



THE CALLER

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CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 9 AM & 11 AM WORSHIP SERVICES

Every year on November 1, the church celebrates the Festival of All Saints as a time to remember and give thanks for the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us in the faith, stretching across every time and place. We celebrate these witnesses as saints, faithful people whose example we seek to follow and whose lives we continue to commemorate as they rest in the peace of God's eternal love.

During our worship services on **Sunday, November 5**, we will read the names of members and loved ones who have entered into God's eternal rest during the past twelve months and light a candle in honor of their ongoing life.

LET'S TAKE A HIKE!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 3 PM, THE LAKE TO LAKE TRAIL
(MEET IN THE PARKING LOT JUST OFF EASTLAND RD.)

Let's enjoy the beauty of fall and the beauty of fellowship as we hike through the Lake to Lake trail.



Our Hiking Crew from October at the Rocky River Nature Preserve



Thanksgiving Worship

Please join Berea Area Churches
for a time of gratitude and worship

22 NOV | 6 PM

People's Community Church
631 N. Rocky River Dr.

Community Choir (practice at 5 pm)

Non-Perishable Food Donations
appreciated for area food pantries



CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING



FREE CHRISTMAS CARDS

Starting Sunday, November 5
Christmas cards will be available
on the Free Cards Table
in the Gathering Place.

Calendars for 2024 are also available.



SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

MEMBERS

- Bruce Akins, Molly Arthur, Cass Beckman, Barbara Beihl, Heidi Blue, Carol Bodle, Jean Brenneison, Lee Brenneison, Hugh Burtner, Wilda Donegan, Neven Eilbeck, Molly Force, Carol & Bruce Forster, Jan Heter (Arden Courts), Larry Jelinek, Dorene Larkey, Nancy Leeseberg, Elenore Long, John Marting, Christine McMillin, Betty Miller (Renaissance), Lou Russell (Westlake Villages), Russ Sanderson, Barbara Scoon (Vista Springs, Parma), Pat Slater (Renaissance), Joan Smith, MaryLynn Swartz, Kathleen Wargelin, Sam Weaver, Patty Worthem

MEMBERS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

- Shirley Bedford (Independence Village), Ann Benson (Western Reserve-Medina), Janice Kavander, Mary Lou McKissock (Kemper Strongsville), Roy Miller (Western Reserve-Medina), Pat Sarka (Wesleyan Village, Elyria), Von & Marilyn Smith (Renaissance), Ruth Vrana (Generations, Strongsville), Mary Jane & Sam Weaver (Generations)

WE REACH OUT IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY AND LOVE...

- ... to Helen Rathburn and the family & friends of her daughter, Alison Whitney who went on to rest in God's eternal peace on Monday, October 9. A memorial service will be held on November 4 at 2PM in Gamble Auditorium of Kulas Hall at Baldwin Wallace University.
... to the family and friends of Al Swanson who went on to rest in God's eternal peace on October 9. A memorial service was held on October 22.
... to the family and friends of Jo Boggs who went on to rest in God's eternal peace on October 7. A memorial service was held on October 21.

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 Jackie King)

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Wanda Baulin (sister of Wilda Donegan), Marc Bittinger **, Terre Christian (Pastor Carrie's mother), Pattie Dronen (mother of Sarah Knisely), AmyMarie Dziak (daughter of Marlynda Dziak), Steve & Jennifer Fried (friends of the Oberts), Spencer Gehring, Sylvie Isgro-Schicker, Joe Jordan (brother-in-law of Debby Haas), Robbie Jordan (nephew of Debby Haas), Sylvie Isgro-Schicker, Isaac Kowicki & Oliver Lawrence (great nephews of Cindy Osborn), Anne M. (friend of MaryLynn Swartz), Sean (brother of Bobby Meadows), Julie & Aaron Mansfield (family of Joanne Mansfield), Paul & Kathryn and children (family of Christine and Andy McMillin), Sean McNichols (friend of the Knisely family), Joann Mraz (friend of Nancy Schillace), Chet Talarczyk (husband of Judy Talarczyk, Renaissance), William, his mother - Patricia, & their family (friends of Wendy Jelinek), Alan Wohlfield (family of Pam Antczak)

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Please contact Pastor Steve sknisely@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x101 or Pastor Carrie (cantczak@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x105) if you would like to schedule a time to talk or if you have a specific prayer request.

