



# What's Up Wickliffe!

MAY 2023



## **Purge negative thoughts and feelings**

2 Corinthians 10:15 says to "take every thought captive". To make space for more joy in our life, we have to intentionally "take captive" every negative thought and actively let go of it. Holding on to negative thoughts about yourself or your life is a stumbling block to a life that "sparks joy" everywhere you turn. These negative thoughts often look like "I can't do this" or "this will never work". Time to sweep those thoughts straight into the trash! Intentionally swapping negative thought patterns for spiritual truths will lighten your soul and breathe fresh life into your spirit. Reminding yourself of who God says you are is a surefire way to rise above the negative thoughts we often sink into.

## **Clear the clutter of unmet expectations and unanswered prayers**

As you work on spring cleaning your soul, consider if there are unmet expectations or unanswered prayers you tend to dwell on. Visualize taking them off your own shoulders and placing them before Christ. Offer them to God. He can carry the weight of the burden of deep disappointments or an uncertain future far better than we.

## **Dust away old resentments and past hurts**

As new life blooms all around us in springtime, we can ask God to breathe new life into our relationships, too. Are you holding on to resentments or grudges? They are taking up space in your mind and heart, leaving less room for joy and peace. This season, ask God to heal old wounds and mend any broken places. Invite Him to breathe His Spirit into any relationships that need mending.

## **Ask God to scrub your heart clean as you forgive and are forgiven**

This is a great time of year to consider people who need your forgiveness, and to extend that forgiveness to them. Receive all the graces offered through the beauty of absolution. Every time we turn to prayer, it truly feels like God is scrubbing away a layer of dirt and film from our heart. We can see more clearly once the dust is wiped away. This spring, consider how He might scrub your soul of sin through

confession and prayer. Ask Him to wipe away the film of anger or a past grudge that needs to be forgiven.

## **Kick a bad habit to the curb**

This, of course, is easier said than done. Put simply, bad habits are clutter in our life. And how freeing is it to stop rearranging piles of clutter and instead just get rid of it? We are all works in progress. This is not about striving for perfection or beating ourselves up about *all* the things we'd like to change. It's simply an opportunity to consider what bad habits may have crept in over the long winter. Too much time online? Skipping the morning prayers? Snoozing the alarm every day? Choose one to kick to the curb.

## **Evaluate your current spiritual routines and adjust as needed**

Taking stock of where you are currently is the first step in creating a rich spiritual life that leads you closer to Christ. Honestly evaluate your current spiritual routines. Look at what your daily prayer life looks like, your Church attendance, your offerings. Are there areas you want to grow in? Are there spiritual routines that need to be adjusted for your current season of life? Ask yourself what an ideal spiritual life looks like in practical terms. Consider where you are currently. Only then can you make a plan to get from point A to point B.

## **Clean with and for God**

This spring, let's meet God in the midst of our mopping and sweeping, dusting and decluttering. Let's invite Him to show us what needs to get cleaned up in our lives in order to be more joyful and fulfilled. Let us cling to what truly "sparks joy", which is a life lived in communion with Christ and accordance with His will for each and every one of us.

## **Check Out What's Inside**

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# MAY SCHEDULE

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- May 7            Fifth Sunday of Easter
- May 14          Sixth Sunday of Easter
  - ◆ Mother's Day Support Meeting
- May 16 (Tuesday) Session Meeting
- May 21          Seventh Sunday of Easter
- May 28          Day of Pentecost
  - ◆ Communion



- May 11    Kevin Yacucci
- May 22    Nancy Witt
- May 25    Kathleen Kirchner

**REMEMBER TO WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023!**

**Church Office Hours:**  
 Monday - 9:00am - 12:00pm  
 Tuesday - Closed  
 Wednesday - Closed  
 Thursday - 9:00am - 12:00pm  
 Friday - Closed

(Hours may vary. Please contact the office for an appointment if you need in the church)

Church Website: [www.wickliffepc.com](http://www.wickliffepc.com)  
 Secretary's Email: [wickliffepc@gmail.com](mailto:wickliffepc@gmail.com)

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Wickliffe Presbyterian Church  
 45 Idlewood Rd.  
 Austintown, OH 44515  
 P: 330-792-6441 F: 330-792-1006

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TLCC Daycare and Preschool  
 Director, Norma Johnson  
 330-792-9048



### PENTECOST OFFERING



Dear Wonderful Wickliffe Members,

Great many thanks to you who donated to the One Great Hour of Sharing just a couple of weeks ago! Pentecost Offering comes very soon after the OGHS Offering, and it is difficult for me to promote it coming right on the heels of OGHS!! However, if we all give a little, it adds up to a lot!!!

