



April Calendar Dates  
[Wednesday nights](#)  
 6:30pm

Youth Director, Darren Dewitt  
 Cell: 574-276-3453



Nursery

We offer nursery care  
 for infants through  
 age 3 years old  
 in room 11

Contact our office at 574-679-4435 [www.osceolaumc.org](http://www.osceolaumc.org)  
 For Prayer Requests, email: [prayerministry@osceolaumc.org](mailto:prayerministry@osceolaumc.org)  
 431 North Beech Road., Osceola, IN 46561



**CHILDREN'S  
 MINISTRY**

Children's  
 Sunday School  
 classes and times  
 Age 4 yrs - 5th grade

9:00 am, room 19

Leader: Susan Baldwin

Age 4 yrs—5th grade 10:00 am, room 19

Leaders: Angie Burghdudf & Susan Adkins

Kids Church

Age 4 yrs - 5th grade 11:15 am, room 19

Leader: Angie Perkey

Contact: Susan Adkins with questions

# The Messenger, April 2020

Monthly Newsletter  
 of the  
 Osceola United Methodist Church

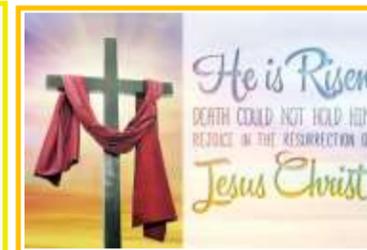
## Sermon Series

**April 5** - Luke 19:28-44  
 Here is our King

**April 12** - Luke 24:1-12  
 Happy Resurrection Day!

**April 19** - Strong and Courageous  
 True North-Joshua 1:6-9

**April 26** - Strong and Courageous  
 Cross the River - Zechariah 4:10



He is Risen  
 DEATH COULD NOT HOLD HIM  
 RESURRECTION IN THE RESURRECTION OF  
 Jesus Christ



IMPORTANT  
 ANNOUNCEMENT

Although we have several  
 activities listed throughout this  
 newsletter, Due to the **Coro-  
 navirus COVID-19**, we may  
 have to reschedule some of  
 these activities. Please watch your  
 ENews for updates.  
 Thank you!

## In This Issue

- Sermon Lineup
- Spotlight
- Pastor's Corner
- Lay Servant Ministry
- Mother's Day
- Rummage Sale
- Online Giving
- Wet Wednesdays
- Prayer Retreat
- Out Reach
- Ad Council Thoughts
- Financials
- Monthly Activities
- Ongoing Events
- New Bible Study
- Youth Group
- Children's Ministry



This month our Spotlight  
 Isabel Adkins

Izzy has grown up here at OUMC since she was 2yrs old. She also attended Noah's Ark daycare with her brother Alex. Over the years here at OUMC, she has been involved in Sunday school, Children's Christmas programs, Children's Choir, Youth Group, Camp, VBS and was even on our Praise Team for a few years.

Izzy loves children and has worked at Noah's Ark Daycare since her junior year in H. S. She currently works with all ages at the daycare, but in the summers she loves working with the elementary age kids.

Izzy has 6 siblings, making her the youngest child of Ed & Susan Adkins. In her spare time she loves hanging out with friends, getting together with her big family, music, shopping, going to movies and going out to eat. She has a big heart, very kind and thoughtful, and always ready to help those in need.

Over the next few weeks, she will be singing with Pastor Will while we have services online. I hope this spotlight has given you a better chance to get to know her. Thank you Izzy for serving at OUMC, loving Jesus, and loving the children you work with. You are a blessing to so many!



*"Blessed  
 are those  
 who have  
 not seen  
 and have  
 yet  
 believed."*

John  
 20:29

Osceola United Methodist Church  
 OUMC  
 431 N. Beech Road  
 Osceola, IN 46561

# The Pastor's Corner

Dear Church family,

This year Easter Sunday is going to be much different than normal. As all of you know by now the Global pandemic we are in has caused us to suspend our in person worship gatherings at least through Easter Sunday. I had planned to give up some things for lent but I definitely hadn't planned on giving this much up, ha! While this news might at first make you sad I want to encourage you to look at it from a different perspective. Instead of immediately being upset that our plans have been ruined, let us pause and ask ourselves a question. What does God want us to learn during this Lenten/Easter season? Maybe a simple stripped back, no frills Easter is just what the doctor has ordered for us? After all we are called to celebrate Jesus Christ and his resurrection more than just one time a year. Did you know that every Sunday is actually a day to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus? During the season of lent the church fasts for 40 days to better hear God's voice in their lives. But the number of days from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday is actually 46 days. Why the extra 6 days? This is because each Sunday is to be a break from your fast to celebrate a mini Easter in your life, the resurrection! This practice is to remind us every Sunday set aside to worship Jesus the resurrected King! Oh, and you can celebrate it on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday as well.

