



THE CALLER

OUR MISSION IS TO MAKE AND MATURE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD.

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

February 2017

United Methodist Shared Ministries

We give because God has given first. We give to minister in Jesus' name.

As United Methodists, we are blessed to be part of a worldwide connection, a global movement embodying God's love for creation. As part of this connection, each local congregation is expected to pay a certain amount to support our "shared ministries" that are making a real difference in the world for Christ. By combining our resources with the resources of United Methodists throughout our congregations, we are able to do far more than we otherwise could.

Together, we are caring for survivors from earthquakes and storms. We are investing, long-term, in vulnerable communities. We are implementing the most effective solutions to poverty-related diseases like malaria. We are equipping the next generation of leaders in the church and in society. By supporting our shared ministries, we are sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

In 2015, our congregation met 52% of our expected support of these shared ministries. For 2016, taking into consideration a number of changes happening in our life together, we budgeted to meet 20% of our expectation. By the end of 2016—thanks to God's grace working through your generosity—we met 95% of this expectation!

Together, we are making a difference far greater than we anticipated. Together, we are witnessing to the love of Jesus Christ for a hurting world and helping to transform lives and communities in Christ's name. Thank you for your participation in this world-transforming work!

Church Staff

Pastor

Reverend Dr. Nathan Howe
nhowe@umcb.org

Director of Adult Ministries

Deaconess Karen Caldwell
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Sarah Dave
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arise! Worship Leader

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Custodian

Jim Cobler

The United Methodist Church Special Sundays

God created each of us in God's image, and we all have potential to do great things. We celebrated that potential - and the opportunities to work together - on Human Relations Day. On January 15, 2017, \$325 was collected for UMCB's Human Relations Day special offering. Your Human Relations Day offering will strengthen outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico and encourage social justice and work with at-risk youth. Your gifts will help to build community across all races and peoples.

UMCOR Sunday
March 26, 2017

Native American Ministries
Sunday - April 30, 2017

For more than 75 years,
we have alleviated
suffering through UMCOR
and its predecessors.
Your gift today goes
toward another 75 years.

UMCOR
United Methodist Committee on Relief

umcsgiving.org/OGHS

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY
APRIL 30, 2017

Providing scholarships and funding to
Native congregations and students.

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®
www.umcsgiving.org/nams

Outreach and Service

UMCOR SAGER BROWN

MISSIONTRIP 2017

From February 26 to March 10, twelve volunteers from UMCB will travel to UMCOR Sager Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana. The team includes: Molly Arthur, Nancy Best, Jan & Paul Harlamert, Megan Howe, Roy Mallarnee, Barb Robinson, Ruth Ann & Russ Simon, Barbara Swartz, Lorraine Waid, and Vivien Swaddling.



They will be doing a variety of tasks including making sewing kits, birthing kits, health kits, and school kits. Some may do building repairs like painting, dry wall installation, or electrical work. Some may choose to work in the sewing room. Wherever there is a need, our team will help.

If you'd like to help, the UMCOR team is collecting donations for the health kits. Items needed are:

- * Hand towels - 15 x 25 inches to 17 x 27 inches (kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable)
- * Washcloths
- * Combs - study and longer than 6 inches (no pocket combs or picks, please)
- * Metal nail files or nail clippers (no emery boards please)
- * 3 oz. or larger Bath soaps (in original packaging, no Jergens or Ivory due to moisture content)
- * Adult size toothbrushes (in original packaging)
- * Adhesive bandages (3/4 inch to 1 inch size)
- * One-gallon size sealable plastic bags

Donations may be put into the box under the UMW bulletin board in the hallway by the Library. Please also keep our adult mission team in your thoughts and prayers while they serve others as Jesus taught us.

January's Loose Change Offering for UMCOR totaled \$155.00.



February's Loose Change Offering will be collected for SCAN.

SCAN collection is February 5 - The requests are again for canned fruit (other than peaches and mandarin oranges), and a variety of canned vegetables (other than green beans). Coffee, tea, paper products, soaps and detergents are also very welcome. Please make sure all donations are non-perishable, unopened, and still within the "sell by" date.

Thank you for your generosity.



Learn, Grow and Serve

by Becoming a

Stephen Minister



Do you have gifts for caring, encouragement and listening? If so, please prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister. We will be holding a class to train new Stephen Ministers beginning in February. We hope to have 5 or 6, training to provide emotional and spiritual support and care to people who are going through a difficult time, such as divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, illness, relocation, or loneliness. To find out more about becoming a Stephen Minister or how you or someone you know could receive the care of a Stephen Minister, speak with Pastor Nathan, one of the Stephen Leaders (Orley Aten, Deaconess Karen Caldwell, Condit Dibble, Barb Rochford) or call the church office.

