

The United Methodist Church of Berea

THE CALLER
November 2021

For weekly updates on events and activities, please subscribe to our weekly e-mail newsletter at www.umcb.org.



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ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7
9 AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND ONLINE
11 AM IN WESLEY HALL

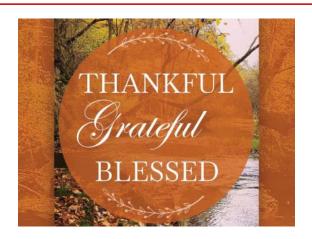
The Festival of All Saints is celebrated by the church on November 1 (or, in worship, on the Sunday immediately following November 1). It is an annual opportunity for us to gather and give thanks for the community of faith as we re-affirm that the church consists not only in all those followers of Jesus who are living and with us physically but also all those who have gone before us and who are yet to come.

REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Reign of Christ Sunday is one of the most recent additions to the Christian calendar.

Begun in 1925, the celebration was intended as a response to growing secularism and competing claims for our allegiance, especially as narrow ideologies and tribalistic nationalism spread across much of Europe following World War I.

Celebrated on the last Sunday of the Christian year (before the new year starts on the First Sunday of Advent), Reign of Christ Sunday remains for us an opportunity to worship together and to reaffirm the primacy of God's presence and purposes in our lives and throughout creation.



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24 7 PM, ONLINE

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/UMCBEREA/LIVE

The entire Berea community will be invited to worship together online at 7 PM on Wednesday, November 24 . Our worship together will include readings and music provided from multiple congregations in our community, and you will be invited to make a financial contribution through our congregation to support the ongoing work of Berea Community Outreach, caring for our neighbors in need. Give online at www.umcb.org/donate or by mailing a check to the church office, marking Thanksgiving on the description line.

November 2021 Page 1



"BACK TO BASICS" WORSHIP SERIES

SUNDAYS UNTIL NOVEMBER 21
9 AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND ONLINE
11 AM IN WESLEY HALL

NAMING OUR COMMITMENTS SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 21
9 AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND ONLINE
11 AM IN WESLEY HALL



At The United Methodist Church of Berea, our mission is "to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Each year, during the fall, we re-consider what this mission statement means for our lives as disciples and our life together as a community of faith.

Since October 24, we have been exploring a model for Christian discipleship built around five essential practices that God calls each of us to engage in both personally and together as we center our lives more fully on loving God and loving others. Join us in worship as we continue to get "back to the basics" of our mission and discipleship journey. And please also name your commitments to these five practices in 2022. You can do so by completing and bringing the 2022 Commitment Card you received in the mail with you to worship on **Sunday, November 21** or by completing and submitting your commitment form online at www.umcb.org/donate.



SUNDAY AFTERNOON WALK SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 4 PM, WEST CREEK RESERVATION

All are welcome to join us for a fall walk/hike on the trails of West Creek Reservation on Sunday, November 14. We will gather in the parking lot near the Watershed Stewardship Center (2277 West Ridgewood Drive, Parma) and begin our walk from there.

If you plan to join us, please RSVP by the end of the day on **Thursday**, **November 11** to **Pastor Nathan** at **nhowe@umcb.org** or **440-234-3525 x101**.

OPEN SANCTUARY

NOVEMBER 7, 7 - 8:30 PM

As we prepare to enter a season of gratitude and thanksgiving, maybe your heart is a little heavy, and not quite ready. We invite you to a time of quiet reflection - a space for grief, heaviness, and heartfelt prayer. Light a prayer candle. Breathe deeply the grace of God. Write in a journal. Add to a prayer wall. Share with a pastor if you'd like in a quiet corner of the Sanctuary or the porch.



This space is for you and your Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer to have a moment.

No sign up required.

Come as you are.



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

9 AM Traditional Worship

in the Sanctuary, Live-streamed at www.facebook.com/umcberea/live, and **by Phone** (1-888-788-0099, meeting id: 518 014 483; passcode: 170)

11 AM Modern Worship

in Wesley Hall with the Praise Band

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

In accordance with CDC guidelines, we will require that all persons, regardless of vaccination status, wear face masks throughout their time in our building whenever our county rating is "substantial" or "high." When our county returns to a rating of "moderate" or "low," face masks again will be optional for those who are fully vaccinated and expected for those who are not. If you are ill or experiencing symptoms, please stay home and worship with us online.

