

Saints Alive!

Volume 17, Issue 3
March 2019
"Friends in Christ, Serving
Together with Love"



2019 River of Love Conference:
The Power of Blessing
An annual conference of
Christian Healing presented by
the local chapter of the Order of St. Luke.
March 22-23 at
Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

Blessing is a powerful ministry that has been long neglected, and this conference will provide an opportunity to learn how transforming and healing it is to be the one who blesses. Rev. Dr. Russ Parker is coming from England to speak at this year's conference. He is widely known teacher on issues connected with Christian healing, healthcare, and reconciliation, and has recently published *Rediscovering the Ministry of Blessing*. The West Shore Chapter of OSL meets at our church monthly and supports ALPC's healing prayer ministry. Look for registration brochures in the foyer, or see Beth Shoemaker or Cris Till for more information.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Ash Wednesday – March 6 - service at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary

Maundy Thursday – April 18 - Tenebrae service at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary (communion by intinction)

Good Friday – April 19 - service at 12 noon in the sanctuary

Easter Sunday – April 21

6:30 AM – sunrise service overlooking Lake Erie
on North Point Road (enter 67 North Point Road, Avon Lake into your GPS)

9:00 AM – traditional service in the sanctuary

10:00 AM – Deacon's breakfast in Hart Hall

11:00 AM – traditional service in the sanctuary





FROM THE PASTOR/ Charlie Swartz

Lent begins March 6th on “Ash Wednesday.” Why is it called that? When people in the culture of the Bible wanted to express sorrow or deep regret over their sins, they put on ugly rough material (sackcloth) and picked up handfuls of dirt, dust and ashes and covered themselves with it. Jesus himself said about a town that was arrogant, in which the citizens would not humble themselves to him, “For if the miracles had occurred in Tyre and Sidon which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes,” Luke 10:13. This is a day in which we choose to humble ourselves before Jesus and choose to change.

I am not advocating that we need to exchange our winter coats for seed bags with holes cut out for our head and arms, nor do we need to rub grunge, dust and ashes into our hair, onto our faces and into our clothes to show God and others that our sins disgust us and that we want to change. But we do need to practice self-examination in order to see the odious things which we do that others see, but that we do not. Even as Spirit-filled people dedicated to following our Lord, we are too often blind to our flaws, be they minor or tragic. On Ash Wednesday, Jesus invites us to fearlessly look in a spiritual mirror to discover the behaviors which wound others and dishonor God so that we may change.

As a church, we have discerned that God wants us to grow to become a congregation which is inclusive, forgiving, welcoming, and serving. What are our thoughts that need to change so that we live into vision? And as an individual, what changes do I need to undertake so that I become as inclusive as Jesus is, or as forgiving as He is, as welcoming as He is, and as focused on serving others that He is? Be ruthless in your self-examination, not accepting the thought, “What I do is as good as what others do.” Instead, seek to ask, “How can I illustrate these virtues as Jesus shows me in his life?” and “How can our church illustrate these virtues as the Holy Spirit is leading us?”

Last year, we had a little smoking problem in our service. Cigarettes were not the problem, but the slow burning paper, on which we wrote our sins, smoldered and smoked for a long time after lit by the Christ candle. As smoke filled the sanctuary many were afraid that our fire alarms would go off! That was not the experience that the worship committee and I had in mind for that holy service. So this year, I bought magicians’ “flash paper” that is supposed to instantly burn up when touched to a flame. Let’s hope it works!

Whether or not you are able to come to the 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday service, I hope that you will choose to change, to become more like Jesus through self-examination and then through a prayerful determination to cast off dark habits and change more into the person Jesus intends you to become.

Grateful for his Grace,
Charlie



Summer Pastors for ALPC

The Rev. June Begany, recently retired, said she would be honored and delighted to provide the help we need this summer! Praise God! She comes highly recommended. She served as a solo pastor, as Associate Pastor at Old Stone Church and most recently as Interim Pastor at Pioneer Church in Solon and Trinity Church in Ashtabula. She will provide pastoral care, leadership and staff support, and worship leadership from May 2- June 30, and then again from August 1 - 11. This means we are now set for the summer, as The Rev Don Shank will provide leadership July 1 - July 31.

