

HOPEWELL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

'A Place to Find Hope and Be Well'

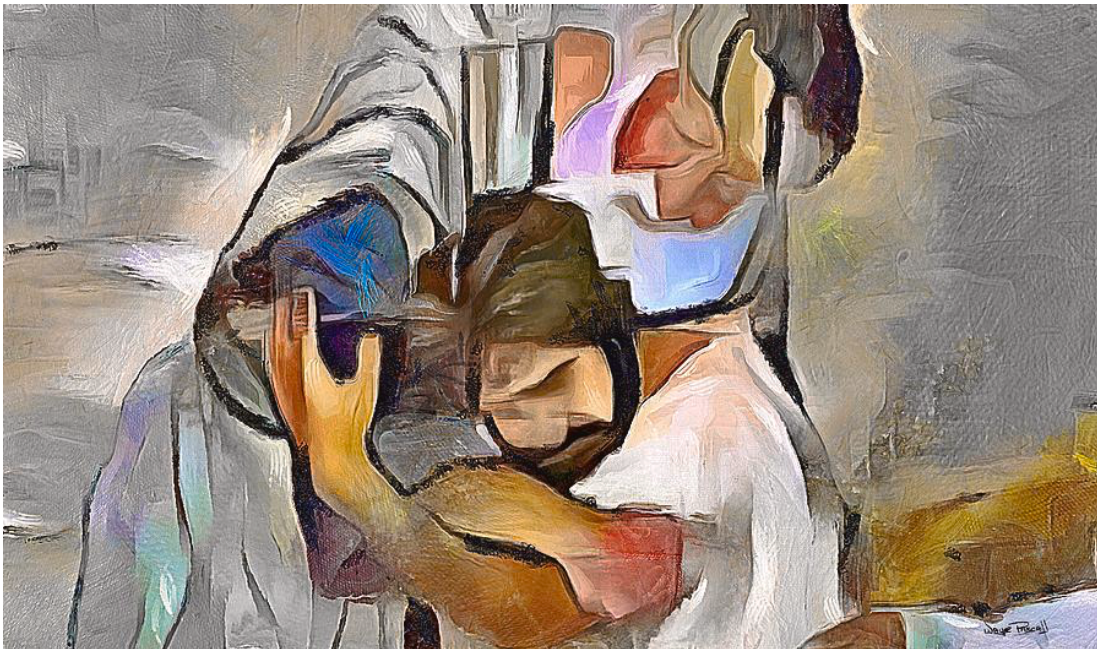
*20220 Hopewell Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050*

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

April – May 2022

Pastor's Ponderings -- *Pastor Lee Cubie*

Easter, a Human Story



"Prodigal Son" by Wayne Pascall

Easter this year falls on April 17th. Easter is the most fantastic story in the bible. It is about a man named Jesus who perfectly obeys the law until his death. There he falls afoul of the law. In Deuteronomy 21:22-23 we read this law, "And if a man has committed a crime punishable by death, and you hang him upon a tree (or cross), his body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but you shall bury him the same day, for *a hanged man is accursed by God*; you shall not defile your land which the LORD your God gives you for an inheritance." In this one law we find how a blameless man was made to be our sin.

How blatantly unfair that a man who always did the will of the Father should die such an inglorious death. We learn in Genesis that Adam died because he was not obedient. From this we learn that "sin came into the world through one man, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned". (Rom. 5:12) Yes, Jesus was made to sin, but ironically, he did it willingly in obedience to the Father. (Mk. 14:36) So, what was sin became righteousness through obedience. And through righteousness came life. As it is written, "as sin reigned in death, *grace also might reign through righteousness to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ.*" (Rom. 5:21)