MORNING PRAYER

Mondays through Fridays at 9 AM Online via Zoom (Meeting ID: 518 014 483; Passcode: 170)

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO GIVE

Whether or not you are comfortable coming back to in-person gatherings, your participation in our ministries through your prayers and gifts remain essential to our ministries. You are invited to give anvtime online (www.umcb.org/donate) or by mailing checks to the church office. If you are worshiping with us in person, offering plates are located inside the back wall of the Sanctuary. Through whatever means that you give, thank you for your generosity and ongoing commitment to making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!



UNITED METHODIST STUDENT SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Right now, there are United Methodist young people who might not have the resources to attend a school of their choice, or, for some, any school at all. But because of people like you, they will be sent into the world God loves with gifts made through United Methodist Student Day. When you give generously you are supporting these students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge.

Supporting United Methodist students gives them a financial boost. It helps them realize their dreams while giving them a spiritual boost. Your contribution is an acknowledgment that the church has confidence in them and in their abilities.

When you give to the special offering on United Methodist Student Day, you invest in a channel of hope for young leaders who bring their Wesleyan values into their schools and professions. Please consider giving generously to help deserving, young adults continue their education and their faith journeys.

For more information, visit https://youtu.be/tsQ4CSmxBo.

(Taken from https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/umcgiving/special-sundays)

NOVEMBER 2021



CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS

Bruce Akins
Janet Angus
Molly Arthur
Betty Atherton
Barbara Beihl
Heidi Blue
Carol Bodle
Barb Dawson
Wilda Donegan
Cleda Fletcher
Molly Force
Carol & Bruce Forster
Carol Heskett
Jan Heter

Elenore Long
Christine McMillin
Betty Miller
Rev. Cal Myers
Donna O'Brien
Mary Potts
Donald Powers
Lou Russell
Russ Sanderson
Jo Swanson
Ron Teutsch
Carol Thompson
Kathleen Wargelin
Sam Weaver

WE REACH OUT IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY AND LOVE...

- ... to Rev. Linda Short and the family & friends of Linda's brother, Lawrence Short, who went on to rest in God's eternal peace on September 24.
- ... to Margot Clarico and the family and friends of Don Clarico, who went on to rest in God's eternal peace on October 10.
- .. to Diane White and the family and friends of her son, Doug, who went on to rest in God's eternal peace last week.

MEMBERS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Shirley Bedford (Independence Village)
Ann Benson (Western Reserve-Medina)
Jack Irey (Renaissance)
Janice Kavander
Mary Lou McKissock (Kemper House, Strongsville)
Pat Sarka (Wesleyan Village, Elyria)
Barbara Scoon (Generations)
Von & Marilyn Smith (Southwest Commons)
Ruth Vrana (Generations, Strongsville)

MILITARY

Eva Williamson (Western Reserve-Medina)

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

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

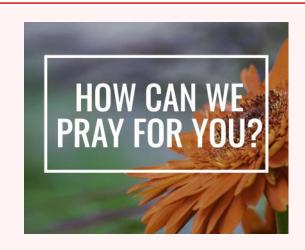
Debbie and Augie (parents of Stacey Antczak)
Wanda Baulin (sister of Wilda Donegan)
Marc Bittinger
Mike Cline (son of Corky Cline)
Hayes Daggy & Parents (great grandson of Condit Dibble)
Susan Davidson (sister of Robert Haas)
David Dawley (8/16/21, Nephew of Ron & Dorene Larkey)
Amy Marie Dziak (daughter of Marlynda Dziak)
Anthony Echols (grandson of Georgiann Baesel)

Jeremy Piper Chet Talarczyk (husband of Judy Talarczyk)

Sylvie Isgro-Schicker

Joan Mraz (friend of Nancy Schillace)

Spencer Gehring



PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Please contact **Pastor Nathan** at **440-234-3525 x101** or nhowe@umcb.org if you would like to schedule an individual time to talk or if you have a specific prayer request.

You can also submit prayer requests on our website at www.umcb.org/worshipresources.

To receive Prayer Concerns by email, visit our website at www.umcb.org and subscribe on the front page (bottom of the right column).