I have asked June and Don to be present on May 19, my last Sunday, and they have agreed to. In addition, our General Presbyter, The Rev. Sharon Core, has asked to be present at that service to take my keys and give them to the Clerk of Session as a symbolic act. She does this at every church to officially kick off the sabbatical.

Praise God for His Providence! Charlie

Lenten Study

We believe that through our Renewal Journey, God has shown us that for us to fulfil our unique role in His Kingdom, we are to pursue these Kingdom values: Becoming more Inclusive, more Forgiving, more Welcoming, and more Serving. These value are not only integral to our church growth spiritually and numerically, but essential to each of our own lives. They are ways of being and doing that bring smiles, unite us deeper in fellowship, and break down barriers.

Our Lenten studies will be experiences designed to help us grow, stretch, acquire new skills in these key ministry areas. Five Tuesdays in Lent, dessert is offered at 6:30 pm followed by the growth class at 7:00. Each class is 60 minutes.

March 12 Becoming More Inclusive

March 19 Becoming More Forgiving

March 26 Becoming More Welcoming

April 2 Becoming a Stronger Servant People

April 9 Becoming More Compassionate, More Obedient, More Faithful, and a Stronger Learning Community

In each study you will be offered in depth thoughts, opportunities through interactive play and skits to joyfully experience the values we are enhancing, and a sharing of wisdom among all gathered. Pastor Charlie is leading the studies.

Session Highlights

The Session met on February 18. Highlights of their meeting were:

- * Heard that there have been some applications submitted for the new Maintenance Supervisor position.
- * The job posting for the Social Media Administrator position is on our church website.
- * The current position of CE Director will be changed to reflect the need to grow our Sunday School program.
- * The per capita payment of \$11,765 was paid at the end of January.
- * Giving in January was strong, and February giving is off to a good start.
- * Pastor Charlie identified two areas in which he will focus his Sabbatical studies (details elsewhere).
- * Pastor Charlie started issuing his Minister's Monday Memo as part of his new focus on communication.
- * Pastor Charlie described an agreement made with Session several years ago to provide him limited knowledge of pledge giving.
- * Cornerstone Preschool appreciated our members' support of their successful spaghetti dinner fundraiser.
- * More contemporary worship elements are being introduced in our regular services. Feedback is always welcome.
- * 140 ALPC mailers were sent to new homeowners in Avon and Avon Lake.
- * New lightbulbs were installed in the sanctuary.
- * A Rise Against Hunger event is scheduled for the fall.
- * The minutes of the annual congregational meeting on Jan. 27 were approved.
- * The annual statistical report on our church was submitted to the denomination.

Elizabeth Shoemaker, Clerk of Session

Christian Education

The season of Lent begins soon. You probably already read Pastor Charlie's article about his plans for a Lenten study on Tuesday evenings beginning March 12. Members of the Christian Education Committee will provide simple desserts beginning at 6:30 pm, giving participants a chance to enjoy some fellowship along with dessert before the study begins at 7:00 pm.

I will be leading a 4-week Lenten study on Forgiveness that will go more in depth than Pastor Charlie's one-time discussion on the subject. There will be Bible passages, stories, discussion questions, and exercises on forgiveness. The study will begin on March 17 at 11:20 am with the final session on April 7. Each session will last about an hour. Pick up a cookie and some coffee and make your way down to Room 3 (Session Meeting Room) by the Christian Education foyer.

On February 6th, our Cornerstone Preschool had a spaghetti dinner fundraiser along with its annual art show. Advance ticket sales for the Cornerstone parents were so successful that they were given staggered arrival times in order to accommodate the needed seating. A good number of members of the congregation attended, too. Many of you donated desserts and/or money if you were unable to attend. Thank you for your generous support. Proceeds will help the teachers attend a conference with workshops that will fulfill continuing education requirements.



