

Crosswinds

Church of the Cross

September 2023

Pastor's Message

Dear COTC,

We have recently refined our Mission Statement so that it is easier to remember, while still something we can live into. Below is a quick look at our mission as well as questions to ask and goals to accomplish this year.

**We are a Family of Faith, Rooted in Christ,
Branching out to Bear Fruit through the Holy Spirit.**

To hold ourselves accountable to this mission and check how we are living it out, we will ask ourselves these three questions at least twice a year:

- ♦ How are we treating each other as a **Family of Faith**?
- ♦ How are the activities and missions we are doing **Rooted in Christ**?
- ♦ What fruit are we **Bearing** for the Holy Spirit?

As we work on this mission, we set the following goals for this year:

- ♦ To have a Leadership Day focused on conversations that lay the groundwork for growth over the next year
- ♦ To have one event a quarter to welcome and introduce out neighbors to COTC

CONTACT US

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Oct. articles need to be submitted by Sept. 21
ALL submissions need to be emailed to
cotcumc@gmail.com

Please assist the editor by e-mailing your information (or ask a friend/spouse to assist you.) Thank You

Sermons



SEPTEMBER

September 3

Guest Speaker

Rev. Erin Guzman

September 10

Church's Mission Statement

1 Cor. 1:10-17

Phil. 2:1-10

September 17

Casting a Vision

Rev. 21:1-8

Matt. 28:16-20

"THE STORY" BEGINS

September 24

You Are Loved by God

Gen. 1:26-31

Gen. 3:1-13



Ultimate Cloths

All purpose cleaning cloths are for sale, 6/ \$25.

The proceeds go to the Music Fundraiser Fund. Cloths are available at the narthex table or contact Janet or Cindy.



Birthdays This Month

- 2 Beth Lea
- 4 Larry Spade
- 7 Ann shifferly
- 9 Janet Borton
- 12 Steve Crites
- 13 Ben Hauck
- 14 Norma Alcorn
- 15 Charline Engle
- 17 Alan Engelhardt
- 19 Vickie Fagert
- 22 Jo Berry
- 23 Debbie Schartiger
- 25 CJ Krichbaum
- 27 Carla Krichbaum
- 28 Melissa Davis



Covenant Sept. 5 at 7PM

Trustee Sept. 12 at 7PM

One Board Sept. 19 at 7PM

International

TMS Global

CAMO

Local

People to People

The Salvation Army

Pregnancy Care Center

CCHO



Pray for Missions

THE END OF AN ERA

A long and distinct period of history with a particular feature or characteristic.

That is what best describes the JAM'N Kids ministry which in some form or another has been in existence for about 20 years. The characteristic of this program has been to teach and instill the principles of a godly life. One of the people who helped instill these attributes was Susan Zimmerman, a servant of God, devoted to teaching the Word of God to His children.

We have been meeting on Wednesday evenings for 1 hour each week with half hour of study, role plays, memorization and learning how to act like Jesus. The other half of our time was designated to science projects, fun with food, and crafts. Over time this program has been far reaching to many children in our community but like everything else, sports, activities etc. have taken the children and families away from our Wednesday night programming.

It is with sadness and soul searching that we have decided to discontinue this program! We will miss the interaction we've had with the remaining few participants but hope that some of the seeds we have planted will become strong and continue to grow in their lives.

We would like to thank our support team that has cooked and provided the fun activities. Couldn't have done it without you!

Thank you for your support over the many years and continue to pray for the children in our community that need strength and good role models.

Sincerely,

Cindy Mullet & Cheryl Pamer

Please pray for our Shut-ins.
These are mailing addresses...

Lucy Darling

Danbury, 939 Portage Rd., Wooster

Melissa Davis

931 Albern Dr., Wooster

Bob & Carol Denning

2452 Barrington Way Unit 407, Wooster

Carolyn Enderle

2373 Canterbury Lane, Wooster

Erma Kufchak

3574 Melrose Dr. L-7, Wooster

Nancy Miller

West View Apt 17, 1715 Mechanicsburg Rd., Wooster

Jenny Millin

3055 Bayberry Cove, Wooster

Marilyn Munn

12730 Cottonwood Lane, North Royalton, OH 44133

Donna Nussbaum

4138 Swanson Blvd. #120, Wooster

Jo Anne Page

Wayne Co Care Ctr. Room 122 876 S Geyers Chapel, Wooster

Margaret Park

The Avenue Rm 222 1700 E Smithville Western Rd., Wooster

Judy Ratzel

The Inn @Ashland Woods 1050 Dauch Dr, Ashland, OH 44805

Maxine Shelley

Brookdale Room 311 1615 Cleveland Rd., Wooster

Corlene Snyder

14458 Fladt Rd., Marysville, OH 43040

Tom Zimmerman

Smithville Western 4110 E Smithville Western Rd., Wooster

A New Way to Serve!