December 29, 2017

Dear Berea Community Outreach Supporters,

Thank you so very much for making the 2016 such a huge success. We supplied over 85 children, 5 seniors, and 4 sets of parents with Christmas presents. We helped 142 families with food and other supplies for the holiday season. This would not have happened without **your** generous support through the year and at this holiday time.

Thank you is an understatement for all your support and kindness. What a wonderful city we live in. Helping our neighbors in need is what makes Berea such a great place to be so proud of.

Again, I want to personally thank you for all you do for those in need.

God bless you and thank you all so very much.

Sincerely,

Cyril Kleem
Mayor
City of Berea

Duane Jaynes
Coordinator

City of Berea Housing & Community Service



*UMCB Supports Berea Community Outreach through SCAN and the Giving Tree.

Outreach and Service

News from the North Coast District Cambodia Mission

Our team of sixteen representing sixteen congregations from our North Coast District arrived in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on Friday evening, January 20. On Saturday morning, we visited one of the killing fields and a genocide museum, memorializing the horrors experienced under the Pol Pot regime from 1975 to 1979. In those years, one-third of the Cambodian population was terminated in an effort to create a "pure society" in opposition to the hardships that had been experienced under Western occupation and intervention by France and the United States. These visits provided hard but necessary reminders of how often such genocides happen all over the world. We can be very cruel toward one another, yet God's light continues to shine, providing a way forward for new life to grow.



In the evening on Saturday and again on Sunday morning, we witnessed some of that new life, worshipping with college students and others at a Methodist Church which is part of a Methodist School in Phnom Penh. Some of the college students are receiving scholarships from United Methodists through our shared ministry giving. The worship services were inspiring, especially to be singing together familiar songs in two different languages yet united by the same faith. We prayed together the Lord's Prayer, affirmed our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed, and sang together the Doxology. Christ's body is beautifully diverse and widespread, yet we are one in God's love and each called into the ministry of that love.

We thank you for your prayers and know that we are praying for you in our time away from you. May God's presence and grace embrace the whole world.

Peace,
Pastor Nathan, Megan Buehler, and Rick Wolcott



Mam Christian Women for Development

Mam Christian Women for Development provides tools for Guatemalan women to overcome poverty and also reinforces the spirituality that helps the women face their challenges. The women in the Association are Mams, one of Guatemala's 23 indigenous groups whose language is recognized by the Guatemalan government.

The Association assists women in developing through:

- * New skills – through schools (a Saturday school for those who work during the week and two sewing schools) and scholarships.
- * Income earning power – through micro-loans to start businesses such a raising a calf. To maximize the women's profits, Heifer International offers workshops on livestock practices.
- * Healthy bodies – through avoiding community vulnerability, growing family gardens, cooking safely and fuel-efficiently, filtering water, and using sturdy, secure latrines
- * Spirituality – through spiritual ties are created by prayer partnerships which the Association forms between Guatemalans and Americans. During the recent trip, it was the children who created spiritual ties. Sunday schoolers at rural church drew pictures for children in North Carolina. The North Carolina children then drew pictures for the Guatemalans, to be delivered during the next trip to Guatemala.

As noted above, the cost of the sanitation and cooking facilities is shared between the individual women and the Association. Funds from American churches and concerned individuals help finance the Association's share. Supporters also contribute toward the purchasing sewing machines, providing scholarships, and funding new micro-loan groups. 2016 Donations made through UMCB by members and friends totaled enough for four latrines, 14 stoves, one water filtration system, four sewing machines, and the salary for one sewing teacher.

If you are interested in helping, you may contribute to The United Methodist Church of Berea with "Guatemala" on the memo line. Any amount is welcome. Thank you to Cindie Moore for sharing this information about MAM Christian Women for Development.

