



**United Church of God**  
*an International Association*  
**Cincinnati**

*Announcements – March 23, 2024*

	<u>East – 11:00 A.M.</u>	<u>East – 2:30 P.M.</u>	<u>North – 2:30 P.M.</u>
<b>Songleader</b>	Mark Tannert	Aaron Meidinger	Chad Curran
<b>Pianist</b>	Heather Braun	Carol Clementson	
<b>Sermonette</b>	Clint Porter	Dave Werner	Garrett Wayne
<b>Special Music</b>	Duncan McClenagan	Kayleen Schreiber and Zach Hoover	
<b>Sermon</b>	Mark Welch	Mark Welch	Peter Eddington

**Birth Announcement:** Lazarus Ryles Ward was born on March 19 at 8:30 p.m. He weighs 8 lbs 7 oz and is 20 inches long. Mom and baby are both doing well. Congratulations to the entire Ward family – and especially to little Lazarus!

**Adult Choir Rehearsal, Today:** The Adult Choir will meet for rehearsal in the Video Recording Studio at 1:15 p.m. today.

**No PM Snacks Today:** Due to the dinner after services today, there will be no PM snacks!

**Church Social – Dinner and a Show, Today:** We want you - all our church family - to gather after PM services for our very special evening. Please drop off your contribution to the dinner with the kitchen staff from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Families are asked to bring a one-pot entree (no chili or soups). Singles and young adults should bring drinks and a dessert. The Social Committee will provide the salad, dressings, rolls, coffee and tea. HOT dishes can be dropped off as late as 4:30 p.m. Dinner service will start at 5:30 p.m. Then stay for the show around 6:30 p.m.

**Men's Speech & Leadership Club, 3/24:** The Men's Speech and Leadership Club will hold its next meeting in the Lecture Hall at the Home Office at 9:00 a.m. *tomorrow*.

**Help Needed!** Staff for the AM and PM snack teams is currently limited. If you could serve with one of our teams just once a month it would be greatly appreciated. This would entail serving and cleaning up after snacks. We usually finish about an hour after services. We would love to have you on board! If you can help, please see Barb Fouch for AM or Laura Peabody for PM.

Please remember, as well, that *everyone* is encouraged to bring snacks. Any ready-to-eat finger foods are greatly appreciated.

**Youth Instruction/Sabbath School, 3/30:** Sabbath School classes will be held in the Warehouse at 1:25 p.m. on March 30. Students who would like to do memory work should come to the Warehouse beginning at 1:00 p.m. The Children's Choir will rehearse in the Mail Room immediately after class.

Class	Date	Lesson	Teachers
1	3/30	Sibling Relationships	Carolyn Prater, Heather Braun, Heidi Braun
	4/6	Gentleness	Leah Keim, Jennifer Phelps, Ayla Docken
2	3/30	Friendship	Rebekah Shoemaker, Sarah Bouchette
	4/6	Love	Joy Porter, Melody Porter
3	3/30	True Repentance	Mark Holladay, Collyer Wells, Linda Wells
	4/6	The Fruits of the Holy Spirit	Lucy Tannert, Amy Stephens
4	3/30	Be a Person of Your Word	Nick Hollon, Shawnda Hollon
	4/6	Faith	Duane Phelps, Lisa Phelps

*Please note that the class originally scheduled for April 13 has been moved to April 6.*

**ABC Charity Auction, 3/31:** The annual ABC Charity Auction will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, March 31, at the Home Office. Our students have been very busy planning to welcome you! Please consider joining us for entertainment, refreshments, and—of course—the fun of a Live Auction of homemade desserts and a Silent Auction of useful and interesting items. All proceeds will support a building for our brethren in Benin that will be used for Sabbath services and also for a women's literacy program. *Doors will open at noon, with entertainment beginning at 1:30 p.m.* If you have questions, please contact Frank Dunkle ([frank\\_dunkle@ucg.org](mailto:frank_dunkle@ucg.org)) or Katherine Rowland ([Katherine\\_rowland@ucg.org](mailto:Katherine_rowland@ucg.org)), or call the Home Office phone number.

**Church Social, 4/6:** Please join us for our church social on April 6. We will start the night with a wonderful dinner with a theme of favorite dishes. Please bring a favorite dish – yours or your family's – that you can share with everyone. We ask

that each family brings either a main dish or a dessert and side. After dinner we will have two activities to take part in. First, we will have the opportunity to share with each other something you are thankful for or a blessing that has taken place in your life. Let's use this time to encourage and inspire each other with the wonderful blessings that God has provided. So please come prepared with something that you would like to share. We will then work together on a service project to bring joy to others. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mark or Lori Holladay.

**In-Home Bible Study, 4/9:** Our next in-home Bible Study will be on Tuesday, April 9, at the home of Caleb and Valerie Creech. We will be having a potluck meal at 6:30 p.m. and the Bible Study will begin at 7:30 p.m. If you plan on coming, please notify Valerie so we know how many to expect and how you may contribute to the meal.

**Gift Baskets for the Days of Unleavened Bread:** Please consider contributing to the Spring Holy Day gift baskets for our shut-ins. We are collecting items such as unleavened baked goods, candies, teas, and fruit as well as monetary donations. There is a small blue cash box at the Information Table that donations can be put in. We will also need volunteers to help assemble and deliver the gifts. If you can help, please sign the list at the Information Table. If you have any questions, please see Kathy Trone.

**Footwashing Assistance:** To plan for the footwashing at Passover, we need to know who will need assistance with that part of the service. Men who need help should see Gregg Drury or contact him at either [greggdrury00@gmail.com](mailto:greggdrury00@gmail.com) or 740-701-8687. Ladies who need assistance, please see Eileen Sharkey or contact her at either [EileenS823@aol.com](mailto:EileenS823@aol.com) or 513-932-6117. If you are aware of someone who will be visiting for the Spring Holy Days and will need assistance, please let us know that as well. Thank you for helping us to serve you at this special service.

