



THE OPEN DOOR

March 2022

Pastor's Letter

An Australian proverb reads: In the planting season, visitors come singly, and in harvest time they come in crowds. Do you agree with this proverb? Sounds fairly spot on to me. When there's hard work to be done—not that many wish to volunteer. However, when the harvest comes and the celebrations happen then everyone wishes to partake.

Jesus leaves the disciples in Matthew with the Great Commission: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Making disciples is hard work. Perhaps analogous to the planting season. There seem to be few that wish to engage in the time consuming, deep work of telling others about Jesus and God's great love. We can leave this work to professional clergy but I doubt that is what Jesus really meant. When it comes to planting seeds of discipleship in others which of the above camps do you fall into? The harder work in the spring or the easier and more fun work of the harvest?

Jesus never promised that our obedience would be easy and that our lives would be filled with soft pillows, rose-scented blankets and all the donuts/cookies/ice cream/pizza we can eat. Sometimes hard labor is required. Sometimes how we express our worship to God and how we use our talents for God will even result in a bit of a change for someone.

Paul wrote to the church in Corinth: "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously" (2 Corinthians 9:6) I think the harvest-time crowds have likely sowed quite sparingly. They think they eat fabulously, but they've missed the work God called them to do. By missing that work, they've failed to both honor God and to learn a needed step in their discipleship journey.

As spring approaches, where are you planting? How are you sowing the seeds of God's love in our world? Are the talents and gifts God gave you being utilized in our church for God's glory?

May your March be blessed; may it be filled with wonder and journey this Lent season and may you find a willingness to plant for God. Amen.



Alyanna Todd	March 04
Tim Knudsen	March 07
Bill Kibler	March 08
Jessica Ranta	March 08
Josephine Wheeler	March 10
Derek Hatcher	March 11
Kimberley Hatcher	March 11
Marla Walsh	March 12
Samantha Zeigler	March 13
Dick Hatcher	March 14
Scott Besaw	March 15
Lorelei Finney	March 17
Kirk Lange	March 17
Rev Timothy Paroz	March 19
Alena Paroz	March 20
Zoey Dawn Wyss	March 20
Jeff Phile	March 22
Rose Slack	March 23
Julie Pruchenski	March 24
Pat Campbell	March 25
Diane Bishop	March 26
Danielle Zimmerman	March 29
Graham Nezbeth	March 30
Pamela Pribanick	March 31



Cookie Queens and Kings are needed to bring cookies on Sundays. To sign up get ahold of Lisa Morehead.

(330-247-8171)

NEW Email for Lisa

marialisamorehead@gmail.com

Future Council Dates:

March 10th

April 14th

Ma 12th

June 9th

July 14th

August 11th

September 8th

October 13th

November 10th

December 8th

"I would like to thank everyone for their calls, cards and prayers for Chet's sister passing away and for Chet's surgery and healing. We are both doing well and appreciate your concerns.
Miss you all, Nan and Chet"

West Park United Church of Christ sent a letter thanking us for the donation to the Community Cupboard Food Pantry for the refugees.



Thank you to all the Scouts for helping with Scout Sunday and for helping with the Pancake breakfast and reading to the kids.

The Top Ten Banquet will again be held in the Fellowship Hall this year on April 27th.

Workers will be needed as well as appetizers and desserts. If you are willing to help, please let Cindy Jarrett know. Home phone is 330-297-5825, cell phone is 330-697-2383. I will be asking Guido's to cater the meal.



Saturday, March 26th & April 16th **Please note the date change for March.** We will be having a pancake breakfast and reading program. Come to enjoy some pancakes and then get some books. If anyone is interested in helping let Sabrina Finney or Cyndi Oblisk know.
The fun starts at 9 a.m.



We need some folks to step up to help out.

Servers, cooks, clean up/set up, someone to gather and set out the books, someone to record names/email addresses for a future distro list, a reader (or two), supplies and people attending!

If you would like anything added to the newsletter, please let Cyndi know by the last Friday of the month. Rcoblisk@aol.com

2022 Easter Flower Order Form:

Pink Tulip: _____
Yellow Daffodils: _____
White Hyacinths: _____
Pink Hyacinths: _____
Blue Hyacinths: _____
White Easter Lily: _____

Total number of flowers ordered: _____
Total amount of order: \$ _____

In Memory/Honor of:

My name: _____

Each flower cost \$10.00

Please pay cash or with check payable to
"Edinburg United Church"

Orders due on or before March 20th

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