Worship & Fellowship

February 5, 2017 5 th Sunday after Epiphany	February 12, 2017 6 th Sunday after Epiphany Boy Scout Sunday	February 19, 2017 7 th Sunday after Epiphany	February 26, 2017 8 th Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 58.1-9a (9b-12) Psalm 112.1-10 (UMH 833) 1 Corinthians 2.1-12 (13-16) Matthew 5.13-20	Deuteronomy 30.15-20 Psalm 119.1-8 (UMH 840) 1 Corinthians 3.1-9 Matthew 5.21-37	Leviticus 19.1-2, 9-18 Psalm 119.33-40 (UMH 840) 1 Corinthians 3.10-11, 16-23 Matthew 5.38-48	Exodus 24.12-18 Psalm 99 (UMH 819) 2 Peter 1.16-21 Matthew 17.1-9

	February 5, 2017	February 12, 2017	February 19, 2017	February 26, 2017
8 a.m. Liturgist	Helen Rathburn	Fred Moss	Condit Dibble	Joanne Mansfield
8 a.m. Communion	Condit Dibble			
arise! Communion	Gail Dixon			
arise! Communion	Chuck Dixon			
11:15 a.m. Greeter	Megan Howe	Linda Tucker	Orley Aten	Sandy Marek
11:15 a.m. Greeter	Tom Marek	Elenore Long	Julie Aten	Eleanor Lansell
11:15 a.m. Liturgist	Linda Tucker	David Weaver	Sharon Williams	Sandra Baggaley
11:15 a.m. Communion	Linda Tucker			
11:15 a.m. Communion	Sandy Marek	Contact the Church Office at 440-234-3525 x100 or info@umcb.org if you are interested in serving as a Greeter, Liturgist, or Communion Server.		
11:15 a.m. Communion	Barb Peterson			
11:15 a.m. Communion	Orley Aten?			
Communion Preparation	Vic & Terry Macha			



Listening Groups – February 15 and 22 at 7 p.m.

As part of our ongoing work through the Healthy Church Initiative, Pastor Nathan would like to hear from you. On Wednesdays, February 15 and 22, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., please prayerfully consider joining Pastor Nathan at the parsonage (470 Waterbury Circle, Berea) for a casual conversation to be guided by three questions regarding our life together:

1. What has been most important to me about The United Methodist Church of Berea?
2. What do I worry about the most when I think of the future of The United Methodist Church of Berea?
3. What is one dream I have for The United Methodist Church of Berea? What is God calling us to do and to be now?

This will be a great way for Pastor Nathan to learn more about your history with and dreams for the future of our congregation. Please sign up on one of the sheets that will be available at the back of each worship space beginning Sunday, February 5. Thank you!

Worship & Fellowship



United Methodist Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

On March 25, 2017 The United Church of Berea will be hosting the spring meeting of the North Coast District United Methodist Women. The women of Berea UMW will be hosting all the officers and units of the North Coast District churches. The meeting times are 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Officer training will follow the meeting.

Our own Pastor Nathan Howe will be presenting a program on Climate Change.

Any questions about attending the meeting or program contact Sandy Marek at 440-234-6858.

All UMW Members Welcome!

Join us for a brunch program **Saturday, February 11, 2017, 10:30 a.m.**, at The United Methodist Church of Berea. Dee and Dennis Rundle of Singing Hands will be performing for us at this time.

Husband and wife Dee and Dennis perform **uplifting, positive, and fun** songs to pre-recorded music, using sign language. You do not need to know sign language to be able to hear the words and music to their favorite songs. At the same time, you are able to enjoy the beauty and creativity of sign language.

Cost is \$4.00 and reservations required by February 5.

To make reservations, sign up on the UMW bulletin board or call: Betsy Meikle 440-234-5767 or Sandy Marek 440-234-6858.

Sponsored by the UMW



Dinner for Eight

"Dinner for Eight", a conversational dinner group sponsored by UMCB, is forming for the current year. We are looking for new people to join.

The expectation is to prepare one dinner a year for 6 people and attend 3 other dinners. You can prepare and serve your meal at the church, in one of the Metroparks, or in your own home.

Please contact Molly Force at 1-440-888-8417 if you would like more information.



These 2017 UMW books are shelved and ready to be checked out of the library:

"Love Casts Out Fear"
(Education for Mission)

"Extraordinary Grace"
(Spiritual Growth)

"Sally Ride"
(Leadership Development),

"Americanah"
(Social Action)

"I'll Be Right There"
(Nurturing for Community)

Several other books have been checked out for a few months (good news!), but please remember to return them as soon as you have finished reading them.

