



FAIRGREEN LEAVES - FEBRUARY 2023

From The Pastors Desk...

It was the celebration of the Lunar New Year in Monterey, California. A group of Chinese girls and boys and men and women were celebrating what some of us call the Chinese New Year. Late at night, a 72 year old white man drove his van to the place where people had gathered to celebrate the "Year of the Rabbit". He took an automatic combat weapon with him. He shot and killed 11 Chinese and Asian people.

Once he was caught, the 72 year old shot and killed himself. Then a 67 year old killed 7 Asians in Half Moon Bay.

Our faith tells us we are to embrace and take care of the stranger, not attack him or God forbid kill him. We are told 36 times in the Hebrew Bible alone. Take care of the stranger!

Thousands of Afghan refugees, thousands from Ukraine, thousands from Latin America and thousands from Mexico, our close neighbor, are all stateless sisters and brothers. They seek safety and safe passage to our lands. How you and I respond will likely be the moral and ethical question of our generation.

If you and I turn a blind eye to people needing refuge today, if we are deaf to those needing refuge today, we must understand the Bible and our Savior tell us we have become the antithesis of who we are as human beings. We must understand we have become the opposite of who and what we are called to be.

Whenever you and I ignore the millions who are stateless and in need we directly violate the call of our Savior.

Israeli farmers follow a tradition that is instructive to us. They take fresh produce to the Temple...to their place of worship. And then they declare: "I come to you God, with gifts from this land, remembering my ancestors who wandered". They then close by saying: "Help me God to minister to those who are wandering today".

May you and I never turn a blind eye to people who are "strangers" today. May you and I always embrace those who are in exile wherever they come from. May we minister to these children of God. It is what Jesus Christ calls us to do. Nothing less!

-Pastor Bill

DID YOU KNOW?

February 2023

This past Fall, the Area Office for the Aging had discussions for legislators and local officials to discuss a new form of care program called PACE (Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) to provide other options than assisted living or nursing home care. The program already exists in several Michigan counties and is very successful. Ohio legislature will be looking at it so if you want to see it here, tell your Ohio Congress or Senate representative.

Did you know that you can get free assistance when filing your 2022 taxes from volunteer tax preparers? Your income should be under \$50,000. You can find this help in most public libraries and senior centers.

Did you know you can still get a Golden Buckeye card if you are over 60 or have a disability? You need your driver's license or a state ID to apply, again at most public libraries or senior centers.

Did you know that at www.caring.com you can find a list of the ten best nursing homes in Toledo?

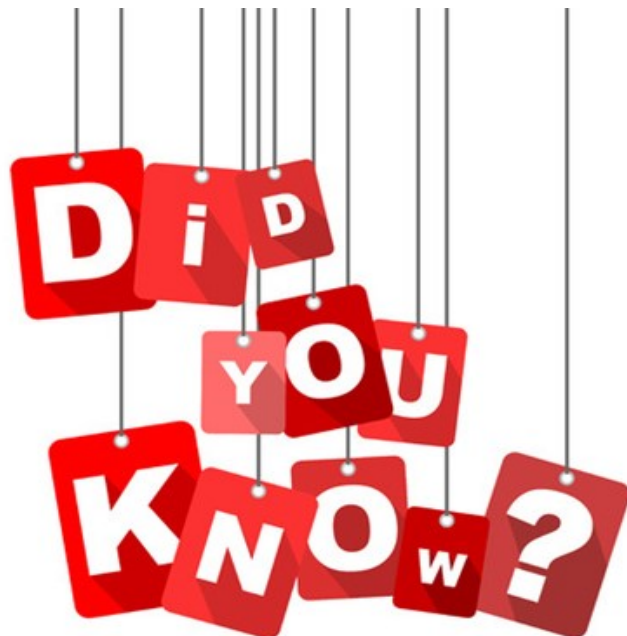
If you live in Monroe county, Michigan, you can find out what services are available for seniors at MCOP Offices, 1140 S. Telegraph Rd.

Did you know that Northwest Ohio Office of the Aging can advise families on care options for elderly relatives?

Did you know that library books are available in large print in libraries in Lucas and Monroe counties?

Sometimes, it pays to stay informed.

Chris Roebuck



From The Congregational Life Committee:



MEDICINE BOTTLES

Congregational Life will be reactivating our mission of accepting medicine bottles and preparing them to be distributed to DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS. The Doctors distribute the used bottles in their travels to help people in other nations.

