

Welcome All. Tell The Story. Grow As Disciples.

April 2022

www.RELC.org
3500 Main St., Hilliard, OH

From Pastor Dave ~

Recently, someone asked me how I stayed so optimistic about the church. I'll be honest, that question really threw me off guard at first. I don't think of myself as optimistic. However, I do know that I am very hopeful. What's the difference you may ask?

Well the optimist will see things as generally good most of the time. This is most certainly not me. It is hard for me to look around the world and have a rosy outlook. Every time I look at the news about Ukraine I really doubt whether the glass is "half full" (or even whether there is anything in the glass at all).

However, while I am not an optimist I do have hope. Specifically, I have hope that God is working and will work in our lives and communities. 1 Corinthians 15:19-22 reads like this:

If for this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

Did you catch that last part: So all will be made alive in Christ. That gives me a lot of hope. No matter how dead current events or our churches seem, Saint Paul assures that "all will be made alive in Christ." No matter how dead our lives seem, "all will be made alive in Christ." No matter how dead our relationships seem, "all will be made alive in Christ." That gives me quite a bit of hope, brothers and sisters.

And notice that hope is not based on anything that I do. Most of the despair we experience in our lives comes from feeling like we have to accomplish an impossible task. I often feel like I have to become a better person and then I feel despair because I know how far away I am from that goal. Despair comes when we feel like the solution depends on us.

The good news is that the solution does not depend on us at all, however. God in Jesus Christ is the one doing the "making alive" part. So, I want you all to think about your own hope. Do you really have hope? I ask because I know a lot of people and churches who seem to have given in to despair. I know too many leaders who give up hope and don't see any future life that is possible. I know too many different congregations who seem to have given up on the hope that "all will be made alive in Christ."

Do you have hope? Hope that no matter what we are facing "all will be made alive in Christ." My prayer for you is that you come to a place where you can have hope again. I think there is much to be hopeful about, especially the work that Jesus is doing in this community.

-Pastor Dave

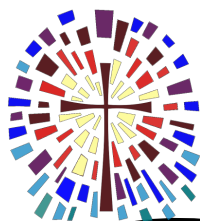
April Worship Assistants

| | <u>Assisting Minister</u> | <u>1 Communion Assistant</u> | <u>Lector</u> | <u>2 Ushers</u> | <u>2 Greeters</u> |
|------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 4/3 | Tricia Ohler | ?? | Donna Suain | ?? | Donna Suain |
| 4/10 | Andy Ohler | Kathy Rotolo | Barb Emmets | ?? | Julia Massey & Lynette Unger |
| 4/14 | Michael Boring | Michael Boring | Donna Suain | Mark Docter | Donna Suain |
| 4/15 | N/A | No Communion | Renee Mushalko & Candy Franz | Michael Boring | ?? |
| 4/17 | John VanVleet | N/A | Karen Harvey | Mark Docter | ?? |
| 4/24 | Candy Franz | N/A | Janet Poulson | ?? | Renee Mushalko |

Worship Assistants

LECTORS, GREETERS, and USHERS are needed for all of **May**.

So... **PLEASE** consider signing up for one or more of these positions. No previous experience needed! All ages welcome to sign-up! If you need information on any of these duties, please see or email Kathy Rotolo (kathy.rotolo@relc.org). There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or you can email the church office (office@relc.org).



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April 6 is the final Lent Mid-Week meal at 6:15pm followed by 7:00 pm service in the worship life center {Lent Mid Week theme is the Book of Revelation}

April 10 - Palm Sunday Service at 10 am

April 14 - Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm with 1st Communion for Henry, Ewan and Jacob

April 15 - Good Friday Service at 7pm (No Communion)

April 17 - Easter Sunday Service at 10 am

April 18 - Office Closed on Monday



We will have palms available on Palm Sunday for those at worship here at RELC. If you will not be able to join us or still prefer to watch online, please stop by and pick up a palm for you and your family members anytime during office hours (Monday—Friday 10-2pm) April 4-8. Katherine will set the basket outside while she is here and you can pick one up to have at home.

The Pastor and the Recovering Heretic

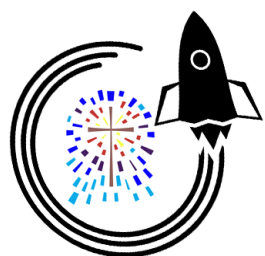
Sundays, 11:10-11:45 AM

When it comes to faith practices, Bible readings, theology, and so on, what have you been curious about?

