



For weekly updates on events and activities, please subscribe to our weekly e-mail newsletter at [www.umcb.org](http://www.umcb.org).



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## HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

United Methodists help bridge the gap between church and community by participating in the Human Relations Day offering. The Human Relations Day offering supports:

- ❖ Neighborhood ministries through Community Developers
- ❖ Community advocacy in the United States and Puerto Rico through United Methodist Voluntary Services
- ❖ Work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

Please consider giving generously on Human Relations Day because...

**Together, We Do More!**

*(source: [www.umcsgiving.org](http://www.umcsgiving.org))*



## 2019 CAMBODIA MISSION TRIP

JANUARY 11 - 25

Six members of our congregation will join with sisters and brothers from Westlake UMC to continue building relationships with our neighbors in Cambodia for two weeks in January 2019. While there, we will work with United Methodist mission staff; tour the killing fields and Angkor Wat to have a better sense of Cambodian history; partner with local districts to provide encouragement, leadership training, and co-learning; engage in ministry with children and their parents; and build stronger relationships with United Methodists on the other side of the globe.

Please pray for Anita Evans, Megan Howe, Nathan Howe, Greg Rentsch, Olivia Rentsch, Kevin Scaife, the rest of the team, and those in Cambodia whom they will be meeting.





## FREE WEDDING DAY

FEBRUARY 16, ALL DAY, WORSHIP SPACES

## & SWEETHEART DANCE

6 PM, WESLEY HALL

We will be hosting a FREE wedding ceremony day on February 16. Pastor Nathan and Pastor Carrie will officiate weddings throughout the day, at no cost. Couples simply need to call the church, reserve a time, meet with pastors once beforehand. They are welcome to invite their friends and family to celebrate their marriage. Our church will provide the ceremony, simple music, gracious hospitality, and even witnesses, flower girls, and ring bearers if needed.

Everyone is invited to celebrate the big day at the Community Sweetheart Dance at 6 PM, where couples will be announced. Come celebrate covenant and love with us!

If you'd like to be a part of the planning and wedding hospitality team, please contact Pastor Carrie at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



## DONATION NEEDS QUICK REFERENCE

We hope you find this list of items being collected in January.  
helpful when you do your shopping.

- ◆ Chili ingredients (Getting Ahead)
- ◆ Corn muffins or corn muffin mix (Getting Ahead)
- ◆ Paper products (Getting Ahead)
- ◆ canned fruit - especially those other than peaches and mandarin oranges (SCAN)
- ◆ canned vegetables - especially those other than green beans (SCAN)
- ◆ Soaps (SCAN)
- ◆ Detergents (SCAN)
- ◆ Softeners (SCAN)
- ◆ Hand cleaner such as Purell (SCAN)
- ◆ Toilet paper (SCAN)
- ◆ Paper towels (SCAN)
- ◆ Napkins (SCAN)
- ◆ Kleenex (SCAN)
- ◆ **Friend to bring to Messy Church with you!**

## GETTING AHEAD PROGRAM

### PREPARING FOR JANUARY 15 DINNER

Getting Ahead is a Bridges Out of Poverty Program and our new mission partnership with St. Matthew's. This 16-week exploration that partners under-resourced individuals with a facilitator and equips them to improve their lives through employment, vocational skills, community services and relationships. We will provide dinner and children's programming once a month.

Our new mission partnership needs your help! We are looking for folks to help cook dinner ahead of time for January 15.

**Needed:** 6 batches of chili, 6 dozen corn muffins, and paper products. Recipes and shopping lists will be shared with all who inquire!

To learn more about the mission or if you'd like to use your culinary gifts for this mission, contact Pastor Carrie at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.

## SCAN FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

(1ST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH)

SCAN would appreciate donations of canned fruit and vegetables. Please make sure all donations are non-perishable, unopened, and still within the "sell by" date.

Donations may be brought to the SCAN cupboard between the Sanctuary and Library.

Thank you for your generosity.



## LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING

In the December Loose Change offering, \$183 was collected for the Cambodia Mission Partnership and will support scholarships for Cambodian students through our United Methodist Advance.



