The United Methodist Church of Berea

For weekly updates on events and activities,

please subscribe to our weekly e-mail newsletter at <u>www.umcb.org</u>.



Find us on Facebook <u>www.facebook.com/UMCBEREA</u>

RESOURCES FOR STAYING CONNECTED—ONLINE AND BY PHONE

As we continue to monitor reports and follow the guidance of public health officials to limit the spread of COVID-19, prioritizing care for one another and for our healthcare system, we may resume some in-person gatherings in our building and in the life of our congregation during the upcoming month. If this happens, we will utilize our website (www.umcb.org), weekly e-newsletters, and phone calls from care leaders to share information as updates occur. In the meantime, these are some of the available resources for staying connected online and by phone to opportunities for worship, Christian formation, and outreach and mission. If you need more information, please contact me at 440-234-3525 x101 or nhowe@umcb.org. And please remember, even while we are apart, none of us is alone.

remember, even while we are apart, none of us is alone.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES LIVE AT 11 AM

Join us in worship online through Facebook Live (<u>www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos</u>). (No Facebook account is required.) If you have a Facebook account, like or follow our Facebook page (<u>www.facebook.com/umcberea</u>) for easier access to our live broadcast.

Worship bulletins can be accessed in advance at **www.umcb.org/sermons**.

If you do not have online access, you can use your telephone to join us for audio only of the worship service: dial **1-888-788-0099**, and enter meeting ID **961 8451 9312** when prompted to do so.

Alternative Ways to Give

Even during this season of social distancing, many of you have remained committed to living your discipleship and supporting our mission and ministry together by giving your tithes and offerings online (<u>www.umcb.org/donate</u>) or by mailing a check to the church office.

Thank you! Your financial gifts are more important now than ever in helping us to keep making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER Mondays—Fridays, 9 AM

Join Pastor Nathan for 15 minutes of praise, prayer, and scripture, every weekday at 9 AM.

Join us online: https://zoom.us/j/518014483 or by phone: dial 1-888-788-0099 and enter meeting ID 518 014 483.

COMMUNITY SMALL GROUPS WEDNESDAYS AT 7 PM, SUNDAYS AT 10 AM

Join us as we consider what we are grateful for, what we are anxious about, and what we are learning day by day and week by week.

Join us online: https://zoom.us/j/487816871 or by phone: dial 1-888-788-0099 and enter meeting ID 487 816 871

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Please reach to me (440-234-3525 x101 or **nhowe@umcb.org)** if you would like to schedule an individual time to talk or have a specific prayer request. Likewise, if you find yourself needing food or other supplies and unable to get them, please do not hesitate to contact me; we have a team of generous servants ready to respond.

Finally, and always, know that I am deeply grateful for each of you and for our life together as an expression of beloved community, and I cannot wait to gather in person with you again soon. Shalom.

