
The View

FROM
HOPE RIDGE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



Volume 65

March 2014

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A Message from Pastor Beth...

"If the Church really sees itself as the people of God, it is obvious that it can never be static and supra-historical phenomenon, which exists undisturbed by earthly space and historical time. The Church is always and everywhere a living people, gathered together from the peoples of this world and journeying through the midst of time. The Church is essentially en route, on a journey, a pilgrimage. A Church which pitches its tents without looking out constantly for new horizons, which does not continually strike camp, is being untrue to its calling." From "The Church" by Hans Küng

Hans Küng is a Swiss Catholic priest, who has faced much criticism for many of his ideas and theology. I do not know all that he has said, but this statement is something for us to stop and think about. As Jesus sent His disciples and followers out into the world, they were to take the message of the Gospel and share it with people that spoke different languages, were a part of different cultures, and had different understandings about life. It's not so far off from what we still encounter today.

When we encounter neighbors and strangers alike, they have a lot going on. They sometimes speak a different language than us, maybe Spanish or sometimes it is just different words than we like to use. They have different values or priorities in life. They see the world through a different lens than we do. And yet, we want them to experience God's love, and know that life doesn't have to be such a struggle. Life can have a direction and focus. Life can be simplified and enjoyed to its fullest. A life lived with Christ can release those places in life where we have been hurt the deepest, and find new life, filled and focused on the joy of following Jesus.

In order for them to do this, they have to be able to encounter the love of Christ right where they are, and that is where the church has to continue to change, transform, and find innovative ways to speak the life-giving message of Jesus. The dilemma, though, is that we don't like change, we like things that are familiar. But remember Jesus calling His disciples— He called them **OUT OF** the comfort of their jobs (Mark 1:16-18), the comfort of their lives, (Matthew 16:24, Matthew 19:21), and the comfort of their possessions (Mark 10:21). It may not have been easy, but the disciples followed. It was about helping others to come to know Jesus.

Sometimes, we forget how much our faith has changed our outlook and life. We can give up a little, deny ourselves- and remember it's not about us who know God's love, but it is about the lost sheep to whom we should continue to reach out, and invite to get to know Jesus. (Luke 15- The lost coin, lost sheep, prodigal son) Will you open yourself to change, in order that others may come to know Jesus? (John 10:7-10 , John 3: 16-17)

"The Word of God never changes, but the way we speak [present and share] it, must!"
~Allan Bevere

Blessings,
~Pastor Beth

WELCOME: **“Welcoming others into a relationship...**

You are invited to INTRODUCTIONS! *If you are new to the Hope Ridge community and would like to meet a few people and learn more about our church and its missions, then this is for you!* The next gathering is **Sunday, March 30, @11:45am in the Conference Room.** It's an opportunity for individuals and families to share lunch with the Pastor Beth, get a church tour, ask questions, and meet a few members of the congregation in a relaxed setting. To plan for food, please sign-up on the orange Connection Card in worship on Sunday or call the church office by Wednesday, March 26. ***Come make yourself at home at Hope Ridge!***



CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT:

Saturday, April 12, 2-4pm—

Children from the community and our church are invited for this fun, annual tradition!

Wrapped candy donations are now being accepted in the box by the Info Desk.

Join fellow Hope Ridgers
at the movies!

Come gather to see the movie
Son of God on Monday, March 10 @
6:20pm at Atlas Cinemas Great Lakes
Stadium 16, near the mall/OfficeMax.
Meet in the Lobby about 6pm.
Questions? Call Yvonne 440-479-7673.

WELCOME!