#### Season of Pentecost. April 10 -May 28, 2023

A foundation of faith established during childhood through young adulthood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share in their faith in Christ.

Supporting Youth in your own church or community - 40% -This portion of the Offering is retained by our congregation for our community to develop and support programs for young people. Perhaps for the Rescue Mission or Needle's Eye.

Young Adult Volunteers - 25% - serving communities around the world and growing as leaders through transformative Christian service.

Guiding Youth - 25% - Supporting ministries that inspire and guide youth as they grow in their walk with Christ.

Advocating For Children At Risk - 10% - Providing advocacy and education that protects and nurtures our children and youth.

**REMEMBER:** If we all give a little, It adds up to a lot!!!

Donna Cooper

### DEACONS ICE CREAM SOCIAL

May 21, 2023

*After Worship Service*

Come one and all for Lunch and Ice Cream

Provided by the Deacons

Hot Dogs with Toppings, Potato Salad,

Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Pickles

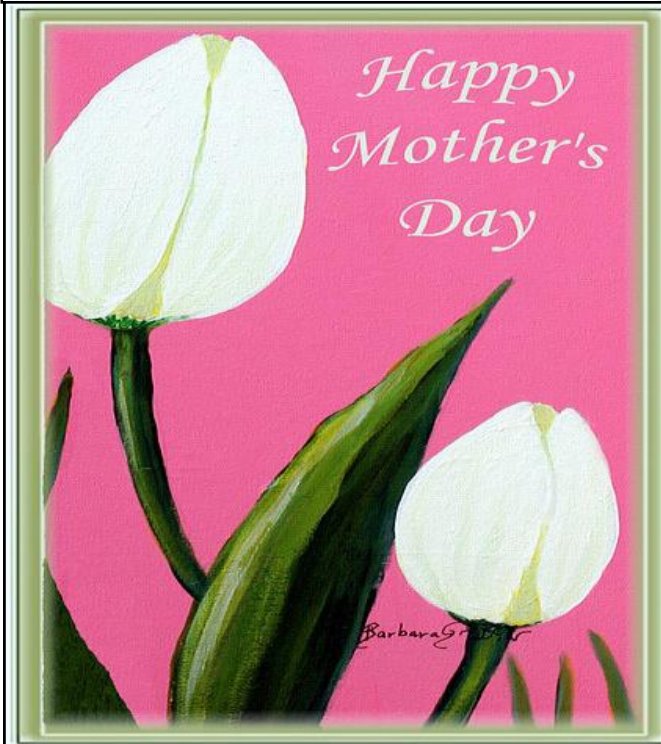
Ice Cream with Lots of Toppings



A free will offering will be taken. We are asking for cookie donations from the congregation to top off our menu! You can bring them to church Sunday morning. Thanks so much!

**Put May 21st on your calendar!!**

**2023 Per Capita is \$32.50. Per Capita information flyers are available at the church.**



♥ Mother

*Mothers are the place where love  
And happiness rings out like bells  
In honor of our birth.  
Mothers are the sun that lights  
For life our inner sky,  
So we may know that we are loved  
And need not question why.*

*Mothers are the moon that shines  
Upon our black despair,  
So even when we weep, we know  
That someone's always there.*

*Whatever fear, or stress, or pain  
Might them to anger move,  
We know that underneath the storm  
We have, always, their love.*

~Author Unknown~



**REMINDER FROM JEFF**

Jeff Bryant is still collecting **aluminum cans** this year for a project with the VFW called **"Cans for Vets"**.

Please bring your cans to the church (garbage can is placed near the door) or set them by the garage for this very worthy cause. Jeff will be collecting the cans for the remainder of the year.

Thank you in advance for your Christian generosity!



