



East Columbus United Methodist Church

A Church for Everyone!

APRIL 2024





Easter Is Coming

May the peace of God be with you always.

Easter is coming.

The long winter tends to shrink our hearts. Back when I ministered to international students, winter was the toughest season. The gloomy weather and the cold made many students struggle with depression. Being far away from family added to their loneliness, making studying even more challenging. Therefore, during the winter, it was crucial to care for their hearts and provide counseling. But eventually, winter passed, and spring always came. With the warm spring and sunny summer, students' hearts brightened, and joy was evident. It might always feel like winter, but spring is always coming.

Easter is coming.

During Holy Week, Jesus' journey was agonizing. After sharing the Last Supper with his disciples, he washed their feet. But one disciple there would betray him. Soon, Roman soldiers would arrest Jesus, causing his disciples to flee. The cries of "Hosanna, Son of David" from the Israelites would soon turn into shouts of "Crucify him." Jesus would be whipped by Roman soldiers, his body torn apart. By Friday, Jesus would carry the cross up Golgotha hill and be crucified there. In that painful moment, he might have wanted to come down from the cross. But in the end, Jesus accepted his death and obeyed God's will. Jesus would be buried in a tomb. But death is not the end; resurrection is coming. It may seem like death will triumph, but it won't. Resurrection is always coming.

Easter is coming.

There are many moments of suffering in our lives, too. Living for Jesus sometimes means persecution. Keeping the faith is challenging. People may think going to church is foolish. Sometimes, honesty leads to losses. We show kindness with love, but sometimes it returns as criticism. Some become poor for the sake of the Lord, and others give up their possessions to go on missions. Our lives may always seem painful, but heaven will come. This life is not the end; heaven is always coming.

Yes, my beloved friends! Easter is coming!

In the Love of Christ,
Pastor **Jongmin**



*A Note
from
Terry Snyder*

I have read recently of churches in different cities, who seem to be experiencing a special move of God: Increased attendance, baptisms and so forth. How I pray that we experience a renewal personally, and the church sees people without the Lord (or who have forgotten Him) come to Him.

People tend to want to put God and the Holy Spirit (and Christians for that matter) in a box. We tend to think God and the Holy Spirit always work a certain way (often being what we are used to, or how we are most comfortable). I think about Christ healing the blind in the Bible. He didn't do it the same way. Was He doing what made the receiver comfortable, taking them out of their comfort zone because they needed it, or was He just refusing to be put in a box? Regardless, He did different things to get the same result.

Some churches feel people who do not speak in tongues are not filled with the Holy Spirit. I have yet to figure out where it states that Biblically as a requirement. Charles Stanley was interviewed once and said although He had never spoken in tongues, that he knew the Holy Spirit was in him.

Some think whooping and hollering, running the aisles, and so forth is the way Christians should be. I understand how God can touch a person in a way that they can't contain their joy. The danger lies in thinking those who do not have that experience are dead spiritually. But it is also dangerous to think that those who are doing so are faking it or behaving other than how a "good Christian" should behave in church. **I would hate to have missed God's voice in not responding as He wants, or scolding or stopping someone else who was lead to do so in a certain way because it wasn't my way, made me uncomfortable, didn't fit the bulletin, or because I misjudged their motives.**

Others think that sitting quietly and listening to the still small voice is the way the Holy Spirit works. (and sometimes He does.) There can be sweet moments where the Holy Spirit touches us in a way where we may weep, or feel God's presence trickling down our bodies.

I have seen some who think that planning a service is taking the life out, and doing our own thing. They feel that people should walk in unprepared, and let God move and direct right on the spot. While God can tell us during the service to do or say a particular thing, I have also seen times where the service was chaos because people didn't prepare. I don't see God planning chaos for a worship service. **God can just as easily tell people what to do days (or weeks) before a service, and be in the planning, instead of waiting until the service and the last minute to direct us. (God may do so to make sure we are listening, or to see our willingness to walk away from our plans. That, or we missed His voice the first time).**

On the opposite side, there have sadly been some who plan God out of a service. **God may want to go a certain way, and people are too set in their planned order, comfort, traditions etc. to do what God is directing to do.** They may have everything planned out to the second, and refuse to budge.

The way I have felt (even before being on staff) is to be open to however God directs us and others individually to worship. Want to whoop and holler? If it is sincere and not an attempt to make ourselves look holy (and God is the one who decides that, not us by how it may look), go for it. Want to raise your hands while you have tears in your eyes? The same answer. I hope that you all feel the freedom to worship however you feel directed, regardless of whether you are experiencing different than your neighbor or anyone else. I also don't want people to not listen to God because of "what people might think", embarrassment, wanting to stay safely in our comfort zones, etc.

As for the service, we try to plan to the best of our abilities and wisdom, hoping we are sensitive to God's voice, and pray we are heeding God's direction. There have been times at service (before slides during it all) that I felt led during the sermon to change the last song, and I did. My prayer is that we hear and heed God's voice while worshiping, planning, or leading service. **Help us not to be so set in our ways, or stuck in our comfort zones that we miss God, or a move of God.**

HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL

Troop 549



April 6-8 Solar Eclipse Camporee Maumee Scout Reservation

March 22-24 We were scheduled to go to Mammoth cave. This trip had to be postponed because of a lack of available campgrounds. Hopefully we can reschedule this in the future.

March 22-24 Maumee Scout Reservation was our replacement location for campout in March. We had a lot of things planned to teach the boys. Many need to go on a 5-mile hike to satisfy a requirement. There was practice building fires, tying knots, first aid, knife, ax and hatchet safety taught.

April 6-8 Solar Eclipse Camporee will be held at Maumee Scout Reservation. This should be a lot of fun. They have 6 stations set up around the event for the eclipse that will have them make a pinhole camera, finding time and direction during the day, making sun prints, fire building challenge, solar cooking demonstration, solar eclipse geometry and safety. There will also be other events like fishing competitions, hiking opportunities, cooking competitions, and many others. This should be an event they will tell their grandkids about.

April 13 The troop will be helping our Charter Organization the Columbus Amateur Radio Club at North High School Cafeteria to set up and sell food at their yearly Ham Fest. This is the largest fundraiser for the radio club. The scouts have a lot of fun looking at all the cool electrical equipment. I also help the radio club with testing of new amateur radio users so they can get a new license or upgrade their current license. This event is a lot of fun and the time is 8am to 12 pm. Admission is \$5 at the door.

April 16 is our annual Phi Beta PSI Fundraiser at the Commons Mall. This event happens twice a year. It is to raise money for breast cancer. They sold out 450 seats in 20 minutes this spring. We will be serving food before and during their break. This is a great event for everyone and supports a much-needed cause. I have a personal scouting friend that has been going through this since January. She is having chemo treatment now. Belinda and I both have had relatives pass away from this terrible cancer.

If you know any boys that are interested in scouting the door is always open for their visit on our scout nights. Please feel free to pass my contact information to anyone interested in visiting or joining our troop. Boys ages need to be 11 years old to join and less than 18. Meeting time Thursday is at 6:30 – 8:00 at the Youth Center.

Bruce McIntosh, Scoutmaster
812-374-9009
brucemcintoshbsa@yahoo.com



Happy Spring, East Columbus!

If you're under the age of 40, Google the commercial and the joke will make more sense ... LOL

One morning a grandma was surprised to find that her 7 year old grandson had made her morning coffee.

Smiling she choked down every drop! When finished, she found 3 green Army men in the bottom on the cup.

Puzzled, she asked, "Sweetie, what's with the Army men in my coffee cup?"

Her grandson answered, "Like it says on TV, Grandma ... The best part of waking up is the SOLDIERS in your cup!!"

Two lessons here –

Children are paying attention to a lot more than you realize ... don't let them down!

Instead of starting your day with "SOLDIERS" (for those of you too young to remember the commercial ... soldiers a/k/a Folgers) in your cup, try adding a good, heaping spoonful of GOD in your cup! That will really start your day off on the right foot!

Sharing the love of Jesus and a smile to brighten your day!!

Grins and giggles Timothy



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10-11am Prayer Hour	3 6pm-Choir	4 6:30pm-Scouts	5	6
7 Communion 9am Worship 10:10 Sunday School	8  Solar Eclipse Office Closed BCSC Closed	9 10-11am Prayer Hour	10 6pm-Choir	11 6:30pm-Scouts	12	7
14 9am Worship 10:10 - Sunday School 5pm - Grace's Table	15	16 10-11am Prayer Hour	17 6pm- Choir	18 6:30pm-Scouts	19	20
21 9am-Worship 10:10-Sun School	22	23 10-11am Prayer Hour	24 6pm-Choir	25 6:30pm-Scouts	26	27
28 9am - Worship 10:10 - Sunday School	29	30 10-11am Prayer Hour				



April 2..Donita Barringer
 Sharon Brown
 Sharon Wheeler-Elkins
 April 11.. Barry Turnbow
 April 12..Jim Kamp
 April 18..Glenda Henry
 April 20..Esther Kim-Lee
 April 22..Mary Alice Lanham
 Collis Mayfield
 April 27..Joel Mattern
 April 29..Carolyn Harris
 Pastor Jongmin Lee

News



From the Mail Box...

Dear East Columbus United Methodist Church Staff

I am writing on behalf of CKA to express our sincere gratitude for allowing us to use your church building for our CKA Lunar New Year's Day on Feb. 10.

Your generosity and kindness in providing us with such a beautiful and spacious venue made our event a huge success. We were able to accommodate all of our guests comfortably and provide them with a memorable experience.

We are truly grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

Jongchan Lee from CKA
(Columbus Korean Association.)

THE PERKS OF GIVING

Although National Volunteer Week is officially observed in April, every week thousands of volunteers help people in need. As volunteers can attest, sharing one's time and talents leads to many intangible benefits.

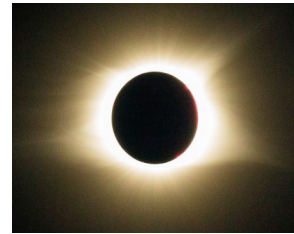
New research shows that volunteering and giving also provide physical and emotional advantages. Givers report an improved sense of well-being, lower stress levels, better physical health, an enriched sense of purpose in life and increased happiness.

As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "It is one of the beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely help another without helping himself."

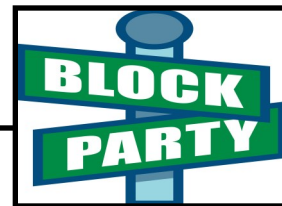
Here's what's
happening!

Tuesday Hour of Prayer Time, 10-11am in the Sanctuary. Join us for an hour of quiet prayer time. Please enter through the Elevator Door or the Glass Doors near the office.

Grace's Table Free Meal, Sunday, April 14, at 5pm in the Youth Center.



On April 8, much of North America will experience a Solar eclipse. A cosmic alignment of sun, moon and earth, in that order. The moon's shadow path will make land fall on Mexico's Pacific coast, across the US from Texas to Maine. **It is important to wear protective eye gear, such as solar eclipse glasses as you view the eclipse.**



Annual Block Party will be held Saturday, May 18, 11 am -2 pm. Free food, activities for kids, music and more! Local Service Providers will have information on programs available in our community. Invite your friends, family and neighbors.

Watch for more info to follow.



East Columbus United Methodist Church
2439 Indiana Avenue, Columbus IN 47201

Return Service Requested

Jongmin Lee, Senior Minister
Angie Sherfick, Adm. Assistant
Terry Snyder, Music Director

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Pastor Email: jongmin.lee@inumc.org
Worship Director Email: music@eastcolumbusumc.org
Church Website: www.eastcolumbusumc.org

9:00 am - Worship Service
10:10am - Sunday School

OUR CHURCH MISSION
Growing the Family of God by Making
Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.