COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Messenger NEW COVENANT

A WEST AKRON NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH

Upril 2023

The President's Page

Greetings,

The Pastoral Nominating committee has secured a candidate for our next pastor. He and his lovely wife will be coming to Akron this month, and he will deliver his candidate sermon, Sunday, April 16 at 10:30 am. Please, plan to be in the sanctuary to hear his sermon. Immediately following the service, I shall call the Congregational Meeting to order with one single item on the agenda: voting by the congregation on whether we want him to be our next pastor. Your input is important.

We extend mountains of gratitude to our Pastoral Nominating Committee who have been meeting weekly since August to secure this candidate. Be sure to thank Ken Williams, Bev Cinovac, Susie Stevenor, Hal Horton, John Sezna, Jim Strandberg, and Cathy King for the hours of inquiry and research, wading through endless applications, submitting minutely detailed documents, and ultimately recommending a candidate.

We have been well served by our Worship Committee with inspiring and delightful retired pastors for our ongoing Sunday morning worship service. I'll share with you some of my reflections on their message:

- <u>Rev. Barry Chance</u> reminded us to be optimistic, knowing God has a plan for us,
- <u>Rev. Meta Cramer</u> pointed out that Abraham and Sarah were well into their seventies when they undertook the greatest achievements of their life.
- <u>Rev. Dan Schomer</u> called up the difference between being in the light and actually and purposefully being the light of Jesus Christ in our world.

(President continued on page 2)



Something to think about, folks.

On a lighter note, last month we distributed over 150 (?) books to Kindergarteners through fifth graders at Portage Path Elementary School. One little boy said to me as I printed his name on the label for his book, "Is this really for me to keep?" I answered that it was and he said, "You mean I don't have to return this?"

Don't ever doubt that we are doing good work.

Fondly,

Nancy Clem





We recently received these engaging photos from Tom and Cathy from their new home in Albuquerque. The first is the view from their back door of the surrounding mountains and the second one is the fireplace in their living room with the parting gift

we gave them when they left. Tom said, "We love our Don Drumm sculpture. Cathy said it is the best retirement gift anyone has ever received and I agree with her."





Special Services

Here is the current calendar of who will be leading Worship Services from now until Caster.

> 4/2—Palm Sunday Rev. Dan Schomer (HR) 4/6—Maundy Thursday at Allenside Presbyterian Church

> > 7:00 p.m. 4/7—Good Friday

Rev. Francie Fisher

NCCC

Noon

4/9—Caster Rev. Meta Cramer (HR)

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please make plans to attend the congregational meeting set for April 16th. At that time, we will vote on a new minister.

COME FOR COFFEE

It's time for Coffee Hour. Come fellowship with friends & family, during this first Sunday of the month event. If you gave up sweets or coffee for Lent, come for the fellowship. Your friends want to see your face.

> Sunday 10:15 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY

The doors are open for Bible Study here at 1587 W. Exchange, every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Check out Pastor Bell passed along information that Gospel of Christ will be resuming Bible Study March 15th. All are welcome. If you are not



WORSHIP CALENDAR

Here is the current calendar of who will be leading Worship Services after Easter and into May.

> April 23— Rev. Meta Cramer (HR) April 30—Rev. Dianne Shirey May 7—Rev. Nick Nicholson



SUPER 6 LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION

The collection of canned soup, which is this week's "Super 6" item, is off to a good start. Last week, you donated 67 pounds of beef stew. That brings the running total to 309 pounds of food you've donated to the Akron Canton Regional Foodbank, during the Super 6 Collection.

NCCC along with all of the congregations in the Ohio Fellowship of the International Council of Community Churches, are

participating in the Super	Week	Items	Lbs.
6	1	Boxed Cereal	53
Collection.	2	Peanut Butter	
Because food insecu-	3	Canned Tuna	109
rity plagues far too many	4	Canned Vegetables	80
people in our country,	5	Canned Beef Stew	67
there are six things that	6	Canned Soup	
are always			r

needed at our area

foodbanks. The list of the Super Six food items includes: boxed cereal, peanut butter, canned tuna, canned vegetables, canned beef stew , and canned soup.





Accordingly, at the end of Lent, there is new life and resurrection with the celebration of Easter, and the gifts we offer will provide individuals with the gift of new life.

This food drive is a combined effort of Worship, Missions, and New Initiatives.

EASTER FLOWERS

Please submit your order for Easter flowers by Sunday. Each plant is \$10. When you pay for them, please note who the dedication is for on the check memo line or on the offering envelope.

There will be a dedication page in the Easter bulletin. Plants may be taken after the Easter service.



