



[April 2022](#) [BoonvilleMethodist@gmail.com](mailto:BoonvilleMethodist@gmail.com) [www.nelsonmemorialumc.org](http://www.nelsonmemorialumc.org) [www.facebook.com/NelsonMemorialUMC](https://www.facebook.com/NelsonMemorialUMC)

“Do you really mean it?”

*“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”* Mathew 6:14-15

I’ve been working in churches in one form or another since I was 19 years old. Over the past 20 plus years, I’ve encountered a vast variety of experiences. I’ve rejoiced with families as they welcomed a new life, I’ve cried with families as they said goodbye to a loved one. We’ve celebrated great congregational accomplishments and bold decisions that have impacted communities and have also mourned together as once vital ministries saw an end to their life.

Of all the difficult things I’ve experienced to this point, by far the most difficult have been the times where I most needed to back up my preaching and teaching with real world living. No place is that a more common experience than in the area of forgiveness. I’m sure I’ve shared before that I come by holding grudges pretty naturally. It’s something of a family tradition, but I am always working to make grace and understanding become a more natural reaction rather than anger and resentment.

A few weeks ago, we experienced something here at Nelson that I have experienced now 3 times in ministry – having a church either vandalized or broken into/robbed. In this particular instance, someone spray-painted some graffiti on part of the exterior of our building. It was quickly cleaned up and the Board has discussed what means we might employ to deter this in the future (motion lights, security cameras, etc.). Additionally, it was reported to the police and neighbors were informed so they could keep a lookout for their own property.

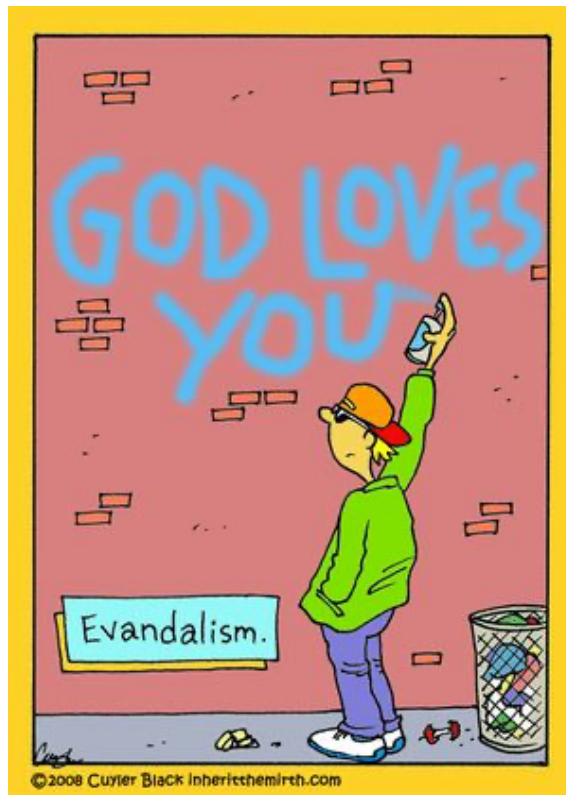
The initial steps of cleanup and reporting are obvious. The hard part is knowing what to do next. In conversations I’ve had with others, it was clear that this act was upsetting and triggered a desire for some type of justice for whoever committed the offense. Most of us, when we are wronged, have this as our initial reaction – we want justice. I know when I get cutoff on the highway by someone very obviously speeding, I am always hoping there will be a Highway Patrol car waiting over the next hill. We want other people to be held accountable.

Chances are we will never know who vandalized our wall a few weeks ago. But if I ever were to meet him or her, I hope that I would be able to offer them a glimpse of a Christian who modeled Jesus’ love and forgiveness. Maybe I could offer them an encounter with someone who doesn’t reflect all the negative things they might think of or associate with church, organized religion, or Christianity. And I hope that I would be able to tell him or her that I forgive them and want them to know they are loved by God.

I invite you to join me in praying for whoever vandalized our building and pray that we, as a congregation, might be able to extend forgiveness and grace towards whomever they might be.

Blessings,

Chris



#### From the Church Board

*In this space, each month a different member of our Church Administrative Board will share with you a little about their work, their desires, and why they serve. This month, Jessica Brownfield has agreed to share her thoughts and perspective.*

Our board is an invested group of problem-solvers. We guide, encourage, imagine, pray, discern, and problem-solve together on behalf of our church community. I'm grateful to be among those who come together to help plot the course of our church.

I recently made the decision to serve another three-year term. I do this because I love to understand the parts, people, and interactions of our church, to see and hear the perspective of many voices, to help build and maintain something that is open and available for all. I feel I have a skillset that helps to assure that we balance our decisions for the many perspectives, that we don't lose site of the many opportunities that we have in our decisions.

We have a tremendous physical footprint and with this comes the need for long range planning for care, maintenance, and utilization of space to assure implementation of the goals with our vision. This position helps me stay connected and provides a path to learn more about the people I serve with and for.

I look forward to hearing from our church, the people who call this home, to learn what is important to them in a church and where we can improve and grow together. Please let me or one of the other board members know if there is something we can do to help make this place be a home for connecting and growth for you.

