



The Pillars

May 2018



Rev. Karen Burtner Graham

The mission of the New Concord United Methodist Church is to make and develop disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Pastor's Message

During worship on April 8, SPR chairperson Steve Kokovich shared the news that East Ohio Conference Bishop Tracy Malone will be appointing me to Lakeside UMC effective July 1st. I came to NCUMC six years ago, and I have enjoyed and appreciated my pastoral ministry here with you. We've been through much together - a big storm the day I moved in ☺; significant building improvements; several new mission ministries such as Loads of Love, Basket of Love, Friendship Garden, Community Thanksgiving Dinner, UMCOR Flood Buckets and Health Kits; plenty of short-term Bible and Spiritual Growth studies; youth ministry, confirmation, youth annual conference, successful VBS programs, children's church; numerous staff changes; new mission and visions statements; Renovation team's planning process and charge conference 2017 vote to approve proposed Building Renovation Project; weddings; baptisms; funerals. The years have been full. There have been blessings and burdens, celebrations and challenges, ups and downs, accomplishments and disappointments. There are some things started but not completed, and some things that still remain in the planning stages. I trust your new pastor will see the renovation project through to its completion and I look forward to an invitation to the dedication ceremony! I hope for new direction and growth in our children's, youth, and music ministries. I believe that I am leaving with the church in a good place - and am confident God will continue to do creative, caring, and excellent things here with you.

I learned about the possibility of this new appointment on March 5th as I was waiting in JFK airport for my flight to Tel Aviv. I had to keep it to myself for a whole month until I was able to meet with the Lakeside SPR on April 4. So my pilgrimage to the Holy Land had an extra component to it, as I considered what this might mean for me, and for you as a congregation. I thought about Jesus walking around the Sea of Galilee with his disciples and how I, as a disciple of Jesus, was perhaps being called to serve along the shore of Lake Erie. I thought of how God is always bringing about new beginnings in our lives - and that perhaps this was the right timing for such a new beginning. I expect to retire in 6 years - so moving now gives me time to settle in with a new congregation and enjoy another ministry setting. And with many things securely in place here, but also with some exciting things on the horizon - this seems like an okay time for you to move forward with a new pastor, Lisa Kropinak.

My last Sunday with you will be June 24th. A moving truck will show up at the parsonage on June 25th. A lot will happen between now and then. Please know that I treasure my connection with you, and will do all I can to help ease us through this transition. I welcome your prayers - and if any one feels like packing boxes, I won't say no!

Peace be with you,
Pastor Karen

This and That

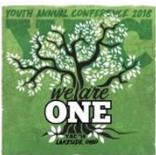
The United Methodist Women's annual **Mother/Daughter Party** will be held **May 3rd at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. If you are a mother or a daughter, feel free to come! Bring your favorite covered dish to share and enjoy the program. Lynn Murrell will be giving the presentation.

Parenting in today's world is not an easy job but when you have a child with any form of special needs it makes parenting even harder. Jennifer Sutphen is working to create a support group to help parents of children with special needs. This group is open to parents with children of any special needs such as ADHD, Opposition Defiant Disorder, Learning Disabilities, Sensory Processing Disorder, OCD, Autism, Physical Disabilities or anything that makes parenting more difficult. The long-term goal of this group is to provide parents with resources to help in their daily challenges and have a support circle of people who understand what they are going through in life. **Parents Helping Parents** will have their first meeting on **Thursday, May 10th at 6:30** in Fellowship Hall and is open to anyone interested. If you have questions you can contact Jennifer Sutphen at 513-518-4887 or jenrose27@hotmail.com.

We will once again be the host church for **John Glenn High School's Baccalaureate**. The service will be held on **May 17th**, starting at 7 p.m. and is open to all graduating seniors and their families, as well as church members. Pastor Tim Pollock of Bloomfield Presbyterian Church will offer the evening message.

Our annual **Music Celebration Sunday** is **May 20th** - the Day of Pentecost!

