

# Worship Celebration



*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

September 18, 2022 + 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/live](https://www.facebook.com/umcberea/live))

**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)

***While our county is at either a “medium” or a “low” community level rating, face masks will be optional in our building. If you are immunocompromised or at higher risk for severe disease, please consult with your healthcare provider about wearing a mask or taking other additional precautions. Higher quality masks, including N95s and KN95s, are especially encouraged as they provide additional protection both to the wearer and to those around them.***

***If you are experiencing symptoms—including but not limited to a cough, fever or chills, shortness of breath, fatigue, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, or congestion—please practice caution and stay connected with us from home until your symptoms are ended.***

# We Gather as God's Children

Prelude

Aria

Paul Manz

## Words of Welcome

### + Call to Worship

We come together to worship God

***in our need and bringing with us the needs of the world.***

We come to God, who comes to us in Christ,

***and who knows by experience what human life is like.***

We come with our faith and with our doubts.

***We come with our hopes and with our fears.***

We come as we are because it is God who invites us,

***and God promises never to turn us away.***

### + Hymn

*For the Healing of the Nations*

UMH 428

## 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 - Jeremiah 8.18-9.1 (CEB)

<sup>18</sup> No healing,

only grief;

my heart is broken.

<sup>19</sup> Listen to the weeping of my people

all across the land:

"Isn't the LORD in Zion?

Is her king no longer there?"

Why then did they anger me with their images,

with pointless foreign gods?

<sup>20</sup> "The harvest is past,

the summer has ended,

yet we aren't saved."

<sup>21</sup> Because my people are crushed,

I am crushed;

darkness and despair overwhelm me.

<sup>22</sup> Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then have my people

not been restored to health?

**9** If only my head were a spring of water,

and my eyes a fountain of tears,

I would weep day and night

for the wounds of my people.

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

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

## Gospel Lesson - Luke 16.1-13 (CEB)

16 Jesus also said to the disciples, "A certain rich man heard that his household manager was wasting his estate. <sup>2</sup> He called the manager in and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give me a report of your administration because you can no longer serve as my manager.'

<sup>3</sup> "The household manager said to himself, What will I do now that my master is firing me as his manager? I'm not strong enough to dig and too proud to beg. <sup>4</sup> I know what I'll do so that, when I am removed from my management position, people will welcome me into their houses.

<sup>5</sup> "One by one, the manager sent for each person who owed his master money. He said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He said, 'Nine hundred gallons of olive oil.' The manager said to him, 'Take your contract, sit down quickly, and write four hundred fifty gallons.' <sup>7</sup> Then the manager said to another, 'How much do you owe?' He said, 'One thousand bushels of wheat.' He said, 'Take your contract and write eight hundred.'

<sup>8</sup> "The master commended the dishonest manager because he acted cleverly. People who belong to this world are more clever in dealing with their peers than are people who belong to the light. <sup>9</sup> I tell you, use worldly wealth to make friends for yourselves so that when it's gone, you will be welcomed into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup> "Whoever is faithful with little is also faithful with much, and the one who is dishonest with little is also dishonest with much. <sup>11</sup> If you haven't been faithful with worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup> If you haven't been faithful with someone else's property, who will give you your own? <sup>13</sup> No household servant can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be loyal to the one and have contempt for the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## Sermon

+ Hymn

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

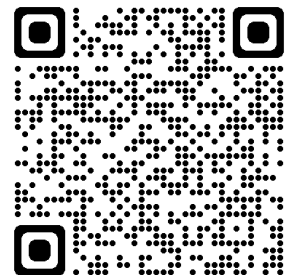
TFWS 2171

## Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

*As we join our hearts to lift our prayers to God, we invite you to share your joys and concerns. If you are worshiping with us online, you can share your prayer request through the "comments" section on Facebook. And throughout the week, you can share your prayer requests with Pastor Nathan (440-234-3525 x101, [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org)), the church office ([info@umcb.org](mailto:info@umcb.org)), or through our website ([www.umcb.org/worshipresources](http://www.umcb.org/worshipresources)).*

## 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) or scan the QR code to the right), by mailing a check to the church office, or in the offering plates that are passed through the worship space. Through whatever means you give, thank you for your generous and ongoing participation toward making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!*



