

REACHING  
THE COMMUNITY  
FOR JESUS!



# Fairgreen Leaves



Volume IV Issue 4

April 2006 Newsletter

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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR APRIL 9

## *Holy Week and Easter Schedule*



### Palm/Passion Sunday, April 9th

Texts: Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Mark 11: 1-11, 14: 1-15:47  
9:15am Worship—Liturgy of the Palms and the Liturgy of the Passion  
11:30am Celebration of Communion  
Theme: "Oh What a Parade!"  
Deacon's Palm Sunday Breakfast from 8:30am — 11:00am



### Maundy Thursday, April 13th

Simple Soup Supper — 6:00pm  
Worship — The Hands of Lent: "Serving Hands" — 6:30pm  
Celebration of Holy Communion  
Texts: Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14; Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19; John 13: 1-17, 31b-35



### Good Friday, April 14th

Church open for Meditation and Prayer from Noon-3:00pm



### Easter Sunday/Resurrection of the Lord, April 16th

Sunrise Service — 6:53am  
In the Garden at Fairgreen Presbyterian Church  
Texts: John 20: 1-18  
Theme: "My Friends Why Are You Here?"  
Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer and the Youth will lead this Service.



Blended Worship — 10:30am  
Holy Communion will be celebrated  
Texts: Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; Mark 16: 1-8  
Theme: "Finding the Alleluias!"  
There will be no Sunday School classes today so that families can worship together.

Fairgreen Publication Deadlines:

Bulletin—Tuesday's by the end of the day.

Newsletter—The 3rd Sunday of each month for next month's newsletter.

## *FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...*

Dear family and friends of Fairgreen,

If you were able to be in church with us last Sunday you know that I did not preach the sermon that I had planned on delivering. The text for the day was John 2: 13-22, the story of Jesus cleansing the temple; the theme for the day was to be "Spring Housecleaning!" Instead, in response to the hymn "Holy Ground" which Tammy Bogle sang, I lifted up all the ways that I had experienced God's presence in our church during the past week. There was hardly a time that our church building was empty! Yet in the busyness of our church life together I sometimes think that we forget that when we are there working and praying and playing together, that the Lord is there present with us; that where we are standing is indeed holy ground. As we continue our journey into Lent let us not forget that. As we continue to gather let us remember the words of that wonderful old hymn: "We are standing on holy ground and I know that there are angels all around; let us praise Jesus now, we are standing on holy ground." Let's celebrate all that we have been blessed with instead of grumbling and whining and worrying about what we don't have.

But having said all of that I don't want us to lose track of the fact that we have some Spring Housecleaning to do! You have begun that process as I have challenged the various committees and organizations in the church to truly look at what they do and how they do it always keeping before us the question: "Is what we are doing our work or the work of the church or is it truly the work of God?" If it is not the work of God; if we have not been blessed with the time, the talents, the energy, the passion and the financial resources to do the work than it is NOT the work that God is calling us to do right now. Let us continue to ask the hard questions praying to God for discernment.

The cleaning that needs to happen is not just in our hearts and in our church schedule and institutional structure. We need to clean up this wonderful building we have been blessed with as well. Over the last forty years much has been added and little has been discarded. During this time of new beginnings and transformation each and every group needs to begin the process of "spring housecleaning their space!" With the help of the Building and Grounds Committee we are reorganizing the way we use our space so that we can use it more efficiently. In order for that to happen much of what we have (and don't now use) must go. Keep in mind that all of our space is holy ground and simplify by tossing, donating, recycling. Let us not keep anything— be that committees, schedules, institutional structures, or church supplies— that will distract us from our focus which is to be the Body of Christ in this place at this time. Let the cleaning begin!

Blessings,  
Rev. Pat

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## **PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH**

My Church is composed of people like me.  
I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am.  
Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.  
It will do great work, if I work.  
It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver.  
It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them.

It will be a Church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a Church with a noble spirit, and if I who make it what it is, am filled with these same qualities.

Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my Church to be.

