

Heritage Happenings



A Publication of Heritage Church

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April 2024

Heritage family,

We've come a long way! April marks a year since both Heritage (as a local church) and I (as an ordained elder) chose to connect with the Global Methodist Church. This journey has checked a lot of boxes: exciting, stressful, uncertain, blessed – just to name a few. Since last April, the GMC has continued to grow both internationally and nationally. Provisional annual conferences have been created and the movement will become “official” with the convening General Conference in September of 2024.



It will be good to remember and acknowledge that the GMC is not “United Methodism 2.0.” We are a new Methodist movement focused on making disciples of Jesus who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. As we move into God’s future, we will be a Jesus-loving, Spirit-filled, and Bible-believing congregation that is led by the Holy Spirit to prioritize the following values:

- From “come and do,” to “go and be”
- From infancy to maturity
- From making church members to making disciples
- From dysfunctional politeness to kingdom kindness and honesty
- From carnal to spiritual
- From moralism to holiness
- From information to transformation
- From clergy-centered to missionaries sent
- From addition to multiplication
- From institutional maintenance to church planting

Here at Heritage, we continue to make the mental and cultural transition from who we were to what God is calling us to become. You’ve noticed that we are prioritizing a move to Spirit-filled worship and intentional discipleship. Very soon there will be a Saturday and Sunday dedicated to describing what we are learning about discipleship and how it affects each of us.

As we move forward in 2024, I encourage you to be in worship regularly, take advantage of a group or class, seek ways to serve in ministry and speak well of your church by inviting your friends and family. If you want to learn more about the GMC and your place in it, check out these websites: www.globalmethodist.org and www.alleghenywestgmc.org

Living On Purpose,

Pastor Ron



Maunder Thursday (March 28th) 7 pm Service with Communion at the rail
Good Friday (March 29th) 12 pm Service
Saturday Night Service (March 30th) Led by Pastor Ron
Easter Sunday (March 31st) Sunrise Service on the Diamond at 6:30 am with light refreshments to follow in the lounge. Regular worship at 8:30 & 10:45 am. No Sunday School for kids. Remember, Pastor Ron is hoping for at least 200 Easter weekend so invite your friends and family!

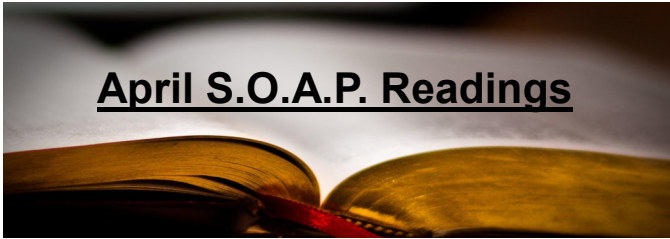
New Weekend Teaching Series
The Forgotten God: Rediscovering the Person and the Power of the Holy Spirit
Beginning April 13 & 14, 2024

It’s easy for some of us to admit that the Holy Spirit is the “forgotten God.” He is tragically neglected and, for all practical purposes, forgotten. There may well be millions of churchgoers across the country who cannot confidently say they have experienced His presence or action in their lives over the past year. We are missing Someone. But when believers live in the power of the Spirit, the evidence in their lives and the Church is supernatural. Join us this Spring as we learn who the Holy Spirit is, how to experience Him, and the power He gives us to follow Jesus.



CLEAN WATER KENYA On Saturday, March 16th, Ken and Judy Clark and their partners through Clean Water Kenya, Laurel Thomas and David Kindel, came to Heritage’s Saturday Night Service to speak about their 10 year journey bringing clean water to over 100,000 Kenyans. Thank you to all who came to the service to support them and we are looking forward to having them back in the future.

Camp Allegheny Spring Volunteer Days
Volunteers are needed for painting, landscaping, summer set up, construction, road work and more on April 20th and 27th. Contact the camp at 814-754-5122 or info@campallegheny.org. Thank you for any help you might be able to give.



April S.O.A.P. Readings

Do you have a regular practice of reading your Bible? While it's challenging, reading the Bible regularly helps us know God better, live a more fulfilling life, know God's will, and obey him. If you don't have a regular Bible reading plan, you're invited to use this SOAP process.

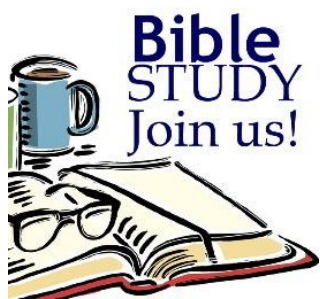
SOAP is an abbreviation for Scripture, Observation, Application, and Prayer. Read the passages below and answer the following questions. You'll need your Bible, a journal/notebook, and a pen.