You can also submit prayer requests at umcb.org/worshipresources or by emailing the church office at info@umcb.org.

To receive prayer concerns by email, visit umcb.org/communications.

CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING



To: Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Berea:

Greetings! First, I want to thank you for your amazing hospitality to Lee and me as we joined you for the panel-build morning. Everyone was gracious and accommodating. I particularly enjoyed having time to sit and chat with several members of your congregation and community friends.

I promised to send a picture of the family that will be blessed by a home, with walls built on your parking lot. I found out that we did not yet have a picture of them. I finally got the attached one this morning. Pictured are Dawn McClure with her two children, Olivia and Dominique. They are excited to have a home of their own for the first time.

Please share the photo with your congregation. They were so excited that a family was already selected for the house to be built.

In His grip,
Joe Mills

DONATE YOUR UNWANTED PERENNIAL MUMS

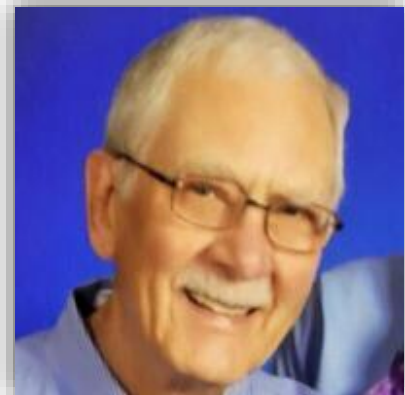
Do you have perennial mums that you do not want to plant in your yard?

Don't throw them away!

Donate them to the church by leaving them on the Front Porch (facing Seminary Street).

We will plant them where they will beautify the church grounds both next fall and beyond.

Thank you in advance!

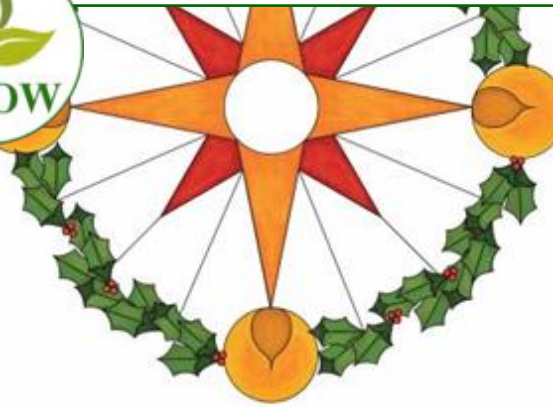


The family of Rev. Dr. Calvin Myers is collecting pictures of Rev. Myers and you are invited to contribute.

Please email your photos to **Christa Myers** at christa.fitz.myers@gmail.com.

Please also share this invitation with friends who may not receive the Caller.

A Memorial Service for Rev. Myers will be held on Saturday, November 18 at 11 AM in the Sanctuary.



MANDALAS, CANDLES, AND PRAYER

A Simply Centered Advent
SHARON SEYFARTH GARNER

ADVENT PREVIEW

A special Advent Faith Formation group will be offered this year, and we couldn't be more...peaceful!
Advent begins December 3.

MANDALAS, CANDLES, AND PRAYER

SUNDAYS, 10 AM, WESLEY PARLOR

Color, pray, and reflect as we journey once again through the peaceful spiritual discipline of Mandala work. Join Rev. Linda McCown and friends for reflective group work. Or, pick up a book for your own personal devotion during the season.

READ AND GROW BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

6:30-8 PM, ROOM 13 OR VIA ZOOM

(MEETING ID: 815-5894-6774, PASSCODE: 942297)

The book for November 13 is

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmuff.

For more information, please contact **Betsy Meikle** at meiklebetsyj@gmail.com or 440-243-5767.



THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAYS, 6:30 PM, VIA ZOOM

Everyone agrees that Revelations is nothing like they thought and are enjoying great discussions. Different topics include ... The Last Battle; Cheer Up! The Worst is Yet to Come or God Dwelling with His People.

