

# HOPEWELL

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*'A Place to Find Hope and Be Well'*

*20220 Hopewell Road*

*Mount Vernon, OH 43050*

*Our mission is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ  
and minister to the needs of others in His name.*

*February - March 2019*

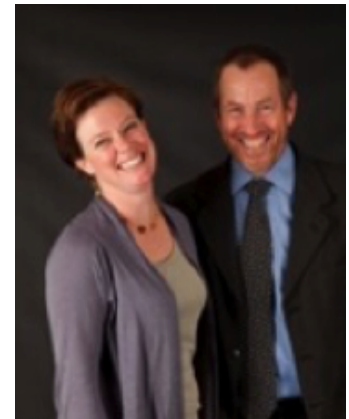
### **Pastor's Ponderings -- Pastor Lee Cubie**

#### **Work, God's Gift for Good Character**

I like to think about summer. Especially after the cold snap and icy weather we have been having. What shapes my memories of summer are the idylls of my childhood. I didn't grow up on a farm; if I had, perhaps how I think of summer may be a bit different. But as it was, I did not grow up on a farm. I grew up the son of a pastor and of a typist of dissertations who worked hard and transformed themselves into college professors. They were very loving and worked to give their children the best they could. In other words, I lived a sheltered life with fond summer memories.

I grew up in Massachusetts. There, the school year generally ended on the first full day of summer, June 21<sup>st</sup>. My birthday was June 24<sup>th</sup>, making the beginning of summer an especially memorable moment. My parents were frugal and so gifts were not lavish. What my mother did to celebrate birthdays was to cook our favorite meal. Mine was mostly predictable. I asked for a T-bone steak, baked potato, and corn on the cob. That meal, and especially corn on the cob, meant summer. Summer was an idyll. A time of dreaming. Exploration with friends a must. "Lassie" and "Rin Tin Tin," were on television, as well as "Leave It to Beaver" and "My Three Sons." And who could forget the "Andy Griffith Show?" As you can see it was a time that encouraged youthful dreaming and exploration. Troubles were not allowed to cast shadows in our entertainment. And my parents were keen not to allow them to shadow our childhoods.

I am no longer a child. I have been given sixty-three years to grow into adulthood. Though, I remember those times fondly, they are now like morning mist on a hot dry August evening. Now I know how crucial hard work is. Not for financial gains, but to strength of good character. Strength of good character is essential for a good life. Strength of good character is what the scriptures are about. The gospel of Jesus Christ is how we aspire to it. Paul testifies to this hard work, "Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brethren, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature be thus minded...." (*Phil. 3:12-15a*) That "upward call," is perfection of God's holy love in



our lives. It will be fully known and realized at the resurrection, what he has not “already obtained.” While he is alive, he is to work towards this “upward call.” He is to “forget what lies behind.” That is his past sinful behavior, as well as the guilt and death that accompanied it. That is because “Jesus has made him his own.” Work is also seen as a necessary component of love.



His advice to Christians who are thieves is to “no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his hands, so he might be able to give to those in need.” (*Eph. 4:28*) Idleness is also seen as an opportunity for evil. In I Timothy 5:9-16, Paul gives advice to Timothy as to how to order the community of Christ. Widows were to be supported by the church, but there were stipulations. They were to be sixty and older and of good reputation, the wife of one husband. Young widows were to “marry, have children and

rule their household.” This was because the temptation to be “idlers, gadding about from house to house, and not only idlers but gossips and busy bodies, saying what they should not.”

This season we are in is about work. We remember and celebrate God’s good work in creation. We have come through Advent and Christmas. We are now in Epiphany heading into Lent, which celebrates the work of God to redeem mankind and creation. Romans 8:19-21 reads, “For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God; for creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God.”

There is so much more that the scriptures can teach us about work. Let it suffice that we are meant for work. It is a blessing from God. “We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose.” (*Rom. 8:28*) Work, therefore, because “our commonwealth is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power which enables him even to subject all things to himself.

“Therefore, my brethren, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.” (*Phil. 3:20-4:1*)



“Peace is Joy at rest.  
Joy is Peace dancing.”  
--favorite quote of  
Pastor Lee’s father



### **United Methodist Women Report** – *Marsha Clayborne, Secretary*

The Trim-a-Tree family night at the church was held on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. There was plenty of food, family, friends, and entertainment throughout the evening. All the children decorated the Christmas tree, and Joanne Purcell provided the holiday music on the piano. A big thank you to Joanne. The silent auction is always a fun-filled event for everyone. Thanks to Bob Joseph for his auctioneer skills and to all the children who participated as the runners. The silent auction brought in \$263 for the church. Also thanks to everyone who brought in their items and to all who made generous donations. Brad Coon's fudge was the hit of the night. Christmas carols were sung and the UMW passed out candy treat bags for all the children. Karolyn Smith gave treats to the youth, and Bob and Linda Joseph gave a special gift, a small flashlight to everyone.