As I journey from Easter to Pentecost, bless my journey Lord, that I might build this church through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## A SECOND WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Several of you have asked me about my understanding of the Bible as the inspired Word of God. We have had some great conversations, haven't we?

Recently, as I looked through my files, for a completely different article I found this one. It is from a 2001 issue of "Presbyterians Today" and I think, well written.

Enjoy and let the conversations continue!

**Question:** Is the Bible really the inspired Word of God, and without error? If it isn't, how can you rely on any of it if there is even a small amount of error?

**Answer:** Consider why God gave us the Bible.

Perhaps it was so we could have a source of facts on a number of topics. If so, then the key task for us as Christians is to establish just what these facts are, and make sure they are all accurate.

But perhaps the reason for the Bible is so we could have a place to

encounter God. If so, then the key task for us as Christians is to read the stories and songs in the Bible with our souls ready to hear the voice of God speaking to us through these words.

The heart of the Reformed tradition has believed that the second of these possibilities is correct. The purpose of the Bible is not so much so that we can know facts, but so that we can know God.

Even there, it is more complicated than merely reading.

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus spoke quite plainly about the authority of Scripture: "Do not think that I came to abolish the law or the prophets... until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished" (Matthew 5: 17-18).

Yet at the same time he told his disciples that we do not know what the text means until we hear what he has to say about it. Even for such a plain-spoken text as the Ten

Commandments, we will not understand it simply by reading it.

This is a critical point for Christians to see. A person could read the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20: 1-17) and feel confident in knowing exactly what it says to do. But Jesus insists we do not know what "You shall not commit murder" and "You shall not commit adultery" mean until we hear what he says they mean. We do not know what "Honor your father and your mother" and "Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy" mean until we hear what Jesus says they mean.

People sometimes focus on either looking for or defending against errors in the Bible. But that is a mistake.

The point of the Word is not to give us a collection of facts. The point is for us to hear the voice of God, speaking to us, expressed in these stories and songs, as mediated through Jesus our Lord.

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## THE EPISODES OF EVY GREEN By Deanne Smale



Did you know that certain numbers were considered very symbolic to those who recorded Holy Scripture? Many have speculated as

to their significance.

For instance, Seven was considered the "perfect number". It often represented totality. Of course the Sabbath was the seventh day of the week. Also, many things occurred using the symbolic formula of three. For instance, "Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights" (Jonah 1), "three men were in the fiery furnace" (Daniel 3), "let us

make three tabernacles" (Mark 9), "and on the third day..."

Another key number is the number 40. Genesis tells of the flood that lasted for 40 days. Israel wandered in the desert for 40 years. Jesus was tempted in the desert for 40 days; and after his Resurrection, Jesus was seen during a period of 40 days. The theological significance of the number 40 is worthy of attention.

And also worthy of attention is the fact that FAIRGREEN CHURCH IS CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY! That 40 years represents countless baptisms, births, deaths, anniversaries, weddings, and other celebrations of life. Children have grown up here; persons have heard the call of the Lord and have left to pursue seminary training to fulfill their

special calling to Ordination of Word and Sacrament; and others have started ministries from this place that have branched out beyond these walls. It is amazing to see how God has worked in the lives of Fairgreen folk—and how God is still working in the lives of Fairgreen folk as we move into the future. God is good—all the time!



## REJOICE! REJOICE! By Deanne Smale



It's not too early to be thinking about summer camp for the kids. Camp Rejoice is the place to go if you have completed grades 3—12, and if you

like to swim, canoe, play games, study the Bible, do arts and crafts, explore trails, and sing around the campfire.

For the adults who do the driving and planning, you need to know that Kirkmont Center (where Camp Rejoice is held) is located near Zanesfield, Ohio in beautiful, hilly countryside. The dates are Sunday, July 16 through Saturday morning, July 22. Oh, and for those who manage the family budget, you'll want to know

the cost is \$280 per person AND we do have some scholarship money available through the church.

