

NEW COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH

A message from Pastor Tom Ulrich &
the Eastminster Presbytery



On Tuesday, Eastminster Presbytery gathered together, by Zoom, for its stated meeting. At the meeting, Eastminster's missionaries to Lebanon and Syria, Scott and Elmarie Parker, invited the congregations of the presbytery to pray weekly for their churches because they are definitely praying for us.

In addition, the presbytery passed the following resolution which is to be sent to appropriate elected officials:

We, the collected congregations of Eastminster Presbytery, stand with our sister in Christ, Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde, and the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, in condemning President Trump's use of St. John's Church as a political backdrop without receiving permission of church leaders. We also condemn the use of government force to disrupt the congregation's practice of the gospel of Jesus Christ in providing aid and support to the protestors. Such an invasion of church property and disruption of ministry directly violates the congregation's right to freely practice their faith.

Furthermore, we call upon the President and our national leaders to join us in prayer for the families of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor. We call upon the President and national leaders to hear the cries for justice voiced through the peaceful protests while working steadfastly to bring safety and peace to our streets. Finally, we call upon the President and national leaders to join us in an ongoing ministry of reconciliation in a nation much divided.

The Stated Clerk will send this statement to appropriate elected officials and local Youngstown/Akron media.

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Announcements

June 4, 2020



Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington

"The presidents are welcome as citizens of this country to pray alongside fellow citizens to kneel before God in humility and to rededicate themselves to the task to which they've been elected," Budde said. "In that posture, he and any president is welcome. But he is not entitled to use the spiritual symbolism of our sacred spaces and our sacred texts to promote or to justify an entirely different message."



All four officers in this photo now face charges in connection with George Floyd's death. Derek Chauvin, who is accused of kneeling on Floyd's neck for 8 minutes, faces a second degree murder charge in Minneapolis.



Three men are charged with Ahmaud Arbery's

murder. Georgia investigators say the men chased Arbery down and killed him. Police body cam video recorded Greg McMichael saying, "He had a gut feeling Mr. Arbery may have been responsible for thefts... in the neighborhood,"



Breonna Taylor was shot and killed, after Louisville, KY police raided the wrong house. The suspect they were looking for was already in police custody.

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In our country's current state of unrest, one of the ways in which we may be able to make a difference is through the Pentecost Offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). When we give to the Pentecost Offering, we promote hope and healing by providing opportunities for young people to grow and share in their faith in Christ by shaping ministries in the church and community. When we offer a financial gift, 40% stays with this congregation to develop and support programs for young people in our own church and community.

25% supports Young Adult Volunteers (YAV), serving in communities around the world, and growing as leaders through transformative Christian service.

25% supports Ministries with Youth to help guide our youth by uniting them in Christ and lifting them up as leaders and messengers of God's word

10% is devoted to children at-risk to improve education and provide safe havens.

Let us consider how we may want to participate in this life-changing work.



AAIC has asked Nancy Williams to represent NCCC by writing a letter and standing with our brothers and sisters of color in this horrific time in our nation's history. This letter will be sent to Judy Hill, Director of the Akron NAACP.

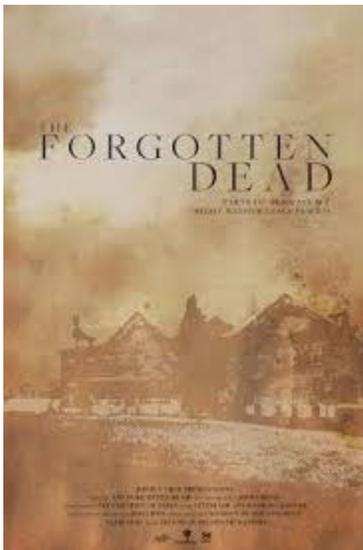
You will be able to see letters from area congregations in the Beacon Journal, in the near future.



Pledge Drive for Parking Lot Resurfacing Project

As of Thursday, the church had received \$16,350 from twelve pledging units for redoing the parking lot. The original goal was to raise at least half of the \$30,000, to pay for Perrin to do the job. But, the amount was bumped up to \$20,000, as stated in the letter everyone received more than a week ago. (The sum of \$30,000 was incorrectly reported in the June Messenger.) Therefore, we are proceeding with the project for this year. However, more money would be helpful (\$20,000 and above) for our long-term financial position, especially since the cost to redo the driveway apron will be more expensive than anticipated, due to unexpected surprises that were revealed while obtaining city permits.

In fact, because the work that needs to be done on the driveway apron has become more involved, the company we initially contracted to do the job, has chosen not to proceed as planned. Despite the complications, Tim Meyer is pressing forward, and working to find a new company, that will work with us to resolve the problem.



If you purchased an online ticket to view “The Forgotten Dead,” that you can view from June 5 at 7:00 p.m.- June 7 at 7:00 p.m., check your e-mail for a link that will be sent to you.

You can read more about the movie in June’s *The Messenger* about this film by local filmmaker Josh Gippin, the owner of Joshua Tree Productions.