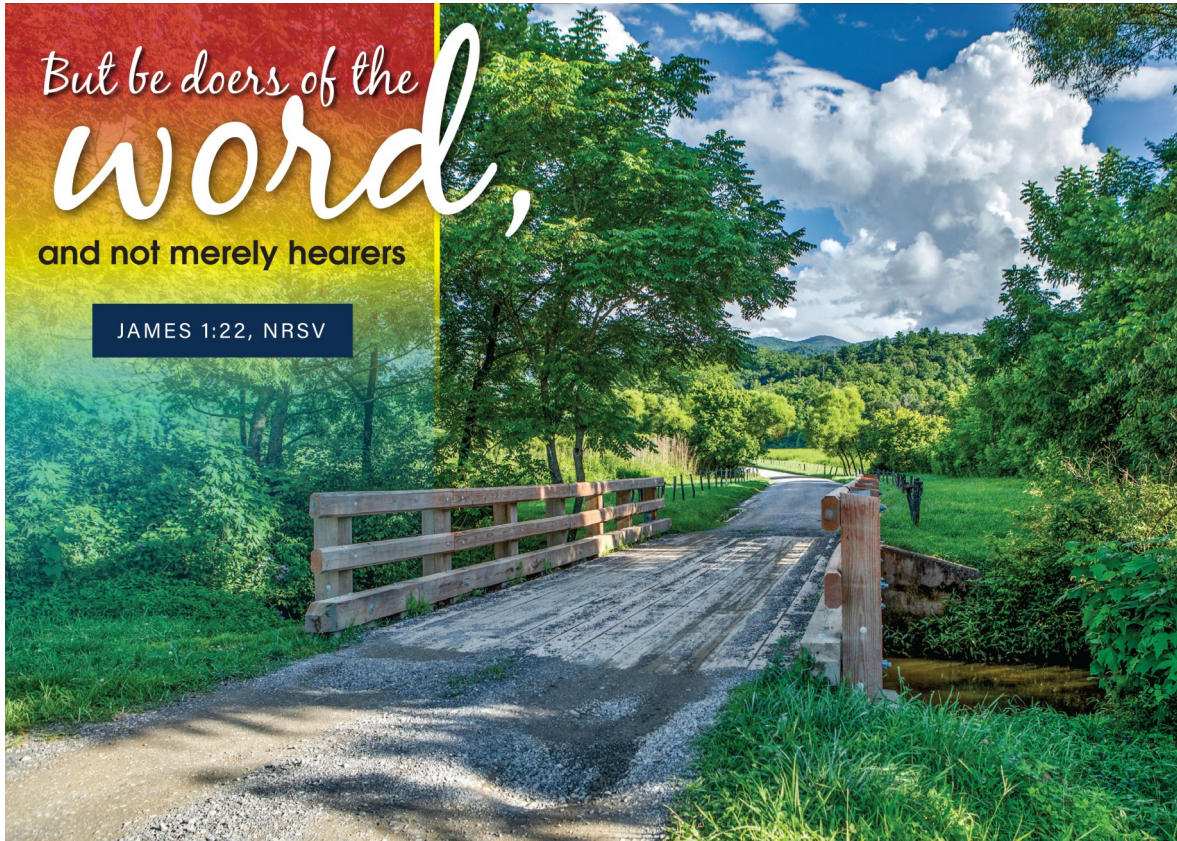


Worship Celebration



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021 + 9 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, this week and every week:

Sunday at 9AM in-person in the Sanctuary and online (www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos)

Sunday at 11AM 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

Brother James Air

Dale Wood

Words of Welcome

+ Opening Prayer

*Creating God, Giver of Life and Love, open our hearts to your loving call,
that we might hear your voice and rise to follow you.*

*We give you thanks for the gift of life,
and pledge to live this gift with love and thanksgiving.*

*Move us, Holy One, beyond private frustrations over smaller hurts
to a more lasting passion to realize justice for all your people.*

Teach us the difference between our perception and your life-giving ways.

*Help us to be doers of your word and not hearers only,
that our lives may bear the fruit of your fuller way of life. Amen.*

+ Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

UMH 92

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.*

First Lesson—James 1.17-27 (CEB)

¹⁷Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all. ¹⁸He chose to give us birth by his true word, and here is the result: we are like the first crop from the harvest of everything he created.

