

Worship Celebration



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021 + 10:30 AM

Welcome to The United Methodist Church of Berea!

As followers of Jesus Christ, who reveals a God whose love knows no boundaries, we are committed to welcoming and affirming every person as a beloved child of God. Every person—of every sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, age, economic status, health, ability, or any other identifying label—is welcome to participate fully in our ministries and life together as church. We hope The United Methodist Church of Berea will become a home for you, your family, and your friends as together, in our relationship with God, with each other, and with all creation, **we make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

Join us in worship each week. Our new schedule begins next Sunday, August 29.

Sunday at 9AM Traditional Worship

In-person in the Sanctuary online (www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos)

Sunday at 11AM Modern Worship

In-person in Wesley Hall

Monday—Friday at 9AM (Morning Prayer)

via Zoom (meeting id: 518 014 483; passcode: 170)

In accordance with CDC guidelines and our county's current "high" transmission risk, we require that all persons, regardless of vaccination status, wear face masks throughout their time in our building.

If you are worshipping with us from home, either by phone or online, in preparation for worship, you are encouraged to light a candle as a reminder of God's presence.

We Gather as God's Children

Prelude

Priere a Notre Dame

Leon Boellmann

Words of Welcome

+ Opening Prayer

*God of signs and wonders, walk with us in faithful love
that we may know your ways and walk in the paths of peace.
Clothe us with the belt of truth and the breastplate of justice,
that our words may be true and our actions may be just.
Protect us with the helmet of salvation and the sword of your Spirit,
that we may spread your word of peace.
Fill our lives with your presence, with your glory and power,
that we may be makers of peace and co-creators of justice and joy. Amen.*

+ Hymn

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH 57

*O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!*

*My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread thru all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.*

*Jesus the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.*

*He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.*

*Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.*

*In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.*

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Reaffirming our Faith—The Apostles' Creed

UMH 882

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

*who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*

*On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Receiving New Members into Our Fellowship - Bob & Debby Haas

As members of Christ's universal church,
will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church,
and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries? *I will.*

As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries
by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness? *I will.*

Members of the household of God, I commend these people to your love and care.
Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect their in love.
***We give thanks for all that God has already given you, and we welcome you in Christian love.
As members together with you in the body of Christ
and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church
by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness,
that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.***
The God of all grace, who has called us to fuller life in Christ,
establish us and strengthen us by the power of the Holy Spirit,
that we may live together in grace and peace. Amen.

We Grow in God's Word

Leader: With disciples of every time and place, let us listen for the word of God among us.

People: *Our ears and hearts are open.*

Blessing of the Backpacks & Instruments

First Lesson - Joshua 24.1-2a, 14-18 (CEB)

24 Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders of Israel, its leaders, judges, and officers. They presented themselves before God. ²Then Joshua said to the entire people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: Long ago your ancestors lived on the other side of the Euphrates. They served other gods.

¹⁴"So now, revere the LORD. Serve him honestly and faithfully. Put aside the gods that your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates and in Egypt and serve the LORD. ¹⁵But if it seems wrong in your opinion to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve. Choose the gods whom your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you live. But my family and I will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "God forbid that we ever leave the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷The LORD is our God. He is the one who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. He has done these mighty signs in our sight. He has protected us the whole way we've gone and in all the nations through which we've passed. ¹⁸The LORD has driven out all the nations before us, including the Amorites who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God."

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Second Lesson - Ephesians 6.10-20 (CEB)

¹⁰Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and his powerful strength. ¹¹Put on God's armor so that you can make a stand against the tricks of the devil. ¹²We aren't fighting against human enemies but against rulers, authorities, forces of cosmic darkness, and spiritual powers of evil in the heavens. ¹³Therefore, pick up the full armor of God so that you can stand your ground on the evil day and after you have done everything possible to still stand. ¹⁴So stand with the belt of truth around your waist, justice as your breastplate, ¹⁵and put shoes on your feet so that you are ready to spread the good news of peace. ¹⁶Above all, carry the shield of faith so that you can extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is God's word.

¹⁸Offer prayers and petitions in the Spirit all the time. Stay alert by hanging in there and praying for all believers. ¹⁹As for me, pray that when I open my mouth, I'll get a message that confidently makes this secret plan of the gospel known. ²⁰I'm an ambassador in chains for the sake of the gospel. Pray so that the Lord will give me the confidence to say what I have to say.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.*

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Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

As we join our hearts to lift our prayers to God, we invite you to share your concerns and joys. You can submit your prayer request any time during the week to Pastor Nathan (440-234-3525 x101, nhowe@umcb.org), the church office (440-234-3525 x100), or online at www.umcb.org/worshipresources.

