



PeacePress

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST www.peaceucc.com

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A Global Mission Church

May, 2019

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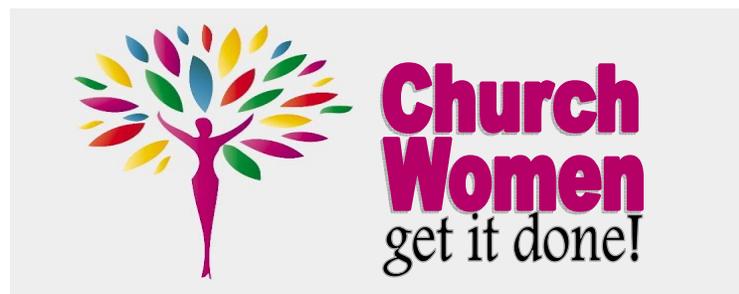
The mission of Peace United Church of Christ is to reach our community for Christ, develop disciples, and empower all people for ministry.

MOTHER ~ DAUGHTER ~ FRIEND BANQUET

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019

6:30 P.M. IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Our theme is "Church Women Get It Done!"



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The Mother-Daughter-Friend Banquet will be held on **Monday, May 13th at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Our speaker is LaTonja Fant, Disaster Response Coordinator for New Light Missionary Baptist Church. She organized her church's response in meeting the needs of those impacted by the tornado that struck east Greensboro on April 15, 2018. Her presentation is remarkable and you will not want to miss it (plus the great meal and warm fellowship)! **Please contact Ava Chambers ASAP if you still need tickets.**

STAFF

Rev. Tom Warren
 Pastor
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Ms. Elisabeth Penry
 Minister of Music and Organist

Mrs. Sherri Vestal
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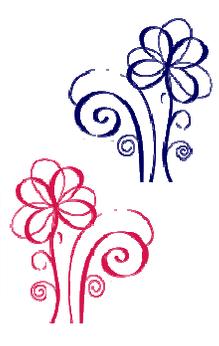
Mr. Ted Wilkinson
 Youth Director

Ms. Abigail Miller Warren
 Nursery Attendant

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — SUNDAY, MAY 19TH

(See page 2 for complete details.)

*With love and great pride, this month we honor our mothers...
 ...and our veterans*



Pastor's Perspective

I was out the other day which happened to be our first 80 plus degree day. The warmth felt refreshing, and all the blooming trees and green lawns made it clear that spring is here and winter is gone. The seasons are still turning.

Yes, the seasons are still turning and so is the world. History is on the march, nations and people are evolving, science continues to reveal the mysteries of human civilization and the universe as a whole. We know more and more about more and more, and yet sometimes it feels as if we are moving backward, or simply treading water. When it comes to the human family, where is the progress to be found?

In Mary Foskett's book, *Moral Teachings of Jesus*, she focuses upon five major themes of Jesus' ethical teachings: 1. Loving One's Enemies; 2. Anger and Reconciliation; 3. Marriage; 4. Spiritual Integrity; and 5. Wealth and Accumulation. These teachings, found in Matthew 5-7 (Sermon on the Mount), are the outline of a life lived with moral and ethical boundaries. These are the teachings which move us away from a faith based on *things we believe about Jesus*, toward a faith based on the *way of living* which Jesus has called us to. The Sermon on the Mount points us toward the embodiment of Jesus' teachings.

As we continue to become a smaller and smaller world, as well as the most religiously diverse nation in the world, *living our faith as a model of faithfulness* will play a larger and larger role. If the human family is to progress, grow, and evolve in the years ahead, we will all need to understand and live into a faith that is based upon behavior, rather than simple belief. Believing Jesus is the Son of God will not make us love our enemies, but loving our enemies, practicing forgiveness, renouncing violence, and turning from the idolatries of the marketplace may indeed bring us to believe ever more deeply in the authentic essence of Jesus.

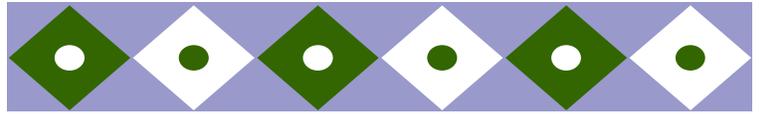
We live now in the wake of the resurrection. Easter morning and its empty tomb has come and gone. So what now?

The early followers of Jesus did not believe in him because of the resurrection. They believed in the resurrection because they first believed in him and in the spiritual life he unleashed among them. This is, finally,

what the resurrection proclamation is about. It is about the decision to believe in Jesus and to give oneself over to the Spirit to be discovered in his life. This is the bottom line of Easter, given to us.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor Tom



Congregational Meeting Sunday, May 19th

(following worship)

On Sunday, May 19th, there will be a Congregational Meeting following the worship service to discuss and vote on several important items of interest. First, the 2018 Annual Report has been compiled and is available for your review. Copies are available in the Narthex.

Second, Peace Church's overall committee structure, By-Laws, and Constitution have been reviewed by a committee with proposed changes to reflect our current membership size. For comparison purposes, you may preview copies of our present governance with proposed changes, which are also available in the Narthex.

Third, an update will be presented regarding the potential listing/sale of land adjacent to the church's upper parking lot.

Please plan to attend this important meeting. Your input is valued and appreciated.



**54th Southern Conference
Annual Gathering
June 13-15, 2019
at Canterbury School
in Greensboro.**



“Thank you, thank you, thank you” to our Peace Choir for their continuous ministry of music to our church. What a joy it is to sing and worship with this

dedicated group of people! They worked incredibly hard on the Palm Sunday cantata (including an extra Saturday afternoon rehearsal), and much appreciation is expressed to everyone who participated – our regulars including soloists and our special cantata singers and our narrators.

Immediately following the service I heard many positive comments which are such an encouragement. So much goes on while we are preparing to sing a cantata. I usually suggest to the choir to imagine themselves as someone in the narrative. At Christmas, it could be a wise man, or a shepherd, or Joseph, or Mary, or anyone else in the Christmas message. At Lent and Easter, it might be one of the disciples, or Pontius Pilate, or the centurion, or one of the Marys – anyone we read of in Scripture that lived with Jesus. After choosing someone, then sing through that person’s eyes and try to experience what he or she would have felt. I also try to remind us all that we are singing for God – it is worship. It means so much to hear from the congregation that the message was shared together.

Now I want to issue an invitation for you to join us. It is a perfect time to come into the choir, or to come back into the choir if you have sung previously. We do add a few new anthems each year, but we also recycle many selections we have sung before. You do not have to read music to be in the choir. You do not have to sing a solo – but you may if you want to – or just sing along with the group. We also rehearse for several weeks on an anthem before singing in worship, so you can be very comfortable with the notes and words. We have vacancies in all parts – sopranos, altos, tenors, basses. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. following hand bells at 6:30 p.m., where we would also welcome new ringers. Please consider giving the music program a try!



~ Elisabeth Penry



Hello Peace Family! Happy Easter Season! Over the last few weeks we have learned a lot about Jesus and his life leading up to Easter Sunday. We learned why Jesus told us to turn the other cheek and treat our neighbors as ourselves. On Easter Sunday the children learned about the resurrection and what it means for us. The Sunday after Easter, Pastor Tom and I switched places and I led worship while he taught the children about God's creation. In the month of May, my wife, Lindsey, and I will be on our honeymoon for several weeks and while I'm gone the children will start a new series of Bible lessons around animals in the Bible and what they teach us about God.

This year's Spring Festival which went very well despite the threat of rain. While we didn't have as many visitors as last year everyone had a blast and enjoyed the egg hunts, delicious food and deserts, and photos with the Easter bunny. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this event a huge success!

Till next month Peace Family!

~ Ted Wilkinson, Youth Director



Peace United Church of Christ

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Needs are Filled and Lives are Touched

We are *Hands-On* — 24 people dedicated to touching lives in our own community. You see, we provide comfort pillows. They go to cancer patients, palliative care patients, post-surgery patients, hospice patients, post-caesarian section moms, nursing home residents, and recovering children. In 2018, we hit a milestone by delivering over 800 pillows.



Patients regularly send cards which attest to the meaningfulness of this powerful ministry to many people...

- ♥ *"Thank you for the cheerful pillow I found in my room after my C-section. What a beautiful expression of God's love!"*
- ♥ *"I was recently hospitalized at Wesley Long. In the early morning I was having considerable neck pain. My nursing assistant brought me one of your 'dog bone pillows'. It was a God send."*
- ♥ *"My sister was recently in ICU and received a bone shaped pillow that you made. Thank you so much. She has gone home to be with the Lord, but that pillow gave her comfort in her final days and hours. For that, I am eternally grateful."*

Hands-On is so thankful for the constant financial support we receive. Our primary sponsor is the Women's Fellowship which helps sustain us with an annual donation of \$400.00. Congregation members contribute to supplement our budgetary requirement. We are extremely cost efficient, creating pillows at a cost of about \$2.00 each. So a \$30.00 donation can result in 15 pillows.

Our appreciative recipients are Wesley Long Hospital, Greensboro Hospice and Palliative Care, Kid's Path, Moses Cone Pediatrics, Moses Cone

Palliative Care, Women's Hospital, Piedmont Crossing, and Guilford Friends Homes. They are counting on us. Their patients are counting on us. We are making a difference.

We think Mother Theresa said it well:

"Not all of us can do great things,
but we can do small things with great love."

*This is what we do...
Loving Hands, Touching Lives!*

CREATION CARE TEAM (CCT)

Peace Church Environmentally...OK!

On Tuesday, April 23rd, Jane Ford and Pastor Tom participated in a UCC webinar event which focused upon "25 Ways Under \$25 Dollars to be Good Stewards of the Earth". This was a helpful program with hints about how to make our church building more environmentally friendly. *The good news is that Peace Church is already doing a number of things that were suggested in the webinar!*

While there are many more things that we can do in regard to our building which will help the cause of God's creation, we are certainly on the right track. We will, of course, continue to work on these issues, but could use some more help.

If you are interested in earth stewardship and making our building more earth friendly, please contact Jane Ford. She can be reached at 336-288-1155.



Do you have a graduate this year? Please notify the church office by May 26 if you have a child or family member who is graduating from **any level of school** — kindergarten, grade school, middle school, high school, college... We would like to "brag" a little on our church family in the June issue of the newsletter!



Church Women United Annual Meeting to be held here at Peace Church

Peace Church is proud to welcome this year's Church Women United Annual Gathering on **Wednesday, June 12 and Thursday, June 13, 2019**. This will be a big event for the Church Women United, as they expect at least 100 women to be here in attendance — so if you see the parking lot extremely full on those days, do not be alarmed! The ladies will be using the Sanctuary, Chapel, and most of the rooms on the main floor, as well as the Fellowship Hall.

This year's conference is being hosted by the Eastern NC Association Church Women who have planned for some exciting speakers and activities on the agenda.

On Thursday evening, their closing worship service will be held at the Canterbury School in Greensboro which will be a joint service with the Southern Conference Annual Meeting being held **Thursday, June 13 through Saturday June 15, 2019**. The two events are being coordinated near each other, held back-to-back, and you are invited to attend just the Women's Gathering or both gatherings.

Visit the Southern Conference website for complete information and registration, www.soc-ucc.org.

Pastor's Summer Travel Schedule

Pastor Tom's Summer Vacation Schedule...

Monday, June 17th – Friday, June 21st (Family/Friend Visit in New York)

Monday, July 1st & Tuesday, July 2nd (ECU Orientation with Abigail)

Friday, August 2nd through Saturday, August 10th (Family Vacation in Blowing Rock)

Friday, September 20th through Saturday, September 29th (Appalachian Trail)



Peace Church Recipe Corner

Chicken, Bacon, Spinach Spaghetti

12 oz. spaghetti
1 Tbs. extra-virgin olive oil
1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts
kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
6 slices bacon
2 cloves garlic
2 cups diced tomatoes (canned or fresh)
3 cups baby spinach (could also green peas or broccoli)
1/2 cup heavy cream
1/3 cup grated Parmesan
Basil, for garnish



In a large pot of salted boiling water, cook spaghetti according to package directions until al dente. Drain and **reserve 1 cup pasta water**.

Meanwhile, in a large skillet over medium-high heat, heat oil. Season chicken with salt and pepper and cook until cooked through, 4 minutes per side. Transfer to a cutting board and slice into strips.

In a second skillet, cook bacon until crispy. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate and drain, then chop.

Pour off half the bacon fat and to skillet add garlic, tomatoes, and spinach and season with salt and pepper. Add heavy cream, Parmesan, and 1/2 cup pasta water and let simmer, then add spaghetti or angel hair and toss until fully coated. Add chicken and bacon and toss, then garnish with basil and serve.

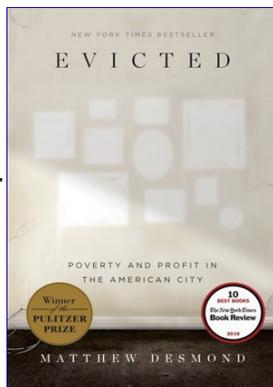
Visit our
Website



www.peaceucc.com

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST ALL CHURCH READ & CONVERSATION SERIES BEGINNING MAY 9TH

The Keynote Speaker at the General Synod in Milwaukee this summer will be Matthew Desmond, Princeton sociologist and MacArthur “genius grant” recipient. He is the author of [Evicted: Profit and Poverty in the American City](#). His book won the Pulitzer Prize for 2016.



Every church in the denomination has been asked to encourage everyone in the congregation to read [Evicted](#) and to set up a discussion group to talk about the stories and ideas presented in the writings.

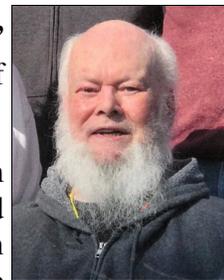
We will begin a series of discussion group meetings on Thursday nights beginning on May 9th. We will have a light soup and salad meal available at 6:00 p.m. each Thursday evening and then hold the discussion group from 6:30 to 7:30. Participants should feel free to come to both the meal and the discussion or to just come to the discussion. The group will meet for four consecutive Wednesdays, and then, no doubt, send our thoughts and ideas on to the national office of the UCC.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those who wish to participate. You may, of course, purchase your copy of [Evicted](#) anywhere you wish, but there will also be an opportunity to have the church arrange a group purchase of the volume.

~ *John Syster*

Christian condolences are extended to **Mary Lillie**, and the family of **Mr. James Bruce “Jim” Lillie**, 79, who passed away April 3, 2019 at his home following a lengthy illness. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. at Peace United Church of Christ.

Jim was born in Toronto, Canada on May 9, 1939 to the late Pearl Taylor Lillie and Bertram Alexander Lillie. He moved to the United States in 1952 and became a citizen in 1960. He served his country honorably in the US Army. Jim earned his BA Degree and Master’s Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of South Florida. He enjoyed a long career in the electronics industry, retiring from IBM. He developed and patented special ink jet technologies. Jim was a voracious reader and enjoyed working with model trains.



Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Mary Brown Lillie; daughters, Deborah Lillie and husband Brian Busch, AmyBeth Fredricksen and husband Robert; grandchildren, Elena Busch, Jaden Busch, Reva Fredricksen and Rhiannan Fredricksen; brother, Franklin B. Lillie and several nieces and a nephew.

Memorial donations may be made to Peace United Church of Christ, 2714 West Market St., Greensboro, NC 27403 or to Hospice and Palliative Care, 2500 Summit Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405.

Montagnard Bunong Alliance Church to worship in the Chapel



Pictured here is Pastor Gareth Dely, his wife Nancy Dely, and their daughter Sachi Dely.

Peace Church was approached by the Montagnard Bunong Alliance Church, a small congregation of five families who were seeking worship space on Sunday afternoons. After discussion with them and with the Consistory, we supported the idea of renting our chapel each Sunday from 2:00-5:00 p.m. for their worship services, fellowship, church meetings and Bible study programs. They are grateful for our willingness to host them and look forward to opportunities for both our congregations to worship together on occasion.

What's Going On with Cuba?

An update from Pastor Tom...

Due to my frequent travels to Cuba, I am on a lot of email lists which provide up-to-date news about Cuba and Cuba-U.S. relations. The news as of late has been filled with stories about new U.S. policies being enacted against Cuba. For over 60 years, the United States government has imposed an economic blockade against Cuba, prohibiting any trade or official relations with the country or its government. This embargo has also included restrictions on trade that other countries can have with Cuba and still remain on good terms with the United States. In the past few months, much more severe policies have been announced which include:



- ◆ Remittances from family members in the U.S. to family members in Cuba are now limited to no more than \$1,000.00 per quarter (\$4,000.00 a year). Previously, like most other countries, Cuban in the U.S. could send any amount of remittances to family members on the island.
- ◆ Cubans who left Cuba in the wake of the 1959 revolution can now sue in U.S. courts for properties, land, and businesses that they owned prior to 1959. They can also sue foreign entities (governments and businesses) that are now doing business on land or in properties that they once owned. This is part of the Title III section of the 1996 Helms-Burton Act, a section that has never been enacted by the U.S. government for fear of negative reactions by foreign governments and businesses which are well established in Cuba. Since the announcement, a number of European countries and Canada have issued statements of protest and threats of legal action.
- ◆ Travel to Cuba, recently opened, is now being restricted again (details are to be announced any day).

I have spoken to Rev. Elmer Lavastida and a few other friends I have in Cuba and they are all quite distressed. When the U.S. embassy was re-opened in Havana (2015), direct commercial flights were allowed from the U.S. mainland, and a number of other positive agreements were signed between the two nations. It truly felt like we had turned a corner in our relationship with

Cuba. That time has passed and we now seem to be going backwards.

These regressive policies seriously hurt the Cuban people who were just beginning to reap the benefits of a thriving tourist economy and a growing private sector. In fact, a friend of Abigail's recently messaged her that school was cancelled due to a food shortage.

Please pray for Revs. Elmer and Gisela Lavastida, their daughters Gisela Maria and Heidi, their five grandchildren, the Lavastida Christian Center staff, and all the people of Cuba as they begin to endure yet another dark period in Cuba-U.S. relations.

GROCERY STORE FOOD DRIVE SUCCESS IN SPITE OF RAIN!

Greensboro Urban Ministry Food Pantry Director Mary O'Neill reports a Food Drive total of 67,852 pounds of food and \$4,709. Sincere gratitude is expressed to all our volunteers who worked in the pouring rain and cold on Friday, April 5 and collected 780 pounds of food and \$53. Through your generosity and help, those who are hungry are served in the Greensboro community.



David Murray and Cindy Spillers

Thanks to our volunteers: Darryl and Janie Clark, David and Linda Fesperman, David Murray, Debbie Shiner, Cindy Spillers, Pastor Tom Warren, and Abbie and Don Wheeling.

Doris Yeattes would like to express her deepest thanks to her Peace Church family for their loving support as she has dealt with the death of her sister, **Dorothy Meeks**, and her son, **Dorn Yeattes**. The moving tribute to Dorn on Friday, April 26th was a loving sign of your continued support!!


A Special
THANK YOU


5 green tips for your summer backyard bash

Summer has finally arrived, which means that the weather is finally allowing us to throw our much beloved backyard patio parties. Planning a get-together with friends and family involves preparing supplies, food, beverages, games and sometimes even decorations (if we are getting really fancy). Although it is tempting to take a more convenient route and head to a nearby dollar store to get paper plates and plastic cutlery, or going to a fast food restaurant for a quick and ready meal, those are not the most green options. Below are five easy steps to incorporate into planning your summer backyard bash that will help to make your gatherings a bit more eco-friendly.

1. BYO Dishes, Utensils, Cups

Convenience often wins in the area of dishes and utensils when party planning. The simplicity of buying cheap plastic plates and cutlery and tossing them out at the end of the evening appears so ideal. However, there are consequences for using these types of materials rather than having your guest bring their own dishes, utensils and cups. Plastic waste has detrimental effects on the environment, such as ending up in natural waterways and damaging components of local ecosystems. However, plastic recycling is becoming increasingly prevalent and more facilities have separate bins for varying plastic materials. Ultimately, putting an effort towards limiting your use of plastic materials would be the most beneficial to lowering emissions. Using your reusable household dishes and if you don't have enough, ask your guests to bring their own dishes. Other eco-friendly alternatives exist for dishes and cutlery, such as those made from bamboo or compostable materials.

2. Send E-vites Rather Than Paper Invitations

Evites are easily found online and are a FREE alternative to mailing out invitations for your summer parties. For those family members or friends who still remain offline, give them a call! Save some paper and also your precious party-planning time. Make an effort to reduce emissions and the amount of waste produced by your summer bash and email the invitations.

3. Use local or homegrown ingredients as much as possible

We are encouraged to buy food from local markets for many reasons. Green Living outlined several great reasons such as contributing to our local economy and becoming empowered consumers and having better knowledge of who makes our food, what is (or is not) added to it and where it is produced.^{vi} Another fantastic reason is the reduction of carbon emissions from the lower distance in which food is transported from production to our homes. Hitting up your local market for fresh ingredients or using some of your homegrown vegetables and herbs is a satisfyingly delicious alternative for your summer party.

4. Choose a central location for the party to promote sustainable modes of transportation

By choosing a location closer to most of the guests' homes, you are opening the possibilities of walking, cycling, transit and/or carpooling and therefore reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Go ahead, ask a friend if they are willing to host your bash at their place – it is in your best interest!

5. Handing out seeds or tree seedlings as party favors

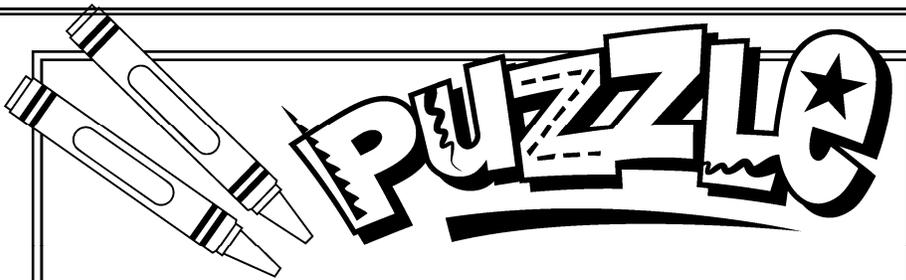
Providing party favors for your guests is often only for bigger events like a wedding reception. However, for those who want to offer some fun and eco-friendly favors, here a couple of options. At a family wedding that I attended last year, the couple provided a pretty clever party favor: they had paper infused with wildflower seeds that guests could easily plant in their gardens at home. What a useful gift! A second option would be contacting a local nursery or garden center for their options on tree seedlings. Providing tree seedlings as a party favor would greatly aid in the effort to off-set carbon dioxide emissions and would be a smart addition to your party planning.

This information was found in an article called "5 green tips for your summer backyard bash", and it can be found in its entirety at <http://theecoguide.org/5-green-tips-for-your-backyard-bash>. Submitted for the Peace Press by Jane Ford.



Peace United Church of Christ
 2714 W. Market St.
 Greensboro, NC 27403

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



A blessed woman

The last chapter of Proverbs describes a woman who loves God and strives to be a good wife and mother.

Directions: Use the picture clues to complete Proverbs 31:15, 28.

She gets _____ while it is still _____ ;
 

she provides _____ for her _____
 

Her _____ rise _____ and
 

_____ her blessed.


PROVERBS 31:15, 28 (NIV)

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

HEART-SHAPED breakfast

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

Treat Mom with this yummy, beautiful yogurt parfait.



What you need:

- Large heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Greek yogurt (any flavor)
- Toppings (mini chocolate chips, granola, shredded coconut, chia seeds, oats, slivered almonds, blueberries, sliced strawberries, raspberries, bananas)
- 2 teaspoons maple syrup

What you do:

1. Place cookie cutter on a plate. Spoon in yogurt, spreading it to the edges of the cookie cutter.
2. Add toppings, making a nice design. Remove cookie cutter.
3. Drizzle syrup around the edge of the plate.
4. Serve to your mom on Mother's Day!

Answer: up, night, family, children, up, call

Please keep these members of our church family in your thoughts and prayers:

Lois Bell; Dot Benshoff; Bertie Bowman; Nan Buchanan; David Fesperman; Sherri Kluttz; Mary Lillie; Buddy Lippard; Carol MacDonald; Sally McGrogan; Abigail Miller-Warren; Sharon Mitchell; David & Mary Ann Murray; Jack & Marcy Neal; Nora Norred; Gertrude Radford; Roy & Sue Smith; Dale Starr; Lucille Waynick; Doris Yeattes.

Remember these wider church family and friends:

Lyn Ann Bailey (niece of Harold Poffenbaugh); **Chris Barnes** (nephew of Harold Poffenbaugh); **Rhonda Baxter** (friend of Una Lee Myers); **Katie Bowen** (daughter-in-law of Cynthia Bowen); **Eric Chapman** (nephew of Jane Ford); **Janet Faucette** (sister-in-law of Yvonne Smothers); **David Kaynor** (nephew of Debbie Kaynor); **Betty Larimer** (aunt of Trish Larimer); **Beatrice Rosenthal** (mother of David Dole); **Annette Sarty** (sister of Yvonne Poffenbaugh); **Tom & Rhoda Taylor** (niece & her husband of Harold Poffenbaugh).

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING FOR APRIL

DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP	REGULAR OFFERING	OTHER OFFERING
April 7		72	\$3,829	\$360
April 14		64	\$5,639	\$922
April 21		70	\$3,512	\$50
April 28		50	\$1,516	\$40

PEACE CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

(Through March 31, 2019)

	Current Month	Year to Date	YTD Budget	Amount Over (Under) Budget
Contributions from Members & Friends, Plus Other Receipts	22,222	48,451	45,408	3,043
Disbursed in Support of Ministries, Programs & Facilities	18,784	55,324	50,059	5,265
OGHS, CWS Blankets+, Tiny Houses	1,292			



May Birthdays



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Audrey Summers	7 Lindsey Wilkinson	8 Haley Lambe	9	10	11
12 Miriam Dieterly Melinda Summers	13 Kelly Wyrick	14	15 Rick Owen	16	17	18
19	20 Una Lee Myers	21 Evie Williams	22 Marie Hearn	23	24	25
26 Ava Chambers Susan Kirschner	27 Evey Bowen	28	29	30	31	