Pastor Nathan

		THE CALLER	
GAT	HER Sunday, May 3, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 2.42-47 Psalm 23 (UMH 754-137) 1 Peter 2.19-25 John 10.1-10	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> The earliest days of the church (as described in Acts 2) were filled with awe, surprise, and the joy of Christ's presence. How can the joy of Christ permeate and transform your life and your community? When have you experienced joy that is overwhelming, prompting you to want to share that joy with others?
LCOMING	Sunday, May 10 2020 Fifth Sunday of Easter Festival of the Christian Home	Acts 7.55-60 Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16 (UMH 764) 1 Peter 2.2-10 John 14.1-14	For Reflection and Conversation: In Acts 7, Stephen is described as being filled with the Holy Spirit, which gives him courage, wisdom, and power in his sharing the good news with others. Where do you find beauty, joy, and peace? What helps you to make room for the Holy Spirit? What helps you to let go of your need for control? How do you keep your eyes fixed on Jesus, in good times and in difficulties?
NG, INVITING, & WELCOMING	Sunday, May 17 2020 Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 17.22-31 Psalm 66.8-20 (UMH 790) 1 Peter 3.13-22 John 14.15-21	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> In this Sunday's reading from Acts 17, the apostle Paul is skillful in using the context in which he finds himself to preach the good news. How would you describe the current context of our culture and our community? How might you adapt the message of the good news to these present circumstances?
CONNECTIN	Sunday, May 24 2020 Ascension Sunday Aldersgate/Heritage Sunday	Acts 1.6-14 Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35 (UMH 792) 1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11 John 17.1-11	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> The reading from Acts 1 is the story of Jesus' ascension. Jesus' disciples are eager for the world to be transformed. As our present world has felt like it's been turned upside down, we might also be wondering when God is going to restore things to right. Even in seasons of social distancing, how can we develop communities of prayer and commitment to the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives?
	Sunday, May 31, 2020 Pentecost	Acts 2.1-21 Psalm 104.24-34, 35b (UMH 826) 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13 John 7.37-39	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> The Pentecost story reminds us that the Holy Spirit empowers different people in many different ways, but all these gifts carry with them a responsibility to share them with others. What are the barriers that keep you from loving others fully? In what ways is God empowering you to go out into the world to love others in God's name?

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, May 3): Generous God, thank you for the gift of this new day. Help me to watch for your signs and wonders in the world today, and fill my heart with gladness and generosity, that I may generate goodwill wherever I go. Amen.	 Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, May 3: Thank you, God, for shepherding me through this day. As I lie down to sleep this night, help me to imagine green pastures and still waters, and to remember all the ways you set a table before me and fill my cup to overflowing. Amen.
<i>Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, May 10):</i> Lord Jesus, as I serve you this day, let not my heart be troubled. Help me to trust with conviction that you are with me, and I am in you, Amen.	Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, May 10): Faithful God, my rock and my fortress, into your hands I commit my whole being. As darkness falls, let your face shine upon me, and keep me in your steadfast love. Amen.
 Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, May 17): I give thanks for the gift of life and breath that is mine today in Christ. Make me eager to do good and to resist evil, and grant me the wisdom to recognize the difference. Fill me with your assurance in all I say and do that I may share the hope that is within me in gentleness and reverence to Christ. Amen. 	Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, May 17): O God, in whom we live and move and exist, you hear me when I cry and listen to my prayer; you set my feet on steady ground. As I rest in you tonight, sanctify my heart in Christ, and fill me with your strength, that I may rise to love and serve you and greet another day. Amen.
<i>Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, May 24):</i> Holy God, I give you thanks that Christ ascends in the core of my being as new life arises within mem. Open the eyes of my heart this day to seek and to serve you in all whom I meet. Amen.	<i>Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, May 24):</i> I turn from the wrongs I have done this day, and I seek forgiveness by the grace of your love. Clothe me with power this night, O God, that my life may rest hidden in you. Amen.
<i>Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, May 31):</i> God of the living, from whom all blessings flow, I welcome a new day with thanksgiving. Wherever you send me today, whomever I meet, be in my going and my meeting. Fill me with your Holy Spirit, and set me on fire for you. Amen.	Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, May 31): Thank you for being with me, O God. Let me not forget the joys you put in my life today. Send your Holy Spirit to fill my memories with comfort and peace as I prepare to rest this night. Amen.



CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS

Bruce Akins Betty Atherton Heidi Blue Jean Brenneison Barba Dawson Cleda Fletcher Molly Force Carol Heskett Mary Lou Hunger Larry Jelinek Joyce McGee Betty Miller

Rev. Cal Myers Donna O'Brien Esther O'Hearn Donald Powers Lou Russell Russ Sanderson Nancy Schillace Carol Thompson Kathleen Wargelin Gloria Wharton Megan Williams

MEMBERS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Dick Baker (Devon Oaks, Westlake) Shirley Bedford (Independence Village) Ann Benson (Western Reserve-Medina) Donna Dial (Kemper House) Pat Harf (Vitalia Senior Residences, Strongsville) Janice Kavander Pat Sarka (Gardens at Westlake) Barbara Scoon (Generations) Edna Thomason (Generations) Bob Warner (Kemper House, Strongsville) Eva Williamson (Western Reserve-Medina)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY AND LOVE

We reach out in Christian sympathy and love to Susan Pogue and the Pogue family. Susan's husband, Kenny, went on to rest in God's eternal peace on Monday, March 23.