*Fun Fact: December 's Loose Change offering was made up of 1820 coins, 10 currency bills, and 3 checks.*

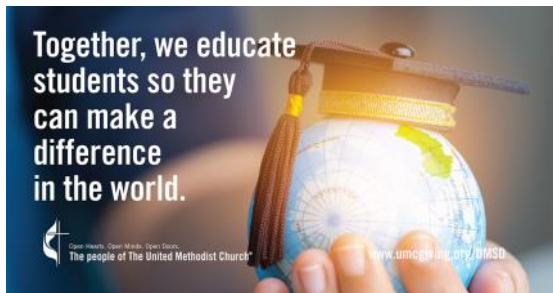
The Loose Change offering in January will be collected for UMCOR Sager-Brown.

*Under its original name, The Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief (MCOR) was founded in 1940 by the Bishop Herbert Welch, in response to displaced and vulnerable populations in the wake of World War II. In his address at the General Conference that year, Bishop Welch stated that MCOR would serve as a "voice of conscience among Methodists to act in the relief of human suffering without distinction of race, color, or creed." That mandate remains true to this day.*

*UMCOR's Vision: As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, UMCOR strengthens and transforms people and communities.*

*UMCOR's Mission: Compelled by Christ to be a voice of conscience on behalf of the people called Methodist, UMCOR works globally to alleviate human suffering and advance hope and healing.*

Thank you to all who gave generously for United Methodist Student Day on Sunday, November 25. A total of \$554 was given. Our offering will be combined with those collected from other United Methodists to help youth from the next generation become the leaders, pastors, teachers, engineers, doctors, and lawyers of tomorrow.



Thank you to the volunteers who prepare the paper copies of the Caller for mailing each month. The 2018 volunteers were Janice Arnold (known for her patented two-finger stickering technique), Craig Barner, Jim Cobler, Bella DeCaprio, Marissa DeCaprio, John Kappeler, Vic & Terry Macha, Von & Marilyn Smith, Allan & Jo Swanson, Doug Thomson, and Ginny Thompson.

Would you like to join us in 2019? Watch the calendar for our next Caller Assembly date (usually the 4th Wednesday of the month at 9 AM). You are welcome to come one time or every month.

Questions? Contact beth in the church office at [info@umcb.org](mailto:info@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x100.

## NAMING OUR COMMITMENTS FOR 2019

Thank you to all of those who named their commitments to grow as disciples and participate in the life of our congregation in 2019.

As of December 15, 2018, 119 individuals or families named commitments for 2019; this is an increase from 109 individuals or families who named commitments for 2018. Financial commitments for 2019 total \$262,199; this is an increase from \$256,310 for 2018. Additionally, 30 individuals or families named commitments for 2019 who did not do so for 2018, and 36 individuals or families increased their financial commitment from 2018 to 2019. Thanks be to God for every sign of growth and increased commitment to God's work among us and through us!

Every commitment—to participating in our life together and to supporting our ministries financially—is a gift and an investment in changing lives, as together, we continue to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Thank you!





CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER CONCERNS



Serving in the Armed Forces

Bruce Akins  
 Betty Atherton  
 Heidi Blue  
 Fran Bobo  
 Jean Brenneison  
 Jo Boggs  
 Donna Dial  
 Clede Fletcher  
 Laurie Garvin  
 Pat Harf  
 Helen Hignett  
 John Kappeler  
 Betty Kavendar  
 Janice Kavendar  
 Joyce McGee  
 Marcie Metz

Betty Miller  
 Tom Moore  
 Donna O'Brien  
 Esther O'Hearn  
 Barb Rochford  
 Lou Russell  
 Barbara Scoon  
 Jeanette Sheneman  
 Natalie Teare  
 Carol Thompson  
 Victoria Thomson  
 Kathleen Wargelin  
 Tom Wargelin  
 Margie Weisbarth  
 Kenneth Williams  
 Eva Williamson

Chad Droney  
 Nikki (Myers) Droney  
 J.D. Ferut (*Grandson of Gerry & Jo Boggs*)  
 Ryan Hopkins  
 Bill Lambert (*Son-in-law of Corky Cline*)  
 Ben Lebrun  
 Matthew Metzger  
 Zachary New (*Grandson of Bob & Jackie King*)  
 Jeff Patrick



We reach out in Christian sympathy and love...

