

harmony SPRINGS

harmonysprings.org



Take the plunge

Written by Pastor Joel

During one of our family's summertime trips to Arizona Emily and I found ourselves coaxing our oldest son, Jameson to walk the plank of a family member's backyard diving board. All our coaxing and Emily's offer of five dollars got him positioned.

After walking out over the water, he seemed poised to collect. But then he froze. He was timid, afraid, and suspicious. To dive into the mind of a child is a dangerous thing, but nevertheless I wondered. What was he thinking about? What pros/cons was he weighing? What did he think would happen? Why didn't he trust us to make the leap?

Last Sunday during the response and reflection time John MacDonald shared a childhood story that sounded eerily similar. The sermon had

trigger, for him, a memory of childhood diving board bravery. He too had to gather the courage to climb the steps of the high dive, walk out on the diving board with the assistance of the hand rails, and step to the edge leaning forward ever so carefully.

As John told that story my mind immediately took me to what I'm sure was a similar childhood high dive three times as high as the lower diving boards. I can almost recall each step moving me closer and closer to the top. I remember not wanting to retreat, go back, or surrender to fear. My friends were watching, my parents were anticipating, and although I knew the thrill would be worth it - I still remember pausing, questioning, and then...

My guess is you too were once leaning over the edge, toes gripping the solid-yet-moving surface of the board.

For a moment I want to invite you to stand with the three of us on the diving board. Can you feel the anticipation wrapped up in fear? Can you sense the cool water awaiting? Can you embrace that decision-making moment when you could turn back in disappointment, but you know you must press on?

Those are the moments life is made of.

As a pastor I'd assert that those moments are spiritual moments - drawing us forward, urging us to lean in, and begging us to commit. We, at Harmony Springs, are standing together on the diving board. We have been climbing the steps for years now and we are about to decide if a thrilling future is worth the plunge.

Our future together is becoming clearer with each passing day. As we peer into the waters of our future together I'd like to give you a glimpse of what it looks like: A building that is a non-profit hub/community center with daily activity that enhances/changes/transforms/impacts the lives of people around us. A Church that is the first-place people think about joining when they want to make a difference in the community or help change the world. A Church known for radical hospitality where all are invited to participate and contribute and dedication to social good in the name of Jesus- justice. A Church known for gracious welcome where all are invited to participate and contribute. A church dedicated to social



good in the name of Jesus through acts of justice.

We're all standing together on the edge of it. It's tempting to head back. But if John, Jameson and I can do it- so can you. In the coming months our church leadership will be working on sharing a plan for getting us there, but they need your help. The first step is a hard one - for all of us. We all need to support this endeavor financially. Our financial support must be generous and consistent. If you do not currently give to the church - I'm pleading with you to begin. If you currently do (thank you) I'm asking you to consider increasing your regular giving by \$20-50/month. The combination of these two things will get us to a building. I realize you'll have to really think about it, study the waters below and determine if you can lean-in, but my friends - the thrill will be worth the risk.

Let's take the plunge together.

Standing right there with you,
Pastor Joel

SUNDAY SERMON SERIES

APRIL 8, 2018 – MLK50 SUNDAY | REFLECTION AND CALL TO ACTION



Join us on Sunday, April 8 for a service of reflection and action honoring the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's death. We will honor Dr. King's prophetic voice as we hear a partial excerpt of his 'Beyond Vietnam' speech and the scripture from Isaiah Dr.

King referenced followed by a discussion of spiritual questions that should serve to challenge us and move us to action. We'll conclude the discussion with song and communion.

There is rumor that our music director, Terry Fairfax, is working on leading us in a rendition of James Taylor's 'Shed a Little Light' This gathering will certainly be an inspiring time together that will move us, bind us together and reinvigorate our dedication to equality and justice – values of Jesus which we continue at Harmony Springs.

April 4 marks the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's death which occurred on April 4, 1968. Exactly one year before his assassination Dr. King gave his historic 'Beyond Vietnam' speech at Riverside Church in NYC. His words were powerful then and remain so today. By honoring Dr. King, and prophetic voices like his, Harmony Springs lives out our value to be an anti-racist/pro-reconciling church who welcome all and invite spiritual action for world change.

SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICES:

EASTER - APRIL 1

MOTHER'S DAY - MAY 13

PENTECOST - MAY 27

FATHER'S DAY - JUNE 17

GENEROUS ID SERIES | SUNDAYS APRIL 15 – MAY 20



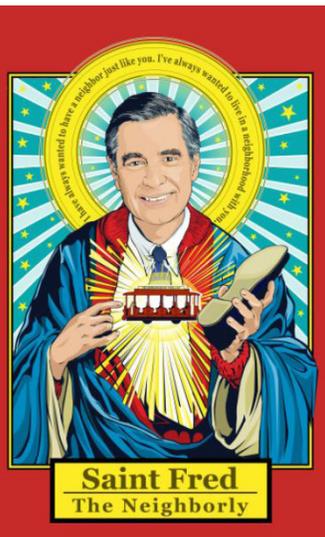
"They are so generous!" It's something we'd all like to be said of us! But if we're honest, living generously can be a challenge in our fast-paced and easily self-absorbed culture. And what is true generosity anyway? Is it possible to make generosity such a part of our spirituality that it's like it's part of our DNA? Join us for this series as we look at what the Bible has to say about what it means to live a generous life! Sunday topics will include the spiritual promise of generosity, generosity as an opportunity, the effects of community generosity, the heart of generosity, God's call to be generous with our time, and an examination of why it's so hard to be generous with that one big thing: money.

ST. FRED THE NEIGHBORLY SERIES | MAY 27 – JUNE 24

His soft-spoken voice mesmerized generations of children. Mr. Rogers was the nicest guy of all time. There has never been anyone any nicer. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the debut of his famed half-hour television neighborhood 'Mr. Roger's Neighborhood.' Much has been written about Fred Rogers – the affect his TV presence had on children and maybe even more intriguing, the way he was in real life.

As a Presbyterian minister his real life mirrored his character on TV. He took his deep spiritual understanding of the world onto television loving people of all races, abilities, and backgrounds. Everyone was equal in his neighborhood. He would always ask, "Won't you be my neighbor?"

For five weeks we'll explore spiritual themes that were important to Fred Rogers. We'll relive the careless days of our childhood and open our hearts to his neighborhood once again. There is even rumor that Pastor Joel may preach in a tie and cardigan. We'll hear stories from Fred Roger's everyday life which found their way into his imaginary TV neighborhood. We'll explore theme's like: What does it mean to be a neighbor? Who is your neighbor? Its You I like, how solitude can be neighborly, the simplicity of neighboring, and how we are all the same on a subway train. Join us in an exploration of what it takes to be a neighbor.





SPRING IS HERE!

AN UPDATE FROM THE ELDERS

Spring is here! The birds are singing, the flowers are sprouting, the winds still howl and there may still be snow in the forecast; but at Harmony Springs we find harmony in the spring. We all look forward to the new opportunities to serve in our church, our ministries, our community, and our world.

To keep the momentum going, the Elders have been working on a few things that will give us all focus and incentive to continue the good works God has called us to. We continue to attend the Vitality Workshops. The most

recent one was geared to marketing and it challenged us to get out there and talk about our church. As we continue to develop our mission and vision to guide our ministry, conversations with friends, colleagues, acquaintances, and strangers get easier as we are better equipped to put into words the great things Harmony Springs does.

The Elders are also working with the Trustees and the Leadership to continue the plans for developing our property on Arlington Road. The possibilities are

so exciting! We have had many reports from Clark Reed detailing his talks with builders and architects regarding the ministries and needs of Harmony Springs and our community. As our Mission and Vision continue to transform and expand, so will our congregation transform and expand into new and compelling ministries. We are being careful to plan for future needs as well as stay within the current means, yet the possibilities are hopefully endless.

We come together every

Sunday to worship. It is our desire to fully and creatively worship God. We are a wonderfully created body of Christ that serves people with open arms, justice, prayer, and love. So the journey continues... We are a transforming church with people who show great love through Christ Jesus. Come and worship. Sing praises to God. Take part in the welcome. Be involved in ministry. God has great plans for us and for our future. Let's experience God together.

Carol Zumstein
Vice Chair of the Elders



WALK & RUN FOR THE KIDS

CLEVELAND CHRISTIAN HOME

Join Pastor Joel and family in supporting the Cleveland Christian Home on Saturday, April 28! Enjoy a fun day at the Cleveland Zoo, run a 5k, walk a 5k as a family or just come enjoy the activities, music, and fun!

The Walk & Run for the Kids is a great morning! Participants can compete in a timed 5K Run, walk a 5K or simply enjoy the morning at the zoo with friends and family. Registration includes all day admission to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and The Rainforest, a t-shirt, a light breakfast and 3 door prize tickets.

Whether you choose to have a fun filled leisurely day at the Zoo with family and

friends or you plan to lace up to race in our 5K, simply being there will help make a difference in the lives of some of our community's most vulnerable children.

In years past runners from Harmony Springs have been top finishers in their age brackets.

To sign up send Pastor Joel an email or signup on the registration form at church (at the back table on Sundays). We'll pay and we'll register you (you can't be free fun for a great cause). Then all you have to do is show up, run or walk your heart out, get your free t-shirt, enjoy free breakfast, walk the zoo, and support CCH.

The Cleveland Christian

Home is a longtime non-profit partner of Harmony Springs and cherishes our support.

We hope to see you all at the Zoo on April 28th!

- SCHEDULE:**
- 7:30 am to 8:40 am**
Event-Day Sign In/
Registration
 - 8:45 am**
5K Run Start Time
 - 8:55 am**
1 Loop Fun Walk Kick-Off
 - 10:00 am**
Runners Award Ceremony
 - 10:15 am**
Door Prize Drawing (Must be present to win)
 - 10:30 am - 5:00 pm**
Enjoy the rest of your day at the Zoo.



A BUILDING IS IN OUR FUTURE

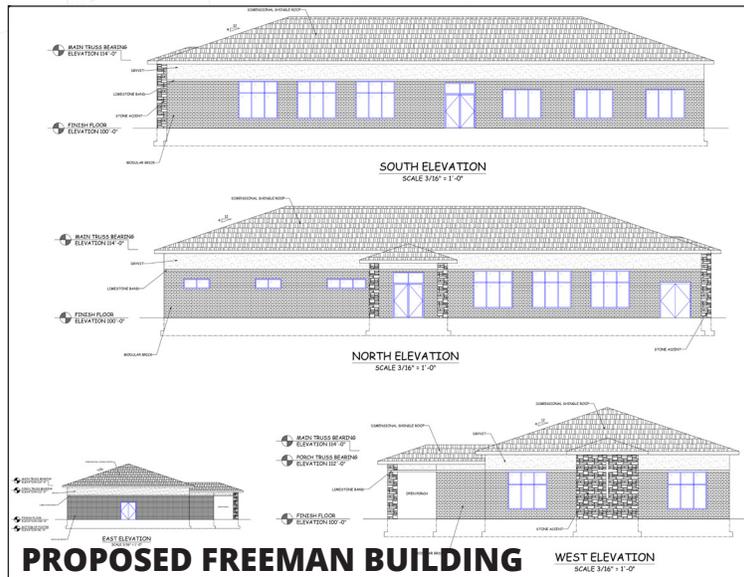
AN UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES

written by Clark Reed, Chair of the Trustees

During the first quarter of 2018 the trustees have continued to concentrate their efforts on the development of the Arlington Road property. There were several discussions with local contractors and, as a result, three contractors have provided the trustees their recommended plans to develop the property and have provided associated cost estimates. The three contractors are: Joseph A. Jefferies Company, Welty Builders and Freeman Building Systems.

The building designs proposed by each contractor were very similar. The building square footage varied from 5,000 to 7,000 square feet. Each design contained a sanctuary/multi-purpose room that could accommodate approximately 150 people. Each of the designs also contained an entry area, rest rooms, a serving kitchen, an office, two class rooms and storage rooms. Each contractor proposed a parking lot accommodating approximately 100 parking spaces.

The discussions with the contactors have given the trustees important information about the development of the property. For example, the contractors pointed out that the soil and

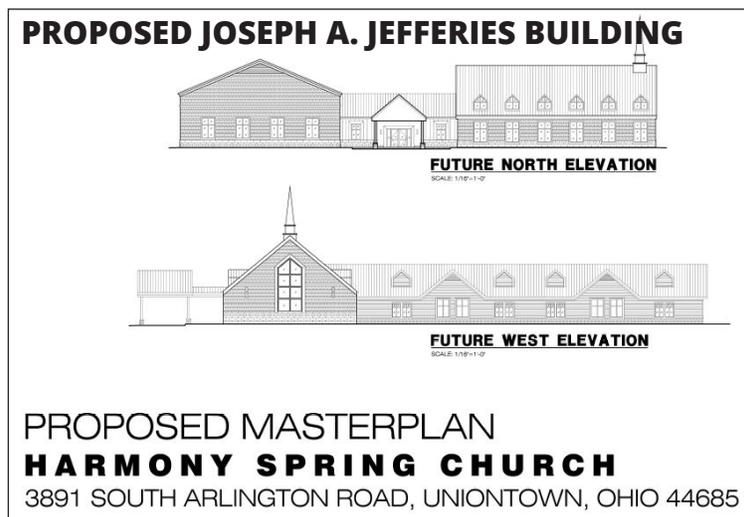


wetland reports indicates the soil is very wet and, as a result, we will have to take special steps to prepare the soil before putting in roads, parking lots and a church building. Based on the data in these reports

way too costly to prepare the soil for a building foundation. Locating the building and associated parking lot in the middle of the property appears to be the best option. Also, the city of Green will require the majority of

do follow our plans to initially put a gravel access road to the garden, the city of green will require that the first 50-100 feet be paved. This will add cost to price of putting in the access road.

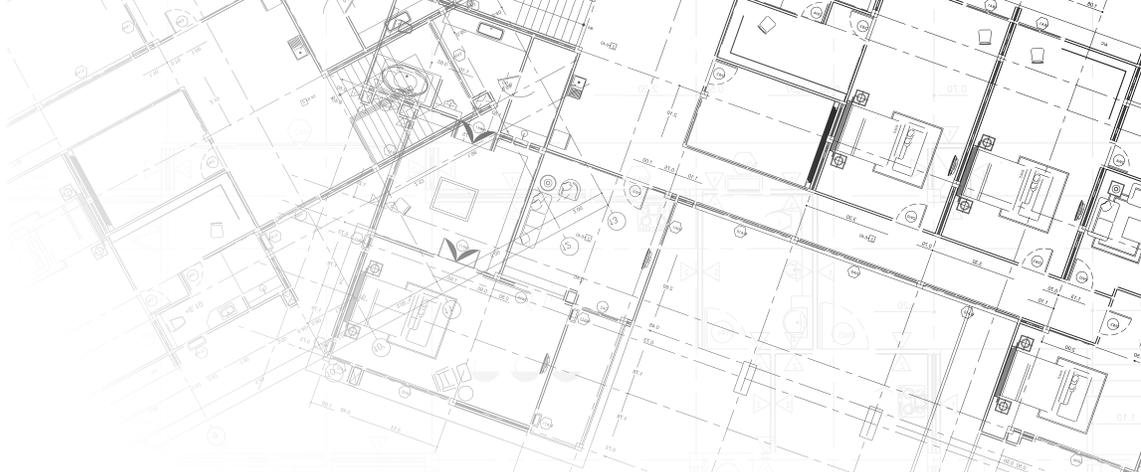
Of the three contactors, Welty Builders appeared to put the most effort into their cost estimate. They had analyzed the soil and wetlands reports and had cost estimates to locate a building at the front, middle and back of the property. Their estimate to put a 5,000 square feet building, road and parking lot on the property is 1.1 million dollars. The cost estimate from Freeman Building Systems to put a 5,685 square feet building, road and parking lot is 1.5 million dollars as was the estimate from Joseph A. Jefferies for a 7,000 square feet building. These cost estimates represent a challenge for us. We currently have \$779,000.00 in our building fund. Another concern is that we have to utilize some of the interest from our building funds to cover operating expenses.



each of the contractors also recommended that we not locate a building at the front of the property. It would be

the building exterior to be a masonry material. For example, be made of either brick and/or stone. Also, if we

At a recent leadership meeting the elders and trustee reviewed the building plans, estimates, and our financial outlook. The consensus was to prayerfully take time for discernment and to work on developing a financial plan. During this time of discernment and planning, interest from the building funds will grow



helping to bridge the gap between the money we have and the money we need to begin building.

Our fiscal priority continues finding ways to increase giving and decrease expenses through faithful stewardship to balance our annual operating budget. Doing so makes more invested principal and interest available for a building. During the first quarter, we are averaging a monthly deficit of \$946. We currently have 34 families/individuals supporting the church financially and 15 regularly attending families/individuals who do not give financially to the church. If each family and/or individual gave an average of just \$20-50 a month more or started giving \$20-50/month we could be talking about breaking ground soon. Some of us can give more than others cannot - but each gift helps no matter the amount. The trustees will also be reviewing our available self-restricted funds to determine what funds might be available to help us meet our desire for a building. These two things could get us where we want to be - a growing mission-minded/community-centered church with a building.

If you have any question please feel free to contact me or any of the trustees. Please continue to prayerfully support the leadership team as we discern our direction forward.

FOLLOW BUILDING PROGRESS UPDATES AT HARMONYSRINGS.ORG/BUILDING

WEST EXTERIOR ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

NORTH EXTERIOR ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

DATE: 1/31/2018	SCALE: 1" = 1'-0"	PROJECT # BS-2018
DRAWN BY: JF	CHECKED BY: JF	

Drawn: Harmony Springs Christian Church
Checked: Green, Dan
Project: A3-1

WELTY BUILDING CONTRACT LTD.
Architectural Firm

THIS DRAWING WAS PROVIDED BY WELTY BUILDING CONTRACT LTD. AND IS THE PROPERTY OF WELTY BUILDING CONTRACT LTD. IT IS TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE PROJECT AND SITE SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED HEREIN. NO PART OF THIS DRAWING IS TO BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS, ELECTRONIC OR MECHANICAL, INCLUDING PHOTOCOPYING, RECORDING, OR BY ANY INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM, WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF WELTY BUILDING CONTRACT LTD.

FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

STORAGE 11'-9" X 10'-1"
STORAGE 11'-9" X 10'-1"
MECHANICAL 11'-9" X 15'-5"

SANCTUARY/MULTI-PURPOSE 49'-3" X 48'-11"

KITCHEN 17'-9" X 20'-0"

CLASSROOM 1 12'-0" X 24'-10"

CLASSROOM 2 19'-3" X 12'-0"

OFFICE 16'-11" X 12'-0"

ENTRY 10'-4" X 25'-10"

RESTROOM 20'-0" X 12'-7"

RESTROOM 20'-0" X 12'-7"

North arrow and scale bar are included.

SECOND CHANCE A NEW PARTNERSHIP IN THE WORKS - SECOND CHANCE VILLAGE HOMELESS PROJECT



VILLAGE

We've begun exploring a growing relationship with a homeless tent camp in downtown Akron known as Second Chance Village.

The village is only in its infancy at not even a year old, but they are already doing some amazing things in the lives of those struggling with homelessness in Akron.

Walter Poe, Pastor Joel, Pastor Jennifer and John Forcone have all met with and been to Second Chance Village and we are finding ways that we can be helpful.

On a recent Sunday Pastor Joel shared about how impressed he was with their ability to support and

encourage each other. We'll certainly find ways to partner with second chance village, but for now they have some needs that we can surely help meet.

We are collecting a number of items they are requested as being helpful. If you'd like to make a donation of any of these items please bring them to church. We are also interested in anyone who might like to volunteer and/or help serve communion to the residents of second chance village on alternating Saturdays.

If you'd like to know more or to volunteer to help please Contact Walter Poe.

Second Chance Village Needs:

In need of: men's jeans 30-38; tennis shoes Size 6-10 women's and 8-12 men's; women's hygiene products;



women's undergarment; sports bra, (small, medium); batteries AAA and AA; blankets, tarps & tents

life: socks; toothpaste & toothbrush; hand cloth & bar of soap; poncho; chewing gum; a few dollars These items can be placed in a large zip-lock ready for distribution, or bring the items to worship and we will assemble the bags as the items are gathered.

Homeless Bag Project

Items that can make a difference in someone's

WE WALK TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY.

2018 WALK THE TALK

MAY 12, 2018 · 1 MILE WALK & CELEBRATION

Join us for our 14th annual **WALK THE TALK** event, a 1 mile walk beginning at the Spaghetti Warehouse and ending with a celebration at **OPEN M!**



Harmony Springs is a covenant church partner with OPEN M, a non-profit ministry helping people break the cycle of poverty in Summit County for the last 50 years.

The event is a fun family-friendly 1 mile walk that begins at the Spaghetti Warehouse and ends at OPEN M. Join Pastor Joel and family in participating in this new event on May 12 at 10 am. There is no cost to register for the walk. Registration is available online at openm.org/walkthetalk. This year's event is set to be the biggest yet, with lots of fun activities at the finish celebration.

Click on 'Register Now', choose 'Register as a member of a team or family'. Put 'Pastor Joel' as team captain and 'Harmony Springs Christian Church' as our team name.



COMMUNITY GARDEN CSA UPDATE

On Saturday, **April 14** from **9am-11am** we will be having a garden clean up day. Last year our garden had moved to a forward section closer to where the farmer plants his corn/soybeans.

This had an effect on our yield for the season. As a result, we are seeking to move the garden to the further back

section where it was two summers ago.

The ground was much more fertile for a varied crop of fruits and vegetables. So put on your work clothes and bring your gloves.

WE WILL BE WORKING ON:

- fencing stakes need to be

pulled up

- new fencing stakes need to be driven in

- strawberry plants need to be relocated to the new position

- selecting a space for the new garden shed purchased through the SeedMoney fundraiser

When checking your calendar for **Saturday, April 14, 9-11am**, please remember; **MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!** Please let me know if you are able to come.

For any questions please contact Jennifer Berlyoung 330-807-8072 or jennifer@harmonysprings.org

HELP SEND A YOUNG PERSON TO CAMP CHRISTIAN!

Summer camp at Camp Christian is an experience a young person will never forget! There is nothing quite like summer camp - campfires, group singing, swimming, fishing, boating, lifelong friends and a dedicated week to exploring one's spiritual life surrounded by the natural beauty and supportive environment at Camp Christian.

Harmony Springs encourages our young people to attend by providing scholarships. We are blessed to have a growing group of teenagers and young adults at Harmony Springs. We never want to take that for granted and honor their presence and participation by assisting in their desire to attend camp.



Providing for a week of camp is not cheap these days. It costs \$400 to send one young person to camp. This year Harmony Springs expects to help send around 12 young

people to Camp Christian and we need your help doing so! Would you consider making a tax-deductible donation of any amount to help change the spiritual life of a young person?

Remember the friendships made and the spiritual exploration that likely led you

to a lifetime of commitment and involvement in the church? Our young people need this experience - now more than ever. In today's social-media culture, our young people need this time to form meaningful friendships and deepen their spiritual lives. The connection and spiritual growth that happens in the life of a young person at camp is priceless.

If you can give \$400 you'll be sending one of our young people to camp. If you can give \$200 you'll be supporting half the cost of a week of camp. Any amount helps. Our young people's lives will be forever impacted because of your generosity. Is there anything better than that? To give right now visit harmonysprings.org/camp. Choose the amount of your donation and then choose

'Send a Kid to Camp' We'll receive your gift and put it to work immediately. Your generosity will guarantee another young person the life-giving gift of time at Camp Christian.

UPCOMING CAMP DATES

GRANDPARENTS CAMP - JUNE 1 & 2

CHI RHO CAMP EMMANUS - JUNE 3-9

CYF CONFERENCE 1 - JUNE 10-16

OTTER CAMP - JUNE 17-23

CYF CONFERENCE 2 - JUNE 24-30

RIBBIT CAMP - JULY 4-7

CHI RHO CAMP CORINTH - JULY 8-14

CYF CONFERENCE 3 - JULY 15-21

CHI RHO CAMP DAMASCUS - JULY 22-28

ADVANCE CONFERENCE - JULY 29 - AUG 5

STAY CONNECTED

Hattie Larlham Collections

Harmony Springs continues our long-standing partnership with Hattie Larlham. During the past few years we have partnered with Hattie's 'Constant Companions' programs in Green and North Canton. Our Annie Minck circle makes regular visits to the North Canton location and have been honored to have them join us at OWLS meetings.

At Constant Companions adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities benefit from shared social interaction and group activities. Community inclusion and involvement is large part of Constant Companion's appeal. Program participants and staff take regular field trips to Northeast Ohio organizations and engage in recreation activities.

The Annie Minck Circle is collecting items for Hattie Larlham Constant Companion program and invite you to bring items in the month of April which we be delivered in May. Show your support by placing your donation on the back table on Sundays.

To read more about the work of Hattie Larlham and Constant Companions: <http://www.hattielarlham.org/>

Items for Hattie Larlham Constant Companions

- dish soap
- Clorox disinfectant wipes
- Purell
- Temptation Cat Treats
- Markers
- Crayons
- Splenda
- Coffee
- non-dairy coffee creamer
- construction paper
- 13 gallon trash bags
- 8 gallon trash bags
- Aerosol Lysol Spray
- paper plates
- paper cups

Green OWLS

(Older. Wiser. Learning. Seniors)



Some people think retirement should slow you down. Not us! Our OWLS group gets together monthly for all kinds of fun and food. You won't want to miss each month's gathering! Join our Older Wiser Learning Seniors for a time of fun and food. We meet at the Torok Community Center at 11:30am, eat lunch together and then enjoy a brief program. On **April 13** we'll welcome Peg Bobel from the Summit County Metroparks - Ohio Canals and on **May 11** we'll enjoy a social gathering picnic for our final meeting before summer. As usual Carol Z. provides delicious lunch. Don't miss this time to be together, learn something new and eat delicious food.

Help Promote Harmony Springs in the Community Memorial Day Parade

We're looking for walkers, kid bikers and dogs to join us as we walk in the memorial day parade this Monday, **May 28**. If you plan to join us send Jennifer Berlyoung a quick email to let her know you'll be joining. If you need a Harmony Springs t-shirt send the size and we'll get one for you!

Join us between 9-9:30 AM on Monday at Green High School, 1474 Boettler Rd. in Green. The parade kicks off at 10 am. Park at the FedEx Custom Critical lot (across the street on Boettler) and look for the church trailer. Pastor Joel pulls the trailer with their 12-passenger van - so there's plenty of space to ride along. Come wearing your Harmony Springs shirt ready to throw candy or hand out HSCC promotional items. The route is about 1.25 mi and is at times brisk. Bring little ones and strollers, bikes, or scooters. We'll have balloons ready to decorate.

City of Green Freedom Fest

Harmony Springs sponsors a children's fun booth during the City's Freedom Fest celebration. This year Freedom Fest will be held on Friday, **June 22** (6-9 pm) and Saturday **June 23** (noon-11 pm). We staff the booth on Friday evening and then again on Saturday from noon-6 pm. We'd love to have your help playing parachute games, giving out prizes, talking with parents and playing fun games with children! We setup right across from all the inflatable games. There's lots of energy and lots of kids! Bring your family to enjoy the event - it's free to the public! The inflatable games are free and there are food vendors on site with fireworks on Saturday evening. If you can give a few hours let Jennifer know you can come.

Share the love online!

Tell your facebook friends and family you are proud of your church! When you get to church on Sunday check in to Harmony Springs or search for the current sermon series to share even more information about what we're exploring on Sundays. A recent new attender shared that she showed up because of a friend who she saw check-in on Facebook regularly.

Take a minute and leave us a positive review! The review you leave might be the recommendation someone reads before decided to attend for the first time.