The UMW will not meet in February due to the weather. The next meeting will be in March.

### **Pastor/Parish Relations Committee Report** – *Elaine Farie, Chair*

On Saturday, January 12, Bob Joseph and I attended the Three Rivers Leadership event at Roscoe United Methodist Church in Coshocton. The attendance was good, representing many congregations in the Three Rivers district.

Ten different workshops were offered, and attendees could participate in two of them, due to the event ending at 12:30 p.m. (Each session lasting 1 hour).

"A Place of Prayer – the Life of the Congregation" and "Leading Others to Lead" were the workshops I attended. Both of the "presenters" (each was a pastor), were excellent – sharing the opportunities and the "vision" we can all encounter in our journey with outreach and evangelism – leading others to Christ.

The ideas I received by attending were shared with our PPR Committee on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Bob attended the session on "Creating a Culture for an Effective Church." A church culture can range from inspiring to toxic. Strategies for building an effective culture include:

- Encourage and energize people
- Build relationships and great teamwork
- Have regular conversations about your vision and values
- Ask questions and listen
- Share stories about successes

He also learned about "Knowing your Community." MissionInsite's *Faith Connect* is a computer database that could help us understand our community needs and adapt our mission and outreach accordingly.

"We all have to be committed to bearing fruit that lasts."

### **Barnabas\* Project** – *Linda Joseph*

In the Bible, Barnabas was known as the Encourager. It is that time of the year when we can take a turn at being an encourager. At Hopewell, we have four college students to whom we plan to send a "We Care" package in mid-February. Our students are Erin Lawhon, Seth Lawhon, Annika Kanuckel-Wolfe, and Emma Laymon. Ideas for the boxes might include snacks (keeping in mind that we have two students with peanut allergies), candy, gift cards for restaurants like Subway, gum, money for laundry, note cards, ramen noodles, cup-o-soup, fruit cups, cereal, microwave popcorn--and anything that you would like to receive yourself if you were a student!

We will collect items until **February 10<sup>th</sup>** and then send them with our prayers. Questions? Contact Linda Joseph, 614-565-1103. \*To read more about Barnabas, see Acts11:22-26.



When I consider your heavens,  
 the work of your fingers,  
 the moon and the stars,  
 which you have set in place,  
 what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
 human beings that you care for them? *Psalm 8:3-4*

*The "Super-Wolf-Blood Moon" as seen in time lapse at Marblehead Lighthouse, Lakeside, OH on January 20.*

A small town newspaper in Texas advertised, "Read the Bible to know what people ought to do. Read this paper to know what they actually do."



**How a Kid Would Send the Ten Commandments as a Text Message**

1. no 1 but me. srsly.
  2. dnt wrshp pix/idols
  3. no omg's
  4. no wrk on w/end (sat 4 now; sun l8r)
  5. pos ok – ur m&d r cool
  6. dnt kill ppl
  7. :-X only w/m8
  8. dnt steal
  9. dnt lie re: bf
  10. dnt ogle ur bf's m8. or ox. or dnkey. myob.
- M, pls rite on tabs & giv 2 ppl  
 ttyl, JHWH  
 ps. wwjd

**Birthdays**

**February**

- 1 Don Newland
- 9 Shad Bevington
- 11 Brad Coon
- 11 Amy Yashnyk
- 18 Leah Gourley
- 20 Donna Lybarger

**March**

- 4 Sam Laymon
- 13 Karolyn Smith
- 14 Mike Cedoz
- 14 Joanne Purcell
- 18 Penelope Wells
- 21 Audra Cubie

**Follow Hopewell UMC**

...on the Web:

[www.mvhopewellumc.org](http://www.mvhopewellumc.org)

...on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/HopewellUMC](http://www.facebook.com/HopewellUMC)  
[MtVernon](https://www.facebook.com/MtVernon)

## Hopewell Family Photos



Above (left) – The Kanuckel-Wolfe family (Rylanne, Erika, Annika, and John) lit the 3<sup>rd</sup> Advent candle.  
 Above (right) – Adam’s first service as acolyte.



