

The Second Avenue
United Methodist Church
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Altoona, PA 16602

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Reaching Seekers Building Believers in Christ

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130 Second Avenue - Altoona, PA 16602
814.943.2072 - 814.943.4453 fax

Reaching Seekers
Building Believers
in Christ

April 2011



Visit us at:
www.2ndaveumc.org

E-Mail:
2ndaveumc@verizon.net



Worship With Us:

Saturdays at:
5:30pm
Elevation

Sundays at:
8:15am
Traditional

Sundays at:
10:45am
Contemporary

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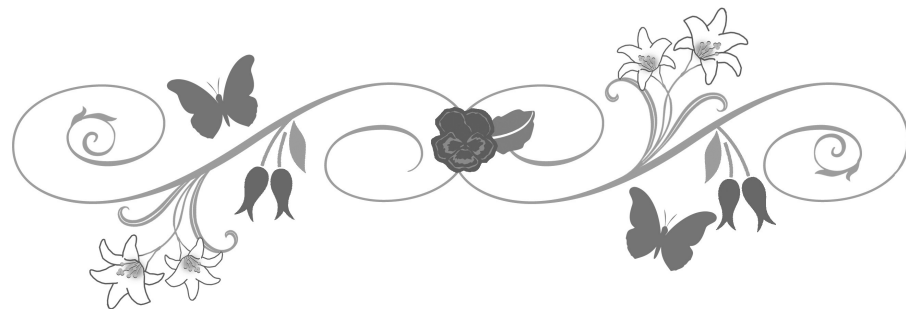
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We are now fully into the Lenten season as we journey to the Cross of Christ. A number of weeks ago I had the privilege of sharing with many of you on Ash Wednesday. Over and over I got my hands dirty with the ashes that were smeared on our foreheads. There has always been something powerful in that process for me as it reminds me just how human, how mortal, and how temporary my life is. But it gives me hope too to realize that my life is in the hands of the One who made me from those dust and ashes.

With this understanding, I want to share an announcement with you now that I shared with many of you a few weeks ago. I offer these words for purposes of clear communication, but also to hopefully, ultimately, offer a sense of hope that God is indeed moving among us (even if we do not fully understand how!).

A few weeks ago I received a call from the Bishop's office regarding a change in pastoral appointment for myself, Jenn and the kids. And after much, much prayer, and discernment and tears, Jenn and I truly believe this is the call of God on our lives. While this has come as quite a shock to us (that is a major understatement as we were not looking for such a move), we do believe that this is the call and the will of God for us at this particular time. Again, we realize that our lives are temporal and nothing lasts forever. We truly believe that God has the best interests of Second Avenue and us as we get ready to make this transition.

Knowing that our lives are temporal, ten years of our lives invested in you all is so much more than was fair to ask or for us to deserve---thus I am so very grateful for the time that we have had together. That is part of what gives Jenn and I a sense of peace as we realize this call on our lives.

This is incredibly hard for Jenn and I, and I assume for you. But I ask that you trust me in this call that affects us all. Trust that God's hand is in it. Trust that God has all of our best interests at heart. Trust that God desires to take us all to the next step of faithfulness.

What this means is that as of June 30 of this year, I will no longer be the appointed pastor at Second Avenue UMC. Beginning July 1 I will be appointed at First Church UMC of Williamsport. You will receive a new pastor (we do not yet know who that is) that I want to ask you to love and support as fully as you have supported me---just as you did when I came. You loved the pastor who came before me, and I trust that you will love the pastor who comes after me because that is the kind of people YOU are... and that is the kind of people God calls ALL of us to be.

Our tears today are ones of sadness and joy. Our tears of sadness come over moving into a new part of the journey and loving you all so very much. And our tears of joy come knowing that we are moving in harmony with God's Holy Spirit.

Cont..

Pastor's Message Cont.:

Please know how very much we love you all and how grateful we are that God has given us this time together.

This month we will celebrate the Resurrection... a time of new life and new living. May we look to the cross as God moves all of us into new life and new living...

May God bless you all so very, very richly... as you have blessed us...

In Christ,

Pastor Matt (and family)

a
TIME
of
HOPE

Please join us on the following dates and times this Holy season...