ILITARY

J.D. Ferut (grandson of Gerry & Jo Boggs) Ryan Hopkins Ron Krueger (son-in-law of Georgiann Baesel) Bill Lambert (son-in-law of Corky Cline) Ben Lebrun Zachary New (grandson of Bob & Jackie King) Ieff Patrick

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of Emmaline Mae Smith, daughter of Megan Howe's sister, Mallory on Monday, March 23.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Joshua Baker (grandson of Nancy Best) **Marc Bittinger** Terri Christian (mother of Pastor Carrie Antczak) Patty (4/21/20, cousin of Barb Dawson) AmyMarie Dziak (daughter of Marlynda Dziak) **Spencer Gehring** Russell Hovorka (husband of Diane Hovorka) Jack Howe (Parent of Pastor Nathan & Megan Howe) Sylvie Isgro-Schicker Paul McMillin (son of Andrew & Christine McMillin) **Jeremy Piper** Brennan (Grandson of Judy Talarczyk) Chet Talarczyk (husband of Judy Talarczyk) Maria Villa (niece of Russ & Ruthann Simon) Julie Wharton (daughter of Hal & Gloria Wharton) Patricia Wheeler (friend of Cindy Osborn)

To receive Prayer Concerns by email, please email the Church Office at info@umcb.org.

If you know of someone needing care or a visit, please contact the **Church Office** (<u>info@umcb.org</u> or 440-234-3525 x100) or **Pastor Nathan** (<u>nhowe@umcb.org</u> or 440-234-3525 x101).



YOUTH GROUP & YOUTH WORK MISSION

Youth Group goes on!

Youth grades 7-12 are invited to join us each Wednesday at 4 PM for games, checking-in, and a short devotion. Connect with Pastor Carrie (Username *CarrieAntczak*, email *cantczak-@umcb.org*) on the HouseParty App to join us! This app will allow us to play real time games and is a little more youth friendly. For questions, contact **Pastor Carrie**.

Stay tuned for updates on this year's Youth Work Mission trip. We are awaiting communication from Hendersen Settlement and news regarding stay-at-home orders. But fear not! The Lord provides service opportunities no matter where we are. Should we need to stay closer at home we have several ideas on how God might use our loving service nearby.

In the meantime, your servant hearts are encouraged to reach out to Pastor Carrie if you'd like to be on a list of youth helpers. Can you drive to pick up prescriptions for older congregation members? Can you help with yard work? Can you help by reading stories to children over Facetime? Let her know so we can have a team of willing servants ready to go for our community in need.

Contact Pastor Carrie at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Children's Sunday School

Sparkhouse Sunday School lessons are available on our online resources page:

www.umcb.org/online-formation-resources.

Simply watch the video or read the story in your children's Bible, and print the PDF's for family faith fun and formation.

$\underline{C} OMMISSION \ \underline{O} N \ THE \ \underline{S} TATUS \ AND \ \underline{R} OLE \ \underline{O} F \ \underline{W} OMEN$



Here's recognition of our church's role in recognizing women!

On March 6, 1869, Margaret Van Cott was the first woman to be licensed as a Methodist Episcopal preacher. Many more have followed.

Learn more about the role of women in the United Methodist Church at https://www.resourceumc.org/en/agencies/the-status-androle-of-women.

Visit the COSROW gallery of courageous, committed women in Methodist history at

https://gcsrw.org/MonitoringHistory/WomeninUMCHistory.aspx

Jo Swanson

THE CALLER



NEW ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITY SUNDAYS BEGINNING MAY 10 10 AM, ONLINE OR BY PHONE

As we move through this Easter season and contemplate the new ways we ourselves are doing ministry in this time, what better time would we have to explore the early experiences of the new Church found in the Acts of the Apostles?