Above (left) – Pastor Lee and Annika Kanuckel-Wolfe lead the Christmas eve candlelight service.  
 Above (right) – Sara Lawhon and Dave Holl (trumpets) and Ryan Rupp (organ) provided beautiful music.



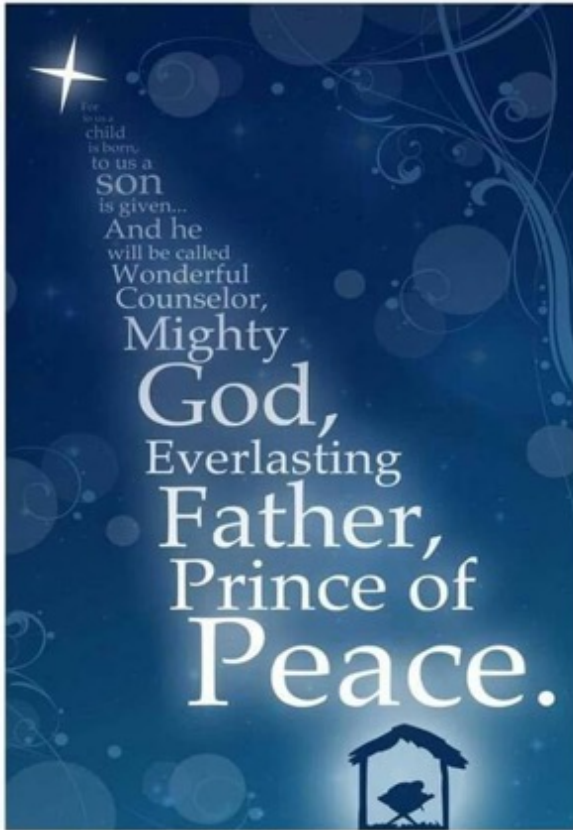
Above (left) – Jean Riley and Ellen Kaiser reminisce about Jean’s years of teaching the children’s Sunday school class, including Jean as one of the students...at this very table.  
 Above (right) – The ‘un-hanging of the greens’ involved a big team of willing volunteers. Until next Advent...

**Like a Grocery Store** -- Rev. Junius B. Dotson, General Secretary, Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church

Like a grocery store, your church can't expect people to just come in without any encouragement. With a grocery store, it might be their ad in the local newspaper or television station. With your church, it will take your people reaching out in kindness, interest and a positive curiosity in the lives of people outside your walls.

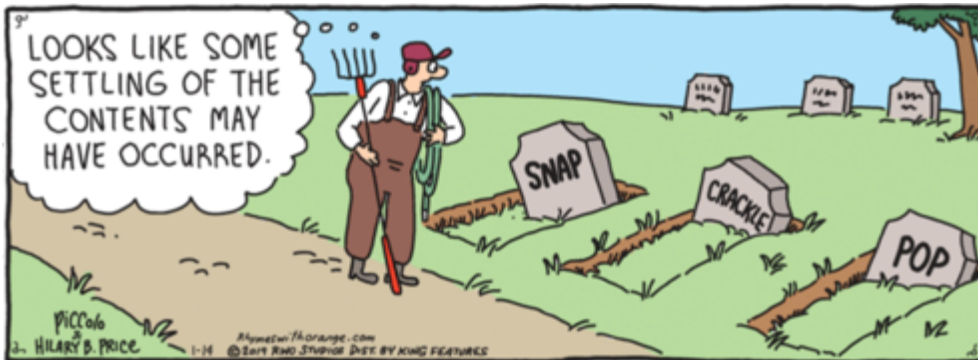
Shopkeepers understand that without people coming to their place of business, the business will fail. They understand the importance of keeping the current shoppers and attracting new ones. They understand that people looking for something – in this case, what they are selling – have choices.

Is your church as concerned as the coffee shop down the street about keeping your current people and attracting new people? It takes work to keep a business or a church healthy and growing.



**Scioto Ridge Boys Concert at HUMC**

The Scioto Ridge Boys (including HUMC's Bob Joseph, at right in the photo) will present a one-hour concert of old favorites and some newer Southern gospel songs at Hopewell UMC on **Sunday, March 17 at 4 PM**. This event is open to the community, so please invite friends and neighbors. A free-will offering will be received, and there will be food following the music.



It isn't so much how busy you are—but why you are busy. The bee is praised. The mosquito is swatted.

