



The United Methodist Church of Berea

THE CALLER

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1 THESSALONIANS 1:2-3



2023 EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 8 – JUNE 10, JOHN S. KNIGHT CENTER, AKRON

Our United Methodist Church is a connectional system, meaning, in part, that local congregations are not autonomous or independent but missional outposts of a larger body. That larger body is the “annual conference,” which receives its name from the yearly gathering of an equal number of clergy members and lay members who meet together for worship, fellowship, and to conduct the business of the conference (including reporting, adopting goals and budgets, and ordaining clergy members as deacons and elders).

The United Methodist Church of Berea is part of the East Ohio Annual Conference, presided over by Bishop Tracy S. Malone. Under her leadership, our annual conference will meet this year from Thursday, June 8 through Saturday, June 10 at the John S. Knight Center in Akron. Our gathering will be shaped and focused by the theme, “Faith, Hope, Love,” inspired by 1 Thessalonians 1.2-3. All business sessions, worship services, and celebrations of the annual conference will be livestreamed at www.eocumc.com/eoac23/livestream. Jeff Zeager and Rachel Huth are lay members of the East Ohio Annual Conference from our congregation and will provide a report to our congregation following this year’s session.

Please hold the annual conference, its members, and our bishop in your prayers as we come together to celebrate what God is doing among and through us and to listen for God’s continuing call as we move forward in love.



SUNDAY AFTERNOON WALK

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 4 PM
WESK CREEK RESERVATION
2277 RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, PARMA

Enjoy God's creation, both outdoors and in each other. All are welcome to join us for a walk on the trails of West Creek Reservation (2277 West Ridgewood Drive, Parma). We will meet in the parking lot near the Watershed Stewardship Center at 4 PM.

If you plan to join us, please RSVP
by the end of the day on **Thursday, June 8** to
Pastor Nathan at nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101.



CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING

INTRODUCING OUR NEW CUSTODIAN/GROUNDSKEEPER

The Staff Parish Relations Committee has hired a new custodian/groundskeeper, effective May 8. She comes to us with extensive experience in groundskeeping, residential and commercial cleaning, and property management. Please be sure to welcome her to our congregation in the coming weeks and months.

welcome

HELP WELCOME
PASTOR STEVE AND
THE KNISELY FAMILY

We'd like to introduce Pastor Steve and his family to Berea! Gift cards are a great way to explore local restaurants, stores, and activities.

SPRC is presenting the gift cards to Pastor Steve and his family at the July 2 Church Picnic.

If you'd like to donate a gift card, please purchase and give to Nancy Buehler by **Sunday, June 25**.

Let's show the Knisely family some Berea hospitality!

Questions? Please contact Nancy Buehler at nbuehler75@gmail.com or 440-292-6194.

CHURCH PICNIC

SUNDAY, JULY 2
FOLLOWING THE 10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
THE FRONT LAWN (WEATHER-PERMITTING)

Let's celebrate Pastor Steve's first Sunday with an all-church picnic. On Sunday, July 2, following the 10 AM service (our only worship service for that day), we'll gather outside for food, fun, and fellowship. UMCB will provide the main dish; please bring a dish to share or just come to visit.

We're planning a variety of activities for ALL to enjoy. Kick off the summer, share God's bounty, and welcome Pastor Steve, Sarah, Eli, and Eva.

Hope to see you!!



PLEASE CONSIDER
GIVING GENEROUSLY ON
PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

Peace with Justice is a faithful expression of shalom in the Bible. It calls the church to strengthen its capacity to advocate publicly in communities and nations throughout the world. It aims to make shalom visible and active in people's lives and communities by setting people free from bondage. We will celebrate Peace with Justice when all people have access to adequate jobs, housing, education, food, health care, income support, and clean water. We will further celebrate when there is no more economic exploitation, war, political oppression, and cultural domination.

—2016 Book of Resolutions, #6139 +



GRADUATE
CELEBRATION SUNDAY

JUNE 4
AT THE
9 AM & 11 AM
WORSHIP SERVICES

Please come celebrate these graduates with us on June 4! They will be recognized and blessed in worship at both services.

High School Graduates

- Jared Blevins
- Tessa Canterbury
- Edgar Moore
- Luke Rentsch
- Andrew Sperry
- Madelyn Williams

College Graduate

- Amber Blevins
(Miami University)

CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING



GOD'S LOVE

NEW ADDITION TO THE HONOR BOOK

Our book is an ongoing tribute to those we wish to honor. It's a way to recognize birthdays, wedding anniversaries, or baptisms. It is also a way we can say thank you for kindness given, well done tasks, or meaningful contributions.

