

Mission Connections

Recently, we received the winter newsletter from Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker in Lebanon. They entitled their newsletter: **What I Did on My COVID Lockdown**. Here is a portion of what Scott wrote: "I was able to work online with Trauma Resource Institute and receive training in the Trauma Resilience Model (TRM) and Community Resiliency Model (CRM). I then passed on the insights from these courses to my colleague and co-facilitator Rana (who is also my Arabic language tutor and a child psychologist for MECC [Middle East Council of Churches]). Together we developed a more in-depth resiliency curriculum for Strong Kids/Strong Emotions (a program that Scott developed a few years ago which is a play-based emotional resiliency program for Syrian and Iraqi children who have become refugees by ISIS) Since October 2019, Lebanon has experienced a revolution, an economic collapse, a pandemic and the August 2020 port explosion. MECC is seeing more kids facing stress-related abuse in the home, and even kids from the most supportive and loving homes are feeling the stress and pressure of such difficult times. Helping kids address their trauma will help them navigate their future.... Elmaire and I are so grateful to you for being vital partners in this work that matters so much to the heart of God. Thank you for your prayers and emails, your zoom invitations and financial support, your care and encouragement.

May we all continue to be daily sustained by Christ's grace."

Scott and Elmarie



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All Sunday Morning services will be held via the Youtube channel The Vine Fellowship in Copley.

Pastor's Pen

Dear Members and Friends of The Vine Fellowship Church:

It is Monday, March 15th as I sit at my computer and write. It is hard to believe that it is exactly one year ago, on Sunday, March 15th that we cancelled in-person worship and have not gathered since, only to be prerecording our services on Thursday nights and then to have them live streamed on Sunday morning at 11 a.m. Even though we will celebrate another Easter Sunday in our homes watching the service, there are positive signs for us to gather, in-person, in the coming weeks.

The Session, at their March 8th meeting, approved the purchase of an air filtration unit that will rapidly destroy airborne viruses. The Session also approved the Covid-19 Advisory Team's *Guidelines for in-person Worship* once we start gathering. Tony Miller, Chair of Property and Maintenance, Cindy Bell of our COVID-19 Advisory Team, and I met on March 9th with the representative from Active Pure Technology. As a result, we have purchased a Vollara Air and Surface Pro 11 unit that covers up to 3,000 square feet. This unit will be placed in the Main Hall near the Coat Room. During the Session meeting I shared that I had not received my vaccine. As a result of my immune system being compromised due to the Lyme Arthritis I had from August, 2018-July, 2019, the Elders felt that once I have both vaccines and the appropriate wait time has elapsed, with the Vollara unit, COVID-19 Advisory Team guidelines, and my vaccinations, we could move forward and hold in-person worship. The date has not been finalized but we will let you know through our Prayer Chain emails and announcements during the Sunday morning service.

When I think of all that we have been through over this past year, and, knowing that we are not out of the woods but making progress, our first Sunday back to in-person worship will almost be like a second Easter for me, and I hope for you. It will be a glorious day to gather again as a community of faith, to see one another again, to praise our God again as the people of God. Easter, April 4th is coming as we celebrate Jesus' victory of death. And our gathering together soon, is also coming. Two glorious days. He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

May the Lord bless you and keep you safe, well and virus-free. Happy Easter.

Yours in Christ and on the Journey together,

Mark

Worship Opportunities

Good Friday, April 2nd 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 4th Resurrection of the Lord/Easter/Communion
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Scripture: John 20:1-18
Sermon: "The Resurrection and the Life"

Sunday, April 11th 2nd Sunday of Easter
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Scripture: John 20:19-31
Sermon: Rev. Dr. Anne Hebert—pastor of St. Andrews Presbyterian, Beulah, Michigan

Sunday, April 18th 3rd Sunday of Easter
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Scripture: John 20:19-31
Sermon: "What Came Next after the Resurrection"

Sunday, April 25th 4th Sunday of Easter
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Scripture: John 14:15-17 & Ephesians 1:15-23
Sermon: "When You Need the Power"

NOTE: Until further notice, all services will be live streamed on YouTube. Search @ The Vine Fellowship in Copley.