Sound interesting? Come join us!

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



Hello, friends! Another two sessions of GriefShare will be ending with great results. We started a new a new book and set of videos . . . everyone could relate. We have shared memories, we laughed and shared a few tears . . . which were good.

We will be returning in January after a short break and we will be able to enjoy the Holidays!!

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



CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Please pray for our Confirmation class which is taking their retreat November 10-12. You may pray for each of our upcoming confirmands: Amanda, Emily, Hope, Josie, Kailee, and Marcus.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



This month, children will be learning about Jacob's family. Their theme word is "Blessing". Sunday School is a wonderful way to explore God's story. Consider this month who can you invite to try out a class with your family! That would truly be a "blessing" for us all.

THIS MONTH'S SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION

Cookie & Brownie Mix for Second Mile



Cookie and Brownie mixes for Second Mile Food Pantry. Encourage your students to consider families who may not have "extra" for treats this holiday season. Bake some goodies together, enjoy the quality time, and then buy an "extra" set up supplies for a family in need of a treat and quality time as well.

*LET'S TELL IT ON A MOUNTAIN!
OR AT CHURCH THAT IS . . .
. . . PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR BOTH
CHRISTMAS RETELLINGS!*



AUDITIONS - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 AND
REHEARSALS - FRIDAYS, DECEMBER 8 & 15
7 PM, SANCTUARY

MESSY CHURCH - DECEMBER 17
4-6 PM, WESLEY HALL

December 17, Messy Church will put on it's first drama production of "Star-Trip" a retelling of the Nativity Story in the style of Star Wars. Older kids and adults are welcome to participate!

Auditions will be Friday December 1 at 7 PM, with two rehearsals the following Fridays.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24
AT THE 10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

At the morning worship on Christmas Eve, December 24 at 10 AM, we will have our a come-as-you-are pageant with fun easy costumes, no rehearsal, and lots of joy!

All ages will participate!

TEACHING & LEARNING TOGETHER



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19
4 PM, WESLEY HALL

Join us as we celebrate our many blessings and learn about how we can do so through prayer. This is a great Messy Church to invite ALL ages to - after all, we all have blessings to be grateful for!

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

NEW SEASON BEGINS AT METANOIA

We are happy to announce that The Metanoia Project will relaunch their annual program on November 17 at Franklin Circle Church on Fulton Rd. This year both hospitality centers will be located at the same site, in two separate areas. One area will have beds for 20 overnight guests, and the other will accommodate 15. As usual, churches and other community groups will supply the evening meal. All contributions are welcome, but we especially need people who are willing to be part of the serving team. With enough volunteers, we can rotate the teams so you don't have to do it every time. We are signed up for two or three meals a month, from November 25-April 13. A schedule is available by request.

Please see **Laura Rushton** or contact her at jlaurush@gmail.com or 567-303-1954 if you are interested in being part of this effort.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who have made the commitment to provide food and fellowship for Clevelanders experiencing homelessness. Christ's spirit is very much alive in this ministry!

THE UMCB SUPPORT OF GUATEMALA NUTRITION PROJECT



Our church has supported a group of women in Guatemala over the years. We are assisted them in a variety of ways, from their sewing schools to sharing the cost of fuel-efficient stoves.

Recently, we have been supporting a program that focuses on the smallest Guatemalans: children younger than age five who are malnourished. The program is straight-forward. In the short term, the children at risk are provided with a nutritional supplement. It contains soy for protein, wheat for carbohydrates, and a host of vitamins and minerals. After six months, most children are out of danger. As a result, they will develop normally and suffer from fewer illnesses as they mature.

The improvement in the children's lives is complemented by the long-term feature of the program: the mother learn about nutrition. To put that knowledge into practice, each receives seeds to cultivate vegetable gardens. The produce she grows increases the quantity of vitamin-rich food available for her family.

The support for the women comes from various sources, such as the craft fair recently held by the United Methodist Woman of our church.

We are awaiting news from the coordinator of the program about plans for next year. Once we learn something, we will let the congregation know. For further information, contact Cindie Moore at cindiemoore@yahoo.com.



