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Volume 26 - Issue 2 - March / April, 2022

## An Encouraging Word

A rookie pastor was really nervous as he stood before the congregation to give his first sermon. All eyes focused on him and silence fell over the church. He'd worked hard and even memorized what would be his first sermon. As he made eye contact with the people, all of a sudden, he realized he'd forgotten every word. He began to stutter and stammer but finally he spit out these words: "When I came today, my sermon was known only to me and God. Now only God knows."

Have you ever had a memory lapse similar like that? It's an awful feeling to stand before people ready to speak and then forget what you were going to say. Every day

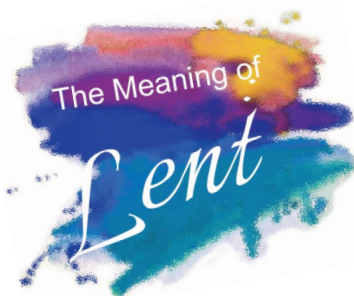
you and I stand before people with a message God has given us to share! Anyone with a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus represents Him through their words and their actions. God's desire is that the people we stand before come to know His Son Jesus as they see the life-impact He's had on us. Our words and actions that grow out of our day to day relationship with Him are called ministry. Ministry is what we do and say in Jesus' name. Or said another way, on His behalf. Ministry things are the things that Jesus would do if He lived in our homes, if He lived in our community, worked where we work, went to school where we go to school, or attended the church we attend. Ministry is meeting needs in a compassionate and practical way. And it's accompanied by

—Continued on page 2

humble, heart-felt words pointing people back to the Lord Jesus. Because He's the one who has changed and given us a right relationship with Him. And not just us. He also changes everyone who believes in Him.

Mt. Nebo Church, **if only God knew** what you and I were supposed to do and say, it would be awful! But I'm glad that isn't the case. Because **we do know** that we stand before people with both God and them on our minds. Ministry is on our minds. You haven't forgotten! Well done! Let's keep living out our mission together. The mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known." Remembering this will make for a real good Easter!

—Pastor Mike



**L**ent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on **Ash Wednesday** and ends on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter). Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "lengthen" and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is meant to be a time of repentance. **Repentance is not a feeling of shame but an awareness that sin separates us from God and of what it cost Him to be reunited with us (His Son).** Shame has its place, but feeling shame over sin is not the same thing as repentance from sin.

**Repentant sinners come to God asking for cleansing from sin, but also freedom from shame.** True repentance leads to a 180-degree change of direction, requires real brokenness, but **repentance starts with** the regretful acknowledgment of sin with commitment to change.

That is why confusing Lent with New Year's resolutions is dangerous. This time of fasting should not be used to spiritualize a difficult goal: to lose weight, stop watching pornography, or to give money to charity. **Lent is an opportunity to contemplate what our Lord really did for us on the cross.** Then, we have the opportunity to renew our commitment to honor Jesus through growing, loving, obedience to Him.



I hope you are ready to share the Love of Jesus with our families, friends, and community this spring as Mt. Nebo hosts the Easter Egg Car Hop on April 9th. It takes everyone in our congregation working together to make this event memorable for the children in our congregation, our families, and the community.

#### How can you help?

-Personally invite family and friends with children and invite community area families to bring their children.

-Pray that those within and outside our congregation would sense the Love of God through this event.

-Pack prewrapped candy, small toys, or stickers in plastic eggs that you can pass out during the event. Plan to be at the event to give out your eggs!

-Choose to decorate your parking space or car for the event, as you pass out your Easter eggs to the children as they go from car to car.

-Arrive at the church parking lot by 10 AM and park your car around the perimeter of the paved parking lot so children can go from car to car collecting eggs.

We all know that Easter is much more than Egg Hunts and bunnies! In addition to the fun of collecting eggs, the children and families will experience firsthand that there are many, many people who care enough to spend time to make this morning special. Your presence and smiles will be the best gift we can give as we share the love of Jesus!