Jessica Brownfield

## Holy Week April 10 thru April 16

- Holy Week begins with our Palm Sunday worship on Sunday, April 10th
- We will have a Maundy Thursday worship service on April 14th at 7:00 PM.
- Good Friday we will have a worship service on April 15th at 7:00 PM.
- On Easter Sunday, April 17th, our worship times will be announced at a later date.

## Ash Wednesday



Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. To mark the beginning of this liturgical season in the church we will host an Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 2nd. This will be a simple service of meditation, contemplation, confession, and receiving ashes.

**Prayer:** God, make this Lenten journey, and the prayers and fasting, a deep and rich time for reflection and growth. And then, Holy God, bring to mind and heart the needs of the world and our fitting response. Amen

## Dear Congregation,



On behalf of the Education Committee and the Nelson Kids, we want to thank you for the love and support that was shown at the Valentine's Day lunch. The kids absolutely loved serving and hosting a lunch to show God's love. Also a big thank you to all those who worked so hard, donated items, and prepared and served food. You made this possible. Thank you again, we are so blessed to have a wonderful and supportive church family!

## Youth Group News



- Sunday, March 13th: Meeting at the Jackson's (4:00 pm)
- Sunday, March 27th: Meeting at the Jackson's (4:00 pm)

## Daylight Savings Time (DST) change March 13



Most of the country will "spring forward" one hour at 2 AM, March 12 for Daylight Savings Time. As a practical matter, most of us will set our clocks up one hour sometime on March 13 so we can show up on time for worship Sunday morning.

## Come and Make a Joyful Noise



Our Choir and Praise Band are looking for a few more members. The Choir is looking for a few more voices, specifically men, but all are welcome. The Choir practices the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. Please talk with Leah Gumbel for more information.

The Praise Band is also looking for a few more members. A bass player or drummer is being sought, and an additional guitarist would be welcome as well. Vocalists are also welcome. The Praise Band rehearses the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. Childcare is available during Praise Band rehearsal. Please talk with Larry Long, Sara Snyder, or Philip Wooldridge for more information.



### Mission Team News

Our adult mission team is planning to travel this Spring to western Kentucky to help out with the Clean-up and rebuilding efforts necessitated by the tornadoes that struck the area back in December. Join us for our traditional "Soup 'N Spuds" fundraising lunch this Sunday after the 10:20 am worship services. Along with baked potatoes and a variety of home-made soups, we will also be having a "cake walk". Freewill offerings will be accepted and appreciated!



### Time to Order Easter Lilies



Those of you that would like to purchase an Easter Lily in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please fill out a form that is located on the table in the refreshment area or by the front doors. Please deliver the form to the church by Sunday, March 13th or place it in the offering box. This will give Marcey from Stella's Florist plenty of time to order the lilies. Please make checks payable in the amount of \$12.00 to Nelson Memorial, UMC, and in the memo line write Easter Lily. The lilies will help beautify the sanctuary for Easter and will be displayed at the Easter services. You may take your lily home after the 10:20 a.m., Easter service.

### A Prayer for Ukraine



We pray for the people of the Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy.

## March Birthday's



1 Lindie Adair  
 3 Colin Arnold  
 5 Frankie Graham  
 7 John Linville, HESSIE WATTS  
 8 Audrey Phelps  
 9 Dusty Rohrbough  
 10 Matt McGruder  
 11 Ray Taylor  
 12 Jo Parker, Tina Zeller  
 19 Donna Wrenn

20 Judy Powell  
 21 Laura Burnett,  
 Corbin Jackson  
 23 Todd McVicker  
 24 Dennis Huff, Luke Belstle  
 26 Alyssa Brownfield,  
 Leah Schmidt  
 27 Chris Phelps  
 29 Lawrence O. Nelson  
 30 Pat Reardon

## March Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00 pm Choir Practice	2 10:15 am Women's Bible Study, Lounge  12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting Lounge  7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	3	4 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	5
6 Noon-2:00 pm Financial Peace University (FPU),Lounge  Mission Lunch Fundraiser After 10:20 am Service	7 9:00 am TOPS  8:00 pm – Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	8 6:00 pm PEO Fellowship Hall  6:30 pm NAMI	9 10:15 am Women's Bible Study, Lounge  12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	10 1:00 pm Baby Grace Size and Sort  6:00 pm Praise Band Practice	11 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	12 UMM to CoMo Christian Men's Conference  State Conference 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
13 Noon-2:00 pm Financial Peace University (FPU),Lounge  4:00 pm Youth Group @ Jackson's	14 9:00 am TOPS  8:00 pm – Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	15 6:00 pm Administrative Board Meeting, Lounge  7:00 pm Choir Practice	16 10:15 am Women's Bible Study, Lounge  12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	17 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Baby Grace	18 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	19
20 Noon-2:00 pm Financial Peace University (FPU),Lounge	21 9:00 am TOPS  8:00 pm – Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	22	23 10:15 am Women's Bible Study, Lounge  12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	24 6:00 pm Praise Band Practice	25 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	26
27 Noon-2:00 pm Financial Peace University (FPU),Lounge  4:00 pm Youth Group @ Jackson's	28 9:00 am TOPS  8:00 pm – Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	29	30 10:15 am Women's Bible Study, Lounge  12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, Lounge	31		