Here's a little history on how this developed. At creation, God set apart the 7th day of the week, Saturday, as the Sabbath. Yet, the early church (mostly consisting of faithful Jews) began gathering together for corporate worship on the 1st day of the week, Sunday, having set it apart as "the Lord's Day." Those early Jews most likely still kept the Sabbath on Saturday but began meeting on Sundays to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and breaking bread together. The Lord Jesus Christ defeated sin and death, leaving his borrowed tomb empty, on a Sunday morning. That was the first Easter. Since then, the church has set apart every Sunday as a celebration of the resurrection.

So technically you could say Happy Easter every Sunday you get together and you wouldn't be wrong. So is Easter Sunday going to be different this year? I sure hope so! I hope it finds us experiencing the resurrection of Jesus in a whole new way. We need the hope of the resurrection more than ever! And you can be sure when we do get back together in person we are going to celebrate Easter and the resurrection together no matter what Sunday it falls on.

Happy Resurrection Day!

Pastor Will

# Ongoing Events

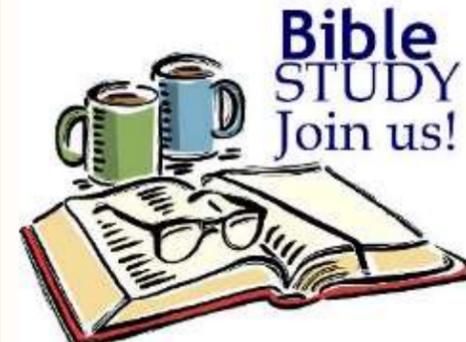
SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service Includes kids bible study  10:10am Fellowship <b>Children's Sunday</b> School Adult Studies  11:15a.m. Modern Worship Service includes Kids Church	9:30 a.m. Tai Chi (YR)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday a.m. Bible Study (P)  6:00 p.m. Modern Worship Band Practice (S)  8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (RR)	9:30 a.m. Tai Chi in the (YR)  6:15 p.m. Hand- bells rehearsal (S) (Sept-May)  6:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting (YR)  7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal (S) (Sept-May)	4:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting (P)  6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop Meeting in the (FH)  6:00 p.m. Thursday Evening Bible Study (P)  8:00 p.m. BBGS practice ev/oth wk (S)		9:00 a.m. BBGS practice ev/oth wk (S)

WWW.OSCEOLAUMC.ORG

**Promise Keepers Breakfast:** Every other Wed of the month at the **Curve Café** at 6 a.m.  
**Real Services Senior Lunch:** Monday – Friday at 10 a.m. in the reception room  
**Promise Keeper's Lunch:** Every other Tuesday of the month at O.C. Café at 11:30 a.m.  
**Women's Breakfast Bunch:** Last Wednesday of every month Macadoo's Restaurant at 9 a.m.  
**Young at Hearts** Senior Luncheon - first Wednesday of the month at an area restaurant at 11:30  
**Caring Hands** Meets the 3rd Friday of each month (Parlor) 9am -12pm, breaks for summer  
**Christian Book Club** Once a month 2nd Sunday of each month (off site & times, TBA)  
**Euchre** Meets the 4th Sunday of each month at 5:30-7:30

\*\*Consult the church website calendar or church bulletin for further information.\*\*





## A new Bible Study on 100 words every Christian should know!

Can you explain 'blaspheme', 'covenant', 'glory', 'Pentecost' or 'sanctify'? It is amazing how many words are in the Bible or used at church, but we may be hard put to really explain them to others. We'll be using the Rose Publishing pamphlet, 100 Words Every Christian Should Know, and studying some Bible verses related to each of the 100 words.