Recently, an entry was made in honor of Barbara Biehl. Barbara generously donated a comfy arm chair and a lovely painting to the UMCB library. These gifts are sure to make the library feel like a cozy place to read one of the many good books.



SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

MEMBERS

Molly Arthur	Elenore Long
Betty Atherton	Christine McMillin
Barbara Beihl	Rev. Cal Myers
Heidi Blue	Lou Russell
Carol Bodle	(Westlake Villages)
Hugh Burtner	Russ Sanderson
Wilda Donegan	Pat Slater
Neven Eilbeck	(Renaissance)
Molly Force	Joan Smith
Carol & Bruce Forster	MaryLynn Swartz
Debby Haas	Carol Thompson
Jan Heter	Ginny Thompson
(Arden Courts)	Kathleen Wargelin

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Wanda Baulin (sister of Wilda Donegan)
 Dave & Jane Breakey (friends of the Brenneisons)
 Marc Bittinger **
 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)
 Julie & Aaron Mansfield (family of Joanne
 Mansfield)
 Paul & Kathryn and children (family of Christine
 and Andy McMillin)
 Joann Mraz (friend of Nancy Schillace)
 Laura Swartz Steele
 Chet Talarczyk (husband of Judy Talarczyk,
 Renaissance)

MEMBERS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

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

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)

**WE REACH OUT IN
CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY AND LOVE**

... to Cindie Moore M.L. Moore, and the Moore
 Family. Gracelouise Moore went on to rest in
 God's eternal peace on Friday, June 19, 2023.



PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Please contact **Pastor Nathan** at
nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101
 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, scan the QR code to the
 right or visit our website at
umcb.org/contact and subscribe
 in the lower right column.



CONNECTING, INVITING, & WELCOMING



**VBS REGISTRATION OPEN FOR VOLUNTEERS!
WAITLIST FOR CHILDREN!**

JUNE 26-30, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
THE UMC OF BEREA

Welcome to Reflecting Rainbow VBS, where we will discover we are a part of God's continuing story! Inspired by the tv show Reading Rainbow, we will explore God's story, our own stories, and share the joy of reading all kinds of books!

This is a cooperative VBS between local Berea Congregations - we're excited to be working with each other again for the second year in bringing faith and fun to our community!

God is so good, our VBS is full for this year! Contact Pastor Carrie at **440-234-3525 x105** or cantczak@umcb.org to be added to the wait list.

We DO still need more volunteers!

Registration for Youth & Adult Helpers: <https://forms.gle/5h9RWo6gnXqpSh9x7>

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.
- ◇ Watch the Bible Project's Video that expands your understanding of the reading.
- ◇ 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.

Read by this date:	Scripture	Video
June 18	Luke 1-2	Birth of Jesus
June 25	Luke 3-9	Baptism of Jesus
July 2	Luke 9-19	The Prodigal Son
July 9	Luke 9-23	The Crucifixion of Jesus
July 16	Luke 24	The Resurrection of Jesus
July 23	Acts 1-7	Pentecost
July 30	Acts 8-12	The Apostle Paul
August 6	Acts 13-20	Paul's Missionary Journeys
August 13	Acts 21-28	Bound for Rome

Videos available at: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/category/luke-acts-series/>

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



YOUTH
MINISTRY
NEWS

TEACHING & LEARNING TOGETHER

SERVICE RALLY

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 3 PM, AROUND BEREA

Join us Sunday, June 4 at 3 PM for our annual service rally! We'll be all around town sharing acts of kindness and then meeting back to share our stories and dinner.

Extra adult drivers are needed - please let Pastor Carrie know if you can help out at **440-234-3525 x105** or cantczak@umcb.org.

SUMMER WOMEN'S RETREAT: SPIRITUAL GIFTS WHAT TO DO... "THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING."

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 8AM - 4PM, FELLOWSHIP HALL

The middle of the summer can be a bummer - we are organizing a one day Simple Retreat. Just a get away to enjoy our Spiritual Gifts and how we can help others. What to do once we open a gift and how to use it to glorify God and strengthen relationships. Please join us for the answers!

Facilitator: Deaconess Sherri Buehl

Please bring your own lunch. Snacks & beverages will provided.

\$15.00 Registration.



GRIEF SHARE

EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY, VIA ZOOM
OR EVERY OTHER FRIDAY, LOCATION TBA

We are doing GriefShare a bit different for the summer before beginning a new session in August! We will be meeting every other week on Zoom for Wednesday nights and for Friday afternoons, we'll be taking it outside. Whether on the church grounds or Coe Lake or even Bradley Woods, we will take time to enjoy nature and talk about what ever is on our minds. Join us and get a feel for GriefShare in new environments.

