

# Worship Celebration



*Twenty-third Sunday  
after Pentecost*

*Back to Basics:  
Called to Give -  
Cultivating a Life of  
Generosity*

October 31, 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](https://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos))

**Sunday at 11AM** in-person in Wesley Hall

**Monday—Friday at 9AM** (Morning Prayer) via Zoom  
(1-888-788-0099, 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

*How Firm a Foundation*

arr. Janet Linker

## Words of Welcome

### + Opening Prayer

*O God, you are our God, and we gather together as your people.*

*Welcome us into your presence, that we may be reminded  
of the ties that bind us together in your love.*

*Strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may place our trust only in you.*

*Help us to live in love with you and with each other:*

*a love that transforms our lives*

*even as we help to transform this world in your name. Amen.*

### + Hymn

*O God of Every Nation*

UMH 435

## 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 146.1-10 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

<sup>3</sup> Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

<sup>4</sup> When their breath departs, they return to the earth;  
on that very day their plans perish.

<sup>5</sup> Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

<sup>6</sup> who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

who keeps faith forever;

<sup>7</sup> who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; <sup>8</sup> the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD watches over the strangers;

he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

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

**People: *Thanks be to God.***

### Gospel Lesson—Mark 12.38-44 (CEB)

<sup>38</sup> As he was teaching, he said, "Watch out for the legal experts. They like to walk around in long robes. They want to be greeted with honor in the markets. <sup>39</sup> They long for places of honor in the synagogues and at banquets. <sup>40</sup> They are the ones who cheat widows out of their homes, and to show off they say long prayers. They will be judged most harshly."

<sup>41</sup> Jesus sat across from the collection box for the temple treasury and observed how the crowd gave their money. Many rich people were throwing in lots of money. <sup>42</sup> One poor widow came forward and put in two small copper coins worth a penny. <sup>43</sup> Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I assure you that this poor widow has put in more than everyone who's been putting money in the treasury. <sup>44</sup> All of them are giving out of their spare change. But she from her hopeless poverty has given everything she had, even what she needed to live on."

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

**People: *Thanks be to God.***

## Sermon

### + Hymn

*Cuando El Pobre (When the Poor Ones)*

UMH 434

## 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](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org)), the church office (440-234-3525 x100), or online at [www.umcb.org/worshipresources](http://www.umcb.org/worshipresources).*

### Choir Anthem

*Praise His Holy Name!*

Keith Hampton

## 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](http://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 justice and love, transform our offerings***

***that they may be gifts of justice and love for a world in need of hope.***

***Let love flow through the resources we share and through our lives,***

***that we may be gifts of love for the world.***

***By your generous spirit, we live. With your generous spirit, we give. Amen.***

## We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

### + Hymn

*Take My Life, and Let It Be*

UMH 399

### + Benediction

Go now to love both God and neighbor.

***We go out from this place of worship to serve in God's community.***

Go to welcome the stranger, to give of yourself for others.

***We go to share God's love with the world. Thanks be to God. Amen.***

### Postlude

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

arr. Max Reger

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



## “Back to Basics” Worship Series—Week 2: Called to Give

*Goals for cultivating a life of generosity:*

Together: tithe throughout the year, giving 10% of total income to support God’s work through the church

Alone: pursue 5 acts of radical generosity each month

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### Worship Participants

#### **Pastors**

Rev. Nathan Howe  
Rev. Carrie Antczak

#### **Music**

Megan Denman, *Organist*  
Courtney Popp, *Choir Director*  
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

#### **Liturgist**

Carol McCleery

#### **Audio Video Elements**

Mark Williams  
Marlynda Dziak

#### ***Morning Prayer*** (week of Sunday, October 31):

Loving God, help me to live by your commandments as I strive to love you and my neighbors with all I have. Amen.

#### ***Evening Prayer*** (week of Sunday, October 31):

Gracious Lord, thank you for watching over me throughout the day.  
Help me to meditate on your ways as I rest tonight.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

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### **Charge Conference 2021**

***Saturday, November 13, 9 AM***

This year's charge conference will meet on Saturday, November 13 at 9 AM. Charge conference is our annual meeting to celebrate God's activity in our congregation throughout the past year and to conduct official business in preparation for the year to come with the guidance of our District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Steve Bailey.

All members of the Church Council are expected to participate in this meeting with voice and vote. We will meet together in person in the building to connect with the meeting via Zoom.

Please contact Pastor Nathan ([nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org), 440-234-3525 x101) with any questions and if you plan to attend.



