



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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### LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR: A 3-WEEK SERMON SERIES

SUNDAYS, JULY 14 - 28

When Jesus was asked to summarize everything into one commandment, he told us to love God with everything we have and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. What would happen if every follower of Jesus took this Great Commandment both seriously and literally? What are small changes we might make to our regular routines to build authentic and intentional relationships with the folks right outside our doors?

Join us in worship on Sundays, July 14, 21, and 28 as we explore the importance of Jesus' commandment to love our neighbors and how we can overcome some of the common barriers that keep us from doing so fully.



CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING



### ICE CREAM SOCIAL

SUNDAY, JULY 7  
7 PM, FELLOWSHIP HALL

Enjoy ice cream and friendship on July 7 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate God's love and work in our youth! We'll hear all about the Youth's mission trip to Colorado Springs! The whole community is invited in appreciation for your support throughout the year!

### JULY 2019 REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY

Sunday, July 7, 2019 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Sunday, July 14, 2019 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Sunday, July 21, 2019 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	Sunday, July 28, 2019 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
2 Kings 5:1-14 Psalm 30 (UMH 762) Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	Amos 7:7-17 Psalm 82 (UMH 804) Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37	Amos 8:1-12 Psalm 52 or Psalm 82 (UMH 804) Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42	Hosea 1:2-10 Psalm 85 (UMH 806) Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19) Luke 11:1-13

**Please Note: Holy Communion will be shared in worship on Sunday, July 14 rather than the more typical first Sunday of the month.**



# THE CALLER

## CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER CONCERNS

CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Janice Arnold   | Rev. Cal Myers    |
| Bruce Akins     | Donna O'Brien     |
| Betty Atherton  | Esther O'Hearn    |
| Heidi Blue      | Barb Rochford     |
| Jean Brenneison | Lou Russell       |
| Donna Dial      | Nancy Schillace   |
| Erin Eilbeck    | Barbara Scoon     |
| Cleda Fletcher  | Carol Thompson    |
| Laurie Garvin   | Victoria Thomson  |
| Pat Harf        | Dave Thurau       |
| Janice Kavander | Kathleen Wargelin |
| Joyce McGee     | Kenneth Williams  |
| Marcie Metz     | Eva Williamson    |
| Betty Miller    |                   |



### SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

- 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

### FOR A SAFE JOURNEY

Ron Isgro & Bill Myers as they bicycle 4,200 miles from Washington to Bar Harbor, Maine. Their cross-country journey is in celebration of the life of Ron's beloved wife, Carol, and will benefit Hospice Services of Southwest General. Follow their journey across the Northern Tier:

<https://www.facebook.com/RonsRideforHospice/>

*A full list of Prayer Concerns is available on the tables at the back of each worship space.*

*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).*



### ELEANOR: A SPIRITUAL BIOGRAPHY

BY HAROLD IVAN

In the category of "leadership development", **Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography** Smith focuses on Eleanor Roosevelt's many contributions in advancing social justice issues.

Orphaned by age 10, Eleanor describes her childhood as miserable. She was raised by a very strict Episcopalian grandmother who wouldn't permit her to attend either of her parents' funerals nor to associate with other children in her peer group. When she was a teenager, she was sent to a liberal private academy in France where she developed empathy for poor and marginalized people.

Later, as the first lady of our country during the depression, she traveled to Appalachia and many other poverty-stricken areas and began to advocate for the civil works programs in the "New Deal." She was also influential in the League of Women Voters and in women's trade unions where she supported the ideas of elimination of child labor, establishing a minimum wage, and care for mothers and babies. The author describes her as "the 20th century's most influential woman."

UMW



## THE CALLER

### LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING

The Loose Change Offering in June totaled \$130.50 and was collected for The United Methodist Church of Berea and Church in the Circle Neighborhood Luncheon.

The Loose Change Offering on July 14, 2019 will be collected for Heifer International.

*Heifer International works with communities to increase income, improve nutrition, care for the Earth, and world hunger and poverty.*

Visit [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) to learn more.

Some time before John's passing he asked for paper and pen so he could write to thank everyone for the caring and concern they had expressed in many ways to him. He was never able to write that thank you.

I want to thank you for John and add my thanks as well. Whenever I was asked how John was doing, I was also asked how I was doing and received offers to help anyway needed. Thank you. Thank you for every sympathy card and all expressions of caring. They are all appreciated.