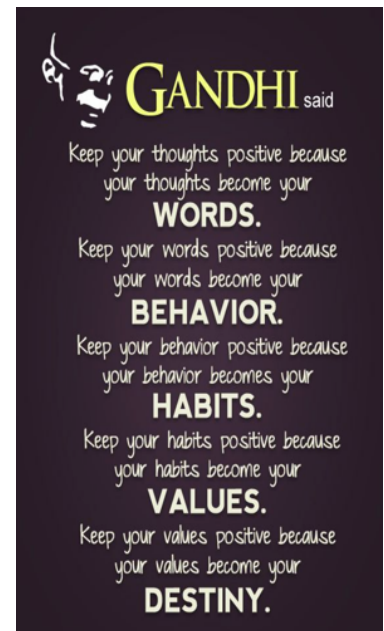
Truly then, Easter is a human story brought about by God. If Jesus had not become a man, we would still be lost in our sins because of what that one man, Adam, did.

Easter is a human story for us too. Jesus is not the only person to receive the resurrection. Resurrection is central to the Christian message. Paul teaches, “I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, *that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures*”. (1 Cor. 15:3-4) We are participants for we learn that Christ is not to be raised alone and that without the resurrection there is no gospel. “For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.” (1 Cor. 15:16-17) Easter is not just for Jesus it is also for us.

The parable of the Prodigal Son is about us. It is about each and every one of us. It is very human. Jesus closes the parable with these words, “for this my son was dead, and is alive again”. (Lk. 15:24a) Those are words of resurrection. The parable is about our resurrection. It is about the beginning of our resurrection. We await the day when it is completed and we can know the fullness of our forgiveness found in newness of life.

Barnabas Project – *initiated by Linda Joseph*

In the New Testament, Barnabas* was known as the Encourager. The Hopewell congregation became encouragers of our seven post-high school students through the Barnabas Project. To stuff seven gift (grocery) bags, a generous and supportive congregation contributed an abundance of snacks, candy, gift cards for restaurants, facial tissues, microwave macaroni & cheese, notes of encouragement, and more. The “We Care” packages were sent in mid-March to Seth Lawhon, Gina Lawhon, Jesse Gourley, Annika Kanuckel-Wolfe, Emma Laymon, Sam Laymon, and Aidan Scott. As evidence that the care packages were appreciated was this response from Aidan: “I just got the [Barnabas Project] package. It’s just the sweetest, most joy-bringing thing that has happened all week. Please tell the wonderful people at Hopewell Church that they are all blessings. I am so grateful for everything they provided.” **To read more about Barnabas, see Acts 11:22-26.*



Favorite Hymns

Dentist’s hymn	“Crown Him with Many Crowns”
Contractor’s hymn	“The Church’s One Foundation”
The IRS’s hymn	“I Surrender All”
Politician’s hymn	“Standing on the Promises”

Hopewell UMC Community Project for April 2022: Knox Recovery - Donna Spinks

Knox Recovery is a group of motivated individuals providing direction to clients struggling with substance abuse disorders. Knox Recovery provides case management, individual and group services, crisis management and treatment options. Knox Recovery is located at 113 Gambier Street in Mount Vernon.



Todd Wells, founder and owner of Knox Recovery, and his staff would greatly appreciate any donations our congregation can provide:

1. Cash and/or check donations may be placed in the collection plate on **any Sunday during the month of April**. Envelopes marked with “Knox Recovery” will be available on the table near the sanctuary entry doors.
2. Checks may be mailed to Hopewell UMC c/o Phyllis Gourley, 20054 Hopewell Road, Mount Vernon, OH 43050 with “Knox Recovery” written in the memo line.
3. Other items can be placed in the Knox Recovery Box located in the Sunday School Room.

