



# 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 16, No 68

August 2016

## What We Did This Summer



### DAY CAMP

Fully Rely on God (F.R.O.G.) was our theme this year at Day Camp for upper elementary students.

Twenty Campers, helpers, and leaders spent the week of July 11-15 at the beautiful Modern Tool & Dye Corporate property on Grafton Road in Valley City.



The lush, green grass of the lawns, the grandeur of the Old Oak Tree (one of a few bicentennial trees remaining in Ohio), the cool breezes, the azure blue sky dotted with fluffy pink and white clouds, the bright sunshine, the sparkling lakes & refreshing creek, and the many creatures and plants that inhabit the area combined to make UMCB Day Camp a special time away from the city.

*(Cont'd on Page 3)*

### Vacation Bible School



The Surf Shack theme from Cokesbury (United Methodist Publisher) was filled with awesome and amazing activities and meaningful Bible lessons for all ages.

Our small but lively group had a delightful week at the Ohio Guidestone (Berea Children's Home) Farm.

*(Cont'd on Page 2)*

### Costa Rica Mission Trip



This June, twenty youth and adults from UMCB and Lorain Lighthouse UMC traveled to Carrillos Costa Rica for a ten day Youth Work Mission trip. From the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>, we worked, worshiped, and played with the congregation of the Palabra Viva (Living Word) Methodist Church in Carrillos, which is located in the province of Alajuela, about 45 minutes outside of San Jose.

This was the same site as the 2009 UMCB trip to Costa Rica, and for two people who participated in both work missions, it was great to reconnect and see how the church and congregation had developed.

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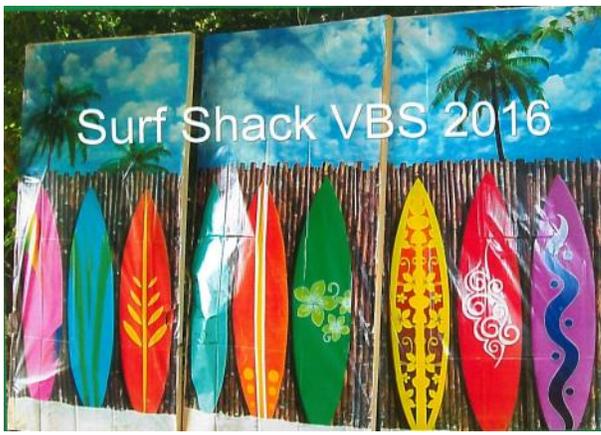


### Ice Cream Social



The Youth Work Mission Team would like to invite all of our supporters and members to join us for an Ice Cream Social on Thursday August 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm -8:00pm. We will have a video presentation of both of this year's work mission trips and the youth will be there to tell you all about their adventures this summer.

We look forward to seeing you all in the Fellowship Hall on August 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm.



## THE CALLER

(Cont'd from Front Cover)

Visit [www.umcb.org](http://www.umcb.org) to see these

Several of the highlights included the annual creek walk on Thursday, the parachute activities on Friday, and the fun with our lovable mascot, "Snappy" the big, red, crab!



We set up tents for the three groups:

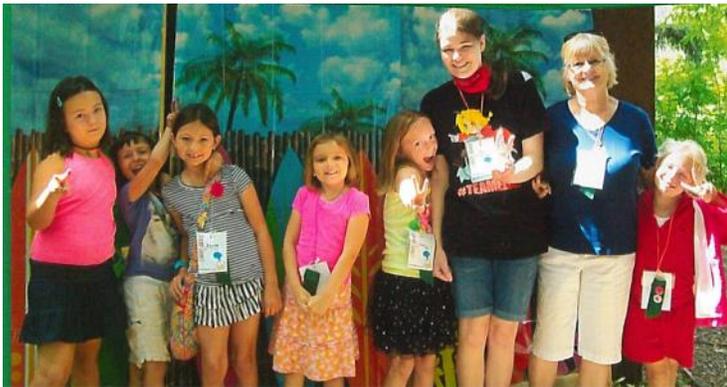
**Preschool** - Rikki Price (leader); Madelyn Williams, Jenna Wood and Annabeth Price (helpers)



**Kindergarten-First Grade** - Sedona Strick (leader); Grace Sperry and Megan Robertson (helpers)



**Second-Third Grade** - Patty Worthem (leader) and Pam Minarich (helper)



Our mission focus was Heifer Project. The children collected over \$100.00. Day Camp will also collect for this mission project.