## **“Back to Basics” Worship Series**

***Sundays through November 21, 9 AM in the Sanctuary & 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.

*What is a disciple?*

*How do we mature as disciples?*

*How do we “make disciples” or help others to mature as disciples?*

*How do we transform, or make a real positive difference, in the world?*

*How can we become more fully engaged and flourishing as we live in the way of Christ?*

We will explore together a model for Christian discipleship built around *five essential practices* that God called 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 in as we get “back to the basics” of our mission and discipleship. Here the practices we will be focusing on in coming Sundays:

**November 7:** Called to Serve—Cultivating a Life of Justice and Kindness

**November 14:** Called to Study—Cultivating a Life of Learning  
*(Please bring your Bible to worship as we reflect on what it means to study scripture.)*

**November 21:** Called to Share—Cultivating a Life that Bears Witness



## **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.



## **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 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](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x101**.



## Sunday Morning Faith Formation Opportunities

### For Children/Youth

**Sunday School** (Preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> grade)  
10 AM, Second Floor

**Youth Bible Study** (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)  
10 AM, Youth Room (RM 31)

### For Adults

**Sunday Scripture Readings Reflection**  
10 AM, Fellowship Hall

**FaithLink**  
10 AM, Room 13



## Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

**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. We have reversed the books for the next two months and will be discussing **Magic Lessons** by Alice Hoffman on November 8. On December 13, we will discuss **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.



## Tuesday Morning Bible Study

**Tuesdays, 9 :30 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](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105  
to receive a student workbook.



## Thursday Night Bible Study

**Thursdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom**

Ladies, would you like to know more about the Women of the Bible, please join us for our Thursday Evening Bible Study ... did you know that Miriam was a very critical person or that Rahab was really a good choice for a ally? Come join us and find out more interesting facts about Women of the Old Testament .... Looking forward to seeing you on Zoom on Thursday nights ...

For more information, contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at  
[marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com) or 440-409-5931.



## October Loose Change Offering Supports The Sunshine Fund

The Sunshine Fund at Grindstone Elementary supports teachers, staff, and families in need of a little "sunshine". This lends support wherever PTA leadership feel it is needed. In the past, funds have given encouragement gifts to teachers undergoing cancer care, helped purchase winter coats needed for children, and has supported other students who we'll never know needed our care. But God knows, and grace abounds. Thank you for your generosity!

You can support the selected mission by either mailing in an offering,  
or donating electronically at [www.umcb.org/donate](http://www.umcb.org/donate) using the "other" box  
and marking it "loose change offering".



## 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. With your help, we are able to honor our mission commitments. Please stop at our table by the library today for assorted handmade decorations.

As always, we appreciate your support and generosity.



### **Volunteers needed for Metanoia Thanksgiving Dinner**

***Thanksgiving Day, November 25, Set-up at 6:30 PM, Serving Dinner at 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. Your response is urgently needed to ensure we have enough volunteers.

If you would be willing to volunteer, please contact  
**Laura Rushton** as soon as possible  
at [jlaurush@aol.com](mailto:jlaurush@aol.com) or **440-783-1238**.

*(Can't do this on Thanksgiving? We'll also be serving on January 23, February 20, and April 3.)*



### **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](http://equalexchange.coop). Thanks for your continued support of this mission!



### **November's Love Your Neighbor Opportunity - 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](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x101**.

# Happening at The UMCB this week:

## Sunday, October 31

### **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

### **Creation Justice Fair Team Meeting**

3:00 PM / Room 13 / Barb Dawson at

[bdawson8531@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bdawson8531@sbcglobal.net), 440-227-0284 or

Wendy Jelinek at [snowleopard7001@yahoo.com](mailto:snowleopard7001@yahoo.com), 440-826-9027

## Monday, November 1

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

### **Survivorship Fellowship**

11 AM / Parlor / Lunch at Bagley Grill

## Tuesday, November 2

### **Morning Walk**

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

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

### **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

9 AM / Room 13, on Zoom / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

### **Stephen Ministers**

6:30 PM / Room 13

## Wednesday, November 3

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

### **Homework Helpers**

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

## Thursday, November 4

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

### **Handbell Choir**

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

### **Women's Bible Study via Zoom**

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

### **Choir**

7:00 PM / Sanctuary /

Contact [Courtney Popp](#) or [Margaret Proctor](#)

## Friday, November 5

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

## Saturday, November 6

### **UMW Executive Board**

10 AM / Fellowship Hall

### *Daylight Savings Ends*

## Sunday, November 7

### **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

### **Open Sanctuary**

7 PM / Sanctuary

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### *Contact Pastor Nathan at*

*440-234-3525 x101 or [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org)*

### *Contact Pastor Carrie at*

*440-234-3525 x105 or [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org)*

### **Church Office Hours**

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:** 9 AM – 3 PM

**Tuesday, Friday:** Beth works from home

*When working from home, Beth can be reached by*

*email ([ebarnar@umcb.org](mailto: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.