Items needed include:

- a. Bedding
- b. Toilet paper
- c. Feminine hygiene products
- d. Cleaning supplies
- e. Hand sanitizer – minis
- f. Coffee
- g. Sugar Packs
- h. Creamer Packs
- i. Coffee Cups
- j. Non-perishable foods (Ramen Noodles)
- k. Clothing donations
- l. Underwear for men and women
- m. Neckties for interviews
- n. Button up shirts for interviews
- o. Umbrellas



Examples of clothing items donated by others to Knox Recovery

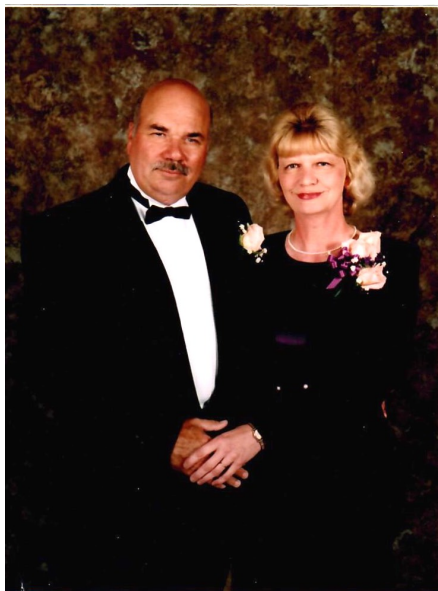
Hopewell Birthdays

April

- 2 Adam Lawhon
- 15 Tammy Gourley

May

- 7 Josh Laymon
- 7 Bitsi Gourley
- 12 Phyllis Gourley
- 12 Emma Laymon
- 14 Joe Needham
- 19 John Wolfe
- 19 Amanda Wells



Congratulations!

Happy 50th anniversary to Wayne and Marsha Clayborne, married on May 11, 1972! Best wishes for many more years together.

Follow Hopewell UMC

...on the Web: www.mvhopewellumc.org

...on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/HopewellUMCMtVernon

HUMC Council Meeting Notes - February 27, 2022 – Bob Joseph, recording secretary

Church Council Chair Bill Lawhon called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM in the church sanctuary with 14 attending.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Co-treasurers Donna Spinks and Phyllis Gourley gave a financial report of results for calendar year 2021. In summary, the general funds balance is \$99,528.54 (about \$6K ahead of the previous year), and the Building Maintenance/Improvement funds balance is \$42,449.82. A certificate of deposit is coming due this week; instead of reinvesting, the funds will be held available for an expected expenditure: Church siding replacement (see Trustees report). They also presented a 2022 budget of \$36,365 that included \$18,350 for ministerial support, \$13,325 for other local church expenses, and \$4,690* for conference/district apportionments, (utilities, insurance, building improvement, worship/program expenses, etc.). *The actual conference/district apportionments amount is not yet available; the budget figure is based on the 2021 amount and not expected to be materially different. Jade Laymon moved (Julie Britton seconded) to adopt the budget; motion passed.

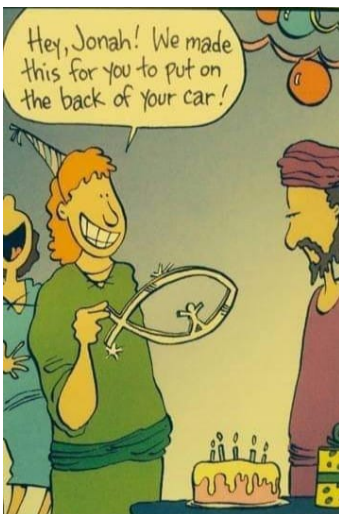
Pastor-Parish Relations: Jade Laymon reported that PPR members have met and prepared/submitted all the required reports.

Trustees: Bill Lawhon reported (for Head Trustee Mickey Gourley) that trustees are getting bids to replace the church siding, which does not hold paint, and they will seek congregational approval for the expense. Bill said that issues with the cemetery (leaning and fallen tombstones, drainage) will be addressed after the siding project is tackled.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Lee Cubie noted that Hopewell UMC seems to be growing and attendance is restoring with several new visitors attending. He said his health is improving. Hopewell is a wonderful church with a heart for serving God. He praised the women of the church for their initiative in preparing the "Guidelines for community spending."

