

April 27, 2009

**THE PATH OF WORSHIP**



**MORNING WORSHIP**

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.



**May 3 - Scottish Heritage**

“Courage and Conviction”  
Communion  
*Acts 4:5-12, John 10:11-18*

**May 10 – Mother’s Day**

Pastor Megan Collins preaching

**May 17 – Youth Sunday**



**May 24**

“Outcasts Belong”  
*Acts 10:44-48; 1 John 5:1-6*

**May 31 – Pentecost – Confirmation**

“Power Surge”  
*Acts 2:1-21; Romans 8:22-27*

**Your SPC Fortune Cookie**

...Ye who laughs at him/herself never runs out of things to laugh at.

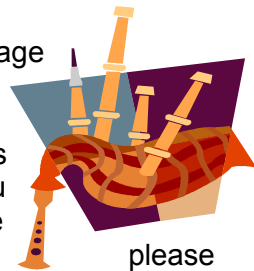


**Youth Worship...**

Whoever said Worship had to be boring for youth? If you are in grades 6-12, you are invited to take part in our *Youth Worship* on the third Sunday (11:00 a.m.) of each month. This service is thought-provoking, full of music (with the Southminster Band) and very interactive. Please join us!

**Just a reminder...**

May 3 is SPC Scottish Heritage Sunday. Even if you are not Scottish by descent, you are part of God’s clan. Please join us in this unique experience!! Also, if you wish to carry a tartan at either the 8:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service, please contact the church office. We will need approximately 14 tartan bearers for each service, so this will be on a first come basis.



Our summer worship service time will be **10:00 a.m.** (one service). **The summer services begin June 7 and end September 6.** Please remember that our God does not take the summer off...thankfully.

**Music Academy**

**Looking for a music teacher?**

The Southminster Music Academy, formerly known as Musik-Garten, is offering music lessons! Classes include: KinderMusik, private voice and piano lessons, group voice lessons, and praise band guidance.



We are also looking for qualified teachers to teach other instruments. If interested, please call the church office @433-1810 for more information.

*The Window*

# THE PATH OF COMMUNITY

## Remember in your prayers...

Jay Coe, Jim Custer, Gladys and Richard Eichhorn, Joyce Fisher, Elizabeth Joy, George Lawson, Elsie Nelson (Lisa Kelchner's mother), Milton Simmons, Don Snyder, Mary Strasser, Bill Sutherland, and Paul Tootle (Mary Fonteles' father).



**Military:** Jason Nilsen – Korea – (Friend of Robyn Kleinschmidt's)

**Living with cancer:** Margaret Barclay, Carl Day, Roger Carlyle (Jackie Lindsey's father), Mary Martin (Holly Woods' mother), Karen Mergy (Mary Fonteles' sister), Roger Penrod (Jackie Lindsey's brother-in-law). Irene Tipsword and Blake Williams (Kathy Johns' brother-in-law).

### Our Heartfelt Sympathy to:

To Walt and Mary Kaiser in the recent death of Walt's cousin who lived in Iowa.

To Robert Newssock and family in the death of Robert's wife, Mary Newssock, who died on March 20. Pastor Sue officiated at the service on March 23.

To Ralph Nesbitt and family in the death of Ruth Nesbitt, Ralph's wife, who died on March 21. Pastor Sue was the officiating pastor at this service on March 26.

To Frank and Carolyn Nagy in the death of Carolyn's aunt, Phyllis Dice, who died on March 18.

**Congratulations and Blessings to:** Amanda and Jeremy Gibson in the birth of their son, Myles Patrick Gibson, born on March 31 in Columbus, OH. He joins 3 year old sister, Avery. Joe and Brenda Ricketts are the happy grandparents.



The Member Involvement Committee would like to recognize members who will be leaving our church family. If you or someone you know will be leaving Southminster, please contact Mark Amos (439-9064), Lois Thorp (859-0327) or Jill Matteson (435-0702).

## Grief Support Group

Finding healing through loss and grief is a difficult journey but one that finds support and encouragement in community. At Southminster we desire to help. A grief support group gathers on the second Wednesday of each month to offer such support. If you are experiencing loss we hope you will consider joining us. Our next gathering is Wednesday, May 13, at 7 p.m. in the Coffee Corner. For more information please contact Jane Hancock (433-0972).

