

“Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”

- Acts 3 : 19

Trish and I have a friend who, as an adult, suffers from Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). Unfortunately for her (and many like her), there was no such diagnosis when we were growing up. She was often labeled by her teachers as a “goof off,” or “whimsical.” She, and her parents, were told that she didn’t

take her education – or life, for that matter – seriously enough. She struggled to stay focused on the task at hand. Her mind wandered when she was supposed to be doing classwork or homework. She rarely managed to complete assignments, and she grew to dislike school in general. It wasn’t until much later in life that she was finally able to put a name on her situation. She continues to struggle, even now, as she and her husband have entered into the retirement stage of their lives. She sometimes finds that she doesn’t finish her daily “to do” lists, and that, oftentimes, the seemingly simple and insignificant tasks do not always get done. She has learned, however, how to cope with ADD. She truly knows what she can expect out of herself. She has also learned that she shouldn’t try to put too much on her plate. She taught herself to say “No” when the demands begin to outweigh the ability. Her main goal now is to stay focused on what is *really* important. This has given her a new outlook and keeps her from getting as frustrated with herself as she used to.

Unfortunately, there are many churches that suffer in a similar manner. A congregation can get so busy doing “stuff,” they forget why they are doing it. And, while each aspect of what a church is doing is good, it may not be something they do well. Sometimes, particular ministries begin to tax the time and/or resources of a church body, and very few even notice that what they are doing isn’t really making a difference. Folks just continue to do what they are doing because, “we’ve always done it this way.” People often begin to lose interest in a particular outreach or mission effort, because there is no gratification. Churches can stagnate much like individuals. And then, the congregation begins to lose the joy they once felt for doing what they did. They fall into a seemingly vicious, downward spiral of feeling guilty for doing their “duty.”



“...there are many churches that suffer in a similar manner ...”



That’s why it is vital that, every once-in-a-while, a church needs to refocus on what is most important. The Small Church Initiative (SCI) of the Shawnee Valley District has a tool for helping churches to become refocused. Pastor Sam Peters (Ironton: 1st UMC) and Pastor Jamie Mosley (South Point UMC) are the leaders of our SCI. They contacted me a few months ago, and asked me to take a look at a program called “REFRESH.” I went and listened to their presentation. It is an intriguing and, I believe, God-breathed opportunity for us to take a step back,

reassess where we are, and seek God’s direction for where He wants us to go. I know that REFRESH can help us overcome the stagnation in which we find ourselves. Other churches in our district have gone through this process, and are now singing its praises.

Everyone must know up front ... this is NOT an easy process. It will take a large amount of time, and a tremendous amount of effort on everyone’s part. The process begins with an assessment of where we are. Pastor Sam will interview a few leaders and take a tour of our facility. He will make a presentation to the entire congregation. He will expect us to spend six months reading several books, meeting together, and honestly and openly looking at what we are, and are not, doing. He will expect us to grade our performance. And he will challenge us to prayerfully seek God’s guidance for a refocused future. Once the process is complete, I truly believe we can know how we are to press forward and do Kingdom business the way God expects us.



Assessment Day will soon be upon us. Sunday, September 12th, at 5:00pm, the entire congregation is invited to come together at Nauvoo UMC to hear Pastors Sam and Jamie share about REFRESH and how it works. They will lay out the ground rules and the expectations. They will share how this has worked in the past in other congregations, and what it can possibly do for us. And then, they will leave it in the hands of the church. They will ask us to take time to pray over what we hear, and then come back together at a later date to vote on whether we will participate or not.

Please make plans now to attend the presentation on Sunday, September 12 at 5:00pm at Nauvoo UMC. We need everyone to help make an informed decision.

Pastor Pete



Church Committee Meetings

It's important that all committee members be present at scheduled meetings. Be sure to contact the Chairperson if you are unable to attend.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee

No meeting in September

Administrative Board

Monday, Sept 13 @ 6:30 PM

CHAIR: Tim Renn

Trustees

Monday, Sept 27 @ 6:00 PM

CHAIR: Roger Cunningham



greeters

September Greeters

- 5—Tim & Amgie Renn
- 12—JR & Lori Holsinger
- 19—Dan & Loreen Maple
- 26—Allison Hurst



- 1 — Kenna Renn
- 2 — Sarah Livingston
- 6 — Brooke Bauer
- 6 — Sophia Terry
- 8 — April Skaggs
- 15 — John Hill
- 19 — Sondi Conley
- 20 — Melissa Lucas
- 20 — Amber Dicus
- 21 — Anna Davis
- 23 — Emma Kingrey
- 24 — Kelsey Book
- 24 — Morgan Wartluft
- 24 — Brennan Bauer
- 28 — Grace Lucas
- 28 — Bobbie Jo Bricker
- 28 — Mitchell Irwin



September

- 2 — Jim & Barb Richter
- 6 — Brock & Jennie Entler
- 9 — Chris & Laura Lyon
- 10 — Mark & Rhonda Hammond
- 10 — Bobby & Emily Kingrey
- 20 — Brandon & Jennifer Entler
- 27 — Mike & Barb Warner
- 29 — Tim & Angie Renn

NEW ADDRESS!

