

The United Methodist Church of Berea

THE CALLER

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

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In this issue . . .

OCTOBER WORSHIP SERIES: THE MICAH 6.8 CHALLENGE

SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 2 – OCTOBER 30, 9 AM AND 11 AM

In a season of political polarization and rising social distrust and division, we are called to relate with one another in a different, more life-giving way. We are called to embody, to practice, and to inhabit the beloved community of God.

During the month of October (five weeks leading up to the next national election, on Tuesday, November 8), we will explore and re -commit to the simple yet profound teaching of the prophet Micah who, in a time not unlike our own, wondered what God required of us and discerned this enduring response: ...to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.

By God's grace and through our life together as a community of faith, we are able to love our neighbors and to reclaim these three essential practices. Together, on the five Sundays of October, each of us will be invited to reflect on five themes and to share them with our neighbors:

> October 2—Being Just October 9—Being Kind October 16—Being Humble October 23—Loving Your Neighbor October 30—Where Religion and Politics Meet

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. MICAH 6:8

HUMBLE.

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SUNDAYS, 10 - 11AM, GATHERING PLACE

We are ready to resume a more robust fellowship hour! Just like B.C. (Before Covid), we are asking groups, committees, and families to share this time of fellowship and goodies. This entails setting up, providing light snacks, and cleaning up. Fellowship hour should be ready to go by 10 AM at the latest and be cleaned up after folks have dispersed from 11 AM worship.

You may use this time to share information about your group or committee, as well as share pictures for celebrations (like birthdays and anniversaries).

If you are unable to do the physical work of providing fellowship snacks, you may make a financial donation to cover the costs, and another volunteer can help you with the details.

To sign up for a date or get more information, please contact **Jason Antczak** at **440-759-7805** or <u>jasonantczak78@gmail.com</u>.

PARTICIPATE IN DINNER FOR EIGHT

Attention all aspiring chefs and aficionados of *fine cuisine:* Dinner for Eight, a conversational Dinner Group sponsored by the United Methodist Church of Berea, is starting in October and we are in need of participants!

Please contact **Molly Force** at **440-888-8417** or <u>molly.o.force@gmail.com</u> if you would like to participate.

SPECIAL WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

"Come and remember who you are here Do this to remember who I am Come and remember you belong here" ----"ALL BELONG HERE" BY THE MANY

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

On World Communion Sunday, we partner with other UMC congregations in a special offering to support young adults and make a global impact for Christ. Half of the offering benefits World Communion scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. The remainder assists Ethnic Scholarships for U.S. and international undergraduate students in the U.S. and Ethnic In-Service Training.

The United Methodist Church, the world and our communities are in a time of transition. Together God's church can be a beacon to navigate the ongoing global trauma of the COVID pandemic, the impact of a tumultuous political climate in the U.S. and the anxiety of a looming denominational separation.

Now, perhaps more than ever, we are called to be part of extending healing and hope that can guide us to becoming a new creation in Christ. Through our gifts and support, we partner with God and God's people to strengthen Christ's loving presence in a hurting world. Concentrating our resources to support shared ministries equips us to step into a grace-filled new beginning with faithful determination.

When you give generously on World Communion Sunday, you partner with talented, qualified students from around the globe to transform the world as witnesses for Christ.

> Learn more at https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=AMfCkCs-uOY.



SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

MEMBERS

Betty Atherton Barbara Beihl Heidi Blue Carol Bodle Wilda Donegan Carol & Bruce Forster Debby Haas Jan Heter Elenore Long Christine McMillin Betty Miller Rev. Cal Myers Donald Powers Lou Russell Russ Sanderson Mary Lynn Swartz Carol Thompson Kathleen Wargelin

MEMBERS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

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

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Wanda Baulin (sister of Wilda Donegan) Dave & Jane Breakey (friends of the Brenneisons) Marc Bittinger ** Cheryl Cheff (mother of Corey Reams) Max & the Conway Family (grandson of the Conways) Dan Dietz (son of Joan Dietz) AmyMarie Dziak (daughter of Marlynda Dziak) Spencer Gehring Sylvie Isgro-Schicker Isaac Kowicki & Oliver Lawrence (great nephews of Cindy Osborn) Lillian and Lucas (family friends of the Howes) Paul & Kathryn and children (family of Andrew & Christine McMillin) Joann Mraz (friend of Nancy Schillace) **Jeanne Sowder** Laura Swartz Steele Chet Talarczyk (husband of Judy Talarczyk)

MILITARY

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)

HOW CAN WE

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FOR YOU?

