

faith
hope
love

“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”

Corrie Ten Boom

BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Service of Worship

May 21, 2023

PRELUDE

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Bells Te Deum

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Hymn 850 – “In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness”

Leader: In a deep, unbounded darkness, long before the first light shone,
you, O God, beyond all merit worked a wonder faith makes known:

All: In your mercy, in your mercy, you embraced us as your own.

Leader: Though our world is everchanging, you are constant, firm, and sure,
Faithful to your covenant promise. Trusting you, we live, secure:

All: singing praises, singing praises, long as heart and breath endure.

Leader: Joy transforms our lips to boasting only in your matchless grace,
Sending Christ to dwell among us, Word made flesh in time and space:

**All: Friend and Savior, Friend and Savior, in whose life we glimpse your face,
Evermore and evermore!**

Leader: Let us worship our God!

*HYMN 267

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

*OFFERING OUR BROKENNESS TO GOD

*Prayer of Confession

Dear God, we believe in the power of prayer and want you to answer each one. But when it comes down to our individual problems, we often don't trust you will answer. While your nature is to bless, we restrict ourselves with thoughts of independence and unbelief. Show us Your hand. Inspire us to take it, trusting in your way. Amen

Silent confession

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON AND SHARING GOD'S PEACE

Friends, trust and believe in the good news!

Friends, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also, with you!

*Sung Response 447

"We Are Forgiven"

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Alaina Engdahl

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of God, we want to experience you in new ways.

Silence our old restrictive thoughts.

Help us hear only the blessed sound of you,

**see only your loving heart in action and feel grateful to remain at your side
to see, hear and feel more of you.**

In Jesus' name, amen.

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:1-6 (pg. 510) 1 Chronicles 4:9-10 (pg. 316)

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 21:1-5 (pg. 1007)

SERMON

"Let Go & Grab Hold!"

Merri Bame

*HYMN 684

"Faith Begins by Letting Go"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God, the Creator of the past, present and future; by whose name all creation is
blessed and sustained in power and love. We believe in Jesus Christ, who demonstrates love and
power beyond belief through his connection with God the Creator, and who gives us peace that
surpasses all understanding. We believe in the Spirit of God offering love, wisdom and newness to
the community of believers, now and in eternity.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory

"The Gospel of Grace" (Amazing Grace *and* I'm New Born Again)

Chancel Choir

Mark Hayes

*Sung Response

Doxology 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

*HYMN 384

"Soon and Very Soon"

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

POSTLUDE

*Please stand, if able

We welcome our very own Merrie Bame as guest speaker: Merri grew up in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), attending a Lutheran parochial school from 4-8th grade in a small town of NW Ohio before moving into a public high school. She graduated from BGSU with a Teaching Degree and entered her teaching career of 16 years in Findlay. Also, a thespian, Merri taught, directed and was Executive Director of the Findlay Area Youth theatre, directed and performed for the Fort Findlay Playhouse and taught at Liberty Benton HS while running their theater program.

She met Kim Welter in her final years of teaching, and the two moved to Toledo where Merri started a personal development/communication coaching practice for teachers and small business owners and became a deacon and singer with the praise band at Collingwood Presbyterian. Then when Kim started working with Equality Ohio, they moved to Columbus where the two joined Boulevard and have enjoyed being active. Merri furthered her coaching practice to exclusively support attorneys in finding happiness in their lives and today helps them create a practice of wellbeing.

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The flowers for this morning's service are given for the Glory of God

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Worship Leader: George Ells

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Elder of the Month: Kevin Hicks

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Nursery Care Available for Worship!

The Nursery is available from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. on Sunday Mornings during the worship service. The Nursery is not currently available during the education hour. With more volunteers, we will be able to provide care in the Nursery for the second hour. To volunteer, please contact Sue Harvey (614-216-5884). Thank you for caring for our most precious members.

Attendance for May 14, 2023: 52

STAFF

Pastor:

Music Coordinator: Mary Ann Stephens Office Manager: Jeanette Gonzalez

Preschool Administrator: Mikie Bowles Financial Officer: Yang Wu

BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1235 Northwest Boulevard, Grandview Heights, OH 43212 614-486-0267 Fax: 614-486-2342

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CALENDAR MAY 2023

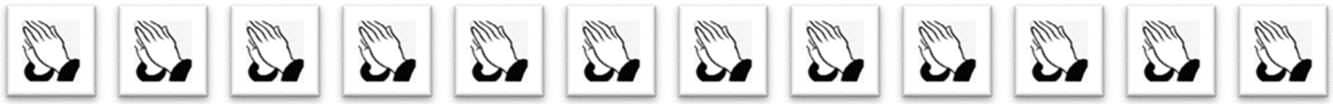
| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| 05/21) 7th Sunday of Easter 10:00am Worship: Sanctuary in-person & live-streamed on Facebook. | | | |
| 05/22) Monday 7:30pm Boy Scouts BSA: FH | 05/23) Tuesday 7:00pm AA meeting | 05/24) Wednesday 9:00am Quilters 111 7:30pm NA meeting | 05/25) Thursday 7:30pm GA: Rm 111 |
| 05/26) Friday 10:00am Marlins Stretch Class | 05/27) Saturday <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> 8:00am Grandview Memorial Day Parade float preparation at the Hamilton's 10:00am Parade starts | | |
| 05/28) Pentecost 10:00am Worship: Sanctuary in-person & live-streamed on Facebook. | | | |

