



Love God - Learn God - Live God

THE CALLER

The United Methodist Church of Berea ♦ 170 Seminary Street ♦ Berea, Ohio 44017
(440) 234-3525 Phone (440) 234-3078 Fax www.umcb.org

Volume 15, No 12

December 2014



December

Sunday Worship Services

8AM in Chapel
9AM **arise!** Sanctuary
11:15AM Traditional, Sanctuary

Church Staff

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arise! Worship Leader

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Christmas, 2014

“Do not be afraid!” Luke’s gift of hope to us at Christmas. Three times in two chapters we hear the words:

- “Do not be afraid,” says the angel appearing to Zechariah in the Temple (Luke 1:13);
- “Do not be afraid,” he says to Mary at the annunciation (Luke 1:30);
- “Do not be afraid,” he says to the shepherds (Luke 2:10).

And yet, all of them had reason enough to be afraid. They were all citizens of an occupied nation, for one thing. It was an unsettled time, life had its fears, just as it does today. And all of them had their own reasons to be afraid. Zechariah’s fear might have been for his wife, who was childless—a particular disgrace in that day and time. Mary’s fear may have been the angel’s message; but if not, she would find reason enough for fear in the coming years. The shepherds? Who knows? The angelic appearance, certainly; but a shepherd’s life had fears enough of its own.

The angel said, “Do not be afraid.” How could that be for any of them?

Christopher Fry thinks about all of that and writes:

The darkest time in the year,
The poorest place in the town,
Cold, and a taste of fear,
Man and woman alone,
What can we hope for here?

More light than we can learn,
More wealth than we can treasure,
More love than we can earn,
More peace than we can measure,
Because one Child is born...

The old man, Simeon, holding the Child, Jesus, in his arms, gives answer: “For I have seen with my own eyes the deliverance you have made ready in full view of all nations: a light that will bring revelation to the Gentiles and glory to your people Israel.” (Luke 2:30-32)

The angel says to us, “Do not be afraid.” Not because life is perfect; it’s not. Not because we have no fears; we do. Every one of us could make a list.

But the Child has been born, and that makes all of the difference.

“Do not be afraid.”

Merry Christmas!

--Rev. Skip

THE CALLER

Advent / Christmas Worship Schedule

November 30:	Isaiah 40:1-5 The Promise	December 7:	Luke 1:5-25 Tongue Tied
December 14:	Luke 1:26-38 Obedient to the Will of God	December 21:	Luke 1:39-55 The Promise Fulfilled
December 24 Christmas Eve	Luke 2:1-20 The Old, Old Story		
		<u>Worship Services (All services with candle light)</u>	
		4:00 PM Sanctuary with Chancel Choir and Harpist	
		7:00 PM - Family Service with music by Children, Youth and arise!	
		9:00 PM Sanctuary with NEWSingers	
		11:00 PM Chapel with Organ Music	
December 28	Luke 2:21-40 Simeon and Anna One Service at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary		



Christmas Eve Music

Our Christmas Eve services will be enriched by many musicians. Harpist, Celia van den Bogart, will play for the 4 PM service along with the Chancel Choir and organ. The harp prelude will begin at 3:45 PM.

Harpist, Celia van den Bogart is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School. She studies harp with Jody Guinn through the Preparatory Department at The Cleveland Institute of Music. She is the harpist for the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra and the Contemporary Youth Orchestra. This past summer, Celia spent six weeks in Lenox, Massachusetts in the Boston University Tanglewood Institute's Young Artists Harp Program.



Celia van den Bogart

Advent Study: *Not a Silent Night*

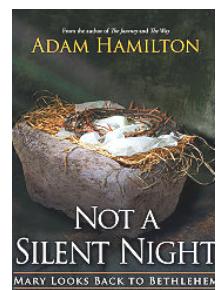
Dates: December 7, 14 and 21 at 10:00AM
Location: Parlor

(It is not necessary to read this book to attend.)

We will explore the meaning of Christmas through the lens of Mary. No one was closer to Jesus than Mary, and no one shaped his life more than she. Though we may have formed the impression that Mary's life was blessed, peaceful, and blissful, it was also challenging and painful.

Come and join us for three weeks as we imagine Jesus from Mary's point of view. We will use resources from Adam Hamilton who is the senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas.

Facilitators:
Derek Rance and
Deaconess Karen Caldwell



THE CALLER

COSROW Corner – December 2014

The Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) was established over 25 years ago by the United Methodist Church as a way to honor women who have contributed to the maintenance and growth of our church. This column was begun to carry on that mission. This week let us remember the contribution of Georgianna Bonds who passed away on September 1, 2014 at the age 95. When she moved to Berea in 1955, as the wife of Baldwin Wallace's new president, A.B. Bonds she accepted the role as "first lady" of the college.

Many remember her contributions of leadership and hospitality, though few may remember that Georgianna assisted the East Ohio Conference with their news paper. We recognize her cheerful leadership for our church.

Submitted by Jo Swanson

Church Family Prayer Concerns

Bruce Akins	Della Lofton
Florence Baker	Clint Lunt
Eileen Bell	Roy Mallarnee
Esther Berger	Margaret McCready
Mary Bittinger	Clare Murphy
Fran Bobo	Dorothy Novak
Lenora Cool	Tom Oakley
Bob & Donna Dial	Barbara Scoon
Marlene Felts	Jeanette Sheneman
Bob Ferrell	Carol Thompson
Laurie Garvin	Sarah Ulmer
Betty Green	Dorothy Wheaton
Marilyn Jelinek	Eva Williamson
	Ann Woollett

Our Sympathy to:

The family of Rolland Snyder Miller who passed away on November 4th. Rolland and his late wife Carol were members of UMCB for 30 years. The family moved to North Ridgeville in 1999 and joined Fields UMC.

The family of Henry Lewis who passed away on November 6th. Services were held at Bakers Funeral Home on November 11th.

 Thank you Fellowship Hour Donors: We all appreciate the fellowship hour beverages and snacks on Sunday morning from 9:00 AM to Noon. We thank those who have contributed the "goodies" this fall quarter: United Methodist Women, Skip & Rita Myers, Missions Committee, Children's Council, NEWSingers, Patty Worthem, Next Generation Class, Don Williams Family, Chancel Choir, Faithlink, Rachel Swaddling & Family, Homebuilders, Trustees, Girl Scout Travel Troop, Bread Ministry.

A Big Thank you to Local Students: The Community Outreach Program at Baldwin Wallace University (BWU) sent volunteers to assist the Trustees on the fall indoor clean-up on Saturday, November 1st. Their gift of time and service was certainly appreciated. Much work was completed.

BWU honors college students volunteered at UMCB on several Saturdays during the fall quarter. The Berea/Midpark High School honor society students also completed service at UMCB recently.

A great big thank you to the staff of UMCB and my many friends for the prayers said on my behalf during my recent hospital stay and the weeks of rehabilitation for my fractured pelvis. So many of you came for visits, sent cards, called on the phone, and made sure I had the help I needed to get along well while in the hospital and rehab facilities. This same concern has followed me home, where I now am beginning to be able to do most things for myself. I literally do not know what I would have done without you. *Thanks again, Carol Thompson*

Gratitude and thank you to *each and every volunteer and staff member*, including, Irene, Joanne, Jim and Vivien, who did anything to help make the Fall Harvest Event successful. Again, kudos to Chef Dee Bosl and the entire kitchen help. It was a great dinner serving many more than last year! This has truly become a church-wide event that displays to the community that we are a vibrant church. It was a lot of work for all and couldn't have been done without each one of you!!

Submitted by Bobbie DiNicola

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Read & Grow Group

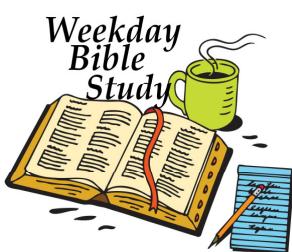
Monday, December 8th at 6:45 PM in the Church Parlor. Anyone is welcome to attend. The book we are reviewing is:



"Lots of Candles, Plenty of Cake" by Anna Quindlen. Anna Quindlen writes about her life and the lives of women today, looking back and ahead - and celebrating it all - as she considers marriage, girlfriends, our mothers, faith, loss, all that stuff in our closets, and more.

The next meeting is January 12, 2015.

Come for dinner at 6:00 PM, followed by a movie and discussion in The Gathering Place. The title of the movie is "The Book Thief". Led by Jan Harlamert



A special Bible Study on the Birth Narrative of Jesus will start on Wednesday, December 3rd at 9:30 AM and will continue through the month of January. This class is open to anyone who would like to attend.

University Circle United Methodist Church / United Methodist Church of Berea Neighborhood Lunch schedule

Future Luncheon dates



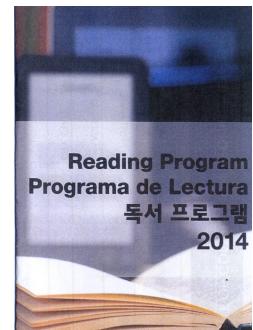
December 28, 2014,
April 26, February 22, June 28

Thank you for your continued support of this mission project. It is greatly appreciated by all the guests and volunteers from both churches. A new sign up will be posted at the beginning of each month of our participation.

Claire Powell

Library News at UMCB - UMW Reading Program

You would enjoy participating in the UMW reading program!! You can find the brochures on the UMW shelf in the library. Please remember to turn in your book list to Betsy Meikle by December 31. You can leave your completed from in the UMW mail slot in the office hallway.



UMW Reading Program - Book Review:

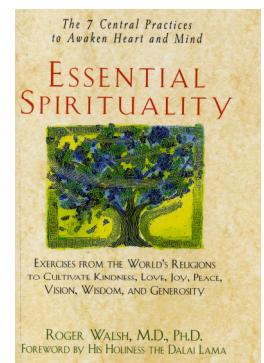
The book "On This Spirit Walk," by Henrietta Mann and Anita Phillips, is listed in the category of "Education for Mission." The subtitle explains that it contains "The Voices of Native American and Indigenous Peoples," a collection of essays written by native Americans who are Methodists. The chapters are organized on a variety of topics that concern native Americans today, such as "Identity," "Relationship," "History," and "Justice." Questions for discussion are listed at the end of each chapter, and additional resources for study are offered at the end of the book. There is also a list of projects to help native Americans, which the United Methodist Church supports.

Submitted by Betsy Meikle

NEW BOOK STUDY!

- Books are available inside room 12. Cost is \$6.00
- We meet weekly at 10:00 AM on Sundays in room 12.

Essential Spirituality by Roger Walsh integrates from world religions a way for us to read and apply spiritual practices for our daily lives. Walsh's book is filled with stories, exercises, mediations, prayers and practical advice on daily living in which kindness, love, joy, peace, vision, wisdom and generosity are a part of everything we should do.



Submitted by Deaconess Karen Caldwell

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Youth News



Dear Parents,

Ever feel like you are out of the loop?

- ~ Feel free to sign up for text updates by texting @UMCBParent to [440-262-5932](tel:440-262-5932).
- ~ You can also join the UMCB Parents Facebook group!
- ~ And don't forget, if you ever have any questions, you can always email me at sdave@umcb.org or call/text at [417-343-3775](tel:417-343-3775).

In Christian Love, Sarah

Dear Youth,

Don't forget about December's exciting events:

- Saturday, December 13 – Trip to Hale Farm & Lock In! – leaving church at 5 p.m. \$15. Permission slips due Nov. 30
(You can pick up Permission slips on Sarah's door.)
 - Monday, December 22 – White Elephant Christmas Party! Youth Room – 7 p.m. – please bring a snack to share and a gift equal to \$5.
-



Introduction

Our Adult Ministries Intern, Faith Nordine, is a sophomore at Baldwin Wallace University. She is an English major with a Religion minor. Faith enjoys writing, singing, and playing her trumpet. Her home town is Dover, OH where her mother pastors at a United Methodist Church. Please take a few moments on Sunday mornings to meet and introduce yourself to Faith.

Ellen R. Reeves - New Art Display in The Gathering Place

I received my art training at the old Cleveland School of Art and its successor the Cleveland Institute of Art. I also studied with Edgar Whitney in Maine where I learned the concepts of good design. At one time I worked free lance in commercial art. Then for some years I painted portraits of people and also dogs. Now I paint what I happen to be in the mood for.

It is my belief that music and art are God's gracious gifts to enrich and ornament our work-a-day lives. In this exhibit I tried, in a sense, to combine them. I hope that as you view the paintings, the music from "All Things Bright and Beautiful" will play in your mind.



Art Display



Roger Reeves has been honored for his 22+ years of service on The City Mission Board of Directors. Roger's new title is Director Emeritus. Roger and his wife, Ellen, were recognized at the City Mission on Nov. 18, 2014. (The City Mission is a non-profit organization that provides practical help and spiritual direction to those dealing with homelessness and poverty.)

WE INVITE ALL WOMEN TO JOIN UMW Berea to ...

Make a Difference in the World

The mission of United Methodist Women is to foster spiritual growth, develop leaders and advocate for justice. We are the world's largest denominational faith organization for women with approximately 800,000 members and growing. Imagine that!

FALL PROGRAMS:

UPCOMING IN 2015 MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| January 11 | UMW Sunday & Church Wide Potluck w/Speaker Rosalyn Barnhill the VP of UMW Conference Team. Rosalyn will be speaking on the music of faith. |
| February 14 | Valentine Luncheon Program by Lake Erie Science Center w/live animals. Bring your children and grandchildren.....all ages will enjoy this program. |
| March 22 | Fish Dinner - following the 11:15 service in Fellowship Hall |
| April 16-17 | Spring Garage Sale |
| April 25 | Crop Walk |
| April 7-10 | Plant Sale |
| May 16 | Salad Luncheon Program - Consortium Musica |

Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can,

At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can. ~John Wesley



Holiday Gift Shopping - If gift cards are on your Christmas shopping list, please remember the UMW are selling cards.

Gift Cards are available to purchase from the
United Methodist Women of Berea (UMW).

This is an ongoing fund raiser for UMW. There are over 80 merchants to pick from which make your gift buying for birthdays and holidays a perfect gift idea. Please contact Marilyn Smith at 440-243-4165.



Blank order forms (printed on pink paper) are available on the bulletin board in the hallway by the kitchenette.





Food Pantry Needs

SCAN holiday food collection Sunday is December 7. The number of persons coming to SCAN in need of food is increasing every month. As the holidays approach, SCAN workers are asking for these special donations: cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, instant mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, envelopes of chicken or turkey gravy mix (no glass jars of gravy) cake mix, ready to spread frosting, and pumpkin pie filling mix (with spices, not just plain pumpkin). Of course the usual needs of cereal, canned fruit, and paper products also remain. For the next few weeks, every time you do your grocery shopping, why not pick up an extra item or two and set it aside for SCAN Sunday. Generous donations from each of us will go a long way in giving other people a happier Thanksgiving and Christmas. Isn't that what being a Christian is all about?

Submitted by Marilyn Foster



Swing Dinner is Back!

Save the date – Feb. 14th

Come have a wonderful dinner and hear the Swing City Band

Tickets are \$25 and will be on sale soon! They make a wonderful Christmas present. Any questions call the church office.



Poinsettia Order Form

ORDER DEADLINE (Paid orders)

December 8, 2014

Live poinsettias will again grace the Sanctuary for Christmas. Plants are available in red and white for \$7.00 each, and may be dedicated in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. You are welcome to take your flowers home after the midnight service if you choose.

YOUR
NAME: _____ **PH:** _____

HOW MANY of each color? **RED** _____ **WHITE** _____

In *MEMORY* of: _____

In *HONOR* of: _____

Will Pick Up: _____ ** Deliver to Shut-in: _____ (how many?)
*(**If you name a specific individual, you are responsible for delivery.)* _____

GIDEON BIBLES



You may buy a Gideon Bible in memory or honor of a loved one. The Bibles are \$5 each.

NAME _____ **PH.** _____

How many? _____ Amount \$ _____

In *MEMORY* of: _____

In *HONOR* of: _____

ALL PAID ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 11th



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The United Methodist Church of Berea
170 Seminary Street
Berea, OH 44017
www.umcb.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



DATED MATERIAL - DO NOT DELAY

NOTE: If you wish to discontinue receiving this newsletter, please contact the church office to remove your name from the mailing list.

This issue of the Caller was mailed on November 20, 2014.



Enclosed is your
Christmas
Offering
Envelope



Food Pantry
Needs

SCAN will receive food
and paper products
from our church
on December 7.

**Loose Change Sunday
is December 14 and
will go to:
Cradle of Caring**



The Equal Exchange
Coffee Table is open
the first Sunday
of the month.



Advent Festival
Nov. 30, 2014
3:30-7:00
Crafts for all ages
Family Potluck at 5:30
in Fellowship Hall
Special visitor
at dinner!
BRING YOUR PLACE SETTING
AND A DISH TO SHARE. HOT
DOGS AND BEVERAGES ARE
PROVIDED.
Bring an item for the
Mitten+Tree

sponsored by CHILDREN'S Council