



**Oak Hills United Methodist Church**  
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## May 2023 The Oak Notes

by Pastor Justin

### Pastor's Corner

Sunday May 14 is Mother's Day, a special day set aside on our annual calendars to honor, cherish and recognize our mothers. Anna Jarvis first suggested a national observance of an annual holiday honoring mothers because of her special love for her own mother. At a memorial service for her mother on May 10, 1908, she gave each person who attended a carnation (her mother's favorite flower). Within the next few years, the idea of a national holiday to honor our mothers gained popularity and on May 9, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Mother's Day to be an official holiday. Since that time, the second Sunday in May has been a national holiday that we pause to celebrate the moms in our lives.

I know as we approach this holiday that there is a mix of emotions, for our experiences are not all the same. For some of us, we had great mothers, and this is a day of fond memories. For others, motherhood was an unwanted accident. For others, we tried and tried to have a child, but it wasn't possible, and this day comes filled with pain and heartache. For others, we didn't have the best relationship with our mothers and our relationship with our mother is strained to this day. For others, our mothers have gone on to be with the Lord and this day only reminds us of our loss. If this day is hard for you, please know you are in my thoughts and my prayers. God sees your pain and wants you to know you are loved. He has promised to never leave or nor forsake. He will be close and near in this time.

Yet, for all its obstacles, pitfalls, and broken dreams, when we talk about motherhood, we're talking about a beautiful idea that stems from the very heart of god. For that reason, I wanted to take this article to offer just a few thoughts on the mission of the godly mother from Proverbs 6:20-35.

(1) The teaching of a godly mother provides guidance. Proverbs 6:22-23 speaks this way in regard to mom's instruction: "When you walk around, it will lead you. When you lie down, it will protect you. When you awake it will occupy your attention. The commandment is a lamp and instruction a light." It's compared to the image of an oil lamp, giving off just enough light to enable us to see the next step we should take. Laura Ingalls Wilder once said: "Lessons learned at mother's knee last through life. The mother is and must be, whether she knows it or not, the greatest, strongest, and most lasting teacher her children have." In one way or another, we are all the product of our mother's teaching in life.

(2) The teaching of a godly mother provides correction. Proverbs

6:23b says this: "Corrective teaching is the path of life." Proverbs 19:10 says: "Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your days." The writer paints mom's teaching as a form of discipline leading to a godly life. As we heed her words, we avoid the path of destruction and walk in the ways that lead to eternal life.

(3) The teaching of a godly mother provides protection. Proverbs 6:4 says: Mom's teaching "guards you from the evil woman, from the flattering tongue of the foreign woman." Throughout the Bible, the wayward woman is a symbol of any alluring force that would draw us away from the things of God. But notice, God says that mom's teaching is the protective force that guards us and protects us from that evil. It's what keeps us from going astray and falling prey to the attacks of the enemy. They protect us.

(4) And that brings us to our final point: The teaching of a godly mother provides life. The mission and purpose of her instruction is to enable us to experience the life that God desires. We can either heed the instruction and experience the life God desires or we can ignore it and be swept away. The question is which path will we choose? Will we choose to listen to her instruction or will we go our own way?

Have a very blessed and happy Mother's Day!

Pastor Justin



### Bible Studies

Sunday School 9 am

Women's Group: Mon 10 am

John's Study: Thursday, 10:30 am

TOGA: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7pm @ 5609 Green Acres Ct., Cincy



### Introducing our new Youth Coordinator

Hello Church Family!

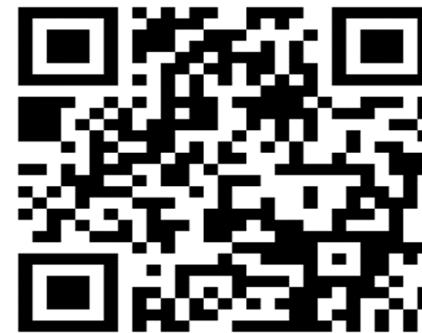
My name is Ali and I have always been a west-sider. I love guiding our youth and teaching the works and wonders of God. With my time, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, photography, crafting, animals, and nature. I am very blessed to be a part of the OHUMC church and look forward to forming relationships with the congregation.

Thank you,

Ali Scully

### Online Giving

Do you know you can now give on our church website? Simply go to [www.oakhillsumc.org](http://www.oakhillsumc.org) and click give in the bar at the top of the page or scan the QR code below and go directly to our online giving portal.



### Passionate Worship

At our Passionate Worship Meeting this past Sunday, it was suggested that we move to a rotation of songs including Shalom rather than doing Shalom every week. Since this has, in many ways, become our church tradition, we wanted to get your feedback before potentially making this shift. Please let Pastor Justin know your thoughts either in person or by sending a brief message to [jfuhrma@hotmail.com](mailto:jfuhrma@hotmail.com). No decision has been made at this time.

**Graduation Recognition 6/4** Please let the office know if you have a graduate so that we don't miss anyone.



Oak Hills United Methodist Church is currently set up as a beneficiary on Kroger Community Rewards. [Kroger Rewards](#)

This gives a small percentage of each purchase you make at Kroger back to the church. If you have not already done so, we would encourage you to connect your Kroger card to Oak Hills UMC online. Step 1: Get a Kroger Card. Step 2: Create a digital account at Kroger.com and link your Kroger card. Step 3: Go to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards). And click where it says search for your organization here. Step 4: Search for Oak Hills United Methodist Church. When the church comes up, select it and click save. From now on, when you use your Kroger card a small percent of what you spent is given back to the church.

#### Vanco

Did you know that you can give to the church through your phone? Simply download the free Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app on your phone, search for Oak Hills United Methodist Church, and then set up an account. Once it's set up you will be able to give either a one time or reoccurring gift. You can also contact Linda Wise (513-205-8104; [lpwise@fuse.net](mailto:lpwise@fuse.net)) to set up an automatic payment to the church.

#### Israel Trip

Join Oak Hills United Methodist Church and Legacy Christian Church in Harrison as we join together for a fun faith-filled experience of a lifetime. Pastor Justin Fuhrmann and Pastor Mark Garrett will be leading us as we tour the Holy Lands with Medji Tours from October 23-31, 2023. We'll take a boat ride in the Sea of Galilee. You'll have the opportunity to be baptized in the Jordan River, to see the Dead Sea, Masada, and Jerusalem. We'll pray with others at the Western Wall. We'll sing Christmas carols at the place where Jesus was born, and reflect at the place where he was crucified. We'll take communion together, worship in a church in Jerusalem, and eat a Sabbath meal. There will be devotions at the sites along the way. In doing so, the Bible will come to life in a way you've never dreamed. The cost of the trip is \$2,870 (plus airfare) per participant. That covers the tours, guides, hotels, and 2 meals a day. We need at least 12 people to make the trip possible, and if we get 15 to go, the cost of the trip will go down to \$2,600 (plus airfare) per participant. All prices are based on double occupancy rooms. **There will be a discussion for all who are interested in attending at Legacy Christian Church in Harrison on May 3 from 7-8:30 pm.** It is not too late to register. You can still register online at <https://mejditours.com/tour/harrison-legacy-church/>. The deadline to register is July 24, 2023.

#### UMW Article – Mary Atkinson

**The Pig** – The Thursday before the Flying Pig Marathon (May 4) the United Methodist Women volunteer in downtown Cincinnati at the convention center. Our job is to roll “flying pig” posters and put them in the box for each of the participants in the race. Since it is a sit down job almost anyone can do it. The posters get stacked into a corner of the convention center for the runners. We are the stuffers and stackers! This has been a fundraiser for the United Methodist Women since 2011. The sponsors also pay the church for our time. We get to serve, fellowship, have a good

time, and earn a little for the church. After, the group usually stays in town for dinner. This year we are going to Pompilios over the river.

**The Cow** (The Celebration of Women) – All the women of Oak Hills UMC, their daughters, their mothers, and their friends are invited to come together for food and fellowship. This year we will be having a Murder Mystery Dinner called “Pistols, Passion, & Pasta.” It will be on Thursday, May 18 at 6 p.m.



#### Announcements

- 5/1 – Trustees, 7pm
- 5/3 – UMW Luncheon, 12 pm
- 5/3 – Israel Discussion, 7-8:30 pm @ Legacy Christian Church in Harrison
- 5/4 – UMW Flying Pig Service Project
- 5/7 – Family Board Game Night, 6-9 pm (Bring your favorite game and a snack to share)
- 5/8 – Finance 6:30 pm; Board Meeting, 7 pm
- 5/18 – Celebration of Women Murder Mystery Dinner, 6pm
- 5/19 – Young at Heart, 7 pm
- 5/21 – Small Group Leader Training, 12 pm
- 5/26 – Scrapbooking/Craft Group, 7 pm
- 5/29 – Memorial Day: Office Closed
- 5/31 – Community Dinner, 6 pm

Worship – Sunday, 10:30 am

Sissy's Pantry – Wed 6:30-8:00 pm

Zoom Prayer – Thursday, 11 am



# OHUMC Family

Psalm 23:1-3

*The LORD is My Shepherd. I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet water. He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for His Name's sake.*

#### **Upcoming Family Ministries Events:**

##### **Graduate Sunday - Sunday, June 4**

Please let us know if you have any graduates you'd like to honor this year. We will have a special presentation highlighting them and will give them a graduation gift.

##### **Summer VBS - Monday-Friday, June 19-23, from 6:30-8:30 pm**

Don't forget that the closing program will be on Sunday, June 25th. Invite your neighborhood kids and friends to the weekly program nights and the Sunday morning program!

#### **Weekly Sunday School Program:**

Every Sunday, we have children's Sunday school from 9-10:20 am and then JAM during the worship service. The youth also have Sunday school from 9:30-10:20 am every week. We are welcoming our new Youth Coordinator, Ali Scully! We always have a hot breakfast and coffee. Come join us!

Below, you will find some recent photos from Sunday School.

*Feel free to share any suggestions for Family Ministries with Amit Dutta at [amitincincy@gmail.com](mailto:amitincincy@gmail.com).*