Betsy Meikle

Worship & Fellowship

Church Family Prayer Concerns

Bruce Akins	Carol Heskett
Florence Baker	Carol Isgro
Cass Beckman	Marilyn Jelinek
Esther Berger	John Kappeler
Fran Bobo	Clint Lunt
Lenora Cool	Margaret McCready
Diane Corey	Bernice McHenry
Linda Donahue	Betty Miller
Tom Elliot	John Miller
Edward Filina	Edith Nealy
Cleda Fletcher	Kenneth O'Hearn
Carol Forster	Esther O'Hearn
Laurie Garvin	Lou Russell
Bob Graham	Ron Skelley
Helen Graham	Jeanette Sheneman
Karen Grant	Victoria Thomson
Betty Green	Kathleen Wargelin
Pat Harf	Eva Williamson
Melissa Hennie	

Currently Serving in the Military

John Cline Carros
 Chad Droney
 Nikki (Myers) Droney
 Eric Elles (*Son of Brad*)
 Jamie Elles (*Daughter-in-law of Brad*)
 Bill Lambert (*Son-in-law of Corky Cline*)
 Matthew Metzger
 Zachary New (*Grandson of Bob & Jackie King*)



We reach out in Christian

Love and Sympathy to...

...to the Harlamert family on the passing of Paul's sister, Ann Phelps, on January 20, 2017.
 ...to Bob & Jackie King on the recent passing of their grand daughter, Danielle New.
 ...The Nealy family on the passing of Edith Nealy on January 17, 2017. Services will be held at a later date.

A full list of the Prayer Concerns is available each week on the Narthex Table.

To receive Prayer Concerns by email, please email Beth in the church office at ebarner@umcb.org.

Coffee with the Pastor—February 12

Are you interested in exploring ways to get connected and involved at The UMC of Berea? Would you like to know more about what it means to be a member of our congregation?

If you have been worshiping with us at The UMC of Berea and are ready to learn more about us and opportunities to be in ministry with us, please join Pastor Nathan for an informal time of conversation and sharing on Sunday, February 12 at 12:30 p.m. in the Gathering Place. We would love to be your church family!

"Coffee with the Pastor" is meant to be a first step in discovering the basic beliefs, mission, and vision of our community of faith. Please join us February 12, and please RSVP to nhowe@umcb.org by February 9 if you plan to participate.



Coffee With the Pastor



COSROW Corner for February 2017

New Year Wishes - LaVerna P. Lawson

May you walk in sunshine at the dawn of each new day,
 And as evening shadows fall may the bright star light your way.
 May your blessings be so many that you can truly say...
 My cup runneth over, I thank Thee, Lord, each day.

submitted by Jo Swanson

Christian Education



Work

UMCB Youth

Mission

February 19

Meeting

5:00 p.m.

North Olmsted

Meet at 4:20 pm at Spring Street entrance to carpool.

February 11

7:00 p.m.

Youth Room

(Rooms 31-32)

Saturday Night LIVE!



February 20, 2017 ~ Trip to Make Believe in Parma

2 floor laser tag, high ropes course, indoor bumper cars, arcade, mini-bowling, and more!

Cost: \$25 -includes lunch

Friends always welcome!!

Permission slips due
February 12



Meet at Spring Street entrance at 11:00 a.m.

See the "UMCB Youth" page of www.umcb.org for permission slips and other upcoming events.

In the Gathering Place Art Gallery Starting February 26

Nancy Notarianni is a watercolorist, graphic designer, and watercolor painting instructor from Middleburg Heights. She has a BFA in advertising and design. She is also a Signature Member of the Ohio Watercolor Society. Nancy has enjoyed teaching watercolor for over ten years and recently opened her own studio/gallery- Nanogallery- at 505 Front Street in Berea for her watercolorclasses.

"I love watercolor because of the transparent quality and the unpredictability of the combination of water and paint. Painting can be very relaxing. In my classes, we paint to music."

Check out her website: nanogallerystudio.com

Christian Education

Walk the Labyrinth on Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent - forty days of preparing for Easter - begins on Ash Wednesday, this year on March 1. Before and after worship that evening, a labyrinth will be available for those who would like to use it for a time of centering.



Walking the labyrinth is a way of praying with our bodies, minds, and spirits, opening our whole selves to God. For those who have not used a labyrinth previously, some resources for guided prayer will be provided.

Short Term Study - New book starts on March 19

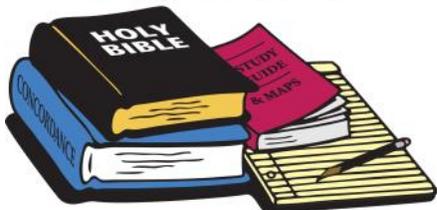
Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in Room 12

Fear of the Other by William H. Willimon Professor at Duke University in Durham, N.C., retired Bishop of the North Alabama Conference, and former Dean of the Chapel at Duke University. Willimon's guide to us is that we as readers consider the gospel command to love those considered to be the so-called outsiders, strangers, immigrants, and those outside the mainstream of Christianity.