¹⁹Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry. ²⁰This is because an angry person doesn't produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore, with humility, set aside all moral filth and the growth of wickedness, and welcome the word planted deep inside you—the very word that is able to save you.

²²You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. ²³Those who hear but don't do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror. ²⁴They look at themselves, walk away, and immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But there are those who study the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don't listen and then forget, but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do.

²⁶If those who claim devotion to God don't control what they say, they mislead themselves. Their devotion is worthless. ²⁷True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Lesson—Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (CEB)

¹ The Pharisees and some legal experts from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. ² They saw some of his disciples eating food with unclean hands. (They were eating without first ritually purifying their hands through washing. ³ The Pharisees and all the Jews don't eat without first washing their hands carefully. This is a way of observing the rules handed down by the elders. ⁴ Upon returning from the marketplace, they don't eat without first immersing themselves. They observe many other rules that have been handed down, such as the washing of cups, jugs, pans, and sleeping mats.) ⁵ So the Pharisees and legal experts asked Jesus, "Why are your disciples not living according to the rules handed down by the elders but instead eat food with ritually unclean hands?"

⁶ He replied, "Isaiah really knew what he was talking about when he prophesied about you hypocrites. He wrote,

This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far away from me.

⁷ *Their worship of me is empty since they teach instructions that are human words.*

⁸ You ignore God's commandment while holding on to rules created by humans and handed down to you."...

¹⁴ Then Jesus called the crowd again and said, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand. ¹⁵ Nothing outside of a person can enter and contaminate a person in God's sight; rather, the things that come out of a person contaminate the person."...

²¹ "It's from the inside, from the human heart, that evil thoughts come: sexual sins, thefts, murders, ²² adultery, greed, evil actions, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, insults, arrogance, and foolishness.

²³ All these evil things come from the inside and contaminate a person in God's sight."

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

+ Hymn

Where Charity and Love Prevail

UMH 549

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.

Anthem

You Say

Daigle, Ingram, and Mabury

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

UMH 95

***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.***

Public Domain

+ Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

***God of love, every generous act of giving and every perfect gift comes from you.
May all the offerings of our time and money bear witness to who and whose we are,
and may the gifts of our hands reflect your abundance in our lives. Amen.***

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

+ Benediction

With hearts renewed and spirits filled to overflowing with the love of God, our Creator,
let us go from this place to follow Jesus, who teaches us how to love.

We will listen for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We will hear the word, do the word, and live the word.

Go in peace. The grace of Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Fanfare

Jaques Lemmens

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

Worship Participants

Pastor

Rev. Nathan Howe
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Liturgist

Carol Anne McCleery

Music

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

Video Production

Mark Williams

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, August 29):

Beloved Savior, my heart overflows
with your goodness and love.
The night has passed. The morning has come.
Your voice calls out to me,
Let your love strengthen me to respond,
caring for all those in need of expressions
of your love. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, August 29):

Christ, Beloved One, I desire to keep pace
with the steps of your love today.
Nonetheless, I find my feet wandering
and my heart forgetting your love.
Gather me again in your gracious embrace,
and renew my strength as I rest in you this night.
Amen.

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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).



Dinner for Eight

We are finishing up the letter and the enrollment for all those participating in the Dinner for Eight conversational dinner group. There is still room for some last-minute participants and we need two alternates, as well.

If you are interested in joining this group or serving as an alternate, please contact **Molly Force** at molly.o.force@gmail.com or **440-888-8417**.



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.



Loose Change Offering for September

September's Loose Change Offering will support Sayler Christmas Shop. Is it beginning to look a lot like Christmas? Only four months away! What a great time to start setting aside some change to make a difference in the holidays of children supported by OhioGuidestone. Jingle all the way to church on September 12 to get in the Christmas generosity spirit!

As a congregation committed to mission, our loose change offering gives a "boost" to the missions and programs that are strengthening our church and communities near and far. Each month, you can support by either mailing in an offering, or donating electronically at www.umcb.org/donate using the "other" box and marking it "loose change offering".



UMW Circle Meeting

September 15, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall

Calling ALL women! UMW is reaching out to invite you to our first Circle meeting of the "new" year. Please join us on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 9.30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Learn about our plans for the year as we gather in fellowship.