The season of Advent marks the beginning of a new church year and focuses our attention on an invitation. For many, it is the invitation to get into the "Christmas spirit," to count down the days until Christmas Day, and to fill our days with gift-wrapping, decorating, and Christmas music. But there is a deeper and more farreaching invitation also being offered in the season of Advent: the invitation to remember and to act like we are heading home, toward God's beloved community. Beloved community is the home where all are family, where peace resides and justice abides. Advent reminds us that we should not be complacent or satisfied about the way things are but, instead, anticipating and working toward God's dream for this world—a beloved community, in which all can come home.

Join us in worship on Sundays at 9 AM (in the Sanctuary and online) and 11 AM (in Wesley Hall) throughout the seasons of Advent and Christmas (November 28 through January 2) as we long together for the coming beloved community—our truest home—where we will study war no more, where all people will be together in real fellowship, where joy will be found, and where love will be the tie that binds us together.





ADVENT STUDY

INCARNATION: REDISCOVERING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRISTMAS
WEDNESDAYS, DECEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 22, 7 PM, ROOM 13 OR
TUESDAYS, NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 21, 9:30 AM, ROOM 13
(This will be the focus of our ongoing Tuesday Morning Bible Study throughout Advent.)

All are welcome to join us for this four-week Bible study experience to help prepare us to celebrate God's presence with us in Christ during the upcoming Christmas season. In the midst of so much cultural uncertainty and conflict, we will reflect together on the significant of the Christ child who brings us together, heals our hearts, and calls us to bring light into the darkness.

AT HOME "HANGING OF THE GREENS"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 6:30 PM, VIA ZOOM

On Sunday, November 28--the First Sunday of Advent--you are invited to participate in an at-home "hanging of the greens." We will meet via Zoom at 6:30 PM for a time of fellowship including sharing some of our favorite Christmas decorations, any stories connected with those decorations, and other traditions that help us prepare for the Christmas celebration.

For more information and to RSVP for either of these opportunities and receive the Zoom meeting id, please contact

Pastor Nathan at nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x100 by the end of the day on Wednesday, November 24.



November 2021 Page 6



THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAYS, 6:30 PM, VIA ZOOM

Did you know that Miriam was a very critical person or that Rahab was really a good choice for a ally?

Ladies, if would you like to know more about the women of the Bible, please join us for our Thursday Evening Bible Study.

We look forward to seeing you on Zoom on Thursday nights as we find out more interesting facts about women of the Old Testament.

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



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 6:30-8 PM FELLOWSHIP HALL

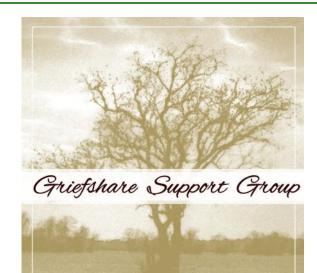
The Read and Grow book club meets in Fellowship Hall from 6:30-8:00 PM on the second Monday of the month, and we have reversed the books for the next two months:

NOVEMBER 8
Magic Lessons
by Alice Hoffman

<u>DECEMBER 13</u> **The Orphan's Tale**by Pam Jenoff

If anyone has questions, please contact either

Betsy Meikle at 440-243-5767 or Janet Mallarnee at 440-235-7331.



BEGINNING TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022 6:30 PM, VIA ZOOM

We will be starting up a new session in January. It is a thirteen week session filled with some reading, some questions, some laughter, and a few tears - all in the comfort of your home. Come meet some new friends who share the same concerns and thoughts as you might have. We will talk about feelings, about doubts, and about problems getting back to a new normal way of life.

For more information and Zoom details, contact Mary Lynn Swartz at marylynn482@gmail.com or 440-409-5931.

