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April 2022

**LET THE
RESURRECTION JOY LIFT
US FROM LONELINESS AND
WEAKNESS AND DESPAIR TO
STRENGTH AND BEAUTY
AND HAPPINESS.**

Floyd W. Tomkins

DOVER VOICES

Dover Congregational United Church of Christ
2239 Dover Center Road ~ Westlake, OH 44145 ~ 440.871.1050 ~ www.doverucc.org

An Open & Affirming Congregation

Our Mission:
Seek Justice. . . Love Kindness . . . Walk Humbly With Our God

A word from our pastor...

Friends,

You can get to Easter without experiencing Lent, your personal forty days of reflection and introspection, but Easter's message is muted. "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" is just another hymn without the darkness, the solitude. Easter is rapidly approaching. What will it mean to you this year? Some of you have gone through the desert. I know your grief stories. April 17th will indeed be about resurrection, that many of you will understand, most acutely, what it means to be Easter people.



Lynn Caine's husband John died of cancer at the age of 38. She wrote about her experience in a book entitled Widow. This is the first sentence of her book: "Being a widow is like living in a country where no one speaks your language."

Most people who have experienced grief know what she is talking about. To enter into grief is like living in a country where no one speaks your language. Or, as Shakespeare paraphrased might say: "Everybody knows how to heal grief, except those who actually experience it."

I think that's why the Psalms have been such a healing hope to people in the midst of grief. Many of the Psalms are about grief, composed by people who do not keep grief at arm's length. In Psalm 77 the writer pours out his heart in anguish and despair. He doesn't express it simply for one verse or two or three, he goes on and on and on about his grief. It empties out of him in buckets. But then, in the midst of his grief, he makes an interesting decision, almost a decision of the will. When his grief is acute, he decides that he is going to remember who God is and what God has done in the past. He's still angry at God, but at least now he has some perspective.

What he discovered is the way to move through grief is not around it or to push it away, but through it one tear at a time.

The second discovery that the psalmist makes is that God helps in our grief through other people. "You saved us through Moses and Aaron," he says. Sometimes it's the people who are closest around us, our neighbors, our friends, our family, people we meet on the street, who become the agents of God's healing in our grief. And, sometimes, it's when we try to be agents of healing for others, even as we are experiencing grief, that we find our own grief healed.

A woman was having difficulty getting over the loss of her husband. She even went to her physician and said, "You need to give me a prescription to help me with my melancholy. Every day I go to the cemetery and I put flowers on my husband's grave, but it doesn't help. It simply drives me deeper into grief. Give me a prescription to ease my pain." Her

physician said, “Before I give you a prescription, let me ask a favor. Instead of placing those flowers on your husband’s grave, why don’t you bring them to the hospital? I have patients nobody visits.” She was resistant, but decided to do it. She found that this was the turning point for her own healing. As she showed encouragement to others, she was able to drink deeply from the well of God’s own encouragement.

Finally, when the psalmist looks at what God has done, he discovers God was often hidden during his healing. The psalmist puts it like this: In the middle of the churning waters, God’s footprints were unseen. God was there healing, bringing redemption and hope, but God could not be seen.

Most know the name Charles de Gaulle, World War II hero and president of France. What you might not know is that de Gaulle and his wife, Yvonne, were the parents of a Down Syndrome child, a daughter named Anne. Regardless of what was going on in the affairs of state, de Gaulle would come home every day and would spend time with his wife and daughter. When he and his wife would put Anne to bed at night, Yvonne would sometimes say, “I weep for Anne. I have prayed so often that she could be like the others. Charles, why is she not like the others?” Anne did not live to adulthood. The couple had a private graveside service. At the funeral the priest said, “When Jesus died, all that the world could see was suffering and death, but the hidden hand of God was at work to bring victory and redemption, just as the hidden hand of God is at work to bring healing to Anne.” When the service was over, Yvonne could not pull herself away from the grave. She was emotionally paralyzed with grief. de Gaulle touched his wife on the shoulder and said, “Come, Yvonne, did you not hear the words of the priest? She is now like the others.”



In the midst of our grief, there is the hidden hand of God. Someone fluent in the language of grief.

Keith

HIGHLIGHTS FROM COUNCIL

Moderator Report

God grant me
the Serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change
Courage to
change the things I can
and the Wisdom
to know the difference

By now, we are all aware that our process of succession from Keith's leadership to a new pastoral leader is progressing. It is an exciting time for thinking hard about who we are today as a church, who God is calling us to be in the future, and who is our "neighbor" in our mission and ministry.

