

APRIL NEWSLETTER

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR AARON

April will mark the start of a new series: In Exile that will carry us through the book of Daniel. There are two reasons for this. For one, I have established a long term pattern of preaching that alternates topical messages with going line by line through a particular book, Old Testament and New Testament, and narrative and non-narrative genres. This has landed us at line by line preaching of an Old Testament narrative book. But why Daniel in particular?

The more important reason we are going through Daniel is because I feel it captures the same kind of isolation and tension we feel today. If I feel like I live in Babylon, what am I supposed to do?

I look forward to exploring this book with you over the next 20 years.

Just kidding, I'll probably be done in 2 years tops.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday—Thursday, March 28 @ 6:00pm

This service is special for two reasons: Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper as a reminder that just as physical food and drink nourish our physical bodies, Jesus' death and resurrection give eternal life to our spirit. By washing the disciples feet as a demonstration of the humility and servanthood that we are called to as we follow Him.

Easter Sunday — March 31 at 8:30 & 11:00 am

Jesus is alive! It's not just that Jesus returned to life, He promised a new vitality for everyone who would trust in Him. A life filled with meaning and purpose is found in following Jesus.

Reach out to someone with that hope and life! Who in your circle of family and friends needs to experience this hope and life? Make a point to personally invite someone to join you this Easter Sunday!

KEENAGER'S BREAKFAST | Tuesday, April 2 @ 9am

All senior retirees meet for breakfast at Bob Evans in Eaton.

MEN'S BREAKFAST | Saturday, April 6

All men are invited @ 7:30am for great food & fellowship!

NURSING HOME MINISTRY | Sunday, April 14

All are invited to join us as we worship with those at Greenbriar Nursing Home (501 W. Lexington St., Eaton) at 1:00pm.

WOW GROUP (widows or widowers)

Thurs. April 18, 5:30 p.m., we'll be carpooling to Rob's Restaurant, Brookville, Oh. Please meet at our church's east-end parking lot, and bring your appetite. Their buffet is very good. Contact Shirley Clark 937.733.2628 with questions, comments.

SENIOR ADULT SPRING FLING | April 23 @ noon

Der Dutchman in Plain City, OH. Cost is \$27 per person. Sign up at the Resource Center by April 14. Checks made out to Eaton First Church of God and given to Miles or Bonnie Shafer.

WILLING TO HELP THOSE WITH A NEED?

As an effort to help people in our community who really need help, we are launching the Common Good Network, along with other churches and the Once Around Shop. A form has been emailed to give you the opportunity to sign up. Please respond to the email or access the form at www.e1cog.com under the "Sign Up" tab. If someone comes in with a need that matches an area you're willing to help, you'll be contacted. Have questions? See Pastor Aaron or Sarah Hays.

DINNERS NEEDED FOR YOUTH GROUP

If you can help provide food for 25 for our Wednesday night youth group, sign up at the Resource Center the date and what you will be bringing. All food can be dropped off in the new kitchen that Wednesday at 5:45pm. Thanks for your support!

MEN'S GOLF OUTING

Sign up at the Resource Center to join in a golf outing August 9-11 at Eagle Sticks Golf course in Zanesville, Ohio. The cost will be \$392.00 per person, to be paid at the hotel on Aug. 9th. For more info, see Bobby Clark.

OPEN GYM BASKETBALL

Most Tuesdays, a group of guys (age 14 & up) from the church meet from 6-7:30pm to play basketball in the gym. If you'd like to be added to the text group to be notified, text Jordan Bryant @ 937-336-2275.

BREEZE

With Breeze you can quickly and easily look up contact information for others in our Church family. You can also check and print your own giving records. You can use Breeze on your computer or download the app on your phone. If you aren't using Breeze already, go to: <https://e1cog.breezechms.com> and click "create account". The church code is: e1cog. Use the email address that the church has on file for you to make an account. If we don't have an email address for you—contact the church office and we'll get you signed up!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH

April 24th will be the last night of our Wednesday Bible studies until fall! Watch the newsletter and youth text for all the upcoming summer activities!

GIRLS ONLY BIBLE STUDY

Any ladies in grades 7th-12th are invited to attend the girls only Bible study at the home of Allie Little, 124 W. Oak Street in West Alexandria from 6-7:30pm every Sunday evening. Join us for food, fun, and a great study! April 28th is the last night of Bible study until the fall.



IYC ORLANDO

The next payment for IYC is due on April 28th. If you have questions, please see Tania.

MOTHER'S DAY FUNDRAISER

We will be having a Mother's Day fundraiser! See a youth for details starting April 3rd. You won't want to miss it!

COMMUNITY NEEDS

- The Food Bank has asked the church to donate Canned Meat (Tuna, Chicken) and Canned Beans (Baked, Great White Northern, Kidney). Please put your food in the marked container in the commons.
- Birthright is needing diapers (especially sizes 3, 4, 5, 6), wipes, baby clothes sizes 12 & 18 months (especially girls), and layette items. Please put donations in marked box in commons.
- The Clothes Closet at the United Church of Christ is in need of some clothing donations for men, women & children: hats & gloves, bras & underwear (new and all different sizes) and gently used clothing. Please put all donations in the marked container in the commons.
- Bruce Elementary needs sweatpants or gently used jeans for kids ages 8-12. Please put donations in church office.

NEED A PIANO?

The piano that lives in room 104 is currently up for grabs! If you are interested in giving this piece of e1cog history new life in your home or know someone who does, contact the church office!!

EATON FIRST KIDS WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

April 24th will be our last Wednesday night for the school year. We are looking forward to seeing you on Sundays and at VBS! See you in the fall!!

SCUBA - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It is never too early to think about VBS!! Sydney, Allie, and myself have been for months! So mark your calendars for our SCUBA VBS today!

June 9th-13th
6pm-8:30pm
Ages 2-6th grade

Please be in prayer for this amazing program, for our leaders, and for all of the kids God will be sending our way! Look for our VBS display at the end of April to see how you can be a part of this fantastic ministry!!

We will be collecting bulk items in the bins marked VBS in the commons. We will need plastic blue tablecloths (any color blue), cans of spray foam, pool noodles of any size or color, tan drop clothes, and fairy lights.



MARCH GIVING/ATTENDANCE:

	AM Attn.	Offering	Bldg/Reno Fund	Faith Promise
Mar. Online	thru 3/25	\$5,975.00	\$260.00	\$520.00
3/3/24	187	7,709.00	94.00	373.00
3/10/24	183	5,877.77	269.00	552.00
3/17/24	156	3,886.20	34.00	341.00
3/24/24	255	3,847.00	284.00	821.00

Average Weekly Offering: \$ 6,823.74

Average Weekly Offering Needed 2024: \$ 8,037.00