Palm Sunday	April 17	8:15am & 10:45am
Maundy Thursday	April 21	7pm
Good Friday	April 22	7pm
Prayer Vigil	April 22 & 23	8:30pm (Fri.)-8:30pm (Sat.)
Puppet Show	April 23	1:30pm
Easter Egg Hunt	April 23	2:30pm
Sunrise Service	April 24	7am
Easter Breakfast	April 24	8:30-10:30am
Resurrection Celebration!	April 24	10:45am

REMEMBER:

There are three more Lenten "Bach" Box Lunch Concerts this month. Each Wednesday at 12noon followed by a concert in the sanctuary:

April 6– Asa W. Carns– organ meditations

April 13– Betty Wingert– piano and Asa– organ Duets

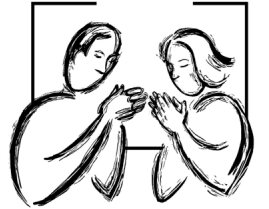
April 20th– Judy Moore, flute accompanied by Asa

Also, Youth Sponsored All-You-Can-Eat Fish Dinners will continue each Friday through April 15th from 4:30-7pm. Cost is \$8.50 for adults and \$4.50 for children under 12. Please continue baking and sending in desserts each Friday!

PRAYER PAGE

Prayer in 2011:

There are a number of different ways we at Second Ave. UMC are trying to be intentional with prayer this year. One of the ways is asking one individual to be in specific prayer for Second Ave., its ministries, people, and outreach efforts, one day per month. Listed below are the individuals being asked for the month of February. *You DO NOT need to come to the church to pray (although you are welcome to). You can pray whenever and wherever you wish on that day:*



Few things are as important as prayer

4/1 – Donna Lysinger	4/2 – Jessie Covert	4/3 – Stacey Steele
4/4 – Jack Stehle	4/5 – Roy Yingling	4/6 – Jessica Zimmerman
4/7 – Harriet Koelle	4/8 – Linda Ferguson	4/9 – Mary Ann Cook
4/10 – Kelly Aharra	4/11 – Donna Porter	4/12 – Tiffany Stuckey
4/13 – Bonita Thompson	4/14 – Linda Smith	4/15 – Frances Miller
4/16 – Sharon Lang	4/17 – Sue Fochler	4/18 – Marshall Strait
4/19 – Vicki Axon	4/20 – John Davidhizar	4/21 – Deb Kerns
4/22 – Terry Koelle	4/23 – Lory Morgan	4/24 – Gene Ross
4/25 – Richard Arthurs	4/26 – Beverly McKee	4/27 – Bonnie Irwin
4/28 – Travis McChessney	4/29 – Kay Kennedy	4/30 – Rick Simonis

AS ALWAYS: PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Valley View: Mary Coldwell, Margie Grove, Wanda Mann, Nellie Zeiders

Parkview Terrace Independent Living Suites: Vivian Irvin

Bellemeade Manor: Cora Biddle

Hillview Nursing Home: Florence Points, Audrey Hampton

Hollidaysburg Veterans Home: Jim Fedesco, Mary McKelvey

Altoona Center For Nursing Care: Helen Faust

Winds At Mattern Orchard: Mary Bakoss, Doris Brennecke

At Home: Gloria Jackson, Dorothy Liebegott, Pat Pavlic, Ginny Weber, Anna Mae Dobson, Pauline Bollinger, Ruby Robertson, Edna VanZandt, Clesta Slogenhop, and Ruth Larderi

Out of Town Concerns: Sharon Rhoads, Jim Hoover, Betty Meyer, Bill Foster, and Ginny Weber

Supporting Mission Work...

This year our mission week out to the State of Indiana will occur during the week of **July 9-16**. Each year brings various challenges and growth opportunities in this amazing week. We are expecting this to be our biggest year yet to go and serve. In light of this we will be working harder than ever to raise support for this mission work that we would like to ask for your assistance. While not everyone can actually attend during the week of the mission trip, everyone can contribute to the mission work through prayer and support. Beginning today (in the elevation room after each service), you'll find ways that you can help us financially. They include:

- *Buying dish cloths (\$1.50 each)-all proceeds go directly to the mission trip
- *Purchasing 2nd Ave UMC Cookbooks (\$10 each)-all proceeds go directly to the mission trip
- *Purchasing homemade wooden bowls (\$15 each)-all proceeds go directly to the mission trip
- *Participating in some wonderful spaghetti dinners (dates to be announced)

Please consider how you can help make this trip possible and serve our brothers and sisters in Indiana...