- Scripture** – which passage am I reading?
- Observation** – what stands out to me in this passage?
- Application** – how will I apply these truths to my life?
- Prayer** – what is my prayer as it relates to this?

April 1	John 20:11-18
April 2	Luke 24:13-27
April 3	Luke 24:28-35
April 4	Luke 24:36-48
April 5	John 20:19-23
April 6	John 20:24-29
April 7	John 20:30-31
April 8	John 21:1-6
April 9	John 21:7-14
April 10	John 21:15-19
April 11	Acts 1:1-5
April 12	Acts 1:6-11
April 13	Acts 2:1-12
April 14	Acts 2:14-24
April 15	Acts 2:29-33
April 16	Acts 2:36-39
April 17	Acts 2:41-47
April 18	Acts 3:1-10
April 19	Acts 4:1-12
April 20	Acts 4:23-31
April 21	Acts 5:1-11
April 22	Acts 8:1-8
April 23	Acts 8:9-17
April 24	Acts 8:18-25
April 25	Acts 8:26-35
April 26	Acts 8:26-40
April 27	Acts 9:1-18
April 28	Acts 9:19-31
April 29	Acts 9:32-43
April 30	Acts 11:19-30

Thursday Morning Bible Study

9 am – 10 am at the Ligonier Senior Center
Study Dates: April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16



In conjunction with the Spring teaching series on the **Forgotten God**, Pastor Ron is offering a Bible study focused more deeply on the person and work of the Holy Spirit. This subject is essential for our growth with God. The role the Holy Spirit plays in our lives is, without question, the most important aspect of spiritual formation. So whether you know much or little about the Holy Spirit or his role in your spiritual growth, this class will prove vital.

**“Why Am I Here?
 Discovering My Purpose and Ministry”**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024
 2 pm-5 pm**

Heritage Church Lounge

(RSVP on the bulletin board. Bring snacks to share!)

Here's the good news: God made you for a purpose! God has a plan for your life. How God made you to be determines what he intends for you to do. You will understand the purpose you were created for when you understand the kind of person you are. This is the secret to knowing God's will for your life. In this UHS class, you'll get a grip on how God created you and the practical ways you can live out your life purpose and ministry.



Circle of Ruth Meets April 11th

Circle of Ruth will meet Thursday, April 11th at 6:30 PM in the Heritage church lounge. We will be continuing our Bible study, *Faith, Doubt and God's Mysterious Timing* by Laurie Polich Short (chapter 8). Wendy Treasure will be leading the study and Brenda Sherbondy will be bringing a dessert to share. We will be signing Mother's Day Cards for our card ministry. Please join us for fellowship, fun, and dessert!

Ladies Brunch May 18th

Circle of Ruth is inviting all the ladies of Heritage church to brunch on Saturday, May 18th, 11 am in the Lounge. Food and beverages will be provided. Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 15th on the bulletin board. We hope you'll join us!



April 26-27

The Outreach Committee will hold a Spring Rummage Sale and Luncheon on Friday, April 26 from 8 am – 4 pm and Saturday, April 27 from 8 am - noon. All proceeds support local and global mission projects.

Donations of good, clean, usable clothing and household items are needed. You may place clothing and smaller items in the Pancake Kitchen any time; however, do not bring any furniture and large items to the church before April 22. No TVs. If you need assistance getting your donations to the church, call Chuck Shaffer at 814-341-5550.

Your help is needed! We will need help moving the rummage from the storage building into the church on Tuesday afternoon, arranging the sale items on Wednesday & Thursday beginning at 9 AM, and assisting with the sale and luncheon beginning at 7:45 AM on Friday & Saturday. Additional help is needed at 12:15 PM on Saturday to pack up and cleanup.

In addition, donations of sandwiches and desserts are needed for the luncheon. Sign up sheets will be on the bulletin board at the top of the stairwell soon.

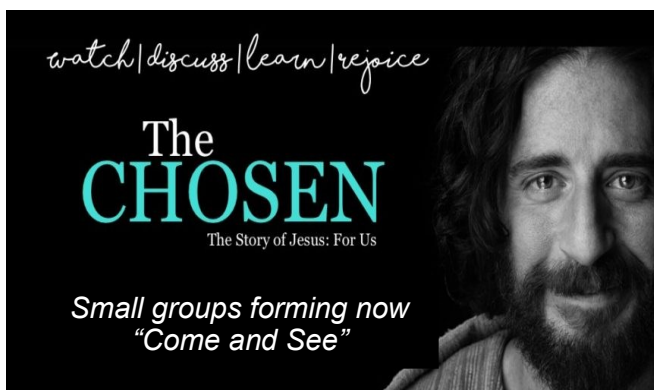
National Day of Prayer May 2nd



The National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 2nd. This is the 72nd year to observe the National Day of Prayer, which was established by Pres. Harry S. Truman and designated by the US Congress, asking people to "Turn to God in Prayer and Meditation." We hope you will be able to participate in some or all of our town's activities. For more information, go to www.nationaldayofprayer.org.