Endorsements of this book by Pastor Adam Hamilton Senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, Leawood, Kansas:

"I love Wil Willimon, and I love this book. Will writes with prophetic sarcasm, touch of humor, and plenty of self-effacement, and a pastor's heart. And his words will make you laugh, cringe, cry, confess, and repent. This is a very timely book."

Be Nourished



Lenten Study on Forgiveness

Forgiving others and humbly asking for forgiveness are central practices for all followers in the way of Jesus Christ. Lent is a great time to deepen our understanding and practice of forgiveness. This year, guided by the work of Marjorie Thompson in her book, *Forgiveness: A Lenten Study*, over the course of six weeks we will address questions such as:

Is forgiveness a Christian duty under all circumstances, or are there situations when Christians need not forgive?

Is forgiveness a matter between individuals, or is it meaningful only in the context of communities?

Is forgiving the best route to healing for the injured?

How do we get past emotional barriers to real forgiveness?

Using biblical examples and real-life situations, Thompson's work illustrates each week's theme in an informative and engaging way. With clarity, insight, and sensitivity, this will be a great resource for examining both our ability to forgive and our own need for forgiveness. Please join us for this six week study.

Wednesday Evening Group

Beginning March 8 at 6:30 pm in the Parlor

Thursday Morning Group

Beginning March 9 at 9:30 am in the Parlor



Homebuilders
Christian Fellowship

Homebuilders meet in the Parlor Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

You are welcome to join us for any or all topics.

February 5, 2017

"Our Local UMW" - Bobbie DiNicola & Marilyn Smith

February 12, 2017

"Hospice" - Barbara Rochford & Nancy Buehler

February 19, 2017

"The ministry of Church Street Station" - Kaitlin Darick

February 26, 2017

"Our Youth Work Mission" - Clayton Allen

In March, we will start hearing about a statewide program called "Bridge out of Poverty". Dr. Hugh Burtner will be with us for three weeks.

Christian Education

Read & Grow Book Group

Read and Grow Book Group meets the 2nd Monday of each month 6:45 to 8:00 p.m. in the church parlor.

You are always welcome to attend.

February 13 - "I am Malala: how one girl stood up for education and changed the world."

by Malala Yousafzai with Patricia McCormick

Malala was 10 when the Taliban took control of her region. They said music was a crime; women weren't allowed to go to the market; and girls couldn't go to school. Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes and fought for her right to be educated. In 2012, she nearly lost her life for the cause.

March 13 - "Still Alice" by Lisa Genova

For information: Call Janet Mallernee (440)235-7331 or Jan Harlamert (440)243-7126.



Friday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m.

We will show the movie *He Named Me Malala* (2015).

Malala Yousafzai plays herself in the movie. The story of a remarkable recovery and a journey that brought her to the halls of the United Nations at age 16. She has become a global symbol of peaceful protests and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Snack available.

Friday, March 23 is our viewing of *The Risen Christ*.

2017 Baldwin Wallace Faith & Life Lecture Series "The Foolishness of Christianity"

Guest Speaker, Daniel P. Horan, OFM, is a Franciscan friar of the Holy Name Province (NY), a visiting assistant professor of systematic theology at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, and is a columnist for *America Magazine*.

Wednesday 15, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

"*The Christian Virtue of Foolishness: A Look at Two Men Named Francis*"

Lindsay-Crossman Chapel, 56 Seminary St.

Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

"*Becoming Fools, Living Foolishly: Wisdom from the Life and Writings of Thomas Merton*"

Lindsay-Crossman Chapel, 56 Seminary St.

Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

A Panel Discussion, "*What Does it Mean to be a Fool today?*"

Strosacker Hall, Sandstone 3, 120 E. Grand St.



If you are interested in attending, please contact Karen Caldwell at 440-234-3525, ext. 105 or kcaldwell@umcb.org. She will be registering a group of attendees from UMCB.

For more information, visit www.bw.edu/faithandlife.

The Caller

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

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

Our Mission

Our mission is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



Our Vision Statement

The United Methodist Church of Berea is a loving, accepting church for all people that celebrates Christ's love through education, worship, and community and global outreach.