

presbyterian press



April 2024



Our winner in the Coloring Contest is Abby Justice!!

Congratulations Abby!! You have done a beautiful job!!

MYSTERY BAG WINNERS!!



Rootin' For You!
ZOE JERVIS



What a Girl Wants
BONNIE CONLEY



Aren't You Crafty
JUDY BOZMAN



It's a Little Piece-Meal
EVA RINEHART



Boys Will Be Boys
CALEN MCCLELLAND



Family Date Night
CAROLINE NOTESTINE



How Enchanting
VICKY SHIELDS



Easter Extravaganza
NANCY WISSE

You can pick up your bag at the April 7, Worship Service!



Did you know?

While the eastern portion of North America is anticipating the total eclipse that will happen on April 8, there is another day that all of North America should be awaiting. **EARTH DAY!**

Earth Day is an annual celebration that honors the achievements of the environmental movement and raises awareness of the need to protect Earth's natural resources for future generations. Earth Day is celebrated on April 22 in the United States and on either April 22 or the day the spring equinox occurs throughout the rest of the world.

The First Earth Day was in April 1970. Because there was no EPA, no Clean Air Act, no Clean Water Act, there were no legal or regulatory mechanisms to protect our environment. In spring 1970, Senator Gaylord Nelson created Earth Day! This would allow him to force the issue onto the National Agenda.

In 1969, junior senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin announced that he wanted to start a teach-in on college campuses to educate people about the dangers of air and water pollution. Senator Nelson, a well-known advocate for the environment, was joined by Congressman Pete McCloskey and activist Denis Hayes, the goal being to bring Americans together on the issues by creating a national celebration of the Earth.

Together they organized teach-ins on April 22 across the United States. They announced that April 22 would be called Earth Day, and their teach-ins turned into 20 million Americans taking to the streets "to demonstrate against the impacts of 150 years of industrial development which had left a growing legacy of serious human health impacts," according to the Earth Day Network.

The impact of the very first Earth Day was *huge*. It led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, which still exists today, and some of our most important environmental laws being passed. The Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act and more have been passed because of Earth Day's impact!

By 1990, Earth Day went global as 200 million people in 141 countries celebrated by calling attention to various environmental issues. Today, Earth Day is one of the largest secular observances in the world, with over 1 billion people participating each year. Earth Day is all about educating people about conservation, protesting against climate change and global warming and encouraging volunteering for the good of the planet.

The theme for Earth Day 2024 is "Planet vs. Plastics", which calls to advocate for widespread awareness on the health risk of plastics, rapidly phase out all single use plastics, urgently push for a strong UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution and demand an end to fast fashion.

How can we acknowledge Earth Day? One of the best ways to connect with the Earth is through cleanups. Go on a walk with a trash bag and help to clean up any plastic that you find. Perhaps you know of a nearby ditch or drainage area around the corner that is polluted with trash! Every little bit helps to make the Earth better for all of us!



Good News!!

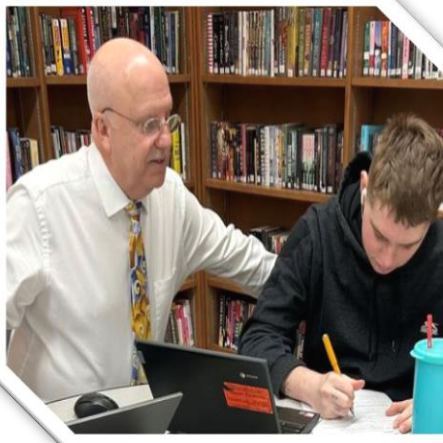


CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BHS STRINGS ORCHESTRA ON THEIR SUPERIOR "1" RATING AT THE OMEA STATE ADJUDICATED EVENT!! Emma Suman, Will Myers, Kaeleigh Flora, Ryan Alexander, Kate Myers, Emma Costin, Ella Costin, Emily Taylor!! **GREAT JOB!!** This rating allows them to advance to the State adjudicated event, coming soon!! **Update:** They received a "1" rating at the State Level!! **CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**



The Bellefontaine City Schools Gifted Department recently hosted the Reading Olympics in the Distance Learning Center, where Team "Cute Kitty Cats" members **Charlotte Burkhardt**, Savannah Heritage, and Junie Lickfelt brought home the gold! The challenge has been in existence for 27 years. This year several of the books for the challenge were updated to include more recent publications as well as a broad variety of genres. Students were challenged to read

books in 10 different genres with two books available in each genre. The format also varied from chapter books, graphic novels, novels in verse and picture books. Students were required to complete a summary of the book after reading it that could be used the day of the Olympics to answer questions. 600 Downtown Pizza provided a free personal pizza certificate for all of the qualifiers.