The daily themes were: GOD CREATES, GOD HELPS, GOD LOVES, GOD CALMS, GOD SENDS. We learned the scripture from Nehemiah 4:14 - "Remember that the Lord is great and awesome!"

Centers that each group visited daily were:

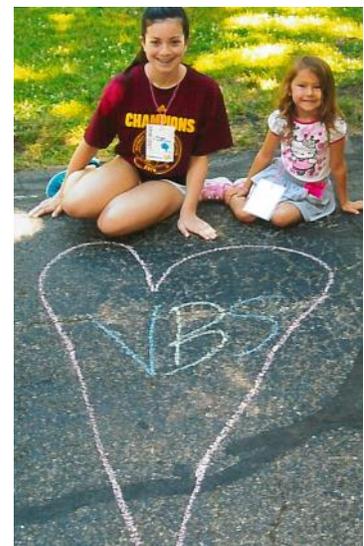
#1 CRAFTS - Michelle Scaife (leader); Sandy Marek and Jeanette Kiracoff (assistants); Isabel Scaife, Olivia Bongiovanni, and Katrina Bongiovanni (helpers).

#2 DRAMA - Betsy Meikle, Carol Stepancik, and Laura Sperry (leaders); Ambriel Bongiovanni and Andrew Sperry (assistants)

#3 GAMES - Phil Gehring (leader); Eddie Sperry and Zachary Boledovic (assistants) and Zachary Potts (helper)

#4 MUSIC - Vivien Swaddling (leader)

Tasty Snacks were prepared for us each day by Carol Kappeler.



# DAY CAMP 2016

(Cont'd from Front Cover)

Activities include: singing camp time songs, building a home in the woods, hiking across the huge field to and from the woods, wading in the creek, making new friends, and learning more about the beauty and joy of God's world. Each day highlighted appropriate scriptures about Jesus to study and memorize. Grace and patience were featured topics in our Bible verses, stories, and discussions.



Pumping water, using a "port-a-potty", cooking over a wood fire, lashing tables, benches, etc. at our campsites, eating new foods like Hobo Stew and Hobo Biscuits, pie iron pizzas, ants on a log, and even drinking "bug juice" are some of the exciting activities of our week together.



The family picnic on Thursday evening included a tasty pot-luck picnic with grilled hot dogs, campfire singing, family hikes to the campsites in the woods, and appreciation time of our volunteers.

Jeanne Allen, Jarrett Lemon, and Caleb Warren were the leaders for the WACKY WATER SNAKES.

Sedona Strick, Melissa Hennie, Eddie Sperry, and Grace Sperry were the leaders for the LEAP FROGS.



Cass Beckman was our Quartermaster. Jill and Chris Bush, Tom and Sandy Marek, and Beth Barner transported our gear to and from church. Brendon Bels printed the staff T-shirts with our FROG logo.

Dave LeBrun taught a neat science lesson on Wednesday which included making water rockets. The science time was done in honor of Dr. John Miller who led nature hikes for many years at Day Camp.

Special thanks to the families who provide car pools to and from camp and to Jack Saylor for allowing us to use his van to transport and store food so it was safe from the raccoons and other critters at the picnic and overnight.



Both VBS and Day Camp focused on Heifer Project for our mission collection. A total of \$177.52 was collected.

Submitted by Vivien Swaddling who really did "hop" around Day Camp with her broken foot complete with an air cast.

# Costa Rica Mission Trip

*(Cont'd from Front Cover)*

The week of our trip marked the first time that the Living Word Church had hosted two different groups at the same time. We worked with another mission team from Lowell, MI, meaning that we had 36 sets of hands to complete our major projects. During the trip, much of our work focused on improving the building that serves as the education and fellowship center for the congregation.