In addition to collecting eggs, the children will receive special crafts 'to go' that share the share the Easter message!



## Giving App

You can now give to ministry at Mt. Nebo through our church website ([www.mtneboumcoh.com](http://www.mtneboumcoh.com)). You'll find the "Rebel Give" app on the lower right of each page of our website. Just click on it to set up your account. From then on you can give anytime with just a few clicks. You can even designate your giving to various ministries within the church (General Fund, Building Fund, Food Pantry, Backpack Blessings, Other [used for special giving opportunities]). If you need help setting up your account? Message the church office.

## Mt. Nebo VBS 2022

**Save the Date**

**June 21- 24 — 9:00 AM - Noon**

**Registration opening soon!**



Ready to cook up some fun? Be ready to be part of Mt. Nebo's Food Truck Party VBS! We will have groups for young people ages 4 through those who have completed 6th grade. We are excited to get on a roll with God for a week of Bible stories, active games, crafts, singing and 'food truck treats'!

This VBS invites children to pray as Jesus teaches us in Matthew 6:11; "Give us this day our daily bread." These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God — and that it's by turning to God in prayer that all of our daily needs are met.



## Acolytes Schedule

**9:00**

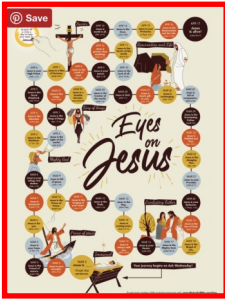
3/6 Gracie Zuech/Jennah Eubanks  
 3/13 Abram Cox/Evelyn Kunkel  
 3/20 Jalyn Hahn/Brook Kunkel  
 3/27 Camryn Graham/Leah Waterfield  
 4/3 Gracie Zuech/Abram Cox  
 4/10 Jennah Eubanks/Evelyn Kunkel  
 4/17 Leah Waterfield/Jalyn Hahn  
 4/24 Camryn Graham/Brooke Kunkel  
 5/1 Abram Cox/Gracie Zuech

**11:00**

Stella Keller/Emmaline Starkey  
 Madison Day/Ali Myer  
 Abigail Chirco/Joey Chirco  
 Jayden Edminsten/Emmaline Starkey  
 Addison Brossenne/Stella Keller  
 Emmaline Starkey/ Madison Day  
 Ali Myer/Abigail Chirco  
 Joey Chirco/Jayden Edminsten  
 Emmaline Starkey/Addison Brossenne

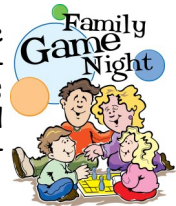


# CHILDREN'S Ministry NEWS



**Family Countdown to Easter-** Each family with children may want to use the Countdown to Easter Poster which details the life of Jesus through scripture. Each day of Lent reveals yet another part of Jesus's life that parents can discuss with their children. If your family would like to have one of these Lenten posters, please see Brenda Reed.

**Family Game Night-** March 18—Everyone is invited to bring your favorite board game and a snack to share for **Family Game Night** on Friday evening, March 18th. This is a wonderful opportunity to fellowship with others in our congregation and to invite guests to join us— In addition to board games and snacks, we will also have a few 'minute to win it' challenges during the evening! Hope you can join us!



Family  
Night  
2022

**Family Night-** March 21 at 6 PM—Loaves and Fishes- We will learn about how a small boy's lunch was enough to feed a crowd. How might God use something small for something great?

**Family Night-** April 11 at 6 PM—At the April Family Night, we will focus on the events between Palm Sunday and Easter!

**Easter Car Hop-** This year's Easter Egg Car Hop at Mt. Nebo UMC will be Saturday, April 9th at 10:30 AM. Hope your family can join us! Children will be offered plastic eggs filled with candy or treats as they walk past each parked car in the paved parking lot. The children will also receive special crafts 'to go' that helps them understand the reason we celebrate Easter! Please park in the gravel lot near the original church building, then families walk over to where the fun will happen! Bring your own basket!