## An Invitation to Prayer

*"Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart." Luke 18:1*

Scripture is full of stories of people praying; praying while standing, sitting, kneeling, looking upward, bowing down, and lifting up their hands. In the Bible people prayed at morning, evening, before and after meals, at bedtime, at midnight, in their youth, in their old age, when troubled, and when joyous.

Scripture places no limits on the place or circumstances of prayer. It tells of people praying in a cave, in a closet, in a garden, on a mountainside, by a river, by the sea, in the street, in the Temple, in bed, at home, in the stomach of a fish, in battle, on a housetop, in a prison, in the wilderness, and on a cross.

The point is clear: there is no specific correct mode or kind of prayer. We are encouraged to pray always.

The Southminster prayer chain is here to pray for you. We pray for individuals experiencing pain and struggle; we pray for those in need of healing. We pray for those who are experiencing special blessings in their lives.

During 2008, we received over 150 requests for prayer. Some of these requests are one-time situations; some are for circumstances that last many days, weeks or months. We have witnessed miracles, we have shared in despair, and we have been saddened by loss and simultaneously shared in Christian victory.

We would love to have more people come alongside us and pray. You choose the time, place and method. We guarantee that your life will be richly blessed as you witness God's presence in other's lives and the awesome power of prayer. To indicate your desire to join the prayer chain, please contact Janne Allison, chair, by phone (433-1486) or email, [Jallisonum@aol.com](mailto:Jallisonum@aol.com). God Bless You.

Your Southminster Prayer Chain

## After Service Ministry...

Following each worship service on Sunday morning an After Worship Minister is available in the chapel to listen too and pray for members or visitors of our church who have specific concerns or requests. This After Worship Minister also prays for the congregation as they leave the sanctuary and go out into the world. Volunteers rotate in service and are assigned to one service every other month. The time commitment on a Sunday morning is approximately fifteen minutes. If you are interested in serving God and our church in this way, please contact our After Service Ministry Coordinator, Anne Gillies, by phone (886-1010) or email, gillie-sann@yahoo.com.

## Elderberry Corner

**When:** May 1, 2009  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m. lunch  
**Cost:** \$5.00  
**Program:** Container Gardening



You asked for it many times this month and we are fortunate to have Nina Anglin from Oakwood Florists meet with us and explain container gardening with flowers and vegetables.

Come join us and learn all the techniques of growing flowers and veggies on your very own patio. This is also good information for men. Reservations are needed by April 29.



**Southminster Blood Drive**  
**Saturday, May 2**  
**9:00 till Noon, Community Room**

Please sign up in the narthex and give the gift of life! Donations of cookies and juice, and helping on Blood Drive Day are also needed.

### **Under-employed & Unemployed Strategy Group**

Don't face the challenge of finding that fulfilling job alone. Meet with others facing the same issues. Join us **the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.** Next meeting will be **May 20** in Room 202. This group is open to the community but seats and material are limited, so please make a reservation.

Rusty May is among those currently seeking employment and will be leading this group to explore practical job-hunting strategies, skill building resources to enhance a resume, and ways to have fulfilling days without formal employment. If you cannot make this meeting, please contact Rusty May, at 937-912-5324, to contribute ideas or for any resources or prospects made available at this meeting

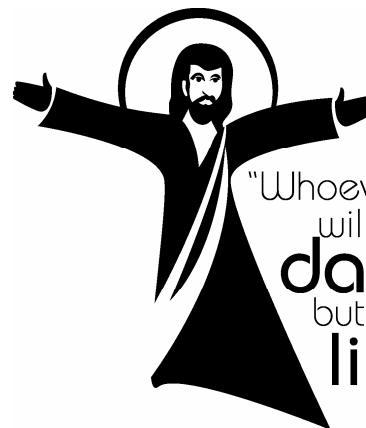
## A Word from Pastor Eric...

I started writing this article while I was sitting at H&R Block having my taxes done. What a laborious process! It makes me REALLY anxious. It's not so much the paying of taxes that bothers me, although that is surely no delight. What gets to me is the fear that I might make a mistake. What if I added wrong? What if I missed something important? What if the tax preparer goofs up? I can too easily picture being dragged away by Federal agents for some small unintentional error on my form 1040. For some reason, I don't imagine the IRS to be an outfit that is accustomed to showing people grace. Tax-time makes me nervous!