One group painted the exterior of the building, while two other teams placed ceramic tile in the dining area and replaced linoleum tile upstairs in the Sunday School rooms. Others worked to cut, assemble, and weld six new skylight/ventilation systems on the roof. Outside the building, a team built a new storage area for tools and other supplies as well as laying new drainage pipes. Lastly, a team of Berea youth scraped and repainted the entrance gate of the church, which rested on a wall that had been built by one team in 2009.



In addition to working through the heat, and rain or shine, the group still managed to find lots of time to create relationships with the community. We spent a lot of time playing with the children who were always around while their families participated in the life of the church. During our work and leisure times, our team learned new ways to communicate with the members of the congregation who worked with us and around us, from “master welder” Christian, to the wonderful cooks Lillie, Jessica, and Angie.

We also joined in worship with the church five times during our stay. Worship at the Living Word Methodist Church is lively and powerful, and while the service took place in Spanish, we felt God's presence through the energy and faith of the people, notably Pastor Eddier, whose vision for the church has kept it growing for twelve years. We truly witnessed Christ's love through the relationships we built and strengthened with the congregation in Costa Rica and with each other.



The 2016 Work Mission trip to Costa Rica was an amazing experience for the youth and adults that participated. We wish to thank all of the members of the United Methodist Church of Berea who supported us and prayed for us during this trip and we look forward to sharing our experiences with you throughout the coming months.

-The Youth Work Mission Team



**Formal Dinner at Macaroni Grill  
Sunday, August 14 at 6:30 p.m.**

Dress up and join us for a fun dinner out! Please bring \$15-\$20 to cover your meal.

Text [417-343-3775](tel:417-343-3775) to RSVP by Wednesday, August 10.

**Do you like to read for fun?**

Join us for a Summer Book Club. For more information or to sign up, text @umcbook to 81010.

Be on the lookout for more information about a **Summer service project** to help families in Berea!

**CONGRATULATIONS  
2016 HIGHER EDUCATION  
GRADUATES**

Benjamin LeBrun  
*Baldwin Wallace*

Madeline Allen  
*Colgate University*

Laura Mansfield  
*The Ohio State University*

Jonathan Lane Williams  
Masters of Divinity  
*Methodist Theological School  
of Ohio*



I devoted myself to  
study and to explore...  
all that is done  
under heaven.

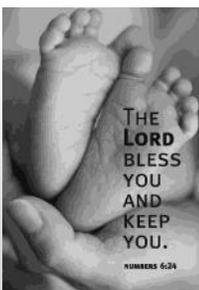
Ecclesiastes 1:13



College Council would like to remain in contact with college-aged members of our congregation. Please provide school addresses for those members attending college away from home or home addresses for those that are commuting to local colleges or have joined the work force.

Addresses can be given directly to Dave LeBrun during Arise services or called in to the church office. An initial care package will be sent out at the beginning of October.

Deadline to submit addresses 9/15/16.



Congratulations to Sarah & Christopher Dave.

Christopher Walter Thompson Dave II was born July 9, 2016 at 8:51 P.M.

He was 7 lbs., 13.5 oz. and 21.5 inches long.

# THE CALLER



## Church Family Prayer Concerns

Bruce Akins	Laurie Garvin	Roger Mook
Florence Baker	Bob Graham	Simon Myers
Cass Beckman	Helen Graham	Edith Nealy
Karl Beckman	Karen Grant	Tom Oakley
Esther Berger	Betty Green	Lou Russell
Fran Bobo	Mary Hanes	Jeanette Sheneman
Lenora Cool	Carol Isgro	Tom Szudy
Diane Corey	Marilyn Jelinek	Sarah Ulmer
Linda Donahue	Clint Lunt	Victoria Thomson
Tom Elliot	Margaret McCreedy	Eva Williamson
Edward Filina	Bernice McHenry	
Cleda Fletcher	John Miller	

We reach out in Christian Sympathy to...