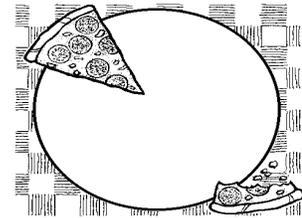
To all who are interested in knowing more about this well established Presbyterian camp, you can contact Dee Smale at the church office. For adults who like working with young people, please note that Camp counselors are volunteers from our Presbytery and often include some Fairgreen folk.

## THANKS FOR THE PIZZA



Our Yah-Way bunch would like to publicly thank Charles McGee (Field Operations Marketing Specialist) and East of Chicago Pizza for donating wonderful assortments of pizzas to our Wednesday night group on two separate occasions, February 8 and March 15th. Their generosity was

greatly appreciated and contributed to a delicious time of eating.



## CHURCH MICE OR ANGELS?? By Carol Yeager

Have you ever used the restroom at Fairgreen and found something needed fixing? Have you been in a classroom when a light bulb was burned out? The next time you where in those areas everything was FINE! How did that happen? Fairgreen doesn't have church mice to fix things.

It sure does have quiet little angels, though. Some of them have the title of "Building and Grounds Committee". Members of that committee are: John MacPherson, Dan Yeager, Bruce Smale, Dan Winslow, Len Anderson, Jim Jones, Ken Campbell and chairman, Ed Wolff. The Session co-chair is Carol Yeager. New are the Associate Members who are: Joe Murray, Kay Amendola, and Don Wolff.

They are all hard workers for Fairgreen Church but prefer to do

so in the "background"... It's called "working for God, quietly".

Each month in this newsletter there will be a small area telling us all the jobs these quiet little angels did for God and Fairgreen. This months list is from February 15th through March 15th:

1. Replaced ballast in basement.
2. Two times they changed the light bulbs.
3. Four times they set up tables and chairs in the Commons.
4. The freezer replaced in food pantry. (First had to remove old one than bring the new-used one in.)
5. Changed the wiring for the freezer in the food pantry.
6. Unwrapped and set up 6 new long tables in Commons.
7. Move six old tables to storeroom behind pulpit.
8. Repaired round broken table.

9. There was water in the basement and Betty, Don & Ed Wolff used the shop vacuum to get all the water up from the floor.

No one on this committee signed up because they were angels... but doing God's work quietly and out of love makes them angels! Right?



Building & Grounds Committee

## A SENDING OUT CHURCH

Fairgreen is blessed to be known as a church that disciples people and then sends them out into the world to serve. Once again a young man from our congregation heard the Lord's call and responded.

Please read the letter from Mark Tippin:

Dear Session,

As I received my final support check from Fairgreen, I paused to think about how grateful I am for the ministry of Fairgreen which brought me to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ and nurtured me on to discipleship. While I grew up in the church, Fairgreen was the first place I felt as if I truly belonged. I was welcomed with the love of Christ and given many opportunities to share in his ministry.

The support Fairgreen has given us in the last three years has also been very meaningful and helpful to us. Taking a family to seminary is expensive and we are thankful that you made a commitment to helping make this a reality. Not only did you

send the money pledged but you sent more. Individually, many of you sent money which allowed me to travel to Vietnam for a mission trip. You sent the van, money and Fred and Derek to join me and other students to reach out in the name of Christ to those devastated by hurricane Katrina. Philippians 1:3 *"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you"*.

It was at Fairgreen that Hannah and Lexie were baptized into God's covenant family. It was at Fairgreen that Jenny left the Catholic Church to become Presbyterian, a decision which was very difficult but one done out of very strong conviction grounded in the Reformed faith. It was in the course of ministry at Fairgreen that I received a clear call to pastoral ministry. I had tried to run from the call which others saw more clearly than I did for some time. One story which is now an important part of my testimony has to do with Leone Sattler. One Sunday after I had finished preaching, Leone greeted me in the narthex from her chair from which she greets many of you

each Sunday. She said something like this; "You know; you have missed your calling." I responded to her saying, "that it is easy to preach once in a while but there is no way I could do it every week, I would run out of things to say". She responded to me saying; "you know, it's an awfully big book". Because of my theological convictions about the Bible, I could no longer use a lack of material as an excuse for not entering the ministry.