Pastor Dave Kamphuis and **Dan Mushalko** explore questions about Lutheran ritual, Pastor's sermons, and the Sunday readings, and answer your burning questions.

In-person audience welcome (Life Center) or join online via live streaming: relc.org (Live Worship button)

You can submit your questions online (during discussion) or by email (other times) at pastordave@relc.org



A pastor, a Trekker, and a Star Wars fan walk into a recording session...

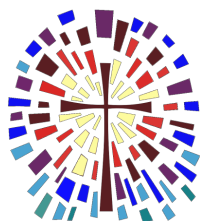
It sounds like the set-up for a joke, but it's really the start of a nerdy new outreach from RELC: the *Church in Space* podcast. *Church in Space* is a show that explores the intersection of religion and science fiction. The three hosts -- Pastor Dave, Drew Nelsen, and Dan Mushalko -- dive deep into their combined lifetimes of mega-geekdom to see the various ways religion continues to influence sci fi, and how sci fi in turn portrays religion. In each episode, Pastor Dave focuses the team on one particular theological topic as it morphs through the sci fi realm. **Episodes 1 through 9 are posted to the church website.** www.RELC.org/podcast-2/

New episodes are released each Sunday afternoon on Podbean; and posted to the church website each Monday. Also now available on Apple Podcasts <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/church-in-space/id1505351854>



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner was a hit! Thanks to all the Fellas who prepared the delicious food. It was a nice way to kick off the season of Lent.





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Men's Fella-ship Breakfast

Saturday, April 9th, 8:30am



All Men are welcome!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



For the next few months, please continue to work on making shawls and patches at home, and we will schedule some in-person meetings in the spring.

Anyone interested in making shawls or patches that has not made them in the past - see Barb Emmets for further information about this ministry.

RELc BOOK CLUB

The book for April 19th is

White Ivy by Susie Yang

(Book Club is held at RELc in Room 7C)



RELc Book Club list

May 17th Book of Lost Names by Kristen Harmel

June 21st Sold on a Monday by Kristina McMorris

Theology on Tap April 26, 2022

7:00 pm at Crooked Can Brewing Co.,
Center Street Market in Old Hilliard



Theology on Tap meets once a month usually on the 4th Tuesday of the month for fellowship and discussion on how faith influences what we think about current events and the world around us. Here are a couple pictures of the group in March having a good time.

Join us!!!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Email to prayerteam@relc.org or contact the office at 614-876-7926, or email office@relc.org.



The Lunch Ladies are back April 9th!

They will be meeting at MCL Cafeteria in Upper Arlington Tremont Plaza at 11:30 am. Please RSVP to Sue Owen sowenaa@sbcglobal.net or to the office@relc.org so we can have a head count. Or please reach out if you need a ride. The next lunch will be in June.

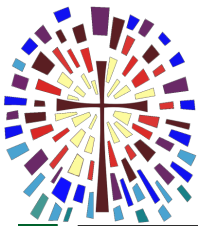
Welcome to Kay Scott
a new member here at RELc!!!

Welcome



Game night will no longer be on a set monthly schedule. Please follow social media or the bulletin for dates and times. Please bring your favorite game and a snack to share when you come!!





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Thank You for the Chair Care!

The challenge? Evaluate over 150 chairs in the WLC and Narthex to find broken, bent, and highly stained chairs, repair them if possible, AND do it in 1 hour.

Nine volunteers met to take on this challenge. Initially, we hoped to get through all of the chairs set for worship, and anything after that would be a bonus, yet the efficiency and effort of this group led to ALL of the chairs being evaluated!

The volunteers who did this work?

They are listed below, and we thank them all for taking on this project to keep our chairs in tip top shape.

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| Candy Franz | Judy Miller | Dave Nelsen |
| Drew Dittmar | Greg Davis | Kathy Rotolo |
| Andy Ohler | Charlie Anderson | Renee Mushalko |

KNOW THE STORY

One of the statements of the RELC mission is to “Tell the Story.” Maybe you don’t know the “full” story and how does the story relate to our lives today?

