

CHUM NEWS

March 2026 Newsletter



Pastor Samuel Mohn

Walking the Way of Lent

Every year, Lent arrives quietly.

There's no fanfare. No parade. No big announcement. Just ashes on our foreheads, Scripture in our ears, and a gentle but persistent invitation from Jesus: **"Come, follow me."**

March is a season of transition. We spring forward and lose an hour of sleep yet gain longer days and more light. Even the earth around us begins to wake up. Lent mirrors that rhythm—an invitation to move forward in faith, even when it costs us comfort, trusting that God is doing something new beneath the surface.

Lent is not about being gloomy or giving things up for the sake of self-denial alone. Lent is about **making room**—room for God to do honest, healing, transforming work in us.

As we celebrate **St. Patrick's Day**, we remember a faith that was lived boldly and shared courageously. Patrick did not keep his faith private; he carried it into the world, trusting God to work through him in uncertain and unfamiliar places. His life reminds us that Lent is not only about personal reflection, but about how our faith takes shape in daily living.

In a world that pushes us to hurry, Lent teaches us to slow down. In a culture that rewards noise, Lent invites us into silence. In anxious and uncertain times, Lent reminds us that we are not alone on the journey.

Whether your Lenten practice is prayer, fasting, generosity, worship, service, or simply showing up with a more open heart, remember this: **God is not asking for perfection. God is asking for presence.**

My prayer for you this season is simple—that you would encounter God in the ordinary moments, in quiet prayers, in Scripture, in worship, and in the faces of those around you. May this season draw us closer to Christ and closer to one another as we walk the road toward Easter together.

Grace and peace to you in this holy season,

Pastor Sam

Super Bowl Drawing Winners:

Vivan Seifert – Seahawks
\$100 donation to Bettys Angels

Svana Pekalla – Patriots
\$50 donation to Animal Rescue Center in Cortland

Food Pantry Needs:

- Tuna
- Spaghetti Noodles
- Toilet Paper

March Birthdays

3/3 Ronald Baker
 3/5 Jeannie Thomas
 3/7 Gail McLaughlin,
 Kenneth Miller,
 Erienne Raib-Ptichkin
 3/8 Lynn Moran
 3/9 Barbara Gulas
 3/15 Bonnie Wathen,
 Christian Denning
 3/16 Sharon Wathen
 3/21 Shirley Neal,
 Carol Pinney
 3/22 Dorothy Schultz
 3/26 Jane Doughton
 3/29 Felicia Brown
 3/30 Charles Dodge,
 Nancy Smith
 3/31 Ronald Edwards



Ham Sliders with Glaze

Ingredients

- 1 package of Hawaiian Butter Rolls
- 1lb. thin sliced ham
- 1 package baby swiss cheese



**What's
Cookin With
Pastor Sam**

Glaze

- 1 stick of melted butter
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 1 Tablespoon Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 Tablespoon poppy seed

Directions

1. Cut rolls open (side to side)
2. Fill with ham and ½ slice of cheese folded. Place in a 9x13 casserole dish.
3. Mix glaze ingredients, spread over the rolls.
4. Bake covered for 15-20 minutes at 350 degrees.
5. Uncover and bake for 10 minutes.

Dinner with PASTOR SAM

Beginning the First & Third Wednesdays | 5:30 P.M.

Jimmy's
Italian Specialties

Join us for Food, Fellowship & Fun!

ENJOY **10% OFF** YOUR TOTAL PURCHASE!

All Are Welcome!

Come when you can, stay as long as you'd like!





Rev. Dr. Bill Liming Appointed Central Valley District Superintendent

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung is grateful to announce the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Bill Liming to the East Ohio Conference Cabinet. He will serve as superintendent of the Central Valley District effective July 1.