Please RSVP for each Family Night, so we can plan materials that will be used. A special thanks to Virgie Luck for helping host these evening events for families.

—Continued on next page





## **BIG Things are Happening in Youth Small Groups at Mt. Nebo!**

### **Sunday Night Youth**

Sunday night youth, grades 8-12, meet twice a month for study, supper, and prayer. This group often plans and provides leadership to the outreach for Worship on the Road and other youth outreach opportunities to reach out to the community. A big thanks to the adults who invest time with these youth!

Each of these youth small groups are engaging in a study — 'Accepted'.  
The groups are exploring the Biblical truths that God's Love is unconditional.

### **Upcoming Spring Youth Events**

**Middle School Progressive Dinner (date TBA)**  
**Worship on the Road**  
**Picnic with a Purpose**



**Grades 6 through 8**

This group meets weekly each Wednesday 7:45 AM - 8:30 AM in the classroom area. This group will meet through May 11th. This small group opportunity would not be possible without the parents who encourage their children and Linda Henry who helps lead this group weekly.

This group meets on Mondays, 4:30—5:30 PM, through May 16th (following the Western Brown School schedule). In addition to these times to meet, the 6th and 7th graders have opportunities to participate in other middle school youth activities. A big thanks to Alys-sa Eubanks for leading this group weekly and Beth Keiffer for helping with the group.



**Grades 4 through 7**

—Continued on next page



—Brenda Reed, Discipleship Coordinator



Using the code, complete this passage based on Ezekiel 34.

CODE																									
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

“As a        looks after his  
H S V K S V I W

       when        is  
H X Z G G V I V W U O L X P S V

       them, so will I        after my       .  
D R G S O L L P H S V V K

I will        them and        them.  
I V H X F V K Z H G F I V

I will        for the        and bring back  
H V Z I X S O L H G

the       . I will        up the         
H G I Z B H Y R M W R M Q F I V W

and        the       . You are my  
H G I V M T G S V M D V Z P

       ... and I am your       .”  
H S V V K T L W

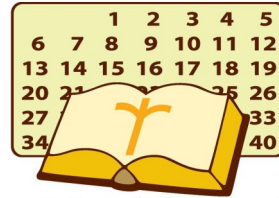


**ANSWER ON PAGE 11**





**Leighton Michelle Clark**, was born on January 7, 2022, to proud parents, Roger Michael and Cheyenne Clark, and big sister, Harper. Leighton weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz. and was 20 inches long. Grandparents, Roger and Michelle Clark, also loved welcoming her into their family.



## March & April Sermon Topics

### Series: The Last Day Before the Best Day

Mar. 6 – The Last Supper

Mar. 13 – The Garden

Mar. 20 – Condemned

Mar. 27 – The Lineup

April 3 – The Coronation

April 10 – (Palm Sunday)

The Crucifixion

April 15 – (Good Friday)

The Wonder

April 17 – (Easter) The Best Day

April 24 – Peace Be With You!

### ?? ? Bible Quiz ? ? ?

All four Gospels tell of a woman anointing Jesus. Details vary; clearly, she isn't the same person in all accounts. In John, who is she?

- A. Jesus' mother, Mary
- B. Mary Magdalene
- C. Mary of Bethany (sister of Martha and Lazarus)
- D. None of the above



### ?? ? Bible Quiz ? ? ?

As Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, crowds praised him loudly. When Pharisees told him to silence the people, what did Jesus say would shout if his followers didn't?

- A. Stones
- B. Palm branches
- C. Trees
- D. Hillsides



**Answer to Bible Quizzes on Page 11**



## Mt. Nebo High School and College Graduates

The church family at Mt. Nebo UMC would like to honor our high school and college graduates for all they've accomplished and announce their future plans. These will be featured in the May/June "Mt. Nebo News". We are also making plans to recognize the 2022 graduates during Graduation Sunday on May 15th. We would like to collect information about the graduates by April 15th. You may either email both the graduate's picture and information below to [nancymoore@roadrunner.com](mailto:nancymoore@roadrunner.com) OR complete the Graduate Information

Sheet along with a picture. These forms will be available at the sign up table beginning March 13 and any completed 'print forms' should be returned with picture of the graduate by Sunday, April 10th.