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MAY

| Date | Member: | Date | Member: |
|-------|----------------|-------|-----------------------|
| 05/3 | Shawn Ebert | 05/15 | Susan Ells |
| 05/3 | Kiera Rennick | 05/18 | Levi Hooley |
| 05/5 | Don Plas | 05/20 | Lindsay (Zigler) Dray |
| 05/6 | Diane Cattran | 05/26 | David Conner |
| 05/07 | David Fletcher | 05/27 | Martha Hills |
| 05/10 | Kay Rieve | | |
| 05/12 | Terry McFadden | | |

Birthday Blessings to all!

(Please let Jeanette know if there are any birthdays missing)



PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

| Prayer asked from: | For: |
|---------------------------|---|
| Merri Bame | Mom, Sue Bame, passed away May 13,2023 |
| | Katie Frase had surgery |
| | Sandy Ferguson, Recurrence of Sarcoma- treatment began 3/15 |
| Sandy Ferguson | Daughter, Caitlin, recuperating from ACL knee surgery-Started PT and is improving |
| Mac & Jane Swinford | Health concerns for Robin, Phil, Maddie and Claudia |
| Jim, Grace & Tim Parks | Jim Parks has been moved to the Sanctuary at Tuttle Crossing/skilled nursing-hospice area room 213. |
| Charmaine Hamilton | Brother-in-law, John, having heart surgery in May |
| Melissa & Michael Schmidt | Michael's sister, Caroline's cancer has returned. |
| Kathie Bailey | Brother, Mike, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer |
| Jody Huggins | Daughter-in-law, Pam, who is recovering from back surgery. |
| | Lisa Faulkner recent hip surgery |
| | Ken & Judy Pierce's daughter, Teri, is scheduled for surgery in July |
| Leah Hanesworth | John Long underwent successful live donor kidney transplant surgery on April 14th and is progressing well. A prayer of praise to God for organ donors and gifted medical teams. |
| | Ian Gilbert, was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma |
| Pat Nicholson | Deanna Nicholson had surgery, prayer for recovery |
| | Bill & Katy Frase continued health concerns |
| Tim & Sue Harvey | Dear Friend, Walt, recently diagnosed with aggressive prostate cancer |
| Tim & Sue Harvey | Dearest friend's daughter Devon has breast cancer |
| Charmaine Hamilton | Fred Heald, friend, recuperating from surgery |
| Leah Hanesworth | Friend, Molly Hughes, has an aggressive form of breast cancer. Also pray for Molly's mother, Bridget & Family |
| Charmaine & Mike Hamilton | Granddaughter, Amelia Hamilton, who has Friedreich's Ataxia |
| Tim & Sue Harvey | Devon, friend, has breast cancer |
| Bonnie Grimm | Bonnie's cousin's husband, John Odum, has Parkinson |
| Bill Bell | Friend, Terri Randal, cancer has recurred |
| Charmaine Hamilton | Friend, Karla Holton, treatment for lung cancer |
| Charmaine Hamilton | Brother, Spencer Schalip, medical concerns |
| Jim Parks & Grace Parks | Tim Parks, (Jim's son and Grace's brother) Parkinson's disease |
| Mikie Bowles | Brother, Tim McLane, has health issues |
| | Terry McFadden, in Allen Oakwood Correctional |

PRAYERS FOR OUR SPECIAL CARE LIST

| Members: | | Members: | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|------|
| Glenn Beaber | Willow Brook | Brita Knapp | home |
| Tom Hayes | The Forum-Assisted Living | Betty Sikking | Home |
| Norma Kibbey | Westminster-Thurber – Assisted Living | | |

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TILE REMOVAL FROM FELLOWSHIP HALL

The floor tiles in Fellowship Hall, the stage area and associated hallways will be removed beginning Monday, May 22 and continue through that week. Activities typically occurring in Fellowship Hall will be relocated to another part of the building. Please take this into account if you are planning to use Fellowship Hall.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Preparation for the Grandview Memorial Day parade starts at 8:00 AM Saturday, May 27 at the Hamilton's house located at 1350 Arlington Avenue. Boulevard will have a float in the parade and we need your help. This is a great opportunity to connect with the community and interact with our neighbors while passing out balloons and candy. We will meet at 8:00 on the 27th to decorate the trailer being provided by Ian Rennick. We have new decorations, many balloons to inflate, and signs to create and carry. The parade starts that same day at 10:00 AM just around the corner from the Hamilton's. Please pitch in and put your name on the signup sheet in the lounge or contact the Outreach Committee (Mac Swinford, Jan Plas, and Carol McFadden). Mac's email is macswinford@gmail.com