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Please contact **Pastor Nathan** at **440-234-3525 x101** or <u>nhowe@umcb.org</u> 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 at <u>umcb.org/worshipresources</u> or by emailing the church office at <u>info@umcb.org</u>.

To receive Prayer Concerns by email, scan the QR code below or visit our website at <u>umcb.org/contact</u>

and subscribe in the lower right column.



Sunday, October 2, 2022 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost World Communion Sunday (Green)	Lamentations 1:1-6 Psalms 137 (UMH 852) 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> In Luke 17.5-10, the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. By asking this, they acknowledge that faith does not grow by our own works and hard efforts but is a gift of God's grace. How has the gift of faith in your own life changed over time? Can you recall a time when your faith was weak or when its strength helped you endure? Who has helped you grow in your faith?
Sunday, October 9, 2022 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 Psalms 66:1-12 (UMH 790) 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> In both Luke and Jeremiah, God is at work not only among the people of Israel but also among those they consider to be enemies. Is there someone in your life you feel is an "enemy"—someone whom you would rather not be associated for some reason? How can you seek their welfare?
Sunday, October 16, 2022 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)	Jeremiah 31:27-34 Psalms 119:97-104 or Psalms 19(UMH 750) 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> Luke's parable of the widow who seeks justice encourages us not to lose heart. How have you practiced persistence in your life of faith? When have you experienced the Holy Spirit breaking through a seemingly insurmountable barrier? How did you give thanks?
Sunday, October 23, 2022 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)	Joel 2:23-32 Psalms 65 (UMH 789) 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> 2 Timothy describes the journey of faith as a race that includes the work of "keeping the faith." What has this looked like in your life? How has the community of faith helped you to do this, even amid challenges?
Sunday, October 30, 2022 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost (Green)	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalms 119:137-144 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10	<i>For Reflection and Conversation:</i> How do you remain steadfast in love and faithful in the midst of suffering, either your own or others'? What sustains your hope, and how might you share that hope with others this week?

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<i>Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, October 2):</i> We wake in wonder, O God, as sunshine scatters shadows and a new day begins. Never ceasing, never ending, your mercies are new each day. Thank you. Amen.	Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, October 2): From dusk to darkness, we notice the speckling of stars and planets. But you have known them first, O God, and you know us completely. Thank you for all the ways you make yourself known. Praise you, God. Amen.
<i>Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, October 9):</i> God of endings and new beginnings, grant me your grace and presence to start over this day. Awaken my attention to your presence in all things, people, and circumstances. Amen.	Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, October 9): Generous God, this day is one you have made. I will rejoice and be glad in it. For all the ways I have noticed you and for all the times I have not, thank you, thank you, thank you. Amen.
Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, October 16): God of justice, you are at work this very day on behalf of those who are poor, marginalized, overlooked, and disregarded. Fill me with the power of your Holy Spirit, so I can begin this day praying and working earnestly for someone facing injustice. Amen.	 Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, October 16): God of mercy, I come to you now with my energy running low. Like the stars in the darkness, I send out to you my prayers for justice. I pray this night for peace among all people, in the name of the One who comes to bring peace unlike any we can achieve for ourselves. Amen.
<i>Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, October 23):</i> God of light, thank you for another day. With each new hour, may I be watchful for signs of your grace, ready to show your love, and eager to tell the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.	Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, October 23): Thank you, God, for the challenges and blessings of this whole day. If I kept faith with you, thank you for your Spirit's help. If I moved away from you, turn me back around. Into your hands, I entrust my life. Amen.
<i>Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, October 30):</i> With the morning light, my hope is renewed, and all my trust is in you, O God. Lead me where you would have me go, and show me what you would have me do to display your dream for this world. Amen.	Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, October 30): The night is a gift from you, O God, a shelter and time of repose. Forgive any unfaithfulness in me, and grant me peace, that I may rest entirely in you. Amen.

