

THE CHIMES

APRIL 2019



CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR

FROM THE LEAD PASTOR

General Conference 2019 is complete, but it does not feel like it is over. In fact, it sometimes feels like the conference refuses to go away.

By now, most of you will be familiar with the special session of General Conference that took place in St. Louis in February. The special session was called for the purpose of addressing whether LGBTQ persons can serve in ministry or be married by UM pastors or in UM churches. The conference ultimately voted to uphold the church's current prohibitions on both and adopted harsh punitive measures for infractions. The plan passed by a narrow margin of the 864 delegates – 28 votes the other way would have brought about a very different outcome.



Since then, we have seen a reversal by strict traditionalists who sought to create a new, more conservative denomination. We have seen protests and letters of withdrawal. We are seeing a crisis among United Methodist-related colleges, universities, hospitals, and other institutions that have anti-discrimination policies. And recently, we have learned that there were people casting votes at the conference who were not properly credentialed to do so (though that number is very small).

The United Methodist Church Judicial Council meets April 23-26 in Evanston, Illinois, where they will review the constitutionality of what was passed by the General Conference in February. By the end of this month, we will have a better idea of what comes next for the church. Or what doesn't.

All of this underscores a widely-held sentiment within our denomination. Does anything good ever come out of General Conference? And if not, why do we keep having them?

Ministry does not take place at General Conference. It happens in local churches like ours, vital congregations that transform the world through mission, invite people to grow in their faith through the Holy Spirit, and worship God with passion and hope. That is who we were at Church of the Saviour before General Conference, and it is who we continue to be. And we continue to be a church that sees difference as a gift, not as something to be stamped out.

I pray that in this changing time we will be a place that offers grace to one another, a place where all people are invited into a life of discipleship with Jesus, a place that does not wait for a conference to tell us who we are and what we do. We are still Church of the Saviour, and we are as committed as ever to bringing new life to greater heights.

Rev. Andy Call

Andy

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall, 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

April 7 *Ephesians 4:1-6 "Better Together"*

April 14 **Palm/Passion Sunday**
Mark 11:1-10,
Philippians 2:5-11



April 18 **Maundy Thursday**
Noon in the Parlor
7 p.m. in the Great Hall:
Modern Worship & Holy Communion



April 19 **Good Friday**
7 p.m. in the Sanctuary:
Tenebrae Service



April 20 **Easter Vigil**
7 p.m. Gather in Tower entrance



SUNDAY

April 21 **Easter Sunday Celebrations**
Luke 24:1-12
6:30 a.m., Front Lawn
8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
(8:30 and 11 in Sanctuary)

April 28 *1 John 3:1-3 "Who Am I?"*

Make sure you are in worship on April 7, because a film crew will be here capturing footage to use in our new welcome video for the web site!

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR CAMPAIGN

Our Church of the Saviour “**Love Your Neighbor**” campaign is starting its 4th week and is going strong! Our hope is that everyone would start a relationship with a neighbor whom they presently do not know well, and really try to know the person more than the superficial “Hi, how are you?” Invite the neighbor over for coffee. Make yourself available to transport a member of their family. Go for a walk with your neighbor and get to know each other.

The campaign is based on the book *The Art of Neighboring* which can be purchased for \$5 in the church office. There are also small groups studying the book that would welcome a newcomer at any time. Information on these groups is available from the church office.

For help on your “neighboring” pursuit, go to the church website and click on “Upcoming Events”, or contact Juanita Taylor at 330-659-2009, jajuarez1@yahoo.com.



STEWARDSHIP

As spring approaches, we have much to be thankful for at Church of the Saviour. We especially celebrate some of our children and youth programs.

The 2019 Upward program just successfully concluded its 10th season. The mission of Upward is “Promoting the Discovery of Jesus Through Sports.” Four evenings per week and all day Saturday for eight weeks the Great Hall was filled with eager boys and girls and dedicated coaches, referees, and other volunteers. Along with basketball skills, focused topics included Kindness, Courage, Love, and Patience. Upward helps leverage the power of sports to connect with families in our community.