A Prayer Breakfast will be held at The Barn at 7:30 am. Tickets are free and are available in the church office. Please RSVP by signing up on the bulletin board by April 26th.

At 7 am, the Junior & Senior High School students and staff will have Prayer at the Pole. From 12-1 pm a Prayer & Praise Event will be held on the Diamond with live music by Reverent Heart Ministries. A Hymn Sing will be held at Concordia at Bethlen (formerly Ligonier Gardens) from 2-3 pm with Kathe Nason accompanying. Our sanctuary will be open for silent reflection and prayer from 9 am – 2 pm.



The Chosen: An interactive video & book study following the life of Jesus, his ministry and the disciples' lives who surround him is coming to Heritage. The Chosen has been a tremendously impactful TV and theatrical production that is perfect for any Christian maturity level. Susan Dominick with Sue Morrison will be facilitating this small group on Thursday evening from 7:00-8:30 pm and Friday morning from 10 – 11:30 am **starting May 30th 2024.**


The study includes watching a 50 minute video together with discussion, recapping past homework for more in-depth learning and prayer. We start with Season One and go 9 sessions, with a break then right into season two and then season three. We are looking to complete all three season before Advent/Christmas season.

I invite members who have family and friends that may not know our Savior or who are questioning about the faith to attend with their loved ones. "Come and See" this visual testimony of the foundations of our Faith, along with our fellowship and forming a small inclusive supportive group can work wonders for all involved.

Please prayerfully consider this Summertime into Fall activity for yourself and others. Let's grow together and witness what the Lord will do with and through us. Blessings and Shalom, Susan and Sue.



CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

If you are affiliated with Heritage and are graduating from high school, college or graduate school this year, please let the office know by May 15th. We'd love to share with the congregation what your future plans are and celebrate your accomplishments. 

It's Time to Register for Summer Camp!



All children affiliated with Heritage can go to Camps Allegheny, Wesley Woods or Jumonville. Heritage will pay 75% of the cost of camp.

Please be sure to let the church office know that your child is registered.

Thank you, Zach and Lindsey! We will miss you!

After years of Christian service at Heritage Methodist Church, Zach Sierocki and Lindsey Stanley are moving into new ventures in the community. Zach has been with us for 9 years, and Lindsey over a year.



On behalf of the Education Committee and the entire congregation, we are extending a huge thank you to Zach and Lindsey for all the many, many things that they have accomplished during their time at Heritage Church. You have brought hundreds of children and youth into our church and provided guidance and Christian love to all through TBA, Girls' Night, Game Night, Christian Adventure, VBS and many other creative endeavors. Your ability to connect with youth of all ages and to remain calm in all situations is inspiring. We will truly miss both of you in our ministry and as friends. We wish for you success in all you do. Blessings to both of you.

No TBA Youth Group, Game Night or Girl's Night until further notice.



Our TBA Youth Group at the Ligonier Creamery on March 4th.

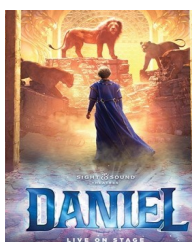


Our Christian Adventure kids had a great time at the Ligonier Valley Volunteer Fire Dept, which was their mission project for this session. Thank you to everyone who helped raise money for this vital community organization.



Thank you so much to our faithful Sunday School teachers and participants.

Sight & Sound Trip to see Daniel May 14th



A second trip to see Daniel is set for Tuesday, May 14th. Sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to go. The cost is \$125/person and includes your ticket, lunch, gas and tips. Payment should be made to Susan Dominick.

Van Ministry News:

The folks who have attended the Sight & Sound productions of the past several years would like to thank Heritage for the vision they had to obtain and maintain a van for the ministries of the community. We have been blessed to witness these live action biblical shows:

Jesus 2019, The Miracle of Christmas 2019, Esther 2021, David 2022, Moses 2023 and this year for Daniel 2024. Church members, family and friends have all enjoyed the fellowship, show, Amish buffet and van ride. These shows have enriched our understanding of the Father and His Son, and for that blessing we all say THANK YOU.

Trustees remind council at every meeting, "Any use of the van for Christian related activities is welcome." Please keep in mind ministry work your small group may be able to do with this valuable resource. Contact office for usage instructions..