Self-Study: Each week there is a worksheet with a Bible reading available with questions to explore more of the story.

Adult Forum: Pastor Dave is leading the discussion about a new story each week. Join the discussion Sundays at 9-9:45 AM in the Narthex.

Please grab a Take Home Print Out of the “Know the Story” weekly Bible Stories. They will be available every Sunday in the Narthex and on our website under the Grow tab on Mondays.

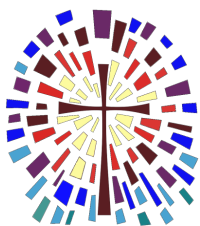
We are encouraged to all do this together. Together we will get to know the story of Jesus Christ. Reach out to the office if you need a copy emailed to you directly. office@relc.org



Bible Study with Pastor Dave

Tuesday at 11 am at RELC & Thursday at 7 pm via ZOOM (no bible study Holy Week)
(Email pastordave@relc.org for the ZOOM link) All are invited—join when you can!





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Giving Garden



April 2022



Aside from seed starting, the past couple of weeks has been focused on securing straw bales for our “no dig” garden. Thanks to the niece of Ronda Castle, we purchased 8 straw bales which now occupy the south end of the no-dig garden. Before we can plant in the straw bales they must be conditioned, which means adding water and a nitrogen fertilizer source to jump-start the decomposition process. This conditioning takes about two weeks. I am just waiting on some warmer weather to be forecasted so I can get this started. We will be using the straw bales and 5 gallon grow bags to grow our tomatoes this year. This will in turn free up our typical in ground garden space for cucumbers. Crop rotation is vital to the health of our soil and plants.

SAVE THE DATE – May 21 (Saturday) at 9:00am for planting the Giving Garden.

Please let me know if you want to be part of this ministry. I will add you to our email group.

Happy Gardening!!! ~Carol Williams



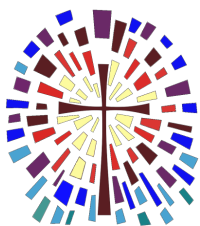
Communications Update:

Please share our website, but understand that things are being updated as often as possible. If you have any photos or events that would be a benefit to the website please send them to the church office. office@RELc.org

We really need your help getting pictures of all the different ministries at RELC. Please snap a pic on your phone and email the office. If you have an upcoming

event please let the office know. For our online community, we will have a copy of the bulletin for each Sunday on the site, as well as Mid-Week Lent Services and Holy Week. Please also look for the “Know the Bible” downloads that will be updated each week.





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OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

For the month of April, we would like to collect coloring books for the shoe boxes. You can bring those (or any other items for the boxes) and place them at the donation station opposite the restrooms. A full list of needed items is in this newsletter. We collect items all year long so we are prepared at the end of the year. Many thanks to everyone who donates to this ministry. If you are unable to shop for items - cash donations are welcome and we will shop for you.

See Barb Emmets or Pam Davis.



SOME ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOXES

- * SHOE BOXES – (NO BOOT BOXES PLEASE)
- * IVORY SOAP
- * CUPS
- * SOCKS
- * COLORING BOOKS
- * STUFFED ANIMALS
- * SMALL TOYS
- * CHILDREN'S SCISSORS



Lutheran Social Services Choices for Victims of Domestic Violence is opening back up to volunteers and accepting donations again. They are currently in need of baby wipes. Please leave new packages on the donation table in the narthex. Please see Barb Emmets with any questions about how you can help.



A BIBLE MOMENT AT THE FRONT DOOR

“I was naked and you gave me clothing...” Matthew 25:36

Saturday, March 26, after the Chair Care volunteers had left and three people were finishing up other tasks in the building, a young man, carrying some items in a plastic bag, and dressed a little inappropriately for cold weather, came to the front doors. Charlie Anderson went to the door and learned the man was looking for gloves and pants. His story was that he had been walking from Jackson Pike and he was cold.

You may not know, but the county jail is on Jackson Pike, a good many miles south and east of Columbus, and other aspects of his story indicated he was, in fact, walking home from Jackson Pike and likely the jail. That is no small feat. He looked downtrodden and seemed a bit agitated or maybe defeated.