**Meet Mike and Joe
from Diversified Cleaning
Solutions!**

**Please introduce yourself and
welcome them as you see them
during the week, working to
make our church home
fresh and clean!**

IDEAS TO CONNECT PEOPLE ON THE PATH... FROM PASTOR JON

The first part of the Discipleship Path at Hope Ridge UMC is simply connecting with others: creating spaces, opportunities, and an atmosphere where relationships are established. These connections are what help people not just enjoy Hope Ridge but also start moving down the path of becoming a fully committed Christ follower. Hope Ridge is doing a great job of welcoming people. There is, however, space for improvement on connecting with people so they become invested in following Christ and being a part of the church community. Here is how you can help connect people to Hope Ridge:

- ⇒ *Connect with people in your community:* Reach out to friends, neighbors, or co-workers to get to know you and a few others from Hope Ridge. Host a dinner party, movie night, or game night at your house that is welcoming, simple, and social.
- ⇒ *Connect with 1st time visitors:* Serve as a greeter or usher on Sunday morning. One area of enhancement the teams are taking on is to designate people as “connectors” who focus on helping 1st time attenders on Sunday morning find seats in the worship space, show them important places like bathrooms, the information desk, and childcare, and (if interested) sit with them in worship, chat in the café, and introduce them to others people there on Sunday.
- ⇒ *Connecting with repeat visitors:* After a person visits Hope Ridge three times, provide a face-to-face or phone call invitation to have coffee or meal with the purpose of getting to know them better, letting them know relevant opportunities for them at Hope Ridge.

WORSHIP: So that they can worship God,...

Sunday Services

8:30am: Traditional Worship with Communion each Sunday in the Chapel

10:30am: Family Service in the Worship & Family Life Center (WFLC), with Sunday School for children

after Children's Time, except for the first Sunday of the month, which is Family Worship. Communion is served the first Sunday of the month. DVDs are available at the Info Desk after the 10:30 worship, to share with those who were unable to be here.

PREPARING FOR EASTER

**Lent begins on March 5, on Ash Wednesday, with the 6-week Lenten Sermon Series
*Following Jesus...Discover Your Path.***



- Palm Sunday: April 13, 2 services — 8:30am in Chapel and 10:30 am in the Worship and Family Life Center (WFLC). Children invited to participate in the procession of the palm at the 10:30 am service.
- Maundy Thursday Service: April 17, 7pm in the WFLC.
- Good Friday Service, April 18, 7pm in the Chapel.
- Easter Sunday: April 20, 2 services — 8:30am in Chapel and 10:30am in WFLC.

Notes from Our Music Director Tom:

SPECIAL MUSIC, Sunday, March 30, both services Cellist David Ellis

David Ellis has worn a variety of hats as a working musician. A conductor, cellist, and viola da gambist, David has performed repertoire ranging from Renaissance to Contemporary. He received a Bachelor's of Music degree in Cello performance, a Master's of Music degree in Historical Performance, and a Master's of Music degree in Orchestral Conducting, all from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. David studied at Oberlin with professors Raphael Jimenez, Tim Weiss, and Catharina Meints. As a viola da gambist and baroque cellist, David has performed in many ensembles in Ohio and throughout the United States, including *The Bach Project*, *Apollo's Fire*, *Burning River Baroque*, and the *Atlanta Baroque Orchestra*. He has performed both as part of the *Baldwin-Wallace Bach Festival* and the *Boston Early Music Festival*, and played viola da gamba in masterclasses for such distinguished artists as Anner Bylisma and Jaap ter Linden. David is a native of Solon, Ohio, and currently resides in Cleveland.



David Ellis



**Don't forget to submit your favorite hymn or
praise song to me, if you haven't heard it in a while.
Email me with your suggestions**

musicdirector@hoperidge.com, or write it down and hand it
to me some Sunday! Thanks! ~Tom D.

NURTURE: Be Nurtured by the Holy Spirit and one another,...

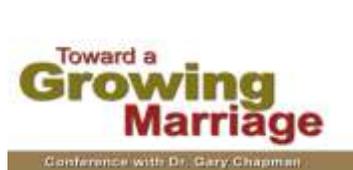
Hope ridge UMW Upcoming Events:

Tues, Mar 25, 7:30pm—Guest Speaker, Concord Fire Chief Mike Warner

Wed, April 2, 10am—Join the UMW Circle for games and laughter!