While taxes are no fun, the worry they provoke pales in comparison to the anxiety some people feel in their relationship with God. Viewing God as something like a hyper-vigilant IRS agent, they fear that God is scrupulously noting their every misdeed, ready to smite them with vengeance at the first opportunity. If this is your image of God, it is a very frightening one indeed. The good news of the Gospel is that this is not what God is like. The God we meet in Christ is a God of self-giving love and mercy. Jesus reveals a God who enters into our humanity and experiences suffering and death for our sake. Rather than an image of divine wrath and destruction, we see Jesus compassionately seeking God's lost children, offering them forgiveness and new life. If you ever feel tempted to run away from God, burdened by guilt, or overcome with fear of divine punishment, pause to remember the God who comes to us in Jesus; the God of mercy, forgiveness and love; the God who always gives us a chance to begin again with a clean slate. Thanks to God's amazing grace, we can always make a fresh start.

Your Companion on the Journey,

Pastor Eric



"Whoever follows me  
will **never** walk in  
**darkness**,  
but will have the  
**light of life.**"

JOHN 8:12

# THE PATH OF LEARNING

## Learning Opportunities at Southminster

### Adults

Two classes during the Sunday morning hour (9:45 till 10:45).

- Dr. Tom Preisser is teaching about the Reformation up to Calvin. Tom has recently retired as the chair of the Humanities Department at Sinclair Community College.
- Dave Diller is teaching a parenting class in the Hospitality Room. Dave retired from the Centerville Schools and has led a youth group for more than a decade. He and his wife Ann are parents of two sons.
- A film titled "Fireproof" will be screened at Southminster on Friday, May 1, 6 – 9:00 p.m. with Bruce and Priscilla Stapleton leading a discussion and an opportunity to sign up for a 40 day marriage challenge, following the film. Light snacks will be provided, and carry-in food is welcome. Child Care is available. Sign up with Pastor Megan!



### Children

Sunday mornings from 9:45 till 10:45—concluding May 31.

Workshops for children in Kindergarten through the fifth grade will focus on the **Women at the Tomb** in May with workshops in art, computers, drama, Bible Puzzles and Games. Summer workshops are being planned for the time following the Word with Children



Young children ages three through five will continue their classes with focus on the Bible.

Children and Worship during the worship hour will continue with stories about the Good Shepherd, Ascension, and Pentecost. All children are welcome to come to Children and Worship in room 225 following the Word with Children.



### VBS IS COMING IN AUGUST!

All children ages 3 through the fifth grade are encouraged to register soon for Vacation Bible School, **August 3-7 from 9 till noon**. Help is needed to make this outreach event successful. The theme for this year is Discovery Canyon.

Kirkmont is our Presbytery's camp near Zanesfield, OH. Each year camps are offered for children of all ages. First, is my favorite "Grand Camp." Grand Camp begins on **Saturday June 13 at 10 a.m.** and concludes on Sunday at 10 a.m.



This camp is an overnight experience for children and their grandparent(s). Three meals are provided and there is opportunity to swim, boat, fish, do crafts, hike, and worship together at Kirkmont. Children should be at least 3. Housing is in a cabent or in the lodge (limited space in lodges).

For children in Kindergarten, you can register for Kids Kamp. First and Second Graders can register for Beginners or Kids Kamps. Third Graders have many opportunities—Adventure Camp, Beginners Camp, Camp Rejoice, Junior Music Camp, Kids Kamp, Science and Discovery, and Sports Camp. Fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh graders have many opportunities as well. There are also camps for older youth and adults. Ask me!

[Jeanne@sminster.com](mailto:Jeanne@sminster.com)

### Why do we do that?

Every so often someone will ask, "Since we have three pastors, why do we still have a liturgist?" The answer is found among our fundamental Presbyterian beliefs. Few things are more significant in our theology than the ministry of all God's people. You don't need to be an ordained minister to lead in worship, provide care, engage in mission, or share your faith. In fact, the health of the church depends on every church member being involved in some form of ministry. Each one of us has been gifted by God for different forms of service, including worship leadership. More than that, leading God's people in worship is an official responsibility of Elders. When you see a liturgist taking part in the worship service, you are seeing our basic beliefs in action: Every one of us is called to ministry!