Questions? Please contact **Nancy Buehler** (440-234-7613 or nbuehler75@gmail.com)



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.



Rally Day

Sunday, September 12, 10 AM

We're excited to be offering in-person faith formation programs for all ages, as well as some online offerings for adults. Rally Day, or the kick-off to the faith formation year, will be held on September 12. Please be sure to register both children and youth using this link: <https://forms.gle/RkW1paMmykgDMCP47>. This is a once a year form and helps us to stay up-to-date on your family's needs.

See the September Caller for information about all the Fall Faith Formation opportunities.



Rally Day Potluck Celebration

Sunday, September 12, after the 11 AM Worship Service

Join us after 11 AM worship for a cookout and potluck! Burgers and hotdogs will be provided. Please bring your own table service and a side dish to share.

Have a fun outdoor game? Please bring it! We'd love to enjoy some family games together.



Read & Grow Book Discussion group

Monday, September 13, 6:30-8 PM, Fellowship Hall

The Read and Grow Book Discussion Group will start meeting in Fellowship Hall on the second Monday of each month from 6:30-8 PM. On **September 13** we will discuss **Searching for Sylvie Lee** by Jean Kwok.

If anyone has questions, please contact either **Betsy Meikle** at 440-243-5767 or **Janet Mallarnee** at 440-235-7331.



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 the Homework Helpers 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!



New Day and Time for Equal Exchange

Sunday Mornings, 10-11 AM, outside the Parlor

Equal Exchange fair trade items will now be available on Sundays from 10-11 AM. (between the two church services). Please stop by to purchase coffee, tea, hot cocoa or some chocolate. Thanks for your continued support of this mission! *Submitted by Wendy Jelinek for Church and Society*



Food Collection for Local Food Pantries

Donations can be left in the cupboard between the Narthex and the Library

Our collections of food to support our neighbors through local food pantries continue, but no longer on Wednesday evenings. Instead, please place donations of non-perishable food in the cupboard between the narthex (the hallway outside the Sanctuary) and the library anytime you are in the building. (If you need help finding the right location, talk to one of the pastors or other staff.)

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.



Supporting our Healthcare Heroes at Fairview Hospital

Join us in loving our neighbors this month by considering these ways to support our healthcare heroes:

1. Get the COVID-19 vaccination if you are able and keep masking up! We can do this together!
2. Write a short note of encouragement or have your little ones draw pictures. Address them to "Dear Healthcare Hero" so that the card can be given to heroes serving in a variety of roles. Keep in mind that the recipient may come from a different faith.
3. Donate pocket sized hand lotion, regular sized candy bars, boxes of tea (with individual wrappers so boxes can serve many workers), and bags of hershey kisses.

A Loving your Neighbors box will be available near the Outreach board near the offices. We will also put out supplies for notes during the month of September. Thank you to everyone who is doing their best to bring about health and wholeness to our community!

And thank you to Rev. Lisa Morrison, Spiritual Director of Fairview Hospital for helping us with this mission of thanks!

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Sunday, August 29

Traditional Worship

9 AM, Sanctuary or Online at

<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

Fellowship Hour via Zoom

10 AM / [Join online](#)

FaithLink via Zoom

10 AM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

Modern Worship

11 AM / Sanctuary

Youth Group

5 PM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

The Porch Kick-Off

(Open to all college-age students)

7 PM / [Contact Rev. Tim Morrison](#)

Monday, August 30

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Survivors Fellowship

11:30 AM, Olive Garden (Lunch only, No Meeting)

Tuesday, August 31

Morning Walk

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

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Quilters

9:30 AM, Gathering Place

Wednesday, September 1

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Thursday, September 2

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Handbell Choir

6:00 PM, Sanctuary / [Contact Tori Lero](#)

Women's Study via Zoom

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

Friday, September 3

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Saturday, September 4

UMW Executive Board

10 AM, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 5

Traditional Worship

9 AM, Sanctuary or Online at

<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

Fellowship Hour via Zoom

10 AM / [Join online](#)

FaithLink via Zoom

10 AM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

Modern Worship

11 AM / Sanctuary

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 (ebarner@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.