The way a United Church of Christ finds a minister is different than many other denominations because the local church calls its own leader. Our Search Committee will read minister profiles, interview candidates, and finally recommend a candidate for congregational approval. Briefly, the timeline looks something like this:

- The pastor announces his/her retirement. For us, this happened at our Annual Meeting in January. Keith announced his intention to retire by the end of 2022 at a date to be announced.
- The Transition Team helps the congregation discover its vision. Members are: Michael DiLauro, Mary Mann, Sue O'Neil, Eileen Schultz, and Ted Vance. A few weeks ago, they sent a survey to every family group in our congregation and asked that each person who is age 15 or older fill it out by April 4. The survey is completely anonymous and confidential. I can't stress enough how important your answers are! What does our church mean to you today? What is God calling us to be in the future? What ministries should we be doing in Christ's name? How do we interact with the community around us, and how should we interact? What is most important in the selection of a pastoral leader? **If you have filled out the survey, a BIG THANK YOU! If you haven't, PLEASE HELP US by doing that now.** After results of the survey are tallied, the Transition Team will continue to work in the congregation, helping members discover and move towards our vision by hosting various discussions and events.
- A Search and Call Committee is formed to compile the church profile and search for new leadership. Members are: Tom Beach, Terry Chadwick, Lauren Falcone, Kia Frank, Adam Jakubiak, Ann Lew, and Noreen Thompson. This committee will begin to work on parts of the profile that are easier, like demographics of our church and wider community. They will then write the mission statement of the congregation into the profile as they receive information from the Transition Team.
- The completed Church Profile is sent to our Association, where it is placed in the UCC National site of ministerial employment opportunities. The Search Committee receives ministerial profiles and continues their work towards recommending a candidate. Final call of a minister is by congregational vote.

Our Transition Team and our Search Committee are moving ahead in an efficient and professional manner in this important process for our church. If you have questions or concerns, please contact any member of these groups. And remember, our regular Council Meetings are always OPEN meetings. We welcome you to join us to learn and participate in what is happening here at Dover.

Sharrie Nichols

The Council of Dover UCC met on Tuesday, March 15th at Dover Church, at 7:00 PM. Financials for February 2022 were discussed and are shown below.

As of 2/28/2022:

Year-to-Date revenue:	\$ 95,352.00
Year-to-Date expenses:	\$ 51,169.51 (14% of 2022 budget)
Endowment Fund Total Market Value	\$958,903.00
Total Cash available:	\$188,344.00

FROM THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE

GUERNICA

During the Spanish Civil War, the Republican forces were made up of assorted factions such as communists, socialists, anarchists, and others with differing goals. Yet they were united in their opposition to the Nationalists, led by General Francisco Franco, who sought a return to pre-Republican Spain based on law, order, and traditional Catholic values. Guernica was the cultural capital of the Basque people, seat of their centuries-old independence and democratic ideals.



It was market day in Guernica when the church bells of Santa Maria sounded the alarm that April 25 afternoon in 1937. People from the surrounding hillsides crowded the town square. For over three hours, twenty-five or more of Germany's best-equipped bombers, accompanied by at least twenty more Messerschmitt and Fiat Fighters, dumped one hundred thousand pounds of high-explosive and incendiary bombs on the village, slowly and systematically pounding it to rubble.

The bombing of Guernica was an aerial bombing of the Basque town of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War. It was carried out at the behest of Francisco Franco's rebel Nationalist faction by its allies, the Nazi German Luftwaffe's Condor Legion and the Fascist Italian Aviazione Legionaria, under the code name "Operation Rügen". The operation opened the way to Franco's capture of Bilbao and his victory in northern Spain.



Guernica had no strategic value as a military target. Guernica was a testing ground for a new Nazi military tactic - blanket-bombing a civilian population to demoralize the enemy, a wanton, man-made holocaust. The German commander, Von Richthofen stated, "...the concentrated attack on Guernica was the greatest success," ordered on Franco's behalf to break the spirited Basque resistance to Nationalist forces. The town was populated mostly by women and children, at the time of the bombing, because a majority of Guernica's men were away, fighting on behalf of the Republicans.

The destruction became the subject of one of Pablo Picasso's most famous paintings. During the 35 days he worked on it, Picasso declared, "In the panel on which I am working, which I shall call *Guernica*, and in all my recent works of art, I clearly express my abhorrence of the military caste which has sunk Spain in an ocean of pain and death."



The scene occurs within a room where, on the left, a wide-eyed bull stands over a grieving woman holding a dead child in her arms. A horse falls in agony in the center of the room, with a large gaping hole in its side, as if it had just been run through by a spear or javelin. The horse appears to be wearing chain mail armor, decorated with vertical tally marks arranged in rows.

A dead and dismembered soldier lies under the horse. The hand of his severed right arm grasps a shattered sword, from which a flower grows, and the open palm of his left hand contains a stigma, a symbol of martyrdom derived from the stigmata of Christ. A bare light bulb in the shape of an eye blazes over the suffering horse's head.

To the horse's upper right the head and extended right arm of a frightened female figure appears to have floated into the room through a window, and she witnesses the scene. In her right hand she carries a flame-lit lamp, and holds it near the bare bulb. From the right, below the witness, an awe-struck woman staggers towards the center, looking into the blazing light bulb with a blank stare.

Daggers that suggest screaming have replaced the tongues of the horse, the bull, and the grieving woman. A dove is scribed on the wall behind the bull, part of its body comprising a crack in the wall through which bright light from the outside shines.