...The family of Carol Thompson (daughter of the late Don & Claire Thompson, mother of Casey Thompson, and sister of Donna Fife).

Memorial Services were held on July 13, 2016.

...Betsy Meikle and her family on the passing of her sister on July 3, 2016 in Cincinnati.

...The family of former member, Viva Pearl Ray Gallaher who passed on June 24, 2016. Information regarding her Memorial Service at Harsh Memorial UMC is available in the church office.

## Devotion: Checking In

*Let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6*

*Challenge: The Next time you have the desire to check your phone, say a prayer instead.*

Now that almost everyone has some sort of smartphone, I am noticing an interesting habit that we have almost universally fallen into. Every time we have a spare moment, we have this seemingly unstoppable urge to check our phone to see if there's a new text, e-mail, or facebook post.

If only, we had the same urge when it came to our desire to check in with God through prayer, Bible study, or worship. Again and again in Scripture, we see how valuable it was for Jesus to check in with his father. The truth is that the Holy Spirit is constantly nudging us to get closer to God. We only need to stay linked in to the Spirit and make connecting with God a spiritual reflex.

*Dear Jesus, instill in me the innate desire to regularly do those things that keep me connected to the Father.*

*-Mark Zimmermann  
St. Louis, MO*

From Living with the Gospel - Lent 2016  
Used by Permission of Creative Communications for the Parish

## AFRICA UNIVERSITY CELEBRATION

Sing, Pray and Rejoice about how AU is helping to transform sub-Saharan Africa. There will be twenty churches hosting guest preachers and speakers on **September 11, 2016**, as well as four district rallies in the East Ohio District.

Africa University representative guest preacher **Rev. Dr. Israel Kamudzandu** will be here at the United Methodist Church of Berea on **September 11, 2016** speaking about how AU graduates are transforming their communities and the world.

**A POTLUCK LUNCHEON SPONSORED BY THE UMW  
WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE 11:15 SERVICE.  
ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME!**



for more information in the coming weeks.

## Church Staff

Pastor  
Reverend Dr. Nathan Howe  
NHowe@umcb.org

Director of Adult Ministries  
Deaconess Karen Caldwell  
kcaldwell@umcb.org

Director of Children's Ministries and Facilities Coordinator  
Vivien Swaddling  
vswaddling@umcb.org

Director of Finance  
Joanne Mansfield  
jmansfield@umcb.org

Youth Ministry Leader  
Sarah Dave  
sdave@umcb.org

arise! Worship Leader  
Jeremy Piper  
jpiper@umcb.org

Custodian  
Jim Cobler

Office Manager  
Beth Barner  
ebarner@umcb.org



Do you like to sing?  
Come join the Summer Choir!

We will be singing at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service on August 21.

We will rehearse on the preceding Thursday, August 18, at 7 p.m. in the air-conditioned Fellowship Hall.

For sign-up or questions, call Margaret Proctor at 440-243-9498.



### VOLUNTEERS ARE SHINING STARS

And we will be needing **Volunteers** to be **Greeters** for the coming fall worship service; starting Rally Day, September 11, 2016, and continuing through May 2017.

A clipboard will be placed in the Narthex for sign up. Sign up now and be the first in the Church to volunteer for this Radical Hospitality.

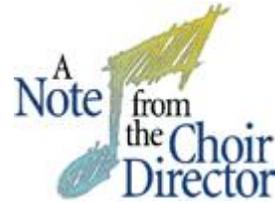
Contact: Dorene Larkey or Sandy Marek



### COSROW Corner for August 2016

Susanna Wesley was very dedicated to the education of her children. She began each child's education when he or she was five years old. Susanna also believed in education for girls. "No girl be taught to work until she can read very well; and then she that she be kept to her work with the same application, and for the same time, that she was held to reading....For the putting children to learn sewing before they can read perfectly is the very same reason why so few women can read to be heard, and never to be well understood."

submitted by Jo Swanson



Hello everyone.