Join us for a virtual Bible/Book Study beginning May 10 at 10 AM on Zoom. Join us online: <u>https://zoom.us/j/487816871</u> or by phone: dial **1-888-788-0099** and enter meeting ID **487 816 871**

What you would need to do:

- 1. You need the book. It is available on Amazon and Cokesbury. Please order this yourself and have it delivered to your home. Pastor Carrie can help place orders if needed. Don't want to read? It's ok, you can still follow along with the videos.
- 2. You watch the video. You can do this on Apple TV/Roku/Amazon Fire on the Amplify App or by following this link directly: <u>https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/series/unitedmethodistpublishinghouse/30870-acts/30873-study-sessions/112014-acts-session-1-what-god-has-done</u>. For May 10th, no watching is required, but the preview video may be helpful.
- 3. On our zoom call we'll discuss what we're learning and our hopes and dreams for the future church based on what we're learning from the first days of the Church.

We hope this season, and study, will help you to continue to grow in your faith.

Questions? Contact Pastor Carrie at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.





Monday, May 11 6:30 PM, Location/Forum TBD

On May 11, at 6:30 PM, Read and Grow participants will plan to meet to discuss **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens. Watch for later details how creatively we will do this.

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

Living in the marsh outside a quiet, small town on the coast of North Carolina, Kya Clark, later known as the "Marsh Girl," is abandoned by her entire family and learns to survive in the marsh on her own from the age of ten.

If you have questions or some ideas, please contact Jan Harlamert at **440 243-7126** or **janharlamert@yahoo.com**.

THE CALLER

Many thanks for your kind expressions of sympathy and prayers at the passing of our husband, father and grandfather, Dave. Your outreach has meant so much and has brought comfort and peace to us. We are most appreciative.

Pat Beckman and Family

Thank you to all who generously donated food items and/or money to help restock the shelves of the Church Street Ministries food pantry during this time of additional need.

Thank you to Dave LeBrun for receiving our donations in the church parking lot.

During the month of April, we sent 3 Prius-sized loads of food and \$1605 to support our neighbors.

May God's blessings continue to go with these donations.

Thank you to the talented five that donated their time and sewing expertise to make masks for healthcare workers on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic: The Akins Family, the Sperry Family, and Kathy Zacharyasz. Also thank you to Rebecca Zeiter who helped round up supplies.

They were able to make almost 50 masks before running out of the needed supplies, which are hard to find now.

Thank you to all of our care leaders who have been checking in on folks and helping to keep us connected even while we are physically apart.

Joanne Mansfield Carrie Antczak Kathleen Bradley Lin Rowland Tom Marek Laura Rushton Carol Anne McCleery

Cindy McCowen Linda McCowen Linda Tucker Nancy Buehler Margaret Proctor Barb Dawson

If you would like to serve as a care leader, making at least weekly phone calls, please contact Pastor Nathan (<u>nhowe@umcb.org</u> or **440-234-3525 x101**).

If you have not been contacted by a care leader and would like to be added to our "care list," please contact Pastor Nathan (<u>nhowe@umcb.org</u> or **440-234-3525 x101**).

Thank you to all those who helped with our Holy Week and Easter Sunday worship services: to our scripture readers (Megan, Clayton, Greg, Julie, Olivia, Luke, Terry, Meredith, Amanda, Emily, Nancy, Barbara, Cindy, Carol, Linda, Mary, Megan, Bobbie, and Carrie), to our musicians (Barbara, Courtney, Tori, Stephen, Mitchell, and Grace), to our parament-changers (Ken and Sharon), to our camera operator and video editor (Mark), to our website administrator and flower decorator (Beth), and to all who joined us online for this year's services. Each of you is a gift to all of us whenever we gather in worship together, whether online or in person. Thank you!