On the far right a fourth woman, her arms raised in terror, her wide open mouth and thrown back head echoing the grieving woman's, is entrapped by fire from above and below. Her right hand suggests the shape of an airplane.

A dark wall with an open door defines the right side of the room.

Two "hidden" images formed by the horse appear in *Guernica*:

A human skull overlays the horse's body.

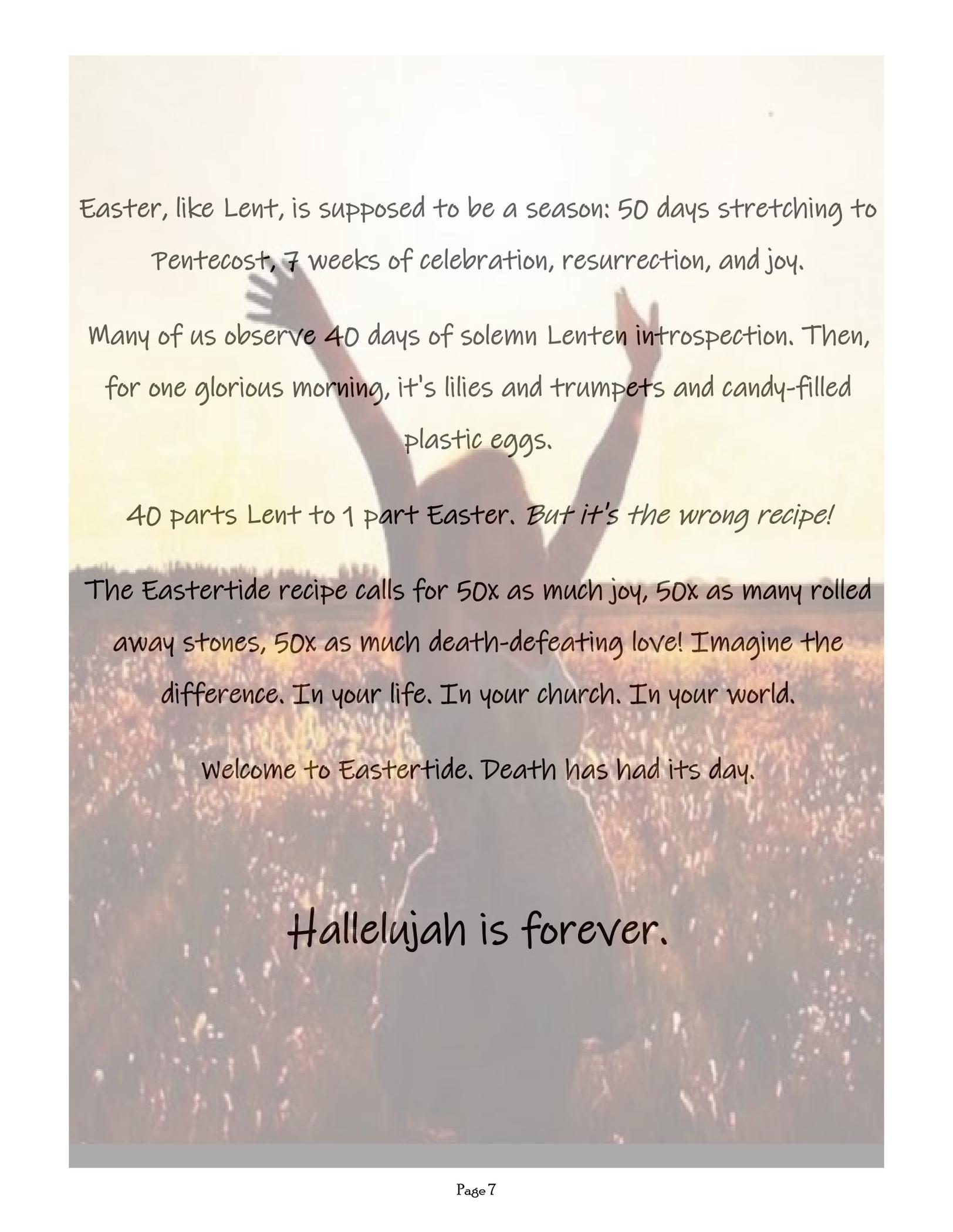
A bull appears to gore the horse from underneath. The bull's head is formed mainly by the horse's entire front leg which has the knee on the ground. The leg's knee cap forms the head's nose. A horn appears within the horse's breast. The bull's tail forms the image of a flame with smoke rising from it, seemingly appearing in a window created by the lighter shade of gray surrounding it.

