

The Common Line



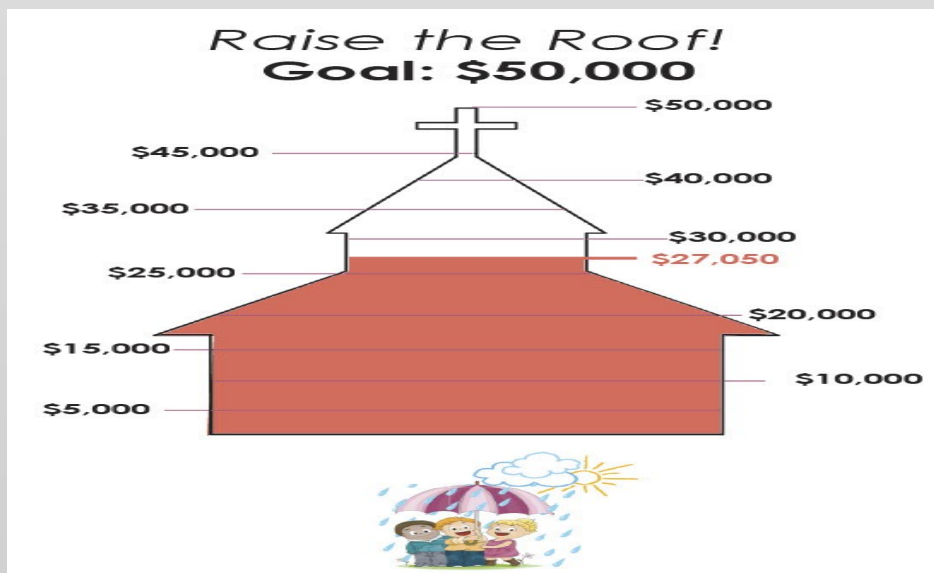
Roof Campaign Half Way There, McCoy Trust Provides Major Push Forward

Campaign co-chairs Dave Loge and Tina McWilliams report the \$50,000 campaign to replace the shingle roof over the sanctuary, which was officially announced last month, has received just over \$27,000 passing the \$25,000 needed to begin the project. Tina shared, "We are extremely grateful and believe we are well on our way to raising the remaining funds to complete the job."

Dave described the process to begin the work "includes workers from Advanced Seamless Gutter and Roofing Inc., an Albany, Ohio company, removing wood samples from the overhang very soon. The wood in our roof is a thick tongue and groove, not something we can purchase off the shelf. When we locate the supplier and know the estimated arrival time of the wood we can schedule the work. The roof contractor is currently booking jobs for June."

Among donors sending dollars, James McCoy, brother of the late Katie McCoy who was a pillar of our church, sent his best wishes for the project along with a check for \$10,000 from the Kathryn L. McCoy Trust. Jim's message to church members included the reminder that "Katie loved your church. It was a huge part of her life, and from her heavenly abode, she wants to continue contributing to your church's needs, protecting the sanctuary that she so loved. I am pleased to serve in Katie's behalf as her emissary to make this gift from her trust. She will be very proud to make her contribution to such a worthy and lasting project!"

To Make a pledge or donation to the Raise the Roof Campaign, find a pledge card at <https://www.fumcnelsonville.org>. Complete, indicating if your gift is in honor or memory of someone, and send to the church office. You may also give via the church website, locate the tab **On-line Giving.**



FOR THE TRUTH
FOR THE WORLD
FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

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Psalm 55:22 Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STEVE MCGUIRE

We have another special day coming up soon. Mother's Day is one of the most celebrated days on the American calendar. None of us came into this world without a mother. For nine months she carried us and struggled to give us birth. On May 10 we will remember, respect, and honor moms everywhere. There are probably more restaurant reservations and phone calls on this special day than any other—and rightly so. But things will be a bit different this year.

Of course, covid-19 has dramatically changed the way we observe special days. You have seen or heard of weddings, birthdays, senior proms, graduations, funerals, even Easter Sunday all enthusiastically celebrated but in new ways. Parades allow for social distancing. Live-streaming makes observation possible for those who could never attend an event. And zoom is used by a marching band to combine the tune of each instrument played by band-members in their own individual rooms, into one combined, wonderful, robust song. Special days are kept special even in very challenging circumstances.

Let me suggest three possible lessons from all of this:

1] First, don't forget the meaning of the specific event we celebrate. It is special—not because of the amount of money spent or how many are counted in attendance. It is special because of the person or event appropriately remembered.

2] Second, recognize the need for gathering again. For now, much of our social gathering is still on hold. Though there are examples of special days whose revised celebrations are good and even great, there is still an incompleteness to them. Something is missing and it is the social dynamic of our being in the presence of others. I know in churches, the feeling that we need to come together again is strong right now. My hope is that we take full advantage of that opportunity post-corona.

3] Third, celebrate each and every day. We should recognize that each day is a gift from God with countless opportunities and benefits. Give heartfelt thanks to God for today and for the food and friendships, the people and provisions of this single day.