Thank you for all of your love and support. Most especially we thank all of those who have been praying for us sacrificially in the last three years. We are excited to see what God will do with the seeds you planted in us.

For His Glory,  
Mark Tippin and Family



## PRESCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS By Terri Turner



### Preschool Clothing Sale

The 32nd Annual Fairgreen Preschool Clothing & Toy Sale will be April 28th & 29th. Current Congregation members may shop on Friday, April 28th from 9:30am to 7:00pm; your families and friends are welcome on Friday from 1:00pm to 7:00pm or anytime Saturday.

The clothing, toy and bake sale will be open to the public on Saturday,

April 29th from 8:00am to 3:00pm with the half off sale taking place from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. As many of you know this preschool fund-raiser offers high quality, gently used infants and children's clothing from birth through size 14. Car seats, strollers, high chairs, bikes and toys are just a few of the many items you might find.

Additionally, we offer a bake sale with lots of homemade goodies. Hope to see you at the sale on the 28th and 29th.



Beginning the first week of April

order forms for the Preschool's Annual Spring Plant Sale will be available at the Welcome Center. This plant sale allows you to purchase vouchers for flats, mulch and hanging baskets. Please turn in all orders and monies to Darlene Hughes in the church office by Wednesday, April 26th. Vouchers will be available in early May so that you can choose the types of flowers you want. Thanks in advance for supporting the Preschool's fund-raiser and remember flowers make great Mother's Day gifts.



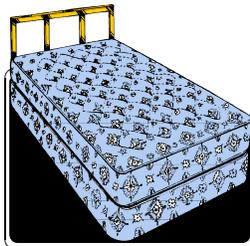


# INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK OF METRO TOLEDO By Marilyn McAfee



The first week of March saw Fairgreen end their IHN host week serving two families; a mother and father and four boys and a mother with 4-week old James. Both families were wonderful and we had fun! The F.R.O.G.S. purchased great gifts for each of the children and baby James. What terrific youth we have in our midst. Boy do they understand how to reach out to others! The kids had fun sailing airplanes around the Commons and attempting kite flying. We now have three families in our network.

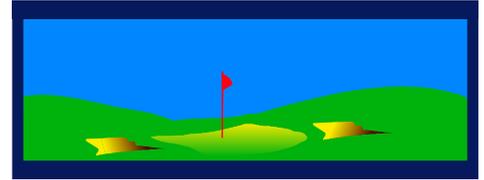
Elementary School to receive checks from the "Empty Bowls, Full Hearts" fund-raiser. Kudos again to Carol Yeager for making all the delicious vegetable soup! We (IHN) are so grateful to receive this support. The second grade students are precious; their questions about homelessness were so insightful.



With grant money from Zion Lutheran Church in Waterville, IHN purchased six queen and 15

twin Aero beds on aluminum frames! The weight lifting exercise by the men at Fairgreen carrying roll-away beds to the basement has ended! Yea! We pray these will meet our needs for some time. We are now looking for matching queen size sheets and pillow cases, if anyone can help.

## IHN'S 5TH ANNUAL GOLF EVENT

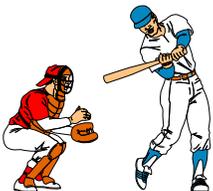


Friday, May 19th—Whiteford Valley Golf Club— IHN's 5th Annual Golf Event! You will again attempt to golf 100 holes. You may pair up with another person—each person golfing 50 holes. Those raising \$1000 or more in sponsors (\$500 each for pairs) may have their \$100 pledge fee waived! You simply cannot pass up this opportunity to have fun, enjoy good food and prizes! Twenty people pledging \$25 each is \$500! Forty people pledging \$25 each is \$1000! We want 40 golfers, minimum. Spread the word to your golfing friends, neighbors, business clients, fellow employees! It's a beautiful day and a beautiful way to serve the growing number of homeless families in our area! See Marilyn McAfee to sign up! Many blessings...