NOVEMBER 2021

Sunday, November 7, 2021 All Saints' Sunday Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 25.6-9 Psalm 24 (UMH 755) Revelation 21.1-6a John 11.32-44	For Reflection and Conversation: Tears appear in this day's readings from Isaiah, Revelation, and John. What do saints have to do with tears? What is the role of the community of saints—the community of faith—in comforting those who mourn? When have you been comforted? When have you helped to comfort another?
Sunday, November 14, 2021 Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost	1 Samuel 1.4-20 1 Samuel 2.1-10 or Psalm 113 (UMH 834) Hebrews 10.11-14 (15-18) 19-25 Mark 13.1-8	For Reflection and Conversation: What can you do to encourage another person this week? What practices can you adopt to make your prayers and worship more passionate?
Sunday, November 21, 2021 Reign of Christ Sunday	2 Samuel 23:1-7 Psalm 132:1-12 (UMH 849) Revelation 1:4-8 John 18:33-37	For Reflection and Conversation: In the Gospel, Jesus says his kingdom is not of this world and belonging to his way of life means giving constant attention to his voice. How are you embodying Jesus' countercultural way of life? What is a next step God might be calling you to take? How can you listen more closely for God's voice?
Sunday, November 28, 2021 First Sunday of Advent United Methodist Student Sunday	Jeremiah 33.14-16 Psalm 25.1-10 (UMH 756) 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13 Luke 21.25-36	For Reflection and Conversation: Even in the midst of trouble and turmoil, God offers us glimpses of beloved community. What signs of promise do you notice that sustain your hope in a new heaven and a new earth?

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, November 7):

As I live this day, O Lord, let me be a sign of your salvation—food for those who hunger, comfort for those who mourn.
This I ask in the name of Jesus, our Alpha and Omega. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, November 7):

As I rest this night, O Lord, let me be a temple of your peace a home for your holy presence, a sanctuary of renewal. This I ask in the name of Jesus, our Alpha and Omega. Amen.

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, November 14):

Dear God, empower me to encourage others for the glory of your name as I move throughout this day. In Jesus' name, I ask it. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, November 14):

Dear God, thank you for keeping me throughout this day. Grant me a night of peaceful rest, and put a song of praise in my heart when I wake in the morning. Amen.

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, November 21):

Gracious God,
help me to receive this day as a gift.
In my moments of caution
and my moments of confidence,
teach me to listen for your voice
and to watch for your provision.
Grant me the gift of life in community. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, November 21):

Lord of life, as I recollect this day, help me to recognize your witness in truth that challenges convenience, in decisions that stretch my heart. Teach me to trust the sound of your voice and to follow wherever you lead. Amen.

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, November 28):

Thank you for this new day to watch for signs of your advent.

By your Spirit, let me abound in love for you and for your children.

In my living and my loving, may I point to your coming reign. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, November 28):

Thank you for all the signs of your work and for the saving power of your love.

Bless all whom I will meet this day, and strengthen our hope in your grace.

Help me to relinquish my anxieties and fears and to trust in your providence and mercy. Amen.



CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Many blessings to our seven students who received Bibles on October 3! Becca, Sarah, Zach, and Paxton received their Bibles at the 9 AM service. Josie, Hope, and Koen (pictured left to right) received their Bibles at the 11 AM Service. We're delighted to be traveling this faith journey with you!

Pictured below, our youth students helped our new Bible recipients find our congregation's favorite Bible verses this morning. We're so grateful for their mentorship!







ECUMENICAL YOUTH GROUP HOLIDAY PARTY

DECEMBER 12, 5-6:30 PM, WESLEY HALL

There will not be a November Ecumenical Youth Group meeting, but we'll have a great Holiday Bash on Sunday, December 12 at 5 PM. White elephant gifting tradition, snacks, games, and more. Join us in the Youth Room for all the fun.

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

ADVENT CALENDARS AVAILABLE FOR ALL AGES!

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. John 3:16.

At the back of each worship space, pick up your *Advent Around the World* kit! Create a paper chain to count down the days - learning each day of another country and their Christmas traditions. Pray for that country and then place a star sticker on your included world map. A great reminder of God's expansive love for all of creation!





LEAF RAKING FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 9 AM—NOON MEET AT SMITH SCHOOL AT 8:45 AM

All are welcome to join us on Saturday, November 20 from 9 AM to Noon as we express God's love for our Berea neighbors by helping to rake leaves.

We will gather in the parking lot of the old Smith School (535 Wyleswood Drive, Berea) at 8:45 AM, receive our assigned yards from Berea Community Outreach, and depart from there.

If you plan to participate, please RSVP by the end of the day on **Wednesday, November 17** to **Pastor Nathan** at

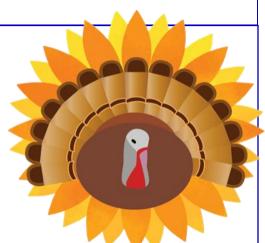
nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x101**.



THANKSGIVING NOVEMBER 21

4-6 PM

For more information or to volunteer to help, contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105!



