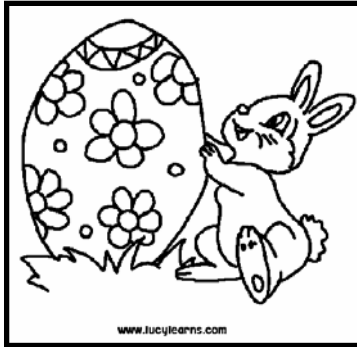


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

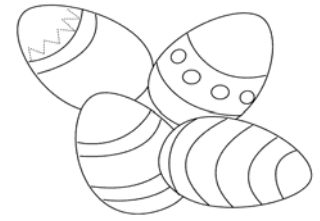
EASTER PARTY: SATURDAY, APRIL 16th

Calling all kids aged 3—5th grade! Come on out for our super-cool Easter Party on Saturday, April 16th! Everyone will meet in Fellowship Hall at 1:00 PM. Be ready to enjoy yummy snacks, play fun games (with prizes!), and have a great time. And don't forget about our always-awesome Easter Egg Hunt (this year we're planning to go to Martins Ferry City



Park), where you will get to round up tons of candy-filled eggs!

We also need some teen and adult help. SCOPE students will be hiding the eggs at the park, and we need wrapped candy (or money to buy candy) so that we can stuff the eggs. If you can help out, please talk with Becky Hood or Jennifer Lofton, our Party Hosts! Everyone get ready for a wonderful time!



Lisa needs TEN DOZEN hard-boiled eggs *in the carton* for the kids to dye in Sunday School on Palm Sunday (4/17). Please let her know if you can help out!



EASTER SUNDAY SCHOOL PLANS

Sunday, April 24th

- 8:00 AM SON-Rise Service
- 8:30 AM Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 AM Easter Chalk Drawings on the Sidewalks
- 9:15 AM ALL Sunday School classes combined in Fellowship Hall for a special celebration!

*Haven't been to Sunday School in a while?
This is a wonderful day to attend!*

Micro-SCOPE CONTINUES TO GROW!

Our program for the K—5th graders in our community has quickly established itself as THE place to be on Wednesday evenings! New kids are joining every week, and we've had to expand the plan and recruit some extra volunteers to keep things running smoothly. What a truly wonderful adventure for our church!

What happens at Micro-SCOPE? We kick things off with

dinner, then the three crews of kids rotate through Activity Times, which include Recreation, Music & Motion, and Centers (exploring the Bible theme of PARABLES through games, kitchen projects, art, puppets, and more!). We wrap up the evening together with announcements and prayer before kids head on home.

Please keep Micro-SCOPE in your prayers. God's at work here!



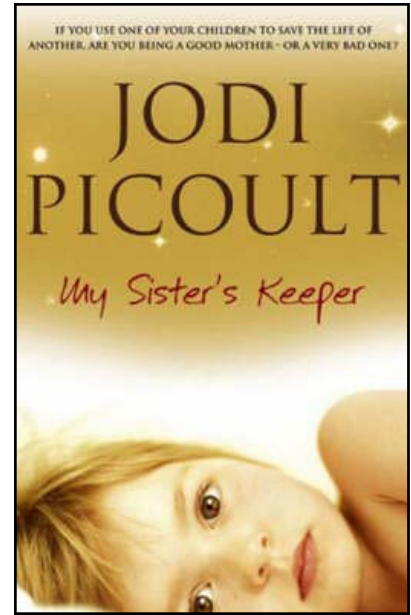
BOOK STUDY TO MEET AGAIN IN MAY

Do you enjoy reading and talking about books? Then you are invited to participate in our Book Study! This small group is open to anyone who enjoys discussions about literature. Led by Linda Webster, it has generated loads of good conversations over the course of its existence. Whether you're a regular at the Book Study or would like to try it for the first time, please know that you are very welcome!

The group will next meet on Wednesday, May 4th, at 7:00 PM on the couches in the Annex (near where the snacks are set up

after worship). You don't need to sign up in advance or anything. Just read the book, and show up ready to talk a bit and listen a bit and enjoy A LOT!

The book we'll be discussing at our May gathering is "My Sister's Keeper", by acclaimed author Jodi Picoult. It's sure to generate a lot of interesting discussion. The tag line says, "If you use one of your children to save the life or another, are you being a good mother — or a very bad one?" We are hoping to see some new faces as well as familiar folks at our study in May! See you there!



MOTHER'S DAY PIE & PLANT SALE RETURNS!

Once again we will be selling delicious pies and lovely flowers for Mother's Day (May 8th)! Our pies will come from the same pie place in Ligonier, PA (just like last year), and now you can order fabulous cinnamon rolls as well. Pre-orders will be taken for the sweet treats, so watch the church bulletin for those details.

Distribution of pies, rolls, and flowers will take place outside of

Webster Hall on Saturday, May 8th. We will have extra desserts to sell, along with a host of hanging baskets and flats of spring flowers. All of these make perfect Mother's Day gifts for the

special women you love and they are also just great to have for

yourself! This year's sale will benefit children and youth ministries at Grace. We've made your spring shopping easy, beautiful, and absolutely delicious!



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS CARDS

Want a simple way to donate money to Grace Church, without having to think about it all that much? Sign up for Kroger's "community rewards program", which automatically makes a donation to the organization of your choice every time you use your rewards card. Lisa Buckingham is heading up this project, so if you don't use a computer but you would like to participate, please see Lisa to get a form to fill out. She will take care of the computer

details for you! Or you can go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and follow the instructions to enroll.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY SIGNED UP: Please note that Kroger's new policy is that you now must RE-ENROLL every year in April. As soon as possible, please go online and re-enroll. Once you have done so, please let Lisa or Ida Mae know so that we can keep track of who is participating. THANK YOU!

**SAVE THE DATE:
Summer Adventure @
Grace (formerly Bible
School) is
JUNE 27—JULY 1!**

kroger community rewards

The Deacons Docket

LENTEN MISSION PROJECT: BOUNTIFUL BASKETS

The Deacons & SCOPE (our youth group) are teaming up to create Easter baskets for our shut-ins. We are putting together twenty baskets, and on Palm Sunday evening, members of the Deacons and SCOPE will deliver the baskets and enjoy a short visit with our shut-ins. So far, we have received a wonderful amount of supplies for this project, and we are truly grateful! With only a few weeks left, we ask that you please continue to give generously.

- 4/3: Cans of Soup
- 4/10: Donations to pay for Grace Church coffee mugs
- 4/17: Apples, Oranges, & Bananas

If you have any questions, please contact Kay McFarlan, Deacon Chair.



“STOCK THE PANTRY” CHALLENGE UNDERWAY

After a worship series on hunger in February, Bill and Lisa have challenged the congregation to help to keep our church’s food pantry and the Martins Ferry Food Bank stocked up. On the first Sunday of each month, when we have communion, we are having an additional “Stock the Pantry” offering of canned and boxed

goods. When you arrive at church, just drop off your bag up front near the pulpit before worship begins.

Whether you can bring a single can of soup or three bags full of groceries is unimportant. The goal is to get in the habit of offering up food from

our home pantries to provide for families in the area with little or nothing to eat on a

regular basis. Hunger needs in our community are increasing at an alarming rate. Let’s commit to meeting those needs!



Have you checked out Holy Grounds Café yet? We are open every Thursday evening from 7:00—9:30 PM. There is always great music and cheap food and drinks: a perfect combination! It really is a wonderful place to unwind with friends of all ages. Grab a pal and swing on by!

The Deacons will run a food booth at the Car Show & Festival on Saturday, May 21st. If you want to help out, contact Sandy Albert or Sandy Morehead!