The first Sunday in March our youth blessed us by leading all three worship services. Their message in song, sermon, and prayers inspired us and offered assurance that our church will continue to grow and serve under their leadership.

These next-generation ministries are just a sampling of the many areas of service and mission carried out regularly by the members and staff of COTS. Though we are experiencing many successes at Church of the Saviour, our current expenses through February 2019 have exceeded giving by \$27,593. We urge you to honor your Faithful Giving Pledges to honor God and allow for continued growth of our church.

—Dick and Cindy Helton, 2019 Stewardship Chairs

A NOTE FROM GLOBAL MISSIONS

The Methodist School in Dondon, Haiti. Africa University. Missionaries in Africa and Cambodia. The United Methodist Committee on Relief. Every year the Global Missions Committee helps Church of the Saviour show God's love throughout the world by supporting all of these ministries. This year we will be hosting a series of speakers explaining each of these missions. We will also be hosting visits by Esther Gitobu, our covenant missionary in Cambodia and Joey and Kerry Davidson, our covenant missionaries in Liberia. The Global Missions Committee's work is made possible by your support through the annual Easter Offering. As Easter approaches, please prayerfully consider how you can help our neighbors, wherever they may be.

EASTER SCAVENGER HUNT

APRIL 13, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Looking for a fun way to connect with your children over Easter? Or an opportunity to invite your neighbor to discover Jesus? Join us the Saturday before Palm Sunday for a Scavenger Hunt! Explore the Easter story with your family, friends and the greater community as you work your way through the church grounds. Groups will be provided with clues and scripture to discover. Once you have found each item on the list, gather in the Great Hall for refreshments and opportunities to interactively engage the Gospel with family and neighbors. All ages are welcome and encouraged to attend.

If you have any news you'd like us to consider for publication, please send a note to chimes@chsaviour.org.

CARING MINISTRIES

As we look to the future of Caring Ministries at Church of the Saviour, we can't help but be mindful of the rich history of congregational care from beloved clergy and lay leaders that has laid the foundation for our work. I'm deeply touched as I continue to learn about the work that's been done in the past and the way caring for one another has been prized and practiced here.

The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, where Adam Hamilton serves as Senior Pastor, has developed a robust number of caring ministries, and there's a lot we can learn from them. Perhaps the biggest lesson is how that congregation has come alive as more and more people have participated in providing care to one another. It's been an opportunity for embodying what it means to be part of the Body of Christ! In a church that size, as well as one the size of Church of the Saviour, two pastors simply cannot provide all the care the community needs. That turns out to be a blessing since, of necessity, it presses more and more lay people into active service and ends up enriching their faith and lives.

We believe we're called to keep building lay caring involvement at Church of the Saviour. This is not a substitute for clergy involvement—I'm constantly inspired by my colleagues' concern and affection for this congregation! Rather it is a way to augment the pastors' work and provide more support to those in need.

Will you please take three simple action steps? 1) Pray about ways you could be involved. In particular, I'm recruiting Congregational Care Ministers and Eucharistic Ministers, but could also use administrative help, such as sending cards and emails in certain pressing situations, and of course, praying in times of urgent need. 2) Let us know of people in need of congregational care. 3) Pray for me as I continue to learn and work with caring ministries. This is a part-time position, but, with your help and prayers, I believe we can all be instruments of God's healing and love in a big way!

— Rev. Lois Annich, Pastor of Care Ministries

UMW SPRING FLEA MARKET

The COTS United Methodist Women biannual flea market raises money for missions. Items in the Great Hall and Calvary Hall will include clothing, furniture, collectibles, toys, sporting, garden and household goods. A bake sale, homemade soup and hot dog lunch also are available. To volunteer, visit cotsumc.org, "Upcoming Events."

- May 3: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.**
\$10 admission 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., free thereafter
- May 4: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
50% off all items (except collectibles)

FINANCIAL LEGACY WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

What will your financial legacy be? Will you have the resources to provide for yourself and still be able to leave something for your loved ones? Can you continue to support the organizations or causes that are most important to you? How does our faith play a role in making long-term financial decisions?

