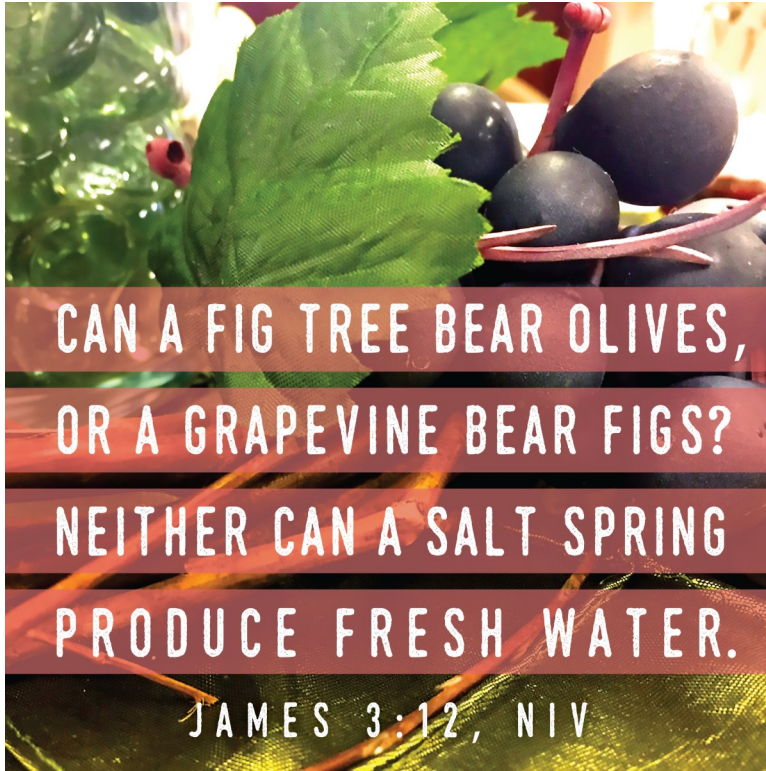


Worship Celebration



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 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

All Are Welcome

Ron Schmoltze

Words of Welcome

+ Opening Prayer

Wise and Loving God, every experience tells us about your love.

The wonders of your creation invite us to fall silent with awe.

Merciful God, you call out to us, yet we so often reject, ignore, or simply miss your invitation.

*Busy, bored, complacent, or focused on status and success,
we choose paths that separate us from you, from your creation,
from other people, and even from ourselves.*

Forgetting you, we lose more than our way; we lose our very lives.

Forgive the harm we do willingly and the harm we do unknowingly.

Empower us with your grace, that we may follow your way.

May our worship this day open our hearts to your call—an invitation that leads us into life.

In the name of Christ and the power of your Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

+ Hymn

How Great Thou Art

UMH 77

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—Psalm 19 (NRSV)

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

² Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

³ There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

⁴ yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;
⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;
⁹ the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹ Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

¹³ Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Second Lesson—James 3.1-12 (CEB)

¹ My brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers, because we know that we teachers will be judged more strictly. ² We all make mistakes often, but those who don't make mistakes with their words have reached full maturity. Like a bridled horse, they can control themselves entirely. ³ When we bridle horses and put bits in their mouths to lead them wherever we want, we can control their whole bodies.

⁴ Consider ships: They are so large that strong winds are needed to drive them. But pilots direct their ships wherever they want with a little rudder. ⁵ In the same way, even though the tongue is a small part of the body, it boasts wildly.

Think about this: A small flame can set a whole forest on fire. ⁶ The tongue is a small flame of fire, a world of evil at work in us. It contaminates our entire lives. Because of it, the circle of life is set on fire. The tongue itself is set on fire by the flames of hell.

⁷ People can tame and already have tamed every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and fish. ⁸ No one can tame the tongue, though. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we both bless the Lord and Father and curse human beings made in God's likeness. ¹⁰ Blessing and cursing come from the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, it just shouldn't be this way!

¹¹ Both fresh water and salt water don't come from the same spring, do they? ¹² My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree produce olives? Can a grapevine produce figs? Of course not, and fresh water doesn't flow from a saltwater spring either.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

+ Hymn

This Is My Song

UMH 437

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.

Choir Anthem

Praise the Lord, the King of Heaven

arr. Patti Drennan

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.***

+ Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

*Loving God, you are the source of goodness in our lives.
Thank you for your Wisdom, your creation, and your word.
Thank you for Christ, who draws all these gifts together.
Receive our offerings and our gratitude this day,
and give us the wisdom to use our gifts and lives
to complete your desires in this world. Amen.*

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

Let There Be Peace on Earth

UMH 431

+ Benediction

May the words of our mouths be acceptable and true.
May the meditations of our hearts be loving and pure.
As we leave this place to serve in our community,
may the actions of our lives be compassionate and just,
and may the stirrings of our hearts be guided by God's dream.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Come Thou Fount

Gordon Young

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

Worship Participants

Pastor

Rev. Nathan Howe
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Music

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

Liturgist

Sandy Marek

Audio Visual Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in honor of the 65th wedding anniversary of Ron & Dorene Larkey.