In his book, *Theology of Culture*, the late theologian Paul Tillich writes, "PICASSO'S 'Guernica' is a great Protestant painting...it is not the Protestant answer, but rather the radicalism of the Protestant question which one can find in Picasso's masterpiece...It emphasizes man's finitude, his subjection to death, but above all, his estrangement from his true being and his bondage to demonic forces-forces of self-destruction...The symbol of the Cross has become the subject matter of many works of art-often in the style which is represented by Picasso's 'Guernica.'" Symbols, such as resurrection, have not yet found any adequate artistic representation, and so it is with the other traditional "symbols of glory." This is the Protestant element in the present situation: No premature solutions should be tried; rather, the human situation in its conflicts should be expressed courageously. If it is expressed, it is already transcended: He who can bear and express guilt shows that he already knows about "acceptance-in-spite-of." He who can bear and express meaninglessness shows that he experiences meaning within his desert of meaninglessness. The predominance of the expressive style in contemporary art is a chance for the rebirth of religious art...Whether, and to what degree, the artists (and the churches) will use this opportunity cannot be anticipated. It is partly dependent on the destiny of the traditional religious symbols themselves in their development during the next decades. The only thing we can do is to keep ourselves open for a new rise of religious art through the expressive style in the art of today.



I have studied Picasso's black and grey *Guernica* for many years looking for any sign of resurrection. Sadly, as Ukraine is destroyed, I see *Guernica* repeated and realize that we are accepted by the God of grace in spite of our estrangement from our true being. We pray for resurrection.

~The Rev. Dr. John Rinehart

A person is seen from behind, standing in a field of tall grass or wheat. Their arms are raised high in the air, reaching towards the sky. The background is a bright, hazy sunset or sunrise, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The overall mood is one of joy and celebration.

Easter, like Lent, is supposed to be a season: 50 days stretching to Pentecost, 7 weeks of celebration, resurrection, and joy.

Many of us observe 40 days of solemn Lenten introspection. Then, for one glorious morning, it's lilies and trumpets and candy-filled plastic eggs.

40 parts Lent to 1 part Easter. *But it's the wrong recipe!*

The Eastertide recipe calls for 50x as much joy, 50x as many rolled away stones, 50x as much death-defeating love! Imagine the difference. In your life. In your church. In your world.

Welcome to Eastertide. Death has had its day.

Hallelujah is forever.



HOSPICE MYTHS DEBUNKED

Some of you know that my mom is under the care of Hospice. She lives with my 2 sisters, and with the help of my other sister and I, we have been able to keep her at home. What we thought would be a few days, has turned into 5 months. Hospice has been an incredible support. There are many misconceptions about hospice care that many people still believe, so they are afraid to explore this option. Some of this problem has to do with a general lack of awareness about the services and benefits that are available which means some people enter hospice late or not at all, leading to high under-utilization rates. We have been so fortunate to take care advantage of the services that hospice provides. My mom has an aide who helps her bathe three times a week, her medications are delivered, an RN does a weekly assessment, a Reiki therapist brings warmth weekly and a music therapist comes every other Friday. (My mom has always loved to sing and enjoys going down memory lane with the songs that Natalie plays). Unfortunately, there are still many myths associated with it so others are missing out on these wonderful services! Listed below are some **misconceptions** followed by truths:

Hospice is giving up: Hospice care is not giving up. Services are there to provide comfort and improve quality of life and to help carry out the wishes of the patient.

Hospice is a place: Hospice is a philosophy of care and can be received wherever the patient and their loved ones prefer. This includes at home, in a senior living facility, or in-patient if needed.

If you choose hospice, you can't keep seeing your primary care physician: If preferred, the patient's current primary care physician can remain their doctor while on hospice care.

Family members need to be around to help out with hospice care: Many programs offer full-time inpatient units, or can arrange for volunteers and other care staff to care for patients in their own homes.

Hospice is only for cancer patients: Hospice is available for any patient coping with the end-stage of any chronic disease, including kidney failure and Alzheimer's, and virtually any other life-limiting condition.

An immense amount of pain is just a part of dying. It's unavoidable: While pain often is part of the dying process, hospice care professionals are trained to help manage pain at the end-of-life. Hospice doctors, nurses, and other professionals are able to recognize what stage of the end-of-life process the patient is at, and adjust their care accordingly.

If you choose hospice, you have to leave your home: Hospice care can often times be administered at home. In fact, most hospice patients tend to prefer receiving care at home.

Hospice hastens death: The truth is hospice care does not speed up death. In fact, those who employ hospice care may live longer than those who choose not to use hospice services.

Hospice is staffed by all volunteers: While hospice services are required to have volunteers available, the actual care is provided by medical professionals, chaplains, and licensed social workers.

Hospice is only used in the very last weeks of life: Hospice care can begin when the patient's physician gives a prognosis of six months or less if the disease follows the expected course.

Hospice is too expensive: Hospice care is covered under the Medicare hospice benefit, Medicaid and most private insurance plans. Patients are not denied hospice care regardless of ability to pay.

Hospice only lasts for six months: A patient is referred to hospice care when a doctor's prognosis is six months or less. However, if the patient lives longer, hospice care can absolutely continue.

A doctor has to make a referral for hospice care: Anyone, including a family member, a caregiver, or the patient themselves, can make a referral for hospice care.

Hospice care only helps the sick person: Hospice care is a comprehensive service for both the ill person and their family members. Spiritual and emotional support is offered for the patient's loved ones as well as the patient.

Hospice administers morphine to speed up death: Morphine may be used in small doses to help patients feel more comfortable. It is not used in dosages large enough for patients to become addicted or sedated.