## ATTENTION YOUTH!

Hey Middle and High Schoolers!



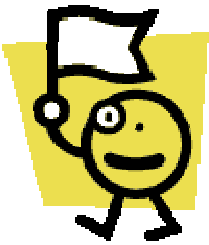
Youth age 14 and up can sign up to help at Children's Hospital in Dayton on Wednesday, May 6 from 6:30-8 p.m. We will meet at the church and go together

to spend time with the kids there. Sign up with Pastor Megan today!

**WOW is over until next fall, but make sure to check out the youth summer calendar available now!**

Don't forget **Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10.**

**YOUTH WORSHIP** meets in the Community Room on Sunday, May 17 at 11 am. Join us for a worship service designed just for you!



**Capture the flag, Sunday, May 17, 1-3 p.m.** at Southminster. 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders put on your game face and get ready to battle it out. Let Megan know if you have a nerf gun we can borrow for the day!

**SIGN UP TODAY** for the **Youth Mission Trip and Montreat this summer.** The youth mission trip is June 22-26 from 8:30-4 p.m. each day. Can't make it every day? That's okay! Sign up for the days you can come. We will be volunteering at the River of Hope Ranch. Montreat is July 19-25 and sign ups are due by May 8.



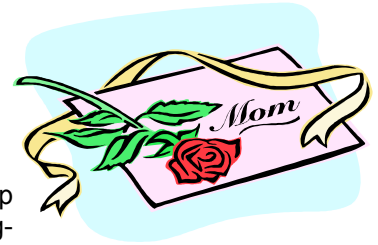
Get your bucket and sponge and come to the **youth car wash on Sunday, May 24.** We will be washing cars after church to raise money for Montreat!

May 31 is Confirmation Sunday! Come celebrate in worship with our 8<sup>th</sup> graders as they are confirmed!

**LAST MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH** until fall is on Sunday, May 3 from 12:15-1:30.

## *Becoming the Parent God Wants You to Be...*

### A tribute to Mothers



"When she thought I wasn't looking, I saw her hang up my first painting on the refrigerator and I wanted to paint another one." *Anonymous* The kitchen seems to be the focal point in most homes, and of course the refrigerator is the central point of communication. It's where we place important meeting notes, favorite pictures of our family and any art work or special papers in which a child received a super grade. Mothers are the ones who take the time to display their children's work so that the entire family and guests into the home can share in the accomplishments of each child. What better way to show your child that you are proud of their efforts by quietly displaying it for all to see. The following is a tribute to mothers as seen through the eyes of their children.

Mark Twain said, "My mother had a heart so large that everybody's joys found welcome in it."

Elizabeth Barrett Browning said, "T'was her thinking of others made you think of her."

(This is one of my favorites.) Matthew McConaughey said of his mother, "See if you notice the rose in the vase instead of the dust on the table."

Don Ward said, "Whenever we were down to nothing, she found a way to make something out of nothing."

Pam Brown said very lovingly of her mother, "You never realize how much your mother loves you 'till you explore that attic-and find every letter you ever sent her, every finger painting, clay pot, bead necklace, Easter chicken, cardboard Santa Claus, paper lace Mother's Day card, and school report card since day one."

Leo Buscaglia said, "Mother's love is always open arms."

Ron Burton said, "What my mother did and said, gave me the courage to look ahead."

Isabella Graham said, "Of all the gifts she gave us, the greatest of these were the memories."

"Think of the sacrifice your mother had to make in order that you might live. Think of the sacrifice God had to make that you and your mother might live."

This is love; not that we loved God, but that he Loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10 (NIV)

May God bless you and your Mother.

Peace,  
Priscilla Stapleton

*References: Mom Because of You and God's Little Devotional Book for Moms*

## THE PATH OF INVITATION

Scottish Heritage Sunday Ceilidh  
May 3, 2009

Immediately following second service there will be a brunch.



**Menu:** Beef roulade with gravy, oven-roasted redskin potatoes with rosemary, seasoned green beans, Scots shortbread, Peach cobbler with vanilla ice cream, coffee, lemonade, and iced tea.

Mac and cheese for children 6 and under.