**Challenger Sierra:** Are you ready for a physical, mental and emotional challenge? Are you ready to share time and thoughts with fellow Christian brothers and sisters as we take a look at the issues that we all face through a biblical lens and consider how to apply the lessons learned to your spiritual life?

The Emigrant Wilderness is a beautiful part of God's creation just north of Yosemite National Park. It is a backpacker's paradise complete with majestic views of exposed granite, mountain lakes, streams, forests and meadows: the perfect setting for a Challenger program.

Every day brings a unique challenge and a unique reward. The elevation changes, dynamic trail conditions and great conversation keep the hike interesting, and the amazing views of pristine lakes, bubbling streams and granite faces provide the perfect backdrop for meaningful discussions.

This immersive experience will engage each participant with opportunities to serve, learn and grow.

Each morning and evening will feature biblically based discussions. The discussions will take us through a journey of the issues that God's young adults face to develop perspective gained by viewing them through a biblical perspective. The day will consist of hiking and enjoying the landscape, the trail and our fellow hikers. Early mornings and evenings could include fishing in the pristine lakes and streams for some wild trout.

It will be important to prepare physically prior to the hike. The physical preparation protocol will help get the legs and core in shape for the physical demands of the hike. Preparation will require a minimum of 2-3 hours per week. All accepted applicants will receive a recommended training routine that will build fitness progressively. Each applicant will certify that they have completed the minimum amount of training to ensure that they enjoy the experience and are able to contribute to the enjoyment of their fellow hikers.

Apply if you are a high school graduate, age 18–32, and you are ready to build relationships with peers and mentors as you learn more about yourself and stretch your limitations! There is no growth in the comfort zone and no comfort in the growth zone!

The dates will be July 31–August 6 and the cost per attendee will be \$150. Each attendee will need to provide much of their own equipment. A list will be provided as part of the application process. The application deadline is May 9, and you can register online at [ucg.regfox.com/challenger-sierra](http://ucg.regfox.com/challenger-sierra).

**Pray for the Gospel to Have Free Course – Weekly Services Resume in Haiti:** Haiti is a country in despair. The battle for control of the country is still up in the air. The civil war for rulership in this Caribbean country has changed weekly. Gangsters are in control of the capital city of Port au Prince. The military and police force are banding together to claim back parts of the city. Who will win out remains to be seen.

Yet, through it all, God is calling people to meet together each Sabbath to worship Him. Perhaps much more than many people in the world, these brethren have great incentive to fervently pray, "Thy Kingdom come." After having to abandon our church hall for over two years due to threats and upheaval, UCG Haiti is back to weekly services and back to assisting our brethren with the positive message of a better world ahead. Deacon Joseph Jean and his wife, Molene, and their children returned to Haiti last fall to pick up the pieces and see what was left of their house and attached church building.

What they found was that the building had been ransacked by the very people we had helped in the past. From the sound system to the benches, to the Church van—all were looted. The despair and disappointment was short-lived due to the help and support of brethren from the northeastern United States. Pastor Andy Duran, with help of Wilner Auguste (a member with Haitian roots) raised funds to help our fledgling congregation in Mirebalais. With those funds and a subsidy from the Home Office, the Haiti congregation was able to buy chairs and open the doors once again to those whom God is calling in the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. The Church has also been able to buy some food for the brethren with some of those funds.

God has protected our brethren and, remarkably, they can now joyfully attend and fellowship in peace. We ask for brethren to pray that this part of Haiti will stay safe and that we can continue to build upon the work that started six years

ago. Last Sabbath we had 37 in attendance as they look forward to the coming Holy Days. May God's light continue to shine in Haiti, if only in a small area outside of Mirebalais.

A big thank you to all who have had a hand in establishing and continuing to support and pray for our Haitian brothers and sisters. There are too many to name—but thank you again for helping these brethren in their darkest days.

**Beyond Today Schedule:** *Beyond Today* programs can be viewed on THE WORD Network (altafiber Elite Channel 263, Spectrum Silver Channel 386) at 11:00 a.m. Sunday, 12:30 a.m. Monday and 6:30 p.m. Saturday. The programs can also be viewed on-demand on dedicated *Beyond Today* television channels on Roku, iOS devices, Android devices, Amazon Fire TV, LG Smart TVs, Samsung Smart TVs, YouTube, Vimeo, Wii and Xbox. You can always watch the program online at our website <http://www.ucg.org/beyond-today/television>.

BT #	Title	Host	Literature Offered	Available
452	<p><b>God's Holy Day Plan</b></p> <p>The observance of God's festivals provides the key to understanding His astounding plan for the salvation of all humanity.</p>	Steve Myers	<i>God's Holy Day Plan: The Promise of Hope for All Mankind</i>	March 24
489	<p><b>Should I Celebrate Easter?</b></p> <p>Discover how its practices, such as bunnies, colored eggs and sunrise services are related to unbiblical pagan myths.</p>	Steve Myers	<i>Easter: The Rest of the Story</i>	April 7
487	<p><b>5 Steps to Real Change, Part 5: Two Questions Waiting for an Answer?</b></p> <p>Learn how these questions strike at the heart of your relationship with God.</p>	Darris McNeely	<i>Transforming Your Life: The Process of Conversion</i>	April 14
455	<p><b>What Was Nailed to the Cross?</b></p> <p>It was not God's laws! Rather, Jesus' death made it possible for our sins to be fully erased upon our repentance.</p>	Steve Myers	<i>The New Covenant: Does It Abolish God's Law?</i>	April 21