Carol Kappeler and David

### PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

On June 16, a special offering of \$565 was collected for Peace with Justice Sunday. Connectional giving like this Peace with Justice Sunday offering provides an opportunity for us to share the costs of worldwide ministry with other United Methodists and strengthens our capacity to advocate publicly in communities and nations throughout the world. Thank you for giving generously because...**Together, we do more!**

Barb Jeffries' family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Church, the Memorial Committee and especially Rev Nathan for the beautiful celebration of her life. We were comforted by the opportunity to say goodbye to her from our church home.

God Bless,

Robert "Jeff" Jeffries  
Terri Bornancin and family  
Natalie Teare and family  
Robin Heine and family

CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE

We had another great Strawberry Festival this year! At this time, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers that stepped up to help make this event such a success. To all my kitchen help on Tuesday evening, we cooked some great food and we did it in record time! To the strawberry cutters, there only were 6 of us doing this (hint hint - we REALLY need more help next year) but in 3 ½ hours we got it done! I hope your hands are no longer pink from strawberry juice! To all the food & ice cream servers and the cashiers, thank you for allowing yourselves to get covered in Sloppy Joes, baked beans, strawberries and ice cream for me. To Boy Scout Troop 228, this event simply cannot be done without all of you. What a great group of young men you have! To the kitchen cleanup crew STILL being led by the tireless efforts of the fabulous Roy Miller - who stayed until the bitter end to help be sure everything was perfectly clean - THANK YOU. To my hot dog cooking pal, Dave LeBrun and our wonderful musicians Marlynda Dziak & Brian Long, thank you for sharing your talents with us (and yes, grilling hot dogs really IS a talent!). If I try to name everyone that helped, I certainly would forget someone but THANK YOU to everyone that worked to make this year's event great. Also, thank you to all of you that came and ate with me. I love seeing everyone's happy faces and the fellowship that this event creates.

So somewhere between 2013 and now I messed up on how long this event has been around. This is year 49 (not 48 as I have been saying). So next year is 50. I couldn't possibly miss that and since no one stepped up to take over this event, I will stick around for another year. Thank you to everyone for saying such nice things to me at Strawberry Festival about my efforts running this event the last nine years. It means so much to me and made deciding to stay in this role very easy for me. I appreciate and love all of you. Thank you again and God bless you all.

Jill Bush, Strawberry Festival Chairperson





# Welcome to Our Church

## BE THE WELCOMING CHURCH A 4-WEEK STUDY

SUNDAYS, JULY 14 – AUGUST 4  
10 AM, FELLOWSHIP HALL

One of our congregation's goals for 2019 has been to develop a comprehensive plan for hospitality and welcoming ministries, ensuring that all people feel welcome in our community of faith and equipped to connect with us more deeply.

"Be the Welcoming Church" is a four-week study that will help us both to develop a congregation-wide culture of hospitality and welcoming and to perfect our current practices of greeting newcomers, making them feel at home, and encouraging them to return. This study will help our congregation serve more effectively as Christ's hosts in relationship with all our neighbors. Please join us Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall at 10 am, July 14 through August 4.

For more information,  
please contact Pastor Nathan at  
440-234-3525 x100 or [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org).



### YOUTH GROUP

OPEN TO  
7<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

**July 7, 7:00 PM**

Youth Work Mission Ice-Cream Social  
*See Page 2 for more information*

**July 15-19, 9:00 AM - Noon**

Vacation Bible School  
*Help needed - See right column.*

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

TEACHING & LEARNING TOGETHER

## HEADING TO MARS, SOON, FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

JULY 15 – 19  
9 AM – 12 PM  
UMCB FIRST FLOOR

Join us on a journey to Mars and Beyond  
as we explore where God's power can  
take us!

Currently seeking Station Leaders,  
Station Assistants, Star Guides, Space  
Volunteers, and more!

Hey Parents, Grandparents, Neighbors, &  
Kids!

Let's blast off to Mars and Beyond this  
summer!

VBS is open to all kids, Preschool –  
completed 5th grade. Youth, you get to  
help out on this mission!

Registration closes July 7th!

Forms can be found outside of Room  
13, and the Children's Formation page  
of our website at [www.umcb.org](http://www.umcb.org).