The Tuesday morning class is in the Parlor from 9 to 10:45am (with prayer time until 11:15). The Thursday evening class covers the same material and is in the Parlor from 6 to 7:30pm. We would enjoy having you join us for this interesting study. The pamphlet and class handouts are covered by donations. The class is taught by Susan Baldwin and if you have any questions please call her at 574-291-8637.

Come join us for some interesting learning on words we should know. There is always time for questions. See you there.



## Young at Hearts Luncheon

Hello Seniors,  
Our April gathering for lunch has been  
**CANCELED.**  
Hopefully we will see each other in  
May.

### Christian Book Club

Sunday April 19th at 4pm  
Church Parlor

Hostess: Sue Miller, 574-255-8447  
Our Selection for this month is: **Tristan's Gap**,  
by Nancy Rue

Come join us for of this beautiful novel, as well  
as snacks and good fellowship.

Our book selection for May will be,  
**The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek**  
by Kim Michele Richardson *\*Note\* this is a change  
from the original book selection.*

In June we will select our new reading list for  
the next 12 months.



### Euchre Night

April 26, 2020  
5:30pm-7:30pm  
Everyone welcome  
Bring a snack to share.

Play cards, eat food, have fun!!! See you there!



### Food Pantry

We served 85 families, a total of  
307 individuals in the month of  
March.

Thank you for your  
continued support to this vital  
ministry and making a  
difference in the lives of our neighbors.



### Women's Breakfast Bunch

#### Macadoo's

**Wednesday, April 29, at 9:00 am**  
2108 Lincolnway East, Mishawaka.

Please join us for a time of sharing, devotions and a  
delicious breakfast with other women from our church.

**Call** Linda Trader at 256-9567 if you need  
further information.



easter  
egg  
hunt

### This year's

OUMC

Easter Egg Hunt  
has been  
Cancelled due to  
the public  
gathering restrictions from the  
Coronavirus (COVID-19)

**HAPPY EASTER**



### Ps 22:1a My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Last month I wrote about how I was following a married couple on their hike of the Appalachian Trail and that I was moved to share a Psalm with them each day. The success rate on the trail is roughly 20% of those who start it, and they hiked just over 3 weeks before stopping, but that put me in the habit of reading a Psalm each day, something I am enjoying and will continue for the next 125 days to complete the book of Psalms.

When I got to the 22nd Psalm, the words struck me in a way I had not experienced in previous readings, I saw the prophecy it contained. Psalm 22 starts with some very familiar words to those who have been to most any Good Friday service, words the Lord spoke from the cross and inspired me to write a poem using this Psalm.

#### This Time

**1** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?

This time I heard the words with open ears

**5** To you they cried out and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. This time I understood my shame

**7** All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads. This time "they" were me

**14b** My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me. This time my heart melted too **16b** they pierce[e] my hands and my feet This time I was the nail

**23a** You who fear the Lord, praise him! This time I called His name

**25** From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows. This time I was convicted

**30** Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.

**31** They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it! This time I shared His story. This time!

**By:** Al Bishop

*Mother's Day*

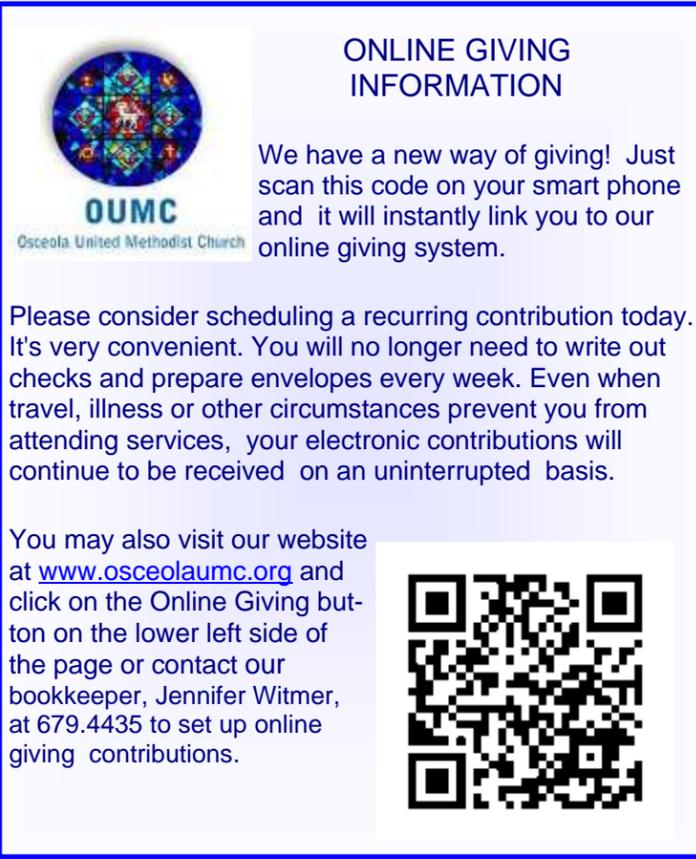
### Mother's Day Breakfast Brunch Buffet

