

Nativity News

Volume 74, Issue 4

April 2020

DEAR ANXIETY,
GOD IS HERE

I've put off writing this article, given the ever-changing updates on the Covid-19 virus, but it's Monday morning, March 16, and the newsletter goes to print in an hour. It's time to write.

Yesterday, the church building was very quiet because we made the decision to cancel in-person worship for a week. Last night, though, the CDC called for the cancellation of all events of 50 or more people for the next eight weeks. If that holds,

and we abide by it, it means we may not have regular worship services again until at least May 10. Today I'm trying to wrap my head and heart around that possibility. It makes me sad. You may notice that regular worship pages are not in this newsletter; we'll be creating opportunities for on-line worship as we go along.

So how do we respond to this crisis? During my Nativity "fireside chat" yesterday, I said that, in the midst of uncertainty, we can be certain **God is with us**. I fully believe that and it has also been my personal experience of God. I find that when I'm particularly anxious, fearful, or exhausted, it helps to take a few moments to just sit and breathe and imagine that God or Jesus is sitting with me. Give it a try.

It also helps me to watch for where I see God at work which is, most often, through the lives of people. I think of lab researchers working feverishly to develop tests, vaccines, and treatments; healthcare providers risking their own health to care for others; parents and grandparents dealing, patiently, with bored kids home from school; and many of you who texted or emailed to say, "How can I help?"

This reminds me of the quote by Mister Rogers: "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'" God is at work in the helpers.

Sadly, there are also people who aren't being vehicles through whom God can work—businesses who are price gouging, consumers who are hoarding, internet scammers taking advantage of fearful people, people gathering in overcrowded bars or restaurants putting themselves and others at risk. Please, let's not follow their lead.

As God's people, Church of the Nativity UCC, we're called to be light in this crisis. We're called to be part of the solution, not exacerbate the problem. Practically, that means practicing good hygiene and safe distancing which will be very challenging the longer this goes on. We will need to draw on God's strength to get us through, but God will provide.

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Our mission is to be a Welcoming, Nurturing, Empowering community of faith carrying Christ's love, justice & peace into our community & world.

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In fact, if we're paying attention, we'll be amazed by what God will teach us about ourselves, our church, and our community. God is always working to bring good from the struggles we encounter. Remember, it's not, "God doesn't give us more than we can handle." Rather, it's "God helps us handle what life gives us."

In that light, during the coming days, I will be exploring with Nativity leaders and staff ways we can "be church" without being "in church." We'll be considering new ideas for worship, care-giving, and on-line small groups. We'll be asking, "How can we care for the vulnerable in our congregation? Our children and youth? Those impacted economically? How can we be good neighbors in our community?" Please consider these questions and let God's creative energy be at work within you. Then, send me your ideas ruth@nativityucc.org, especially specific ways you will help. I am very confident that God will be opening new ways for us to be church that will continue long after this crisis passes.

I'm a bit hesitant to say this, but I've been wondering these last few days if this crisis has some similarities to our country during WWII. This was before I was born but when I've listened to people describe that time, I've heard them say that everyone made sacrifices. Without a doubt, the soldiers and their families made the greatest sacrifices but the whole country joined in the effort; items like gas, sugar, and silk stockings were rationed; women went to work in factories; families were separated when men went away to war. It was hard.

Certainly this Corona crisis isn't nearly as dire as WWII but, for the first time since then, the entire country is being called to work together and each of us is being asked to make sacrifices to defeat a common enemy. Unlike WWII, though, this time the entire world is united against a common virus enemy rather than against each other. This is our time to each do our part. Given the disunity we've been experiencing in our country, in a strange way, this cooperation is a nice change. It's confirmation that God is always at work to bring good from the bad.

Finally, I want to say that I am here for you, as is the rest of the staff. We want to be helpers through whom God is working. Please feel free to email or call me at (716) 984-0848. Also, the church will be open between 10am - 2pm, M-F. Feel free to come in to pray or meditate. The empty sanctuary is actually quite peaceful. And, keep an eye open for emails from us or connect to our home page, www.nativityucc.org for the latest updates. We'll be staying in touch! And one last thing, if it's possible and we know it won't be for some, please send in your pledge by mail or use the PayPal link on our home page. Even though we won't be worshipping in-person, we'll still need to pay our bills. Yesterday, we had a couple of people stop in for the express purpose of bringing their offering. Amazing! Thank you.