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



TEACHING & LEARNING TOGETHER

# ReNew Weekend

JULY 26-28

FRIDAY BEGINNING AT 5:30 PM

SATURDAY BEGINNING AT 9 AM

FIRST FLOOR

A multigenerational summer retreat experience is coming soon!

We look forward to an outdoor potluck, Baptism opportunity, and hearing big band music from the Scimitars on Friday evening.

On Saturday morning, we'll have the opportunity and blessing to be engaged in several outreach activities. After a provided lunch, we'll gather with Rev. Sharon Seyfarth Garner, spiritual director and author of *Praying with Mandalas*, to join us as explore different Spiritual Disciplines.

All week, we will also have a labyrinth set up in the Parlor for anyone to come and enjoy this special spiritual practice.

We will conclude ReNew Weekend with our Sunday worship services on July 28.

## REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Registration forms can be found on the table outside of Room 12, or you can register online at [www.umcb.org/renew-weekend-2019](http://www.umcb.org/renew-weekend-2019).

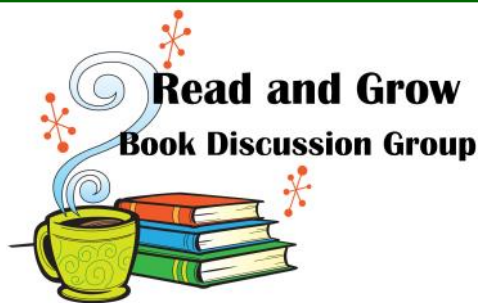
Join us for part, or all, of the renewing faith formation opportunities.

For more information about ReNew Weekend, please contact Claire Powell at 440-234-7625 or [cepohio@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cepohio@sbcglobal.net).

## COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

*"You must not think to live like the rest of the world."* The words of Susanna Wesley - Mother of Methodism's founder, John Wesley - sound relevant today. A timely reminder, as we as a nation face difficult situations. Celebrating the 100th anniversary of women gaining "the vote", the coming election is a challenge. Susanna added these words before she died, *"I am content to fill a little space if God be glorified."*

Submitted by Jo Swanson



## Read and Grow

### Book Discussion Group

MONDAYS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 9

6:30-8 PM, PARLOR

Summer reading is fun. You are invited read the books below and join our Read and Group Discussion Group in the fall.

September 9 - **The Street Lawyer**  
by John Grisham

*Set in Washington D.C. it addresses the complex problems of homelessness. This legal tale will provide food for thought and active discussion about one of today's most serious growing problems.*

October 14 - **When Women Were Birds**  
by Terry Tempest Williams

*I am leaving you all my journals, but you must promise me you won't look at them until after I'm gone." This is what Terry Tempest Williams's mother, the matriarch of a large Mormon clan in northern Utah, told her a week before she died. Williams recounts memories of her mother, ponders her own faith, and contemplates the notion of absence and presence art and in our world.*

For more information, call Janet Mallarnee 440-235-7331; Betsy Meikle 440 243-5767; or Margaret Proctor 440 243-9498.

## Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
9 AM - 3 PM

100- Church Office/Beth Barner  
[ebarner@umcb.org](mailto:ebarner@umcb.org)  
(Office Manager)

101 - Rev. Dr. Nathan Howe  
[nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org)  
(Pastor)

102 - Mark Williams  
[mwilliams@umcb.org](mailto:mwilliams@umcb.org)  
(Facilities Manager)

103 - Joanne Mansfield  
[jmansfield@umcb.org](mailto:jmansfield@umcb.org)  
(Finance and Membership Secretary)

104- Erin Becks  
[intern@umcb.org](mailto:intern@umcb.org)  
(Summer Ministry Intern)

105 - Rev. Carrie Antczak  
[cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org)  
(Pastor of Christian Formation & Outreach)

