

God didn't promise **days**
without pain, laughter
without sorrow, or sun
without rain,
but He did promise
strength for the
day, comfort for the
tears, and light for the
way.

—Anonymous

Joyful Noiz

March 6- April 10, 2020 Newsletter



Zion United Church of Christ

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*No matter who you are or where you are on life's
journey, you are welcome here.*

CHURCH INTERIOR RENOVATION

Worship in the chapel has been working out well!
The renovation work is complete! Shield Roofing has done an amazing job!

CHURCH SERVICES CANCELED FOR NOW

As of today, there will be **no church services** for the foreseeable future. We will update our website as things progress. Our priority is the safety of our congregation and employees. We will not be having office hours.

Pastor Coy is available by phone at **330-301-0551**.

John Diekmann is available at **304-312-6622**.

Renea Starkey-Hunt is available at **740-314-9880**.

Pastor's Pen

Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar. Beginning on Ash Wednesday; Lent is a season of self-reflection and preparation before the wonderful event of Easter. By observing the 40 days of this wonderful season; Christians are reminded of the many sacrifices of Jesus Christ. Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus after his death on the cross. Christian churches that observe Lent use it for a time for prayer and penance. Here is a story to help remind you to pray frequently during Lent.

The Pretzel is a food commonly associated with the season of Lent for some 1500 years now. There are different versions of the story. A common thread in these stories is that a young monk who lived during the early 600s somewhere between France and Italy was baking unleavened bread; which is a Lenten fasting food. A common posture for prayer for these early Christians was to stand with their arms folded across their chest with each hand touching the opposite shoulder. Some versions of the story say it was accidental, others say it was on purpose; that the monk used some leftover unleavened bread dough to create a



shape that we now call a Pretzel. It is also said that the monk used his creation to remind his fellow monks to pray during Lent. He called his creation "little arms" which in German is "Bretzel." It is also said that the monk used his Bretzel as a reward for the Children saying their prayers. As with the Monks or the Children we need to be reminded at Lent and throughout the year to pray. Our reward is not only the tasty Pretzel but that Easter will come. Our Lord and Savior did conquer death; so YOU can count on Jesus Christ every day of your life! Now go enjoy a delicious Pretzel and don't forget to pray!

In Christian Faith,

Rev. Walter Coy



UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

If you haven't checked out our website, take a look!

www.zionuccsteubenville.com

God is still speaking,

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



IN OUR CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Mary Hoover, Bill Bertram, Janet Davis, John Rhueff, Dakota Miller, Marlene Rhueff, Barb Mottice, Al & Elaine Panyi, BethAnn Postlewait, Pat Loyszczyk, Vern McCamic, Doug Lewis (Joyce Coy's brother)

➤ If you would like to be remembered in prayer or know of someone who would appreciate being included in this list, please contact the church office.

PASTOR COY CELL PHONE

If you would like to get a hold of Pastor Coy his cell number is **330-301-0551**.

COUNCIL MEETING

The next council meeting will be **May 3, 2020, after worship**.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Due to the pandemic, we will be canceling the Maundy Thursday potluck dinner service. We hope to have this service next year!

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Due to the pandemic, we will not be hosting the LAMP Easter service. We are looking forward to working with the sisters in the future.