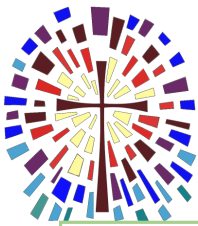
Charlie, without a moment's hesitation, tried to think of a way to help him, and remembering a pair of gloves in his truck, he walked out and retrieved them for the young man. That was a “God moment”, and I immediately thought of Matthew, chapter 25.

Certainly, a young man coming out of jail is easy for us to judge...maybe even fear, which might have been my reaction if I had been alone at the church. And it's easy to jump to judgment. But, Charlie saw opportunity to put faith into action. The encounter lasted less than a minute, probably, yet he could have turned the young man away with nothing.

Let us pray for Charlie to continue his practice of action as Jesus has taught us. Let us also pray that those gloves can be a reminder to the young man of kindness, caring, and generosity from a stranger, and if he is on a broken path in life, may God work through those gloves to touch him and walk with him toward a better path.

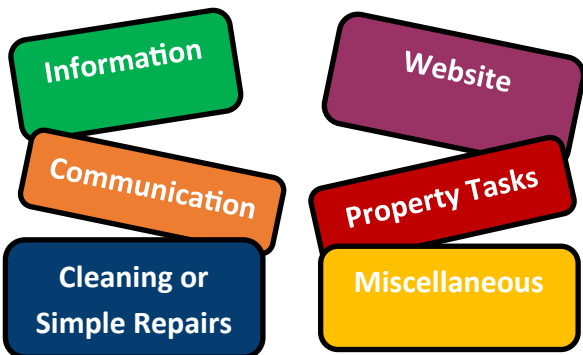
Renee Mushalko





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WANTED: TASK FORCE TALENT



Are you looking for short-term tasks at the church that you could do that don't require a long-term, multiyear commitment but could help RELC move toward some its goals? If so, please contact a Council member, the church office, Kathy Rotolo, or Renee Mushalko to let us know areas you might be interested in. We would like to form task force teams that could take on short-term projects, understanding the commitment is done when the goals are met.

First English Meals

In March, we prepared and served breakfast and dinner for more than 100 people. A huge thank you to all the bakers who provided desserts for the dinner. We had so many donations that we were able to have cookies after service on March 27.

Higher numbers mean more hands are needed to prepare and serve. So.... if you would like to volunteer for breakfast on April 10, to help with the preparation in the RELC kitchen, or to come to First English and help with serving, or if you would simply like more information on this ministry, please let me know. You can see me on Sunday morning, or call me at 614-607-4180, or email me at kathy.rotolo@relc.org and I will be happy to provide more details. ~Kathy Rotolo



EASTER FLOWERS

Altar Guild is taking flower orders for Easter this year, there are order forms in the narthex! All orders need to be in by April 4th.

Orders can also be emailed to Kathy Rotolo kathy.rotolo@RELc.org or the office@RELc.org



Lilies \$9

Hyacinths or Tulips \$8



DOWNLOAD THE APP

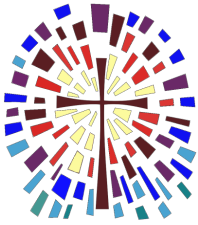
The next Red Cross
Blood Drive is May
26 at RELC from
11-5pm

To schedule an appointment
call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit
RedCrossBlood.org, use
sponsor code: RELC



American
Red Cross

Together, we can save a life



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We are putting together care packages for our college students. If you would like to donate baked goods, please have those in the kitchen by Sunday, April 17th (having them individually packaged is very helpful!). There are cards in the Narthex if you would like to write some notes of encouragement for finals week!



HS Youth News

**Always subject to change*

- 4/10 @5pm Youth Group
- 4/24 @5pm Youth Group
- 30 Hour Famine coming

in May, stay tuned for more info.



Sundays at 9am

- ~Godly Play (preschool -3rd grade)
- ~Youth Sunday School (grades 4-7)
- ~High School Youth Group (grades 8-12) usually meet a few times a month.

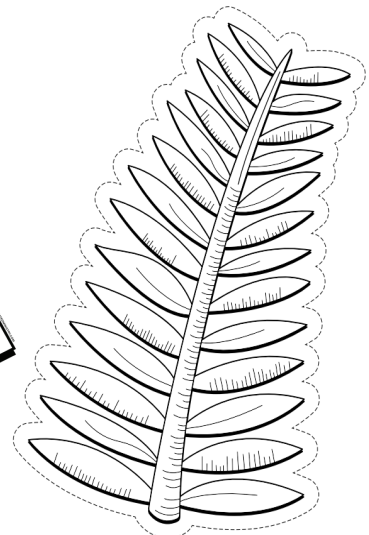


I really wish Pastor would explain the Bible according to Bluey!!