JULY 2019

## THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BEREA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>Family Life Center Day Camp - Monday – Friday each week, 6:30 AM – 7:00 PM</b>					
<b>1</b> <b>11:30 AM</b> Survivors Fellowship at Bagley Grill <b>6:30 PM</b> Girl Scouts #77113 <b>6:30 PM</b> Stephen Ministry Training	<b>2</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Let's Get Moving <b>9:00 AM</b> Quilters <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>10:00 AM</b> Intercessory Prayer Team <b>1:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>3</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Hanson House TBI Support Group <b>5:30 PM</b> Pickleball <b>7:00 PM</b> Alcoholics Anonymous <b>7:00 PM</b> Evening Prayers	<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day Church Office Closed</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Organist Rehearsal <b>5:30 PM</b> Eagle Scout Review <b>7:00 PM</b> Square Dancing <b>7:30 PM</b> Alcoholics	<b>5</b> <b>5:30 PM</b> Berea Parade <b>8:30 PM</b> Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b> <b>Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:00 AM</b> <i>arise!</i> Worship with Praise Band <b>9:30 AM</b> Children's Church <b>10:00 AM</b> Adult Formation <b>10:00 AM</b> VBS Training <b>11:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>2:30 PM</b> Hapkido <b>2:30 PM</b> Parkside Villa Worship <b>6:30 PM</b> Boy Scouts #228 <b>7:00 PM</b> Ice Cream Social	<b>8</b> <b>11:30 AM</b> Survivors Fellowship at Berea Park Pavilion <b>6:30 PM</b> Girl Scouts #77113 <b>6:30 PM</b> Read and Grow Book Club <b>6:30 PM</b> Stephen Ministers <b>6:30 PM</b> Stephen Ministry Training <b>7:00 PM</b> Hanson House Board Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Let's Get Moving <b>9:00 AM</b> Quilters <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>10:00 AM</b> Active Sr. Network Lunch (rain location) <b>10:00 AM</b> Intercessory Prayer Team <b>1:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>10</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Hanson House TBI Support Group <b>12:00 PM</b> Investing with Limited Resources <b>5:30 PM</b> Pickleball <b>7:00 PM</b> Alcoholics Anonymous <b>7:00 PM</b> Evening Prayers	<b>11</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Organist Rehearsal <b>3:30 PM</b> Carpooling for Prayer & Peaceful Presence Vigil <b>5:00 PM</b> Active Sr. Network Picnic (rain location) <b>6:00 PM</b> Boy Scout District Roundtable <b>7:00 PM</b> Square Dancing <b>7:30 PM</b> Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>12</b> <b>8:30 PM</b> Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>13</b>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<b>Family Life Center Day Camp - Monday – Friday each week, 6:30 AM – 7:00 PM</b>							
<b>14 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>15 CALLER SUBMISSIONS DUE</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	
<b>8:00 AM Traditional Worship</b> <b>9:00 AM <i>arise!</i> Worship with Praise Band</b> <b>9:30 AM Children's Church</b> <b>10:00 AM Adult Formation</b> <b>10:30 AM VBS setup</b> <b>11:15 AM Traditional Worship</b> <b>2:30 PM Hapkido</b> <b>6:30 PM Boy Scouts #228</b>	<b>11:30 AM Survivors Fellowship at Blue Jade (Chinese Kmart)</b> <b>6:00 PM Finance Committee</b> <b>6:30 PM Girl Scouts #77113</b> <b>6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Training</b>	<b>6:30 AM Let's Get Moving</b> <b>9:00 AM Quilters</b> <b>9:00 AM Bible Study</b> <b>10:00 AM Intercessory Prayer Team</b> <b>1:30 PM Staff Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	<b>10:00 AM Hanson House TBI Support Group</b> <b>5:30 PM Pickleball</b> <b>6:00 PM Hanson House Caregiver Support Group</b> <b>7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b> <b>7:00 PM Boy Scout Committees</b> <b>7:00 PM Evening Prayers</b>	<b>1:00 PM Organist Rehearsal</b> <b>7:00 PM Square Dancing</b> <b>7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	<b>8:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	<b>6:00 PM Single Volunteers</b>	
<b>21 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>8:00 AM Traditional Worship</b> <b>9:00 AM <i>arise!</i> Worship with Praise Band</b> <b>9:30 AM Children's Church</b> <b>10:00 AM Adult Formation</b> <b>11:15 AM Traditional Worship</b> <b>2:30 PM Hapkido</b> <b>6:30 PM Boy Scouts #228</b>	<i>Labyrinth in the Parlor</i> <b>11:30 AM Survivors Fellowship at Bob Evans</b> <b>6:30 PM Girl Scouts #77113</b> <b>6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Training</b>	<i>Labyrinth in the Parlor</i> <b>6:30 AM Let's Get Moving</b> <b>9:00 AM Quilters</b> <b>9:00 AM Bible Study</b> <b>10:00 AM Intercessory Prayer Team</b> <b>1:30 PM Staff Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	<i>Labyrinth in the Parlor</i> <b>9:00 AM Caller Assembly</b> <b>10:00 AM Hanson House TBI Support Group</b> <b>5:30 PM Pickleball</b> <b>7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b> <b>7:00 PM Evening Prayers</b>	<i>Labyrinth in the Parlor</i> <b>1:00 PM Organist Rehearsal</b> <b>7:00 PM NewSingers Hymn Sign</b> <b>7:00 PM Square Dancing</b> <b>7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	<b>6:30 AM Family Life Center</b> <b>8:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	<b>Renew Weekend</b> <i>Labyrinth in the Parlor</i>	
<b>28 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				
<b>8:00 AM Traditional Worship</b> <b>9:00 AM <i>arise!</i> Worship with Praise Band</b> <b>9:30 AM Children's Church</b> <b>10:00 AM Adult Formation</b> <b>11:15 AM Traditional Worship</b> <b>2:30 PM Hapkido</b> <b>6:30 PM Boy Scouts #228</b>	<b>11:30 AM Survivors Fellowship at Perk Cup</b> <b>12:00 PM Feed The Kids lunch program</b> <b>6:30 PM Girl Scouts #77113</b> <b>6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Training</b>	<b>6:30 AM Let's Get Moving</b> <b>9:00 AM Quilters</b> <b>9:00 AM Bible Study</b> <b>10:00 AM Intercessory Prayer Team</b> <b>12:00 PM Feed The Kids lunch program</b> <b>1:30 PM Staff Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	<b>10:00 AM Hanson House TBI Support Group</b> <b>12:00 PM Feed The Kids lunch program</b> <b>5:30 PM Pickleball</b> <b>7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous</b> <b>7:00 PM Evening Prayers</b>				