Hospice means the patient no longer has a say in their care: Hospice care is the exact opposite of this myth! Hospice care centers manage the wants and needs of the patient.

Hospice care is not as good as curative treatment: The quality of care received while on hospice is similar

to being in a hospital setting; the focus of the care is just different. Hospice staff are highly trained medical professionals trained to handle crises and around-the-clock needs.

Doctors will decide which hospice program for the patient: Patients and their family members determine which hospice program best meets their needs.

All hospice programs are the same: Hospice programs must follow a set of rules and regulations determined by the state; however, support services may differ. It is important to find one that offers the right care.

The patient can never return to regular medical treatment once on hospice: If the patient shows improvement in condition or wishes to return to curative treatment, they can be discharged from hospice at any time.

Hospice care ends when the patient dies: This is not true. In fact, bereavement services are offered for family members for a minimum of one year.

Hospice provides 24-hour care: Hospice staff members are available 24 hours a day, but do not provide continuous care.

Families should be isolated from a dying patient: Families are encouraged to be a part of their loved one's care and to spend as much time with the patient as possible.

Hospice is only useful for administering pain medication: Hospice care focuses on the whole wellbeing of the patient. This includes spiritual, emotional and physical care.

Hospice requires that you give up medication: Hospice care is focused on making the patient as comfortable as possible which means that some patients may choose to give up medications, like chemotherapy. However, these decisions are left up to the patient and their loved ones.

There isn't hospice available in my area: Hospice care is actually more widely available than people realize. Your primary care physician can give recommendations.

Hospice patients are sedated so much that they sleep all the time: Pain management is the main goal of medications, but the dosage amounts start out very low and are only increased if the patient feels more pain.

Hospice patients must sign a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order: A signed DNR is not required to receive hospice care.

Receiving hospice care means you can never go to the hospital: Hospice patients can absolutely go to the hospice to help control symptoms or to provide respite for family members.

Hospice has no religious affiliation: If the patient chooses, religion can be a part of the process. Most hospice staff include chaplains from various faiths to offer support and comfort if patients so choose.

If the patient doesn't feel pain, it's too early for hospice: Hospice care can begin based on the patient's prognosis. They may want the extra comfort and support that hospice can provide as early as possible.

Hospice stops providing food and water to patients so that they die faster: Hospice programs will never deny food or drink to any patient. However, it is a natural part of the process that some patients do not feel hungry or thirsty at the end of life.

It is hard to enroll in a hospice program: For most hospices, it only takes a phone call for care and services to be arranged.

Hospice care can be misunderstood. But contrary to the misconceptions and myths, the purpose of hospice is to provide care, support and comfort to both patients and their family members. The focus is on improving or maintaining the highest quality of life through emotional, spiritual and physical support.

*Information taken from Abramson Senior Care and Hospice of the Western Reserve
Blessings and Prayers for a Happy Easter! ~ Julie Kiefer, RN*



**“ISN’T IT A COMFORT
TO WORSHIP A GOD
WE CANNOT
EXAGGERATE?”**

~FRANCIS CHAN

We have two services every Sunday morning, one at 8:15 AM in our chapel, which is a more informal service, and the second at 10:00 AM in the sanctuary, where you will hear a variety of music styles from contemporary praise to traditional hymns. Our pastor’s message is sure to inspire.

Our 10:00 AM service is also live-streamed--our website has a link to the service. Go to doverucc.org and click on the “Watch Now” button. Recorded services will be available on our web page, doverucc.org, under the ‘Sermons’ tab on Monday mornings.

Our Minister of Justice, the Rev. Dr. John Rinehart, shares his thoughts on justice, diversity and equality every Wednesday morning at 10:00 AM live on Facebook, or you may watch the recording at a later date.

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**GOD IS LOVE
AND HE HAS DEFEATED EVIL.**

Pope Francis

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“ONE CHILD COMES TO CHRIST, ONE CHILD TAKES THE NEXT STEP IN WHAT IT MEANS TO GROW SPIRITUALLY, AND IT’S FOR ONE SMALL VOICE THAT WE GIVE OUR LIVES.”



Easter is right around the corner--can you think of any greater promise, any greater sacrifice? I know I cannot.

The Sunday school classes have been hearing the Lenten series of storytelling and will finish the series on Easter Sunday with the “greatest story ever told.” If children are not ready to attend Sunday school face-to-face, they are invited to participate via Zoom during the 10:00 AM worship service. Call the church office for information on participating via Zoom.

If you have any questions about our program, please email Jane Coil at jcoil@doverucc.org; or call the church office--440-871-1050.

God’s blessings and grace,
Bette English, Christian Education Committee, Chair
Jane Coil, Christian Education Director

**AND THE GOLD MEDAL GOES TO DOVER UCC . . .
for being the most loving, generous, supportive church
ever!!!**

When we asked for Valentine's cookies for Dennison UCC and Cogswell Hall the congregation came through with flying colors spreading love and joy to so many who are often overlooked. Thank you!!