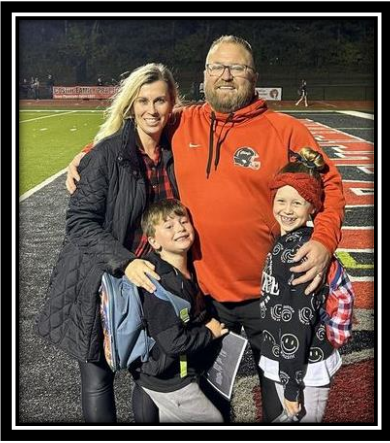


Doing what he does best, besides buying the good buns!

Congratulations to **Mark Butler**, recently honored as Tribe Member of the Week! Mark is a true educator, having spent 37 years as a teacher and administrator.

His classroom quotes to live by: "People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care!" and "It's not what you do, it's how you do what you do!"

Outside of the classroom, Mark enjoys spending time with his family, golfing, gardening, cruising in the convertible with wife, Jill and constantly harrassing Bridget Hawkins while attending meetings at the church!



Rick Reed, shown here with his lovely wife, Joliece, and those two adorable kids, Finley and Jamison, has been recognized for his coaching excellence, being recently named by the Ohio High School Football Coaches Association Region 9 as **Assistant Coach of the Year!!** This region includes 10 counties, reaching as far as Darke County! Rick has been an assistant coach at BHS for 17 years, with the last 11 years as an offensive line coach!

He was instrumental in the Chiefs historic run last fall. The 23' Chiefs were the first team in school history to win three playoff games in the same season! **CONGRATULATIONS RICK!**



When you were in school, who was the most underrated adult you knew? If you answered "the Lunch Lady" you would be right.

The Lunch Lady is no longer underrated as proven by our own **Brenda Oda!!**

Not only does she oversee the entire Indian Lake Schools Food Services, she loves all those kids to no end!!

Would your Lunch Lady have decorated the cafeteria for you?



Recently honored as a "Student of the Week" are these munchkins!

Evelyn Lentz

Scarlett Lentz

Mayah Dinovo

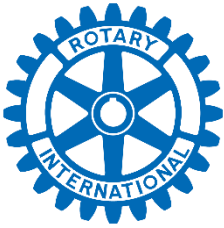
Dori Jervis



Matt and Nora McClelland attend the Annual Father - Daughter Dance for the Indian Lake Schools!!

Not much better than a girl dancing with her dad!!!

Cole McClelland makes short work of the "Leap Day" experiment with origami frogs!



CONGRATULATIONS to these High School Seniors who were recently presented with Rotary Honors!

Ella Costin Emma Costin Ellie Lloyd Rylee McCully Emily Taylor

THE FELLOWSHIP HALL WAS JUMPIN' FOR **LEAP DAY KIDS NITE OUT!!**

The theme was F.R.O.G.

Lots of silly games, silly helpers and crazy kids!! The highlight was snack time where everyone enjoyed a frog sandwich, lily pad jello, and a glass of frog juice!



Babies born on February 29, are called "Leaplings" Famous Leaplings include Dinah Shore, Dennis Farina, Pope Paul III and Superman!

Leap days do not always happen every four years. Years that are divisible by 100 but not divisible by 400 are skipped. The year 2000 did have a leap day but the years 1700, 1800, and 1900 did not. The next time a leap day will be skipped in the year 2100. (We'll just have to take that as true. . .)

Fully. **R**ely. **O**n. **G**od.

ORDINATION SUNDAY!

It was with great joy and a packed sanctuary that we welcomed **Rev. Greg Messen** to our church! Friends, loved ones, and a very proud father, **Fran Messen**, joined with us to celebrate the day! Sue Crawfis prepared a wonderful meal that our Session and Deacon members served up in style! We are thrilled to have Greg and his lovely wife Wendi join our church family!!