## THE CALLER

### PRAYER & PEACEFUL PRESENCE VIGIL

THURSDAY, JULY 11

4:00 PM (MEET FOR CARPOOLING AT 3:30 PM)

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS ICE OFFICE  
925 KEYNOTE CIRCLE, BROOKLYN HEIGHTS, OH 44131

For the past several months, people of faith have been gathering weekly for interfaith vigils outside the office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Brooklyn Heights.

At these vigils we pray, sing, hold silence, lift up prophetic values of justice and compassion, and exhort those in power to work from that set of values. Each week in prayer, we name the reality of families being separated by immigration practices. We pray that God's intervention, power, grace, and comfort enter into these situations of suffering and despair.

Our church has volunteered to share in prayer and peaceful presence on July 11 at 4 PM. We will carpool from the UMCB parking lot at 3:30 PM.

If you are interested in joining us, please let Pastor Carrie know at **440-234-3525 x105** or [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org).

### “FEED THE KIDS” SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

MONDAY, JULY 29 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

Local churches have partnered again this summer to provide lunches to Berea area children for the “Feed the Kids” Summer Lunch program. Brown bag lunches will be distributed June 10 through August 16 at two locations: Peoples Community Church and St. Mary’s School. Our church will collect items, pack lunches, and distribute lunches the week of July 29 through August 2.

To sign up to help or provide needed items, see the board in the Sanctuary Narthex or contact Bobbie DiNicola at **440-668-5035** or [bdinicola@wowway.com](mailto:bdinicola@wowway.com).



### SCAN HUNGER CENTER COLLECTION

SUNDAY, JULY 7



SCAN needs your participation now more than ever. With the summer comes a change in our routine and we may forget our habit of donating food on the first Sunday of every month. Please make a conscious effort to once again help our church as we reach out to feed those who are hungry.

If you are not going to be in Church on July 7, your food donations may be delivered ahead of time and placed in the cupboards inside the room between the Narthex and the Library.

Monetary donations are also welcome. Mark them for SCAN and place them in the offering plate or Joanne Mansfield’s office door mailbox.

**Thank you for helping.**



The church is in need of computers for the music office and library. If you have a newer (preferably Windows 10) computer with Microsoft Word and internet capability that you would be willing to donate, please contact Mark Williams at **440 234-3525 x102** or [mwilliams@umcb.org](mailto:mwilliams@umcb.org).