DD's Craft Class

DD Umbaugh had two Easter Themed Craft Classes on February 27th and March 5th. If you would like to join us for the next class (to be announced), contact the office.



Special Conference Meeting March 16th

On Saturday, March 16th I attended the Special Called Conference as an HMC delegate. The purpose was to elect a total of 50 clergy & laity to represent our provisional conference in Costa Rica in September 2024, where the inaugural General Conference for the Global Methodist Church will be held. It was a joyous, enthusiastic event, first lead by powerful worship, praying and teaching. Bishop Webb taught and oversaw the proceedings. Delegates were ordained and prayed over.



600 representatives from Ohio and WPA collectively elected men and women of God, who will join the other American and worldwide delegates. I can attest to the excitement of all persons as they finalize the formation of the GMC denomination, standing squarely on holy scripture, prayer, the holy spirit's leading and Methodist legacy.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our congregation, and prayers for all delegates as they prepare for this next step in their calling. *Susan Dominick*

Member News

Our condolences to the family and friends of Gene Seiling, who passed away on Feb. 20th at the age of 98 in North Carolina.

Our condolences to the family and friends of Betty Keibler, who passed away on March 20th at the age of 95. Betty was the wife of one of our former pastors, the late Conway Keibler. A celebration of life service is being planned for late spring.

Our condolences to the family and friends of Jane Flowers, who passed away on March 21st at the age of 89 at Concordia at Bethlen (formerly Ligonier Gardens).

Congratulations to Dylan Jackman and Janetta Vander Wal, who got married in North Dakota on March 2, 2024. Dylan is the son of Fred & Colette Jackman and the grandson of Don & Sherry Smith.



Congratulations to Kyle & Anita Fritz on the March 21st birth of their son, Sutton William Fritz, 7 lbs., 3 oz., 19 inches long. Sutton joins big sister, Claire, and big brother, Luke, and is the grandson of Dan & Dena Fritz.

Thank you, Bob Winters!

After 44 years, Bob Winters has retired from his work with the Ligonier Valley Food Pantry. Heritage Church is very grateful for Bob's dedicated service to this vital ministry. The Fellowship Class will continue Bob's work.

All are Welcome to Attend Council Mtgs.

Council Meetings are open to all so feel free to attend when you see them scheduled.

Multipurpose/Prayer Room! Come between services and see the new painting in the Prayer Corner. Now in use between Sunday services.

April 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 Office closed No Monday Night Bible Study	2	3 11 am Clergy Mtg.	4 No Bible Study at the LV Sr. Center	5	6 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Rich Ziegenfus
7 Holy Communion	8 No Monday Night Bible Study	9 Sight & Sound Trip	10	11 No Bible Study at the LV Sr. Center 6:30 pm Circle of Ruth Mtg. in Lounge	12	13 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron w/ music by Kasey Kisner
14	15	16	17 5:30 pm Education Mtg. in Lounge	18 9 am Bible Study at the LV Sr. Center 1 pm Linus Blanket Workday in Fellowship Hall	19 1 pm Newsletter Deadline 7 pm Coffeehouse at The Barn	20 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Adam Sweigart
21 2-5 pm Why Am I Here? Class in Lounge	22	23	24 5 pm Trustees Mtg. in Lounge 9 am Rummage Sale Set Up	25 9 am Bible Study at the LV Sr. Center	26 Office Closed Sale 8 am—4 pm 	27 Sale 8 am—Noon 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron w/ music by Scott Schmitt
28	29	30				

Happy Birthday!

- 1st Cathy Vanderhoff
- 2nd Dawn Gilbert
- 3rd Bill Hixson
- 4th Alec Bloom
- 7th Jacob Cramer
- Cole Brunton
- 9th LJ Neiderhiser
- 10th Marjorie McCarty
- 11th Morgan Glista
- 13th Megan Glista
- 16th Nate Hockenberry
- Nancy Rising
- 20th Betsy Kelly
- 22nd Sadie Hockenberry
- 22nd Chase Weaver
- 23rd Daryle Brown
- 25th Henry Fisher
- Hazel Barth
- 26th Hattie Barth
- 29th Bethanie Orban

Happy Anniversary!

Chuck & Sharon Shaffer, April 3rd
 Bill & Pam Stablein, April 4th
 Jim & Rasi Douglas, April 6th

Regular and Weekly Meetings

Sunday 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Services
 9:40 am Sunday School
 Monday 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study
 Tuesday 7:00 pm Cub Scouts in Fellowship Hall
 Weds 8:00 pm AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall
 Thursday 9:00 am Bible Study at LV Sr. Center
 Friday 8:00 pm AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall
 Saturday 6:00 pm Saturday Night Service