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UMW CIRCLE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 9:30 AM, FELLOWSHIP HALL

UMW FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 10 AM - 4 PM, WESLEY HALL

Over 15+ Vendors...come check them out!

Gift Basket Auction

Chili Café

ALL proceeds benefit UMW-supported missions. THANK YOU for your support!

Sponsored by: United Methodist Women

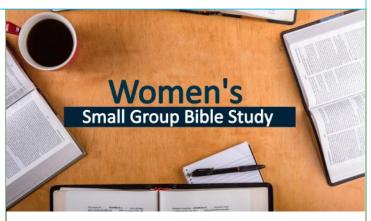
Women's Bible and Book Study on Racism

Wednesday, October 5 7 pm

AT THE HOME OF LINDA SHORT AND ROBIN KAISER

We will be using the book, **Oneness Embraced** by Tony Evans. You can order a book through <u>thriftbooks.com</u>. Bring the book, a Bible, pen and paper, and download a copy of the participant guide available from Linda.

Register by **Sunday, October 2**, by contacting **Linda Short** at **440-785-6047** or <u>9short28@gmail.com</u>.



Monday evenings at 7 pm $\,$

We invite you to join us to do a close reading of one chapter of the Bible, pray together, and enjoy each other's company. No homework.

If interested, please email **Katie Flinn** at kathryn.flinn@gmail.com.

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom

The Miracle of the current book we are studying is that we are getting through it. Have you thought of the miracle of the power in the presence of death or what really happens when our efforts fail? Come join us and help us find the true answers.

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

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CHILDREN'S & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAYS, 10 AM

Children and youth are encouraged to join us for Sunday School this year! It's not too late to join us!

Our Pre-K-3rd grade are meeting in Room 21.

Our 4th-8th grade are meeting in Room 27.

Confirmation is meeting once a month (**10/23** this month).

Youth 9th-12th grade are participating in Animate:Faith this month, which meets in the Chapel.

If you have questions, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at <u>cantczak@umcb.org</u> or **440-234-3525**.

EYG PUMPKIN CARVING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 5-6:30 PM, WESLEY HALL (OR OUTDOORS, WEATHER PERMITTING)

Bring your knife (and a pumpkin) to church! The only time we get to say this! Youth 4th-12th grade are welcome to join us for pumpkin carving, a devotion, and snacks.

If you can join us, please let Pastor Carrie at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105 !



BOOK DISCUSSION *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, and Douglas Abrams

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 6:30 PM, PARLOR

In April 2015, Desmond Tutu visited the Dalai Lama to celebrate the latter's eightieth birthday and to look back on their long lives with the goal to respond to this question: *How do we find joy in the face of life's inevitable suffering?* Through their personal stories, interactions with one another, and sharing of spiritual practices, we are invited into a set of "Joy Practices" that can help anchor our own emotional and spiritual journeys. Join us in the Parlor on Wednesday, October 26 at 6:30 PM for a discussion of this book.

Copies are available through most library systems, but contact **Pastor Nathan** at **<u>nhowe@umcb.org</u>** or **440-234-3525 x101** if you plan to attend or need help accessing a copy.



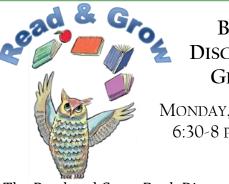
DIALOGUES ON: SEXUALITY

Begins October 30, 10 Am, Chapel

Following up on our event last month, The ABC's of LGBTQ, we invite adults and senior high youth to join us for "Dialogues on: Sexuality", a series produced by Sparkhouse Publishing. In this short series, we will discuss patriarchy, shame, gender identity, church inclusivity, and sexual wholeness.

