



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS | January 13, 2019

PASTOR'S PEN: MINISTRY & THE NEW GOVERNANCE

Three months into living with our new governance structure, many questions remain as to how things have changed and how they ministry is accomplished. Thank you for your patience with me as I have struggled to provide answers to these questions, both because we are living into something new, something led by the Spirit, but also because I have been behind on everything since returning to work full-time last month.

Our ministry plan will continue to evolve throughout the year and I welcome your thoughts, questions and input at any time. I have organized our work around five major areas: worship, spiritual formation, outreach, congregational care and community life. A coordinator for each area will assist me in resourcing these areas and will serve as a point of contact for each one. Flo Thwaites is the coordinator for worship, Ann Over for spiritual formation, and Pauline Wills for community life. I am still looking for coordinators for outreach and congregational care. Please let me know if

you would be interested in assisting with either of these.

One of the most exciting, but also challenging, aspects of our new governance is that our work is not dictated in a top-down manner by organizational structure, but rather driven by a bottom-up approach based on passion, mission and vision. This means that, rather than engaging in ministry and mission because "we've always done it," we will continue existing ministries and begin new ones in response to people's interests and passions. If no one is interested in leading something, we will not continue to do it. If, however, you have always wanted to try something, you are empowered to begin a new ministry. If it fits our broad mission and vision, we'll pursue it!

In the next weeks: Where do our traditional ministries fall in the new structure? How do I start a new ministry? Where can I volunteer (see associated article below for more information on our ministry fair!)?



COME TO THE FAIR!

Sunday, February 10 at 11:45 am, Fellowship Hall

Step right up, folks! Find out more about the ministries at MHCUC and see where you fit in. This fun event has food, games, prizes, and surprises. Bring the whole family! Look for your ticket in the worship bulletin on February 10.

If your church ministry or team needs volunteers, contact Amanda in the office to get more information on registering a booth. *Deadline to reserve a spot is January 30th.*

CHILDREN AGES 0 - 7TH GRADE

1/13 - Baptism of Jesus!

This week's theme is **BAPTISM**. The baptism of Jesus identified him as the Son of God. After Jesus was baptized, a voice from heaven was heard and the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove.

1/27 - Orientation to Communion

We invite all children (Pre-K/4-5 years and older) and their parents, who did not haven't had the opportunity to join in a prior workshop (or need a refresher) to attend a special "Orientation to Communion". This will take place Sunday 1/27 11:45-2:00 and will include a light lunch. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the church office. Hope to see you there!

1/27 - Kids' Club Meetings

Save the date! D.O.G. club and F.R.O.G. club will be both be meeting the evening of Sunday 1/27 (time still to be determined). All in 2nd - 7th grade are welcome! Looking forward to seeing you there!

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Fellowship Breakfast

The second Fellowship Breakfast will be February 2 at 9 AM in Fellowship Hall 2. Pauline Wills will speak on "Ups and Downs". This is a co-ed potluck breakfast, so please bring a dish to share. Your hosts are Tom & Lorraine Ropas.

If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the sheet in the small white binder on the table in the parlor area.

YOUTH 8TH - 12TH GRADE

MLK Jr. Overnighter

WHAT: Everything you'd expect at a typical overnighter - games, pizza, little sleep, music, worship, craziness PLUS an opportunity to explore the life, faith, and the words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



WHEN: Sunday, Jan. 20th - Monday, Jan. 21st. Gather at MHCUC on Sunday night at 6 and go together in the church van. We will return on Monday morning at 10.

WHO: Youth in grades 8-12.

COST: \$10 per person.

WHERE: Federated UCC Family Life Center, 16349 Chillicothe, Chagrin Falls

REGISTRATION: Please contact Halldor by email: youth@mhcucc.org

All Church Game Nights

Join us for a potluck dinner (main dish and beverages provided, please bring a side dish or dessert to share), followed by a night of family-friendly games from 6-9 PM in Fellowship Hall on Friday, February 8. Sign up on the board by the office.