Thank you's!!

To the First United Presbyterian Church,

Greg Messen is my son, whom I dearly love and am extremely proud of. I pray Greg will serve your congregation well.
May God Bless, Fran Messen



Those needing our special prayers!

Jadyn Plaugher
Nancy Scouten
Shirley Ritter
Tina Deardurff
Sherri Ullom

Layla Deardurff
Carl Wunderle
Kris Sutterfield
The Morrisons
Karen Baker Primavera

Betty Kindell
Mark Brienza
Rose Gunkle
The Albanos

Cameron Deardurff
Vicki Shafer
The Amidons
Kathy Jo Putt



With us in spirit!!

Sue Albano 1409 Whispering Pines Lane Belleft. 43311
Lois Ashworth 209 E. Glen Belleft. 43311
Bob Carter 6559 US Rt 68 S Memory Unit W. Liberty 43311
Joyce Core 2450 Co. Rd. 118 Rushsylvania 43347
Bud & Mona Eichholtz 1328 Omaha Belleft. 43311
Byron Fullerton 2739 Co. Rd. #91 *104 Belleft. 43311
Anne Heinlen 741 E. Sandusky Ave. Belleft. 43311
Marcella Neeld 541 Center St. Belleft. 43311
Nate Weber 608 Newford Dr. Belleft. 43311



SEND A CARD
TO MAKE THEIR DAY!

“Look deep into nature,
and then you will understand everything better.”

—Albert Einstein



Celebrating a Birthday in April!!!

- April 1: Jamie McClelland, Scarlett Lentz
- April 2: Calvin Kennedy
- April 3: Patty Fitzpatrick
- April 6: Karl Kennedy
- April 7: Sue Dearwester
- April 9: Bob Lentz
- April 10: Vicky Shields

- April 11: Phyllis Lyons
- April 14: Arden Neer
- April 15: Lois McKenzie
- April 24: Natasha Kennedy
- April 26: Pat Ortli
- April 28: Cindy Jenkins
- April 29: Brenda Oda



Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in April!!!

April 4: Greg and Patty Fitzpatrick

April 23: Jenny and Jesse Jervis

If Mother Nature had named you...

First letter of your first name:

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| A Cascade | J Forrest | S Fox |
| B Aspen | K Brier | T Leaf |
| C Breeze | L Birch | U Winter |
| D Olive | M Sky | V Reef |
| E Rainy | N River | W Windy |
| F Kodiak | O Stormy | X Fern |
| G Canyon | P Eco | Y Alpine |
| H Sunny | Q Sequoia | Z Glacier |
| I Lynx | R Spruce | |

First letter of your last name:

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| A Newbranch | J Coastline | S Wildpond |
| B Oceanlife | K Streamwinder | T Evergreen |
| C Flowerfield | L Drydesert | U Hotspring |
| D Vinewander | M Lakeland | V Freezethaw |
| E Greengrowth | N Laurelvine | W Bloompetal |
| F Prairieview | O Junglewood | X Primrose |
| G Dewdrop | P Treefall | Y Tidecurrent |
| H Woodlander | Q Richsoil | Z Icecapper |
| I Deertrail | R Clearwater | |



Earth Day Trivia!

In 1970, Eddie Albert participated in the creation of Earth Day and spoke at one of its events in that year.

He was founder of the Eddie Albert World Trees Foundation and served as the national chairman for the Boy Scouts of America's conservation program.

- *Earth is the only planet with liquid water.
- *There are an estimated three trillion trees on the Earth.
- *It takes 24 trees to create one ton of paper.
- *The rainiest place on Earth is Northern India.
- *The driest place on Earth is Chile, South America
- *70% of the Earth is covered by water.
- *It takes 450 years for a plastic bottle to break down.
- *The Amazon Rainforest produces 20% of the Earth's oxygen.
- *20,000 people attended the first Earth Day rally in New York City's Union Square.
- *The Cuyahoga River caught fire in 1969 from all of the waste and pollution filling it.
- *The first Earth Day eventually led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency.





committee calendar!!



Our Daily Bread Bakers deliver desserts to Our Daily Bread on the 3rd Monday of each month between the hours of 8:30 am and 6:00 pm.