There are no participant books for this series, so registration is not needed. Videos can be previewed using your Amplify Media account.

If you have questions, need help accessing videos, or would like more information, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at <u>cantczak@umcb.org</u> or **440-234-3525 x105**!



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10 6:30-8 pm, Parlor

The Read and Grow Book Discussion Group will meet in the Parlor hereafter.

On October 10, we will discuss **The Oysterville Sewing Circle** by Susan Wiggs.

On November 14, we will discuss **The Last Train to London** by Meg Waite Clayton.

For more information, please contact Betsy Meikle at <u>meiklebetsyj@gmail.com</u> or 440-243-5767.



A SPECIAL ONE-TIME GRIEFSHARE MEETING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2:30 PM, PARLOR

This is a one time program for those who have lost a spouse. We will have a short introduction, watch a video and discuss the video. Please plan to come and see and view and maybe get some questions answered about your feelings and emotions and maybe the feeling of hopelessness.

GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP

WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 PM, VIA ZOOM OR FRIDAYS, 1:30 PM, ROOM 13

We are offering encouragement and help after the loss of a spouse, child, family member or friend or pet.

For more information on GriefShare, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at <u>marylynn482@gmail.com</u> or **440-409-5931**.



JUNE 2023 MISSION JOURNEY TO CAMBODIA

JUNE 15- JUNE 30, 2023

<u>Team Meeting</u> Sunday, October 30, 5 pm, Parlor

In January 2019, six members of our congregation traveled to Cambodia to connect in ministry with our sisters and brothers in Christ. While our return trip was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have stayed connected with the ministry there, hosting a "virtual mission journey" via Zoom in February 2021 and supporting prayerfully and financially two university students in Phnom Penh.

We are now excited to begin planning a return trip to Cambodia in June 2023, and you are invited! Our anticipated dates are June 15-June 30, providing nearly two weeks in Cambodia to tour some of the country, to connect with United Methodist missionaries and Methodist churches, and to experience the incredible ways God is working among the Cambodian people. Our first team meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 30 at 5 PM in our Parlor.

For more information and to express interest, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at <u>nhowe@umcb.org</u> or **440-234-3525 x101**.



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5 6 PM, WESLEY HALL

We are preparing to launch a new ministry! Join us for dinner on October 5 at 6 PM in Wesley Hall to learn how you can be a part of this new adventure in sharing faith, fellowship, and food with our community. Dinner Church will serve those in our community who may need a meal, may need a friend, and may need a church family.

This month, we'll learn more about this ministry, receive training for hosting a table, and work out the "kinks" before we begin inviting guests.

See the sign up sheets on the Outreach Board (by Room 13) for food items and volunteers needed, or contact **Pastor Carrie** at <u>cantczak@umcb.org</u> or **440-234-3525 x105**.

EQUAL EXCHANGE ITEMS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 10-11 AM, BY THE PARLOR

Stop by the Equal Exchange table for chocolate mini bars. They are perfect for all the little ghouls & goblins that come to your door this Halloween. And don't forget to get coffee, tea, or hot cocoa to keep you warm on the chilly fall evenings.

Thank you for your continued support of farmers around the world who are paid a fair wage for their hard work in producing these items in a sustainable manner.

Learn more at **<u>equalexchange.coop</u>**.





E-BIT ('ENVIRONMENTAL TIDBIT') SAVE MONEY AND TIME THIS FALL WHEN CARING FOR YOUR LAWN

As fall approaches and we start to prepare our lawns for winter, there are benefits to mulching leaves into your lawn. Earthworms and microorganisms turn mulched leaves into usable organic matter which help your grass be healthier. Did you know that mulching leaves can also reduce dandelions in your yard (although some folks don't mind them . . . since they can help pollinators in the spring) which means less weed fighting needed! For larger amounts of leaves, they can be used as mulch in plants beds or to add to a compost pile. The ultimate in recycling!