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, September 12):

As I open my eyes,
I can see the heavens that tell of your glory.
Allow me to be part of this creation
that proclaims your handiwork
and your real presence in the world. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, September 12):

As the day winds down,
allow me to find satisfaction in the thought
that I have taken my cross and followed you.
And if I have failed you, forgive me,
and allow me to find consolation
in the new mercies of the new day. Amen.

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Today is Rally Day!

We're excited to be offering in-person faith formation programs for all ages, as well as some online offerings for adults. Here are the Sunday Morning Formation offerings:

For Children/Youth

Sunday School

Preschool – 6th grade
10 AM, Second Floor

We'll gather as one big family and then break out into smaller age-related groups.

Youth Bible Study

7th-12th grade
10 AM, Youth Room (RM 31)

Dig deep into Bible Stories chosen by youth.

For Adults

Sunday Scripture Readings Reflection

10 AM, Fellowship Hall

Join us for a time of reflection and discussion of the morning's scripture readings. An informal group with heartfelt sharing and prayer.

FaithLink

10 AM, Room 13

Join us for discussion on current events as they relate to living faithfully.

If you haven't already done so, 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.

And Join Us after the 11 AM Worship Service for a Rally Day Potluck Picnic

To celebrate this new beginning and our fellowship with one another, all are invited to join us for a **Rally Day Potluck Picnic on the lawn on the Seminary Street side of the building at noon**. Burgers, hot dogs, and beverages will be provided.

Out of respect for varying levels of comfort related to the ongoing pandemic, everyone will be asked to wear their facemasks while going through the food line; facemasks can then be removed when you are ready to eat. Those who are not comfortable sharing food are invited to bring their own meal or just come for the fellowship.



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

Handbell Choir

Rehearses **Thursdays at 6 PM in the Sanctuary**

Rings during the 9 AM worship service on Sundays in the Sanctuary

For more information, please contact **Tori Lero** (tlero@umcb.org).

Choir

Rehearses **Thursdays at 7 PM in the Sanctuary**

Sings during the 9 AM worship service on Sundays in the Sanctuary

For more information, please contact **Courtney Popp** (cpopp@umcb.org)

or Margaret Proctor (margaret.proctor@sbcglobal.net).

Praise Band

Helps to lead our 11 AM worship service in Wesley Hall

For more information, please contact **Jeremy Piper** (jeremy@jeremypiper.com).



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.



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**.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesdays beginning September 14, 9 AM, Room 13 or via Zoom

Join us in person or via Zoom. This fall's theme is "What does it mean to belong?" This unit looks at the various ways that the Bible makes clear how we belong to God's people even when we appear to be outsiders. Several of the sessions point out where we as human beings insert distinctions that restrict membership within the community of Christ.

RSVP to **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**
to receive a student workbook.



Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom

Thursday Night Bible Study will be doing Women of the Old Testament by Gladys Hunt It is a twelve week study and it will take us from Eve through Esther with stops for Ruth, Abigail and other favorites ... please come join us !

For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at
440-409-5931 or marylynn482@gmail.com.



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!



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!**



Support Our 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.



Loose Change Offering for September

September's Loose Change Offering will support Saylor 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 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)

Crafts, Chili, & Clean Clutter

October 9, 10 AM - 4 PM, Wesley Hall & Hallway

Please join us for craft tables, ceramic ornaments, and gourmet popcorn in the Wesley Hallway. Clean clutter will be on tables in Wesley Hall, and this may include plants, books, toys, appliances, tools, kitchen utensils, and china. Two delicious kinds of chili (meat and vegetarian) may be purchased in Wesley Hall near the kitchenette. For your convenience, it will be packaged with cornbread and dessert to go.

Masks are required for this one of a kind event, and all proceeds will be donated to UMW missions.

Clean Clutter donors are expected to deliver, set up, and price their own items. The set-up will be Friday, October 8, from 3-7 PM. Donors will also need to retrieve any unsold items between 4 - 6 PM Saturday, October 9. *Please remember: No clothing, jewelry, food, or baked goods will be accepted.*

All donors and shoppers are greatly appreciated for participating in this mission fund-raiser!

To make a reservation for a Clean Clutter table, please contact **Nancy Buehler** by **September 24**, at **440-23417613** or nbuehler75@gmail.com.

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Sunday, September 12—RALLY DAY

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Fellowship Hour via Zoom

10 AM / [Join online](#)

Formation for All Ages

10 AM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Rally Day Potluck Picnic

Following the 11 AM worship / UMCB lawn

Monday, September 13

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Survivorship Fellowship

11 AM / Parlor, Lunch at IHOP

Read & Grow Book Discussion

6:30 PM / Fellowship Hall

Trustees Meeting

7 PM / **TBD?**

Tuesday, September 14

Morning Walk

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

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Wednesday, September 15

October Caller Submissions Due

Place in church office mailbox or send to info@umcb.org.

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

UMW Circle

9:30 AM / Fellowship Hall / [Contact Nancy Buehler](#)

Homework Helpers Orientation

4 PM / Second Floor / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

Thursday, September 16

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](#)

Choir

7:00 P /, Sanctuary / Contact [Courtney Popp](#) or [Margaret Proctor](#)

Friday, September 17

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Saturday, September 18

Sunday, September 19

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Fellowship Hour via Zoom

10 AM / [Join online](#)

Formation for All Ages

10 AM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

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 (ebarnar@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.