

## ***Dancing Grace!***



Dr. Diane Komp of Harvard Medical School tells the story of one of her Downs Syndrome patients. One evening, they were together at a restaurant. The restaurant had music and a little dance floor. Her friend loved to dance, but Dr. Komp had had a hard day and didn't feel up to it.

Not to be denied, the young man found a partner; another Downs Syndrome person named Grace. They danced, and they danced and they danced! The young man was so happy and excited afterwards. He said to Dr. Komp, *"She's amazing Grace, she could dance all night!"*

And that is a nice way of describing Easter Sunday and the blessings of an empty tomb. It's grace, my friends. Nothing could stop our Jesus and His gift of salvation! He won a victory over death and the grave. That victory brings saving grace to all who will believe. It's a grace that dances all day, all night, and forever.

Have a blessed Easter!

Pastor Bill and Sue

## **Messages from the Diaconate**

### **Maundy Thursday Supper & Service:**

This Thursday, April 2, we will gather together for our traditional observance of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. A Middle Eastern dinner of grilled chicken with rice, hummus, pita bread and salad will be served at 6 pm, followed by worship service with Communion at 7 pm. Please call the church office if you plan to attend the supper, but didn't sign up yet.

### **Easter Sunday:** Be sure to join us next

Sunday, April 5, on Easter morning to hear the sermon by Pastor Kren and enjoy truly special music performed by vocalist Michelle Martin.

The front of the altar will be adorned with nearly 40 flowers, in 4 different varieties, dedicated to members' loved ones. We hope you'll come and worship with us in joyful celebration of the risen Christ!

### **MARK IT DOWN! Feather Bowling -**

**Wed. April 29:** An old favorite makes its long-awaited return on Wednesday, April 29, when we embark on a trip to Eastpointe and a visit to the Cadieux Cafe for an evening of feather bowling! The festivities begin at 6 pm with sandwiches and hors d'oeuvres, including the bar's famous "oysters on the halfshell". Then, the main event starts at 8 pm as we take to the dirt courts connected to the bar for some friendly

competition in feather bowling, which is like a cross between bocce ball and curling. No sign-up necessary -just plan to meet at the church by 5:30 pm and we will carpool to our destination, or you can choose to drive on your own. It should be a fun-filled evening for all!

### **UCC's "Strengthen the Church"**

**Mission:** On May 3rd, the annual campaign for the UCC's "Strengthen the Church" offering will launch. This mission seeks to help the many people seeking hope amid misfortune and turmoil by bringing our speaking God's word to those who haven't yet heard His message of unconditional love. Your gift plants the seed for new churches, sparks new ideas in existing churches, and helps to develop spirituality among our youth. The official offering date is May 24, Pentecost Sunday.



### **Treasurer's Report for February 2015**

Income- \$12,462.94  
Expenses- \$11,052.41

Capital Improvement Fund - \$12,059.55  
Investments with UBS valued at \$251,696.22

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

## OUR CHURCH AT WORK

### In April

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#### Helpers for Sunday Services

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##### Greeters:

April 5 – Ian Haas  
April 12 – Ian Haas  
April 19 – Ian Haas  
April 26 – Ian Haas

##### Ushers:

April 5 – Roberta Adamson &  
Marge Manspeaker  
April 12 – Available  
April 19 – Available  
April 26 – Available

##### Liturgists:

April 5 – Valerie Haas  
April 12 – Available  
April 19 – Available  
April 26 – Available

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## PRAYER LIST

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Bernice Hartling	Medical Concerns
Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Bunny Hoganson	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Suzanne Van Ranst	Medical Concerns
Dotty Klein	Medical Concerns
R. Ferguson Family	Healing, spiritual guidance
Sean Goldie	Medical Concerns
Daniel Less	Medical Concerns
Irene Moxon	Medical Concerns
Gordon Grozdanoff	Medical Concerns

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## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

7 Jim Haling  
8 Barbara Fritz  
Jaclyn Meadows  
10 Wayne Boyd  
17 Kathy Hren  
19 Joanne Owen  
James Martin  
25 Diana Lindsey

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### Dedication of Flowers - April

April 5 – Easter Flowers  
April 12 – Available  
April 19 – Available  
April 26 – Sue Wilson

### Fellowship Hour – April

April 5 – Available  
April 12 – Available  
April 19 – Available  
April 26 – Available

### DATES TO REMEMBER...

April	2	Maundy Thursday Supper	6pm
		Service	7pm
April	8	Trustees Meeting	7pm
April	9	Diaconate Meeting	7pm

## I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

Ahhh, sweet April is here at last.

Remember: "April showers bring May flowers."

Not true. April showers bring mud through the back door. April showers come in downpours, streaking the windows. April showers wreak havoc on my hair; make me fight with an umbrella just to get out of the car!

But back to that old wives tale regarding the anticipated May flowers. You want flowers? You got to clean out the debris of the previous season. And that's another thing! I love the snow. It kept all that covered! Where was I? Oh, right clean, clean, clean all the dead stuff.

Then you need to add new top soil, turn it over, working in plant food or whatever the guy at ACO is pushing that week. Did you get new bulbs, seeds, flats of nature's wonders? Good for you Mother Nature! I think I'll just wait for the miracles to happen on God's time. I know He must've left something under that mess. Something will surely surprise me, and my neighbors, peeking up from the

soil next month, to justify the coming April showers. If not, I can keep an eye out for the FTD guy.

Besides, there isn't too much time for gardening. Spring cleaning comes first. Hahaha..good one, huh?

At any rate, friends, appreciate the April showers. I like to think it's all an important part of God's plan. A cleansing of the world, a washing away of the grime and giving us all a clean fresh new start. Sidewalks ready for chalk, grass turning green again, ready to tickle tiny toes.



See, April showers serve a purpose, some we forget as we age. Run barefoot across your lawn, or just wiggle your toes a few times. Appreciate the little things, like April showers. Next time rain comes on a lazy afternoon, grab a book, and head for the porch. I promise you, that too, was part of God's plan. Happy Spring, everyone. Enjoy the rain. I'm just sayin'...