Led by Bernie Karr and Rev. Andy Call, the Financial Legacy Workshop will help you to explore how careful planning can help you to achieve your goals and create gifts that will last, regardless of your income or financial position. Increase your vocabulary and knowledge of wills, estates, trusts, annuities, and other investments that will have a lasting impact beyond your lifetime. The event is free to attend and is sponsored by the Church of the Saviour Foundation. Advanced registration is appreciated. Visit www.cotsumc.org, "Upcoming Events" to learn more and to sign up.

HABITAT DINNER FUNDRAISER, MAY 5

Join us for a mid-day Indian Dinner!

The **Rich Hiles Memorial Habitat for Humanity House** project is hosting an ALL CHURCH mid-day benefit dinner, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, May 5. Supriya and Stephen Draviam will be preparing a delicious Indian dinner for all to enjoy! We hope that you can support this cause generously. Don't miss this chance to enjoy a wonderful meal while helping to close the gap in our project fund-raising. Reservations can be made at cotsumc.org, "Upcoming Events" or by contacting the church office.



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, April 7 - Save this Date for Mission Awareness about Africa University

United Methodist sponsored Africa University in Zimbabwe has 1200 students from 36 African countries.

On Sunday, April 7 at 9:30 a.m. in Calvary Hall, you are invited to hear Tammy Kuntz update us on Africa University. Tammy traveled with Bishop Malone and has seen first-hand how this unique university has grown with our prayers, scholarships and financial support. Contact: schanerkevin@gmail.com

WEBSITE AND PODCASTING: COTSumc.org

MINISTRY TEAM

Andy Call, Lead Pastor

Gregory Kendrick, Jr., Pastor of Connections

Lois Annich, Pastor of Care Ministries

David Gilson, Director of Music

Robert Day, Organist

Charles Cotton, Creative Director, 9:30 Worship Experience

Jill Phillips, Worship Leader, 9:30 Worship Experience

Graham Rosen, Production Team Leader

Brian Smart, Associate Modern Worship Leader

Curt Campbell, Director of Youth Ministries

Laura Moseley, Interim Program Coordinator, Children's Ministries

Penny Neisen, Properties Manager

Loretta Dahlstrom, Business Administrator

Cris Hicks, Administrative Assistant

Debbie Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Angela Chambers, Newsletter Editor

Leslie Myers, Wedding Coordinator

Dr. Charles D. Yoost, Pastor Emeritus



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CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR

United Methodist

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Dick and Jan Johnston are moving out of state, so we celebrated their 45 years of membership at Church of the Saviour and presented them with a prayer shawl on Sunday, Mar. 17.



BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Becki Gisser and family on the birth of her first grandchild, Laila Avelina Gisser. She was born on 3/10 at 3:10 pm and weighed 8 lb 12 oz.

CONDOLENCES

Adlina Williams died on Saturday, February 23 and Ray Everett died on Friday, March 22. Our sympathies are extended to their families and friends.

Heartfelt condolences to Mary Jane Burin, Amy lyles, and family on the recent death of Mary Jane's brother and Amy's uncle.

BAPTISMS

On Sunday, March 10, we celebrated the baptisms of Clara Elizabeth Gill, the daughter of Brad and Heather Gill, and the sister of Cameron; and Quincy Jewell Garner, the daughter of André and Molly Garner, and the great niece of Bob Day.

UMW GENERAL MEETING

Hands On Service Projects for UMC Midwest Mission Distribution Center

Can you sew, knit, crochet, or read patterns? On Tuesday, April 9 from 10:00 am - 12:00 p.m. in Calvary Hall we will work on a variety of projects to be sent to the MMDC. You are invited to help us to assemble birthing kits, to press and hem flannel for receiving blankets, to read patterns for baby clothing, and to plan for future projects. Check out the MMDC website for projects and patterns.

We will help you to carry in your portable sewing machine. Please come prepared with scissors, needles, hooks, and a serving heart.

A buffet lunch (\$5 cost) will be served while we work. Please contact the office to make your luncheon reservation. Contact: schanerkevin@gmail.com for more information.