Thank you so much to those of you that I have had the opportunity to meet for making me feel welcome. Merritt (my wife) and I are so happy to join the UMCB family and I am so eager to begin music ministry work here in August. If you have been thinking about joining the Chancel Choir or the Bell Choir, this fall is the perfect opportunity!

Both the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir will be rehearsing on **Thursday evenings** beginning this fall with dates and times to be announced in the bulletin very soon.

If you have any questions or would like to contact me, please feel free to email me at [cneely@umcb.org](mailto:cneely@umcb.org).

Christopher Neely  
Chancel and Bell Choir Director

### Ushers Needed for Sunday Services

We have a need for additional ushers at our 8:00 a.m. Chapel services. Please see the sign-up sheet located in the Chapel Narthex. Enter your name for the week(s) you're available.

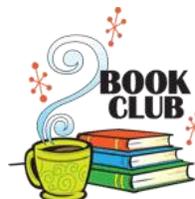
Ushering is very enjoyable role and a great way to meet our congregation!

Thanks.  
Brad Elles, 440-826-4140.

### Have you ever thought about joining a book group?

This is your opportunity. Read and Grow Book Group meets on the second Monday of each month. We begin on Monday, September 12 in the Church Parlor from 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.

Our book for September 12 is "The Dovekeepers" by Alice Hoffman. It is a tale inspired by the tragic first-century massacre of hundred of Jewish people at Masada presents the stories of a hated daughter, a baker's wife, a girl disguised as a warrior, and a medicine women who keeps doves and secrets while Roman soldiers draw near.



If you have questions, call Janet Mallarnee, [440 235-7331](tel:4402357331) or Nancy Crone, [440 243-3436](tel:4402433436).

We hope you will consider joining this book group.

The August Neighborhood Luncheon will held on Sunday, August 28th.

Sign -up information will be posted on the bulletin board across from Karen Caldwell's office by Sunday, August 7th. We welcome you to sign -up to donate any item and as always volunteers are always welcome to join us for this experience to go to the University Circle United Methodist Church in University Circle to help prepare a nutritious meal for our guest.

If you would like further information please call, Claire Powell - 234-7625. Thank you for your continued support of this gratifying mission project.



## THE SAYLER CHRISTMAS SHOP AT GUIDESTONE



Each year Jack and Marge Sayler have a Christmas shop, to provide gifts for the clients of Guidestone. This year, the shop is in **dire need** of baby items, diapers, onesies and baby "stuff".



From September to December 1, collection containers will be available in the Church. Donations and gifts of toys, clothing and other necessities, are needed to make sure the children and **babies** get at least one gift for Christmas.

The shop is located across from the high school on Eastland.

Let us honor Jack and Marge Sayler, for their many years of service to the Guidestone Christmas shop.

- Sandy Marek, Lay Leader



Habitat for Humanity International, based in Americus, Ga., is a Christian ministry dedicated to eliminating poverty housing. Habitat has built 200,000 houses and more than one million people now live in Habitat homes they helped build and are buying through no-profit, zero-interest mortgages. ([www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org))

### UMCB Volunteer Dates:

- Thursday, August 18
  - Thursday, September 15
  - Saturday, October 22
- Sign-up in the Narthex.

An Apostles Build is a partnership that allows twelve individual churches to join together to fully fund and build a home for a local family. As Jesus' original apostles were charged with spreading the word about Jesus, our twelve apostles are charged with assisting in Habitat's mission to provide decent shelter for God's children.

Habitat for Humanity has purchased 10 homes in the Buckeye Neighborhood. For more information and a map of the homes, see the display in the Narthex.



The next SCAN food collection will be August 7 (the first Sunday in August, as usual). Due to the Labor Day holiday, we have moved the September SCAN Sunday to the 11<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars!! With school beginning again, and the added cost of school supplies to face, many families must turn to food pantries for help in feeding their families. Especially needed are canned fruit, canned vegetables, individual fruit or pudding cups (for packing school lunches), cereal, paper products (e.g. toilet paper, Kleenex, paper towels, napkins), dish washing and laundry detergents. We have supported SCAN faithfully for many years and they count on our monthly donations. Please give generously to help those in need.