THE HANDBELLS YOU HEARD THIS MORNING

Are part of Boulevard's 3-octave set of Malmark handbells. They were played by Kim Welter, Melissa Schmidt, Jon Stephens, and Mary Ann Stephens. Thanks to funding granted by the Endowment Committee, the bells will be sent to the Malmark factory in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, for a long-overdue refurbishment at the end of July. The last time the bells were sent away for maintenance was 1997! Time and usage take their toll on any instrument or piece of equipment, so we are excited to be able to have our bells repaired, retuned, shined up, and ready for us to ring in the fall. If you have questions about handbells and how they work, please do not hesitate to ask for a demonstration! If you are interested in ringing handbells when we regroup at the end of September, please contact Mary Ann Stephens: jstephens18@columbus.rr.com

WHY ARE WE MAKING THIS POLLINATOR GARDEN, ANYHOW?

Hi, this is Jan Plas! A few weeks ago, we had an education hour devoted to learning about the importance of native plants. Afterwards, someone told me "I had no idea about any of this stuff! I didn't know why we were making that garden!" This is to tell you why we're doing it! Our son sent me an article a couple of years ago, and the article sparked my interest in a different type of gardening. There is an entomologist named Dr. Doug Tallamy who has been studying the specialized relationships between insects and plants. These relationships have evolved over long periods of time, and now certain insects will only lay eggs on specific plants that live in their ecosystem. Likewise, certain plants need insects to help them thrive. There are also other animals in these ecosystems. Dr. Tallamy learned that caterpillars, in particular, are important because the large majority of food that birds feed their young are caterpillars. He proposes that if we garden to promote caterpillars, then the bird population, plants, insects and people will become healthier. Did you know that it takes about 6,000 caterpillars for a pair of chickadees to raise one nest of babies? I also learned that the insect population of the world is decreasing dangerously. We need insects in order to have healthy plants, air and food. We are a part of God's creation, and we were not created to live in glass and concrete. Our traditional grass lawn at Boulevard does not grow any caterpillars, does not provide cover for creatures to live, and does not promote life. It is a food desert for the animals that live in Ohio. Also, non-native plants such as lavender, butterfly bush, and most commercial annuals and perennials can provide nectar but cannot support any insect life cycles. In our new native plant pollinator garden, we hope to heal the earth starting with our own church property, and reach out to the surrounding community and educate others about the importance of native plants. We already have community members involved and are partnering with several community groups including Grandview Schools. Please contact me if you would like to be involved or want to learn more: janplas@gmail.com or 614-557-6807

CALLING FOR FREE YARROW PLANTS

I am trying to plant yarrow in the narrow strip of soil that runs along on 2nd Ave between the sidewalk and the ramp. Yarrow is drought-hardy and has a shallow root system, so I think it will work well in that location and this will further Boulevard's push to convert more of our space to native plants. I have transplanted some little plants in the ground already, but need some more to help fill the entire strip. If you have any plants you would like to divide and donate, please reach out to me (Alaina Engdahl 1-614-725-6431)! Thanks!

COMMUNION FOR OUR HOME BOUND MEMBERS

Please prayerfully consider being a part of this. Two people will team up to go to the homes of our home bound members to serve communion and visit with them. If this is something you haven't tried before, please consider going out in this very safe environment and trying something new. If you are a beginner at this, you will be paired with an experienced server. The visits will take about 2 hours of your time. Those who do it regularly find they are blessed more than they bless! As before, we will provide copies of the day's scripture reading and a brief synopsis of the sermon to be used in this extended communion service. These will be inserted into the full "Extended Communion Liturgy" so that you have an entire script for the visit. Of course, you may choose to use the liturgy as a guide, saying your own prayers and paraphrasing other parts. Please contact Kim Welter, kwelter.200@gmail.com~419-410-0156, to be a part of this very special ministry.

CAN TABS DONATION

Linda Mahoney just delivered another 8.5 pounds of tabs to the Ronald McDonald House. There were rumors that McDonald's had quit accepting the tabs. Which was not true. They appreciated it. Please continue to bring in your tabs.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTING:

Looking for a way to volunteer? The Deacons have Coffee Hour hosting opportunities. Sign up for a Sunday, whenever you are available. Link: <https://tinyurl.com/BPC-Coffee-Hour>. There is also a sign-up sheet in the kitchenette.

DONATE FLOWERS TO BEAUTIFY THE SANCTUARY ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

If you would like to donate flowers to beautify our Sanctuary on Sunday mornings, please pick up and complete the information on the "Offering for Flowers" envelope and either put in the offering plate on Sunday or mail it to the church office. You can also donate anonymously and flowers will be ordered for Sundays that have not been designated. Sanctuary flowers are \$50.00