COMMUNITY LEAF RAKING DAY

Each year, our church serves together and has a wonderful time doing so!

Please let **Pastor Carrie** know at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105 if you plan on joining us!



EQUAL EXCHANGE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
10-11 AM, BY THE PARLOR

Help provide a fare wage for those who work hard to grow this beneficial food item and in a way that does not harm God's creation. Buy and enjoy Equal Exchange teas, coffees, and more.

Learn more at equalexchange.coop.



City of Berea
**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED FOR
ANNUAL SENIOR
LEAF RAKING**

9AM - NOON
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

535 Wyleswood Drive (Smith
Elementary School)

WE PROVIDE THE RAKES, TARPS,
DONUTS, COFFEE AND HOT
CHOCOLATE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COMPASSION, & JUSTICE

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 chopped up with your lawn mower or left whole to use as mulch in plants beds or to add to a compost pile. The ultimate in recycling! My family and I have been mulching leaves for years!

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 (e.g. 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 <https://www.thespruce.com/the-benefits-of-mulching-2152975> and Michigan State University Extension.

Submitted by Wendy Jelinek for Church & Society



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COMPASSION, & JUSTICE



DINNER CHURCH -
THANKSGIVING STYLE!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH, 5 PM

Cook one extra casserole and stick in the freezer until Sunday! OR use up those leftovers in a creative way! Join us for a Thanksgiving style Dinner Church, where everyone is a part of the family - God's family. We'll share our blessings, challenges, and hopes during worship, then enjoy a family game night after! All ages together for this special Dinner Church.

Please reach out to **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105 to learn how you can help.

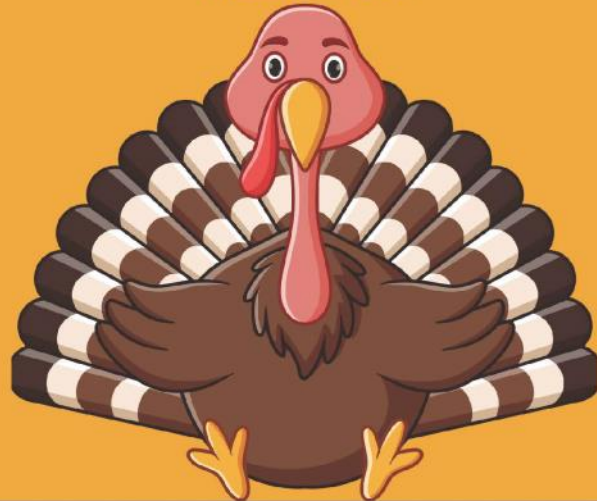


LOOSE CHANGE
SUPPORTS
THE
GIVING TREE

Let your loose change jingle all the way to a Merrier Christmas for Berea families. This month's offerings will benefit our Giving Tree mission. During December, we "adopt" families through Berea Community Outreach to support and encourage with Christmas gifts for their children. After those who are able to select particular gifts to buy, the missions committee will use these extra funds to fill in any gaps and if possible, make an extra donation to Berea Community Outreach.

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".

FREE DINNER



THANKSGIVING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2023 - 11:00 - 1PM
631 NORTH ROCKY RIVER DR. BEREA

Free

Reserve your Free Thanksgiving meal from People's Community Church. Call to reserve your meals at 440-234-0609 before Nov. 17.

PICK UP WILL BE IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT
ON THANKSGIVING DAY FROM 11 TO 1 PM

SPONSORED BY PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY
CHURCH, BEREA CITY CLUB AND
TEAMZ RESTAURANT AND BAR

2024 Commitments

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 disciples make up the community of faith?

What does a community of faith following in the footsteps of Christ do and what does it look like?

We desire to be a unified community that reflects the heart of Christ, embodying the love that Christ has for each of us. With that in mind, I am encouraging the leadership of the church to read *Living into Community: Cultivating Practices that Sustain Us*, by Christine Pohl. I am inviting the whole church to read this book together. The book itself outlines “four practices that sustain community.”