Connie Snyder's new address is:

**33 Indianola Ave,
South Shore, KY
41175**



Nauvoo Hosts Operation Christmas Child Full Circle Speaker August 29th!

Nauvoo UMC was blessed to host this year's Full Circle Speaker for the five county area of the Southern Ohio District. Because of the covid uncertainties, the date was not confirmed until the 2nd week of August. Those who did not attend missed hearing a first-hand account of someone who had received a shoebox as a child.

Mariya grew up in a Russian Orthodox Christian home in the country of Ukraine. Her grandfather was a pastor and was often detained, arrested and questioned about his Christian faith. Christianity was uncommon, and Maria was the only girl in school that was a Christian. She was often called names and made fun of even in kindergarten. She had no friends and didn't think that God heard her when she prayed.

In the fall of 2001, when Mariya was 9, she asked God to help her at school. It was hard always being made fun of, and she was alone. That same fall her mother became sick and was hospitalized for 3 months at a hospital that was 4 hours away. Her mother slowly improved and was released on January the 10, 2002.

Mariya told us that her family had never seen crayons before. Since they had wrappers they thought that they were candy, and unwrapped them all before realizing that they were not for eating!

Because Mariya's mother had to wait for the 7:30pm train to return home, she attended a worship service before going to the train station. At the church they had distributed shoe boxes to the children but had three extra to share with her mother—who had six children at home. When their mother finally arrived home the children were excited to see the shoe boxes because they thought that it meant that 3 of them were getting new shoes! But instead the shoe boxes contained school supplies and toys!

There were several items in the shoeboxes that they had never seen before, including pencil top erasers and crayons. In fact, her family had never seen crayons before & didn't even know what they were. Because they were individually wrapped they thought that they were candy, but soon found out that they were not! Mariya's younger brother then started drawing on the wall with one of them and she was amazed and took them for herself. Since she had been a budding artist from an early age she took them to an art Club and ask the teacher to show her how to use the crayons. He was amazed at these new creative tools that God had given to her.

She took one of the shoe boxes to school with her and showed her classmates the contents and even gave each one of them a pencil top eraser. Prior to this she had never received anything to take to show as they only received candy, an orange and a banana for their Christmas. Because she had shared her gifts, she now began to make friends and realized that God really did care for her!

When she was 12 years old, Mariya's family got a refugee visa to come to the United States. They lived in South Dakota where she attended school and eventually attended College. She couldn't find a job in South Dakota but applied in Cleveland, Ohio where she was accepted as a middle school art teacher! She has introduced painting, pottery, and many other art forms to the children that were not previously taught to them. While attending church in Cleveland she met a man who was also from the Ukraine. They were married a year ago and are now expecting their first child.



L-R: Sherri Williams, Southern Ohio Area Director for OCC, Mariya Tatrian, Full Circle Speaker, and Trish Shaffer, Nauvoo Drop-Off Coordinator

You can watch Mariya's full story on YouTube. Simply type in "Nauvoo United Methodist Church" in the search box.



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apples	colorful	frost	pumpkin	squash
autumn	cozy	harvest	quilt	squirrel
birds	crow	hayride	rake	sunflower
blanket	deciduous	jacket	rustling	sweater
bonfire	equinox	leaves	scarecrow	trees
changing	flannel	migrate	season	vegetables
cider	foliage	orchards	spider	wheelbarrow





OFFERINGS

August 1	\$1,962.00
August 8	\$4,431.00
August 15	\$2,249.00
August 22	\$2,310.00
August 29	\$2,213.32

ATTENDANCE

August 1	49
August 8	46
August 15	42
August 22	53
August 29	43



With Thanks

I would like to thank my church family for their prayers and cards after the passing of my sister, Beverly Flowers. Also, thank you for the beautiful gift in her memory. With love, *Loreen and family*

Thanks for your July support for House of Faith Orphanage. We appreciate it very much. Haiti is still in a horrible situation. Their president who was assassinated was buried last Thursday. So much turmoil and strife. Please help me pray for House of Faith. Food prices have tripled. Bato is buying gas on the street by the gallon and it is very high. May God continue to bless all of you. We appreciate your faithfulness.

Love, "Mom" Barb Richter

I'm writing to express how grateful I am for being chosen as the recipient for the Mary Smalley Music Scholarship. Thanks to this scholarship, I'll be able to focus more on my school work and my athletic activities rather than having to worry so much about how I am going to pay for school. In addition, it is helping me to pave the way towards hopefully attending medical school down the road, as I'm planning to pursue a career in medicine. I just want you all to know that this support is an investment in my future to help me achieve these goal. Thank you again for your time and all your work!