METANOIA THANKSGIVING DINNER

THANKSGIVING DAY, NOVEMBER 25
SET-UP 6:30 PM
SERVING DINNER 7 PM
FRANKLIN CIRCLE CHURCH

We have the privilege this year of providing Thanksgiving dinner for those experiencing homelessness. We will be serving at Franklin Circle Church in Ohio City, a shelter program sponsored by the Metanoia Project.



We will need volunteers to cook and prepare food, as well as volunteers to serve the dinner. Set-up will be at 6:30 PM and serving begins at 7 PM. How would you like to serve - as a Chef or Server? Both will be a gift to a community in need of love and comfort this holiday season. (Can't do this on Thanksgiving? We'll also be serving on January 23, February 20, and April 3.)

To express your interest, please contact **Pastor Carrie** NOW at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



This year we have adopted 30 families through the holiday gift program of the Berea Community Outreach. This program supports families in Berea by allowing community members to "adopt" a family to make their holidays a little bit more special.

Pick up an ornament listing the requested items from the giving tree beginning in early November.

Gifts will need to be dropped off at the church in early December, unwrapped, with the tag attached.

If you'd like to donate wrapping as well, that would be appreciated. However, we let Santa and his helpers do the wrapping!

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT IN THE CUPBOARD BETWEEN THE NARTHEX AND THE LIBRARY

Our collections of food continue. 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.)

During the school year, single serving items such as fruit cups and cheese or peanut butter crackers are especially appreciated. This is also a great time to start donating items for holiday dinners such as green beans, mushroom soup, and canned pumpkin.

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.





EQUAL EXCHANGE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 10-11 AM, BY THE PARLOR

Visit the Equal Exchange sale on November 7 to purchase coffee, tea, and/or hot cocoa to enjoy on your average fall day or to serve with your Thanksgiving meal. While you are there, pick up some chocolate to treat yourself after washing those plentiful Thanksgiving dinner dishes.

Learn more about Equal Exchange at equalexchange.coop.

Thanks for your continued support of this mission!

Submitted by Wendy Jelinek, Church and Society



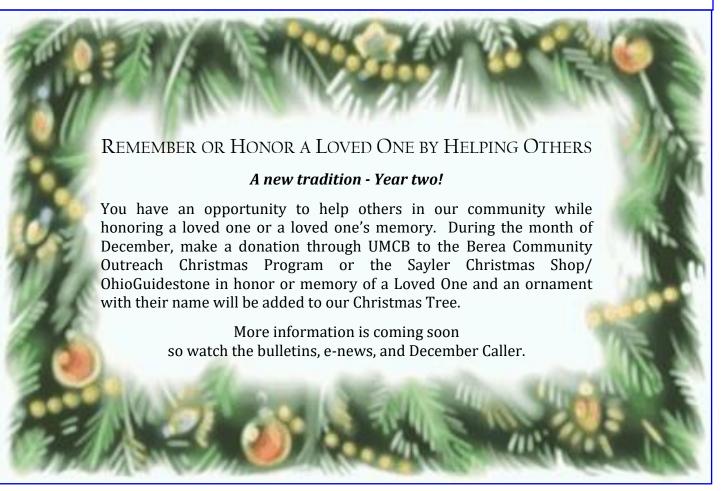
Mission Statement:

To live our Christian values by articulating Creation Justice and identifying environmental damage and social injustices, as we work to make changes in our lives and culture that will address these problems.

Goals:

- Host a Creation Justice Fair at UMCB on April 23, 2022 where speakers and table hosts will share information and propose actions for addressing injustices.
- Participants will learn how impacts of Climate Change create intolerable conditions for impoverished people that force them to leave their homelands.
- Learn about the "Linear Materials Economy model" from extraction to disposal and actions to take to help resolve the injustices created by this model.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact **Barb Dawson** at **bdawson8531@sbcglobal.net** or **440-227-0284** or **Wendy Jelinek** at **snowleopard7001@yahoo.com** or **440-826-9027**.





UMW Gives Thanks

UMW wants to thank everyone who worked, donated, supported and participated in the Craft, Chili, and Clutter event. Our first venture (in over 18 months) was a success. As always, we appreciate your support and generosity.

Dear Friends of Church Street Ministries/Second Mile Outreach:

We wish to express our grateful appreciation for your extremely generous donation of \$2012.00 to Church Street Ministries/Second Mile Outreach. Your continued support allows us to continue responding to the many needs of our community . . . We thank you for trusting us to serve as an extension of your heart and hands in the world.