## THE CALLER

### EAST OHIO 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

*By Rick Wolcott, Director of Communications  
for the East Ohio Conference of The UMC*

Bishop Tracy S. Malone presided over the 50th session of Annual Conference, which was held again this year at Lakeside Chautauqua on the shore of Lake Erie. Annual Conference 2019 was the third conference centered on our quadrennial theme Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected. This year we highlighted the joy of making a commitment to take up residence in God's love and extend

that love to others. "Being committed to Christ commits us to one other. We are bound together in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. We are bound through the covenant of our baptism. Friends, this is who we are," Bishop Tracy S. Malone said in her Episcopal Address.

The six worship services of the week were guided by the words from John 15:9-15 (CEB) and the business sessions reinforced our East Ohio Conference vision to "equip and support pastors, congregations and faith communities to grow in their capacity bear fruit that lasts" making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. There were 60 first-time members to Annual Conference among the 691 clergy and 727 lay members assembled in Hoover Auditorium.

Monday morning's opening service, the Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion, recognized 49 saints who joined the church triumphant since Annual Conference 2018. The Celebration of Retirement that evening saw 35 clergy feted for their combined 868 years of service. "Think of the difference you have made in so many lives," Malone said. "All you've given and all you have received is blessed." The Service of Commissioning and Ordination began with a procession of nearly 200 clergy, showing their covenant to one another. Ten clergy were commissioned and seven were ordained during the service this year.

Rev. Dr. F. Douglas Powe, Jr., director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary was the keynote speaker for each of the three learning components centered around the emphases of the East Ohio Conference vision: being, making, and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ; being God's agents of transformation in our communities and throughout the world; and being bold and courageous leaders in reaching new people, younger people, and a more diverse people.

A component of the Annual Conference 2019 business sessions was election of General/Jurisdictional Conference delegates. The East Ohio Conference delegation to General Conference 2020, to be held May 5-15 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is: Rev. Gary Henderson, Rev. Andy Call, Rev. Dan Bryant, Rev. Matthew Laferty, Rev. Armando Arellano, Rev. Benita Rollins, Jerry Rinehart, Ellen Burrows, Dr. Martha Banks, Betty Wilson, Bob Wagner, and Holly Grant. Each of those delegates will also be part of the East Ohio delegation to Jurisdictional Conference 2020, to be held July 15-18 of that year in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Joining them on the delegation are: Rev. Cara Stultz Costello, Rev. Abby Auman, Rev. Nestor Nazario, Rev. Karen Oehl, Rev. Jon Priebe, Rev. Susan Brown, Connor Prusha, Sarah Dixon, Donald Burdsall, Thomas Lewis, Susan Achberger, and Lucinda Starr. The alternate reserve delegates to Jurisdictional Conference 2020 are: Rev. Carrie Antczak, Rev. Heidi Welch, Rev. Jared Gadomski Littleton, Rev. Laura Jaissle, Rev. Clinton Quillen, Jr., Allen Laferty, Kimberly Green, William Watts, Richard Corder, and Kathy Palmer.

#### **East Ohio Conference statistics from Thursday's Financial Report:**

- East Ohio Conference paid General Church Apportionments at 100% for the 14th consecutive year.
- Proposed 2020 Conference budget is \$11,559,663, a 5% decrease from the 2019 budget.
- Membership continues to decrease, in 2018 by 4.09%, to 133,219.
- Average worship is down 6.04% from the previous year to 47,722.



## THE CALLER

- Professions of faith have decreased 3.98% to 989.
- Baptisms decreased 7.15% in 2018 to 1,233.
- Average weekly attendance in Sunday school decreased approximately 1.32% to 14,626.
- The number of ongoing small groups, support groups or classes other than Sunday school saw a 3.12% increase to 2,515.
- The number of persons serving in mission/community ministries increased 4.05% to 27,628 in 2018.

### **Closed Churches:**

Cabinet recognized the ministry that has taken place during the life of eight churches that closed this year. The churches are:

- Aurora UMC (Western Reserve District),
- Dennison Good Shepherd UMC (Tuscarawas District),
- North Lawrence Faith UMC (Canal District),
- Seven Hills UMC (North Coast District),
- Wellsville UMC (Mahoning Valley District).

