

## Thoughts For the Journey—MARCH 2017

### *Are We for It or Are We Against It?*

The following is a true story I read recently. I thought this would be the perfect time to share it.

A few years ago the first place prize at the Idaho Falls Science Fair went to a 9<sup>th</sup> grader with a sharp eye for people's blind spots. His project urged people to sign a petition calling for a ban or control of a substance called, "dihydrogen monoxide." He cited excellent reasons for taking such action:

It causes excessive swelling, sweating and vomiting.  
It is a major component in acid rain.  
It can cause severe burns in its gaseous state.

Inhaling can be fatal.  
It erodes mountains and beaches.  
It makes automobile brakes less effective.  
It is found in tumors of terminal cancer patients.



The 9<sup>th</sup> grader asked 50 people to support his proposition. Then, out of the 50 came these results:

43 signed the petition.  
6 were undecided.  
1 refused to sign.

The one who refused to sign did so for a simple reason. He knew "dihydrogen monoxide" is quite simply put, nothing more than "water." We live in a time when public opinion surveys carry more weight than scientific research. We have enshrined what people "think" the facts are, above what the facts really are. Our political "spin doctors" have taught us to believe that image is more important than truth. It depends on how the idea is packaged.

Not surprisingly, this kind of non-thinking has invaded the area of Biblical truth. People sit around a table and vote on what they think Jesus could have said. Beloved, we must make certain that we are students of the Bible. So that when someone suggests we incorporate false doctrine or they try to get us to follow after sinfulness, we will know what the Bible says so we can avoid potential heartache and sorrow.

Blessings for Journey,

Rev. Chuck

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### MARCH 2017

Minister: Rev. Charles Butcher  
Christian Ed. & Youth Director: Polly Tallos  
Secretary: Londa Blaine  
Music Director: Miki Saito  
Bookkeeper: Bob Weber  
Dr. Ralph Thompson: Pathways Counseling

# The VOICE

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**MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIV.**

- 2 Collin Trimble
- 3 Pete Tallos
- 5 Alex Carpenter
- 6 Eileen Weber
- Stephanie Tyler
- Brittney Bokar
- Amari Horton
- 7 Lisa Woodby
- Arlene Squire
- 8 Mary Tite
- 12 Dolly Dixon
- Tammy Hammond
- Mary Jo Clark-Samko
- 13 Sue Smith
- 14 Cassidy Karban
- Robin & Jim Galvin
- 17 Mike Krasnevich
- Dan Landin
- 20 Val & Ted Fletcher
- Glenn & Carol Swartz
- 21 Ted Fletcher
- Angie & Ed Carter
- Donna & Bruce Burdick
- 22 Becky Moran
- Holly Chapman
- 23 Linda Morrison
- 24 Rachel Trimble
- Liz Bokar
- 25 Bill Nowagarski, Karen Mole
- 28 Scott White
- Shannon Belfi
- Carol & Doug Busche
- 29 Karen Vilevac
- 30 Christine Smith
- 31 Vicky Spitzer
- Paige Bokman



**Serving At the Lord's Table  
MARCH 2017**

**8:00** Jim and Linda Ickes  
**9:30** Pat Ables, Carol Swartz, Mark Carpenter, Robin Bricker, Paula Krasnevich, Mike Krasnevich, Theresa McDonough  
**Elders:** Robin Galvin, Jeff Hensley

**2017 Sunday Lenten Readings:  
"Reflections By Candlelight"**

**We will be counting down to Easter with these short readings designed to help us look inward and examine ourselves during the Lenten season. Our collection of Lenten readings reverses the Advent observance, when one candle is lit each Sunday. Instead, during Lent one candle is extinguished each week.**

**This reminds us of Jesus' verdict on the world from John 3:19, 20: 'light has come into the world, but the people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.'**

**The readings center around the themes of darkness and light and their effects on our lives. These themes allow us to ponder and reflect whether our lives are bringing darkness or light into our world.**



**Camp Christian Promotion Sundays**

Camp Christian offers fun and faithful programming throughout the summer for the youth and young adults for our congregations and communities from Kindergarten through age 29. Camp Christian is an important, vital and treasured ministry of the Christian Church in Ohio. In an effort to grow our participation in this wonderful regional resource churches around our Ohio region are being asked to participate in the upcoming Camp Christian Promotion Sundays taking place on March 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. On these two Sundays our worship will reflect the beauty and joy of Camp Christian as well as Lent.



**COMMUNITY MEAL ....**

A good time was had by all ....from the prepping, to the cooking, to the eating and to the clean up. It's all wonderful when there is great food and fun fellowship. Thanks to all who helped and to the "cupcake ladies." SWEET! We served 32 and had 8 carry-outs to shut-ins, which is a ministry unto itself.

THANKS EVERYONE FOR YOUR GENEROUS HEARTS! Pat Ables

**THANK YOU to Laura Kuhn and Linda Ickes for making the arrangements for a great fellowship and breakfast at 4 KEYS on Sunday, Feb. 26th. A new restaurant in Eaton Twp. and breakfast with friends!**

**A SURE SIGN OF "Spring" .....**  
**NECC ALL CHURCH  
 WORKDAY, SATURDAY,  
 April 15th, 9:00-3:00**  
 Join us.



**CHILI COOKOFF/Cleveland Christian Home/Midview Jazz Band.....**A perfect combination for a fun evening.

The hall was full of hunger people ready to test the chili and eat the delicious other food provided. We had fun "picking a winner" and listening to the **Midview Jazz band directed by Josh Brunger**. Instrumental and vocal solos by the young people were awesome. Our thanks to **Kate Johnson Vinciguerra** for enlightening us on the many ways the **CCH** is helping our youth in today's world.

*We collected \$385.00 in memory of Dave Carpenter, who made our "house chili" and chili rolls each year.*

*Our thanks to Al Jones for making the house chili. He did a great job.*

Our total contributions for the CCH— \$1,030!  
 Our winners were:  
 1st Place: Diana Tyler  
 2nd Place: Troop 111  
 3rd Place: Jeff Butdorf (WACC)  
 Honorable Mention: Dean Galvin & Jerry Mullins

Our thanks to everyone for bringing food, and helping cleanup afterwards. Special thanks to Carol Bokman and Polly Tallos for working hard to make this another successful year! Thank you to Stephanie Tyler for being our MC this year. As always, thank you to Carol Busche, our house photographer. (She was so busy taking pictures, she had to eat dinner when she got home.)

## LOOKING AHEAD:

**April 9 Easter Egg Hunt (2:00)**

**April 15 All church workday sponsor by our Trustees (9:00)**

**April 26 CHINESE AUCTION — doors open @ 7:00p.m.**

**April 30 Guest Speaker**

**May 7, 14, 21—PICTURES TAKEN for new Pictorial Directory**

No appointment necessary (taken after worship) or furnish one you already have. (Non-professional only)

**Capital Campaign** — Your support for the CAPITAL CAMPAIGN (roof/kitchen) began JANUARY 2017. Our thanks to those who made a 3 year pledge for this much needed repair. Your support for NECC is awesome. If you did not make a pledge but want to give, just mark on your envelope, check or use an envelope in the pew stating clearly, the **amount and CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**. If you are unsure or have questions regarding your pledge, please contact LAURA KUHN any day after 2:30 p.m. @440-309-5864.



## Valentine's Day Give-Away @ Schild's IGA

On Saturday, Feb. 11th at IGA, Emily Adkins, Samantha Hensley and Logan Johnson helped hand out Valentine's Day cards from NECC. Each card included a \$50.00 gift certificate for IGA. The youth raised the money for the gift certificates by holding an Election Day bake sale and a Christmas Cookie Sale (with the generous support of our great bakers!) They presented 30 surprised customers—\$1,500 total. Thank you to everyone who supported our bake sales so we could **"pay it forward"** to the community.



Emily Adkins—it was fun to see the confused looks on their face when I handed them the card and then a thank you of appreciation to us. I felt good inside being generous.

Samantha Hensley—I had fun giving out the card and money. I liked watching the confusion on people's face and the big smile when they opened the card. It made me feel happy to give to something bigger than me.

## Easter Egg Hunt — April 9th (Sunday) 2:00 p.m.

We will be hosting our annual EGG HUNT for NECC families and the surrounding communities. This year we are adding a bouncy house and a few games to make it a more carnival feel to the day. We still need SMALL WRAPPED CANDIES to put in the plastic EASTER EGGS and PEOPLE TO HELP STUFF and small gifts for the kids to win.

## ARE YOU USING YOUR GIFTS?

Christians are called to serve. Sometimes, that means making a phone call or sending a card to a shut-in or someone recuperating from a health crisis. Other times, it means being a prayerful presence with those suffering with chronic health conditions. It may mean helping with the Community Meal the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. Or serving as a Worship Leader. Or helping produce our PowerPoint slides for worship...or being the "clicker" during worship so those slides can be used. Or providing food for funeral dinners. Or baking cookies for new visitors (or delivering those cookies) and bake sales. Or offering a musical anthem. Or helping fund a special project. Or donating canned goods and healthy snack foods for NECC's food pantry and weekend "backpack meals" project. Or serving on a committee. Or teaching a class. Or helping with a youth event or Sunday School project. Or making palm crosses (April 8, at 10 a.m.). Or taking part in work days as we clean and make repairs to the building. What other needs can you think of? We have many gifts but are one body. Please the church office or Rev. Chuck to learn how we can match your interests and skills with corresponding needs. EVERYONE is needed! Thank you for your service!

DIANA TYLER—Evangelism

## Thoughts About WANEW @ Camp Christian (Scripture Lesson Micah 6:8)

**Samantha Hensley (1st time)**—WANEW is a special place that you can come and learn about Jesus. It is a fun time and a place to meet new friends; even if it is your first time. It's a place you can come back and see your friends next year.

**Lydia Nixon (1st time & never been to NECC)**—Camp WANEW was fun and I would consider coming back next year.

**Jolee Mitchell**—I think it's a lot of fun to meet new people and make more friends. My favorite thing was hanging out and making Micah boards. (the youth cut out pictures from magazines. The pictures were then taped on poster board to be used during our Worship time. Each board represented the 3 parts of our theme: Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly with our God.)

**Emily Adkins**—I liked learning about the scriptures and I like being around people who believe in the same things that I believe. Messy games were a TON OF FUN. (Messy games—Playing Battleship with people and water balloons, Pie in the face game with whipped cream, and Pudding Pictionary)

**Samantha Galvin**—I always enjoy the atmosphere at Camp Christian

**Damon McDaniel**—Camp WANEW was good. My favorite thing was the food!

**Dustin McDaniel**—I had fun at Camp WANEW. The battleship game was my favorite.

**Karl Tallos**—My favorite activities at Camp WANEW was the Battleship game.

**Brad Sword**—Camp WANEW is fun and a good learning experience. Battleship was my favorite game.