Saturday, May 9th at 10:00 am, OUMC Fellowship Hall

Our program this year will be The Swing Sisters. You may remember that we have had them before and they are delightful. They will be sharing a selection of musical numbers with us. We will not be selling tickets but we will ask for a Free Will Offering at the time of the brunch. We also ask that you bring canned goods or non-perishable items for our Food Pantry. (There is a list of acceptable items on the credenza) We will need a count of those attending so we can plan accordingly. There will be a sign-up sheet on the credenza and also a table set up in the main hallway on Sundays, April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 3. Please sign your name and the number of guests you will have. Child care will be provided. We will be serving a buffet but we will still need a few men to help with set-up, the buffet and clean-up. Let Janet Keller know if you would be willing to help. Thanks so much.



**Rummage Sale Postponed Due to the Coronavirus**  
 We are postponing our Annual Rummage Sale from April 24 and 25 to May 29 and 30.  
 We are very sorry for any inconvenience this might cause anyone.



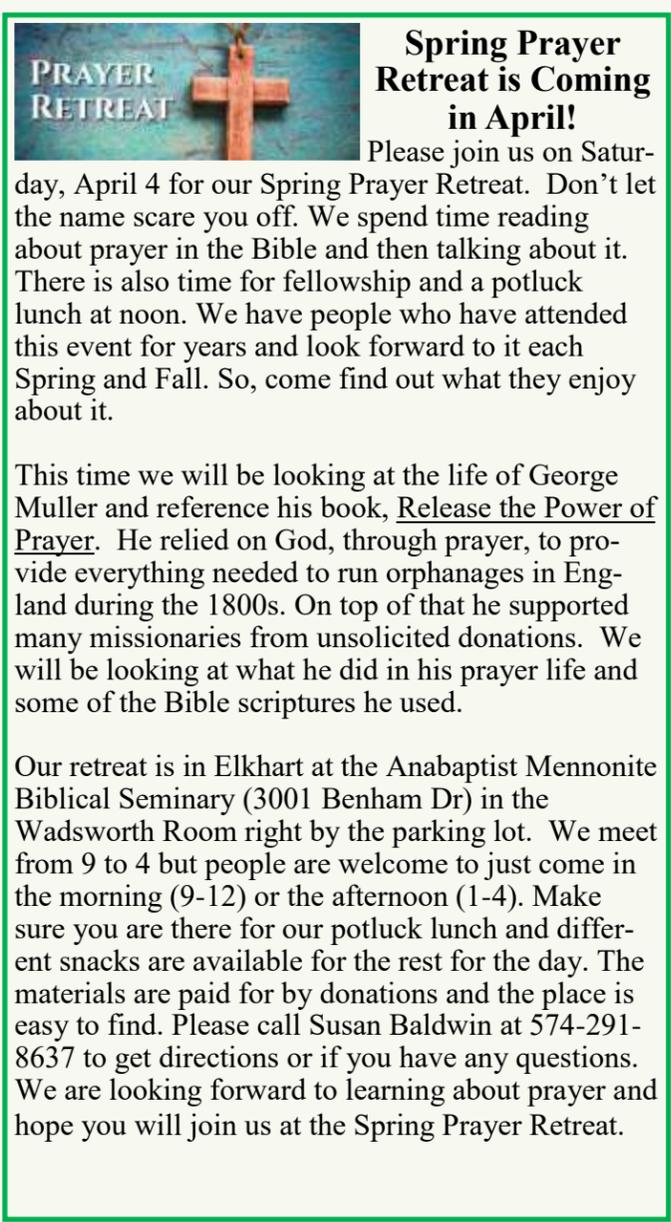
**ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION**  
 We have a new way of giving! Just scan this code on your smart phone and it will instantly link you to our online giving system.