Also, throughout the year, there are many benefits to mulching grass clippings back into the lawn. It reduces time (no bagging required!) and it adds organic matter (eg. nitrogen) back into the soil to help your grass be healthier too. One reason you might not want to mulch grass clippings is if chemical pesticides and synthetic fertilizers are used often on the lawn. (Another reason to not use these items!)

For more information, visit <u>https://www.thespruce.com/the-benefits-of-</u> <u>mulching-2152975</u> and <u>https://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/files/</u> <u>Mulch fallen leavesRS.pdf</u>.





HELP THOSE AFFECTED BY FLOODS WITH UMCOR Cleaning Buckets

BRING REQUESTED ITEMS BY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Do you want to help persons affected by the recent floods in Kentucky and Puerto Rico? Now is your chance to fill up cleaning buckets for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief)!

The Church and Society Committee (aka The Creation Justice Team) is placing a Giving Tree in the Narthex before and after the 9 AM worship celebration and outside Wesley Hall before and after the 11 AM worship celebration. Each tag on the tree has a requested item. You are invited to choose a tag or two, purchase the item(s) and bring them back to the church on or before **Sunday, October 23**. UMCOR is very specific about what goes in the buckets as all buckets need to have the exact same items.

Remember, all items need to be returned by **Sunday, October 23** so the Creation Justice Team can assemble the cleaning buckets before the scheduled pickup by UMCOR at Strongsville UMC. Thank you!

Questions? Please contact **Cindy McCowen** at clmccowen@aol.com or **440-234-3985**

or Wendy Jelinek at snowleopard7001@yahoo.com or 440-826-9027.

LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING SUPPORTS THE GRINDSTONE PARTNERSHIP (SUNSHINE FUND).

Join us in supporting this important outreach by dropping your change in the offering plate, mailing in an offering, or donating electronically at <u>www.umcb.org/donate</u> using the "*other*" box and marking it "*loose change offering*".

TRUNK-OR-TREAT & MESSY CHURCH

Sunday, October 16 - - 6 pm, UMCB Parking Lot (Weather Permitting)



It's the second most wonderful time of the year! Trunk or treat will be Sunday, October 16, 4-6 PM as part of our Messy Church celebration! Here's how you can be a part of the fun:



Donate candy. We need lots of extra candy as our cars run out! We expect around 200 children!



Sign-up to host a trunk! It's so much fun! Decorate your trunk with a favorite theme and you may WIN the trunk decorating contest! You also get to meet many our community's children and families.



Sign-up to help with games on the lawn. No candy needed for this job – just a fun-filled spirit!



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COMPASSION, & JUSTICE

Help us "Fill the Truck" for Second Mile Ministries' food pantry. *Congregation and community members alike are encouraged to bring a non-perishable good item to Trunk-or-Treat and help us "fill the truck"! See the article below for more information.*

Rainy day? Not to fear – We'll use Wesley Hall and you can decorate a table.

To sign-up to help out, please sign up on the Outreach Board (by Room 13) or contact **Pastor Carrie** at <u>cantczak@umcb.org</u> or **440-234-3525 x105**.

FILL THE TRUCK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16 8:30 AM – 6:30 PM OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

The Missions Committee is sponsoring a "Fill the Truck" event to benefit Second Mile Outreach. Bring your nonperishable donations and drop them off on your way into church.

The truck will be parked during Trunk or Treat...stop by again and donate another bag!

Thank you for your support.





WITH GRATITUDE

October is Clergy Appreciation month. We are all invited to seek out creative ways to express love and concern for our pastors and their families. Pastor Nathan and Pastor Carrie have been praying, studying, organizing, visioning, advocating, counseling, listening, and reaching out, among many other roles. They have helped our congregation navigate these post-severe pandemic times, so we may continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

THE CALLER

We are encouraging your creativity, by sending note cards, emails, a letter, or other creative ways to say Thank you!

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Thank you to all who sent cards and prayers on the passing of my wife in August.

Jim Cobler (UMCB Custodian)

All the young scientists had a great time at September's Messy Church!

Here's a few pictures of the messy fun!

OCTOBER 2022