April 15

Natasha Kennedy Betty Lloyd
Amy McIntyre Lois McKenzie



Who doesn't love a nice warm chocolate chip cookie?? If you love to bake, you have an opportunity to assist Pastor Greg in his prison ministry! Twice yearly the **Kairos Ministry Team** delivers chocolate chip cookies with their visit to bring the Word of the Lord to the Marion Correctional Institution. Believe it or not, they are responsible for the distribution of roughly 96,000 cookies to both inmates and staff!! The Mission Committee has agreed to bake 50 dozen cookies to help! You don't have to purchase anything, the cookie dough will be supplied. If you would like to help even in a small way, we would greatly appreciate it!! Please contact Vicky Shields for more information!!



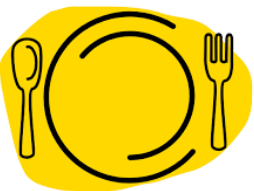
The **Higher Education Scholarship** Committee announces the dates for college scholarship applications to be turned in for the 2024-2025 academic year. Visit www.bellefontainepres for details!



YES! SIGN UP NOW for a Sunday to impart your knowledge to the **KidsTalk Summer Sunday School** program!! The CE Committee is looking for volunteers to spend a Sunday morning with the kids! You can teach them a new skill, tell stories of your childhood, sing songs, just about anything sounds great!! Contact Sara Stahler for more information!!



Volunteers are needed to join the **Vacation Bible School Committee**!! The CE Committee will be putting together a group of people to only work on VBS and how we can make this summer a great lesson for our children and their friends! After all what is better than learning about the Word of God?? Please call Sara Stahler at 937-441-3709 or email her at sjstahler@gmail.com for information on how you can help!!



Dinner at the Pres is back in full swing!! Our next meal will be held Tuesday April 30! The Mission Committee would love to have your support in helping with the cooking, serving and clean up! It is a joy to serve the community with a great meal! For information how you can help please see Vicky Shields!



Meeting in April!!

The **Church Growth and Member Care Committee** meets Sunday April 7, 12:00 in the Library.

The **Deacons** meets Tuesday April 9, 5:00pm in the Library.

The **Mission Committee** meets Tuesday April 9, 6:00pm in the Office.

The **Worship Committee** meets Tuesday April 9, 7:00pm in the Library.

The **Stewardship and Finance Committee** meets Wednesday April 10, 12:00pm in the Library.

The **CE Committee** meets Wednesday April 10, 5:00pm in the Library.

The **PWA Leadership** meets Sunday April 14, 12:00pm in the Library.

The **Book Club** meets Tuesday April 16, in the Chapel Lounge.

The **Session** meets Thursday April 18, 6:00pm in the Library.

The **Property Committee** meeting is yet to be determined.



The AA group - Bellefontaine Monday Fellowship Group - will host their 78th Anniversary Dinner in our Fellowship Hall on April 1. Beginning with set up at 5:00pm, they will enjoy dinner and a guest speaker following. **Congratulations** to all members of this group, **YOU** are an inspiration to us all! We are extremely proud of everything you have accomplished!



Serving in April!!

Deacons On-Call: Phyllis Lyons, Ben Stahler

Welcome Team: Bridget Hawkins, Cindy Jenkins, Pat Ortl, Holly VanBuskirk

Worship Leaders:

April 7: Karen Brady

April 14: Ben Stahler

April 21: Holly VanBuskirk

April 28: Vicky Shields

Church Open and Close

April 7: Karen Brady

April 14: Karen Brady, Sue Crawfis

April 21: Bill Wical

April 28: Sue Crawfis, Holly Core

Coffee Hour Hosts: Presbyterian Women's Association April 7, 2024



Financial Focus!!