On March 14, Elizabeth Tore, IHN Executive Director and Carol Yeager were invited back to Highland



## YAH-WAY CELEBRATION!



Come and be a part of our closing recognition of another year of Yah-Way. We will celebrate with "a night at the ball game"—Fairgreen's team are all winners, of course.

We'll have peanuts, cracker jacks, and of course, Ball Park franks! Don't miss this fun opportunity. The tickets are only \$2 each to the public, and registered Yah-Way attenders are free. Tickets can be picked up at the door.



Wear your favorite baseball attire, and enjoy "the game". Wednesday, April 5 is the big night.



## DEACON'S APRIL WISH LIST!



Dish Soap

Toilet Paper



Bar



Soap



Laundry Soap

Continuing our 40 years of serving, the Deacons are collecting 40 of each of the above items during the month of April. Please help us fill our pantry shelves by purchasing something from the above list and bring it to the Narthex any Sunday during the month.

## MARCH SESSION REPORT By Peg Winslow

### ACTIONS:

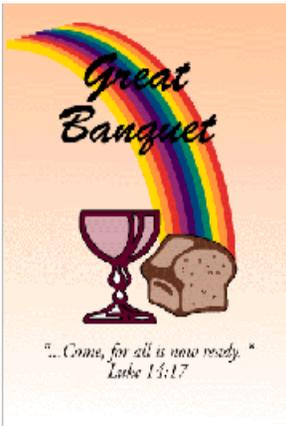
1. Recommended to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry that Rich Kinney be moved from Inquirer to Candidate. M/S/P
2. Approved the minutes of the Stated Session meeting held on January 24, 2006, with a date correction to the Worship Committee Motion on page 3. M/S/P
3. Approved the minutes of the Congregational Meeting held on February 5, 2006. M/P/C
4. Accepted and approved the Session Annual Statistical Report for 2005, the 2005 Necrology of Elders/Deacons and the 2005 Annual Clerk Questionnaire. M/S/P
5. Approved the use of the Commons by the Lucas County Board of Elections, at \$60 per day, on:  
May 2, 2006 —Primary Election Day , August 8, 2006 —Possible Special Election Day,  
November 7, 2006 —General Election Day. M/P/C
6. Approved the request from Tom Cousino to use the Sanctuary for a fundraising musical event and grant permission for him to take up a love offering. A one time building fee waiver is granted. Rev. Shafer will work out the date with him, and will consult Mike Roadruck for any Great Banquet date conflicts. M/S/P
7. Approved the use of the Commons by Don and Margaret Fish for a bridal shower on Saturday, July 15th, 2006 from 12pm to 4pm. (Bob Martz will open and close the building. The Fish's have already paid the \$35 rental fee). M/S/P
8. Granted permission to the Kitchen/Funeral Committee to purchase 6 round tables and tablecloths to be paid from the Hospitality Fund (Funeral/Kitchen Fund). M/S/P
9. Approved Fred King as a substitute Offering Counter for the month of April. M/S/P
10. Agreed to accept a love offering for Tammy Bogle at both services on March 19, 2006. M/S/P
11. Approved a blended worship service the third Sunday of every month, or on the date of the Great Banquet Gathering, with communion to be served. M/P/C
12. Agreed to complete the Stated Docket, despite the late hour. M/P/C
13. Approved the use of the church van by a certified driver on April 8, 2006 to deliver Easter Agape bags to the residents at Swan Creek Retirement Home. M/P/C
14. Approved the celebration of Holy Communion at the closing worship of the 30 Hour Famine on March 18, 2006, with Rev. Shafer as the celebrant. M/P/C
15. Approved all Session Committee reports received. M/S/P
16. Agreed to promote the One Child, One Night program on the last Sunday in April and the first Sunday in May, in celebration of Mother's Day. M/S/P
17. Postponed New Business until the April Session Meeting. M/S/P

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### FINANCIAL SUMMARY By Peg Winslow

|                                       |               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| YTD Income as of 2/28/06              | \$32,693.99   |
| YTD Expense as of 2/28/06             | (\$34,120.74) |
| Operating Loss as of 2/28/06          | (\$ 1,426.75) |
| Transfer from Capital Fund in January | \$10,000.00   |
| Excess Receipts over Expenditures     | \$ 8,573.25   |