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kathy Bickel (941-2683) or Kim Ferguson (943-4941).

Thank you so much for your support and prayers. They are literally changing lives!



Easter Flowers

A variety of flowers will be placed in the sanctuary this year. If you would like to place one in memory or honor of someone, please fill out this form below and return it to the church office no later than **April 8, 2011**. The cost of each flower is listed below:

- Lily (3 blooms) White **\$6.50** Mums (Yellow, White) circle color **\$6.50**
- Hyacinths (Pink, White, Blue (dark purple)) (circle color) **\$8.00**
- Daffodils (6 bulbs per pot) standard **\$6.50**
- Azaleas- (hardy) White, Purple, Pink, Red (circle color) **\$11.00**
- Hydrangeas- Pink, Blue, White (3 bloom) **\$11.00**
- Tulips (6 bulbs per pot) Red, Yellow, Pink, Orange, White, Purple (Circle color), **\$6.00**

Name: _____ Phone # _____

In Memory of: _____ By: _____

In Honor of: _____ By: _____

Yes, I plan to pick up my flower No, I do not plan to pick up my flower



(Reaching Out to Community Kids)

I want to sit in the back and listen to the stories. That is all I want to do. I want God to do all the work and have my relationship perfect once and for all. I have no patience at all. Let me be "sanctified" and just enjoy it.

Those were my thoughts as I began my journey here at Second Avenue. I am so grateful that so many of you have taken the time and effort to teach me that my relationship with God is a constantly changing and always challenging thing. Kind of like the ROCK.

Today I am able to say that things are really good with the program. I would love to just sit back now and relax. I know now that is not how it works. If you read the papers or watch the news, you have to have seen the recent budget cuts and how they will effect education. I do not believe that it is any coincidence that our little Homework Club came into being, and has received the support it has, at this time. It is a common belief that education is a prime factor in moving individuals from poverty and hopelessness into a better life. So many of the kids we work with are being caught up in that cycle of hopelessness that is so prevalent. How fortunate are we that we can help?

Now the old me would say, "Look we did our part." And just walk away. That would be so much easier. But you all have taught me that is not how God works with us. The need to press on, to meet this challenge is clear. This is where I need your help. The first thing I ask is that any and all feel free to contact me w/ any ideas, criticism or suggestions. Please hold me accountable and help me to do my best. I would also please ask that you take some time and think about joining us. We do not need help for every session. If you could offer some help for a few hours here and there, it will make a difference. The needs our kids face are so great these days. And they are growing. The support offered by the schools and city are being cut before our very eyes. There was a time in my life where I allowed myself to be caught up in the same cycle and feeling of hopelessness our kids now face. It was horrible. You all at Second Avenue helped me break free, and find the real source of hope. Please think about trying to show some of our kids a better way.

I thank all of you for your generous and sincere support. Please keep our R.O.C.K. kids in your thoughts and prayers.

Peace, Danny _____

Nerve to Serve! Everyday Transformation!

Nerve to Serve for April!

April's Nerve to Serve will stock the Hope Chest up for a giveaway in May! Last giveaway we served many families and want to make sure that we are prepared to serve many more this time! Our needs are: 56 quart large plastic storage bins, large white self-adhesive labels to label the bins, and children's clothing in size newborn through 10 for boys and girls (can be gently used but clean!). Also, new underwear and socks (no used please!) in children's sizes is also needed. Thanks so much for helping to serve the families in the community around us!

A Message From Our Discipleship Pastor:

Um...really?! Did I just hear Pastor Matt say that he is being transferred to another church?? He MUST be JOKING!! Why is he continuing to talk about it? STOP SAYING THAT! OK, the 'HAHA, gotcha!' is coming soon...Wow, this is real..."

Not sure if you can resonate with me on those feelings, but those were just about the exact words that were going through my head as I heard Pastor Matt's announcement that God is leading him and his family to pastor another church. You may also have the same lingering question that I have, "Why?". May I reaffirm to you that it is ok to ask that question. I am privileged to get to know many of you since I have been on staff here. Some of you I may not know as well. Most of you probably do not know my story. As we might share some of the same thoughts on Pastor Matt's announcement, maybe we share some of the similarities in our story of Second Avenue.