Please consider scheduling a recurring contribution today. It's very convenient. You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

You may also visit our website at [www.osceolaumc.org](http://www.osceolaumc.org) and click on the Online Giving button on the lower left side of the page or contact our bookkeeper, Jennifer Witmer, at 679.4435 to set up online giving contributions.




**Coming this Summer Wet Wednesdays!**  
 Sponsored by: Out Reach Committee  
 We are going to be reaching out to the neighborhood kids this summer by offering "WET WEDNESDAYS"! Every Wednesday we will have all kinds of water fun here at the church. We will be in need of water slides, water toys, food, etc for this project.  
 More information will be coming in the May newsletter.



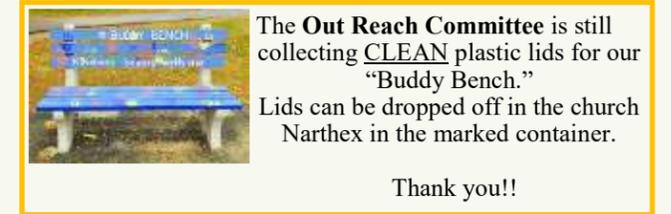
**Spring Prayer Retreat is Coming in April!**  
 Please join us on Saturday, April 4 for our Spring Prayer Retreat. Don't let the name scare you off. We spend time reading about prayer in the Bible and then talking about it. There is also time for fellowship and a potluck lunch at noon. We have people who have attended this event for years and look forward to it each Spring and Fall. So, come find out what they enjoy about it.

This time we will be looking at the life of George Muller and reference his book, Release the Power of Prayer. He relied on God, through prayer, to provide everything needed to run orphanages in England during the 1800s. On top of that he supported many missionaries from unsolicited donations. We will be looking at what he did in his prayer life and some of the Bible scriptures he used.

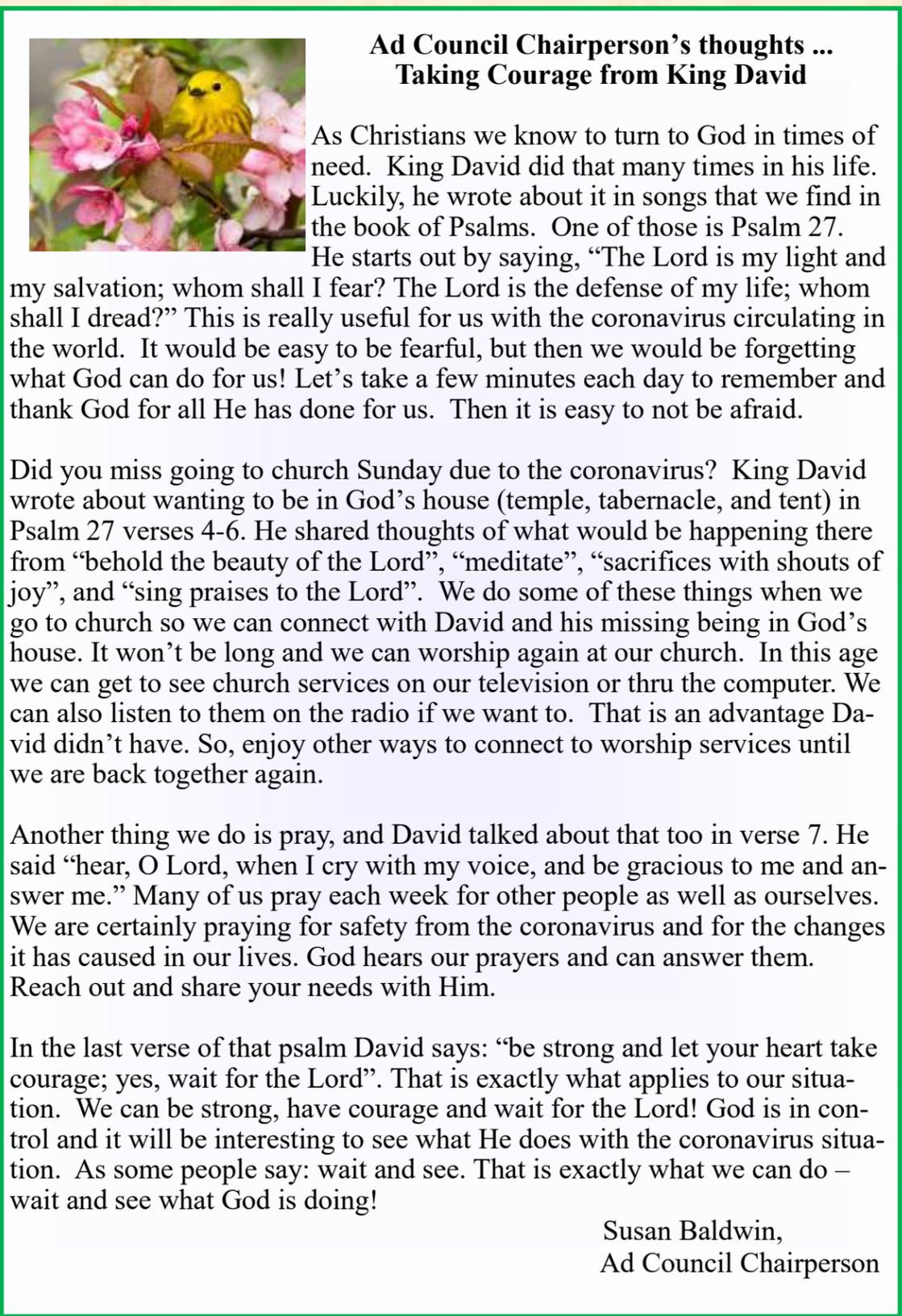
Our retreat is in Elkhart at the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (3001 Benham Dr) in the Wadsworth Room right by the parking lot. We meet from 9 to 4 but people are welcome to just come in the morning (9-12) or the afternoon (1-4). Make sure you are there for our potluck lunch and different snacks are available for the rest for the day. The materials are paid for by donations and the place is easy to find. Please call Susan Baldwin at 574-291-8637 to get directions or if you have any questions. We are looking forward to learning about prayer and hope you will join us at the Spring Prayer Retreat.