And thanks to all who showed their support for the mission trip by buying soup on Souper Bowl Sunday and on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day. We were so successful, we sold out completely!!



BACK BAY OR BUST!!! After having to postpone the mission trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi twice because of COVID, we're more determined than ever to go. We've reserved the week of April 23 - April 29, 2023. It's a wonderful experience so please think about joining us. It's before hurricane season and after the busy time of year for so many people.

Ready to have some fun? Get together with others? Try something different? The Congregational Life Committee is looking for members with new ideas. Got some ideas but don't want to be part of a committee? Let Martha know about them.

Martha Vivona

“Here is the amazing thing about Easter; the Resurrection Sunday for Christians is this, that Christ in the dying moments on the cross gives us the greatest illustration of forgiveness possible.”

T. D. JAKES

WANT AD

Dedicated, caring WOMEN seek willing MEN to serve their church family. Must be reliable, willing and able to drive a car, communicate via telephone, be familiar with greeting cards, possibly cook a meal, or follow simple directions. No meeting attendance is required. If this describes you, please reply to 440 871 1050 (church office) for further directions. The Calling & Caring Committee anxiously awaits your reply!



The cafeteria at St. John Medical Center has a discount of 40% every day from 4:00 – 5:30 for seniors who show a Senior Supper card. Senior Supper Cards are available at our new Westlake Community Services location (in the same complex as the Recreation Center- entrance off Hilliard or Center Ridge) Monday through Friday 8:00 – 5:00. Menus for the week are available at SJMC or Westlake Community Services or by calling 440-827-5990. Most seniors do carry-out. Masks are required. If you need more information please see Carol Riordan.

UKRAINE RELIEF



Our brothers and sisters in Ukraine are suffering. Dover has started a campaign to raise money to help relieve their suffering. We will receive money for UNICEF, Doctors Without Borders, and the United Church of Christ HOPE fund.

For those attending worship service in person, you can bring a check made out to Dover and designate which of the three organizations you wish to support in the memo section. You are also able to make donations directly the organization on our new website, or through our app.

Дякую (“Thank you” in Ukrainian!)

Once again, the congregation of Dover demonstrates its generosity and love for others--even those on the other side of the world.

YOU gave:

Doctors Without Borders
\$3,650

UNICEF
\$600

UCC Hope Fund
\$925

EARTH DAY 2022

April 22, 2022

Did you know. . . only 31% of the items that you place in recycle bins are able to be recycled?

There are several reasons for this:

~ Contaminating materials

Contaminating materials affect not only the other items in the recycling bin, but also the recycling machines. A few of these are:

- *Cheese/tomato sauce on a pizza box - box is no longer recyclable and contamination can be transferred to other items in recycling bin;
- *Plastic bags--bags and wraps jam the processing equipment;
- *Shredded paper--pieces too small to sort and stick to the belts;
- *Scrap metal--pieces of metal cause damage to recycling equipment;
- *Hazardous waste--need to be disposed of at a hazardous waste facility;
- *Non-recyclable plastics--check your local area for recycling rules; *Flattened containers--cans, containers, etc.--these items can be mistaken by recycling equipment as other flats and misdirected;
- *Loose caps or lids--from plastic and glass bottles and jars

First choice . . .re-use!

If that is not an option, these materials need to go in a landfill.

If you are unsure of your city's recycling capabilities and practices, check out their website:

Westlake: <https://www.cityofwestlake.org/457/Recycling>

Bay Village: <https://www.cityofbayvillage.com/364/Trash-Recycling>

North Olmsted: <https://www.north-olmsted.com/curbside-garbage-and-recycle-collection/>

North Ridgeville: <https://www.nridgeville.org/recycling.aspx>

Avon: <https://cityofavon.com/209/garbage-recycling>

Avon Lake: <https://www.avonlake.org/city-services/refuse-recycling-and-yard-waste>

Strongsville: <https://www.strongsville.org/departments/service-department/recycling>

Fairview: <https://www.fairviewpark.org/service-department/rubbish-recycling-collection/>

Rocky River: <https://www.rrcity.com/rocky-river-recycles>

Lakewood: <https://lakewoodoh.gov/refuse-recycling/>

“Easter is an ancient festival of rebirth, but it’s also an excellent excuse for eating eggs. I really like eggs, of both the chocolate and chicken variety. But the chocolate ones, you must admit, can sustain only a fleeting interest. A sweet sugar hit – and then it’s gone.”

ALICE BERTS

“A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.”

MARTINA GANDI

He is

“A rule I have had for years is: to treat the Lord Jesus Christ as a personal friend. His is not a creed, a mere doctrine, but it is He Himself we have.”

DWIGHT L. MOODY

“For remember Easter morn, and life and love and peace are all new born.”

ALICE FREEMAN PALMER

“Christ has not only spoken to us by his life but has also spoken for us by his death.”

SOREN KIERKEGAARD

“And all that is therein; invisible and visible. Their notes let all things blend for Christ, the Lord’s risen. Our joy that with no end.”

SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS

“Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.”