Fri/Sat May 9/10—Ten Thousand Villages Boutique, p. 5

Sat May 31—Annual Rummage Sale, p. 5



[Toward a Growing Marriage at Mentor UMC, a one-day video-conference with Dr. Gary Chapman.](#)

Saturday, March 22, 2014 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

\$12.00 per couple for lunch

Registration is required, call(440) 255-3496 x14 or email blwrobel@mentorumc.org

Facilitators: Pastor Bev & Steve Wrobel

GriefShare Support Group at Mentor UMC led by Pastor Bev Wrobel, call 255-3496, x.14, for group dates and times. It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member or friend, you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have many questions about things you've never faced before. GriefShare groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

Join in on the MARCH HOPE RIDGE BOOK CLUB

Read...*The Time Keeper* By Mitch Albom, and gather to discuss on Monday, March 24 @ 7pm in the Library.

[Lay Servant Ministry Opportunities](#)

The goal of the Lay Servant Ministries program is to provide training opportunities and experiences to help people realize and respond to their personal callings. Lay Servant Ministries program strives to help disciples become aware of their spiritual gift or gifts and then develop skills necessary for the full fruition of these gifts. It has aided thousands of church members to be better servants of Jesus Christ, to become stronger church family leaders, and to more capably assist their pastors

Registration is underway for three different classes at the

Lay Servant Ministries Academy, at Middlefield UMC.

Classes begin Friday, March 21 at 6pm and continue through

Saturday, March 22, 8am-4pm.

1. **BASIC-** First time candidates for Lay Speaking, or those who haven't taken a class in the past 3 years (2010 and prior).
2. **LIVING OUR BELIEFS-THE UNITED METHODIST WAY**
3. **TEACHING THAT TRANSFORMS-FACILITATING LIFE CHANGE THROUGH ADULT BIBLE TEACHING.**

Let Pastor Beth know if you are interested or for more info.

Registration forms available in the church office. Register by March 5 for discounts.

Put Hope Ridge Vacation Bible School on your 2014 calendar!
The Everywhere Fun Fair: Where God's World Comes Together!!

July 28-August 1, 9-noon



Youth Campers and Adult Volunteers—

Experience Faith and Fun at Summer Church Camp!!

Have you taken a look at all East Ohio Methodist Camps have to offer this summer?

Camp registration newspapers are available at the Info Desk, hanging on the bulletin board in the Youth Room, or at EOCSummercamps.org. Camp workers are also needed- look to the Community Bulletin Board near the Connection Corner for info.

SEND: and be sent out to serve others in Christ's name."



Beginning March 9, the Hope Ridge Children's Sunday School is encouraging children to participate in a Lenten offering for StopHungerNow.org. A quarter buys one meal for one child in an impoverished country, so let's see how many quarters our children can earn to help feed other children! Look for a lemon-color half-sheet with fun ideas to get your child excited to help this mission over the next 40 days!

Plan to attend Sun, March 16, 2pm: Games at Mentor Way—come enjoy the residents of Mentor Way and play some low key card and dice games and visit! Meet at 2pm across from Malley's on Mentor Ave the 3rd Sunday of each month.

DINE TO DONATE, THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Eat breakfast, lunch or dinner at one of 23 restaurants listed in Mentor, Concord, Painesville, Willoughby, Kirtland and Wickliffe, and a portion of your bill will be donated to United Way's "Feed Lake County" program, supporter of over 50 food pantries in Lake County! Participants in Concord include Beach Club Grill, Panini's, Pub Frato and Redhawk Grille. Look for the flyers listing all participating restaurants on the Info Desk and bulletin boards around the church, or go to www.UWLC.ORG.



Save the Dates! Friday, May 9 thru Sunday, May 11, noon
Hope Ridge is once again hosting a gift boutique to benefit

Ten Thousand Villages, an international fair trade organization. The boutique will be held in the conference room and will offer lovely, quirky, and useful items purchased at a fair price from artisans from around the world. More information will become available as to the hours of the sale, but save time on your calendars if you want to help with the project. Also save money in your

checkbooks to buy unique gifts for graduations, weddings, Mother's Day, and even Christmas.