Words of Encouragement

Happy Spring! How great it is when those days arrive that we can open up our windows and doors and let some fresh air in to the house that's been closed up for months! Letting in the light just makes you feel hopeful! I think this year more than ever we need that feeling of opening up and experiencing the light and freshness and awakening that this season brings us. There is a new song that I love and when it comes on the radio, I love to turn up the volume! I want to share those words with you. If you can, find the song on the internet, turn up the volume and let the words wash over your soul. The title of the song is "Let the Light In" by Cody Carnes (sung by Kari Jobe). "It's time for the sleeper to wake, It's time for the old winds to change, I hear the Spirit say it's time. It's time for the dead man to rise, It's time for the Great Light to shine, I hear the Spirit say it's time. Fling wide you heavenly gates. Let the King of glory in! Let the King of glory in! Come ride on Your people's praise. Let the King of glory in! Let the King of glory in! Open up the windows, let the light in! Open up the windows, let the light in. Let the light in!

Kay Kelly - Director of Music

One Great Hour of Sharing

Throughout Lent, you have been seeing information on Sunday mornings on our live stream YouTube service and in last month's TVFNews explaining The One Great Hour of Sharing. Please give to this special offering that will be collected up to and including Easter Sunday.

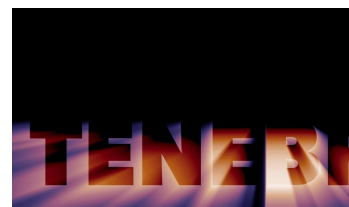


Face to Face Gathering

Now that the weather is changing, we want to give the members and friends the opportunity to gather to do something we have not done since last fall, gather together to share live and community together. So, bring your mask and your lawn chair and come and see some people you haven't seen since our last time on the side lawn last fall. It will be Sunday, April 25th at 4:00 pm. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will meet at 7 P.M. the same day via a Zoom Meeting. Watch the Prayer Chain for information on how to log on if we meet by way of Zoom.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Once again, this Good Friday evening, we will hold a virtual Tenebrae Service at 7 p.m. on YouTube. The word Tenebrae is Latin for *shadows* and the purpose of the service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion of Christ. We hope you will make every effort to tune in this Good Friday as we make our way from Palm Sunday, to Good Friday and then to that glorious Resurrection Day.



Prayer Concerns/ Bible Studies

Pray for our military: Paul Jones - Air Force

Please continue to pray for: Jacob Jaworsky, JC Crawford, Pat Lally, Shirley Gibson, John and Eileen Baker, Gary and Mark Robertson, Stephanie Bankey, William Belser, Doug and SueAnn Jacobs, Pete Jones, Frank Weaver, Steve Rowland, Evelyn Bell, Danielle Porter, Nancy Dunaway, David Cook, JoAnn Marcinkoski, Mia Wilson Jon Caito, All of those who are infected by the Coronavirus, The medical staff treating those infected, Members in Senior Living Facilities, the 8 people killed in Atlanta and the 10 people killed in Colorado. Unrest and killing in our country and around the world, Racial reconciliation, Refugee crisis around the world, Migrant situation on the Southern Border, Syrian Refugee Educational Initiative, The Middle East, Local Missions: Love Akron, The Well C.D.C, Truly Reaching You, Patris, and Naomi Rahmat (Missionary to Immigrant Students and Refugees in Central Ohio) Mark Hare - and wife Jenny Bent (Costa Rica) and Elmarie & Scott Parker (Lebanon/Syria), The Persecuted Church.

The PCUSA, President Biden and elected officials.

Men's Thursday Morning Bible Study

Every Thursday morning a group of men of all ages are currently meeting on a Zoom call at 6:45 am for Bible study and fellowship. If you would like to join this study, please contact Keith Morgenstern

The Women's Bible Review Fellowship, Tuesday Club, Afternoon Circle, WNGS

The above Bible Studies will not be meeting during the pandemic.