At the early service (8:30 a.m.) Caleb Rolling will lead our worship - playing music but also sharing God's Word with us. The Hand Bell Choir will perform. At the second service (10:30 a.m.) the Aldersgate Choir and the Children's Choir will join the musical celebration, and Pastor Karen will offer a message. We will praise God for the gift of the Holy Spirit on this Pentecost Sunday, and we will praise God with our voices and musical instruments! Please plan on attending one or both services! **Graduate Recognition** will also take place during our worship on May 20th. There will be a reception in between the two services. Please let the church office know about the high school and college graduates in your family. Thank you!



Youth Annual Conference, held at Lakeside, Ohio is **June 8-10**. Several Confirmation youth are attending, plus Pastor Karen, Ron Lauck, and Mike Bennett. Registration deadline is **May 23rd**. Other youth may attend, but will need to let Pastor Karen know as soon as possible so we can adjust housing arrangements if necessary. The registration fee is covered, but there will be \$40-50 needed per youth for food and other items. Financial assistance is available.

The Addiction Coalition of New Concord has led to several new learning and support opportunities in our community. An AA group meets on Mondays, at 7 p.m. at College Drive Presbyterian Church (upstairs), and a Family and Friends Support Group meets there Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in room by sanctuary. Each group is open to new participants. Another opportunity will occur **May 30th** here at our church, as a session of the **Bridges Out of Poverty** training will be offered from 6:30-9:30 p.m. This training is for all interested church and community members to learn more about the challenges/needs/culture of those in our area who live in poverty. It will help us in our attitudes and responses and outreach. The training is free - materials are provided by Muskingum Behavioral Health Services. Our trainer will be Sherri Buehl. Please contact the church office to make a reservation by **May 23rd**. Refreshments will be available.

College Scholarship Application forms are available in the church office. Please return them by **May 31st**. Scholarships will be awarded in early August.

From EOC Bishop Tracy Malone and Southern Hills District Superintendent Rev. Gail Angel: Thank you for giving faithfully. We paid 100% of our Shared Ministry Apportionments in 2017!

Mission Giving in May

*Green up our **Giving Tree!** Put money in a green bag and attach it to the tree in the Overflow Room. This money supports our **Good Samaritan Fund**, which is used to provide assistance to local individuals/families.

*Buy supplies for UMCOR's Personal **Hygiene Kits**. Plastic bags with a list of needed items and instructions will be available mid-May -and will need to be turned in by Sunday, June 3rd. They will be taken up to Lakeside, Ohio during Annual Conference and put on UMCOR's Mid-West Distribution Center truck. Our goal is 100 bags!



Our Church Family

Belated congratulations to Doug and Amy German on the birth of their grand-daughter, Bella Sue German. She was born on March 12th to Tyler and Carly German.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to Bob Clevenger and family on the death of his wife, Norma. Norma died April 23rd, and her funeral service was held at the church on April 28th.

Norma served faithfully as our church secretary for many years, and was an active member of United Methodist Women, the J.O.Y. Sunday School Class, as well as other church committees and groups. She is greatly missed, and we pray God's comforting presence to be with her loved ones.

New Pastor in July



Effective July 1, 2018 East Ohio Conference Bishop Tracy Malone is appointing **Rev. Lisa Kropinak** to New Concord UMC. Lisa comes to us from York UMC, where she has served since 2014. Other prior appointments/ministry experience include: pastor of Nelson and Windham UMC; youth director at Brecksville UMC; and youth director at St. John's UCC in Elkhart, IN. She is a graduate of Allegheny College and Ashland Theological Seminary. She was ordained as a full elder in the East Ohio Conference in 2016. She has received training in Christian formation and spiritual growth, Tentmaker Youth Ministry, and social media. She enjoys preaching, mission involvement and leadership, administration, and pastoral care. Pastor Lisa and her husband Tony have a 7-year-old daughter, Adalyn. They will be moving to New Concord the last week of June. So keep Pastor Lisa, her family, and the

York congregation in your prayers during their time of transition. And be ready to offer the Kropinak family a warm and friendly welcome!