### We will need the following information:

**Graduate's Full Name**

**Parents' and Grandparents' Name**

**Graduate of which School (Name of High School or College)**

**Special Honors**

**Future Plans (which college—field of further study—military—or other work plans)**

**Contact phone number and address (we will not print phone number or address, used only to contact you with questions and details for grads and families about Graduation Sunday)**

**NOTE**—If you know a graduate connected with Mt. Nebo UMC that may not get this newsletter, please feel free to share this information with them.

**Brian Stephen**, nephew of David Stephen, passed away on January 23, 2022.

**Christian Erhardt III**, father of Chris Erhardt, passed away on January 26, 2022, at the age of 85.

**Ira (Jack) Brown**, brother-in-law of Andra Brown, passed away on January 26, 2022, at the age of 90.

**Robert Warner, Sr.**, grandfather of Josette Warner, passed away on January 29, 2022, at the age of 95.

**Virigina Leonard**, mother of Alan Leonard (Lisa), passed away on February 28, 2022, at the age of 88.

*Our prayers and love go out to their families ad friends.*



Deaths in Our  
Church Family



Mark your calendars for March 12th, April 9th, and May 14th for Men's Breakfast for the Soul. The breakfast starts at 7:30AM, followed by a speaker and time of fellowship for men of all ages. The speakers for the Men's Breakfast in 2022 will focus on Man's Relationship with God; the speaker in March will be Brad Blankenship and the April speaker will be Don Mundy. This is an excellent opportunity to invite a friend or two to join you for breakfast; it is a great way for men of all ages to connect. For more information please contact Dan Reed.

### ANSWERS TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 8

shepherd, scattered, flock, he, with,  
look, sheep, rescue, pasture, search, lost,  
strays, bind, injured, strengthen, weak,  
sheep, God

### ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUIZZES ON PAGE 9

Left — C (See Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; Luke  
7:36-39; John 12:1-8)

Right — A (See Luke 19:40)



Mortgage as of  
February 28, 2022:  
**\$457,812**



### 9:00 AM

- 3/6 Nancy Moore
- 3/13 Kathy Pollard / Jessica Kunkel
- 3/20 Virgie Luck
- 3/27 Tara Wesley / Sandy Wesley
- 4/3 Alyssa Eubanks / Megan Cox
- 4/10 Brenda Blair
- 4/17 TBA
- 4/24 Heather Fite
- 5/1 Jodi Keller

### 11:00 AM

- 3/6 Michelle Clark
- 3/13 Jenny Flores / Diana Starkey
- 3/20 Tabitha Chirco
- 3/27 Tina Nolen
- 4/3 Gail Frazier
- 4/10 Linda Stover
- 4/17 TBA
- 4/24 Josette Warner / Emily Myers
- 5/1 Phyllis Colliver / Kanita Tackett

**Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church**

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Bethel, OH 45106

Pastor Mike Starkey

Phone: 937-379-1225

Fax: 937-379-9038

Email: [mountneboumc@frontier.com](mailto:mountneboumc@frontier.com)

Website: [www.mtneboumc.com](http://www.mtneboumc.com)



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**Invite Friends and Family to Worship!**

**Service Times:**

**9:00 AM** Worship with Piano and Hymns

Service inside and parking lot on 91.1 FM

**10:15—11:00 AM** Sunday School

**11:00 AM** Worship with Band

Service inside and parking lot on 91.1 FM

*Videos of all services are  
offered on our website  
[www.mtneboumcoh.com](http://www.mtneboumcoh.com)  
and on our YouTube channel  
(Mt. Nebo UMC).*

**Our Mission:**

***To Know Christ and Make Him Known***