If you are unable to shop but would like to donate, there are two options. 1) We gladly deliver all cash donations or checks made out to SCAN Food Pantry when we deliver the food. We must receive them by the start of the last service on SCAN Sunday. 2) A check may be made out to the UMCB with SCAN entered on the memo line and the check given to Joanne Mansfield, the church finance director, at any time throughout the month.

**Crop Walk 2016 Update: \$657.76 was earned from the Crop Walk on April 30th. SCAN received 25% of those funds - \$164.44!**

## THE CALLER

To the Staff Parish Relations Committee, to the staff, leaders, and entire congregation of the United Methodist Church of Berea: thank you, thank you, thank you!

Your warmth, hospitality, and generosity to us in our first days with you have been overwhelming. Thank you for your greetings, for the meals you have provided, for your kind words and actions. Through your ministry, already we have experienced God's presence among you in powerful ways, and we look forward to the ministry and the journey that lies ahead of us.

May God's blessings and guidance be with us throughout our time together as we see to live into God's purposes.

--Pastor Nathan and Megan Howe

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the members of UMCB for all their prayers, support, and help the past few months. All the prayers, calls, and support meant more to me than you can ever possibly know.

Special thanks to Orley Aten, who made the phone call that there was a rental truck in my driveway and brought me Bob Evan's Chicken Soup to make everything better. To the Mallarnee Sisters - Janet, Mary and Martha who made a terribly hard move not only easier, but almost fun. We will have a party soon! To Wendy Jelinek who went above and beyond the call, giving extra hours to helping me move and made the trip between Strongsville and Lakewood almost as many times as I did. To Barb Rochford, who not only helped me wrap and pack and got me to and from the truck I rented, bought the crew lunch, but who also reached out to her son, Kevin. To Kevin Rochford, who actually believed that I could not only drive a 15' rental truck, but even back it into my driveway without hitting anything! To my fellow Stephen Ministers for all the extra prayers and phone calls. To everyone who offered hugs and a sympathetic ear, my best thoughts, thank you's and prayers go to each and every one of you.

While this has been an emotionally, physically and psychologically draining time, I know that I will come out of it stronger and better, all because of the loving care and support I received from everyone.

Thank you seems so inadequate, but you all mean the world to me.

Pax -  
Mary Hanes

### Christmas in July

Thank you to those participating in the Christmas in July campaign for supporting our Methodist Missions Apportionments/ Shared Giving.

An update on the total received will be in next month's Caller.

- Finance Committee



Thank you!

*Rita and I are busily settling into our new home in Huron. Currently the house is tastefully decorated in an "Early Box" motif. I think it gives the place a delightfully informal, lived-in look. Rita thinks we ought to empty the boxes and get rid of them. Go figure!*

*Anyway, we want to thank all of you: for allowing us to minister to you over the last eight, joy-filled years; for the wonderful celebration on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>; for all of the cards, gifts and well-wishes we have received and continue to receive from you; and for the generously extravagant Love Offering you gave us. We have been overwhelmed. In the weeks ahead we will personally acknowledge all of you whose names we have been given.*

*Thank you, all, for the privilege of ministering amongst you, and for the love you have shown us.*

*We are truly blessed.*

*Rita and Skip*

**The Caller**

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

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**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.

Do you have an event to share or an idea for a Caller article?  
We'd love to hear from you!



The 15th of the month is the submission deadline for the next month's Caller.

Please contact the UMCB office (440-234-3525 or ebarner@umcb.org) if you have any questions or would like to contribute.

One of our members has an electric lift chair (assists the user to a standing position) and would like to find it a home where it will be appreciated. If you or someone you know is in need, please contact the Church Office at 440-234-3525.

Help UMCB save paper and postage - Elect to receive your Caller by email. (You'll get it in color, too!)

Email Beth at ebarner@umcb.org or call the church office to add your email to the Caller distribution.