God bless you and stay safe,
Pastor Ruth Snyder



Worship Participants

ACOLYTES



04/05~Jillian Davies, Carson Davies
 04/12~Savanna Fecher, Aisha Ganga
 04/19~Lena Robson, Liana Skorupa
 04/26~Cantata—no acolytes



04/05~Tom & Vicki Croop
 ~Martha Inskip
 04/12~Easter Flowers
 04/19~Margaret Hilligas
 Barb & Bob Croyle
 04/26~TBD



Coffee Hours are held each week, usually after the 10:30 service in the Dining Room. On the last Sunday of the month & on some other occasions, the Coffee Hour is held between the two services (9:45-10:30 am). Please sign up on the Coffee Hour Poster if you're willing to host a future Coffee Hour.

04/05~TBD
 04/12~Easter Breakfast
 04/19~Middle High Youth Group
 04/26~New Friends Group



04/05~Nicole Benner
 04/12~Michael Olear
 04/19~Kris Hanson
 04/26~Tim Dykstra

9:00 am Service

04/05~Elaine Acker
 04/12~Sherran Lockwood
 04/19~TBD
 04/26~TBD



Nursery
Helpers

10:30 am Service

04/05~TBD
 04/12~TBD
 04/19~Lynn Benner
 04/26~Barbara Riedel

9:00 am Service

Lisa Creasey, Rich
 Bingel, Frank DeMart,
 Mike Reed



Sound/Video Technicians

10:30 am Service

Marcia Orleman, Rick
 DiVita, Don Oswald,
 Bill Schlegel

9:00 am Service

04/05~Rich Bingel, TBD
 04/12~Kathy Koons,
 Andrew Koons
 04/19~Rich Bingel,
 Tracey Weber
 04/26~TBD
 TBD



USHERS

10:30 am Service - Team #3

Captain: Debbie McDuffie
 Assistant Captain: Jean Riedel
 Kay Brinkman, Julie Murray, Bart Simon

04/05~Sandy Klipfel
 04/12~Sharon Kelly
 04/19~Kathi Hutton
 04/26~Sandy Klipfel



welcomers



Dear Friends,

I just wanted to give a shout out to our Hand Bell Choir. On Sunday, March 8th they performed "Glorious Celebration" by Cynthia Dobrinski and "The Church's One Foundation" by Kevin

McChesney. Both pieces were performed with power and passion. Many nice comments were heard from the congregation. Kudos to all involved!

We began the Lenten season with a very beautiful Ash Wednesday evening service. The Chancel Choir sang the piece, "Create in Me" by Thomas Pearce. The anthem was accompanied on the organ for a soft reflective sound.

Easter will be here very soon, and our choirs again will be combining with brass instruments as well as our own Hand Bell Choir for a very special Easter Sunday. Joining us again at both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services, will be brass quartet Trumpeters Amanda Amigone, Tyler Skelton and French Hornist Sue Cops. Our very own Ashley Cadenhead will be joining the group this year playing trombone.

Special choral music is also planned for the Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday services. Please check the church calendar for the times of these services. If you like to sing, it's not too late to join us, even if only for the Easter season. We would love to have you!

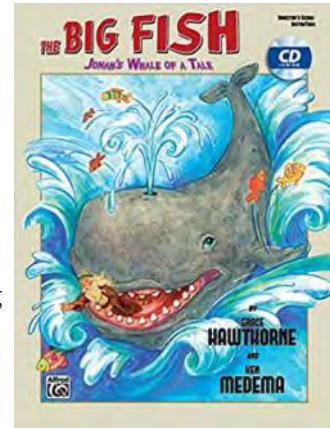


Women's Chorus

encouraged to join this premiere event. There will only be four rehearsals starting on Sunday, May 3rd from 11:45 - 12:30 pm. Come sing with us!

On Sunday, May 31st we will be premiering our first Nativity Women's Chorus at the 10:30 service! All women are strongly

The Children's Cantata will be performed on Sunday April 26th at both the 9:00 service and the 10:30 service. Please mark your calendar for this special morning of worship. The kids have already begun working on the cantata called "The Big Fish – Jonah's Whale of a Tale." It's the story of Jonah and the Whale with a jazzy "film noir" touch. It's truly a mystery. Hop aboard "the big fish" for an unforgettable ride! The rehearsals for this are Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 6:15 pm. There will also be rehearsals on Sunday mornings after the 10:30 service from 11:45 till 12:30. More information to follow.