“I have felt the steadiness of the Holy Spirit from the time I was a child in both seasons of joy and seasons of great difficulty,” said Liming, who felt the call to ministry at the age of 14. “I can’t imagine where I would be today without the loving presence of Christ. It is our Savior Jesus Christ who strengthens us daily and opens doors of life we could have never imagined. I am excited about this new season serving in a new way. May our lives bear witness to what only God can do in our faithful churches of East Ohio!”

Bishop Jung said, “Bill brings a deep calling to ministry, a pastor’s heart shaped by faithful service in local churches, and trusted wisdom through his leadership across our Conference. He leads with spiritual depth and grace, building empathetic and authentic relationships with clergy and lay leaders alike. I am confident his leadership will help strengthen the body of Christ for the mission before us.”

Liming’s first appointment in the East Ohio Conference was as associate pastor of Lakewood UMC in 2001. After six years in Lakewood, he served as pastor of Willowick Shoregate UMC for six years, and then Tallmadge UMC for three. He has served as senior pastor of Montrose Zion UMC since 2016.

Throughout his ministry, Liming has served on district committees, including Finance, Mission Funding and Evaluation, and district Committees on Ministry. He also served on the Conference Board of Benefits for 16 years, chairing the Board for the last seven of those years.

Liming earned his undergraduate degree from Hiram College in Religion Studies and Communications, with a minor in Classical Greek and then a Master of Divinity from Emory University. He earned his Doctor of Ministry from Ashland Theological Seminary focusing on Ethics and Transformational Leadership. He was also nourished in his ministry under the leadership of Rev. Mike Slaughter and Rev. Adam Hamilton as a member of their inaugural Young Pastor’s Network.

For fun and exercise, Liming enjoys decades-long friendships and teaches martial arts. He earned a black belt in Jiu Jitsu in 1999 and a black belt in Kali in 2016.

Prayer Requests

Kay and Rodney Toth, Haylee (friend of the Pekalla family), Lee Elmo, Dora and Ron Baker, Nancy and Carol Smith, Helen Hess, David Moyers, Eileen and Jeff Hawkins, Darlene Capitola, Andre Williams and Dianne, his mother, Jimmy Quinlan, Joette Sondheimer (Viv Seifert's sister), Jane Doughton, Lori and Kevin Vara, Ron Miller (Ken Miller's cousin), Burce MacLellan (Ken Miller's friend), Jimmy Weller, Samuel M, Margie Ryan, John Baksa, Bella, Roger (Jan Ferry's nephew), Tiffany Orwig, Lori Furlong, Mrs. Pirlozzi (Felicia Brown's mother), Jean Dutko, John (Clara Jones' nephew), Natalie D'orzio (friend of the Ahlswede family), Roger Bartlett (Helen Hess's son-in-law), Frank Zedek (Kathy Zedek's son, from Bible study), Bev Clinton, Irene O'Hara, Linda Baker (Neighbor of Catchpoles), Angelina Vince (Christian Denning), Felicia Brown, Jaxson (Toepfer's grandson), Craig Ruggles, Marjie Hrabe, Becky Paul, Sandy (Terri West's sister), Sherrienne Griffith, Jay Walton, Debbie Webber, Prayers for teachers and military members and their families

Contact Linda Toepfer at 330-718-2361 for the current prayer list and to request prayers.



A Journey from Palms to Resurrection

Palm Sunday **Sunday, March 29**

Worship at 10:00am

We begin with shouts of "Hosanna!" as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem — waving palms and preparing our hearts for the week ahead.

Good Friday **Friday, April 3 – 7:30 p.m.**

Tenebrae Service at Trinity UMC

A solemn service of scripture, prayer, and the gradual extinguishing of light as we reflect on the cross.

Easter Celebration Worship

9:15 a.m. expanded Bible Brew

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Festive worship with music, proclamation, and celebration of the Resurrection!

Connect with us!

Website:

www.churchhillumc.com

Facebook: facebook.com/ChurchHillUMC

Worship with us Sundays at 10am!