POPE JOHN PAUL II

risen

“People come together with their families to celebrate Easter. What better way to celebrate than to spend a few hours going on the journey of Christ’s life.”

ROMA DOWNEY

“Easter is very important to me, it’s a second chance.”

REBA MCENTIRE

YOUR GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK



Palm Sunday

Sunday before Easter. Celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Observed with palm branches, parades, and celebration.



Maundy Thursday

Thursday before Easter. Commemorates the Last Supper. Often observed with foot washing, stripping of the altar, and overnight prayer vigil to keep watch with Jesus in the garden.



Good Friday

Friday before Easter. Most solemn day of the church year. Observes the day Jesus was crucified. Some observe by praying the Stations of the Cross and three hours of silent prayer while Jesus was on the cross.



Holy Saturday

Saturday before Easter. Observes the day Jesus was in the tomb. This is a day of somber reflection, reflecting on what we'd miss in a world without Jesus.



Easter Sunday

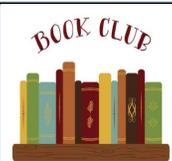
Hallelujah! Christ has risen! This day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Sing hallelujahs and celebrate with great joy.

Holy Week activities to make Easter more joyful

1. Use a daily devotional to walk with Jesus through Jerusalem. Read a scripture passage each day; spend time in prayer.
2. Eat a Passover meal with your family and friends. Eat the traditional meal and follow with traditional readings.
3. Keep a prayer vigil on Thursday night. Consider committing to an hour of silent prayer.
4. Fast on Good Friday. This is a day of solemn remembrance of the great sacrifice Jesus made for us.
5. Observe the 3 hours on Good Friday when Jesus was on the cross. Observe from noon to 3pm with a time of silence.
6. Share the Easter story with your kids or grandkids.
7. Keep Saturday solemn. Turn off electronics, limit activities, and imagine a day without Jesus.
8. Rejoice on Easter Sunday: Hallelujah! He is risen! Jesus overcame death and the tomb!

“I GUESS THERE ARE NEVER ENOUGH BOOKS.”

JOHN STEINBECK



MONDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

EVENING BOOK GROUP

April is National Poetry Month!

Monday, April 4, 1:30 PM
Thomas Hall

Bring your favorite poetry to share and discuss!

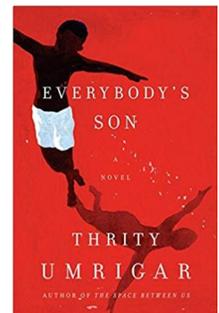


Everybody's Son

by Thrity Umrigar

We will meet via Zoom on Monday,
April 18, at 6:45 PM

“Ten-year old Anton is left locked in an apartment in the projects, alone for seven days, while his mother is three blocks away, in a crack house where her drug dealer keeps her high and locked away from her son. Anton is placed with child services and then adopted by a well-to-do white family. Following in his adopted family’s footsteps, Anton, too, rises within the establishment. But when he discovers the truth about his life . . .he must come to terms with the moral complexities committed by the people he loves most.”

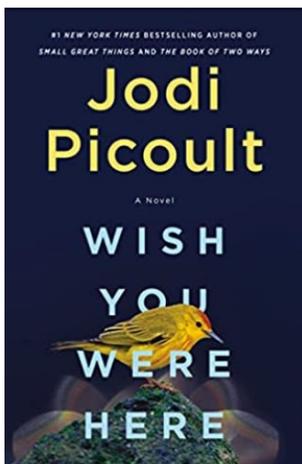


“CHECK OUT” THIS BOOK IN OUR LIBRARY

Wish You Were Here
by Jodi Picoult

“. . .a deeply moving novel about the resilience of the human spirit in a moment of crisis.”

Diana O’Toole is perfectly on track. She will be married by thirty, done having kids by thirty-five, and move out to the New York City suburbs, all while climbing the professional ladder in the cutthroat art auction world. She’s an associate specialist at Sotheby’s now, but her boss has hinted at a promotion if she can close a deal with a high-profile client. She’s not engaged just yet, but she knows her boyfriend, Finn, a surgical resident, is about to propose on their romantic getaway to the Galápagos—days before her thirtieth birthday. Right on time. But then a virus that felt worlds away has appeared in the city, and on the eve of their departure, Finn breaks the news: It’s all hands on deck at the hospital. He has to stay behind. *You should still go*, he assures her, since it would be a shame for all of their nonrefundable trip to go to waste. And so, reluctantly, she goes. Almost immediately, Diana’s dream vacation goes awry. Her luggage is lost, the Wi-Fi is nearly nonexistent, and the hotel they’d booked is shut down due to the pandemic. In fact, the whole island is now under quarantine, and she is stranded until the borders reopen. In the Galápagos Islands, where Darwin’s theory of evolution by natural selection was formed, Diana finds herself examining her relationships, her choices, and herself—and wondering if when she goes home, she too will have evolved into someone completely different.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The generosity of our congregation has continued throughout this time of uncertainty, unsure of when we will be able to gather again. Please continue to remember to mail in your pledge to the church office. **If you are sending a check to be directed to another ministry, please indicate on the "Memo" section of the check, e.g. Denison food pantry, Calling & Caring, etc.**



Online Giving

Our new website is here! DOVERUCC.ORG With a new, easier link for making online donations--one-time, recurring or to special funds, you can make online donations--a one-time donation or recurring donations; you can designate how you want your donation directed--General Fund (pledge donations), special fund (Calling & Caring, Music, etc.). You can even make a notation in the "Note" field if you are leaving a memorial--who the donation is in memory of. OR -- you can install our new app from the link below onto your mobile device, and have the same capability. Call the church office if you would like Jane Coil to send it to you.