Opportunities for Ministry and Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings

You are invited to give your tithes and offerings online (www.umcb.org/donate), by mailing a check to the church office, or in one of the offering plates located just inside the back wall of the Sanctuary, either on your way into or out of the worship space. Through whatever means you give, thank you for your generosity and ongoing commitment to making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

+ Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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+ Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

Loving God, we rejoice in your abundance.

*You clothe us in the garments of salvation
and care for us each and every day.*

In gratitude for your many blessings,

we offer you our tithes, our offerings, and our lives,

that your presence may be known through us throughout the world. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

*Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
in God's good spirit daily to increase,
till in the kingdom we see face to face.*

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

*Go forth for God, go to the world in love;
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;
help the afflicted; richly from above
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.
Go forth for God, go to the world in love.*

*Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;
render to no one evil; Christ at length shall overcome
all darkness with His light.
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.*

*Go forth for God, go to the world in joy;
to serve God's people every day and hour,
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.*

Go Forth for God / John Raphael Peacey / 1984 Hope Publishing Company / Used with Permission / CCLI License # 2333566

+ Benediction

Children, families, and all who love them,
go out into the beautiful world that God has made!

Go and play!

Go and learn!

Go and love others.

May you be filled with loving kindness for yourself and everyone around you.
May the prayers of your faith community keep you safe, healthy, and full of joy.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Victory

Noel Rawsthorne

***Our service of worship is ended.
Our worship through service now begins.***

Worship Participants

Pastor

Rev. Nathan Howe
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Music

Megan Denman, *Organ*
Grace Dahl, *Vocalist*
Courtney Popp, *Vocalist*

Liturgist

Joann Mansfield

Video Production

Mark Williams

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 60th Anniversary of Clark & Betty Wright.

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, August 22):

Lord God, my sun and my shield,
a day in your household is better
than a thousand elsewhere.
Let the grace of your presence strengthen me
and accompany me everywhere I go today.
Prepare me to be your sanctuary,
that your love might shine through me. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, August 22):

Lord God, my strength, your Spirit never tires;
your love never fails.
I bring you my struggles, stresses,
questions, and worries.
Where else can I go?
Let your promises sustain me through the night
and into another new day. Amen.

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New Worship Schedule beginning next Sunday, August 29

Sundays at 9 AM in the Sanctuary and 11 AM in Wesley Hall

Beginning Sunday, August 29, we will offer two in-person worship services on Sundays:

Traditional worship in the Sanctuary at 9 AM

Modern worship in Wesley Hall at 11 AM

The 9 AM worship service from the Sanctuary will be livestreamed at

www.facebook.com/umcberea/live.

Bulletins to guide your participation can be found at www.umcb.org/worshipresources.

The service will be available to view later on our [Facebook page](#).

On **Sunday, September 12**, we will resume fellowship and faith formation classes at **10 AM**.



Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord: Join our Music Ministry

We are combining our Chancel and NEWSingers Choirs to form a **new choir** that will sing during the 9 AM worship service on Sundays in the Sanctuary. The choir rehearses on **Thursdays at 7 PM in the Parlor**, beginning Thursday, September 9. For more information, please contact **Courtney Popp** (cpopp@umcb.org) or Margaret Proctor (margaret.proctor@sbcglobal.net).

The **handbell choir** is always looking for new joyful ringers, and you do not need to have any prior music experience to participate. The handbell choir rehearses on **Thursdays at 6 PM** in the Sanctuary. For more information, please contact **Tori Lero** (tlero@umcb.org).

The **praise band**, which helps to lead our 11 AM worship service in Wesley Hall, always is open to welcoming new singers, joining their voices to help the congregation sing praise to God. For more information, please contact **Jeremy Piper** (jeremy@jeremypiper.com).



Take Me Out to the Ballgame! Cleveland vs. Boston Red Sox

Saturday, August 28 at 4:05 PM at Progressive Field

Invite your friends and neighbors and bring the whole family for an afternoon at Progressive Field as Cleveland takes on the Boston Red Sox. Those who would like to carpool from Berea are invited to meet in our parking lot at 3 PM. Tickets are \$25 each, payable to "UMCB," and the deadline to reserve your ticket(s) is Monday, August 23 (or when we run out of tickets).

For more information and to reserve your tickets, contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x101**.