Our grade school Sunday school has been using the curriculum, *Grace and Gratitude*, which is published by our denomination. The children take turns reading the Bible passage for the day then hear a re-telling of the story with discussion questions. There are several activities from which the teachers may choose to reinforce the story. Sometimes it's a game. Sometimes it's acting out the story. Other times it's a puzzle or craft. There is always a time to pray.

Our preschool class enjoys helping with the Bible stories by putting felt elements on the story board. The stories are simple and short to get them started hearing the faith. There's an activity to reinforce the story. Then they are eager to have a snack and play. Occasionally, they have a treasure hunt with clues being pictures related to the Bible stories. That's always fun for them.

The next three months will be my last as Director of Christian Education. My time here in this position has been both a joy and a challenge. I'm grateful for the opportunity to have served in this capacity and thankful for the teachers and childcare volunteers. Thank you, congregation, for the support you have been.

Lee Lohr, Director of Christian Education

Our Mission Statement

Avon Lake Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

In awe, we Receive God's Grace and Gospel.
In gratitude, we Respond with Worship and Servanthood.
In love, we Represent Jesus Christ
as we minister to transform lives
in family, community, and the world.

Sabbatical Studies

During the annual meeting I was asked very good questions about what I would be doing on sabbatical if the congregation approved the timing for this Summer. Here is more detailed information.

Studying a Hebrew version of the Gospel of Mark

In 1969, a translation from the Greek text of Mark into Hebrew was made by a brilliant scholar, Robert Lindsey, who lived in Israel. He was fluent in Biblical Hebrew, Biblical Greek, and modern Hebrew. Most scholars believe that the Gospel of Mark was originally written in Hebrew and then translated into Greek. He and many scholars noticed through careful analysis that the grammatical structure of the Koine Greek in Mark reflects a Hebrew structure and not a Greek one. As you might recall, Jesus and his contemporaries spoke Hebrew and a dialect of Hebrew called Aramaic. Many hope to find the original Hebrew version of Mark. But until that day, the closest we can get to what Jesus actually said and what Mark intended is by studying a translation made from the Greek backwards into Hebrew. Robert Lindsey completed that in 1969.

I discovered this translation nine years ago and have long wanted to study it in depth to gain more knowledge of Jesus. To do that, I will need to do a very close reading of the Hebrew with grammar and dictionary in hand. I will need to improve my Hebrew skills to better understand the intricacies of the text, with the goal of gaining more intimacy with our Lord and savior. This kind of work takes long periods of concentrated focus, something that is not possible while doing congregational ministry.

Writing a Handbook on Conducting Funerals, Memorials

Over the years I have devised a very effective system for helping grieving people by creating a memorial or funeral service which supports and encourages them in their mourning. I have come to realize that techniques that I have developed in my counseling with the bereaved and in collaborating with them on the service are unique. I want to share what I have learned with others by creating a handbook that other ministers or seminarians can use to guide them to create better, more personal, and more encouraging services. I will start writing the method I use to begin to create a manuscript that can be published and used by new or seasoned pastors.

From the Deacons

As spring draws close, the Deacons at ALPC look forward to a great new year of fellowship and shared blessings, as we gather to celebrate God's Love for all!

We look forward to hosting several more *Path to Faith* Healing Services, which will be posted throughout 2019! Dr. Issam Nemeh never disappoints with his inspirational talks, and heartfelt prayers for each individual who attends. Free tickets are available for church members through the church office; please see Cindi or Charlie.

In March, The Deacons will be showing a "**Popcorn and Candy Movie Event**" which will be featuring "The Shack," a great movie, which is geared towards a more mature audience, that offers a unique perspective of forgiveness through The Holy Trinity. We will also be offering a spiritually based movie for the kids in another room. Please come for popcorn, candy, and great fellowship as we learn about God's grace together!