Our ongoing music schedule is:

Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir rehearses each Thursday evening from 7:30 pm to around 8:45 pm in the choir room (behind the balcony). There is also a rehearsal on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am in the Sangree Chapel. The choir sings every Sunday at the 10:30 service.

Bell Choir

The Bell Choir rehearses each Thursday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. The Bell Choir performs each second Sunday of the month.

Youth Choir

The Youth Choir rehearses each Thursday from 5:30 to 6:15 pm in the Choir Room. There is also a rehearsal on Sunday mornings immediately following the 10:30 service. We ask that the members attend at least one of these rehearsals each week (two would be even better!). Currently we are preparing the music for the Cantata. The Youth Choir performs every fourth Sunday of the month.

If you have any questions or need further information, don't hesitate to contact me by cell at 315-254-9729 or by email at mike@nativityucc.org.

Blessings to all,

Mike Cops, Music Director

**Like Us on Facebook,
Church of the Nativity United Church of Christ**

Youth & Family Ministry



March was a busy month for our Youth groups, as you probably noticed! We had two fundraisers, cooking for FONP, and visiting Senior Pals. The Confirmation Class is preparing to take the lead during Holy Week services, our Youth Choir is preparing for their Spring Cantata in April, and the younger children have already begun practicing their songs for Teacher Appreciation Sunday in May. Our children and youth are for sure busy doing ministry this Lenten season! Thank you to everyone in the congregation who supports our child and youth programs and events through your donations, prayers, and volunteer time.

Easter Sunday Reminder:

We will have Nursery care available at both services on Easter Sunday, April 12th, for children up to age 6. There will be no Sunday School that day. At the 10:30 service, children in Kindergarten through 4th Grade will be dismissed to watch an Easter video in Sangree after the children's message, if they choose. Older children are encouraged to participate in the entire worship service with their families.

Senior High Youth Update:

We held our painting fundraiser on March 1st with

13 painters in attendance. Everyone who participated had fun (*see photos below*) and we raised over \$300 for our NYE trip! Special thanks to Jayna and Bobby for helping set up and prepare food for the event!

BISTRO CANCELLED

At this time there are no plans to reschedule it. Money will be refunded to all those who made reservations. Thank you for your willingness to support our youth.

SHYG: Save These Dates!

April 5 is the next monthly SHYG meeting. We will begin with a taco lunch in the Blue Room at 11:45. Please let me know if you can make it so I have a lunch count.

April 25 from 10-12 is the Annual Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper Shoreline Sweep. This year is the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day and the goal is for volunteers to clean up 50 sites to keep trash out of our waterways. Any **families with SHY/ MHY** who would like to participate together, please let me know by April 5 so I can register us as a team. This will be considered an "uncharperoned" event so any Youth who wants to participate must come with an adult.

Carissa Gigliotti
Youth & Family Ministry Director



The Kowal family mother/daughter duo (left) & three generations of the McCartney/Snekser family (above) proudly display their works of art at the SHY painting fundraiser.

Sunday School OGHS Collection

During Children's Time on February 23rd, Pastor Ruth talked about the Lenten offering for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) and urged each young person to put something in their OGHS banks each day.

Thank you to all who brought back your OGHS banks to church on March 22nd! We can't wait to report how much our Sunday School raised for this important collection!



Child & Youth Education



The 7th/8th grade Sunday School class is pleased to announce that the \$353.87 they collected for the Souper Bowl of Caring will be going to Friends of Night People.

VBS 2020

August 17-21

9:30 am - noon

*Online registration
is now available at
nativityucc.org*

Confirmation Mini-Retreat

Sunday, April 17th, 3:00-7:30 p.m. at Nativity

(Parents should plan to join us from 6:00-7:30 for conversation and dessert)

All current confirmation students are expected to attend with at least one parent or parent representative.

During the retreat, students will prepare and practice for the day of confirmation and have supper together. The retreat will conclude with parents, pastor, teachers and students meeting together for conversation and dessert. Worksheets and the essay are due the day of the retreat. Confirmation Day will be Sunday, May 3rd during 10:30 worship.





Having Fun Working Together

While the newsletter is designed to inform one of the things to come, we can't help letting you know the wonderful things that happened in the past month. It is our

hope that this will not only make everyone feel more a part of our group, but will also help you learn about our special youth and grow to love and appreciate them as we do.

