

L A K E V I E W



Vol 26, Issue 4
April 2026

RUTH'S CORNER

It is hard to believe that Easter is almost here, and soon I will be moving on from Lakeview and you will be welcoming a new pastor! April 12 is formally my last Sunday with you as your interim, but, depending on when your new pastor can start serving you, I may see you in May for a few Sundays as supply. I am so happy that you will be embarking on this new adventure, but I will be sad to leave this fabulous congregation.

You really are a blessing to the church!

I want to thank all of you for welcoming me into your community, especially the council members, and all the staff. It was a pleasure working with all of you. I know you will welcome your new pastor with the same warm feelings.

Easter is the season for new beginnings and new life, and you have a wonderful life with lots of new beginnings ahead of you! Remember to be kind to each other, and give each other lots of grace in this transitional time that will be full of emotion and anticipation.

While my time as your pastor will be ending, I'm sure I will see many of you around the wider church circles! I will continue to pray for Lakeview and am excited to hear about your future ministries.

Love and Blessings,
Pastor Ruth



INSIDE

CYF	2
Birthdays & Prayer Requests	3
Announcements & Events	3-4
AIM	5-7
Capital Campaign Update	8
Scouts	8
Treasurer's Report	9
Calendar	10

Church Office Hours:

See Sunday bulletin for weekly office schedule.

For quickest response, email:

info@lakeviewucc.com

Sunday Worship Services

- Sanctuary Service 10:15am
- Worship service available online at 2:00 pm via emailed Vimeo link
- Communion is held on the 1st Sunday of each month.

CYF (Children, Youth and Family Ministry)

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”
-Audrey Hepburn

Last month we kicked off our new approach to Sunday School - our alternating weeks of combined and split classes were a great success and we are so excited to keep going - which, of course, means this month's schedule will be a little bit wonky. Please make sure to check out the schedule at the bottom of this note for a quick overview of our classes for the month of April!

We begin the month with our Easter Sunday conversations (these are always top tier) and our annual Easter Egg Hunt (a huge thank you to everyone who helped fill and hide the eggs!), continue with Board Games, a celebration of Pastor Ruth's time as our Interim Minister, and a lot of time looking forward for our congregation. In Sunday School we are focusing our learning and activities around the future. What was the future the disciples pictured on that Easter morning? What future is God calling us to? How do we get to shape our future as children of God, as members of this congregation and as people of the world? This time between Easter Sunday and Pentecost is one of those periods where we really focus on our calling to ask questions - to look beyond the known and to try and figure out what we are being called to do in this world.

We rest on the knowledge that we are loved. We act from our calling to love others and ourselves. We ask questions to help us grow into our faith. This month and always - we celebrate the beauty in the chaos that is growth. We will get our hands dirty (sometimes quite literally) and we will follow Jesus into the future, creating it as we go.

A note for parents & caretakers: We will be bringing back Sunday School signouts with this new plan - with more locations and moving pieces we need to ensure that each child is where they need to be and with the people they are meant to be with. So please come pick up your kiddos after Sunday School and don't forget to sign them out as you go!

As always, thank you to the wonderful Lakeview family for your continued love and support of the Children, Youth and Family Ministry and if you would like to be more involved there are volunteer signups on the Worship Volunteer sheet in the lobby.

-Corey & Faith



- April 5 - Easter Sunday! Full Group Sunday School (Conference Room) & Easter Egg Hunt after church
- April 12 - Full Group Sunday School (Conference Room) & Communion
*Lunch & Fun & Fellowship - Board Game Day after church!
- April 19 - Full Group Sunday School (Conference Room)
- April 26 - Breakaway Groups: Teens (Conference Room), Youth (Fellowship Hall)

2 Frankie Daily
 2 Lilly Daily
 6 Cindy Wood
 7 Darlene Bierkan
 13 Sarah Huber



14 Diana Watson
 22 Craig Cange
 25 Natalie Brown
 28 Irina Hall
 28 Natalie Gabbard

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mac McKenzie
 Eric K (Joyce's friend)
 Karen Baumann & Larry
 Harry, Ernie & Karen (friend of Pam's)
 The Paul Family
 Lynn Potts
 Tim (Pam's brother-in-law)
 Fred Wood

Mike Maile
 Tom & Ruthie McCormack
 Linda Crawford and Family
 Sue Anderson
 Irina and Family
 Patsy (friend of Pam)
 Bob Sandman & family



ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

Holy Week

April 2 Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm in rooms 8 and 9

April 3 Good Friday Zoom service 7 pm

Join us on zoom for a contemplative service. Watch your email for the Zoom link!