God bless you with many days and the perspective to see each on as the special day it is.

Steve





The Worship team for our Facebook Sunday services, practicing social distancing, left to right: Praise Singers Becky Dicken, Patsy Clark, Jacci Clark, pianist Kim Resanovich, technician Cort Forgrave, Lay Leader and Praise Singer Steve Cox, cameraman and announcer Wayne Dicken, Pastor Steve McGuire

Worship Team Delivers

From the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic “stay-at-home” order, going to church has become a whole new approach, but with the continued dedication of the Worship Team who continue to arrive early, practice and call us to God through word and music, inviting us to sing along. The Facebook live worship service attracts our local church members and friends from afar. The appreciation of those who attend is registered by the posts they place. We are a grateful church.

What our friends are saying—

- ◆ Nice to be “home” for church during this time. Nothing like home to give you comfort.
- ◆ Thank you Steve for bringing the Word of God and Jesus to us in a way of reality and understanding.
- ◆ Love our Praise Singers.
- ◆ Thanks to all who made this possible. God bless.
- ◆ Wish we could all be together, but so great we are together in spirit.
- ◆ Thanks to pianist and chorus. This song will stick with me all week.
- ◆ It is a blessing to me and I’m sure many others that watch.
- ◆ Beautiful voices. Wonderful service.
- ◆ Thank you for bringing this to our quarantined family members.
- ◆ This is a blessing in this difficult time, we can worship with our brothers and sisters in Christ in many states and different denominations as one body of Christ through this platform. Thank you for your offering. Peace be with you.

Church Helps Red Cross Meet Needs

It was early in the COVID-19 pandemic when Amy and Emily McColloch were contacted by the American Red Cross. The call came from Jordan Fomash Wellinghoff, Account Manager asking "Could the church host an emergency blood drive?" Jordan has a history of working with First United Methodist Church for past blood drives and knew her contacts here could pull this off given the urgent need for blood in the midst of a health crisis. Many of the traditional sites for drives such as schools and businesses were closed.

The drive was held April 1 and collected 23 pints of blood which could potentially help 69 people. Sixteen people pre-registered and there were also walk-ins. Amy and Emily prepared the site by moving tables and chairs in the Ballard Fellowship Hall. Emily was on-site until the Red Cross arrived to meet additional needs. She and Amy returned following the event to arrange and sanitize furniture in the hall and clean the restrooms. All necessary safety procedures were in place during the event. Emily and Amy ordered food from Mama Renie's Pizza for the workers. However, the restaurant refused payment wishing instead to make their pizza a donation for a good cause.

Emily coordinates about two blood drives a year at FUMC since 2016 to provide a public service to the community. She shared that "The drives bring people together in our church to help others. Normally at a drive, not during a pandemic, we greet the donors and thank them." The American Red Cross awarded Emily a scholarship when she graduated from high school in response to her service and that service has been on-going, providing blood to more than 500 patients to-date. Emily is a graduating senior at Ohio University in Athens. She majored in Biology and English Literature and wants to continue her education to become a physician assistant.

Amy attributes her own dedication to the cause, "to honor my husband Kevin and to thank God. When Kevin had his stem cell transplant he needed blood. That is why I give, just knowing someone out there needs my blood.

In a recent message to the church, Jordan added her appreciation, "We are forever grateful for blood program leaders like Emily and Amy, as well as locations like First United Methodist Church. They truly make a difference when our donors need blood. Especially when in a pandemic, where many doors have closed, your doors at First UMC have always opened."



Blood Drive Coordinator Emily McColloch and her dog Cash



Message from the American Red Cross

All blood types are needed. If you are in relatively good health, you can donate very 56 days. Use the Red Cross App to schedule a donation. It will even track your donation and tell you where it is going. You can schedule using 1-800-RED-Cross or via the website <https://www.redcross.org/>.

REMEMBERING MURIEL

Muriel Joann Ballard Bankes 1947-2020

When Muriel Ballard came to Nelsonville with her parents Rev. Roy and Beulah Ballard on Rev Ballard's new assignment as pastor of FUMC, she was a recent high school graduate, leaving her friends behind. She didn't know that Nelsonville would come to cherish her. With her musical talent and willingness to share, she found a place that loved the ministry of music and she fit right in.

Muriel passed away April 13 at the age of 72 at her home in Malta. She is survived by her devoted husband, David Bankes and four children Judy (Daniel) Wilson, Jon (Ash) Bankes, Kat (Adam) Norris and Lisa (Jacob) Smith and her seventeen grandchildren. Muriel was a faithful member of the Portersville United Methodist Church although she and her music traveled anywhere she was called. Muriel began playing piano for her first church at the age of 7 and never stopped. Besides her family, Muriel had two great passions in her life - nursing and music. Muriel attended Ohio Wesleyan and graduated from Hocking College School of Nursing. Over the years she had been active in Eastern Star, the Morgan High School choirs and bands, the Athenian Berean Community Theater in Nelsonville and local children's community theaters. The family suggests donations in her name can be made to the Morgan High School Music Boosters.