The snowstorm in January postponed the group's annual cooking for *Friends of Night People*. However, never fear, our experienced cooks whipped up



the "Nativity Mac & Cheese" casserole and brownies with assembly-line perfection this past month. Our youth and their families are committed to contributing to their community. You can see from the pictures they were deep in concentration and determination to make it just right. They always have fun working with each other.

To celebrate April, the Middle High Youth will be hosting coffee hour on April 19th. As you know our group enjoys quite a reputation for being

outstanding bakers. This also gives everyone a chance to chat and get to learn about the many interests of our youth. So be sure to look for their smil-



ing faces waiting to serve you this month. We encourage you to ask a youth about their upcoming spring events. All the concerts are free of charge, as are the sports events, and the community is always welcome. An added bonus is the parking is FREE. It is even more exciting for our Youth to perform for a full auditorium.

This month you will also be able to enjoy many of the Middle High Youth performing in the Cantata on April 26th. The youth and their parents have dedicated many Sundays to prepare for this event.

Watch for emails with the details of upcoming events. There are some fun surprises in the planning. Any questions, contact us at jsvaughan98@aol.com or 310-4580.

Youth Advisors,
Barbara Vaughan, Mike Reed & Janet Vaughan



NATIVITY GARAGE SALE

Please continue to collect your treasures for the Garage Sale which will take place

Friday, June 5 9 am - 3 pm

Saturday, June 6 9 am - 2 pm

(Please do not bring anything to church until the week of the sale.)

Garage Sale helpers are needed!

Please call Kathy Ivancic at 874-0866 if you can help set up or work at the sale.



Pledge payments can be made using electronic bill pay options offered at all financial institutions. Payments can be set up online or at your bank. This provides an automatic way to make your pledge payment. You can also donate using PayPal. It may be accessed from the church website, www.nativityucc.org.

Yours in Christ,
Betsy DiVita, Chair

TRUSTEES MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

| Period | GENERAL FUND - YEAR TO DATE | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------|----------|----------------|
| | Pledge Income Received (3) | Additional Revenue (1) | Total Revenue | Weekly Average Pledge Income | General Fund Expenses | Building Fund (2) | | | |
| | | | | | | Beginning Balance | Revenue | Expenses | Ending Balance |
| 1/1-2/29/2020 | \$ 53,667 | \$ 5,055 | \$ 58,722 | \$ 4,796 | \$ 53,518 | \$ 3,378 | \$ 302 | \$ - | \$ 3,680 |
| 1/1-2/28/2019 | \$ 52,394 | \$ 16,963 | \$ 69,357 | \$ 4,690 | \$ 50,663 | \$ 1,334 | \$ 77 | \$ - | \$ 1,411 |

(1) Additional revenue from Holiday Offerings, Fundraising Revenue, Facilities Use donations, Endowment Fund Transfers, etc.

(2) The Building Fund is a separate fund that is kept in the General Fund checking account as of July 2017.

(3) 2019 amount includes \$2,590 in pledges received for 2018.

The information above is based on weekly activity. Please be aware that the impact of the weather, the date of the holidays on the calendar, and other circumstances may affect revenues and expenses for each year.

Funeral/Memorial Service Pre-Planning

Christians celebrate that death is not the final word but rather the entry into God's eternal kingdom. You may wish to help your loved ones by sharing your faith and wishes regarding your funeral/memorial service. Forms for "Pre-Funeral/Memorial Service Planning" can be found in the literature display outside the church office. After completing it, share it with your family and, if you would like, provide a copy to Pastor Ruth who will keep it in a confidential file. (Nativity will make copies for you, if you wish.)



You can access our Sunday sermons through our Nativity website: go to, nativityucc.org, click on the sidebar marked Worship and then the header, Sermons. Next, click on the most recent sermon or navigate through and find the one you want. Very simple. Easier yet? Type in this link: <http://www.nativityucc.org/worship/sermons.html> You might even want to save it as a favorite.

Most of the time, the sermons are recorded and available for viewing by Sunday night.



Spring Spiritual Retreat: “Sort & Serve”

Saturday, May 30 from 9 am—1 pm

We are trying something new for our Spring Spiritual Retreat this year!

The Adult & Family Education Committee would like to invite you to join us for a fun day of spiritual growth through serving together at the **Ken-Ton Closet**, 250 Athens Blvd., Tonawanda!