Do you like to color?

Please grab a sheet from the Narthex to color for Easter to help decorate our worship space. I am happy to email you a copy if you are not able to make it to church. Please reach out to Kathy or Katherine with questions. Fun for all ages & skill levels!



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Hosanna
IN THE HIGHEST



April Birthdays

4/3 Stacey Rogers

4/6 Madison Lattro

4/7 Nancy Stahl

4/9 Drew Nelsen

4/12 Kathy Nelsen

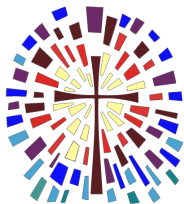
4/12 Jeremy Kountz

4/19 Kathy Rotolo

4/19 Joan Emerick

4/21 Jean Bletz





April Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|---|
|  | |  | | | 1) 6-10pm Media (WLC and Narthex)  | 2) 9:00am Ohio Society of Notaries [Class and Exam] (WLC) 9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7)  |
| 3) 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Sunday School (Youth grades 4-7, and Adult) 10:00am Worship 11:10am Q&A (WLC) 4:00pm Troop 672 Eagle Scout Board of review (WLC) | 4) 4:30pm BOLD (Parking Lot) 7:00pm Cubs Committee Meeting  | 5) 6-8pm Cub Scouts Den Meetings 7:00pm Financial Stewardship Meeting (office)  | 6) 6:15pm Lent Mid-week Meal (WLC) 7:00pm Lent Mid-week Service (WLC) 7:00pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting  LENT | 7) 10:30am Worship Planning Meeting (office) 7:00pm Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00pm Boy Scout Leader Meeting (WLC)  | 8) | 9) 8:30am Men's Breakfast (Narthex) 9:30am FELC Breakfast Prep (kitchen) 9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7) 10-12pm New City Church Easter Egg Hunt Event (RELC parking lot) 11:30am RELC Lunch Ladies (MCL Cafeteria in UA) 12:30pm 1st Communion Bread Baking (kitchen) |
| 10) Palm Sunday 8:00am Breakfast FELC (First English Columbus, OH) 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Sunday School (Godly Play, Youth grades 4-7, and Adult) 10:00am Worship 11:10am Q&A (WLC) 5:00 pm HS Youth Group | 11) 10:00am Staff Meeting (office) 4:30pm BOLD (Parking Lot)  | 12) 7:00pm Cub Scouts Den Meeting | 13) 7:00pm RELC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting | 14) Maundy Thursday 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service with 1st Communion for Henry, Ewan and Jacob (WLC) | 15) Good Friday 7:00pm Good Friday Service [No Communion] (WLC) | 16) 9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7) |
| <div>HOLY WEEK </div> | | | | | | |
| 17) Easter Sunday 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Sunday School (Godly Play, Youth grades 4-7, and Adult) 10:00am Worship 11:10am Q & A (WLC)  | 18) Office Closed Tax Day 4:30pm BOLD (Parking Lot)  | 19) 11:00am Bible Study (Narthex) 7:00pm Cub Scouts Den Meeting 7:00pm Communication Meeting (office) 7:00pm Book Club (Room 7C) | 20) 7:00pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting  | 21) 7:00pm Bible Study (Zoom)  | 22) Earth Day  | 23) 8-3pm NYLT Boy Scout Staff (WLC) 9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7) |
| 24) 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Sunday School (Youth grades 4-7, and Adult) 10:00am Worship 11:10am Q & A (WLC) 5pm High School Youth Group | 25) 4:30pm BOLD (Parking Lot)  | 26) 11:00am Bible Study (Narthex) 7:00pm Cub Scouts Den Meeting 7:00pm Theology on Tap (Crooked Can, Center St. Market) | 27) 7:00pm Council Meeting (Room 6) 7:00pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting  | 28) 7:00pm Bible Study (Zoom)  | 29) Arbor Day  | 30) 9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7) |

CONTACT INFORMATION

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