

Other seeds fell on
good soil and
brought forth grain ...

Mathew 13.8 (NRSVUE)

Worship Celebration

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023 + 9 AM

We Gather as God's Children

Words of Welcome

Prelude	<i>BWV 555</i>	J. S. Bach
+ Opening Prayer		
+ Hymn	<i>Morning Has Broken</i>	UMH 145

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 119.105-112 (NRSVUE)

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Lesson — Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23 (NRSVUE)

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon "God, the Gardener"

+Hymn *Thy Word Is a Lamp* UMH 601

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Opportunities for Ministry and Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Cantabile* George Philip Teleman

Doxology UMH 95

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* UMH 140

Commissioning of Youth Work Mission

+ Benediction

Postlude *Hunter's Song* Felix Mendelssohn

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

Worship Participants

Pastors

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely, Ph.D.
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Music

Megan Denman, *Organist/Pianist*

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debby Haas

Liturgist

Sandy Marek

The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Carol Hemker by Sara Phillips.

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.**

2023 Mid-Year Giving Statements Now Available

They can be found on the counter in the Gathering Place near the coffee pots.
If you would like your statement mailed to you, please contact **Maryann Herron**,
at 440-234-3525 x103 or mherron@umcb.org.



GriefShare

Wednesday, July 19, 6:30 PM, via Zoom - or - Friday, July 21, 1:30 PM, UMCB Front Porch

We will be meeting for our summer sessions on July 19 for Wednesday's zoom and then on Friday, July 21 for our front porch discussions! Basically, we will have two questions to discuss as well as whatever is on your minds.

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



Summer Women's Retreat Canceled

We have decided to cancel our one day Retreat for this month ... we are running into many friends being out of town and a lack of response. We will plan another one! Thank you for understanding!
Blessings to all, Mary Lynn & Sherri



Summer Bible Reading Challenge

You're invited to join us on a journey through the Gospel of Luke through the Acts of the Apostles! Here's how you can participate (Do as much as you like!):

- ◇ Read along with the reading plan (which can be found in the June Caller or the weekly e-newsletter).
- ◇ Watch the Bible Project's Video that expands your understanding of the reading. (<https://bibleproject.com/explore/category/luke-acts-series/>)
- ◇ Comment on the Facebook Discussion Prompt of the Week.
- ◇ Enjoy casual conversation with friends at 10 AM in the Gathering Place with the week's discussion prompt.

Want more? Check out the Podcasts! <https://bibleproject.com/podcast/series/luke-acts-series/>



Thursday Night Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, via Zoom

We are into **Sermon on the Mount** with good discussions. Have you ever considered: *How to really love your enemies* or *The importance of Obeying God's law*? Come and help us explore these and more questions!

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



Prayers for Our Youth Work Mission Trip - July 25-28!

Please keep youth: Hope, Josie, Amanda, Emily, Marcus, and Anna; and their leaders: Pastor Carrie, Terry, and Janet, in your prayers as they head to North Carolina and Florida to serve together, pray together, and grow together! They will be traveling and serving alongside a team from East Ohio, that is 50 disciples strong! Look forward to a report and pictures next month!



Feed the Kids

Help Bag the Food - TODAY, July 16, 10 AM, Gathering Place

Help Distribute Bags - TOMORROW, July 17, 5 PM Christ United Church

It's our turn to help "feed the kids" this summer by providing three days worth of meals to our food insecure kids. Please help in these ways as you are able:

- Help bag up the food today at 10 AM in the Gathering Place. Let's beat last year's record - we packed 120 bags in 23 minutes! Many hands make light work!
- Help distribute the bags to families tomorrow at Christ United Church. To sign up to help with the distribution, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**.



Popsicles on the Playground - Summer Children's Outreach

July 19, 3 PM, Berea Splash Pad (E. Bridge St.)

August 16, 6 PM, Parknoll Playground (Stonethrow Dr.)

Our June meet up was a hit, and we're excited to host more! Join us for these fun play meet-ups with our community! (**Raindates: The following day - follow us for updates: facebook.com/umcberea**)



Help Build Hope

September 22-23, 2023, Register Here: helpbuildhope.com/umcberea

It's time to sign up for our Help Build Hope Wall Build! Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors! Individuals, Families, Groups, and Businesses come together to frame a house for a future Habitat for Humanity home. Open to ages 5 and older!



Loose Change Offering

Our Loose Change offerings this month will benefit the Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland. During our worship services on June 25, we heard from Rev. Michael Parish about the important work the mission is doing. This includes refugee support in addition to the other great work the mission has always done. Your generosity helps them to keep moving forward in this mission to renew our city and communities! Thank you!

You can support this mission by dropping your change in the offering plate, mailing in an offering, or donating electronically at umcb.org/donate using the "other" box and designating it as "loose change offering". All of these funds will be set aside to help purchase food for this mission.



Second Mile Outreach "Walk Two Miles for Second Mile"

Sunday, July 23, Check in 1 PM, Walk 1:30-2:30 PM, 1480 West Bagley Road Berea, OH 44017

Tickets can be purchased on their website: secondmileoutreach.org.

The Second Mile Shop will be open 1-3 pm with special sales.

Morning Prayer:

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Living Word, shine on this day.
Quicken my steps and open my ears
that I might approach each neighbor
with an expectant heart. Amen.*

Evening Prayer:

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Beacon of truth,
I entrust to you now the day that has been:
the tasks accomplished and tasks overlooked;
the friends acknowledged and the friends ignored;
the silence kept and the silence squandered.
In your mercy, mend these tattered offerings.
Grant me the gift of rest this night
and good companions on the morrow,
as you speak me further down the path toward home. Amen.*

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Sunday, July 16

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Monday, July 17

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Survivors Fellowship

11:30 AM / Lunch Only - Bob Evans

Tuesday, July 18

Tuesday Morning Walk

7 AM / Wallace Lake Parking Lot

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Wednesday, July 19

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Popsicles on the Playground

3 PM / Berea Splash Pad (E. Bridge St.)

Thursday, July 20

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Thursday Bible Study

6:30 PM / Zoom / Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at
marylynn482@gmail.com

Friday, July 21

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Saturday, July 22

Sunday, July 23

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Church Office - Beth Barner

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9 AM – 3 PM

Tues., Fri. From Home 9AM - 3 PM

ebarner@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x100

Cell: 440-710-4498

Finance Office - Maryann Herron

Mon., Wed., Fri. 10 AM – 3 PM

mherron@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x103

Facilities Manager - Mark Williams

Office Hours vary based on need.

mwilliams@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x102

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely, Ph.d.

Office Hours vary based on need.*

sknisely@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x101

Rev. Carrie Antczak

Pastor of Christian Formation & Outreach

Office Hours vary based on need.*

cantczak@umcb.org, 440-234-3525x105

** 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 and one of the pastors will respond as soon as possible.*