March 3, 2024

On-Line Attendance: 18

Sunday School Attendance: 25 Sunday School Offering: \$55.00

Worship Attendance: 101 Weekly Giving: \$4,261.00

Received To Date: \$40,946.38

March 10, 2024

On-Line Attendance: 12

Sunday School Attendance: 28 Sunday School Offering: \$57.00

Worship Attendance: 57 Weekly Giving: \$3,320.00

Received To Date: \$26,692.38

March 17, 2024

On-Line Attendance: 17

Sunday School Attendance: 33 Sunday School Offering: \$39.50

Worship Attendance: 111 Weekly Giving: \$2,525.00

Received To Date: \$47,497.38

March 24, 2024

On-Line Attendance: 28

Sunday School Attendance: 31 Sunday School Offering: \$31.00

Worship Attendance: 114 Weekly Giving: \$2,064.00

Received To Date: \$49,461.38

March 31, 2024

On-Line Attendance: 18

Sunday School Attendance: 0 Sunday School Offering: \$0.00

Worship Attendance: 158 Weekly Giving: \$7,177.00

Received To Date: \$56,738.38



Looking ahead!!



Our Daily Bread Bakers deliver desserts to Our Daily Bread on the 3rd Monday of each month between the hours of 8:30 am and 6:00 pm.

MAY 20

Carla Murdock Pat Ortli

Joliece Reed Sara Stahler



The Annual PWA Ladies' Tea will be held June 9 this year! You are invited to attend! Bring your mothers, grandmothers, sisters, nieces, cousins, any ladies that you would like to spend an afternoon with! If you have any questions, please contact Eva Rinehart or any member of the PWA.