New Business: The "Proposed Guidelines for community spending by the Hopewell congregation," drafted by a committee of eight, was discussed and adopted with several suggestions (Phyllis Gourley moved, Julie Britton seconded, motion passed). Among the refinements: 1) Monetary and in-kind support will be offered for Knox Recovery, Todd Wells's addiction treatment/recovery initiative, 2) For funeral support, food could be homemade, and flowers could be homegrown, and 3) High school graduates from 2022 and 2021 will be presented with Bibles from the congregation. Church cleanup dates were included in the document: May 7 and September 10, 2022. Jade Laymon has agreed to chair this committee to implement the guidelines.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM.



Prayer Chain – Marsha Clayborne

The Prayer Chain is a time for us to share our joys and concerns in the congregation. Here is how it works. If you or someone you know needs prayer, call Pastor Lee or Marsha Clayborne and they will get the prayer chain started. If you call someone and no one answers, be sure to leave a message about the prayer need on their phone, then call the next person on the prayer chain.

A few changes have been made on the list, so be sure to see who is after your name. If someone wants to be added to the prayer chain list, please give Marsha Clayborne a call.

Prayer Chain

Pastor Lee	740-504-8601
Marsha Clayborne	740-501-5841
Donna Spinks	740-501-8616
Joan Coon & Eleanor Doup	740-504-6496
Bev Lahmon	740-397-2906
Phyllis Gourley	614-946-9489
Bitsi Gourley	740-975-0995
Julie Britton	937-243-5672
Bob & Linda Joseph	614-565-1102
Jade Laymon	740-398-6785
Vicki Needham	419-708-1562
Cheryl McCracken	740-398-1311
Cary & Joanne Purcell	614-570-7809
Ellen Kaiser	740-501-0023
Erika Kanuckel-Wolfe	740-397-5515
Bill Lawhon	614-309-4350

The Dogwood Tree – Time and Change



During the 2016 centennial year of the Hopewell church building, a dogwood sapling was planted just west of the church. Marsha Clayborne has captured the growth and seasonal changes in its fifth year.

According to legend, the dogwood felt great sorrow for the role it played—providing the wood for the cross—in Jesus Christ’s death. While on the cross, Jesus sensed the tree’s anguish, and he decided to transform it so that it could never again be used in crucifixion. From that point on, the dogwood was no longer a tall, stately forest tree.



**ARE YOU SWEATING
WHILST PUTTING
PETROL IN YOUR CAR
FEELING SICK WHEN
PAYING FOR IT, YOU
HAVE GOT THE
CAROWNERVIRUS**

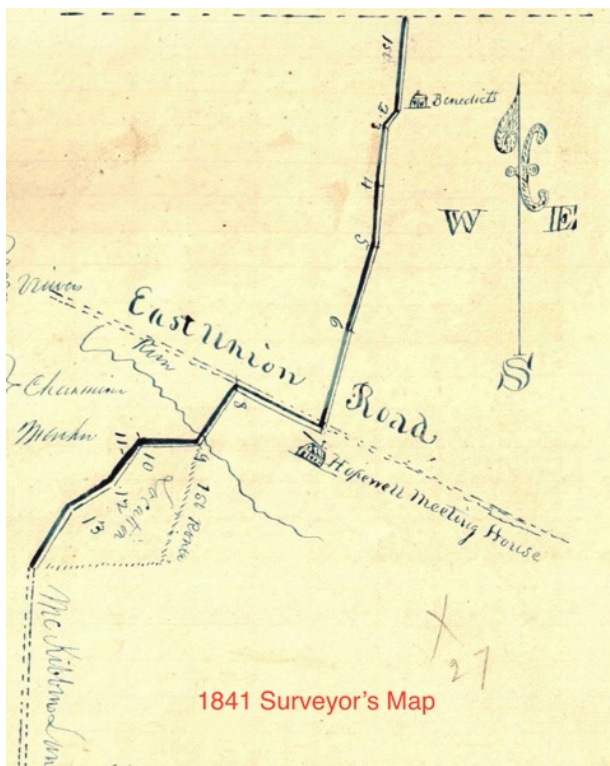
There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.

