

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	MYF	5:30 P.M.
Monday	AA	8:00-9:00 P.M.
	Community Dinner	5:00-6:30 P.M.
	Al-Anon	7:00-8:00 P.M.
Wednesday	First Kids	3:15-6:30 P.M.
Thursday	Kiwanis	11:00-12:00 P.M.
	Bible Study	11:00-12:00 P.M.
	Bible Study	6:30-7:30 P.M.
Sunday	Worship	10:30 A.M.

10:30 a.m. Attendance (76 in person , 102 online)
 General Operating Offering: \$2752.30
 Trustees Preservation Maintenance Fund
 Balance: \$1,739.38

QR Code at right will open the
 online giving link



SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Greeters	Ushers	Liturgist
Ruth Brown	Jonathan Harris	Stacey Oakley Swartz
Bob Brown	Mike Roberts	
	Ric Thorpe	

The Altar flowers are provided by Marcia Rinner in memory of Mom and Pete's birthday on Feb. 20th

Other Ministries: Campus Crusade for Christ/Athletes in Action
 Mark and Mindy Heflin, Ohio University

We welcome each one of you to this special place of worship. We are glad you are here. If you are here for the first time, stop by our Welcome Table in the Rotunda. Ask an usher for coloring books and crayons for busy little hands. Prayer request cards are available on the back of the pews and can be left in the Offering Box as you leave. We hope you feel the love of Jesus and this congregation and will return again to join us soon.

Prayer Requests
Health Concerns

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Stacey Oakley-Swartz | Carl Veith |
| Babetta Thornhill | Chuck Ruppert |
| Ben Kenny | Grace Horning |
| Teri Wade | Meda Kovacik |
| Dale Hildreth | John Horrigan |
| Kennedy Krueger | |