Earth Day

Word Search Puzzle

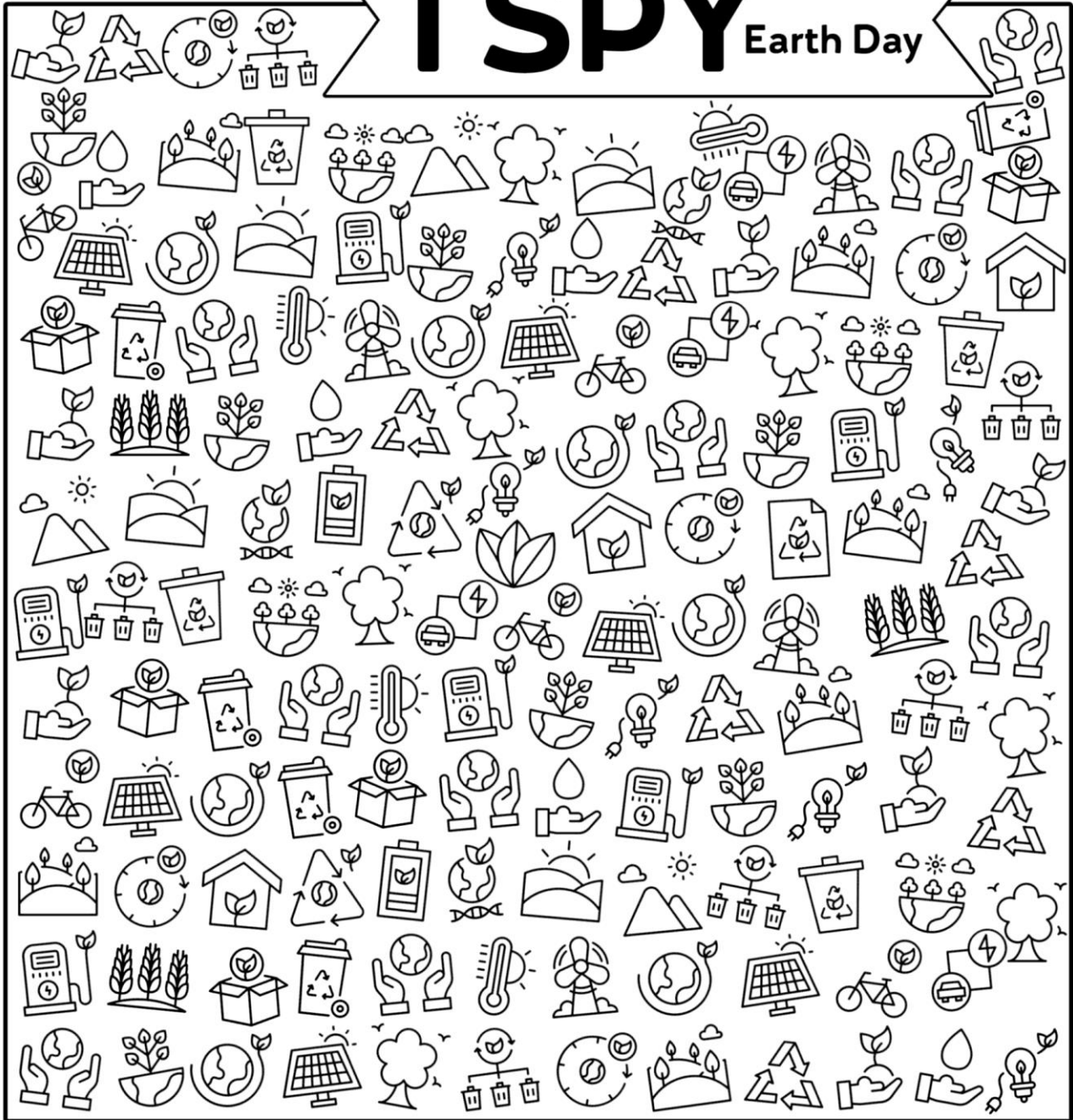


C	O	M	P	O	S	T	E	J	N	H	R	R	S			
K	L	U	A	U	L	O	Z	O	N	E	V	F	U	L		
W	F	E	K	E	N	N	I	S	E	L	N	D	E	W	V	P
I	C	K	A	R	W	T	X	T	C	O	N	A	T	U	R	E
L	D	S	S	N	U	G	N	Y	T	O	L	W	L	A	L	N
D	N	D	Z	L	A	U	B	Z	Y	H	I	V	Q	C	H	V
L	W	I	L	R	L	I	O	O	O	K	T	I	Y	Z	A	I
I	Y	O	E	O	P	Z	R	U	P	J	T	C	E	G	B	R
F	P	T	V	K	Q	T	G	T	V	Y	E	V	E	Y	I	O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



- | | | |
|-----------|-------------|------------|
| APRIL | ENVIRONMENT | PLANET |
| CLEAN AIR | GLOBAL | POLLUTION |
| CLIMATE | GREEN | RAINFOREST |
| COMPOST | HABITAT | RECYCLE |
| CONSERVE | LITTER | TREES |
| EARTH | NATURE | VOLUNTEER |
| ECOLOGY | OCEAN | WATER |
| ENERGY | OZONE | WILDLIFE |

I SPY Earth Day



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 2 | | 4 | | 4 | | 5 | | 4 | | 5 | | 7 | | 4 | | 6 | | 5 | |
| 1 | | 6 | | 7 | | 1 | | 3 | | 6 | | 7 | | 4 | | 7 | | 5 | |
| 3 | | 3 | | 4 | | 6 | | 2 | | 7 | | 5 | | 9 | | 6 | | 3 | |



HANDS
& FEET of *Jesus*



Each month, the **Board of Deacons** encourages you to help meet the needs of our 1st UPC family through your donation to our **2-Cents-of-Compassion Offering**. Your donation will support the Deacons in their effort to support those members of our church who are in need. Donate 2 cents (or more) for every compassionate thought you have had in the last month and place it in the “2 Cents of Compassion” envelope included in Sunday’s bulletin.

Our Lord Jesus said, “I desire mercy, not sacrifice.”

DINNER AT THE PRES! April 30th will be our next DINNER AT THE PRES! The Mission Committee would LOVE volunteers with this date. If you are available to help serve, please contact Vicky Shields! Our Daily Bread will continue to need our help with serving on certain days of each month. Four or five volunteers are needed. If you are available to help, please contact Evelyn at 937-592-6325!



God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.



Through the **Community Cash Program**, shop at Community Market (2 locations, North Main St. and East Sandusky Ave.), bring in your receipts and place them in the Donation Centers outside the sanctuary (Narthex) or in the Fellowship Hall. A portion of your sale will support 1st UPC’s Sharing Fund, providing assistance to our church families as needed.

“Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.”

Use your Kroger Reward Card and support Youth Mission Trips!

To make an automatic donation with your Kroger Plus Card, go to krogercommunityrewards.com. Log in or set up a new account. Our “NPO” (non-profit organization) ID number is **HD313** and is listed as First (not 1st) United Presbyterian Church. Each year, 1st UPC folks who have named 1st UPC as their charity contribute \$800-\$1000 a year to support our youth mission trips. It only takes a little on your part – but it sure helps our community a lot!



“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap if we do not give up.”