Bottles will be collected in the narthex on the Welcome Center.

Bottles need to be free of any labels.

We recently collected 500 bottles for our 2022 collection. Thanks for your efforts and support for this mission.

USED EYE GLASSES

We will continue to collect eye glasses and distribute them to the Lions Club located in Temperance, MI.



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!!!

On **Sunday, February 12th** we will have our annual Souper Bowl Sunday.

We will be serving the following soups:

World Famous Chili by Sharon

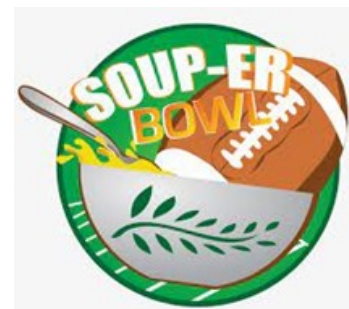
Fairgreen Classic Broccoli/Ham & Cheese Soup by Joyce

All Time Famous Chili by Judy

World Famous Chicken Noodle Soup by Agnes

Nationally Revered White Chicken Chili from Jim Eaton

Bonnie's Famous Cornbread!!



Join us for a hot bowl of soup and bread on a cold winters day!!

Coffee Hour



Welcome to February 2023! Winter is here and it's getting colder outside. Brrr!!! A warm cup of coffee, tea or hot chocolate is so welcoming on a brisk winter morning after being fed the word of God at the 10:00 AM worship service. Please keep in mind that this fellowship only continues when we volunteer to be a host. Open dates follow below, and you can always sign your name on the sign-up sheet posted on the board next to the kitchen window.

Thanks to all who hosted (some more than once) in 2022. How great that we are blessed by one another.

-Marilyn McAfee

February

5 - The Henning Family
12 - Souper Sunday
19 - Alyssa Williams
26 - Chris & Agnes

March

5 -
12 - St. Patrick's Day
19 - The Deal Family
26

April

2 - Palm Sunday Breakfast
9 - Easter
16 -
23 -
30 -



Women's 2023 Retreat

There are different ways in which we talk with and listen to God. I, personally, am getting excited as I put this retreat together! I am learning new ways, which I call "tools", in which to pray and in which to listen. I am also learning what prayer tools Jesus used! Come and reflect upon the familiar and perhaps the new ways the Holy Spirit moves through "Our Toolbox for Prayer" which the Master Carpenter has mentored for us all!

Place: Lial Renewal Center, Davis Road, Whitehouse, Ohio

Date: Saturday, February 25

Time: Gathering 8:30-9:20am with cocoa, coffee, tea and muffins
Retreat 9:30am-3:30pm: including lunch and Holy Communion

Cost: No cost other than bringing an item to share for either our morning gathering or our lunch

Registration: Two Sign-up Sheets will be at the Welcome Center, in the church narthex, on Sunday February 5, 12, and 19. One will be for attending and one for a food item to bring.

There is the option of spending Friday night at the Lial Center. You would be responsible for the cost of the room. There will be no formally planned retreat during this time. If you have an interest, please talk with Pat Gibson by February 19 for details.

Pat Gibson, retreat coordinator



Former Fairgreen Pastor to be Honored

Are you ready for a celebration?

We don't know the date, but we do know it is going to happen!

At the September 7, 2021 Session meeting there was a "Yes!" vote and on December 12, 2021, the Fairgreen congregation voted "Yes" to award former Pastor Pat Shafer the honor of Pastor Emerita. This also has the approval of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry.

As defined in the Book of Order, "when any pastor or associate pastor retires, and the congregation is moved with affection and gratitude to continue an association in an honorary relationship, it may, at a regularly called congregational meeting, elect him or her as pastor emeritus or emerita, with or without honorarium, but with no pastoral authority or duty."

For Pastor Pat, there will be no monetary honorarium and as stated above, she will have no pastoral authority or duty here at Fairgreen. This is strictly an honor given to her.

Elder Pat Gibson, at the 2023 January Session meeting, was asked to be the coordinator of this celebration. At **11:30am, after church on February 26**, you are invited to **gather in the library** to share ideas for this all-church event. Pastor Pat has been contacted and is looking at her calendar, plus considering the weather as she will drive from Victor, New York, for an agreeable date.