Sundays at 10:15 am

April 5 Easter Day! Wear your best Easter bonnet and let us welcome the gift of new life! *There will be no communion on Easter Sunday.*

April 12 First Sunday after Easter. Pastor Ruth's last official Sunday as interim. Don't miss the special second Sunday LAFF (Lunch and Fun & Fellowship)!

April 19 Candidate Sunday. Please make every effort to be here to hear the chosen candidate preach and for you to vote on your new pastor!



As you hopefully read in the email message last week, our Settled Pastor Search Team has recommended the Rev. Anthony Spearhart of Wapakoneta, Ohio, for the position of Settled Pastor. Rev. Spearhart will preach at the morning worship service on **April 19th**, after which the congregation will meet to consider his candidacy and vote on calling him to be our Settled Pastor. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this very special service and congregational meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS.....continued



Lunch and Fun and Fellowship (LAFF)—April 12

On Sunday, April 12, we invite you to join us for an unconventional “Lunch and Learn.” (We have had lots of unconventional gatherings during our Interim period, so, why not another?) Our plan is to join together for lunch and board games and fellowship immediately after the worship service on the second Sunday of April.

We will meet either in Fellowship Hall or rooms 8/9, depending on the anticipated number of attendees and the progress of the remediation of the education wing. We will provide pizza and a cake (in honor and appreciation of Pastor Ruth’s at the end of her official interim time with us, before she heads off for a much-needed vacation.) We ask that you sign up and indicate if you can bring either a salad or fruit, to complement pizza and cake. Bring any board game you might like to share/teach. **In order to plan for the purchase of pizza and cake, it will be greatly appreciated if you can sign up no later than Easter Sunday—or call the office by April 9.** If you have questions, please contact Linda Overholt or Adam Paul.



Many thanks to Megan Bergert, UCC Minister for Refugee and Migration Services, for sharing your time, insight, and inspiration with us on March 15th!



Watch the April bulletins for information on the April **Just for Lunch** date and location. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. All are welcome, but space is limited!



Sign Up to Help With Worship and Fellowship—WE NEED YOU!

In case you have missed it, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the lobby where you are encouraged to volunteer for Sundays. We are in need of greeters, scripture readers, help with Communion preparation/serving, and providing and/or serving refreshments/doing cleanup after worship. You do not need to be a member to help with most tasks- everyone is welcome to lend a hand!



Don’t forget to save your aluminum beverage tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House! You can drop them in the canister under the SONKA bulletin board in the narthex, or leave them at the office.

<https://www.rmhcincinnati.org/get-involved/donate/donate-items/pull-tabs/>



Ronald McDonald House Charities® Greater Cincinnati



ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)

April Mission of the Month

CHILDHOOD FOOD SOLUTIONS



Childhood Food Solutions (CFS) is Lakeview's mission of the month for April. This small local program provides food for hungry children in the Roll Hill neighborhood and several other nearby Cincinnati neighborhoods. The focus of food distribution is for weekends, holidays and summer breaks, when school nutrition programs are typically not available. (Public school food programs only account for 178 days a year, leaving 187 days when many children miss meals and go to bed hungry.) The program was started by Executive Director, Tony Fairhead, Lisa Hyde-Miller, Board Chair, and Angela Anno in 2007, by focusing on a couple of schools in a single zip code, 45225. Lakeview has supported this program through our mission giving for several years.

The program expanded over the years, but the Covid 19 Pandemic in 2020 caused a change in the program model. While sacks of food are now sent home monthly with students in the immediate Roll Hill area, food is also distributed several days per week from the Villages at Roll Hill Community Center. For other neighborhoods where there is no community center, CFS provides a monthly delivery of shelf-stable boxes of food to the homes of students who are recommended by school staff in these neighborhoods. Delivery is by van by CFS's only two paid staff members, who are authorized to provide extra food as a need becomes known to them. The program contracts with Goodwill to have their clients pack the food boxes, for a modest fee. The food boxes are filled with a standard list of foods, purchased through donations and grants, with occasional supplementation of fresh fruit, when available.

The overall mission of the program has not changed over the years: to find solutions for children running out of food, with the hope that these solutions can and will be duplicated and funded by other organizations, locally, statewide and beyond. Research into the effectiveness of CFS has focused on health improvements of children, lower family stress and fewer "Reported Offences," as measured and reported online by the Cincinnati Police Department.