UMW

Please be aware that we will not have our scheduled UMW executive board meeting on Saturday, May 2.

Also, our planned general meeting with a speaker from the Metroparks on Saturday, May 16 has been cancelled.

For more information about all that UMW has to offer, please contact **Betsy Meikle** at <u>meiklebj@juno.com</u> or **440-243-5767**.



FEED THE KIDS

We will again be providing for children and youth in need of lunches this summer. Once we have an assigned week, we will let you know. We will need donations of lunch materials, as well as missionaries to help pack and distribute lunches at Berea locations.

If you'd like to be on a team contact list once we have more details, you can reach out to Pastor Carrie now at <u>cantczak@umcb.org</u> or **440-234-3525 x105**.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, May 4 Berea Recreation Center

For those who are able... please consider donating blood to the Red Cross on Monday, May 4 at the Berea Recreation Center.

You are urged to schedule an appointment at <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u>.



Dear UMCB Friends:

It is with a heavy heart that I make this official, we need to cancel Strawberry Festival for this year. This isn't an event that we can reschedule without sacrificing the wonderful fresh strawberries that we expect. This year would have been the 50th anniversary of Strawberry Festival! Be sure to mark your calendars for Tuesday, June 8, 2021 when we will celebrate this milestone together! I will continue to coordinate this event at least through next year. I hope all of you are staying healthy and safe during these unprecedented times.

Peace to all of you, Jill Bush



LOOK FOR THE HELPERS

Mr. Rogers is famously quoted as saying to "look for the helpers" in times of disasters or other scary times. I believe he'd be saying the same thing today as we live through this trying, and scary time. We are quick, and very right, to point to those working in essential businesses, healthcare heroes, and others who make our world work even in the midst of danger and fear. These are all true - these are the helpers.

But look in the mirror. God has equipped YOU for such a time as this as well. Not only are you doing your part by staying home and wearing a mask when you go out, but you're also amazingly gifted by the Spirit to continue to weave together this Beloved Community of Christ. Yes, *you.*

Perhaps it's been awhile since you've thought about what gifts God has given you. And not just your blessings, but the gifts of the Spirit. The Bible (1 Corinthians 12) tells us that we are all gifted differently, and uniquely, yet some gifts some of us have in common. We all have the Giver in common - all gifts come from the Holy Spirit. These gifts are traditionally known as: administration, giving, teaching, exhortation, mercy, prophesy, and serving.

We are in a unique time for sure. One in which we are given the time to take a step back and reflect on our lives and evaluate how we use our gifts and our time. We are asking, "How can we help?" The first step in answering this question is to know what we have to offer.

Over the next month, I encourage you to take a spiritual gifts survey like the one on the next page or on our website at <u>www.umcb.org/spiritual-gift-inventory</u>. Return it to me after you've had time to reflect. I'd love to know who we have in our congregation with what gifts. Then, prayerfully consider how you might use these gifts in our "new world" as we move through these months of illness and healing. As we begin to gather back together, we will help you with this step as well and highlight different opportunities to serve based on spiritual gifts (and acquired talents.)



A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

To learn even more about spiritual gifts and how they might be used, visit <u>https://www.umc.org/en/</u><u>content/spiritual-gifts</u>. I've seen signs a lot lately saying "We've got this". Indeed - we do. We've got this, because God's got us. God's got us to make a big difference in this world. And God's got us in the palm of the Divine hand. We are not alone, and we are not without gifted saints among us. Thank God for the wide variety of gifts among us! Thank God for inspiration and creativity, and love and compassion, and science and wisdom, and so much more. Let us move through this season in gratitude and openness to how God might work through us all.

Blessings, Pastor Carrie

Spiritual Gifts Inventory, Short Form

A method to help you discover your gifts. Check the items which best describe you.

