



April May Newsletter

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A Note from RA

As we prepare for Holy Week, I would invite you all to take time to remember this story of our faith! We will shout Hosanna on Palm Sunday, and then take time to remember the story of passion on Holy Thursday. Then, on Easter Sunday we will celebrate Resurrection Sunday! This is the holiest of weeks for us, and it gives us an opportunity to share our faith just by telling people of our plans to attend church!

The week after Easter I will be taking back some of my time but will be available as needed! Call or text so we can find a time to connect!

I hope you enjoy this newsletter! Trying to communicate all the things coming up! Also, a shout out of thanks to Kim for introducing some of us to Awakening Ministries bible studies. One of the practices was using art, so sharing that to launch Holy Week!

Holy Week Begins!

Monday	Tuesday
	 <p data-bbox="867 1675 1377 1705"><i>you are going to have the light just a little while longer</i></p>
<p data-bbox="207 1726 792 1822">Jesus accepts this gift and the giver, even though those with him were outraged at this woman's actions. John 12: 1-11</p>	<p data-bbox="831 1726 1409 1850">Imagine hearing Jesus, the light of the world saying this. John 12: 35. I can't, I only know the hope that comes with the resurrection</p>



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Wednesday	Thursday
	
<p>John 13:21 Can you imagine? Verse 22 says they looked at each other confused, so Judas hid it well. What does that make you think?</p>	<p>Now Jesus is the one washing feet. John 13. We will begin our Holy Thursday service with this symbolic act as we remember all Jesus does for us</p>
Friday	Saturday
	
<p>Good? Good Friday. This is how much we needed a savior.</p>	<p>There is a great silence on earth this day because the King is asleep. God has died in the flesh, and hell trembles in fear. From an ancient Holy Saturday homily.</p>
<p>Easter Sunday! Join us in worship at 10! Share the Good News and invite everyone!</p>	



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Health tip by Natalie!

My health tip shared last time in church was to start a “March Movement”.... literally. Exercise comes in many varieties and there’s numerous benefits to doing so. It really is medicine, especially for your blood vessels, helping control blood sugar and even evidence to reduce risk of dementia. Choose something that brings you joy and do it regularly. The best combination of exercise would include some cardio, resistance work, strength and balance. Look for a small group to start up soon! -Natalie

Coming soon!



May 4th

rain date May 18th

Stay tuned for more info as the date gets closer! Can you take on a project and just do it some other day? Of course! Just let us know so we can coordinate our efforts!

Menu will include vegan options! RSVP so we can prepare and include your dietary needs! Free!

Missions! Lent Mission!

Thanks to everyone at Skyline for the amazing response to the Lent Mission Challenge. We don't have a total, for the amount of money raised yet, but that's coming soon.

We have made a big dent in the funds needed for the new sign, thanks to your generosity. There are two weeks left in Lent, so Deb and I are going to add a “bonus phrase!” Check the bulletin board to the right of the front door (as you come into the church). The new envelopes will be on the bulletin board to the left of the door.



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Support Skyline Church's Annual Stewardship Campaign 2024

Skyline Church is excited to announce our annual Stewardship Campaign, set to run [from April 14 to May 5, 2024](#). This vital period encourages reflection on spiritual disciplines, worship attendance, spiritual gifts, and financial contributions. We invite you to contemplate a pledge to support our ministries, reinforcing our shared mission. The Finance Team will provide detailed information throughout the campaign and will be ready to answer any questions. Your involvement and support are fundamental to our success. Thank you for being an invaluable member of the Skyline family and for nurturing its ministries.