Wooster City Schools now is providing the option of Release-Time Bible Education to its 4 elementary schools. The Rock is held once a week during non-instructional time. The Rock is privately funded through donations and local churches. Visit therockwooster.org for more information and to sign up as a volunteer and/or prayer partner.



We enjoyed worshipping at the outdoor chapel on August 13

COVENANT NEWS

Here are a few upcoming events. Please prayerfully consider how you can help.

- Sept. 24— shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse
- Oct. 7 Sewing Guild— cooking
- Oct. 25 Trunk or Treat— (inside)
- Nov. 3,4— Craft Show at OARDC
- Nov. 19— Thanksgiving meal after worship

More information will be coming on these events and projects.

A big thank you to Pastor James and George Mullet for painting our "in progress" Welcome Center.

Soon there will be a new café/ welcome area for members and guests!



This is a message from Ben Rorabaugh. He was to have been a soloist from the Ohio Light Opera on Sunday morning July 16, but was ill. Many of you signed a card and Pastor James delivered the card plus a pizza since he couldn't leave his room for food. Thank you for being in ministry to him!!!

Janet ♪

I wasn't sure who to reach out to and thank, but I wanted to convey my gratitude for the card and pizza that Church of the Cross sent while I was sick. The love and prayers from you and your church has been so encouraging to me as I healed this past week. All my performances since returning from isolation went well. I only wish I had gotten to sing for you this year (praying to return next year!) Thank you for your prayers!

September's Back to Basics

by Pastor James

Order of Worship

Dear COTC,

In this first back to the basics article, we will be exploring our order of worship. This article will explore why we worship in a specific order and give a brief summary of the different elements. This does not mean there is only one way to worship. We are only working to understand our worship. Our worship can be understood as having three parts: introduction, heart and call.

Introduction

Our worship's introduction starts with gathering music. This is to invite people into worship. We then have a welcome where we greet people, let them know they are welcome to worship with us, and start worship with a smile. Next, the prelude helps us to center for worship and connect with God through worship. After the prelude, we have a call to worship. The call to worship, is exactly that, a call to worship. It is more than an invitation or welcome. It is a call to worship God. We often have the call to worship as a Psalm, but this year we will also explore some call to worships which are sung. Next is our opening hymn. We have three hymns as part of our worship. All three hymns allow us to connect to the Lord through music and can be the primary place of congregational participation. Our opening hymn transitions us from the introduction part of worship to the heart of worship. This transition often moves us from a general worship of the Lord, to start focusing our worship on the scripture and lesson for that day's worship.

Heart

As we transition into the heart of worship, we speak a prayer in unison. This prayer reflects the scripture and lesson we are focused on in worship. It is normally a confession or a prayer of thanks to the Lord. Our first scripture reading starts to reveal God's message to us and calls us to center on a teaching from God. We then have a time of prayer. This time is the time we communicate with our congregation, speaking new or updated prayers so that our brothers and sisters in Christ may pray for and with us. The moment of silence is to allow us a time to speak the prayer we don't want to say out loud and to hear God's response to us. God's response is sometimes a whisper and sometimes a shout. We close this prayer with the Lord's prayer as Christ taught us. Our second hymn helps prepare us for the sermon and moves us deeper into God's teaching. The second scripture reading continues God's lesson. While they don't always make sense at first, the first and second scripture readings should work together to give us the lesson God has revealed. We then enter the sermon. The sermon is the part of worship where the pastor works to explain the scripture and connect scripture to the world today with a lesson that you can use. The goal of any sermon is that the takeaway message can be summarized in one to three sentences. Following the sermon, once a month we partake in communion where we renew our covenant with God. During communion we are recommitting ourselves to God and God's call. After the sermon, or communion, we then move to the offering. The offering is where we tithe money and commit some of our time and energy to God. Having received God's message, we move to give back and support the missions and ministries. The doxology allows us to give thanks to God that we can tithe. The prayer over the offering allows us to give thanks and bless the offering as it goes to support God's call and the mission we have been called to.

Call

We then move from the heart of worship to our call, the third part of worship. It is a call to keep wrestling with the lesson for the coming week. It is a call to take this lesson from the church building on Sundays, out to the world that needs it. It is a call to live out our faith in the world. The closing hymn reminds us of the lesson and helps guide our path as we close worship for this day. The benediction is a final reminder of the lesson and a blessing as we transition from worship to living it out in the world. The postlude then provides a time for us to center ourselves before we enter the world, working to follow God over the next week.