CFS has now recorded three kinds of results that provide the potential to encourage organizations that can fund hunger reduction programs.

- Surveys of food box recipients (completed anonymously), record, "no one goes to bed hungry (51%), less stress (63%) and, doing better at work or school (24%)."

Childhood Food Solutions seeks to develop solutions for childhood food insecurity. We apply it in a community, test it for effectiveness, and hope to duplicate it in other communities.



EACH BOX
contains more than 20,000
calories for children and
their families.

FROM OCTOBER
TO JANUARY,

CFS provided over 8,000 boxes worth of food to 50 schools through drops and home deliveries!



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ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)...Continued

- UnitedHealthcare, a Medicaid insurer, has recorded preventive health gains, such as flu vaccination, well-child visits and attention to dental health.
- The publicly available police measure of “Recorded Offences” (all offences, violent and non-violent, by neighborhood) shows a **decrease of 7.6% for the 10 neighborhoods CFS serves**, but an average **increase of 15.6%** for the other Cincinnati neighborhoods (where over 20% of residents live in poverty).

The problem of childhood hunger is immense, and it is increasing nationwide due to budget cuts and the hopelessness felt by food-insecure heads-of-household. We are privileged to continue to monetarily assist Childhood Food Solutions in meeting the nutritional needs of children in Cincinnati.

Please contribute to this mission during April, as you are able.

Submitted by Linda Overholt

DONATIONS FOR KINGS FOOD PANTRY:

APRIL IS FOR CONDIMENTS!

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ketchup • Mustard • Mayonnaise • Salad dressing • Pickles • Relish |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranch dressing • Soy sauce • Barbeque sauce |
|---|--|---|

Look for the bins under the bulletin board in the church lobby. Thank you for your generosity and the positive impact you continue to make in our community for those in need.



Many thanks to all those who donated to Caracole during the month of February!

Check out all those donations!



ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)...Continued

FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Lakeview made a commitment several years ago to assist host church St. Pat's Episcopal Church in Lebanon during their rotation week, and Lakeview handles Monday nights. This happens 4 times a year at the renovated facility on 600 Cincinnati Ave. in Lebanon.

Next Date: Monday, April 27, 2026

Volunteers are needed to:



—Provide a dish for the evening meal (4 volunteers).

—Host the families during evening hours (about 5 p.m. to about 8:45 p.m.)—2 volunteers needed. This involves helping to set out dinner and clean up, as well as hanging out with the guests and maybe doing activities with the kids (bring a craft or art project if you wish, depending on the ages of the children).

—Spend the night—2 volunteers needed. You will have your own space to sleep. There are no real duties except to make sure everyone is accounted for, turn off lights and lock up the common area, and be there in case any emergencies occur (you will have emergency contact numbers). In the morning you are free to leave as soon as you need to.

Please let Ellen Abel (ellenabel1016@gmail.com; 513-967-5022) know if you can help out, or sign up in the narthex! Support will be provided for those who have and have not done this before. It is a great and eye opening experience, allowing you to put your faith and values into action. Thank you for your continued support of this mission!



If you aren't a Kroger rewards member, or haven't set up your community rewards partner yet, it's very easy and free to do! When you think of Kroger for your groceries you can contribute to LUCC at the same time. It really **does** make a difference!

Step-by-step instructions found here:

<https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

Contributions to the Lakeview Operating fund can be made during offering, by using the giving envelopes in the main aisle, via automatic bill pay at your bank, online using the Pushpay app or the QR code here. Your generosity is deeply appreciated!



2025 Lakeview Capital Campaign

PAVING THE WAY- APRIL 2026



On Sunday, March 16th, 2025, at the congregational meeting of Lakeview UCC, a vote was taken to extend the 2022 Capital Campaign. Now that the second mortgage has been paid off (February 24, 2025), extending the campaign will enable the church to gather funds for much needed property projects.

In a few years, the church will need the roof shingles replaced and that will also be a major expense. Due to the water damage from the ice dams in February we may need to absorb some of this expense that will not be covered by insurance (deductible, etc.).

So, prayerfully consider extending your commitment to the capital campaign. **As of March 18th, we have \$33,332.69 already.** Any gift is gratefully appreciated. Please remember to mark your gift "Capital Campaign" so the Financial Secretary, Julie Peterson, can place it in the proper designation.

Also, as you consider your 2026 commitment to Lakeview, if you are giving a new gift to the Capital Campaign remember to indicate that on your pledge. Thank you!