Choir Anthem

*Awake My Soul*

Ronald A. Nelson

+ 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**

*Mighty Creator, who is as far away as the farthest star and as close as our next breath,  
all the greatness of creation is a tapestry proclaiming your love and mercy.  
Yet our hearts feel every loss we experience.  
You cry with us at every wounding word and action.  
Receive our lives and receive these gifts as gratitude for your love and care.  
Bless us and bless these gifts that we might bring love and compassion  
to heal your world.  
In Christ's name, Amen.*

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

**+ Hymn**

*Forth in Thy Name, O Lord*

UMH 438

**+ Benediction**

May we know, experience, and feel that we are welcomed by God with love.  
***May the presence of Christ come close to us everywhere we go.***  
And may the Holy Spirit lead us to serve all people with gentleness and peace.  
***Thanks be to God. Amen.***

**Postlude**

*Joyoso*

Andrew Moore

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

### **Worship Participants**

**Pastors**

Rev. Nathan Howe  
Rev. Carrie Antczak

**Liturgist**

Linda Tucker

**Music**

Carmen Massaro, *Organist*  
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*  
Courtney Popp, *Choir Director*

**Audio Video Elements**

Mark Williams  
Marlynda Dziak  
Debbie Haas

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and  
in honor of Larry & Diane's first anniversary by Larry Jelinek.

***Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, September 18):***

In this moment of stillness,  
before this day claims me,  
I stand before you with questions unanswered....  
Fill the silence now with your nearness,  
that I may hear you speak your word  
and live this day for you. Amen.

***Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, September 18):***

Source of my life,  
this day I was not promised now is ending.  
Thank you for its grace,  
both noticed and unnoticed.  
I lay before you all that I experienced....  
Gather me up in your presence. Amen.

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## **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*



## **Dinner Church “Practice” Meal and Worship**

**Wednesday, October 5, 6 PM, Wesley Hall**

We are excited to be launching a new church experience called “Dinner Church”. The mission of Dinner Church is to “build bridges by breaking bread”. In short, we are providing a welcoming church experience for those in need of a meal, fellowship, and an introduction to Jesus.

The first Wednesday of each month at 6 PM, we'll open our doors and hearts to neighbors with a delicious meal and casual worship. We're asking our church family to help provide the meal with “staged potlucks”, by serving food, and serving as table hosts. Check the Outreach board each month for needed food items and serving opportunities. This October 5 we'll have a “practice” meal and worship. We encourage you to join us and learn more about how you can be a part of this ministry!

Questions? Please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x105**.



## **UMW Circle Resumes in September**

**Wednesday, September 21, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall**

The UMW Circle resumes meeting this month. We hope you will join us!



## **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

**Tuesdays, 9:30 AM, Room 13**

All are welcome to join us every Tuesday as we read and discuss scripture together. For the next couple months, our focus will be on the ministry of the Holy Spirit, which brings new life to us as members of the body of Christ, leading and guiding us in ways that transform us and prepare us for ministry in the world.

For more information, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at **440-234-3525 x101** or [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org).



## **GriefShare Support Group**

*Wednesdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom or  
Fridays, 1:30 PM, Room 13*

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

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



## **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.

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



## **Connecting Creation Care with our Christian Faith**

*Wednesday, September 21, 7 PM*

*Church of the Saviour (2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, 44118)*

This past June and July, a small group in our congregation participated as a “pilot group” for a new six-week study that connects the current climate crisis with our faith-filled response. On Wednesday, September 21 at 7 PM, the authors of this study—Anita and Bob Dygert-Gearhart, from Spokane, Washington—will be at Church of the Saviour in Cleveland Heights (2537 Lee Road) to present an overview of their curriculum. Whether or not you participated in our small group this summer, you are welcome to join us to learn more on September 21.

For more information, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at 440-234-3525 x101 or [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org).



## **Youth Group**

*Sunday, September 25, 5 PM, Tyler Field (499 Nobottom Road)*

This month, the youth group will host “Kickball for a Cause” at Tyler Field (499 Nobottom Rd.), September 25, at 5 PM. The winning team gets to pick the cause we support with our \$5 donations per player. We’ll wrap up with pizza and a devotion. Adult helpers are needed.

If you can join us, please let **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105 !



## **The ABC's of LBGTQ**

*Tuesday, September 27, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall*

Join us as we grow in our inclusivity as a church by learning more about our LGBTQ+ siblings. We’ll learn about what each of those letters mean, grow in our respect and understanding, and learn how we can be strong Christian allies. Expect a focus on respectful vocabulary, a bit of history, and sharing our experiences.