- 1. I prefer ministering by myself rather than in a group. G
- 2. _____ People often say I am impulsive and direct. A
- 3. _____ My financial resources are above average. A
- 4. I like to counsel people on a short-term basis. D
- 5. _____ I am a task-oriented person. G
- 6. I love directing other people's work. B
- 7. It's natural for me to show kindness to people. E
- 8. _____ People learn easily from me. C
- 9. _____ I can be very persuasive. F
- 10. More than 10 percent of my income goes for Christian causes. A
- 11. People often follow my advice. D
- 12. _____ I normally use several books in lesson preparation. C
- 13. _____ I like to recruit and lead people. B
- 14. One-on-one relationships are important to me. E
- 15. _____ I possess a variety of talents and abilities. G
- 16. _____ I want to measure everything by God's Word. F
- 17. _____ Material possessions don't mean much to me. A
- 18. Discouraged people are encouraged by my words. D
- 19. _____ Being accurate and truthful are important to me. C
- 20. _____ I love the challenge of accomplishing an organization goal. G
- 21. Other people's spiritual welfare genuinely concerns me. D
- 22. I usually make quick decisions. F
- 23. I look for ways to help the unfortunate and downtrodden. E
- 24. _____ Criticism doesn't bother me. C
- 25. I often volunteer my time and talents to worthwhile causes. G
- 26. I am usually self-confident. B
- I don't expect repayment for favors I do for others. E
- 28. _____ I enjoy being responsible for the success of the group. B
- 29. When a question about truth comes up, I am normally right. F
- 30. Deadlines challenge me, and I usually meet them on time. B
- 31. People in pain are comforted by my presence. D

Total your checks: A , B , C , D , E , F , G

Recording a 3, 4, or 5 after a letter indicates a Spiritual Gift.

Name

Phone Email

THE CALLER

EXPLANATION For Short Spiritual Gifts Inventory

A. GIVING

You contribute material resources, and do God's work with liberality and cheerfulness. You contribute sacrificially, motivate others, and don't shun pressure or publicity. Romans 12:13 – "Share with God's people."

B. ADMINISTRATION

You lead and communicate in such a way that people work harmoniously to reach goals for God's purpose. You enjoy being a leader and can endure adverse reaction to get the job done. You enjoy seeing tasks complete; are able to set guidelines, schedules, and policies; and can delegate to get the work done. Romans 12:14 – "Bless those who persecute you."

C. TEACHING

You communicate the truth with obvious results. You believe your gift is foundational and work systematically and with accuracy. Romans 12:11– "Keep spiritual fervor."

D. EXHORTATION

You minister by giving comfort, consolation, and encouragement so people feel helped and healed. Problems are only challenges, and you are drawn to those seeking spiritual growth. You can share personal failures to prompt others to talk. Learning and teaching practical information is your desire. Romans 12:12 – "Joyful, patient and faithful."

E. MERCY

You feel compassion for those who are suffering and perform deeds to reflect God's love. You are naturally drawn to hurting people, sensitive, giving, loving and desire healing. Romans 12:15-16 – "Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with mourners, live in harmony."

F. PROPHECY

The goal of those who have the gift of prophecy is to bring persons face to face with God. You discern, reveal motives and actions, have strong convictions and a need to express them. Impulsive, direct, and persuasive, you normally are a strong person. Romans 12:9 – "Love must be sincere, hate evil, cling to good."

G. SERVING

You identify and meet the needs of others using personal as well as other resources. You see needs and enjoy responding. You work best short-term and alone (do it now and quickly). You possess endurance and stamina and have a tendency to do too much. Romans 12:10 – "Be devoted, honor one another."

(Used with permission from Easum, Bandy, & Associates, Inc. (www.easumbandy.com). Inventory can be found in workbook: *Discovering Our Place in God's World* and in *Development of Church Officers in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church* by Chris Joiner) The Caller

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



DATED MATERIAL - DO NOT DELAY

NOTE: If you wish to discontinue receiving this newsletter, please contact the church office (440-234-3525 or <u>info@umcb.org</u>) 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.