We will all meet at the Closet by 9, have a continental breakfast, learn about the Closet’s work from Cathy McLeod, engage in service together, then finish the day by sharing a hot lunch and fellowship.

Adults & children/youth in elementary school and above are welcome to sign up.

Registration:

There will be no fee for participation, but registration is still required for an accurate count for lunch. A love offering will be taken for those who desire to contribute to lunch. Funds collected beyond cost will be donated to the Closet.

Please put your registration forms in the box on the table across from the church office by May 24th.

If you need a ride from the church to the Closet, please make a note of that on your registration form.



2020 SPRING RETREAT REGISTRATION

Church of the Nativity UCC

NAME(S) OF REGISTRANTS:

PREFERRED PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____



Spring has sprung at the Church of the Nativity and once again the Stewardship Committee is sponsoring the Spring Flower sale. The order forms are due in early May and the pick up days and times are as follows:

Saturday, May 16 10:30 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday, May 17 10 am - 12 pm

The forms will be available in April & included

with the May edition of the newsletter. You will also be able to print them out from our church website (www.nativityucc.org). Please fill them out and return them to the box provided or by mail.

Please remember, all proceeds from this fundraiser go directly to our church, so it is a great way to support Nativity!!!



The Clean Air Coalition (CAC) is All Over the Road - In Good Ways

**OUTREACH
COMMITTEE**

The work of the Clean Air Coalition is similar to our nickname - Church of Activity. Let us count the many ways CAC meets the challenges in working for a healthy & just society.

Clean Air is investigating the new owners of the former Huntley Power Plant. They are not very Googleable. We will join with others to make sure the site is cleaned up properly and its remediation and reuse embody the principles and goals contained in *Tonawanda Tomorrow*. This document examined various aspects of the Town and offered proposals for its future. At our public meeting held a few months ago to examine the status of the plan, we identified the need to improve the work of the Implementation Team. Add that to our agenda.

CAC is taking on the mantle of watchdog when it comes to Tonawanda Coke. There's good news in that three areas, Site 108, 109, 110 are, or will be, part of the State Superfund. Without going into too much detail, this is a good thing. The other half of the property is in the Brownfield Cleanup Program, which may be very problematic. We are working with different parties, such as local politicians, to establish safeguards to ensure it's done properly. See Clean Air's blog for details.

At Clean Air's Annual Meeting we celebrated our many successes. We currently have about five campaigns in progress, utilizing the many talents of our friends and neighbors. In reviewing our financial

status, we continue to maintain our independence. We hope our membership drive will help maintain this goal (see below). We wrapped up the meeting by identifying the many harmful ways the current Administration is endangering the health and safety of people in the U.S. It's a tragic irony that, with this being the 50th Anniversary of the first Earth Day, that the many gains enshrined in the passage of environmental legislation, such as the Clean Air Act, the Water Quality Improvement Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, have come under attack.

Clean Air participated in "Work to Win 2020", which featured the many opportunities Western New Yorkers have to utilize their talents and serve others. About 18 groups/organizations had displays and information highlighting their respective programs that people can volunteer for and support.

Clean Air is very excited to announce we are having our first ever Open House. We will call attention to the many campaigns Clean Air is involved with. This also will be a forum for people to join Clean Air, receive our spanking new Handbook, and show your support for the CAC. We will have refreshments and music to make this a fun, festive occasion. Watch the Nativity Notes for details.

Gary M. Schulenberg

Campaign Leader for Clean Air

Please Give to One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), special mission offering of the United Church of Christ, involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and

part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.



Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women’s empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.



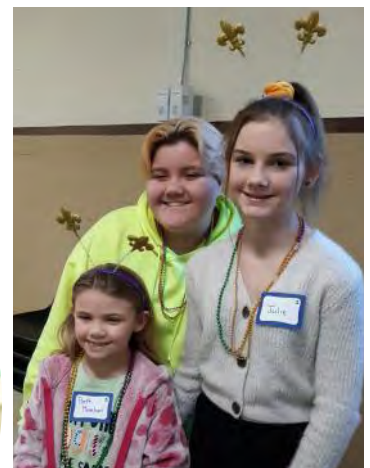
development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are

For stories about what we accomplish through our OGHS offering go to: https://www.ucc.org/oghs_stories

One Great Hour of Sharing donations, which support disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development activities are being received through Palm Sunday, April 5th. Envelopes are available at the ends of the pews or you can send your contribution in by mail. Checks should be made out to “Church of the Nativity” with OGHS written on the memo line. Thank you!



Friendship Dinner Fun!



Nativity celebrated Mardi Gras at the Annual Friendship Dinner on February 23rd with beads, make your own masks, a parade, games, prizes, & lots of delicious food!

Dear Pastor Ruth:

Thank you very much for the donation to the Ken-Ton Closet from Nativity's Endowment Fund. We appreciate the continued support as we grow in our new location. We'd love to have you come & bring any friends to see our updated space!

Much love,
 Jill O'Malley, Executive Director
 Ken-Ton Closet

* * * * *

Dear Pastor Snyder:

Thank you for your donation to Clean Air! Because of your support we are able to pass policies that protect Western New York neighborhoods and build a strong grassroots movement for change. With your contribution we can envision a bright future with environmental justice in neighborhoods across Western New York. Thank you for supporting smart, effective organizing.

Sincerely,
 Rebecca Newberry, Executive Director
 Clean Air Coalition

* * * * *

To Our Longtime Friends at Church of the Nativity:

On behalf of Ken-Ton Meals on Wheels, I would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$1000.00. We are the only home delivered meal provider in the Town of Tonawanda and Village of Kenmore and have been providing this service for over 40 years. We really do appreciate your support and generosity for over four decades.

Sincerely,
 Dan Wiles, Executive Director
 Clean Air Coalition

* * * * *

Dear Friends in Christ:

Thank you for your generous donation to the United Church of Christ to support USA Emergencies. Your gift of \$600.00 will help people rebuild their communities and bring comfort to their lives.

Sincerely,
 Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer
 UCC General Minister and President



Dear Pastor Ruth,

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your church's gift to our sanctuary ministry. Your support will help us sustain what has become a long-term commitment to our global family members as they go through the slow-moving asylum process.

We are blessed to have you as a partner in this ministry.

Sincerely,
 Kate Ward, Sanctuary Ministry Team

The five donations above were made possible by the Mission side of Nativity's Endowment Fund.

* * * * *

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your donation of several large bags of brand new baby items to Harvest House. Your donation is sincerely appreciated and will be used to help those less fortunate. God bless you for your generosity.

Thank you,
 Linda Tatu

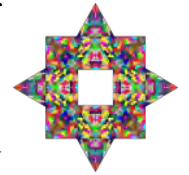
Nativity members & friends donated these baby goods as part of our "Gifts for Baby Jesus" collection in January.





Spirituality Through Art

Classes continue through the end of April (no class on April 9 due to Holy Week), Thursday mornings from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm. No art experience is necessary. Come for a morning of fun & creativity! For information about upcoming sessions and any supplies needed, please call artist & instructor Andrea Oswald at 716-651-9934.



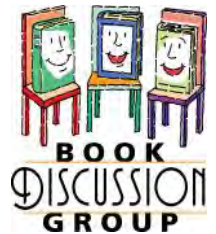
Women's Guild Meeting A 3-ALARM MEETING!

Tom Croop, a Firefighter and First Responder (and Nativity member), comes to regale us with firefighting stories and fire safety information. He is taking time from his duties to join us for lunch and share his life-saving points. So bring your lunch and join the fellowship at noon on **April 6th**. Please sign up on the bulletin board that you'll be there for this informative meeting.

May Meeting Preview: Be sure to mark your calendars for the May 4th Guild meeting. Our guest speakers will be global mission co-workers, and NY Conference partners Dr. Monica and the Rev. Tom Liddle. The Liddles are ending their second term of service with UCC/DC Global Ministries in East Timor. All are welcome to attend!

Join the Book Discussion Group!

The group will meet on Monday, **April 27 at 7 pm** when the book under discussion will be The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood. All are welcome! For information about our group, please call Jan Losi at 876-1967.



Food Closet Needs for April



All donations are welcome, but **toilet paper & cereal** are especially needed right now. Thanks for your faithfulness in keeping our food closet well stocked.

Newsletter Helpers Needed

On **Tuesday, April 21 at 9:00 am**, join a team of friendly volunteers who share great conversation while getting the newsletter ready for mailing. It takes less than an hour.



Dunkirk Scholarships Available







The Deacons' Fund has funds set aside to help defray the cost of those who wish to attend Dunkirk Camp & Conference Center this summer, but find the cost a hardship. If interested, please email Youth & Family Ministry Director Carissa Gigliotti at carissa@nativityucc.org.

Friends of Night People Needs Your Help!

We need additional volunteers to make food & help serve the meal on **Friday, March 17**. We'll leave church by 3:30 pm. If that's too early, you can meet us at FONP (394 Hudson St., Buffalo) by 4:40 pm. A couple of new people each month in addition to the 'regulars' would make all the

difference. Please sign up on the Outreach section of the Gathering Space bulletin board. Just come once to see what it is like. You do not need to make a long term commitment. You will be a blessing to many.

April 2020

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| <p><i>5 Palm Sunday</i> 9:00 Contemporary Service 9:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Traditional Service 11:30 Coffee Hour 11:45 Cantata Rehearsal 12:15 Confirmation Class</p>  | <p>6 12:00 Women's Guild Meeting 6:00 Plates Fusion 6:00 Girl Scouts #30875 Mtg.</p> | <p>7 10:00 AA Meeting 12:00 JFS Parent Support Grp. 6:00 Girl Scout Leadership 6:00 Total Body Boot Camp 6:30 Outreach Comm. Mtg. 7:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 Bodyshaping 20-20-20</p>  | <p>1 10:00 "The Walk" Study 6:00 "The Walk" Study 6:45 Barre Workout 7:00 AA Meeting 7:30 Adult & Family Ed Mtg.</p> | <p>2 9:30 Spirituality through Art 5:30 Cantata Rehearsal 6:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Child & Youth Ed Mtg. 7:00 Bodyshaping 20-20-20 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>3 10:00 AA Meeting 7:00 Worship Service</p> <p><i>10 Good Friday</i> 10:00 AA Meeting 7:00 Worship Service</p>  | <p>4 10:00 Easter Brass Rehearsal</p> |
| <p><i>12 Easter Sunday</i> 8:30 Easter Breakfast 9:00 Contemporary Service 9:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Traditional Service</p>  | <p><i>13 Nativity News Deadline</i> 6:00 Girl Scouts #30875 Mtg. 6:00 Plates Fusion</p> | <p>14 10:00 AA Meeting 12:00 JFS Parent Support Grp. 5:30 RAWNY Hamfest 6:30 Worship Design Meeting</p> | <p>15 6:45 Barre Workout 7:00 Trustees Meeting 7:00 AA Meeting</p> | <p>16 9:30 Spirituality through Art 12:00 North Towns Clergy Mtg. 5:30 Cantata Rehearsal 6:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Bodyshaping 20-20-20 7:00 New Voice Club Meeting 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>17 10:00 AA Meeting 3:30 Friends of Night People</p> | <p>18</p> |
| <p><i>19</i> 9:00 Contemporary Service 9:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Traditional Service 11:30 Coffee Hour 11:45 Cantata Rehearsal 3:00 Confirmation Mini-Retreat</p> | <p>20 6:00 Girl Scouts #30875 Mtg. 6:00 Plates Fusion 7:30 Cantatus Choir Concert</p> | <p>21 <i>Nativity News Meeting</i> 10:00 AA Meeting 12:00 JFS Parent Support Grp. 6:00 Total Body Boot Camp 7:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 Bodyshaping 20-20-20</p> | <p>22 <i>Earth Day</i> 6:45 Barre Workout 7:00 Church Council Meeting 7:00 AA Meeting</p>  | <p>23 9:30 Spirituality through Art 5:30 Cantata Rehearsal 6:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 Daisy Troop #30681 Mtg. 7:00 Bodyshaping 20-20-20 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>24 10:00 AA Meeting</p> | <p>25 10:00 Cantata Dress Rehearsal</p> |
| <p>26 <i>Youth Cantata</i> 9:00 Contemporary Service 9:45 Coffee Hour 10:30 Traditional Service 11:45 Women's Chorus Rehearsal 12:15 Confirmation Class</p> | <p>27 6:00 Girl Scouts #30875 Mtg. 6:00 Plates Fusion 7:00 Book Club Meeting</p> | <p>28 10:00 AA Meeting 12:00 JFS Parent Support Grp. 6:00 Total Body Boot Camp 7:00 RAWNY Board Meeting 7:00 Bodyshaping 20-20-20</p> | <p>29 6:45 Barre Workout 7:00 AA Meeting</p> | <p>30 9:30 Spirituality through Art 6:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Bodyshaping 20-20-20 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p> |  | |