March Session Highlights

- It was reported that Debbie Labbe will now serve as the Board of Deacons' Treasurer.
- Session approved (Worship Team) that the Property and Maintenance Team, in consultation with the COVID-19 Team, pursue the purchase of air filtration unit(s) with the cost not to exceed \$5,000 for use in the worship areas (Main Hall and Café).
- The Christian Growth & Development Team reported that daily Lenten Bible readings and weekly discussion guides will be emailed to everyone on the Prayer Chain.
- Session approved (Personnel and Leadership Team) the hiring of William Belser as a part-time Media Consultant.
- Session approved by consensus the Covid-19 Advisory Team's *Guidelines for in-person Worship* once we start gathering.
- The Property and Maintenance Team reported that there would be new signage on the large sign at the entrance of Cleveland-Massillon Rd. and Community Lane.
- The Property and Maintenance Team reported that new flooring in the entrance area, including the portion where the Welcome Desk was removed, has been installed.
- The Property and Maintenance Team reported that our landlord is working with us to renovate the kitchen.

TVF Covid Guidelines for in Person Worship

1. Two greeters at front door to greet and explain guidelines. One greeter will record names and phone numbers for Covid tracking.
2. Maintain social distancing. No temperature checks.
3. Sanitizing station located in café. Hand sanitizer, masks, Kleenex, paper towels, Clorox wipes, gloves and wastebasket.
4. Large bottle of sanitizer near front door. All must use it before entering main hall.
5. Offering plate on stand near entrance to main hall.
6. Keep coats, sweaters with you. Coat room will not be used.
7. No Bulletins or any handouts.
8. One person to monitor restrooms. Only one person in restroom at a time. Children need adult supervision. Handicapped might need someone with them.

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TVF Covid Guidelines Continued

9. Chairs are not to be moved. Until we are comfortable with the system, we'll be sitting individually at a social distance. In the near future, families will be seated together.

10. Worshippers are asked to call the church by 5 pm. Friday to indicate that they'll attend that Sunday. You can leave a message at 330-576-6608.

11. Masks must be worn unless unable to for a medical reason. No food or drink. Encourage arriving early as the worship service will be live on You Tube.

12. Congregation will remain seated during the service. Zip lock bags with activities will be available for children. The greeters will distribute these. Child may take it home.

13. Singing is permitted but mask must be worn. Musicians will have plexi-glass protection.

14. Congregation is encouraged to remain seated after The Blessing. We'll share "Where Have You Seen God" moments after the service.

15. Weather permitting, visiting should be outside at a safe distance.

16. Seating will be front to back rows to allow seating for latecomers.

17. Main Hall will have one or two greeters to supervise seating. When we sit as families, your seats will be assigned.

18. We have purchased an Air Purifier that is in the main hall.

19. Sanitizing procedures are in place. Greeters will open and close the front door to avoiding everyone touching the handle. We need to protect others and ourselves.

20. Kid Zone will not be staffed. Parents may supervise their own children. We'll only use the large climbing play equipment that can easily be sanitized.

21. Communion will be observed monthly using individual packets.

The Covid 19 Advisory Team has approved the above guidelines.

Edie English
Cindy Bell,
Cheryl Buchanan

HP INC.

3676 Community Lane

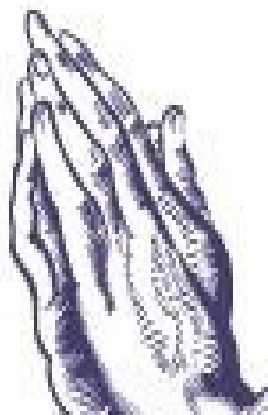
Copley, OH 44321
Phone: 330-576-6608

Your business tag line here.

tvfcopley@gmail.com

As a caring Christian community, The Vine Fellowship Church welcomes all people as we proclaim, witness and teach the good news of Jesus Christ through worship, prayer and service.

Prayer Meeting



We are inviting the congregation to join in a weekly time of prayer and reading from God's word beginning at 7:30 pm Monday evening. An outline will be available via the prayer chain. If you're not on the prayer chain contact Pat Franklin at
pjfranklin.820@gmail.com.

The Vine Fellowship Church

***Worship begins at
11:00 am.***

Mark T. Ruppert - Pastor

Kay Belser - Pianist and
Director of Music Ministry

Audrey Nolte - Administra-
tive Assistant

Plain English

Jesus is the light. We are the lightbulbs!