

# *Just Some Thoughts from the Pastor*

Just seven months ago we began a journey together. With that new journey, both of our lives changed. For you it was seeing another pastor leave to serve God in a new place with new people, at a pivotal moment in the life of Firestone Park UMC - the 100th Anniversary of the churches founding. For myself it was more than another appointment. It was a homecoming. For it was here that the spark of my faith was nurtured and cared for. It became a fire within me, and my wanting to do as the third verse of the hymn "Pass It On" states: "I wish for you my friend this happiness I've found; you can depend on him, it matters not where you're bound. I'll shout it from the mountain top; I want the world to know; the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on."

During these months together we have celebrated the passing of members and friends to their heavenly reward. We have rejoiced in a baptism, broken bread together, journeyed Christmas, and closed out the year with a Watch Night Service. We have remembered the past but more importantly, look to the future and what God has planned for us together.

How long of a journey we will have together only God knows. But, I believe he has a plan for us. To strive to be not just another church in the Firestone Park community, but the church for the Firestone Park community. That we together can, with God as our guide, make a difference here in the park. I ask each of you to pray for our church, this community God placed us in, for each other, and for me.

Peace joy and love,  
Pastor Sam

**The Monthly Periodical of:  
Firestone Park United Methodist Church  
250 North Firestone Boulevard  
Akron, OH 44301**

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

# *February* 2019



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church®**

## February Birthdays

1 - Dolores Cort	14 - Pat Christ
2 - Don Sine, Jr.	Sue Dyser
3 - Judi Gardner	15 - Lisa Culp
4 - Veronica Conrad	16 - Melissa Wyatt
Valerie Gostlin	20 - Kevin Yerkey
6 - Sarah Beery	23 - Karen Gonder
9 - Michael Casey	24 - Carroll Beery
Adam Smith	26 - Lyn Boldt
11 - Jim Leonard	Gavin Briggs
Anthony Petrusek	Winslet Kelley
12 - Evelyn Bachtel	Nancy Mobley
Karen Menefee	28 - George Nicol
John Pirt	29 - John Yerkey
Ruth Roach	

## February Anniversary

14 - Jim and Karen MacDonald - 49 Years

## Condolences

Our prayers and condolences to the family and friends of Betty Witzl, who passed on January 11. May she rest in the arms of the Lord.

<b>October Offerings</b>	\$11,112.00
<b>October Disbursements</b>	\$13,532.00
<b>Net Monthly Gain (Loss)</b>	\$ 1,869.00
<b>November Offerings</b>	\$11,877.00
<b>November Disbursements</b>	\$10,825.00
<b>Net Monthly Gain (Loss)</b>	\$ 2,921.00
<b>December Offerings</b>	\$16,216.00
<b>December Disbursements</b>	\$17,379.00
<b>Net Monthly Gain (Loss)</b>	\$ 1,758.00



## Thank You

Thank yous from Angel Tree gift recipients:

Wishing you a peaceful holiday season. Merry Christmas and thank you. The Jones Family  
Thank you for your support.

Love, Promise and the Kids

Hello Friends: I want to thank each and every one of you for bringing Christmas joy to 590+ children. Because of your help, 200+ families received gifts, 250 pounds of food, school supplies, pajamas, and more! No matter how you helped, you played a part in this wonderful program. The families and our OPEN M team thank you for your servant heart and generous spirit.

Nathan Kreis, Events, Volunteer and HR Manager, OPEN M

Pastor Sam and Members: I was happy to receive my 50 year pin from the church. It was a joy for me and my family to be a part of FPUMC for all those years. I miss the church family, but I am fortunate to be a member of High Street UMC in Muncie. Thank you and many wishes for continued success in the future.

In Christian Love, Peggy Sigrist Burton

Many, Many thanks for the kind ways you remembered Betty. Your kindness was greatly appreciated. May you all enjoy good health, happiness and God's blessings this year.

Frank A. Witzl

## Missions

### MISSION FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

#### Family Promise of Summit County

Family Promise of Summit County helps homeless families with children stay together and achieve sustainable independence.

### EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY AND FREE LUNCH/DINNER MISSION

February 6 - Free Lunch, 11am - 1pm

February 13 - Free Lunch, 11am - 1pm

February 20 - Free Lunch, 11am - 1pm

February 27 - Free Dinner & Food Pantry  
4pm - 6pm

## Upcoming Events

### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

March 6, 7:00 p.m.

### PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

April 14, 10:30 a.m.

### MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

April 18, 7:00 p.m.

Combined service with  
Firestone Park Presbyterian  
and Allenside Presbyterian Churches  
at Allenside Presbyterian Church  
410 Rexford St., Akron, OH 44314

### GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

April 19, 7:00 p.m.

### EASTER SUNDAY

Sunrise Service - 7:00 a.m. - tentative

\*Easter Breakfast - 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Easter Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

\*Volunteers are needed to take charge of the  
Easter Breakfast. Please contact the  
church office no later than March 31.

## Special Prayer Request

Our United Methodist Church will be addressing an issue that has been facing the church for quite some time. It has to do with the issue of human sexuality, specifically dealing with homosexuality. There are three plans that will be brought before the Special General Conference, beginning February 23-26, 2019. As I have brought up during our prayer time and other times in worship, the need for prayer for those taking part in this conference is paramount. For the outcome, made by those who are representing every conference of our church, will affect all of us as a United Methodist.

I am asking that you pray each day now and through the month of February for discernment for those taking part. That they may seek guidance from our Creator, as they discuss each plan and as they cast their vote.

Peace joy and love,  
Pastor Sam

## Congregational Life

### LITURGISTS NEEDED FOR 2019

There are still open dates: May thru August and October thru December. If you want to sign up for a month, please call the church office to find out what is still available.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSING

If there is ever a need to cancel worship service due to weather conditions, you will be notified via email. It will also be posted on our Facebook page. If you do not have access to either of these, tune in to NewsChannel 5.

### LOOKING AHEAD

Our Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, June 1. As we approach the spring cleaning season, why not donate your unwanted items to this sale. Donations will be accepted starting in April. Watch for more information coming soon. Thank you to Pam Ferguson for chairing this event. Volunteers are needed to help Pam.

Our Holiday Bazaar and All Day Lunch did not happen in 2018. We had a mini bazaar with a Swiss Steak Dinner. If we are going to once again have a bazaar, we need someone to chair this event. The planning should start in June so we can acquire vendors. If you are interested in chairing this event, please contact Nancy Thomas in the church office. This is a great way for us to raise money for our church.

### UMW CINNAMON ROLL SALE

Cost is \$2.00 Each

Orders will be taken February 3 thru 17. Pick up will be Sunday, February 24, After Worship. Please give your orders to Lyn Boldt.

### UPCOMING FEBRUARY MEETINGS

February 11 - SPRC, 6:00 p.m.

February 15 - Altar Guild, 7:00 p.m.

February 18 - Finance, 6:00 p.m.

Trustees, 6:45 p.m.

**Please mark your calendars as a reminder!**  
**Post cards are no longer mailed out.**



# February 2019

February 2019							March 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2 12:00pm Private event
3 Start Cin Roll Sale 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Worship/SS 11:30am Soup and Sub 5:00pm Faith & Hope	4 6:30pm Boy Scouts	5 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Cub Scouts	6 8:30am Men's Brk/Quilt 11:00am Free Lunch 6:30pm Disciple 4 Class 7:00pm Wesleyan Chimers	7 7:00pm Chancel Choir	8	9
10 Scout Sunday 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Faith & Hope AA	11 6:00pm SPRC 6:30pm Boy Scouts	12 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Cub Scouts	13 8:30am Men's Brk/Quilt 11:00am Free Lunch 6:30pm Disciple 4 Class 7:00pm Wesleyan Chimers	14 7:00pm Chancel Choir	15 7:00pm Altar Guild	16 9:00am Private Event
17 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Worship/SS 11:30am UMW Tea 5:00pm Faith & Hope AA	18 6:00pm Finance 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:45pm Trustee Mtg	19 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Cub Scouts	20 8:30am Men's Brk/Quilt 11:00am Free Lunch 6:30pm Disciple 4 Class 6:30pm Faith Circle 7:00pm Wesleyan	21 7:00pm Chancel Choir	22	23
24 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Worship 10:30am YD Music 11:30am Pick up Cin Roll 5:00pm Faith & Hope	25 6:30pm Boy Scouts	26 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Cub Scouts	27 8:30am Men's Brk/Quilt 4:00pm Free Dinner 6:30pm Disciple 4 Class 7:00pm Wesleyan Chimers	28 7:00pm Chancel Choir	Mar 1	2