Tuesday Morning Walks

Tuesdays, 7:30 AM, Meet in the Wallace Lake parking lot

It's always a joy to get outside and get moving. It's also a great way to care for the bodies God has given us and to experience God's presence in creation. All are welcome to join us on any Tuesday mornings at 7:30 AM. We meet in the parking lot by Wallace Lake and head out on the all-purpose trail that runs beside Valley Parkway.



Looking for a Large Canopy

Do you own or know where we might borrow a large canopy tent for the fall season? We would love to set one up for a couple months throughout the fall on our North Lawn as we make more outdoor space for groups to meet safely.

If you have a tent or know where we might find one, please reach out to Pastor Carrie at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**.



Faith Formation Surveys

As we relaunch our faith formation programs, we greatly appreciate your input for each age group. Thank for you taking the time to fill out this quick survey which will help us shape our ministries this year:

Children & Youth: <https://forms.gle/FKzPAPGtRN5ymrmT9>

Adults: <https://forms.gle/Xw8Un7guZCLNA4oB8>

They should take less than 5 minutes, but provide us with the insight we need to plan a fruitful faith formation year for our congregation and community. Thank you!



Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom

Ladies, come join us! You are welcome to join us any time. For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at 440-409-5931 or marylynn482@gmail.com.



Launching an After School Program

As we get ready to kick off our after-school program on September 22nd, we welcome your prayers as we begin something new and exciting that will support our community's young people. We are still accepting applications from students to participate in our program.

For an application form, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105!



Food Collection for Local Food Pantries

This Wednesday, 4:00-7:00pm, In Front of the Red Doors on Seminary Street

Collections will move to the last Sunday of each month starting with September.

Collections of food for local food banks will continue with some changes. When you drop off your donation in front of the red doors, a church member will come to accept your donation.

If you are not planning already to make a trip to the grocery store, please feel free to participate with a monetary donation instead, either by mailing a check to the church office or online at www.umcb.org/donate. Please note "food pantry" on the description line. Thank you for supporting this effort.

Information Regarding COVID-19 Vaccinations

As an expression of love for our neighbors and for the well-being of our entire community, each of us is encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccine when we are eligible to do so. All Ohioans age 12 and over are eligible to receive one of the vaccines. Visit <https://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov/> or call 2-1-1 (United Way's 211 HelpLink) on weekdays between 8AM and 4PM to find information about where you can receive the vaccine once you are eligible.

If you have additional questions or can use assistance navigating this process, please do not hesitate to contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101.

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Sunday, August 22

In-Person Worship

8 AM, Sanctuary

FaithLink via Zoom

9 AM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

In- Person & Online Worship

10:30 AM / Sanctuary or

[Join at http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos](http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos)

Fellowship Hour via Zoom

11:30 AM / [Join online](#)

Bradley Woods Hike

4 PM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Monday, August 23

Morning Prayer via Zoom

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Survivors Fellowship

11:00 AM, Goldie's Deli (Lunch only, No Meeting)

Tuesday, August 24

Morning Walk

7:30 AM, Wallace Lake / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Morning Prayer via Zoom

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Wednesday, August 25

Morning Prayer via Zoom

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Food Collection for Local Food Pantries

4 PM – 7 PM, Seminary Street side of the building

Thursday, August 26

Morning Prayer via Zoom

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

2022 UMCOR Mission Trip Informational Meeting

6:30 PM, Parlor / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Women's Study via Zoom

6:30 pm / [Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com)

Friday, August 27

Morning Prayer via Zoom

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Saturday, August 28

UMCB Outing to the Baseball Game

4:05 PM, Progressive Field

(Meet at 3PM in the UMCB Parking Lot to carpool.)

Sunday, August 29

NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS

In- Person & Online Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or

[Join at http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos](http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos)

In-Person Modern Worship

11 AM, Sanctuary

Youth Group

5 PM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

Contact Pastor Nathan at

440-234-3525 x101 or nhowe@umcb.org

Contact Pastor Carrie at

440-234-3525 x105 or cantczak@umcb.org

Church Office Hours

Monday: 9 AM –3 PM

Tuesday: Beth works from home

Wednesday: 9 AM –3 PM

Thursday: 9 AM –3 PM

Friday: Beth works from home

When working from home, Beth can be reached by email (ebartner@umcb.org) or cell phone (440-710-4498).

She will also return voicemails left on the church office phone (440-234-3525 x100).

Many of our staff members have hours based on need. If your business requires a visit to the church, it may be helpful to call in advance to ensure the staff member you wish to see will be available.

Office Mask Policy

As an expression of love for our entire community, especially those with compromised immune systems or who are unable to be vaccinated, visitors to the staff offices are required to wear face masks regardless of their vaccination status. Masks will be provided for those who do not have them.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.