May 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 1 Timothy 6:11-12	2 Psalm 98 5 Children's Choir 6 Hand Bells 7 Yoga	3 Acts 10:44-48 6:30 Mother Daughter Party 7:30 Aldersgate	4 1 John 5:1-6	5 John 15:9-17 10-5 Private Party - FH
6 Psalm 93 Holy Communion 3 Confirmation Trustee on call: Torie Briggs	7 Deut. 11:1-21 7 Boy Scouts	8 1 Timothy 6:13- 6:30 Lions' Club 7 Missions	9 Psalm 47 5 Children's Choir 6 Hand Bells 7 Yoga	10 Acts 1:1-11 6:30 Parents Helping Parents Support Group 7:30 Aldersgate	11 Ephesians 1:15-	12 Luke 24:44-53
13 Psalm 1 Trustee on call: Greg Gerlach	14 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 7 Boy Scouts	15 Rev. 1:9-18 7 Trustees	16 Psalm 104:24- 35b 5 Children's Choir 6 Hand Bells 7 Yoga	17 Acts 2:1-21 7 Baccalaureate 7:30 Aldersgate	18 Romans 8:22-27	19 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
20 Psalm 33:12-22 Music Sunday 3 Confirmation Trustee on call: Tammi DeMattio	21 Ezekiel 37:1-14 7 Boy Scouts	22 1 Cor. 12:12-27 6:30 Lions' Club	23 Psalm 29 7 Yoga	24 Isaiah 6:1-8	25 Romans 8:12-	26 John 3:1-17 9-2: Private Party - FH
27 Psalm 20 Trustee on call: Collin Linnabary	28 Exodus 25:1-22 Office Closed 7 Boy Scouts	29 2 Peter 1:1-11	30 Psalm 103:1-13, 6:30 Bridges Out of Poverty	31 Hosea 2:14-20		

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

May 1: Kristen Barr
Hudson Sutphen
May 3: Nathaniel Bennett
Lewis Coleman
Rachel Richards
May 5: Shannon Young
May 6: Thelma Mitchell
May 7: Brenda Dalrymple
May 9: Adam Cook
Amy Hudson
May 14: Jeff Hayes
Joann Johnson
May 15: Brelynn Barr
Linda Morrow
May 16: Tom Honkus
Sydney Richards
May 18: Terry Requardt
May 20: Phyllis Fisher
May 24: Brent Riggle
May 25: Samantha Read
Jenna St. Clair
May 26: Scott Karling
May 28: Eugene Yocum
May 29: Torie Briggs
May 30: Doug German
Jordan Richards
Patricia Taylor
May 31: Barry Wisniewski



© wondercliparts.com

May 3: Jim & Carolyn Blackwood
May 11: Phillip & Sherry Jirles
May 15: Terry & Gail Requardt
May 18: Larry & Joyce Girod
May 19: Barry & Lois Wisniewski

We are still mailing a lot of Pillars! If you would like to receive it by email, please email the church office ncumcoffice@frontier.com or call Corey at 740-826-4617.

Benefits to receiving it by email: you get it before the beginning of the month, you will be helping us save postage and paper, you have access to any hyperlinks and you get it in full color!



There are still dates available for the Mission Candle!



We light the Mission Candle in Memory or Honor of someone we love. Stop in the church office to sign-up and leave your \$10 donation.

Sunday Services

8:30 Contemporary Worship Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:30 Traditional Worship Service

Office Hours

Monday-Friday
9:00 - 3:00

Office Staff

Rev. Karen Burtner Graham, Pastor
Mrs. Corey Elliott, Secretary
Mrs. Chris White, Treasurer

*Please have articles in by
May 21st

For the next issue of *The Pillars*

Karen's Office Hours

Monday- Thursday 10:00 - 2:00
Monday - Thursday afternoon/evenings
visiting, office appointments as
needed, meetings
Fridays - Day off
Saturday - Working at home, available by
appointment

Contact US

Phone - 740-826-4617

Fax - 740-826-2131

Email - ncumcoffice@frontier.com

Rev. Karen's email - revkncumc@frontier.com

www.newconcordumc.org

www.facebook.com/NCUMC20



New Concord United Methodist Church
20 East High Street
New Concord, Ohio 43762
740-826-4617