I will keep you informed about the progress each month in [The Link](#).

Karen Baumann, Treasurer

Cub Scout Pack 617

The Cub Scouts began construction on a new pollinator garden on the Lakeview grounds at the end of March. This project is a requirement of the "Champions for Nature" Wolf (2nd grade) adventure.

You can see the garden taking shape on the Northwest side of the parking lot. Check it out and follow their progress this Spring!



The Lakeview App is the easy way to send a prayer request, receive notifications, make a donation, and more. Scan the QR code to download and use our keyword "GIVE2LAKEVIEW"



TREASURER'S REPORT

Lakeview United Church of Christ Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January through February, 2026

	<u>Jan-Feb 26</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense Income				
Income				
40000—Operating Income	<u>121,699.98</u>	<u>11,831.76</u>	<u>109,868.22</u>	<u>1,028.6%</u>
Total Income	121,699.98	41,831.76	79,868.22	290.9%
Expense				
60000—Employee Expenses	19,979.39	28,252.44	-8,273.05	70.7%
50000—Operating Expenses	28,963.73	16,344.36	12,619.37	177.2%
72070—Cornerstone Mortgage	<u>8,191.50</u>	<u>8,191.50</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Total Expense	57,134.62	52,788.30	4,346.32	108.2%
Net Ordinary Income	<u>64,565.36</u>	<u>-10,956.54</u>	<u>75,521.90</u>	<u>-589.3%</u>
Net Income	64,565.36	-10,956.54	75,521.90	-589.3%

Checking Account Balance as of 2/28/26 \$103,878.15*

Savings Account Balance as of 2/28/26 \$16,119.36

*Contains \$32,287.69 of capital campaign fund

Cornerstone Mortgage Balance as of 3/2/26 \$553,875.35



Thank you to everyone for the generous gifts given through Lakeview UCC to provide for helping others within and beyond our community.

THANK YOU!

Karen Baumann, Treasurer

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Your generosity is deeply appreciated!



February Mission Total- *Caracole*: \$2004.00

March "5th Sunday"- *Maundy Thursday*: \$735.00 (includes \$250 H.O.P.E grant)



April LUCC Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <i>Preschool Spring Break</i> → 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:30 Handbells 7:00P-NAR-Anon-CR 7:30 Chancel Choir	2 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 7P- Service of Service- rm 8 7P-AA-FH 7P-AL Anon-CR	3 <i>Good Friday</i> 7P- Zoom Service	4 8:30A-AA- rm 8
5 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 10A-Harmony-Rm8/9, CR, FH 10:15A-Worship Service 	6 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7	7 5:30- Cub Scouts-mtg-FH/8/9 8P-AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	8 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:45P- Girl Scouts -rm 8 7:00P-NAR-Anon-rm 7 <i>No choir rehearsals</i>	9 7P-AA-FH 7P-AL Anon - CR	10	11 8:30A-AA- rm 8
12 10:15A-Worship Service 11:30- 2nd Sunday "LAFF" 2:30P- 4H Crusaders- FH	13 12P- AA- FH 6P- Girl Scouts- rm 8 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR	14 5:30- Cub Scouts-PACK mtg- Sanct. FH/7/8/CR 8P-AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	15 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:30PM Handbells 7:00P-NAR-Anon-rm 7 7:30 Chancel Choir	16 5P- Preschool Art Show-CE wing & Narthex 7P-AA-FH 7P-AL Anon-CR	17	18 8:30A-AA- rm 8 Pastoral Candidate Meet & Greet 2-4PM
19 10A-Harmony-Rm8/9, CR, FH 10:15A- Worship Service- Pastoral Candidate to Preach, Congregational Meeting Follows	20 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR	21 5:30- Cub Scouts 8P-AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	22 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:30PM Handbells 7:00P-NAR-Anon-rm7 7:30 Chancel Choir	23 7P-AA-FH 7P-AL Anon - rm8	24	25 8:30A-AA- rm 8
26 10:15A- Worship Service 2:30P- 4H Crusaders- FH 3P- Girl Scouts-rm8 5P- Federov Piano Recital	27 12P- AA- FH 6P- Girl Scouts- rm 8 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR	28 5:30- Cub Scouts 8P-AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	29 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:45P- Girl Scouts -rm 8 7:00P-NAR-Anon-rm 7 <i>No choir rehearsals</i>	30 7P-AA-FH 7P-AL Anon - rm8		