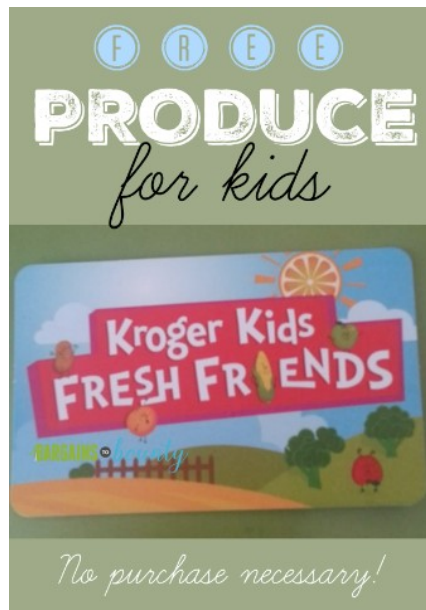
If you cannot meet on February 26th but would like to have input, please contact Pat Gibson in person, via phone or email.



NEWS FROM THE FOOD PANTRY:

Tammy Rober, one of the amazing Fairgreen volunteers, submitted this helpful information. Thanks Tammy!!

The new Kroger Kids Fresh Friends program launched in February at all 127 Michigan Kroger stores. With the program, kids under age 18 receive a free fresh fruit or vegetable item from the produce department every month.



Kroger Kids Fresh Friends: How the program works

1. Kids can **get a Kroger Kids Fresh Friends card** for free from a friendly produce associate. Just ask – they usually carry cards in their apron!
 2. **Select the fresh fruit or vegetable item featured** each month in the produce department. (Look for a Kroger Kids Fresh Friends standing sign showing the qualifying item).
 3. Allergic to the produce item of the month? Kids with food allergies can ask the produce associate for an alternative fruit or vegetable.
 4. The young shopper takes the item to the cashier, who will scan, then check off the back of the Kroger Kids Fresh Friends card showing the child has received the item for that month.
- No purchase is necessary** to receive the monthly Kroger Kids Fresh Friends item!

**Did you know that the FAIRGREEN
FOOD PANTRY FACEBOOK
PAGE has 625 members?**



We have been able to share our Commons with varying youth groups for requested practice time. One recent group was the Westwood Rams Cheerleaders.

The girls won first place in their January competition!

Way to go Rams Cheerleaders!!!



February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Wellness Day 4:15-7pm	3	4 <i>Bill Henning's Memorial @ 11am - Luncheon to follow</i>
5 10am Worship Service	6 Office Closed Wellness Day 5-6:30pm	7 Cong Life Mtg @ 10am Session @ 6:30pm	8	9 Wellness Day 4:15-7pm	10	11
12 10am Worship Service	13 Office Closed Wellness Day 5-6:30pm (canceled)	14	15 Meeting with Youth @ 6:30pm (Matthew 25)	16 Wellness Day 4:15-7pm Worship Committee @ 6:30pm	17	18
19 10am Worship Service MTGB Community Mtg @ 4pm	20 Office Closed Wellness Day 5-6:30pm Conferences—	21 —Preschool—	22 Ash Wednesday *Service TBD	23 Pantry Packing @ 9am Wellness Day 4:15-7pm	24 Food Pantry 4-6pm	25 Women's Retreat @ Lial Center 8:30am- 3:30pm
26 10am Worship Service Pastor Emerita Meeting @ 11:30am	27 Office Closed Wellness Day 5-6:30pm	28				

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dick Schroeder
Tyler Crammond
Marilyn McAfee
Ken Close
Charlene Ravenscraft

February 2
February 12
February 12
February 15
February 15

Judy Stuart
Kaitlyn Scarb.-Jewell
Jodi Methena
Sheila Ortmann
Ilona Leu

February 15
February 16
February 20
February 23
February 26

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Ron & Isabella Wu February 15

*Calendar subject to change

**Fairgreen Presbyterian
Church
3220 Laskey Rd.
Toledo, Ohio 43613
419.475.4436**

**Pastor Bill Dunifon
Senior Pastor, Head of Staff
Cell: 419.205.5037
Email:
wdunifon@gmail.com**

Dr. Mike Roadruck

**Office Hours
Tuesday-Friday
9:00—1:30pm**

**Email:
fairgreen.church@gmail.com**

**Worship Service
10:00am Sunday**

**Website:
fairgreenoutreach.com**



**Fairgreen Preschool
3220 W. Laskey Rd.
Children ages 3, 4 &
Young 5's
For information call:
419.475.5367
Terri Turner, Director**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