Prior to being the Discipleship Pastor, I was managing and growing a Human Resources company. Being brought up in the church and always involved in church activities and ministries, I attended Bible College to be in full-time ministry. After doing my summer internship at a church in the Outer Banks, my eyes were opened to church politics, a lack of leadership, disorganization and the pastor being blamed for everything wrong in the church. I quickly realized that I did not want any part of that! I came home to Altoona and for the past 10 years I worked in and ran the family business. That was until I met Pastor Matt Lake of Second Avenue United Methodist Church (who I affectionately call "Bossman"!). I would occasionally visit the church with my friend, Curt, helping to lead worship at elevation or sing a song at the 10:45 service. I would leave the services telling Curt that I really enjoyed and was challenged by the messages. Then I started having breakfast or lunch with Pastor Matt and getting to know him better. My respect for Pastor Matt grew with each meeting. I would tell my co-workers how cool this pastor was and even say that the thing I appreciated the most was that he wanted to know me even though I didn't attend his church. As I met with Pastor Matt and attended the church, I felt the desire to join in ministry more and more specifically there. When the opportunity came up for the discipleship pastor position I knew I wanted to at least apply and see what happened. After much prayer, meeting with the SPRC team, and interviewing with them that call felt confirmed for me by them and by God.

Well, here I am! I am now the Discipleship Pastor at Second Avenue. But, my story is not finished! As I have been on staff, I have come to love the church...you! I love the ministries of this church, how we reach out to the community through the ROCK, Hope Chest, Community Restoration, 20/20 gifts, Nerve to Serve, etc. I appreciate the relationships that are built through small groups, random get-togethers, and greeting time during the services. I am amazed to have a church leadership de-

Cont...

velopment day and 70+ people are there to share the vision of the church and work together towards that goal. That is my story that I am still living. Pastor Matt may have been the instrument that God used to lead me to Second Avenue, but God's vision and purpose for this church is keeping me here.

What is your story? I know many of you have been here before Pastor Matt and his family and have lived through this transition before. I know many of you were drawn to Second Avenue because of Matt and his family. But I know almost all of you are committed to the God's vision for this church and know that God's vision does not stop when Pastor Matt and his family go to the next place God has for them.

As a church, we want to be intentional in prayer during this transition. Starting Thursday, April 7th, we are asking you to join us each Thursday until Easter in fasting and prayer. Please join in as you feel you are led to participate and are physically able. It may be for the entire day, one meal, or in another way that God is leading you. It may be each week or just one week. We are just asking you to join us in being intentional to fast and pray for Second Avenue UMC, our next pastor and for the Lake family as they transition to their new church. The church will be open from 6:30-7am for prayer/communion and then till 3pm if you want to come to the church to pray.

Many blessings!
Derek



SUMMER MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Sign up sheets have now been placed in the sanctuary for the upcoming summer mission opportunities. If you haven't signed up yet, plan now to be a part of these life-transforming opportunities and stop by and sign up TODAY!!

The Altoona Summer Mission week will be: June 13-17, 2011

The Mission trip to the State of Indiana will be: July 9-16, 2011



Serving in April

POWER POINT:

Elevation:

04/02 Rachel Ferguson
04/09 Justin Trostle
04/16 Kelsey Prough
04/23 Andy Bollinger
04/30 Aaron Smith

10:45am:

04/03 Rachel Ferguson
04/10 Justin Trostle
04/17 Kelsey Prough
04/24 Andy Bollinger

READERS: (8:15am)

04/03 Cheryl Rupp
04/10 Dave Koelle
04/17 Roger Morgan
04/24 Sue Fochler

SOUND:

Elevation:

03/05 Rachel Ferguson
03/12 Justin Trostle
03/19 Kelsey Prough
03/26 Andy Bollinger
4/30 Aaron Smith

Sunday Worship:

04/03 Matt Stuckey
04/10 Eric Mattern
04/17 Pat Hopkins
04/24 Wade Koelle

GREETERS:

8:15am: Roy & Jeanette
Yingling, Bonnie Irwin
10:45am: Hilda Bickel,
Cheryl Bickel, Cindy Lamb

COUNTERS:

Dick & Dottie Hileman, Jim Daski

JR. CHURCH

04/03 Tom Gerlach, Jolene Gerlach, Judy Arthurs, Brook McChessney
04/10 Danielle Mattern, Karen George, Candy Porta, Sherry Koelle
04/17 Kelly Aharrah, Rachel Ferguson, Aaron Smith, Judy Arthurs
04/24 No Jr. Church (Resurrection Sunday)

Every single day of your life God will give you opportunities to serve Him by serving His children. Welcome those opportunities with open arms. They are God's gift to you, His way of allowing you to achieve greatness in His Kingdom!