Contact Carol Benroth, 352-6002 or jncberoth@msn.com, for more information.



The Hope Ridge famous annual Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday May 31, so mark your calendars and start saving good "junque". This is the Saturday after Memorial Day. Donations will be accepted after May 27. We're looking for lots of help with the publicity, set-up, and sorting, cashier-ing, Café/luncheon, and of course clean-up. We will also need a place to take our unsold goods after the sale. Contact Pat Meyer, if you can help, or sign-up on a Sunday Connection Card!



Can you be a part of the Joseph Ministry? from Harry Fishleigh

The goal of the Joseph Ministry is to help with household projects that you are not able to do yourself. In the past these have ranged from leaky faucets to whole house painting and rebuilding of porches. I am looking both for volunteers and for projects. Our goal is to email interested volunteers whenever a project is ready to be done. The project then would be done by those interested, and who have time available. If you would like to be added to the email list of volunteers, please email me at hlhpsa@gmail.com, or on the Connection Card. Also, if you have a project that needs to be done, you can contact me at the same email address or by cell phone (440-537-0179). ~Harry

The Hope Chest in Painesville The Hope Chest now is in need of men's shoes, work boots, and sneakers. Please clean off any mud, and replace worn shoelaces. Donations can be left in the red wagon outside the Hope Ridge kitchen. No shoes to donate? A few packages of long shoelaces will help. Hope Chest still needs a strong person with a large vehicle who can volunteer for about 1 hour, once a week, Mon-Thurs. We now have a website <http://hopechest.yolasite.com> and an email address HopeChest.Painesville@gmail.com. Let Pat Meyer know if you can be of help. Thank you!

News Around the Church

January Report of Our Financial Support of the Hope Ridge Community & Ministries

Our General Fund offering in January was \$3,563 less than our needs, but because of our generous offering in December, we were still able to pay our full apportionment amount in January.

<u>Monthly</u>		<u>2014 Year-To-Date</u>	
Jan Operating Expense Needs	\$28,653	YTD Operating Expense Needs	\$28,653
Jan Apportionment Needs	<u>2,633</u>	YTD Apportionment Needs	<u>2,633</u>
Total Offering Needs	<u>\$31,285</u>	Total Offering Needs	<u>\$31,285</u>
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Offerings Jan 1-31, 2014	\$27,749	YTD Offerings thru Jan 31	\$27,749

February Report of Our Financial Support of the Hope Ridge Community & Ministries

Our General Fund offering in February was just \$246 less than our needs. Because of this generosity, we were able to pay our full apportionment amount for February. We still remain slightly behind our needs year-to-date.

<u>Monthly</u>		<u>2014 Year-To-Date</u>	
Feb Operating Expense Needs	\$29,328	YTD Operating Expense Needs	\$57,980
Feb Apportionment Needs	<u>2,633</u>	YTD Apportionment Needs	<u>5,266</u>
Total Offering Needs	<u>\$31,961</u>	Total Offering Needs	<u>\$63,246</u>
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Offerings Feb 1-28, 2014	\$31,715	YTD Offerings thru Feb 28	\$59,464

Save the Dates!

HOPE RIDGE TOWN HALL MEETING

Saturday, April 12, 9-11am in the WFLC

Members of all the church committees and teams

plan to gather for this joint meeting.

PLANNED GIVING DINNER AND SEMINAR

Wednesday, May 7, 6-8pm

Learn about leaving a legacy of faith through donating estate gifts and assets,
as well as memorial contributions to Hope Ridge. More details to come!



Parents' Night Out was a great success!!