### GREAT BANQUET MEETINGS

April 1st—Saturday  
#2 Team Mtg. 9-12:30pm  
April 22nd —Saturday  
#3 Team Mtg. 9-12:30pm  
April 23rd —Sunday  
Board Mtg. 4:30pm  
Gathering 6pm

Before retiring for the evening  
on Saturday April 1st



Yah-Way  
Closing Celebration  
Wednesday  
April 5th  
6-7:30pm  
Tickets \$2

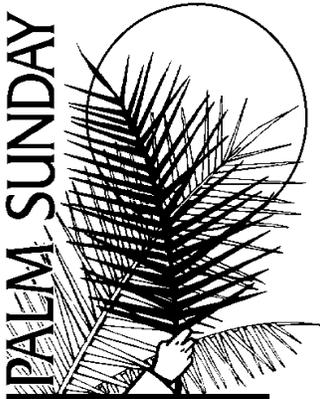
Take me out to  
the ballgame!

See article inside  
the Newsletter for  
further details!



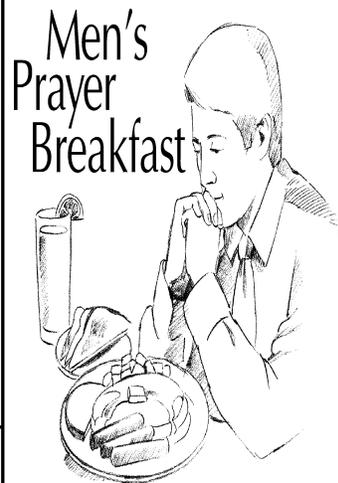
Thursday, April 6  
& Maundy Thursday  
April 13 at 6:00PM  
WORSHIP 6:30PM

CHOIR 7:15PM  
ON THE  
ABOVE DATES



**BREAKFAST**

**SUNDAY  
APRIL 9TH  
8:30-11:00am  
Menu**  
Pancakes, sausages,  
fruit, coffee cake,  
juice, coffee, tea  
Free Will Offering  
will be taken to  
support the  
Van Ministry

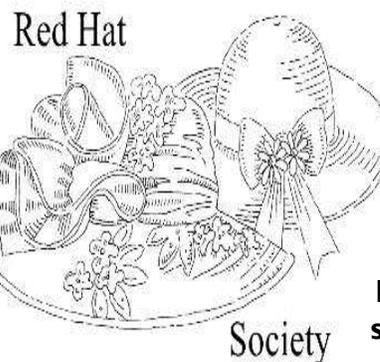


Come join us for our  
Men's Prayer  
Breakfast, on Satur-  
day April 8th from  
8-9am in the Lounge  
where a Continental  
Breakfast will be  
served. If you have  
any questions please  
feel free to call Mike  
Roadruck  
(419-536-1231)



Combined  
Worship Service at  
10:30am  
No Sunday School  
on Sunday April 16th

Sunday  
In Fairgreen's  
Garden at  
6:53am



Sunday  
April 30th  
2-5pm  
In the  
Commons

Bring a snack to  
share and games

Fairgreen  
Presbyterian Church  
3220 W. Laskey Rd.  
Toledo, Ohio 43613  
419-475-4436

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Reverend  
Pat Lawrence Shafer  
Home Phone  
419-841-7954  
Email address:  
revpat44@sbcglobal.net

Service Times

9:15am Traditional  
11:30am Contemporary  
10:30am Sunday School

Fax: 419-475-6404  
E-mail address:  
fairgreen.church  
@sbcglobal.net

We're on the Web!  
[www.fairgreenchurch.org](http://www.fairgreenchurch.org)



Fairgreen  
Cooperative  
Preschool  
3220 W. Laskey Rd.  
Children ages 3 & 4  
For information call:  
419-475-5367  
Terri Turner  
Director



# EASTER / RESURRECTION SUNDAY APRIL 16TH



**"HE HAS  
RISEN!"**  
*Luke 24:6*