# February 2019

◀ Jan 2019

Mar 2019 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
American Heart Month Canned Food Month					<b>1</b> National Freedom Day  <b>B'day: Don Newland</b>	<b>2</b> Groundhog Day Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day
<b>3</b> Super Bowl Sunday Feed the Birds Day	<b>4</b> Thank a Mail Carrier Day	<b>5</b> Chinese New Year's Day	<b>6</b> Lame Duck Day	<b>7</b> Wave All Your Fingers at Your Neighbor Day	<b>8</b> Boy Scout Day	<b>9</b> National Pizza Day  <b>B'day: Shad Bevington</b>
<b>10</b> Umbrella Day	<b>11</b> Clean Out Your Computer Day National Inventors Day <b>B'day: Brad Coon</b> <b>B'day: Amy Yashnyk</b>	<b>12</b> Abraham Lincoln's B'day	<b>13</b> Get a Different Name Day	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day National Organ Donor Day	<b>15</b> Singles Awareness Day	<b>16</b> Do a Grouch a Favor Day
<b>17</b> Random Acts of Kindness Day	<b>18</b> Presidents Day National Battery Day  <b>B'day: Leah Gourtey</b>	<b>19</b> National Chocolate Mint Day	<b>20</b> Cherry Pie Day  <b>B'day: Donna Lybarger</b>	<b>21</b> Card Reading Day	<b>22</b> George Washington's Birthday National Margarita Day	<b>23</b> International Dog Biscuit Appreciation Day
<b>24</b> National Tortilla Chip Day	<b>25</b> Pistol Patent Day	<b>26</b> Tell a Fairy Tale Day	<b>27</b> Polar Bear Day	<b>28</b> National Tooth Fairy Day		

# March 2019

◀ Feb 2019

Apr 2019 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
National Nutrition Month Red Cross Month Music in Our Schools Month					<b>1</b> World Day of Prayer National Pig Day Employee Appreciation Day	<b>2</b> Old Stuff Day
<b>3</b> National Anthem Day Caregiver Appreciation Day	<b>4</b> Hug a GI Day  <b>B'day: Sam Laymon</b>	<b>5</b> Mardi Gras <b>Shrove Tuesday</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> National Frozen Food Day	<b>7</b> National Crown Roast of Pork Day	<b>8</b> Intl. Women's Day	<b>9</b> Panic Day
<b>10</b> Daylight Saving Begins	<b>11</b> Johnny Appleseed Day	<b>12</b> Girl Scouts Day	<b>13</b> Ear Muff Day  <b>B'day: Carolyn Smith</b>	<b>14</b> National Pi Day (3.14)  <b>B'day: Mike Cedoz</b> <b>B'day: Joanne Purcell</b>	<b>15</b> Ides of March Everything You Think is Wrong Day	<b>16</b> National Quilting Day
<b>17</b> Saint Patrick's Day	<b>18</b> Goddess of Fertility Day  <b>B'day: Penelope Wells</b>	<b>19</b> Poultry Day	<b>20</b> Spring Begins International Earth Day	<b>21</b> Credit Card Reduction Day  <b>B'day: Audra Cubie</b>	<b>22</b> National Goof Off Day	<b>23</b> National Chip & Dip Day
<b>24</b> World Tuberculosis Day	<b>25</b> Waffle Day	<b>26</b> National Spinach Day	<b>27</b> National "Joe" Day	<b>28</b> Something on a Stick Day	<b>29</b> National Mom & Pop Business Owners Day	<b>30</b> National Doctors Day    Am In Control Day
<b>31</b> Bunsen Burner Day World Backup Day						



## Hopewell United Methodist Church

c/o Bob & Linda Joseph, newsletter editors  
241 Valleybrook Circle  
Howard, OH 43028



### Calendar of Selected Events/Activities

Sunday, Feb 3	Communion Sunday; Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM; Bring food for Interchurch pantry
Sunday, Feb 10	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM; Refreshments; Church Council, 11 AM
Sunday, Feb 17 & 24	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM
Sunday, Mar 3	Communion Sunday; Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM; Bring food for Interchurch pantry
Tuesday, Mar 5	Shrove Tuesday, 6 PM pancake supper (location TBD)
Wednesday, Mar 6	Ash Wednesday, 7 PM service
Sunday, Mar 10	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM; Refreshments; Church Council, 11 AM
Sunday, Mar 17	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM Scioto Ridge Boys gospel concert, 4 PM
Sunday, Mar 24 & 31	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM