

# THE SEBRING CHRISTIAN FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

April, 2021

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THANK YOU!

I am going to dramatically change my approach for this section now. It has been a revelation to me that we do not thank people enough thus the following:

We, the congregation of the Leaning Cross, thank Johnny and Helen Kelly for all they do. Just look around and you can see their touches everywhere. Helen has served as Board Chair most recently but has also held other board positions as well. She is the one that prepares and prints the bulletins, newsletters, prepared the mailings, and handles much of the email. She counts and deposits the collections and submits reports and documents we need to be a congregation. You have likely heard her voice as she is the happy voice that answers the phone. She keeps up with many of the recordkeeping tasks we have and a whole lot more. The “whole lot more” is not only in the office but also everywhere else. She has been operating the computer that displays the slides for worship. This has involved learning a new computer program or two so you have a quality service on Sunday morning. She fills in at the soundboard and often ends up doing both the computer and soundboard. Many Sunday mornings I find her at the small kitchen preparing communion. One of her biggest jobs is assisting Johnny, but more about that in a minute. Helen also keeps up with so many things and has been an invaluable help to me as Pastor.

Now for Johnny. What can we say about Johnny? He has been property chairman for many years. Something needs fixed and Johnny gets it done. The most recent big project was redoing the prayer room. Many of you have not seen it, but I would invite you to take a look. Other projects, with some help from Ross Fadely, were trenching a line from the office building to the sanctuary for our Sunday services. Now we have good connections for streaming our services. Johnny has done all of the plumbing and electrical work along with a lot of the re-construction. This has included wiring the kitchen, outside receptacles, and fixing lights and problems. He put in a new toilet and has maintained the bathrooms from walls and valves to paper dispensers. He has tackled the termite problems in several areas of the sanctuary from the front to the rear and then found a way to replace the carpet.

Pastor Alan

April Projected Days in the office: 6, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28.

## CHOIR NEWS



(April 2021)

Okay choir, I need you to help me out! Would you like to try coming back to sing starting in May? We would need a few rehearsals before we could sing in church, and you would need to have your Covid vaccine shot. I have had my first one. I know others who have had theirs but not everyone has and I know of one person that can't get it at all. So, we would wear masks coming in and out of the choir room but not when we're singing. First the board has to vote on it to allow us to do that. If they vote yes, I need to know who is interested. It would be a "come at your own risk" kind of thing. And we would wear masks in church except for the choir loft. Please email me, text me or call and let me know how you feel.

Keep in Tune,

### A JOYFUL NOISE

I have some new music for quintets that we can use soon. We still need to work with masks on. Let me know if you're interested in getting the chime choir back into operation or feel we should wait. We are still doing small groups and that will continue.

For Whom The Bell Tolls,

Jaquae

## OUTREACH



generously.

The Disciples of Christ organization has an outreach program where offerings are accepted several times a year. We just completed our Week of Compassion. The Easter Offering taken this year will go to help feed the hungry, provide clean water, etc. around the world. Please prayerfully consider this program and give

\* \* \*

"Easter is more than a day, an event, a remembrance. It is a way of life." *Michael Marsh*

## Special dates

- Maundy Thursday, *April 1, 2021*
- Good Friday, *April 2, 2021*
- Easter Sunday, *April 4, 2021*
- *Church Rummage Sale April 24*

## HOLY HILARITY!

More churches lately have been resurrecting (pardon the pun!) the early-church tradition of celebrating the second Sunday of Easter as Holy Humor Sunday, affirming the season's joy.

Easter is the only time when it's perfectly safe to put all your eggs in one basket.

Knock Knock. *Who's there?* Hatch. *Hatch who?* God bless you!

What should you do after eating so many Easter treats? *Eggs-ercise!*

Why shouldn't you tell an Easter egg a joke? *It might crack up!*

An irate subscriber called the newspaper, demanding to know where her Sunday edition was. "Ma'am," said the employee, "today is Saturday. The Sunday paper isn't delivered until Sunday." After a brief pause, the caller spoke with a ray of recognition: "So *that's* why no one was in church today."

Forgiveness is the well from which we draw the water to wash others' feet." —D. Siler

## REMEMBERING DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

The Christian church commemorates Dietrich Bonhoeffer — pastor, theologian, anti-Nazi spy — on April 9, the anniversary of his 1945 martyrdom. Among his much-loved writings are nuggets of wisdom such as these:

“Judging others makes us blind, whereas love is illuminating. By judging others we blind ourselves to our own evil and to the grace which others are just as entitled to as we are.” (*The Cost of Discipleship*)

“In normal life we hardly realize how much more we receive than we give, and life cannot be rich without such gratitude. It is so easy to overestimate the importance of our own achievements compared with what we owe to the help of others.” (*Letters and Papers from Prison*)

“The table fellowship of Christians implies obligation. It is our daily bread that we eat, not my own. We share our bread. Thus we are firmly bound to one another not only in the Spirit but in our whole physical being. The one bread that is given to our fellowship links us together in a firm covenant.” (*Life Together*)

Forgiveness is the well from which we draw the water to wash others’ feet.” —D. Siler

The very first Easter taught us this: that life never ends and love never dies.” — Kate McGahan

### CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

The church will hold its annual rummage sale on April 24. This is later than usual but let’s do it anyway. Deadline for bringing in **clean** items is Monday, April 19. Volunteers are needed to sort and size the items. We can start this any time. The church is open from 9-11 each Monday

& Tuesday & Wednesday. If you would like to work at a different time, let me know and I'll open the church. Due to the Covid and room space, I suggest no more than 5 people at a time. I have agreed to chair the event but I will admit I cannot be on my feet for a great length of time so need many volunteers. Remember we also will need workers the day of the sale too. I'm guessing that we have 50+ members. If only 25 of you will volunteer, it will be many hands make light work. Thanks. Sue Colwell 402-4687

### **DID YOU KNOW THAT:**

- .Psalms 118 is the middle chapter of the entire Bible?***
- . Psalm 117 before Psalm 118 is the shortest chapter in the Bible?***
- . Psalms 119, after Psalm 118 is the longest chapter in the Bible?***
- .There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118 and 594 chapters after Psalm 118?***
- .If you add all the chapters before Psalm 118 and all the chapters after Psalms 118, you get a total of 1188 chapters?***
- .1188 or Psalms 118:8 is the middle verse of all the Bible?***
- . Should the central verse of the Bible not have an important message?***
- . "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man!"***



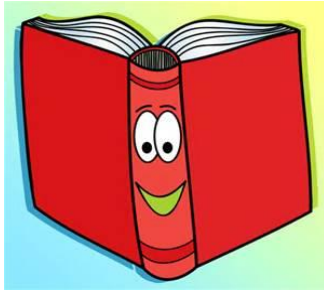
### **BIRTHDAYS**

**April 2** Ross Fadely  
**April 8** Pauline Kincaid  
**April 11** Amanda Swank  
**April 11** Judi Stutzman  
**April 30** Roger Sands

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

**April 10** Mark & Heidi Mclary  
**April 13** Keith & Sherry Kunsak  
**April 23** Todd & Robin Martin

# BOOK CLUB



We finish in April with "River of Life" by Kathleen Y'Barbo. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> book in the Secrets of Wayfarers Inn series by Guideposts.

We are back in Marietta, Ohio with three close friends, Tess, Janice and LuAnn who bought an Inn and are fixing it up. They get into another mystery when an old quilt is found in a trunk in one of the secret rooms that used to house runaway slaves. The River Of Life quilt has just been stolen from the National Archives.....so could this be the missing quilt? Nobody is beyond suspicion including the 3 friends themselves!!! Can they prove they weren't behind the quilt's theft? Each person they talk to in town seems to have some kind of connection with the Inn and possibly with the quilt. What connection does the quilt have with the Underground Railroad? If you enjoy a good mystery, you'll enjoy this book!

Our next book is "King's Shadow" by Angela Hunt. Two women occupy a place in Herod's court. Salome, the Kings only sister, is a resentful woman, who has been told she is from an inferior race that God will never accept or approve. Zara is her handmaid and sees hurting people in need of understanding and compassion. Powerful and powerless, Idumean and Jew, selfish and selfless, both women struggle to reach their goals and survive in Herod's court, where no one is trustworthy and no one is safe.

Please join us!! We meet at 4:00 pm in the church library the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

Please read:

April 6, 2021 Read Chapters 19 to 24, pg. 201 – 270 to finish the book.

April 20, 2021 We will read the first part of King's Shadow, to be determined.

Submitted by Jaquae L. Sands, 382-3428

Music and worship go hand-in-hand, as far as I am concerned. Thankfully, and with time, effort, and friends, we have been able to provide special music for the past few months. Paul said in Ephesians (according to Peterson), **"Sing songs from your heart to Christ. Sing praises over everything, any excuse for a song to God the Father in the name of our Master, Jesus Christ."**

Speaking of friends, I want you to meet **Joanne Lagassee**. She and I have been good friends for almost 20 years. She used to sing on stage with the Highlands Little Theater; we sang together, played bells and chimes together at the **EUCC** (Emmanuel United Church of Christ) before I came back to **DOC** (Disciples of Christ). When I expressed my desire to have special music every week, she volunteered - she is the young unknown in the groups of friends who have been praising God with their talents. We are grateful that she is sharing her love and music and God with us.



Another relative newcomer to **DOC** is Priscilla Andrews, who also came to **DOC** via **EUCC**. You met her and husband Larry some time ago, but you may not have known that she makes up the trio, whether we are singing or playing chimes. We meet once a week (usually) to work on our offerings to you.

Others, whom you already know, have added to our worship: C. J. Wiggin, Barbara Tiemens, Sandra Laufer, and Mark McClary. Jaquae Sands really needs no introduction, but we cannot thank her enough for all she does to enhance our worship. Not only does she give us the music from the piano, she makes CD's for the soloists, provides sheet music and suggestions, and is always willing to join us at the chimes' table.

I want to personally thank these talented Christians and want them to know how much they are appreciated. This is also an appeal to any one who would like to join us in this special worship. Don't be shy. God needs you and so do we.

Blessings to all, Ann

If you go into the Fellowship Hall and turn left, you will find halfway down the wall an amazing sight -- it is a "time line" -- a historical map of the great events of our world's history. It starts at the left with Creation and proceeds through the Biblical Patriarchs, the ancient civilization, Egypt, Greece, Rome, through the Middle Ages. To the rise of modern European states and America, to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

This map was discovered by Teresa Williams in an antique store and was mounted and framed by Gordon Walkington. WARNING—You can not take it all in in one glance. Your interest will expand into many minutes or even hours as more discoveries are noted.

With thanks to Teresa and to Gordon. This map is displayed for all to enjoy.

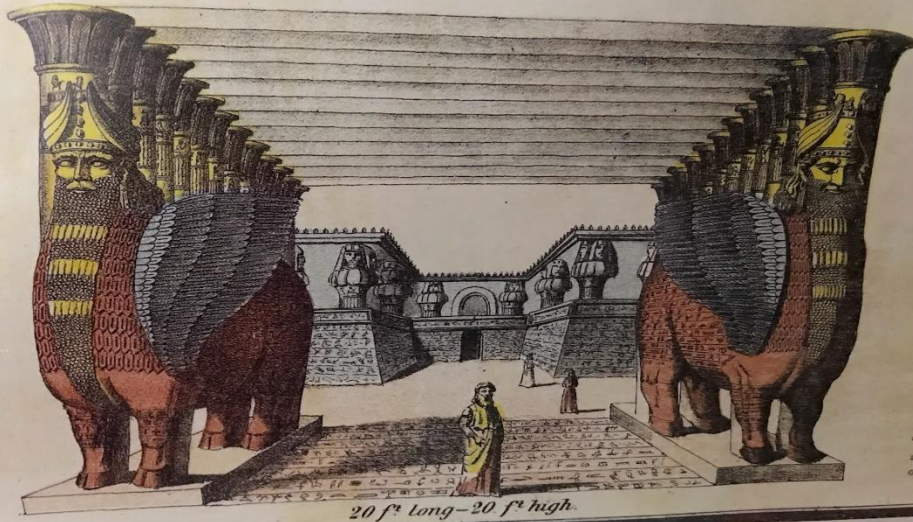


centuries, has recently come forth to confirm in wonderful coincidence the following written narrative.

2 Kings 18: 13-14.

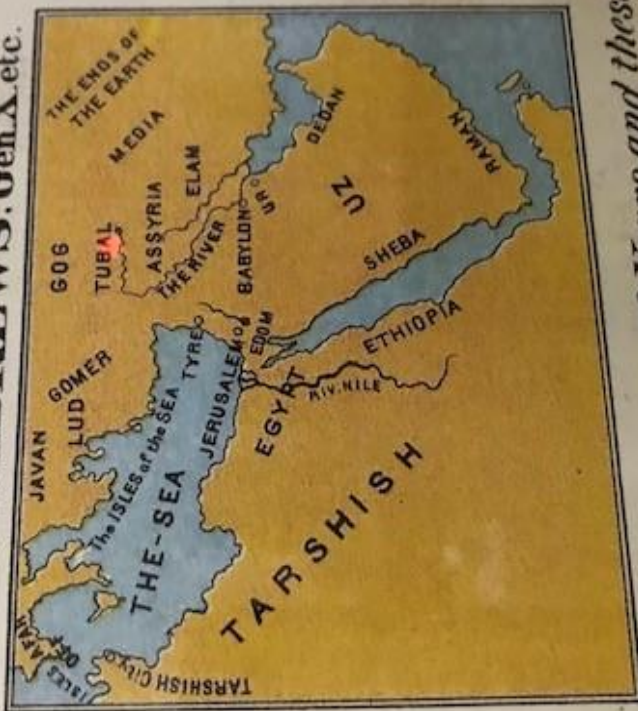
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# **INFERRED GEOGRAPHICAL WORLD, of the HEBREWS, Gen X etc.**



Years, into periods of 100 Years and these figures over the pillars indicate the B.C. (Before Christ) consulted in this work.