<https://tithely.app.link/dover-ucc>

HOSPITAL/HOME VISITS



Please notify the church office at 440-871-1050 if you are admitted to the hospital so a phone call from Rev. Keith or parish nurse Julie can be arranged. In many cases, we are not allowed person to person visits at this time.

When you are recovering, Rev. Keith and Julie are available to give you a call, just call the church office to let them know you desire a call.

We are not notified by hospitals of admissions.

I AM (Inclusion Affirmation Ministry) is a support group for the LGBTQA community, their parents, family and friends. They have been meeting at area restaurants the last Sunday of the month.



Due to the safe distance mandates recently put into place, they will not be meeting at this time. They are looking into the possibility of Zoom virtual meetings.

Please check their Facebook group page for updates.



Please notify the church office if you have a change of address, telephone number(s) or a new email address.

A church directory is emailed quarterly to congregation members, and we would like to have the correct information for you!

MORE INFORMATION



Please call the office, or email doverucc@doverucc.org with any suggestions you have for information to be shared in the *Dover Voices* monthly. **If there is anything you would like added, please let the church office know!**

If you have an article(s) you would like published, submit by the deadline published in each monthly edition; please keep your articles to 150 words or less and include information about your group's activities and events. Pictures are welcome and encouraged!

The deadline for submissions for the May edition is:

Friday, April 22nd.

HAVE A CONCERN OR QUESTION FOR CHURCH COUNCIL?

MEET YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS.

Moderator - Sharon Nichols
Vice Moderator - Molly Burnett
Clerk - Sharron Wilkins
Treasurer - Pam Compton

Members at Large:
Don Armour, Ken Delfing, Joe Healey,
Adam Jakubiak, Ruth Kroll, Maria Velez,
Georgann Yonkers

Ex-officio Members:
Keith Stuart, John Rinehart
Martha Vivona, Jane Coil



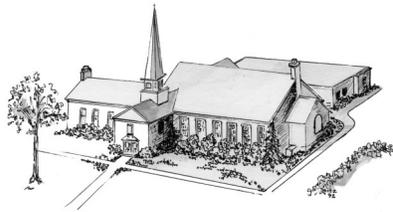
Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened

Matthew 11:28

~ Prayer Requests---Please pray for God to be with these individuals, and for them to feel God's presence in the midst of their concerns:

Art Beel, Marie Black, Colleen Chittick, Mark Chomoa (Rae-Rita Chomoa's son), Keli Clark (friend of Carol Bauer), Aida Colon, David Edsall, Rob & Jennifer Gaskins (friends of Bonnie & Parker Reynolds), Dick Gebben (Mabel Johnson's son-in-law), Mary Lou Gerdel, Paul Horning, Family of Glen Jenkins, Kayla (Gary & Sandy Burkey's niece), family of Scott Johnson (Mabel Johnson's son), Walter & Angie Kalix, Nanci Keller (Amy Keller's mother-in-law), Joyce (Julie Kiefer's mother), Kathy King, Jim & Kaye Mesaros, Nancy Mayer, Cathy Montgomery, family of Alaire Rothhaas (sister-in-law of Gloria Rothhaas), Alice Rini, Haley Schultz, Donna Terepka, Vicki Thompson, Carol Vance, Michael (David Wakelee's mother's husband), Sharon Weaver, Theresa Zupancic (Georgann Yonkers' sister).

2239 Dover Center Road
Westlake, OH 44145



440-871-1050
doverucc.org

Serving the Church

Sharon Nichols..... Council Moderator
Molly Burnet.....Council Vice Moderator
Sharron Wilkins Council Clerk
Pam ComptonCouncil Treasurer
Martha Vivona Lay Leader
Jane Coil CE Director/Office Administrator
Amanda & Jeff Hughes..... Youth Advisors
Katie Alexander and
Georgann Yonkers Assist. Youth Advisors

Rev. Keith Stuart..... Pastor
Rev. Scott Patterson Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Dr. John Rinehart.....Minister of Justice
Craig Reynolds..... Music Director
Jan Jones Organist
Vicki Thompson.....Organist
Gail Schuenemann Financial Secretary
Julie Kiefer, R. N. Parish Nurse



OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT

Dover Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation. We affirm that God's grace is available to all. We welcome people of all ages, genders, races, views, abilities, sexual orientations, expressions and identities, ethnic, educational and economic backgrounds into the full life and ministry of our church. We declare this in the name of God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, welcomed all people into God's circle of grace.