They are:

1. living a life of gratitude,
2. making and keeping commitments (this commitment card, and what it represents, is part of that),
3. living and embodying truth, and
4. practicing radical hospitality.

All of these are important, but I want us to really lean into hospitality as it is one of our main goals for the coming year. We are a loving community, but all of us have naturally settled into certain habits due to the appropriately instituted COVID parameters. I want to help us reset a bit, so that anyone who visits here can feel welcome and feel that they belong--because they do!) We will be sharing more goals with you soon, but in the meantime, I have also asked the leaders of the church to simply encourage one another and encourage everyone in our church family.

The Apostle Paul in his letters regularly encouraged the Christian communities to edify, encourage, and build one another up. Unfortunately, I believe that the North American church is overall discouraged. Let us not forget dear sisters and brothers that we serve the risen Lord! Think of all the things that God has done for us and let us take on a life of gratitude and celebration! We are asking that you think about what you can do for Christ, what you can bring to this community (because you all have something to give and to bring—YOU ARE A VALUABLE CHILD OF GOD!). Together we get to share in those gifts.

The 2024 Commitment Forms are on the following pages (Caller Page ?-?) and will be available on tables at the back of each worship space. If you prefer, you may complete and submit your commitment form online at www.umcb.org/donate. Again, please prayerfully consider your commitments for 2024. I also invite you to bring this completed form with you to worship on **Sunday, November 19**. Thank you. It is an honor to serve Christ among and be in the community of Christ with you. Whatever we do, my friends, we do it together in Christ, with Christ leading the way.

Grace and Peace,
Dr. Stephen J. Knisely

2024 Commitment Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Worship—a life of gratitude



As an individual, I will:

pray once each day pray 5 times each day

Together, with the community of faith, in 2022 I will:

worship 26 Sundays (50%) worship 47 Sundays (90%)

When I am at church, I will:

have a heart that reflects Christ and is open to Christ's work in me
 intentionally encourage one other person
 greet and talk with one visitor

I will spend time giving thanks to God:

once a day all day long (I know that is a lot)

Through these practices, I will live a life of gratitude for God's grace and love.

Give—a life of generosity



As an individual, I will:

pursue 1 act of radical generosity each month
 pursue 5 acts of radical generosity each month

Together, with the community of faith, in 2024 I will:

give an offering proportional to my income (an intentional %)
 grow into a tithe (10% of total income)
 if I haven't been giving, I will find a way to begin giving (even a little bit)
 \$_____ per year/month/week to the General Operating Fund
 \$_____ per year/month/week to the Capital Improvement Fund
 \$_____ per year/month/week to the Endowment Fund
 please send me information about electronic giving options
 please send me information about including The UMC of Berea in my estate planning

Through these practices, I will live a life of generosity, in response to God's generosity toward me.

Study—a life of learning



As an individual, I will:

- read scripture once each week
- read scripture 5 days each week

Together, with the community of faith, in 2024 I will:

- participate in one short-term class or Bible study
- participate in an ongoing small group
- read *Living into Community*

Through these practices, I will live a life of learning, growing more fully into the image of Christ.

Serve—a life of justice and kindness



As an individual, I will:

- practice 1 intentional act of kindness each week
- practice 5 intentional acts of kindness each week

Together, with the community of faith, in 2024 I will:

- participate in 1 service project during the year
- participate in 1 service project each quarter

Through these practices, I will live a life of service, serving Christ by serving others.

Share—a life that bears witness



As an individual, I will:

- get to know my neighbors better, learning their names first and then their hopes and passions
- pray for 5 individuals who are not yet disciples
- share about/demonstrate Christ's love with someone who does not know Christ, has become distant from Christ, has doubts, or has been hurt by a church/followers of Christ.
- practice love, forgiveness, grace, and patience during my daily life
- pray for a specific person each week (this can change from week to week)
- pray for a specific ministry each week (this can change from week to week)

Together, with the community of faith, in 2024 I will:

- invite 3 people this year to some event or gathering
- invite 5 people this year to some event or gathering
- pray for God's will and vision for UMCB

Through these practices, I will live a life of witness, sharing with others God's unconditional love.