**Midwest Mission Distribution truck and Eastbrook Mission Barn truck** left Lakeside carrying more than \$12,000 in cash donations as well as:

- 850 cleaning buckets,
- 750 hygiene kits,
- 540 school kits,
- 1,325 personal dignity kits,
- 185 baby palettes,
- 300 homemade hospital gowns, and medical supplies.

Thanks to the generosity of clergy and laity members of Annual Conference and their congregations, countless lives will be touched because of the money given during these offerings:

- \$24,958.46 was given during the Annual Conference offering at Lakeside. This total does not include donations sent to the Conference lockbox, which will increase the total given in the offering. Each of the following will receive one-third of the offering: Urban Mission in Steubenville, the general fund at Africa University, and the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.
- \$7,391 was raised during the 5k Run /1-mile Walk for missions.

### **Resolutions and Petitions**

*More information about resolutions can be found online at <https://www.eocumc.com/eoac19/resolutions>.*

#### Resolution 2019-01: "To Rebuild, Reclaim the Christian Community: 'Church'"

Submitted by: East Ohio Methodist Federation of Social Action, East Ohio Reconciling Ministries Network, East Ohio Board of Church & Society, and East Ohio United Methodist Women

**The motion was approved.**

#### Resolution 2019-02: "Culture of Call Sunday"

Submitted by: East Ohio Conference Spiritual Formation Committee, East Ohio BOM Executive Committee

**The motion was approved.**

#### Resolution 2019-03: "Maintain Unity through the Structural Realignment of The United Methodist Church"

Submitted by: Rev. Dan Bryant, Rev. Karen Oehl, Tim Beck, Rev. Andrew Call, Rev. Joe Burkhardt, Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh, and The Young Clergy Network

**The motion was not approved.**

## THE CALLER

Resolution 2019-04: "Educate and Inform the Conference Concerning the Need for Reform of Post Release Sexual Offender Laws such as Public Registries and Residency Restrictions"

Submitted by: Dennis P. Brinton

**The motion was approved.**

Resolution 2019-05: "A Healthy Way Forward"

Submitted by: Joy Parker, Dr. Martha Banks, Jason Hockran, Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault, Kelsey Orosan, Rev. Dan Bryant, Connor Prusha, William Jones

**The motion was not approved.**

Petition 2019-01: "Jurisdictional and Central Conference Equivalency"

**The motion was not approved.**

Petition 2019-02: "Remove Geographical Restrictions on Jurisdictional Conferences"

**The motion was not approved.**

Petition 2019-03: "Establish Process of Reinstatement of Provisional Membership"

**The motion was approved.**

Petition 2019-04: "Add Domestic Violence to the List of Chargeable Offenses"

**The motion was not approved.**

Annual Conference 2020 is June 15-18, 2020 at Lakeside Chautauqua. The last Annual Conference using the quadrennial theme Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected will underscore the importance of being connected to God and to our neighbors if we are to bear fruit by making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

### UPDATE FOLLOWING THE 2019 GENERAL CONFERENCE

This past May 20-22, 2019, more than 600 United Methodists from every annual conference of The UMC in the United States gathered for three days at The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas for a conversation in response to the adoption of the Traditional Plan by the 2019 Special General Conference. As a result of this meeting of church leaders, four commitments were adopted to provide a more hope-filled, just, and inclusive future for our global Methodist movement as we continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:

We long to be passionate followers of Jesus Christ, committed to a Wesleyan vision of Christianity, anchored in scripture and informed by tradition, experience, and reason as we live a life of personal piety and social holiness.

We commit to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in all forms and toward all people and build a church which affirms the full participation of all ages, nations, races, classes, cultures, gender identities, sexual orientations, and abilities.

We reject the Traditional Plan approved at General Conference 2019 as inconsistent with the gospel of Jesus Christ and will resist its implementation.

We will work to eliminate discriminatory language and the restrictions and penalties in the Discipline regarding LGBTQ persons. We affirm the sacred worth of LGBTQ persons, celebrate their gifts, and commit to being in ministry together.

As pastors of The UMC of Berea, we support these four commitments and intend to live them in our continued ministry among God's people in Berea. Please feel free to come speak with us at any time about your concerns or dreams for our congregation in this current context.

--Pastor Nathan and Pastor Carrie

The Caller

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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:

