



The Reflector

February 2020 Volume 28: Issue 2

Trotwood Church of the Brethren

Mission Statement:

*We are a church celebrating diversity,
strengthened by God,
transformed by the Holy Spirit
to serve and unify in the name of Jesus.*

Dear Ones,

I spent the first week of January in the sunlit lands of Scottsdale, Arizona on retreat with 59 other clergy women in the Church of the Brethren. The dry air, sunshine, and desert plants reminded me of my California home and the sweet company reminded me how lucky I am to have the support I do. Thank you for allowing me the space to attend this retreat!

The guest speaker was a pastor by the name of Mandy Smith who leads a church in Cincinnati. Her topic was, “The Vulnerable Pastor.” Together we unpacked the nuances of vulnerability and the various expectations some folks have around what a “strong” and “together” leader looks like. A “strong” and “together” leader can make it through a funeral without crying, always has her ducks in a row, has an answer for every question or conflict, and knows the right thing to do all the time. I confess to you, my dear reader, that at times I have held myself to these unachievable expectations. And yet, the more I come to know you, the harder it is to make it through a funeral without crying over you. My ducks are super squirrely and hard to wrangle. I don’t have an answer for every question or the perfect solutions to all of our conflicts. I don’t know for sure the right thing to do at any given time. And it is rather frightening to me to admit all of this in writing!

It is at this point when Mandy would point out how all of this is good news. It’s good news that our leaders are not the perfect picture of what we believe a faith leader should be. Good news because it makes space for us to see exactly how and where God shows up in our ministries and in our moments. There are experiences and events which we cannot claim we did on our own. We are part of building God’s beloved community here in Trotwood and in our families, among our friends and strangers. We are part of it, but God is the one leading. God is the primary actor, we are supporting cast. Our humanness allows us to see just how brightly God shines!

I am sharing all this with you, my Beloved, because I am going to be distracted in the coming months. My favorite person in the whole world, Jonathan, will be having heart surgery on February 4th to correct a birth defect. I have faith that all will be well and healing will take place, and still I will be needed at home a little more and in a different way than I have before for a number of weeks. This church family has been so supportive and caring in the preparation for this surgery, and so far everything that needs to be cared for has been. I have the personal time off that I need, you have things covered while I’m away. The one thing yet I ask of you is your prayers for Jonathan and your patience with me upon my return. It is likely I’ll drop some details here and there, it is likely I’ll need to work a little harder to be present, and that I’ll be a little more tired than usual. Trust, my dears that God is at the wheel while your pastor is adjusting to another normal. Trust that God is still working in this church, this community, and in you! God will hold all of this with compassion and extra care. God will hold Jonathan and I, God will you hold you and our church family. All will be well, in fact it already is. Thank you for being who you are.

With Love,

Pastor Jen

Save
the
Date!

Come join us

Sunday, March 15, 2020 7pm

Northmont School Auditorium

4916 West National Road

Clayton, OH 45315

Free admission; offering for Brethren Disaster
Ministries: Memorial Day Tornado Relief

*Sponsored by Southern Ohio/Kentucky
Church of the Brethren congregations

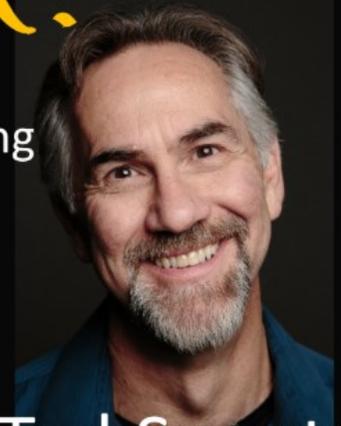
See You There!

Can We Talk?

Conversations for Change
through Story and Song



Ken Medema



Ted Swartz

Can We Talk?

is a rollicking 90 minutes of story, song, laughter and moments of serious reflection around listening and conversation, especially when there is seemingly so much disagreement on issues in the church and society. The show includes classic and new material from Ted Swartz and Ken Medema. You will never be more than a few minutes from a laugh or a moment that makes you hold your breath. Don't miss this opportunity. *More . . .*

Co-Sponsored by



Interlude
Retreat
Corporation



CENTER FOR
ART
HUMOR &
SOUL

We will be taking up a free-will offering at some point in February
to help cover the cost of bringing Ken and Ted to our area.

Stay tuned for details!

In December, the congregation prayed around a blanket for Keegan Portemont. A 15 year old young man who is battling cancer. The week before that, the blanket was also prayed over at the Happy Corner church.

I had the honor of giving the blanket to Keegan. The look on his face when he saw the prayer with all the signatures and the pictures of everyone gathered around the blanket and praying specifically for him was very heartwarming.

A few days after he received it, his mom posted a picture of him on Facebook, covered in the blanket while he was getting his chemo treatment.

Please keep this young man in your prayers because he's still got a long way to go to recovery.

Judy Gainey



Trotwood Church of the Brethren 2020 Scholarships

Scholarship applications are available on the table in the narthex or you can contact the church office.

THANK YOU THANK YOU

Thank you for all your prayers and concerns for my health and recovery from my recent heart surgery. A special thanks to Pastor Jen for her prayer over my prayer blanket which I use every night during these cold winter evenings.

Listen to your body! God gave me a warning sign and I listened to Him and now I have a new lease on life.

God Bless all of you! *Kenny Shank*



ALTAR FLOWERS

Reservations are now being taken for our 2020 altar flowers. Arrangements are \$25 and may be placed in memory of or in honor of a loved one or event. Payment for arrangements may be marked as "Altar Flowers" and placed in the offering plate or sent to the church office.

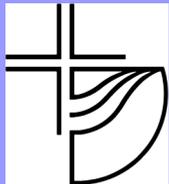
Look for the big poster in the narthex to check the available dates. You can also call Annette Sommer at 837-8643 or send her an email at rastmud@frontier.com

Thank you!

Weekly Lunch Spots



- February 2** Rob's Restaurant (705 Arlington Road, Brookville)
February 9 Carry-in (in the Fellowship Hall)
February 16 Pearson House (28 N. Miami Street, West Milton)
February 23 Marion's Piazza (404 W. National Road, Englewood)
- March 1** Company 7 BBQ
March 8 Carry-in (in the Fellowship Hall)
March 15 Pearson House (28 N. Miami Street, West Milton)
March 22 Yen Ching House (625 S. Main St., Englewood)
March 29 Marion's Piazza (404 W. National Road, Englewood)



Prayer List for Congregations

The Southern Ohio/Kentucky District of the Church of the Brethren invites us to join in prayer for congregations throughout the district.

This is an important way to hold one another in prayer throughout the year.

Please be in prayer for these congregations this month:

- Week of February 2 - Stony Creek (Bellevue, Ohio)
- Week of February 9 - Bellevue (Bellevue, Ohio)
- Week of February 16 - West Charleston (Tipp City, Ohio)
- Week of February 23 - Living Peace (Powell, Ohio)



Each Sunday there is a card in the Sunday School class that meets in the Fireside room, then it's taken to the narthex for everyone to sign.

Winter Weather Plan



A decision will be made by the Leadership team Chair, the Pastor and the Property manager whether or not to have Sunday School and Worship service. Once a decision has been made, the Pastor will send out an e-mail message and the One Call phone chain will go around. Those members who have an e-buddy are asked to make contact with their partners and let them know. We will contact four Dayton TV Stations to report the cancellation: 2, 7, 22 and 45. If you do not have e-mail or your e-buddy is out of town, feel free to call the Pastor or another member who has access to e-mail to be certain of the plan.



This month our Food Pantry
is in need of
Spaghetti Sauce

Your donations can be placed in the
baskets outside the narthex doors
Let's overflow our pantry!

Scripture Chat

*Tuesdays at 10:00 AM
in the Fireside Room*

Each week we discuss the scripture
which will be preached on the
following Sunday.

Join us for lively discussion,
heart felt fellowship, and
deepening discipleship.

No previous Bible knowledge
is needed.

(There will be NO Scripture Chat
on February 4th and 11th!)

REFLECTOR DEADLINE February 21

is the last day to get your news
to the office for the January Reflector

Pancake & Sausage Breakfast

**Saturday, February 1, 2020
7:30 - 10:00 am
at Mill Ridge Village**

All you can eat Buttermilk Pancakes
Dohner's Pure Maple Syrup
Baked Landes Sausage Links
Coffee
Orange Juice

*Come Enjoy Breakfast
and Meet Friends*



Scripture Chat

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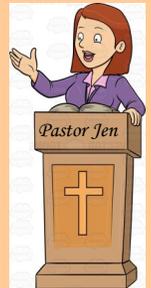
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REFLECTOR DEADLINE February 21

is the last day to get your news
to the office for the January Reflector

These are the
scriptures I'll be preaching
on each week!
Come on in and join us!
We'd love to see you!



February 2

Mark 5:21-43

February 9 -

Karen Duhai preaching - Mark 6:1-29

February 16 -

Dave Shetler preaching - TBA

February 23

Mark 8:27 - 9:8

*Check back to see what
Pastor Jen will be preaching about!*



Please Note: We are happy to publish news about our members when they win awards, make the Dean's list, get engaged, etc. We can't keep up with everyone so please feel free to send a digital photo (or a picture we can scan) and we would love to share your good news, joys and triumphs.

VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SEARCH



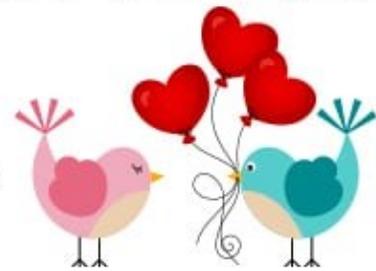
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Valentine
 Candy
 Chocolate
 February
 Flowers
 Friend

Cupid
 Cuddle
 Hug
 Kiss
 Love

Be Mine
 Hearts
 Card
 Love
 Arrow

Pink
 Red
 Roses
 I Love You
 Sweet



February 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Birthdays</u> <u>Anniversaries</u> <u>Ministries & Rehearsals</u> <u>Community Meetings</u> *Time/Date Subject to Change</p>						
<p>2 <u>Casey Johnson</u></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>6 7:00 District Women's Bible Study at Salem COB 7:00 BDM meeting at Mill Ridge Village 7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
Pastor Jen on personal leave through February 18th						
<p>9 <u>Judy Royer</u></p>	<p>10 <u>Naomi Burkett</u></p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 <u>Annette Sommer</u> 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>13 7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>14 </p>	<p>15</p>
Pastor Jen on personal leave through February 18th.						
<p>16  Pastor Jen on personal leave through February 18th.</p>	<p>17 President's Day</p>	<p>18 10:00 Scripture Chat 6:30 Leadership Team Mtg.</p>	<p>19 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>20 7:00 District Women's Bible Study at Salem COB 7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
Pastor Jen on personal leave through February 18th.						
<p>23 <u>Audrey Sizemore</u> <u>Jacob Pugh</u></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 10:00 Scripture Chat *4:00 Worship Planning</p>	<p>26  7:00 Choir</p>	<p>27 7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29  5:00-7:00 TNT Chili Cook-off & Game Night</p>

Trotwood Church of the Brethren

208 East Main Street

Trotwood, OH 45426

E-mail: trotwoodcobrethren@gmail.com

Phone: (937) 837 6604



Prayer List



Seeking peace and comfort for the families of: Dean Rogers, Emerson Davidson, Lynn Shough, Ron McAdams, Janet Eby, Johanna Roediger

Seeking health and hope: Jonathan Scarr, Mary Wiens, Doug Medlar, Kirk Hughes, Keegan Portemont; Erma Foust; Bill Landis; Rick Cowdrey & family; John & Karen Bodey; Bert McAdams, Toni Patterson, Audrey Sizemore, Julie Bestabi, Eddie Morgan, Martha Davidson, Carolyn Armstrong, Ruth Gress, Melissa Phillips, Lynne Brumbaugh, Chris Collins, Monica Hill, Stephanie Wright, Nancy Ward, Johnny Perdue, Jim & Karleen King.

For Our Community: The family of Dayton Detective Jorge Del Rio and Police Departments everywhere; Everyone affected (directly or indirectly) by the senseless act of violence in the Oregon District on August 5th; Tornado survivors in Trotwood, Dayton, Brookville and the surrounding areas and the relief efforts; those who are hungry and lonely; Trotwood Neighborhood Transformation (TNT); Neighborhood Watch groups; Our First Responders; City Council

Around the World: Pindar Nuhu; the violence in northeast Nigeria; Refugees of all countries; the people of Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala

Those serving our country: Jaren Bush, All of our Military, Christian Peacemaker Teams and Brethren Volunteer Service volunteers

Friends who'd love to hear from you...

Eddie Morgan, Room 340, Friendship Village

Audrey Sizemore, 5166 Crescent Ridge Drive, Clayton, OH 45315

Johnny Perdue, 1074 Alexanderville Road, Miamisburg, OH 45342, phone 937-776-0758

Ruth Gress, 502 W Sherry Drive, Trotwood, OH 45426

Stephanie Wright, 1710 South Yuma St., Denver, CO 80223