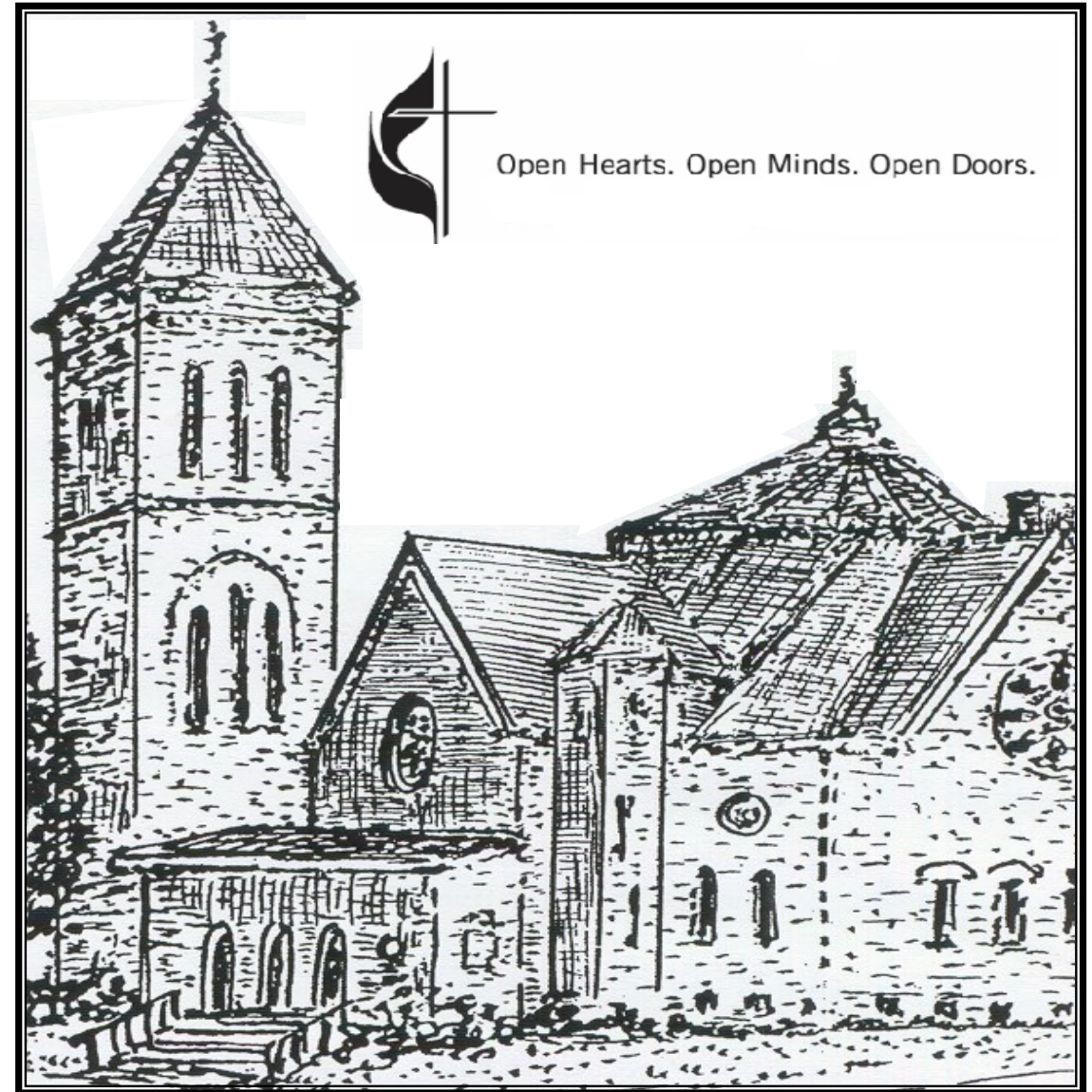
Comfort and Peace

The family of Brian Schnellinger who passed away Monday, Feb. 12. Brian's sister is Kay Fletcher.

In both difficult times and times of celebration and joy we believe in the power of prayer. Please let us know how we can be praying for you.

Our Armed Forces

- SSgt. Brandon Alley
- HM3 Maddie Kirk
- Airman Sam Freeman
- AB Anah Freeman
- Airman Alexandria Koch
- CPL Keegan Livingston
- SGT Robert Jackson
- CMSgt. Ralph Chandler
- Sgt. Joshua Arnett
- NC Carter James Beck
- William Lee - Citadel
- Spec. Mark Heflin



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

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Norwalk First United Methodist Church

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

February 18, 2024 / 1st Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Rev. Ed Kovacik

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (red) / FWS = The Faith We Sing (black soft cover)

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE "Take Time to Be Holy" Tiina Ruffing

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP Stacey Oakley Swartz, Liturgist
written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, Sept. 2023

Leader - Lenten travelers, when you feel the security of God's love, affirmation of God's call, and covered in God's grace....

People - God comes near.

Leader - When you feel deserted and alone, starving and parched for a caring hand or an encouraging word, troubled and uncertain as the ground under you shifts like sand....

People - God comes near.

Leader - When you feel emboldened to act, inspired to speak, energized to live as bearers of the good news that the Kingdom of God is here....

People - God comes near.

Leader - In all seasons of our lives, God comes near to us and does not forsake us.

People - We gather to come near to God whose ever-present love remains near no matter where our journey takes us. Amen.

*OPENING PRAYER

*Hymn "Hope of the World" UMH 178

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*We stand to praise God as we are able.

TOGETHER WE THRIVE "BEING FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE" BOB GENTZEL

*SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 1:9-15 Stacey Oakley Swartz, Liturgist

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE: "The Wilderness"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Doxology UMH 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Offertory Prayer

*Hymn "Spirit Song" UMH 347

*BENEDICTION

NOTES

From Amy and Scott-Thank you very much to all who donated items for our care packages. We were able to fill 8 boxes to send to our college students and younger service members! The teens at MYF wrote cards for each recipient and had a good time packing the boxes. They were loaded with good stuff thanks to your generosity.