Questions? Please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



### **Messy Church**

**TODAY!, 4 PM, Wesley Hall**

How does science work? How does life work? Let's explore the wide world of science with fun (and of course) messy experiments! We'll jump from protons to Proverbs and learn that wisdom brings all things together for good! Bring your friends and curiosity!

If you're interested in joining this fun ministry, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105 to learn more about how you can be involved.



### **Healthcare Heroes**

**Donations can be placed in the bin near the Outreach Board by Room 13**

This month we collect notes of appreciation, candy, and tea for our healthcare workers. The cards will be given to Chaplain Jared Littleton to share with the staff of Lakewood Cleveland Clinic hospital.

Questions? Please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



### **Church & Society (Creation Justice) Team Meeting**

**TODAY!, 1:30 PM, Room 13**

Join us at the next Church & Society (Creation Justice) meeting next Sunday, September 18 at 1:30 PM. We will build on the ideas that "grew" out of our meeting in August.

Questions? Contact **Barb Dawson** at 440- 885-1672 or [bdawson8531@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bdawson8531@sbcglobal.net) or Wendy Jelinek at 440- 826-9027.



### **Loose Change Offering - Second Mile Outreach & Church Street Ministries.**

Join us in supporting this important outreach by dropping your change in the offering plate, 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".

#### **Church Office - Beth Barner**

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9 AM -3 PM,**

**Tuesday, Friday** Beth works from home 9AM - 3 PM

[ebarner@umcb.org](mailto:ebarner@umcb.org), 440-234-3525 x100

**Cell:** 440-710-4498

#### **Finance Office - Maryann Herron**

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 AM -3 PM**

[mherron@umcb.org](mailto:mherron@umcb.org), 440-234-3525 x103

#### **Facilities Manager - Mark Williams**

Office Hours vary based on need.

[mwilliams@umcb.org](mailto:mwilliams@umcb.org), 440-234-3525 x102

#### **Pastors Nathan Howe & Carrie Antczak**

Office Hours vary based on need.

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

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

***Please note:** Friday is a day of Sabbath for our pastors, a time to rest and restore. We kindly ask that you please refrain from calling or texting them on this day. If you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please contact the church office (440-234-3525 x100, [info@umcb.org](mailto:info@umcb.org)) and one of the pastors will respond as soon as possible.*

# Happening at The UMCB this week:

## **Sunday, September 18**

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

### **Traditional Worship**

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

### **Formation**

10 AM / Children - Second Floor

Youth - Second & Third Floors

Adults First Floor

### **Modern Worship**

11 AM / Wesley Hall

### **Church & Society (Creation Care) Meeting**

1:30 PM / Room 13

### **Messy Church**

4 PM / Wesley Hall

## **Monday, September 19**

### **Morning Prayer**

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

### **Survivors Fellowship**

11 AM / Parlor, Lunch at Falls Family Restaurant

### **Disciples' Path**

6:15 PM / Parlor / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

## **Tuesday, September 20**

### **Morning Prayer**

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom /

[Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

9:30 AM/ Room 13 / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

## **Wednesday, September 21**

### **Morning Prayer**

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

### **UMW Circle**

9:30 AM / Fellowship Hall

### **Storytime**

10 AM/ Room 11 (Nursery)/ [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

### **Grief Share**

6:30 PM / via Zoom / [Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at](#)

[marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com)

### **Connecting Creation Care with Our Christian Faith**

7 PM / Church of the Saviour in Cleveland Hts.

## **Thursday, September 22**

### **Morning Prayer**

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

### **Handbell Choir Rehearsal**

6 PM / Sanctuary / [Contact Tori Penfound](#)

### **Thursday Evening Bible Study**

6:30 PM / via Zoom / [Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at](#)

[marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com)

### **Choir Rehearsal**

7 PM / Sanctuary / Contact [Courtney Popp](#)

or [Margaret Proctor](#)

## **Friday, September 23**

### **Morning Prayer**

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

### **Grief Share**

1:30 PM / Room 13 / [Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at](#)

[marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com)

## **Saturday, September 24**

## **Sunday, September 25**

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

### **Traditional Worship**

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

### **Formation**

10 AM / Children - Second Floor

Youth - Second & Third Floors

Adults First Floor

### **Modern Worship**

11 AM / Wesley Hall

### **Youth Group - Kickball for a Cause**

5 PM / Tyler Field / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)