Local friends who wish to remember Muriel may consider sharing a memory of her and making a donation to FUMC designated for the **Katie McCoy and Mary Jane McKinley Music Scholars Fund**

Members of FUMC remember Muriel --

Judy Barber -- I loved Muriel like a sister, and she was so talented. She made Bible School the best place ever. We had hours of fun together and made beautiful memories for a lifetime. I will miss her.

Steve Cox-- Muriel was one of the kindest, friendliest, most humble child of God I have ever known. Her musical skills and ability to accompany any and all performances was absolutely amazing, and she did it all without fanfare, quietly in the background. And she could play anything, in fact she rocked the church with "The Theme From Rocky" as Debbie and I were exiting the church on our wedding day. I will miss her so much, I can truly say I never once saw her without that beautiful, shy smile of hers.

Patsy Clark-- I fondly remember Muriel as a big part of our church when her Dad was the pastor here. She was so helpful and friendly, never without a smile. She helped a lot with the youth group. Muriel and Judy Barber were so memorable as the music team for Vacation Bible School. I helped the teachers and we all learned the songs and motions to go with them. That's why I can do the motions for the children's songs during our Facebook Live services. Muriel was the organist for church for years and whenever there was a need for someone to play piano she was the first in line. Not only at church but with our local theater group. She accompanied many students with their competition for solo and ensemble contests. She never turned anyone down and was such a wonderful friend.

FUMC Hosted Scouts from Three Counties

(Article reprinted from March 12, 2020 Athens Messenger)

Nelsonville FUMC Cub Scout Pack 364 Hosts Pinewood Invitational

NELSONVILLE-With no district Pinewood Derby scheduled this year, the Cub Scouts of First United Methodist Church Nelsonville stepped up to fill the void hosting their first Regional Pinewood Derby Invitational. Scouts from Athens, Hocking and Fairfield Counties were among the 40 people who attended March 6.

Nelsonville Scout Leader Jeremy Boggs described the opportunity as friendly competition and a learning experience where Scouts meet boys from other communities and get another opportunity for racing cars. Three races were held for siblings, Scouts and outlaw for adults. Boggs predicted, "We would like to do this again next year. We think it went very well for our first time to offer the event to the people beyond our Pack."



Winners of the 2020 Nelsonville First United Methodist Church Cub Scout Pack 364 Pinewood Derby Invitational are: 1st Liam Kline of Nelsonville, 2nd Allan Newlon of Lancaster and 3rd Nerrick Tolliver of Nelsonville



Breakfast, Bath and PBJ

A Drive to Support the Nelsonville Food Cupboard

During this critical time, First United Methodist Church Nelsonville invites you to support the Food Cupboard's need for basic items such as breakfast cereals, bath soap and peanut butter and jelly.



You can support this campaign by sending a check to the church with *Food Cupboard* in the memo line or give on-line through FUMC website under **Contact Us – Donate Online – Missions & Human Needs**.

Financial donations will purchase these items in bulk to meet hunger and hygiene needs during the pandemic. Or you can personally drop off donations at the Food Cupboard, 421 Chestnut St., noon to 3 pm, Thursday, Friday or Saturday.

Total donations made in May through the church, up to \$500, will be matched, so multiply your giving by donating now.

First United Methodist Church
205 W. Columbus St.
Nelsonville, OH 45764

<https://www.fumcnelsonville.org>
740-753-1939

For on-line donations click the following: <https://www.fumcnelsonville.org>

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lindawatkins1952@gmail.com

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stevecox2811@yahoo.com

Custodian: Brian Bailey

Contact Us—

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Facebook:
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Instagram:
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Other Events and Announcements

Please Note: In-person events are currently on-hold

Sunday School every Sunday at 9:00 AM

Worship Services every Sunday at 10:00 AM
Currently Live on Facebook

Anchored Youth Group every Sunday at 5:00 PM

AA every Monday and Thursday at 8:00 PM

Leadership Team Meeting—TBA

Holy Communion every first Sunday of the month

Cub Scouts Schedule

Wolf: Sundays at 4:00 PM; Dee Dee Loge (740) 707-5318

Bear: Mondays at 6:00 PM; Ryan Harris (937) 902-9609

Webelos 1: Every other Tuesday at 6:00 PM; Zach Odenthal (740) 707-7035

Webelos 2: Sundays at 6:00 PM; Zach Odenthal (740) 707-7035

**If you have any questions about Cub Scouts, you can contact Dee Dee or Dave Loge (740) 707-7035*

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Individuals Contributing Photos and Content for this issue: Rev. Steve McGuire, Dave Loge, Tina McWilliams, Patsy Clark, Amy McCulloch, Emily McCulloch, Judy Barber, Wayne Dicken, Jordan Fomash Wellinghoff, Mary K. Walsh, Steve Cox



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