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAYS, 6:30 PM, VIA ZOOM

All are welcome as we finish the ending of a truly remarkable man in Jeremiah. He went through a lot and suffered muchly! We will begin a new book - **Sermon on the Mount**. Many questions will be answered. Come join us and learn along with us!

For more information about these opportunities or to register for the retreat, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at marylynn482@gmail.com or **440-409-5931**



RECYCLING RIGHT

Do you want to recycle something but don't know if it can easily be recycled? The website <https://earth911.com> is a great resource for ways to recycle items not accepted by curbside recycling. Type in the item you want to recycle and your zip code. The site will offer nearby solutions for recycling the item.

Another option is to watch for recycling efforts at local stores. Home Depot, Lowe's and Staples will accept batteries for recycling. Office Max will accept toner cartridges. Libraries often have a receptacle for cell phones or eyeglasses.

Thank you for your recycling efforts!

*Submitted by Cindy McCowen
Church & Society/Creation Justice team*



EQUAL EXCHANGE

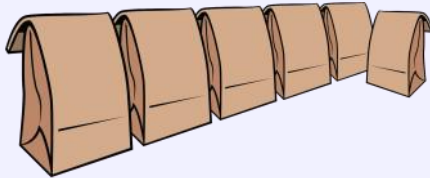
SUNDAY, JUNE 4
10-11 AM, BY THE PARLOR

As the temperatures warm, try making delicious iced teas and coffees using Equal Exchange products. When you do, you are providing a fair wage for those who work hard to grow this beneficial food item and in a way that does not harm God's creation.

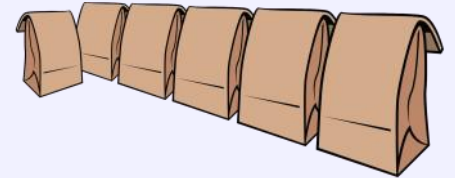
Learn more at equalexchange.coop.

*Submitted by Wendy Jelinek
Church & Society/Creation Justice team*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COMPASSION, & JUSTICE.



**JUNE LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING
SUPPORTS FEED THE KIDS**



We are excited to be participating in the cooperative mission to "Feed the Kids" this summer, once again! The need is greater than ever for children as over the summer months, families struggle with food insecurity. Local churches and organizations work together to help meet this need.

We will have the opportunity to serve and hand out food on July 17. We will need a LOT of donations to make this happen. We plan on making 100 bags of three days worth of meals for children.

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

You can help by donating items come July 1.

Thank you for caring for our kids!



**LIBRARY
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

The UMCB Librarians, Barbara Biehl and Marilyn K. Smith, are requesting assistance in maintaining our church library.

If you are willing to volunteer, please contact **Barbara Biehl** at barbarapereida@icloud.com or **440-236-6332**.

Please provide your name, you are interested in being a library volunteer, and your email or phone number.

Any assistance will be appreciated.



**UMW GOES
“THE SECOND MILE”**

UMW kicked off spring with successful plant (all coupons were sold) and popcorn sales. Thank you ALL for your support and generosity. We also delivered over 100 bottles/jars of catsup, mustard, mayo, olives, and pickles to Second Mile Outreach. Thank you for making a difference!

In April 2023, Second Mile Outreach served 7608 meals to 634 people, including 167 Berea residents (YTD: 30312 meals served to 2526 people).

UMW is now collecting **canned baked beans and canned meat**...please place your donations in the picnic basket in the Narthex.

Future events:

Walk 2 Miles for Second Mile
fun walk on **July 23**

Duck Races

(+dinner, raffle, gift baskets, door prizes)
on **August 26**

Stay tuned for details on these events.

Stop in the Thrift Store and check out the new set up and merchandise...something for everyone! And, as always, thank you for your kindness and compassion.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COMPASSION, & JUSTICE

UMW / WOMEN IN FAITH

Popsicles on the Playground



**POPSICLES ON THE PLAYGROUND
SUMMER CHILDREN’S OUTREACH**

JUNE 14, 6 PM, COE LAKE PLAYGROUND

JULY 19, 3 PM, SPLASH PAD

AUGUST 16, 6 PM, PARKNOLL PLAYGROUND

Join us for these fun play meet-ups with friends from The United Methodist Church of Berea Congregation members are welcome to join us in welcoming our community and handing out treats!

(Raindates: The following day - follow us on Facebook for updates: www.facebook.com/umcherea.)