**Music will be provided by the Miami Valley Pipes and Drums.**

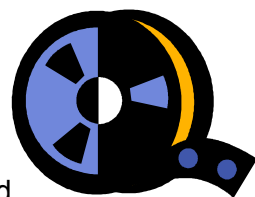
Cost is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children 7 through 14, free for children 6 and under. Paid reservations may be made prior to and following the April 19 and April 26 worship services or through the church office. Reservations will close April 30.



**Drive In - "Family Movie Night!"**

**Friday, May 15**

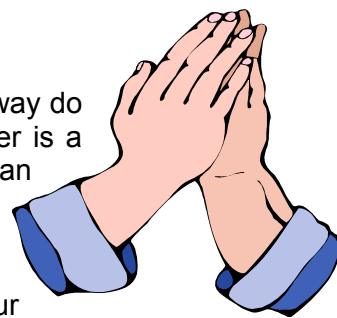
The first movie will start at 7:00 p.m. in the CFC, a G rated movie appropriate for all ages. The second movie will start at 8:30 p.m. and will have an adult, action theme. Submit movie suggestions to [imagineon89@yahoo.com](mailto:imagineon89@yahoo.com). Dinner will be available for families to purchase at 6:30 p.m.—home-made sloppy joes, macaroni and cheese, etc. Please sign up on the table in the Narthex. See you on the 15<sup>th</sup>!



Jane Barlow

**.M M, R & R** (Men's Messages, Read and Reflect)

**PRAYER...**



When life's not fair; which way do you turn? Try prayer. Prayer is a universal practice. The human being is by nature a spiritual being. We all yearn to reach out with our souls. We all attempt to transcend our humanity through prayer. The human being was created in the image of God. We are, therefore, innately, instinctively, incurably spiritual. Even those who have had no exposure to religious philosophy or doctrine or teaching whatever still feel that natural impulse within the breast which calls them to communicate with their Creator.

So no matter what your religious background, when life's not fair, turn to prayer. It can be the key to unlocking a tremendous healing force in yourself and in others. I've seen it happen, time after time, people healed—some physically, some spiritually, all emotionally. As a pastor I have prayed with thousands and thousands of people, from presidents to peasants, from saints to professed atheists. No matter whom I prayed with, I have never failed to see the power of POSITIVE prayer, I cannot say the same about negative prayer.

There is a difference between negative prayer and positive prayer. Negative praying is akin to complaining. Positive prayer is akin to FAITH!

The Bible substantiates this, "Without faith no one can please God. Anyone who comes to God must believe that he is real and that he rewards those who truly want to find him." (Hebrews 11:6 NCV)

...I am only one of millions and millions and millions and millions of people who for two thousand years claim to know and to have met, and claim to have a positive relationship through faith and prayer with [the] living human/divine person, named Jesus Christ. He is alive. He's the same yesterday, today, and forever.

submitted by Don Dameron

by Robert H. Schuller

**Please remember that the deadline for the newsletter is always the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

## THE PATH OF SERVICE

### Millard Fuller 1935-2009

Who was Millard Fuller? Well you may be surprised to find out that he is the founder of **Habitat for Humanity International**.



The first seeds of Habitat were sown at Koinonia Farm, a Christian farming community founded in southwest Georgia in the 1940's. In 1965, financially successful but personally spent, Fuller and his wife Linda decided to begin anew at Koinonia. There they met farmer, theologian and community founder Clarence Jordan.

In time, Jordan and Fuller launched a program of partnership housing, building simple houses in partnership with rural neighbors too poor to qualify for conventional home loans. The first house was dedicated in 1969. In 1973, the Fullers took the concept to Africa. Within a few years, simple concrete-block homes were replacing unhealthy mud and thatch homes. Millard Fuller had a bold idea: If partnership housing could improve lives in Georgia and Zaire, why not the rest of the world? Three years later the Fullers returned to the United States and launched Habitat for Humanity International.

By the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2001, tens of thousands of people were volunteering with Habitat and more than 500,000 people were living in Habitat homes. Habitat has built more than 300,000 homes around the world, providing more than 1.5 million people with safe, decent, affordable shelter.