On Valentine's Day, February 14, Hope Ridge opened its doors to the children of our congregation, preschool, and Upward basketball to let parents reconnect with each other and have a night out— without the kids! Over 70 children were left in our care! And with the dedicated and loving talents of over 25 volunteers, all children were safe and had a wonderful time: playing, eating, hearing stories, making crafts, and watching videos. We are so blessed to have this beautiful facility to open to children of the community! The volunteers had a great time as well, reconnecting to the joys, laughter, and wonderment of children. Thank you to all who helped, and we look forward to doing it again! –Pastors Jon and Beth



March

BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Don Sotka
 3 Bob DeGraff
 Becky Parker
 Luca Zampini
 4 Carri Smonko
 9 Claire Kovell
 Cole Kovell
 Chris Finan
 Mark Noviski
 Sue Patterson
 Lucas Sadler
 11 Brent Moll
 12 Conner Reeves
 14 Brittany Hampton
 15 Ross Beebe
 17 Betsy Newman
 18 Charlie Hart
 20 Traci Simmons
 21 Judie Elgin
 Megan Kohler
 22 Gail Lowe
 Jason Meunier
 23 Cheryl Menke
 24 Jessie Duncan
 25 Karen Bauer
 David Goodban
 26 Gary Baptie
 Ed Root
 27 Benjamin Dame
 Doug Kinsey
 28 Michelle Kaplan
 Ed Lowe
 29 Kathryn Fellenstein
Maggie O'Reilly
 Rick Pottenger
 30 Landon Fellenstein
 31 Jack Butler
 Annaliese Davis
 Sadie Snell
 Tony Sullivan

ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Norm & Kay Wheelock
 22 Kim & Eva Thomas
 26 Ted & Linda Daly
 31 Joe Bova & Kathy
 Tripeppi-Bova

Lent Readings

Supporting the themes of the sermons.

**Available today at the Info Desk....
 a new Hope Ridge Lenten Devotional!**

Following Jesus: Where is Your Path Leading?

This booklet provides a way to explore and discover the many stages on the journey of following Christ. These stages capture the journey a person chooses to make from being unconnected to Christ, to being a fully committed Christ follower. Each week of Lent is broken down into daily teachings, with many story contributions from Hope Ridge members: Don Sotka and Laurie Rider, Harry Fishleigh, Yvonne Oyler and Maggie Gruss. A big THANK YOU to each of these authors for all of their work!

Pick up your devotional today. Feel free to take notes as you read, respond to the questions at the bottom of each page, and discuss this book with others. Blessings to you as you explore what it means to follow Jesus and discover where your path is leading!

CONGRATULATIONS TO...



Norm and Kay Wheelock!

*Celebrating their 70th wedding
 Anniversary on March 5!
 They are a blessing to all!*

Queen Kathy Root!

*Celebrating 20 years as a
 Hope Ridge Preschool Teacher!
 The Preschool is blessed to have her
 as a caring teacher and fun part
 of their staff!*



HOPE RIDGE
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
9870 Johnnycake Ridge Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060

Phone: 440-352-2141
Fax: 440-639-2405
hopeoffice@hope ridge.com

Rev. Beth Wilterdink, pastor
pastorbeth@hope ridge.com
Rev. Jon Wilterdink, pastor
pastorjon@hope ridge.com

OFFICE HOURS
Monday—Thursday: 9am—3pm
Friday: 9am—noon



to support the YSP (Youth Service \ Project)! Dinner and a Show with Silent Auction, **Sunday, March 16th at Mentor UMC**. Doors open at 5pm. Auction, Dinner and a Show at 5:30pm. Adults \$10.00, Children \$5.00. Have a great evening, and **support Hope Ridge member Morgan Nelson** and the other youth going on this one-week mission to Plymouth, NC this summer.

Live In Concert - The Singing Angels

Saturday, April 5th at Mentor UMC. The Singing Angels was founded in 1964 and is dedicated to youth development through the highest level of artistic achievement in the performing arts. The Singing Angels has performed in 34 countries - entertaining dignitaries, presidents and popes. The Singing Angels has performed four times at the White House and in concert with a host of stars. This wonderful evening includes both a silent and live auction! Doors open at 6pm. Advance ticket sales available at the church or by calling 255-3496 or 585-9462. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12, and 5 & under free. **All proceeds will benefit Royal Family KIDS Camp #271 and Royal Family KIDS Mentoring Club #053 of Willoughby Hills United Methodist Church.**