...to the Moss Family on the passing of Fred's mother, Clifton Rebecca Moss on December 6, 2018.

*A full list of the Prayer Concerns is available on the Sanctuary Narthex Table.*

*To receive Prayer Concerns by email, please email Beth in the church office at [info@umcb.org](mailto:info@umcb.org).*

*If you know of someone needing care or a visit, please contact the church office ([info@umcb.org](mailto:info@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x100) or Pastor Nathan ([nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x101).*

JANUARY 2019 REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY

January 6, 2019 Epiphany of the Lord	January 13, 2019 First Sunday after the Epiphany The Baptism of the Lord	January 20, 2019 Second Sunday after the Epiphany	January 27, 2019 Third Sunday after the Epiphany
<i>Migrant Sunday</i>		<i>Human Relations Sunday Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday</i>	<i>Ecumenical Sunday</i>
Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (UMH 795) Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12	Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 (UMH 761) Acts 8:14-17 <b>Luke 3:15-17, 21-22</b>	Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 (UMH 771) 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 <b>John 2:1-11</b>	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 (UMH 750) <b>1 Corinthians 12:12-31a</b> Luke 4:14-21

The Lessons in **bold** are the Whirl Lessons for Sunday Children's Formation Classes.

CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING



BEREA'S 29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
CELEBRATION

JANUARY 20 - 26

The 2019 community-wide celebration of the ministry and witness of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. begins with our worship services on Sunday, January 20. During the 8 AM worship service, our preacher will be the Rev. Linda McCowen. During the 9 AM and 11:15 AM worship services, our preacher will be Dr. Emmanuel K. Twesigye, Professor of Christian Studies at Ohio Wesleyan University. Dr. Twesigye will also be teaching an adult and youth Sunday School class at 10 AM. Please join us in welcoming him and our Baldwin Wallace guests.

For a full list of events during the weeklong celebration, please visit [www.bw.edu/events/mlk-week/2019](http://www.bw.edu/events/mlk-week/2019).

CATCH: A CHURCHWIDE PROGRAM  
FOR INVITATIONAL EVANGELISM

SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 3 - 24, 10 AM

Our congregation's goals for 2019 include:  
increasing engagement with our local community;  
developing and implementing a comprehensive plan for hospitality and welcoming ministries;  
and  
creating a process to help all people connect with the life of The UMC of Berea and the discipleship pathway.

To help us live into this important work this year, please prayerfully consider participating in a church-wide study called, "Catch." Pastor Nathan and Pastor Carrie will facilitate our learning, and we will meet on Sunday mornings at 10 AM beginning February 3.

For more information, please contact Pastor Nathan at [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x101 or Pastor Carrie at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



6 PM, WESLEY HALL

We will be hosting a FREE wedding ceremony day on February 16. Everyone is invited to celebrate the big day at the Community Sweetheart Dance at 6 PM, where couples will be announced. Come celebrate covenant and love with us!

For more information about the free wedding ceremonies, please see **Page 2**.

If you'd like to be a part of the planning and wedding hospitality team, please contact Pastor Carrie at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.

READ & GROW BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, 6:30-7:45 PM, PARLOR

New Year - New Beginnings - YOU are always welcome!

For **January 14**, read **Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved** by Kate Bowler.

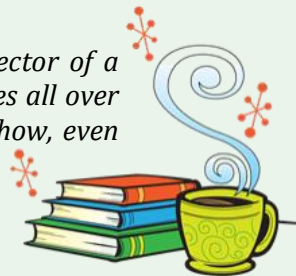
*The Kate Bowler you will come to know in the book is 100 percent real: honest, brave, holy, ridiculous, profane, hilarious, human - her fierce and beautiful words will make you ugly-cry and laugh out loud inappropriately in public places, and they will make you long for the courage to tell the truth about your life.*

For **February 11**, read **Before We Were Yours** by Lisa Wingate.

(Please note this is a change of book.)