God Bless, Kaitlin Barick, Executive Director

(See the Bulletin Board across from the church office for the full letter.)

On behalf of the clients we serve at the SCAN Hunger Pantry, I thank you for your kind contribution to us. With your help, we will be able to continue to feed those in our communities who depend on us to help them.

We most gratefully acknowledge receipt of your June 9th check for \$165 and August 25th check for \$270. Your generosity is much appreciated and helpful.

Cordially,

Mitchell Grebuer, Treasurer, SCAN Hunger Center Pantry

From the UMCB Trustees:

Wesley Hall is slated to have sound baffling installed in November. Once that project is finished the building expansion that started in 2011 and included Wesley Hall and the Gathering Place will be considered complete. The "Building on Faith" renovation budget that was created to fund the project is going to be closed as of November 15. After that date, all donations sent to the "Building on Faith" fund will be allocated to the trustees' capital improvement account. To avoid waste, the giving envelopes will not reflect that change until the current supply runs out. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Williams at 440-234-3525 x102.

NOVEMBER LOOSE OFFERING

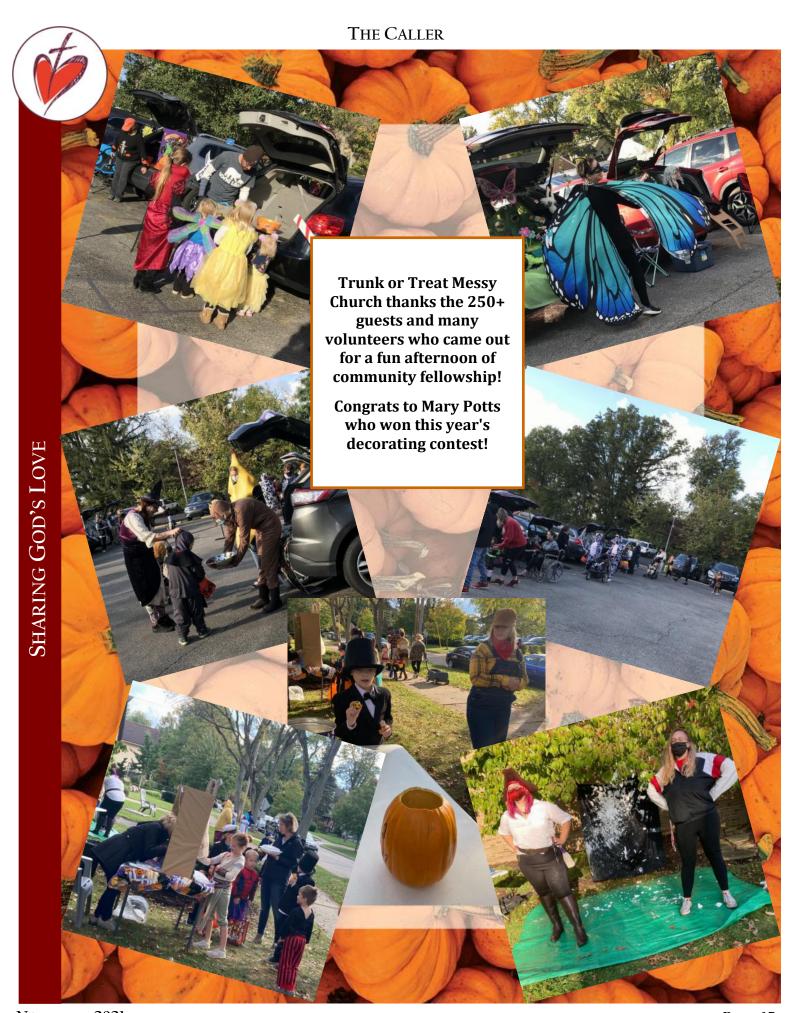
As a congregation committed to mission, our loose change offering gives a "boost" to the missions and programs that are strengthening our church and communities near and far.

Each month, you can support the selected mission by either mailing in an offering, or donating electronically at www.umcb.org/donate using the "other" box and marking it "loose change offering".



November's Loose Change Offering supports the Giving Tree.

See Page 11 For more information about the Giving Tree and opportunities to be involved.



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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 info@umcb.org) 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.

