



# OHIO UNITED

*Presbyterian Church*

April 19 through April 25, 2026



Each year, as winter loosens its grip and the first signs of spring begin to emerge, we are reminded of God's promise in Isaiah: "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland?" (Isaiah 43:19). Isaiah 43:19 is a promise of divine restoration and transformation, encouraging believers to stop dwelling on past mistakes or previous limitations and focus on the new, unexpected blessing God is creating. The world around us becomes a living testimony to renewal—bare branches bud, flowers push through the soil, and the days grow warmer and brighter. It is a season that invites us to open our eyes and hearts to the new things God is doing.

For us as Christians, this promise of newness is most fully revealed in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. What seemed like the end on Good Friday became the greatest new beginning the world has ever known. Through His death and rising from the dead, Jesus conquered sin and death, offering us forgiveness, hope, and new life. As we celebrate Easter, we are reminded that we are a people of hope. In Christ, we are not bound by what has been, we are invited into what can be.

Spring, then, is more than just a change of seasons, it is a spiritual invitation. It nudges us to notice where God is bringing fresh growth in our own lives. Where might God be calling you to begin again? Perhaps this is the season to try something new, a hobby you've always been curious about, a new recipe to share with loved ones, or even a new way to care for your body through a sport or daily walk. Maybe it's attending a local festival, joining a small group, or reaching out to someone you haven't connected with in a while. These simple steps can open doors to joy, connection, and unexpected blessings.

As a church family, we, too, find ourselves in a season of new beginnings. Our search for a new pastor is not just a process; it is an opportunity to trust that God is already at work preparing the right person to lead and walk alongside us. While times of transition can bring uncertainty, they are also fertile grounds for growth, renewal, and deeper faith. God is doing a new thing in our congregation, and we are invited to perceive it, to participate in it, and to be open to where the Spirit is leading.

This spring, let us be attentive to the signs of new life all around us and within us. Let us celebrate the risen Christ, who makes all things new, and step forward in faith with hopeful hearts. Whether through small personal changes or as we journey together as a church, may we embrace this season with courage and expectation, trusting that God's new thing is already springing up among us.



## Worship

- Sunday School for children 3yr.-6th grade is during worship after the children's chat
- Adult Sunday School is at 9am
- 73 in church on April 12
- Communion is on May 3

## Congregational Care

- Story Time continues on Wednesdays at 9:30 or 10:30am
- Deborah Circle meets on April 20 at 6:30pm
- Women's Association meets on May 5 at 6:30. All women are welcome

## Mission

## Operations

**Saturday, May 2 is Spring Clean up Day starting at 9am—Big and small jobs and there will be donuts!!**  
Monday May 4 is the property Meeting at 6:30pm

**VBS Craft Items Needed:** Pop/soda twist off bottle caps  
CDs or DVDs  
Marbles  
Empty toilet paper rolls  
Empty paper towel rolls

There will be a box in the Narthex for the donations.

# Church FAMILY —PRAYER LIST—



- Diane Gennaro—Thankful that Donna Olexick was in church on Sunday
- Pastor Jim—Thankful to see Cheryl Lachowicz in church on Sunday
- Dawn Psik—My sister Susan is having an ECHO then immunotherapy; 11 treatments Continued prayers
- Kenny Jones—Prayers for mother-in-law who is out of ICU and into cardiac care
- Monica Ward—Thankful for all the help around the church
- Pastor Jim—Prayers for my sister who had a heart procedure on Monday.
- Corinna Petrella—Brother-in-law Steve had a stroke; now he is in Encompass Health in Sewickley. Prayers for healing
- Kathy Lee Tolfa—My mother, Shirley passed this weekend also a cousin. Prayers of comfort and peace for family.



<b>Anniversaries</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>
<b>Michael &amp; Crystal Saxon 04/13</b>	<b>Holly Diccico 04/01</b>	<b>Evelyn Lawson 04/09</b>	<b>Donna Olexick 04/18</b>
<b>Denise &amp; Chris Mathias 04/25</b>	<b>Ivonne Holsinger 04/01</b>	<b>Logan Palochak 04/09</b>	<b>Hannah Lanctot 04/20</b>
<b>Kenneth &amp; Patti Strominger 04/30</b>	<b>Jeff Davis 04/02</b>	<b>Doug Murdoch 04/11</b>	<b>Jim Williams 04/20</b>
	<b>Jason Cagnon 04/09</b>	<b>Denise Mathias 04/16</b>	<b>Paul Magee 04/27</b>





**Save the Date!**

# **VBS**

**@ Ohio United Presbyterian Church  
June 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-12pm**

**4yrs-finishng 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
Sign-Up coming soon!**

**(Contact Casey Honess – [casey.honess@gmail.com](mailto:casey.honess@gmail.com)  
or the church office if you would like to volunteer!)**

# **The Gift of Showing Up**

**The bible speaks of many gifts,  
Which each of us received.  
And they were given selectively,  
To all of those who have believed.**

**Some have the gift of singing,  
Some have instruments they can play,  
Others have the gift of sharing,  
Things that God gives them to say.**

**These gifts are sent to help us grow,  
And help others to understand,  
That they too have a special gift,  
That God himself has planned.**

**When we accepted Christ He gave them,  
That we might encourage others,  
And He placed us on a special team,  
Of Christian Sisters and Brothers.**

**This team needs every single member,  
To reach the goals that God has set,  
And it becomes much harder to advance,  
When some members haven't shown up yet.**

**These Gifts are all of equal importance  
But Showing up is a very special gift,  
Because it gives inspiration to the team,  
And gives the entire team a lift.**

**If you are not sure of your gift,  
And you long for blessings to fill your cup,  
Just watch the team around you,  
The moment that you show up.**

**Gil Plants**