Church Hill United
Methodist Church

189 Churchill-Hubbard Rd.
Youngstown, OH 44505

Livestream available at:

www.youtube.com/@churchhillumc6144



SCAN HERE

Our Team

Sam Mohn, Pastor

Jane Page, Director of
Worship

Carla Jenkins, Pianist

Terri West, Children's
Director

Deanna Slifka, Youth
Director

Joe Seifert, Sound Room
Tech

Charity Washington,
Custodian

Hymn History: “O Mary, Don't You Weep”

O Mary, Don't You Weep is a powerful African American spiritual whose roots stretch deep into the lived faith of enslaved people in the United States. Rather than being written by a single composer, the hymn emerged through oral tradition—shaped, remembered, and passed along in communities where faith was often the only possession that could not be taken away.

The text draws heavily on the biblical story of the Exodus, especially the moment when God delivers the Israelites at the Red Sea. References to Moses and Pharaoh would have been instantly recognizable to those who sang it. For enslaved people, these stories were not distant history; they were living testimony. Moses became a symbol of liberation, and Pharaoh represented the systems of oppression that seemed immovable—until God intervened.

Like many spirituals, “**O Mary, Don't You Weep**” carried layers of meaning. On the surface, it proclaimed trust in God's saving power. Beneath that, it offered quiet resistance and shared hope. Spirituals were sometimes used to communicate strength, encouragement, and even coded messages among enslaved communities. Singing was a way to tell the truth about suffering while refusing to surrender hope for freedom and justice.

The refrain—“*don't you weep, don't you mourn*”—is not a denial of grief. Instead, it reflects a deep, resilient faith that sorrow does not have the final word. The hymn holds together honest lament and bold trust, reminding listeners that God is attentive to the cries of the oppressed and faithful to act on their behalf.

After the Civil War, spirituals like this one were preserved and shared more widely, particularly through the work of African American choirs and educators who understood their cultural and theological significance. Over time, “**O Mary, Don't You Weep**” found its way into hymnals and collections, allowing new generations to encounter its message of endurance, justice, and hope.

Today, the hymn stands as a witness to a faith forged in hardship—a reminder that hope can be sung even in the darkest circumstances, and that God's promise of liberation has echoed through history and still shapes the church's story.



We will once again be decorating our Sanctuary for Easter with beautiful Easter Flowers. Please use this form to order your flowers and place them in the offering box. Checks can be made out to CHUM with Easter Flowers in the memo. **The deadline to order is March 9th.**

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

_____ Lillies \$10.00

_____ Hyacinths \$9.00

_____ Daffodils \$9.00

_____ Hydrangeas \$18.00

_____ Tulips \$9.00

Given By: _____

In Memory of:

In honor of:

MARCH 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Lenten Study Noon/6</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>KK/YG 4:45-7 Choir 7:30</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Pantry Setup 9:30/6:00pm Bible Study 10:30 Grief Share 6pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Liberty Community Food Pantry 10-Noon</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 Spring Ahead</p> <p>9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship</p> 	<p>9</p> <p>Lenten Study Noon/6 Easter Flower orders due.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>KK/YG 4:45-7 Choir 7:30</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30 Grief Share 6pm Blott Mtg 6pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pastor Sam Couse of Study on Zoom</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>Lenten Study Noon/6</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>KK/YG 4:45-7 Choir 7:30</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30 Grief Share 6pm</p>	<p>20</p> 	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>Lenten Study Noon/6</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>KK/YG 4:45-7 Choir 7:30</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30 Grief Share 6pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship</p> 	 <p>Holy Week</p>					



Looking to Jesus,
the founder and
PERFECTER
of our faith,

who for the joy
that was set before
him endured the cross,
despising the shame,
**and is seated at the
right hand of the
throne of God.**

Hebrews 12:2, ESV



Church Hill United Methodist Church

189 Church Hill Hubbard Road

Youngstown, Ohio 44505