*Based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals—in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country—Lisa Wingate's riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong.*

For more information or to answer any questions you may have, call Janet Mallarnee 440 235-7331, Betsy Meikle 440 243-5767 or Jan Harlamert 440 243-7126.



LOVE TO STAY - MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CLASS

FEBRUARY 24- APRIL 7, 4-6 PM, LOCATION TBD

"Falling in love is easy, but staying in love takes courage, hard work, and lots of grace. In his compelling, controversial style, Adam Hamilton explore the ups, downs, and how-to's of marriage and how, with God's help, we can make love last."



Couples (married or soon-to-be) are invited to join us on Sundays from 4-6 PM (during youth group) for a time of marriage enrichment using the study "Love to Stay: Sex, Grace, and Commitment." Couples married on February 16 will be encouraged to participate as well as couples who have been married many years and all those in between. Childcare is available upon request. You need not be a member of The UMC of Berea to participate, so please invite friends who may be interested.

If you have questions or to register for this group, please contact Pastor Carrie at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



SAVE THE DATE:  
STEPHEN MINISTRY INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, MARCH 2  
9 AM – 1 PM, WESLEY HALL

Our Stephen Ministry will host an Introductory Workshop on Saturday, March 2 from 9 AM to 1 PM in Wesley Hall. This half-day workshop is designed to help congregations catch a vision for strengthening their caring ministry by equipping laypeople as caregivers. During this event, participants also will develop basic caregiving skills they can use right away. This will a great opportunity for anyone from The UMC of Berea interested in learning more about our ongoing Stephen Ministry or wanting to get more involved.

For more information, please contact Orley Aten at [bigoaaten@aol.com](mailto:bigoaaten@aol.com) or 440-238-5136.







**YOUTH GROUP**

**OPEN TO 7TH-12TH GRADERS**

**SUNDAYS, 5-6:30 PM, RM 31-32**

(UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

**January 6**

Gather: Fun & Faith

**January 13, 11 AM**

Youth Leaders ( For Grades 9-12)  
"A Way Forward" Youth Listening Session training

**January 13**

Grow: Social Principles - What are they?

**January 18, 1-3 PM - No School**

Open Gym & Games in Wesley Hall 1-3 pm

**January 20**

Messy Church & Mentoring

**January 27**

Go: Youth Work Mission, UMCB

**February 2-3 (Sat-Sun), 7 pm**

Lock-In - Gather: Fun & Faith

For more information about these events, contact Pastor Carrie at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.

**2019 DISCIPLINES DEVOTIONALS NOW AVAILABLE**

Are daily devotions a part of your 2019 goals? We pray that as you look into the new year, you look with expectancy for God's grace, confident that God is ready to help you grow spiritually. To equip you for your daily Bible study and reflection, we are offering **2019 Disciplines** by *The Upper Room* at a reduced cost of \$5. Copies will be available in the Gathering Place the month of January. Devotions, written by diverse authors, are inspired by the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday, allowing you time and space to reflect on the week's passages before Sunday's worship service.

May God bless you as you seek to grow in grace and love this year!

For more information, contact Pastor Carrie at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.

**COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN**

This is a year of celebration! In 1919, Ohio was the 19<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the amendment granting women the "right" to vote. By August 1920, 36 states (including Ohio) approved the proposal and it became law 52 years after it had been introduced in 1878 by Susan B. Anthony! This is a time to be joyful for both men and women.

Submitted by Jo Swanson

TEACHING & LEARNING TOGETHER

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



**POTLUCK & PROGRAM**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 13**

**AFTER THE 11:15 AM SERVICE, FELLOWSHIP HALL**

You are invited to join us for a potluck and special program on Sunday, January 13 following the 11:15 AM service! The UMW is sponsoring the program. Ham will be provided. You are asked to bring a dish to share.

Everyone is invited to this potluck - not just members of UMW - so we hope to see you there!



**The Caller**

The United Methodist Church of Berea  
170 Seminary Street  
Berea, OH 44017  
[www.umcb.org](http://www.umcb.org)

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**Our Mission**

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

We live into our mission by:

