frank
	11	Teena & Ron Ebbeskotte
	20	Aaron & Lori Crider
	23	Rod & Nancy Watkins
		Special dates
		Independence Day, July 4

Bible Quiz



In a parable of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, someone

named Lazarus features

prominently while other

characters go unnamed. Who is

Lazarus in this story?

A. a friend Jesus raised from the dead

B. a rich man dressed in fine linen

C. a poor beggar at the rich man's gate

D. the brother of the poor man

E. an angel who carried the poor man to heaven

Christian symbol

PELICAN — In the Middle Ages, the pelican

came to

represent

Jesus' sacrifice

of his blood

for the world.

According to

legend, a

mother

pelican, in times of famine, would

pluck open her chest and feed her

young with her own blood. An

alternate myth was that she fed

her dying young with her blood to



revive them, losing her own life in the process. The depiction of a pelican with a drop of blood on her chest is called "the pelican in her piety."

Bible Answer: C (See Luke 16:19-31.)

Complete joy

Because Jesus came to do such

serious work, we often imagine him straight-faced. Yet Jesus also

enjoyed fun times, such as the wedding celebration at Cana.

When the wine ran out, Jesus miraculously produced more.

Jesus also warmly welcomed children. Picture him lifting an infant into the air or tickling a

giggling youngster while another child, grinning, climbs on his back.

Summer usually allows more

time for fun and play. So use these months to teach the kids in your life — and to remind yourself —

that Jesus came so our "joy may be complete" (John 15:11).

Laughing, playing, having fun, relaxing and enjoying life are part

of living and loving as faithful disciples.



Bible Reading Plan

THE GOSPEL IN 45 DAYS

WEEK 1

Introduction and Early Ministry

- ☐ Day 1: Matthew 1-2 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 2: Luke 1-2 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 3: Matthew 3; Mark 1 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 4: John 1 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 5: Matthew 4; Luke 3 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 6: John 2-3 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 7: Matthew 5 Date: _____

WEEK 2

Jesus' Early Ministry Continues

- ☐ Day 8: Matthew 6 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 9: Matthew 7 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 10: John 4 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 11: Mark 2; Luke 4 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 12: John 5 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 13: Matthew 8; Mark 3 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 14: Luke 5 Date: _____

WEEK 3

Teachings and Miracles

- ☐ Day 15: Matthew 9; Mark 4 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 16: Luke 6 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 17: Matthew 10 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 18: Mark 5; Luke 7 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 19: Matthew 11; John 6 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 20: Matthew 12; Mark 6 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 21: Luke 8 Date: _____

WEEK 4

Further Teachings and Challenges

- ☐ Day 22: Matthew 13; John 7 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 23: Matthew 14; Mark 7 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 24: Luke 9; John 8 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 25: Matthew 15; Mark 8 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 26: John 9-10 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 27: Luke 10-11 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 28: Matthew 16; Mark 9 Date: _____

WEEK 5

Toward the Passion

- ☐ Day 29: Matthew 17; Luke 12 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 30: Matthew 18; John 11 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 31: Luke 13-14 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 32: Matthew 19; Mark 10 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 33: Luke 15 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 34: John 12; Matthew 20 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 35: Mark 11; Luke 16 Date: _____

WEEK 6

Path to the Cross

- ☐ Day 36: Luke 17-18; John 13 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 37: Matthew 21; Mark 12 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 38: Luke 19; John 14 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 39: Matthew 22; Mark 13 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 40: Luke 20; John 15-16 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 41: Matthew 23; Mark 14 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 42: Luke 21-22; John 17 Date: _____

WEEK 7

The Passion and Resurrection

- ☐ Day 43: Matthew 24-25; John 18 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 44: Matthew 26; Mark 15; John 19 Date: _____
- ☐ Day 45: Matthew 27-28; Mark 16; Luke 23-24; John 20-21 Date: _____

CHURCH COUNCIL – 2025

Matt Nusbaum – 616 Sunny Day Dr., Columb. Grv., OH 45830	nusbaummatthew@yahoo.com	Moderator	419-302-3522
Deb Ritchey - 5065 Ridge Rd., Elida, OH 45807	ritched57@hotmail.com	Clerk	419-236-6988
Donna Martin – 4380 Ridge Rd., Elida, OH 45807	55domnamartin@gmail.com	Financial Secretary	419-371-1145
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Oren Long – 2660 W. State Rd., Elida, OH 45807	long4@watchtv.net	Historian	567-204-8279
Heather Nusbaum – 616 Sunny Day Dr., Columb. Grv. OH 45830	Heather.Nusbaum@yahoo.com	Chairman D & D's	419-302-7213
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Jan Siefker – 6710 W. State Rd., Elida, OH 45807	jsiefker001@woh.rr.com	Stewardship	419-516-3623
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Marty Thomas -6260 Watkins Rd., Elida, OH 45807	elthomas@wcoil.com	Chair, Music Comm.	419-642-2732
Gayle Alger – 4251 Ridge Rd., Elida, OH 45807		Memorial Committee	614-448-6895
Dan Larimore – 3796 Pioneer Rd., Elida, OH 45807		Senior Usher	419-303-3058
Janet Alger – 4251 Ridge Rd., Elida, OH 45807		President Shalom	614-448-6895

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Vi Lloyd – 3830 Lloyd Rd., Elida, OH 45807			419-302-2334
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Perspectives on patriotism

While pondering differences between patriotism and nationalism, Ryan Hamm looks to Jesus' example in Luke 19:41-44. "Jesus, it seems, loved his people, his city, his nation — so much so that he cried over it," he writes in Christianity Today. "He didn't despise his country or wish ill upon it — instead, he wanted nothing but the best for it, and it grieved him to see how his people had rejected his teachings."



This example of "patriotism perfected" can serve as a guide for modern-day Christians, according to Hamm. "It's an example that's both pragmatic and romantic, shot through with justice, truth and love. It's not a nationalistic patriotism — it's a love for nation that doesn't pit it against other nations. Instead, it's a recognition of love followed by a mournful recognition of shortcomings."

Put another way, God doesn't love America more than any other nation. And he doesn't want us to worship our nation alongside him, because that is idolatry. Instead, we are to love and proclaim God above any earthly realm.