**Join us!**  
**OUT REACH COMMITTEE**  
 Want to join a fun group?  
 The Outreach committee is having a great time planning a lot of activities for the 2020 year and we could use your help and expertise!  
 Come join us and see how you can be a part of the fun!! Can't make the meetings – no problem – we can keep you informed and include you in the activities. Questions? Call Debbie Fox 574.220.1979



The **Out Reach Committee** is still collecting **CLEAN** plastic lids for our "Buddy Bench."  
 Lids can be dropped off in the church Narthex in the marked container.  
 Thank you!!



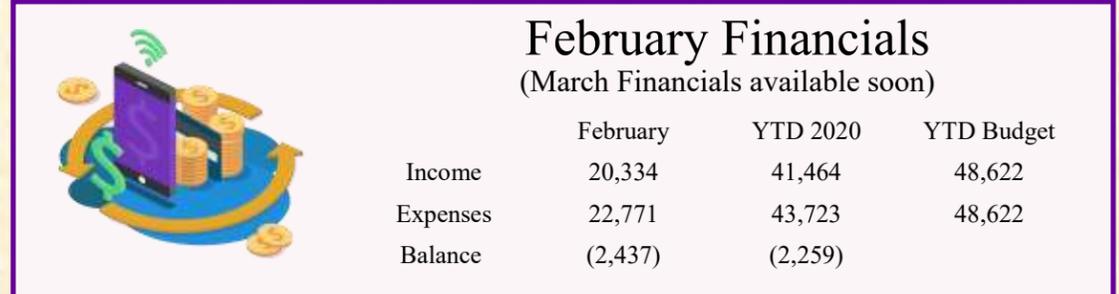
**Ad Council Chairperson's thoughts ... Taking Courage from King David**  
 As Christians we know to turn to God in times of need. King David did that many times in his life. Luckily, he wrote about it in songs that we find in the book of Psalms. One of those is Psalm 27. He starts out by saying, "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?" This is really useful for us with the coronavirus circulating in the world. It would be easy to be fearful, but then we would be forgetting what God can do for us! Let's take a few minutes each day to remember and thank God for all He has done for us. Then it is easy to not be afraid.