Sincerely, *Caleb Hazelbaker*



Our Sympathy To The Friends and Family of:

Roger Livingston, brother/in-law of Larry and Linny Livingston and Uncle of Sarah Livingston

Nancy Oiler, sister of Nora Netzer



Administrative Board Highlights for Monday, August 9, 2021

Attendance: (8), Pastor Pete Shaffer, Tim Renn, Paul & Sonni Conley, Sharon Wessel, Jennie Entler, Linda Horner and Rhonda Hammond. Tim opened the meeting and Pastor Pete said the prayer.

TREASURER REPORT:

July 2021	Beginning Balance	\$29,391.58
	Offerings	12,781.58
	Expenses	<u>18,568.89</u>
	Ending Balance	\$23,604.27

- Property taxes were paid in July
- It was decided to give Terri Cash \$1,000, however donations exceeded that and the Love offering was \$1,250.

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

- Monday Aug 21st 7:30 PM OVFA @ Pedro, OH
- Monday Sept 13th 12:00 PM Clergy Cluster Meeting @ Valley

TRUSTEES—Met on July 26th

- Church, parsonage and the steeple have all been power washed. Still having elevator issues. Going to call again.
- Guttering on the back of the church came loose again. Scott Bauer hammered the nails back in as they had come loose. He thought it looked like the fascia board might be rotten. He knows someone that does that kind of work and he is going to call them and ask them to look at it. Have to wait and see what needs done.
- Donnie had someone come and look at the sound system. He said the problem is something has been hooked up wrong and it all needs to be unhooked and he will then hook everything up the right way. It was decided to get him to hook it back up the way it should be and then have him train someone (hopefully more than one) how to use it properly. We need more help in the sound room. Donnie has his hands full with the computer work.

CHILDREN — Sonni is continuing give out treat bags and having a lesson ready if we have children in the service.

PPRC — Discussed Pete's schedule Emergency Service

- Salary recommendation for next year. Charge Conference is in October.

SERVICE STEWARDS

- Jennie asked about sending flowers, donation, or something to church members that lost a loved one and we didn't provide a meal for. Pete said he personally didn't like flowers. Some others suggested memorial quilts or afghans. Service Stewards will take care of sending the appropriate memorial.
- Small Welcome gifts have been prepared by Sonni, Sharon and Mary to be given out at IGA and here at the church for them to be passed out to others they know. We need to get the word out about NUMC.

OLD BUSINESS — Emergency service went well.

- Stephanie Wright service was very good. She said that she was very glad to be here.

NEW BUSINESS

- Rear A/C upstairs is not working
- COVID-19—Are we going to have to go back to wearing masks? It really looks like it. Should we announce it now? It was decided to wait another week before we decide on masks. Get vaccinated
- OCC State level Full Circle speaker will be with us on August 29th during morning worship to speak to us about how receiving a Shoebox as a child affected her life.
- Terri Cavanaugh a speaker for Wesleyan Covenant Association (WCA) and Global Methodist Church (GBA) will be here at NUMC on Sunday, August 29th at 5:00 PM. This is an informational meeting to discuss what can be done if the Conference gives approval for churches to split if issues are decided at General Conference in 2022 that go against the Book of Discipline.
- REFRESH—refocus on what we are doing. Sam Peters and another will come to our church and tour the building with the Trustees and see what we have and what we need. They will then interview 4 members of the church. A meeting with the whole congregation will then happen to discuss what they have learned about NUMC. Over the next 6 months they would show us what we need and help us to obtain grant money to help our church. Do we want to do this? It was decided to go ahead and see what we can find out.
- First Responder Sunday on 9/12? Or in October during Fire Prevention Week (which is the first full week of October) or skip it because of COVID? To be decided
- Light the Night is also being planned.

Tim closed the meeting. Pastor Pete said the prayer.

Next meeting will be September 13th at 6:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by Rhonda Hammond

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Shoebox Alert!

We have come along way in purchasing items for our church packing party for Operation Christmas Child. We are “Good to Go” on wash cloths, flip flops, chalk, ink pens, small stuffed animals and notebooks. ***But we still are needing Many Other Supplies*** for our shoeboxes. There has been a short supply of **crayons** this year and we still need 550 boxes! Some stores (i.e.: Kroger) will still have them on sale until the 2nd week of September, so keep your eyes peeled and pick up several boxes for the kingdom! Other items in short supply:

Item	Number Needed
Scissors	400
Pencils	900
Crayons	550
Bars of Soap	300
Coloring Books	200
Combs	150
Small toys, puzzles, etc.	300

We are looking into purchasing bulk bundles of rulers, glue sticks, and pencil eraser tops. So financial donations are always welcome!

Mark your check or donation envelope OCC.