Edith Wharton

April 2022							May 2022 ▶
◀ Mar 2022	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
~Adopt a Ferret Month ~Car Care Month ~Financial Literacy Month	~Nat'l Donate Life Mo. ~Physical Wellness Month ~Straw Hat Month					1 ~April Fools Day ~Nat'l Fun Day	2 ~Reconciliation Day B'day- Adam Lawhon
3 ~Find a Rainbow Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship/Communion	4 ~Jeep 4X4 Day	5 ~Gold Star Spouses Day		6 ~Hostess Twinkie Day	7 ~Metric System Day	8 ~Nat'l Dive Bar Day	9 ~Nat'l Unicorn Day
10 Palm Sunday ~Nat'l Siblings Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship/refreshments	11 ~Barbershop Quartet Day	12 ~Nat'l Be Kind to Lawyers Day		13 ~Scrabble Day	14 ~Maunday Thursday	15 Good Friday B'day- Tammy Gourley	16 ~Nat'l Stress Awareness Day
17 Easter 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	18 Tax Day ~Animal Cracker Day	19 ~Nat'l Garlic Day		20 ~Banana Day	21 ~High Five Day	22 ~Earth Day	23 ~Talk Like Shakespeare Day
24 ~Pinhole Photography Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	25 ~Hug a Plumber Day	26 ~Nat'l Pretzel Day		27 ~Administrative Professionals Day	28 ~Occupational Safety & Health Day	29 ~Arbor Day ~World Wish Day	30 ~Eeyore's B'day ~Nat'l Herb Day

May 2022							Jun 2022 ▶
◀ Apr 2022	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 ~May Day ~Hug Your Cat Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship/Communion	2 ~Life Insurance Day	3 ~Public Radio Day	4 ~Intergalactic Star Wars Day (May the Fourth)	5 Cinco De Mayo ~Nat'l Astronaut Day	6 ~No Homework Day	7 ~Kentucky Derby ~Learn to Ride a Bike Day B'day- Josh Laymon B'day- Bitsi Gourley	
8 Mother's Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship/refreshments	9 ~Nat'l Golf Day	10 ~Clean Your Room Day	11 ~Nat'l 3 rd Shift Workers Day	12 ~Int'l Nurses Day ~Limerick Day B'day- Phyllis Gourley B'day- Emma Laymon	13 ~ Blame Someone Else Day	14 ~More! Mushroom Day B'day- Joe Needham	
15 ~Nat'l Chocolate Chip Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	16 ~Nat'l Sea Monkey Day	17 ~World Hypertension Day	18 ~Visit Your Relatives Day	19 ~Nat'l Scooter Day B'day- John Wolfe B'day- Amanda Wells	20 ~Endangered Species Day	21 ~Armed Forces Day	
22 ~Int'l Being You Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	23 ~Drinking with Chickens Day	24 ~Morse Code Day	25 ~Cookie Monster's Birthday	26 ~Eat More Fruits & Vegetables Day	27 ~Joe Cool Day ~Nat'l Polka Day	28 ~Nat'l Brisket Day	
29 ~Learn about Composting Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	30 Memorial Day	31 ~Save Your Hearing Day	~ALS Awareness Month ~Chip Your Pet Month ~National Reading Month; National Bike Month; National Inventors Month ~Personal History Month				

Hopewell United Methodist Church
 c/o Bob & Linda Joseph, newsletter editors
 12511 Thomas Road
 Monroeville, OH 44847



Hopewell Church History

← This map, located several years ago by Bill Lawhon in the Knox County Engineer's office, places a Hopewell Meeting House on East Union (now Hopewell) Road in 1841, over 180 years ago. A second meeting house (below), built in 1855, was replaced by the current church in 1916.