Finance Team update:

A brief summary of our income/expenses paid-to-date (February 29, 2024) this fiscal year is listed below. If anyone has any questions concerning the report, please email Emily Ilyas at treasurer@skylinechurch.net. If you have questions about your specific gifts, please email Rosie Wolfe at financesec@skylinechurch.net

Skyline Church Revenue/Expenses Summary		
2023-2024 Year-to-Date		
(July 1, 2023 -February 29, 2024)		
	2/29/2024 YTD Actual	% Annual Budget
Revenue	\$157,358.75	65.7%
Expenditures	\$147,763.32	61.7%
Revenue includes some pledges paid-in-full or quarterly		

	<p style="text-align: center;"> Save the Date! Concert to Fight Human Trafficking Monday June 17 </p>
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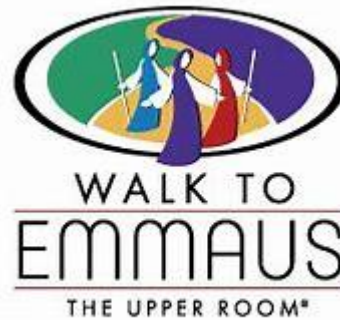
Save the Date!
Skyline Annual Charge
Conference will be on
Wednesday June 19



Prayer and Member care

Member care: we want to care for you! If you are part of a small group, likely your group is the place where you find support! If you, or someone you know needs prayer, let us know!

A big shout out of thanks to the Wednesday Night Bible Study for forming up a prayer text circle. We would like to expand this for everyone! Let me know if you are interested!



Pastor Tom will be starting an Emmaus Community at Skyline! Those who have been on a walk to Emmaus are part of this group. Are you interested in learning more about a Walk to Emmaus? See Pastor Tom!

Be in prayer for Jenn Fisher who is preparing to attend the women's walk in April, and Dave Fisher who will attend the men's walk in the fall.

Our gather will be Thursday April 11 in person with zoom participation for those out of town!



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EARTH CARE

How can Skyline demonstrate that we care about creation?

Let's figure out how to provide education and change!

Contact kimmcwatters@gmail.com with questions



Cultivating Care: Regenerative Agriculture and Our Soil

We are called to be stewards of the Earth, cherishing and nurturing all of creation. One vital aspect of this stewardship is the care of our soil. Healthy soil is the foundation of life, providing essential nutrients for the food we eat and playing a crucial role in combating climate change by absorbing carbon pollution from the atmosphere. Embracing regenerative agriculture practices allows us to replenish and sustain the health of our soil while also benefiting our planet.

Here are three simple steps you can take to personally improve the soil:

1. **Composting:** Start composting organic waste from your kitchen and garden. Compost enriches soil with valuable nutrients and promotes biodiversity. By diverting waste from landfills, you reduce methane emissions while nurturing your soil.
2. **Mulching:** Use organic mulch like leaves, grass clippings, or straw to cover the soil around plants. Mulch conserves moisture, suppresses weeds, and gradually decomposes to enrich the soil with organic matter, improving its structure and fertility.
3. **Crop Rotation:** Rotate the types of plants you grow in your garden each season. This practice prevents soil depletion by balancing nutrient uptake and reducing the buildup of pests and diseases. It also promotes soil health by fostering diverse ecosystem underground.

By implementing these practices, we can contribute to the restoration and preservation of our soil, honoring God's creation and ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come. Let us join together in nurturing the Earth and embracing regenerative agriculture as an expression of our faith and commitment to environmental stewardship.

Upcoming events in our area to care for our earth! Please let us know if you are interested!

Sign up in the foyer!

Delaware Nature Society:

Middle Run Tree Planting 4/6/2024 9am-1pm.

<https://www.delawarenaturesociety.org/activities/events/middle-run-tree-planting/>

Register by 4/4/24. They need 600 volunteers. Children can participate if accompanied by an adult. Bring shovel, gloves, watering container, and hand sledge. The entrance to this fall's planting area is located off Polly Drummond Hill Road.

Annual Christina River Clean Up: **4/13/2024 8-11am**. 750 people participated last year. 13 different locations and you can list your "preferred" location. There are a couple sites near us:

<https://christinarivercleanup.org/category/sites/> Need to register by **4/5/24** (we can register as a group and indicate the # of volunteers. They provide supplies.

DE Interfaith Power & Light: **Film Screening Event** - The featured film is "Common Ground: Cultivating the connection between Faith, Food, and Climate." <https://interfaithpowerandlight.org/faithclimateactionweek/2024-featured-film-common-ground/> It's 87 minutes long and we can stream it at church between **April 15-30**



Worship in Nature! Our beautiful Grove!

Summer worship schedule Sunday evenings!

June 23

July 21

August 18

Here is our idea for this year! Potluck supper at 6, worship to follow!



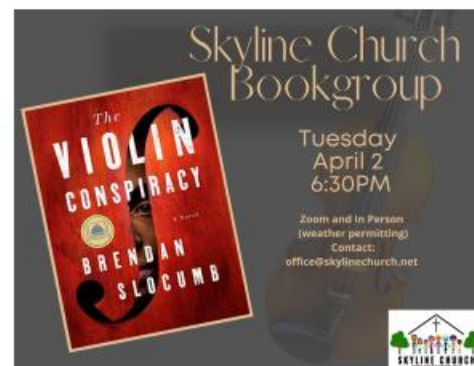
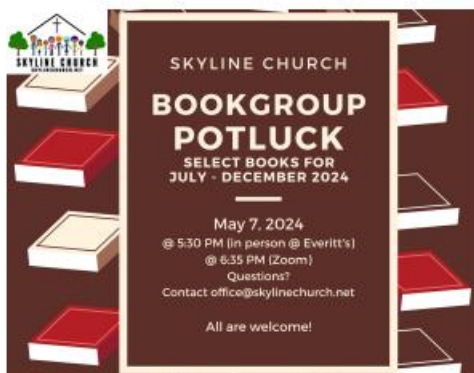
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Single Board Model

At the recommendation of our District Superintendent Rev. Archie, Skyline Ad Council has been evaluating if the Single Board Model would be better for Skyline than our current Administrative Council Model. The Ad Council is in consensus that this model would be a good fit for Skyline! But we want your input and feedback also! Currently, we are sharing this information with those serving on committees that would be changed as part of this system but we also have a plan to bring this information to everyone! Below find some information about this system. We will be scheduling Q&A sessions also in April/May! Or ask anyone on Ad Council! The Book of Discipline ¶247.2 does allow the church, with approval of the district superintendent, to restructure in order to be more missionally focused. The Single Board Model is approved by the UMC to do this and is already in place at churches in our area. The Single Board is a more efficient use for meeting time to make that time for serving! It matches people with their gifts and passions!

The primary purposes and benefits of simplified, accountable leadership are:

- Removes bottlenecks in the decision-making process
- Systems, procedures, and policies in place that are flexible and adaptable
- More people released and available for ministry
- Leadership board responsible for church's faithfulness to The Great Commission (making disciples)
- Leadership Board aligns church resources to the mission and vision
- Guiding Principles in place for efficiency and permission-giving within healthy boundaries
- Leaders are held accountable at all levels
- Leadership Board is responsible for focusing on the areas of stewardship, strategic alignment, generative future-focus, and accountable leader





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A shout out of thanks to the group looking at changing our website host which is currently Subsplash. We have learned that we don't really use the Skyline App, so this is an expense with no benefit. And the Subsplash system does come with other expenses for services that do not really meet our needs.

The work group is currently reviewing the giving platform currently with Subsplash.

Do you have questions or ideas as part of this project? Please let me know! We are trying to keep everyone informed as we move through this evaluation process!

Another question that comes up from time to time: Should we continue with zoom worship, or should we try to live stream the worship service instead?

During Covid, zoom allowed for everyone to participate but currently zoom is for watching only. Live stream may then address some of the difficulties we experience with zoom from time to time.

Are you that person with knowledge about these things that can help us figure this out? If so, I really need your help! Call me!



Off to Dublin!

Dear Friends, Fans, Family and Fellow Musicians

We are packing our bags, stuffing the tubas in their hard travel cases, pressing our concert clothes, and practicing our parts one more time as we head to Dublin, Ohio on Friday.

This is our third time competing in the Dublin Festival of Brass competition.

The first two trips were pre-COVID. In both cases we won 2nd place.

This time we are shooting for the top spot. The competition is tough.

We are competing against 10 top ranked bands from Ohio, Michigan, and Maryland.

We want to give a special "Thank You" to all our fans, family, and friends whose generous donations made this trip possible. We are excited about returning to Dublin (but not excited about the 8-hour bus ride each way).

Upon our return we will update you on the competition results. In the meantime, we hope you marked your calendar for our Spring Concert on Saturday, April 27, 6:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church, Newark, Delaware.

www.chesapeakebrassband.org