In April, The Deacons will be providing hot coffee, and tea as we witness, at our cliff's edge, another unforgettable Easter Sunday, sunrise service at North Point Drive in Avon Lake. Charlie will give a sermon as we gather at 6:30 am amongst God's glory and watch the miracle of another beautiful Easter Sunrise! Later that morning, between the 9 am and 11 am services, we will be putting on an Easter breakfast back at the church. We will be serving hot pancakes, scrambled eggs, and sizzling sausage! Please join us, as we serve you all with open hearts, and give thanks to the grace we have all been given through our Lord's undying Love!



Mission Matters



Thank you for supporting 2¢ a meal. Donations totaled over \$220. Our next collection will most likely be in July.

In the beginning of **March, we will be Sharing our Luck** by collecting taxable items for our neighbors in Avon and Avon Lake. These are the things we all need and use most days. We know that it is a challenge for many people to buy groceries so non-food items are a budget breaker. CRS (Community Resource Services) says that they get the most requests for ***deodorant, laundry Soap, dish soap, cleaner and baby wipes***. (Note: baby wipes are not just for babies. We keep a pack in our glove box.) The complete list will be attached to the handy bags we will be distributing in March.

One Great Hour of Sharing is April 14th. "A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed." There will be an insert in the bulletin with some more details. Checks may be noted OGHS.

Easter Sunday's Donations, April 21st, will go toward a food program. Details TBA.

NEXT Step Interns will be arriving May 25th. It's never too early to let Beth Janis 440-522-1771 know if you want to be a part of this great mission. First on the "Help Needed" list is to be a summer friend to one of the interns on staff. Maybe, you have some time to help on one of the job sites, or be a part of a Monday dessert social with missionaries and their chaperones. Perhaps you have some time on Saturday mornings to help clean or do some extra laundry. And don't forget, they have morning and evening worship every weekday. We are all welcome.

Lunch Bunch Lunch is March 21st. How about inviting a neighbor to join you for a free lunch with nice ambiance? No tipping or reservations required. Volunteers are always welcome Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings beginning at 9:00 am.

Visit a mission meeting on the first Monday of the month in the session room at 7:00pm. We would love to hear your ideas. Beth Janis 440-522-1771

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"

Martin Luther King Jr.

Job Opening

Social Media Administrator

Avon Lake Presbyterian Church is seeking someone to maintain and update the Church Website and presence on the Internet in general, such as Facebook, to draw people into ALPC and keep everyone connected. A full job description is available.

Requirements include experience with website software and photo editing software and a broad understanding of Social Networking

Send application and resume to ALPC.HumanResources@gmail.com

4 hours/week, salary commensurate with experience

Financial Report

At our January congregational meeting, someone asked, "What's the best way to give?" To which Marcy Uhl aptly responded, "Generously!" All kidding aside, what he wanted to know was the best payment method for giving to the church. Is it better for the church to receive cash/checks in the collection plate, credit card payments through the lobby kiosk or an electronic bill payment sent directly from your bank? Families should give however works best for them, but you may also want to consider the following:

- ALPC has to pay fees (about 3%) on credit card transactions through the kiosk. And since donations in the collection plate can vary depending on attendance, they don't always keep pace with our monthly bills. For example, we did not have worship (or collections) during January 20th's snowstorm, but we still had to pay our staff, utilities, and annual per capita to the Presbytery.
- Electronic bill payments sent directly from your bank at regular weekly or monthly intervals make it easier for ALPC to manage our budget. And if you still like putting money in the collection plates, you can arrange for some of your pledge to be sent electronically, and pay the rest when you're in church. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (440) 933-4148 or reighard4@gmail.com.

	Jan YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income:		
Congregational Giving *	\$35,937	\$27,290
Per Capita Income & Other	<u>4,553</u>	<u>5,625</u>
Total Income	\$40,490	\$32,915
Expense:		
Worship & Spiritual Life	\$9,974	\$10,812
Christian Education	143	719
Stewardship & Mission	417	483
Property	4,949	3,554
Support Staff & General Expenses	8,945	12,069
Youth Mission Trip (deposits)	(1,027)	500
Per capita Expense	<u>11,765</u>	<u>11,631</u>
Total Expense	\$35,166	\$39,768

*January giving is ahead of budget due to some members paying their 2019 pledges in full.
Susan Reighard, Finance Committee

Presbyterian Women Tea

Fairy Garden Tea *May 11, 2019*



You are invited to Presbyterian Women's Fairy Garden Tea on Saturday May 11 from 11-1pm. Invite your mother, grandmother, sisters, friends, granddaughters, neighbors, mother-in-law! Tickets will be \$10 each. A light fairy luncheon, complete with the fairies favorite Strawberry Soup, will be served. There will also be our wonderful raffle with marvelous items donated by our generous congregation. As always, all proceeds will go to PW missions. Put May 11th on your calendar now.

Healing Prayer Ministry



When we see people we love suffering, we want to fix it, stop it, free them from the pain – mostly for their sake but also for ours. When they hurt, we hurt. And sometimes that hurt tempts us to distance ourselves. If we're not with them witnessing their pain, if we're not aware of it, focused on it, living it with them, then maybe it won't hurt so bad. The problem with that approach – it destroys relationships and that can cause an even greater pain.

Jesus had a better idea – PRAY!!!

By **listening** to God, He can help us:

- ◇ remember that He is ultimately in charge and everything is going to ultimately be okay. He gives us an Eternal perspective.
- ◇ listen to our loved one so we can **hear** what our loved one is saying and then know how to help when our loved one can no longer speak.
- ◇ remember the pain free days, the days filled with sunshine and joy.
- ◇ forgive ourselves for the days we didn't have the strength or the faith to be kind.
- ◇ remember that Jesus has saved all of us so we know the end of our story. And hence we can replace the fear of the unknown with the joy of imagining what heaven will be like. Jesus tells us to be like children and with his help, we can receive again the imagination of a child. Jesus also promised us it would be wonderful so the sky is the limit in imagining what that wonderful will be.
- ◇ trust Him with our loved ones for He loves them perfectly.

By **speaking** to God, He can help us:

- ◇ release our frustrations, fears, and pain.
- ◇ know that we're not alone. Some One understands and cares.
- ◇ hear His answers, sometimes through our own words.

Every Sunday after worship, there are a couple of pray-ers at the front of the sanctuary on the left side by the wheel chair ramp who would love to pray with you. If you would like to ease your pain by listening and speaking to God, they would love for you to join them.

Submitted by Arlene Strauch on behalf of the Healing Prayer Ministry



The Spaghetti Dinner & Art Show Fundraiser was a wonderful family event! The children were so proud to show off their master pieces with their families and finish off with a meal with school friends! Thanks to your generous support, the Cornerstone staff is that much closer to receiving the 5 star training that we dedicate ourselves to.

Worship & Spiritual Life



What a winter! From snowstorms and way below zero wind chills to balmy and surprisingly sunny days, our Cleveland weather has been all over the place. How nice that we can be refreshed and warmed by the Holy Spirit each week as we gather to worship as a church family.

Although it is still winter, March is at our doorstep. Soon it will be spring and signs of new life will emerge and we will celebrate new life in Jesus Christ, reflecting on how he lived, remembering how he died and celebrating how he rose again, freeing us from our sin and

giving us eternal life. This year, Lent begins on Wednesday, March 6th and ends on Thursday, April 18th. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for an Ash Wednesday service at 7:30 PM. A Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service will be held at 7:30 PM on April 18th, and include communion by intinction. A Good Friday service will be held at 12 noon on April 19th. We are planning three Easter services this year for Sunday, April 21; a 6:30 AM sunrise service overlooking Lake Erie near the Weeden house on North Point Road, and traditional services in our sanctuary at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM. Our traditional Deacon's breakfast is planned for 10:00 AM. We invite you to make this Lenten Season and Easter Celebration a special time of spiritual growth and renewal by worshiping with your church family.

Your worship and Spiritual Life Committee is continuing to try a variety of worship experiences so that each of us can feel God in our midst, yet be nurtured in our shared foundation of love for God, belief in Jesus Christ, and desire for the Holy Spirit in our lives.

You may have noticed that we have been including at least one contemporary song or refrain in each service, sometimes as our opening hymn to center us, sometimes with a beautiful anthem to prepare us for prayer, and sometimes to allow us to reflect back on Pastor Charlie's message. We are thankful that Muriel and all in our talented choirs and musicians are able to lead us in worship with such a diverse repertoire! You may see other contemporary elements crop up from time to time within worship, such as Charlie occasionally wearing a suit instead of a robe or a less formal beginning to the sermon, as we try to make everyone feel welcome and a part of their church home.

We also congratulate Muriel and our choirs for their outstanding contribution to Avon Lake's Bicentennial Community Choir Performance on January 20th at the ALHS PAC. Both our choirs put in numerous hours of practice to prepare, and then braved the snow and icy roads to participate in this wonderful event. They sounded beautiful and represented ALPC so well! Thanks everyone! [Note: If you were not able to attend this event, please check our church Facebook page for a video.]

We have had many positive comments about our use of the hand-held microphones during our prayer times, allowing everyone (even those folks at home on Facebook) can hear our joys and concerns directly from the person requesting prayer. However, we do recognize that not everyone is comfortable with a microphone, and while we love to hear your voice, we really want to pray for you. We will continue to use the mics, but also welcome you to write your prayer concerns on the blue comment cards in the pew. You can hand these to an usher before worship begins, during the prayer time, or even drop them in the offering plate. We hope this makes it easier for everyone to share their joys and concerns.

Have you noticed the beautiful arrangements on the communion table lately? Our friend, Sue Hurbanek has volunteered to prepare seasonal silk arrangements that we can use to adorn our sanctuary. If you are interested in donating fresh flowers in honor or memory of someone, feel free to sign up on the Flower Calendar, located on the bulletin board just past the coat closet and before the drinking fountain. Cindi Dansizen, our office administrator, will contact you to discuss specifics, such as price and what text you would like in the bulletin.

We are sorry that Chris Chase will be stepping down from the Worship and Spiritual Life Committee for a while. Chris has diligently served this committee for 8 years. She has been responsible for filling the pulpit during pastor vacations and study leaves, organizing our Advent candle lighting, co-coordinating our caroling to shut-ins, and preparing posters to advertise all of our worship events. Thanks so much Chris! We hope you use this time to be refreshed and renewed in the Spirit!

As always, we welcome your suggestions and feedback to make the worship experience the best it can be.

Written by Margre Lind Mills on behalf of the Worship and Spiritual Life Committee

Renewal Journey

After taking a pause during the Holiday season, your Renewal Coordinating Team has reconvened and is back on track. Recall that in 2018:

We **Learned** about our heritage and who we are as a church. During Lent, we studied Jesus' teachings from his Sermon on the Mount, learning how, we are to be God's light in the world and for each other, and how we are to pray and to act. We shared our hopes & dreams for the future of ALPC, as God called us to expand in areas where we are already strong; to work on areas where we could do better; and to work in new areas to help us grow stronger together as a church family.

We **Discovered** God's plan for us through the work of our Vision Panel, who organized all of the information we collected and carefully listened for God's voice in those words. The result was a Guiding Vision for ALPC that speaks to where we see God leading our congregation, grounded in the past and informed by the uniqueness of each member of this church. It encourages every member of ALPC to dream, to connect, and to act.

2019 is our year to begin to **Become** what God wants us to be going forward. Recall that in mid-November, church officers, committee chairs, our clerk and program staff met to identify Key Result Areas from our Guiding Vision. We identified 8 critical areas that are crucial to our church's faithfulness, growth, and our ability to fulfill God's Vision for us. We also developed drafts of 5-Year Milestones for each of the Key Result Areas, which are the outcomes that we want to achieve for each Key Result Area, or what "DONE" looks like in each area at the end of 2023.

Here, on the following page, is what we came up with so far... →



So, what is next? Five Tuesdays in Lent, Charlie will be leading us in experiences to help us grow, stretch and learn in the areas of ministry that we have identified as key to ALPC. At the same time, your Renewal Coordinating Team will be collecting your ideas and input, as well as working with our committees, ministries, staff, Session and Deacons to encourage alignment with our key areas and goals.

While this is a great start, a DRAFT in fact, we need your input to help finalize these milestones. Is anything missing? Are there redundancies or areas that we can simplify? Which of these speak to you? These are great goals that will stretch us and move us to become what God wants for us, but to do this we need to ACT. What projects, activities or tasks support these goals? What ideas do you have as a member, visitor or friend of our congregation, member of session or a committee, as a member of staff on projects, activities and tasks that move us toward a church that is more inclusive, forgiving, welcoming, serving, compassionate, obedient, faith-full, and filled with? Please think and pray and share your ideas! We want to hear you!

Margre Lind Mills, on behalf of the Renewal Coordinating Team: Carol Nussle, Pastor Charlie, Jo Ann Wainscott, and Sybil Wendling

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)
Our Renewal Journey

Renewal Journey

Key Result Areas <i>What is Critical for ALPC?</i>	Milestones <i>What will ALPC Look like at the end of 2023?</i>
Inclusive	Inter-generational groups engaging in worship, Christian education, fellowship, outreach and mission All people feel comfortable being involved at ALPC and feel a sense of family and belonging We intentionally demonstrate inclusivity in all areas of our lives Every member of ALPC feels this is their church home and they fully, comfortably participate We provide transportation to church to all who need it We accept people where they are, embracing differences to encourage growth and community We include children, families and staff from our preschool We have accurate contact info on members, visitors and friends
Forgiving	We encourage resiliency, openness to change and a non-judgmental attitude We love everyone, even when it is hard We make differences unify us, not divide us; finding ways to create unity and encourage growth We are known as peacemakers and reconcilers in our community
Welcoming	Our visitors are visited at home, given a gift reminding them of ALPC and informed of all we have to offer Our visitors, members, staff and friends know their gifts are valued The interior and exterior of our church is physically attractive and welcoming to all those that enter, as well as pass by, including our sign
Serving	Our Lunch Bunch program expands to include a food pantry We have a Parish Nurse We respond to changing needs and issues of our community
Compassionate	We pray for each other, our community and our world, communicating our prayer concerns in ways that all can participate Our members know what support services are available to those in need We use our electronic sign to express compassion for others We invite our community to help others by providing opportunities for prayer, service and mission
Obedient	We honor God in all we do, giving the gift of our best selves to others We are humble, honest and loving in our virtual and physical communication Our online image represents our true Christian selves
Faith-full	We trust God and intentionally seek His grace We follow Jesus' model purposefully and invite the Holy Spirit in our midst All we encounter will recognize that we are filled with God's grace
Learning	We offer an expanded study program that helps us grow through study of the bible and other topics, tours near and far, and with speakers and panel discussions Children, youth and adults are engaged, talking about what we are learning and maturing in our faith and as children of God



Avon Lake Presbyterian Church
32340 Electric Boulevard
Avon Lake, OH 44012

Newsletter deadline

The deadline to submit articles to Cindi via email: alpresby@avonlakepc.org
for the April, 2019 newsletter is **March 15**.

Sunday Worship

Worship at 10:00 am

Youth & Children's Sunday School at 10:00 am

(440) 933-6240

www.avonlakechurch.com

www.facebook.com/avonlakepc

alpresby@avonlakepc.org

Pastor
Pastor Emeritus
Custodian
Director of Christian Education
Director of Music
Financial Secretary
Lock-up Custodian
Office Administrator
Treasurer

Charles E. Swartz
Alfred A. Hart
Jessica Hughett
Lee Lohr
Muriel Homer
Lynn Morway
Ed Homer
Cindi Dansizen
Marcy Uhl