HUNGER WALK



AAIC's 14th Annual Hunger Walk is coming in another month. Join us on Sunday, May 7, starting from the parking lot of the Unitarian Universalist 2:00-2:45 p.m., and the walk begins at 3:00 with refreshments to follow inside

the building in the fellowship hall area.

Please enjoy the video with music this Sunday during our Minute for Mission. The video was made by Aurelia Calabrese, the 14 year-old, granddaughter of Ken & Nancy Williams. Other members of AAIC have access to the video so they can share it with their congregations. Click here to view it on YouTube.

There is a sign up sheet on the hall table, for those who plan to attend. You can walk the one or two miles down Market St., or if walking either of those distances is too much. just walk once around the parking lot, and gather for our own group photo like last year Church. Registration is from and the large photo with everyone taken on he steps of the church. Dan Flowers, CEO of the Foodbank, will say a few words beforehand and plans on walking with us.

- Nancy Williams

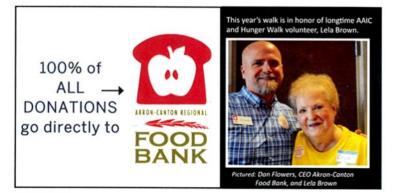




14th Annual Akron Area Interfaith Council HUNGER WALK

Sunday, May 7, 2023 Unitarian Universalist Church of Akron 3300 Morewood Road, Fairlawn, OH 44333

Registration - 2:00 pm | Walk begins at 3:00 pm Fellowship afterwards



WAYS TO DONATE

- CHECKS payable to AAIC Hunger Walk. Mail to: 3300 Morewood Road, Akron, OH 44333
- IN PERSON DONATIONS on Sunday, May 7, 2023
- DONATE ONLINE Click on QR code Or go to akroninterfaith.org and follow the prompts.



AAIC Meeting Tuesday, March 7 12:00-1:15 Akron First Seventh-Day Adventist Church 655 E. Waterloo Rd. A Zoom link will be sent to anyone from the church who would like to attend, but can only attend on Zoom.



MEET & GREET

If you missed the chance on Monday, to talk with Rev. Barry Chance, the new Eastminster Presbyter and Stated Clerk, there's still another "Meet & Greet"

event coming up. You're invited to join the conversation during a Zoom event. Rev. Chance is hosting a brief devotion and prayer during Eastminster After Hours, Tuesday, April 4 from 7p-8p.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81251384455? pwd=ZXJOV2QrdHFtYlVibzdJaWtXdlg0Z z09

These events were coordinated with the hope of building relationships with anyone in the presbytery.



COMING SOON...

Looking ahead to

June, the annual Mitzvah Day of

Day of Caring and Service

service hosted by Temple Israel will occur on June 3 & 4 at various locations around Akron. Several of us have participated in this in the past.

More information will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead.



AAIC Meeting

Tuesday, April 4 Beth El Temple 750 White Pond Drive 12:00-1:15



THINGS TO COME

Looking back at the AIIA collection drive, back in November and December when you graciously donated bags of rice, beans, and assorted gift cards to Target, Wal Mart, Dollar General, etc., there was to be a Christmas party in December at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church. Unfortunately, the group got too large and there were too many illnesses going around. So, the party was cancelled. However, those in charge made up baskets for the families and gave gift cards to the kids, which were greatly appreciated. While our church served as the "clearing house" for AAIC donations, other congregations were in on this.

Now, organizers are planning an event to make up for the one that was cancelled. So,

> Save the Date for May 20, and watch for more details.

ULRICH UPDATE

Here are a couple of photos from Tom. The first is from the deck of his house and the second is Cathy on the hiking trail.



Tom loved the picture book, and thanks everyone involved. He said he thinks of us often... but seems quite happy in his new location.



He mentioned that the hiking trail, although somewhat rugged, would be good for any of us who might visit.

Daily Sharing Calendar

WEEK 7 – APRIL 2 – 8, 2023

Monday

In India, Dalit women have found hope as they work together to provide shelter, food and livelihoods for their communities. Give a gift to honor the strong and courageous women in your life.

Tuesday

Using the online map, locate Daisy C.H.A.I.N.(DC) in California, an SDOP project that supports Black, Indigenous and People of Color, addressing issues of poverty and racism. Give a gift in honor of your friends of color.

Wednesday

Education is a vital tool to help people address their needs. Give a gift for every year you have been in school.

Thursday

Sometimes people need help advocating for their rights — like those who work with the Immokalee farmworkers. Say a prayer for those who advocate for basic human rights for all.

Friday

People without housing have nowhere to keep food. Give a gift for each time you have opened the refrigerator today and pray for people experiencing homelessness.

Your gifts to **One Great Hour of Sharing** are shared with the ministries of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. To learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference visit pcusa.org/oghs