“We are frustrated that we can't just wave a magic wand and have houses appear for everyone who needs them,” Fuller once wrote in the pages of Habitat World. **“But we do know that by doing what we can, we make a difference. We know from experience that when we move on faith, God moves with us.”**

As we reflect on Fullers' devotion and passion for helping to provide a home for people who really need our help we can focus right here in our own area of Dayton. **This is the 15<sup>th</sup> year for a Presbyterian/Catholic build.** Blitz week will be Saturday, May 23 thru Friday, May 29--this is when the home is framed and under roof. The build will continue until September.

**Join us for Southminster's work day at Blitz week on Monday, May 24.** Sign up online at [www.daytonhabitat.org](http://www.daytonhabitat.org) to fill out the release form, and let Pastor Megan know you are coming. You

can also help by signing up with Pastor Megan to provide the lunch for the Habitat workers on Friday, May 29.  
by Jane Sheats



Although this sincere thank you can only express a small portion of how much your support means to me, you know that it comes from my heart.

The way you people worked together for this last rummage sale was extraordinary! Many put in overtime to get everything ready. Thank you to the Southminster He-Men who tested their strength while hauling items.

Thank you to those who brought the delicious homemade soups. There were many great choices. The delicious baked goods were the best ever! The kitchen crew kept the crowd satisfied with the wonderful menu.

Even though we found this to be a busy and hard week, we did reap many rewards. We treasure the fun and fellowship and enjoyed working with new church members.

There was a whiz-bang clean-up crew and the room was cleared in speedy time. The room looked HUGE after everything was cleared out.

This event raised money for our giving, the bulk of which goes to our local church mission and other Dayton organizations. We also fund projects in our church and purchase items that further our church goals. So you see, we appreciate your support and prayers.

**We are happy to report that our estimated income for mission is \$8,400.00.** The grand total will be published later.

Praise God for His presence throughout this whole project.

My sincere thanks,  
Dottie Eggers

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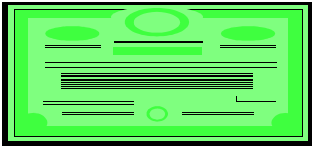
**If you are a present or former Elder and/or Deacon** and would like to be on a communion team, or to be on the substitute list, please contact Phyllis Strayer, 433-2133 or email [phyllisstrayer@gmail.com](mailto:phyllisstrayer@gmail.com).

**May Team Captains**

8:30 Bob Murphy  
11:00 John Woods



## Montreat Youth Trip Stock...



Buy a share of the new publicly traded stock MYT (Montreat Youth Trip) today! **Shares are available for just \$20, and**

**entitle you to shareholder benefits such as weekly shareholder updates, a stockholder luncheon, and the knowledge that you are enabling students to grow in their relationship with God!** Contact our stockbroker, Pastor Megan, to take part in this opportunity! (Disclaimer: Shares cannot be sold for cash value).

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## CAR WASH

**Sunday, May 24**

Drive your car through the youth car wash on Sunday, May 24, **after church.** Donations will be accepted to go toward Montreat!




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## THE PATH OF STEWARDSHIP

Financial Results vs Budget for the three months ended March 31, 2009.

	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Receipts	174,254	166,758	7,496
Disbursements	172,355	179,747	7,392
Net Excess (Deficit)	1,899	(12,989)	14,888

These are the financial results for the first three months of 2009.

## Jerry's Corner...

I will have mulch available up front and in the rear parking lots for the Church Clean-Up Days April 25 and May 2.

**I want to personally thank Darlene Irwin for her help in getting our youth to work on the following projects:**

There was a group of 10 youth and 8 adults that spent a Wednesday evening cleaning the sanctuary and some of the surrounding areas. They polished wood, cleaned windows, dusted, vacuumed, restocked items in the pews, and got wax drips off the carpet. What a hardworking crew and their efforts are definitely appreciated! If you are part of a small group looking for a project around the church, please see me as there is always something that needs to be done around here.



Here is the list of people that helped if you want to personally say thanks to any of them:

### Students (10)

William Irwin  
Tyler Geise  
David Milam  
Emily Gaines  
Aria Boyd  
Lindsey Gaines  
Paige Matteson  
Gayle Irwin  
Melinda Gaines  
Janette Davis

### Adults (8)

Pat Ernsberger  
Monica Ernsberger  
Pastor Megan  
Lisa Gaines  
Jim Gaines  
Kathy Beck  
Ken Irwin  
Darlene Irwin

**Thanks again, Darlene (and Ken).**

Jerry