Did you miss going to church Sunday due to the coronavirus? King David wrote about wanting to be in God's house (temple, tabernacle, and tent) in Psalm 27 verses 4-6. He shared thoughts of what would be happening there from "behold the beauty of the Lord", "meditate", "sacrifices with shouts of joy", and "sing praises to the Lord". We do some of these things when we go to church so we can connect with David and his missing being in God's house. It won't be long and we can worship again at our church. In this age we can get to see church services on our television or thru the computer. We can also listen to them on the radio if we want to. That is an advantage David didn't have. So, enjoy other ways to connect to worship services until we are back together again.

Another thing we do is pray, and David talked about that too in verse 7. He said "hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice, and be gracious to me and answer me." Many of us pray each week for other people as well as ourselves. We are certainly praying for safety from the coronavirus and for the changes it has caused in our lives. God hears our prayers and can answer them. Reach out and share your needs with Him.

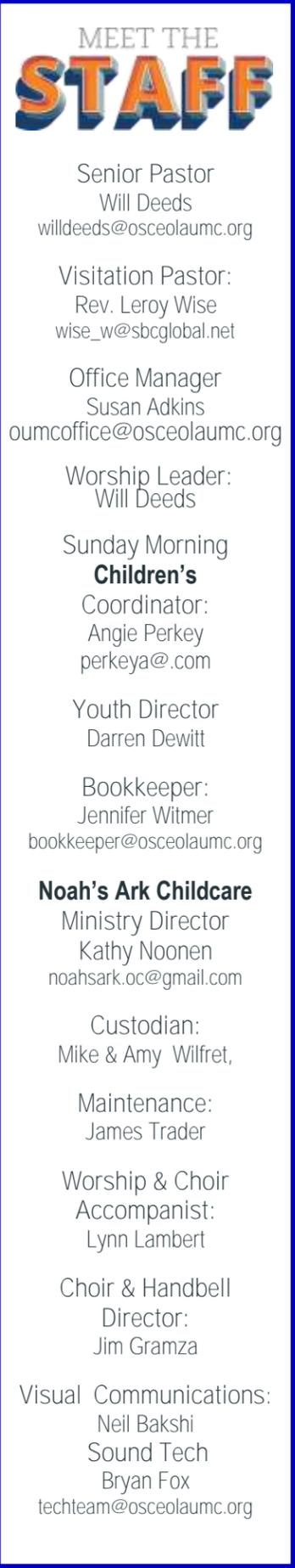
In the last verse of that psalm David says: "be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord". That is exactly what applies to our situation. We can be strong, have courage and wait for the Lord! God is in control and it will be interesting to see what He does with the coronavirus situation. As some people say: wait and see. That is exactly what we can do – wait and see what God is doing!

Susan Baldwin,  
Ad Council Chairperson



**February Financials**  
 (March Financials available soon)

	February	YTD 2020	YTD Budget
Income	20,334	41,464	48,622
Expenses	22,771	43,723	48,622
Balance	(2,437)	(2,259)	



**MEET THE STAFF**

Senior Pastor  
 Will Deeds  
[willdeeds@osceolaumc.org](mailto:willdeeds@osceolaumc.org)

Visitation Pastor:  
 Rev. Leroy Wise  
[wise\\_w@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wise_w@sbcglobal.net)

Office Manager  
 Susan Adkins  
[oumcoffice@osceolaumc.org](mailto:oumcoffice@osceolaumc.org)

Worship Leader:  
 Will Deeds

Sunday Morning **Children's**  
 Coordinator:  
 Angie Perkey  
[perkeya@com](mailto:perkeya@com)

Youth Director  
 Darren Dewitt

Bookkeeper:  
 Jennifer Witmer  
[bookkeeper@osceolaumc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@osceolaumc.org)

**Noah's Ark Childcare**  
 Ministry Director  
 Kathy Noonan  
[noahsark.oc@gmail.com](mailto:noahsark.oc@gmail.com)

Custodian:  
 Mike & Amy Wilfret,

Maintenance:  
 James Trader

Worship & Choir  
 Accompanist:  
 Lynn Lambert

Choir & Handbell  
 Director:  
 Jim Gramza

Visual Communications:  
 Neil Bakshi  
 Sound Tech  
 Bryan Fox  
[techtteam@osceolaumc.org](mailto:techtteam@osceolaumc.org)