**Ronald McDonald House**

**"POP TABS—Reminder"**

This is a reminder that you take time to collect **Pop Tabs** for our **RONALD McDONALD HOUSE Outreach**. You will find the tall plastic container in

the Narthex. Let's please see how fast we can fill the jug this time. Blessings to all for your support of this worthy cause!

~ Nancy O'Hara, Clerk of Session

PRAY FOR UKRAINE



**A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE**

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.



## IN STEP WITH SESSION



Our meeting was held on Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup>, with all our Elders present. During the Clerk's comments, we discussed moving forward on the following that we had temporarily stopped during Covid: ushers can start collected the offering; communion can return after we finish using up the individual wafer/drink containers; ushers can light the candles in place of Acolytes. Ruth will start ordering plants for the Sanctuary along with speaking to Debbie Fabian on the return of the choir or at least solos. If we missed anything else, please let us know for discussion at our next Session meeting.

F.Y.I.: Our pledges are down. If you need to catch up on your giving, we at least now have our offering envelopes. If you did not received your envelopes, please let Jamie or myself know. We have extra. Our utilities are a little high, especially the water bill. There will always be repairs that need our attention. Never fails that something will break down.

The following committees reported what they are working toward during this Spring.... Service has started cutting grass, Company is working on repairing the outside sign, and all is well otherwise. Worship is still looking for lay leaders. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Growth is working on honoring Birthdays. Please take note of sign in Narthex. Nominating mentioned that Patti Cramer is on her committee and our moderator, Meta, suggested Janelle find one more person from congregation to sit on this committee. Once Sherry Yacucci returns to church, we will have our installation of officers. TLCC will be hosting the following events: Mother's Day Program- May 12<sup>th</sup> @ 11 A.M. and Preschool Graduation- May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M.

We spoke on the meeting held at the Hubbard Presbyterian Church with two other churches present (Hubbard and Vienna). Jamie Bryant and Janelle Truslow are our two representatives when meetings are set for the three churches. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss topics pertinent to decision making as we try to find a pastor. No decisions were made at this time.

We discussed, also, the next Presbytery meeting to be held in person on May 16<sup>th</sup> in person at 10 A.M. at Champion Presbytery. Bill Cooper will be our commissioner. Also we are in the process of updating our Hall and Wedding rental form.

Thank you to all for your patience as we try and address issues of your concern. I would suggest that you bring your questions, etc. to any Elder who can share your concerns with Session.

Blessings to all as we move further into Spring.

**With love from your Session and Clerk of Session, Nancy O'Hara**



**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**  
ANNOUNCING

**MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY CELEBRATION!**  
"Labor of Love: A Heart to Care" *Matthew 25:37-40*  
**SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023**

Western Reserve United Methodist Church  
4580 Canfield Rd. Canfield, OH 44406

Registration at 10:00 AM      Program begins at 10:30 AM followed by Lunch  
\$15.00 donation for lunch, program and materials  
**Registrations due by Friday, May 5, 2023**

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY CELEBRATION**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

How Many Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_


*Make Check payable to Church Women United*

Mail to: **Church Women United**  
**P.O. Box 11217**  
**Youngstown, OH 44511**

**Needle's Eye Soup Ministry**

Look for your initial and please give cans of soup, beans, or peanut butter! These donations are given to the elderly in our area who find their food supply very low at the end of the month. You can find the basket beside the Fellowship door.

Thank you for your generosity!  
Donna Cooper



**This month's initials are: F—G—H**

# May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 11:30 AM Goodtimers	4 5:45 PM Tops	5	6
7 10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	8  TLCC Board Meeting at 6:00 PM	9	10	11 5:45 PM Tops	12 TLCC Mother's Day Program at 11:00 AM  	13
14 10:00 AM Worship  MOTHER'S DAY  Support Mtg.  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	15	16 Stated Mtg at 6 PM at Champion PC  Session Mtg. at 6:00 PM	17	18  5:45 PM Tops	19	20
21 10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	22	23 1:00-3:00 PM Discovery Group	24 TLCC Preschool Graduation 7 PM  	25 5:45 PM Tops	26	27
28 10:00 AM Worship PENTECOST Communion  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	29 	30	31			