Upcoming Events:

Wed. Bible Study – Every Wed. 10am
Executive Comm. Mtgs. – April 5
Sr. Bingo – April 14, 28 (weather permitting)
LifeTouch Portrait Sessions – April 19, 20, 21, 23
Maundy Thursday Service – April 21
Good Friday Service – April 22
Prayer Vigil – April 22, 23
Altoona Mission Week – June 13-17
Indiana Mission Week – July 9-16

Additional information throughout this issue



2011 Volleyball Champs!
Second Avenue UMC Team C

Gift Cards Available!

We currently have Gift cards available for Martins, Weis Markets, and Giant Eagle. The church receives 5% of the proceeds from your purchase! **Cards available after both services in the Elevation room or the foyer area or by calling 943-2072.**

CCB (Church Community Builder)

Second Ave. has recently begun using the online service called CCB. This is an online tool that allows us to broaden our ways of staying connected and communicating more efficiently. When logging on to this site you will have access to your personal profile, a church-wide calendar, and be able to interact with others in the groups you are involved with here at the church. In order to utilize this site, you must have access to the internet and have an email address. If you are interested in logging on please email the church office at: 2ndaveumc@verizon.net or call 943-2072 to have your log in information sent to you.

Picture Directory!

We are pleased to announce that we will be compiling a 2011 church family pictorial directory with LifeTouch. You do NOT need to be a member to participate.

Sign Up:

After each service on April 3, & 10

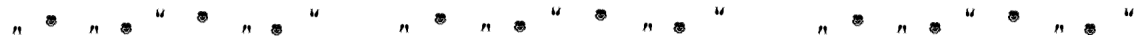
For assistance call 943-2072

This will only work IF everyone participates! If you have not signed up, please do so ASAP. Be sure to sign up early for the best selection of time. There is NO cost to be photographed and every participating family will receive a complimentary 8x10, however, the option to purchase picture packages is available. Only participating households will get a free directory. Bring in a canned good and get a \$5.00 off coupon towards your portrait purchase. Also, for every participating family LifeTouch will donate \$2.00 to our local food bank.

Photography will take place at the church on **April 19, 20, 21, and 23.**

<p>The Kustaborder family wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and calls during the loss of Bill's mom, Flora. Your kindness was very much appreciated. Bill & Marsha Kustaborder</p>	<p>I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, phone calls, love, and other acts of kindness shown to Dottie and I during my recent surgery before, during and recovery. God is awesome and so is Second Avenue Church. In Christian Love, Dick Hileman</p>
<p>I want to thank the Penn State kids from the bottom of my heart. They did such a great job in helping me here. I thank God for them, and I thank God to know that in college kids are accepting Christ. Thanks guys and girls. God Bless You! like God Blessed me with you. Love in Christ, Marylou Mathieu</p>	<p>Our sincere thanks for the prayers and cards during the passing of my mother, Hilda O'Brien, on March 1, 2011. Nancy & Ed Ptak</p>
<p>Dear Friends, We thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawls—we smile every time we remember your loving gift. Jackie & Gene Ross</p>	<p>Many thanks to the college students Carol, Alex, and Tom for helping with some house cleaning. It was a joy and blessing to have shared time with them. God Bless You, Betty and Arlene</p>

20/20 Vision Thank You's..
 ~Thank you so much for your donation to Every Life Matters Pregnancy Support Services. Every dollar will go towards our start up costs to fun and office and hopefully open by the Fall. Every donation is so important to us.
 ~On behalf of all the volunteers and clients of Birthright of Altoona, we thank you for your recent donation. We rely totally on donations from people in the community and of course, the grace of God. You and your church are an extension of that help and we can't thank you enough.
 ~Thank you for partnering with us and with moms and babies in Altoona PA by making a donation to the March of Dimes. Your gift is going to make an enormous difference in our efforts to fight for the health of every baby.
 ~Thank you for your recent donation to the Western PA Table Project. Your gift is greatly appreciated. We are currently building bunk beds for WV. We recently shipped 14 to Haiti to help furnish a mission house for Grace Mission to Haiti.



We would love to hear from you! If you would like to submit a letter of thanks to the Scroll please call the church office at 943-2072, or email us at 2ndaveumc@verizon.net no later than the 15th of each month. Thanks!

April Birthdays

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Tricia Harren | 17 Donna Porter | 23 Alexis Koelle |
| 2 Becky Ross | Emily Geist | Cory Woodcock |
| Eric Mattern | 18 Steve Porter | 24 Diane Smith |
| 3 Jeff Anslinger | Chris Ferguson | 25 David Bickel |
| 4 E. Randy Grove | Evelyn Kling | Alex Lake |
| Richard Irvin | Nicole Hileman | Jamie Rickabaugh |
| 5 Carcy Ardrey | 19 Florence Points | 26 Sherri Hileman |
| 7 Rachel Foose | 20 Damian J. Branas | 27 William Noye |
| 8 Shawn Harren | Matthew Hagrigh | Grace Mattern |
| 9 John Jackson | 21 Robert Koelle Sr. | Sharon Covert |
| 11 Sandy Hankinson | 22 Barry Wright | 28 Jim Hagerty |
| 12 Brian Anderson | Karen Hughes | 30 Mitchell Stevens |
| 14 Patty Ingham | | Sandra Putt |
| 15 Alicia Friedenberger | | |
| 16 Mary Coldwell | | |



- 2 Todd & Jessie Covert
- 14 Paul & Edie Weible
- 21 Karl & Jamie Freidenberger
- 27 Jim & Betty Fedesco
- 28 Norm & Priscilla Heidler

Treasurer's Report:

Balance End of **January** \$34,882.93
 Total receipts for **February** \$35,547.33
 Total disbursements **Feb.** \$45,490.95
 Balance End of **February** \$24,939.31
 A complete breakdown of this report is available by request.

WEEKLY OFFERING	
02/27	\$5,983.81
03/06	\$6,632.12
03/13	\$5,301.77
03/20	\$6,710.74
03/27	\$4,964.02

ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
02/27	354	02/27	94
03/06	339	03/06	98
03/13	345	03/13	102
03/20	401	03/20	113
03/27	314	03/27	82



April items needed: toilet tissue, bars of soap, and all non-perishables. Please continue to remember those in need especially during the cold winter months. All items can be placed in the foyer area in the box by the windows. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!

MEETING REMINDERS:

Executive Committee meetings in April:

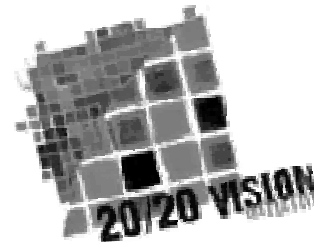
Trustees, Finance– Tues., April 5 6pm

Ad Council– Tues., April 5 7pm

FUNDRAISERS

Cell Phone Drive: Please continue to donate your inactive cell phones with their batteries (No chargers or accessories needed). 100% of the proceeds go directly to the church.

**Reaching Seekers,
Building Believers,
In Christ**



In an effort to keep everyone informed of the 20/20 Vision progress each month we will list both the monthly total received and also the amount received to date. Remember green 20/20 Vision giving envelopes are included in your monthly envelopes and also located on the backs of each pew for those who do not receive monthly envelopes.

20/20 Vision Totals:

For February:

Received- \$5,690.27

YTD- \$14,949.34

Total received since beginning: \$185,668.97

February Distributions:

Trustees- \$4,552.22

Missions- \$1,138.05

How Giving Is Saving Lives And Allowing Transformation To Occur:

As part of the 20/20 Vision Initiative, 20% of all money received will go to mission outreach opportunities locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. We are also so happy to report that the portion donated for March was \$1,000. The following outreach opportunities were recipients of your generosity:

The Salvation Army: The Salvation Army was founded as an evangelical organization dedicated to bringing people into a meaningful relationship with God through Christ. Its doctrinal basis is that of the Wesleyan-Arminian tradition. It is composed of persons who are united by the love of God and man, and who share the common purpose of bringing others to Jesus Christ. The word salvation indicates the overall purpose of the organization—to motivate all people to embrace the salvation provided to them in Christ.

Lions Clubs International Foundation:

Vision Statement: To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

Mission Statement: To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

TOGETHER WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!