

Worship Participants

Pastors

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

Advent Candle Lighting

Amy Budney
Katie Budney

Liturgist

Karen Caldwell

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debby Haas

Music

Josh Kraybill, *Organist*
Courtney McClain, *Choir Director*
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

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.**

Morning Prayer:

Lord, how I love this season of new beginnings,
the opportunity to turn toward you and start again.
Empower me to be a messenger of good news,
and a leveling influence along the way,
As I seek to be one with you
in smoothing out the rough places I encounter.
Amen.

Evening Prayer:

Lord, you have comforted me throughout this day
And rescued me from my exile.
Where I have flourished, I give you thanks;
Where I have erred, I ask your forgiveness.
Protect me through the night
That I may rest in your realm of peace
where righteousness makes a home.
Amen.

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Online Prayer Services During Advent

Nightly through Saturday, December 23*, 8 PM, www.facebook.com/umcberea

During this season of Advent, Pastor Steve will be offering a nightly* prayer service at 8PM on Facebook. During this time, we will engage in prayer, read Scripture, sing, practice spiritual disciplines, and engage in reflection (among other practices that deepen our faith). *Not Fridays (*Pastor Steve's Sabbath Day*)



Holiday Hike

TODAY! - December 10, 4 PM, Meet at Coe Lake

Join us for our next hike on Sunday, December 10 at 4 PM, beginning at Coe Lake. The city lights will go on as it gets dark and we can enjoy the decorations, nature, and fellowship.



The Longest Night

Thursday, December 21, 7 PM, Chapel

The holiday season can be especially difficult for some of us, a painful reminder of what has been lost or of what has never been. All are welcome to join us for a time filled with scripture, prayer, candlelight, & Holy Communion. Together, we will remember and give thanks for God's abiding presence even in the longest or loneliest of nights. Invite others, and join us.



Christmas Eve Worship

We welcome and invite everyone to come join us and celebrate the birth of Christ. While we graciously welcome others, let us also be hospitable by welcoming and inviting Christ into our hearts, into our homes, and into our lives.

10 AM, Sanctuary & www.facebook.com/umcberea - Celebrate our yearly Come As You Are Christmas Pageant. *This will be in leu of the normal 9 AM and 11 AM services.*

4 PM, Sanctuary & www.facebook.com/umcberea - A traditional Christmas Eve service with the choir.

7 PM, Wesley Hall - A contemporary Christmas Eve service.

11 PM, Chapel - A traditional Christmas Eve service

Each of the evening services will include beautiful music, a message of hope, and the traditional passing of candlelight while we sing "Silent Night".



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 from Room 11 (outside Carrie's office) for your own personal devotion during the season.



Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

Monday, December 11, 6:30-8 PM, Room 13 & on Zoom

We will discuss **The Music of Bees** by Eileen Garvin. For more information, please contact **Betsy Meikle** at meiklebetsyj@gmail.com or 440-243-5767.



GriefShare - Surviving the Holidays

Wednesday, December 13, 6:30 PM, via Zoom -or- Friday, December 15, 1:30 PM, Room 13

We are going to be doing two sessions of Surviving the Holidays We all have some troubles getting through the Holidays, especially, if you have lost a loved one. We will learn a few techniques to help you through this time, Grief can strike us at any time, but especially the Holidays. Come join us and let us help you through them. For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at marylynn482@gmail.com or 440-409-5931.



Grindstone Appreciation - Cocoa Bar & Treats

Leave Donated Items in the Parlor Kitchenette by Wednesday, December 13

Let's show some holiday love to our partner school, Grindstone! We will be providing a Cocoa Bar and treats for staff on December 14. If you'd like to donate holiday cups, napkins, or treats, please have them to Parlor Kitchenette by December 13. If you'd like to help with set-up, please let **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Star Light, Star Bright - Giving for Local Missions

Forms/Donations due by this Friday, December 15

This year's giving toward to the Star Tree will bless the Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland and Berea Community Outreach. Giving a gift in honor or in memory of a loved one is the perfect way to bless their name this Christmas season. Your loved one's name will be printed on a star and put on our Star Tree for the Christmas season. A full list of those remembered or honored will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin and the January Caller. Make your donation (in any amount) and complete the form online at www.umcb.org/donate. Paper forms are also available in the back of each worship space. Forms & donations may be mailed to the church, Please specify "Star" in the other box online or in the memo line of your check. Forms and donations must be turned into the office or submitted online by **December 15**.



Messy Church Star Trip . . . a Christmas retelling

Messy Church - December 17, 4-6 PM, Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary

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. Join us and bring your family and friends! Questions? Contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Loose Change Supports Berea Community Outreach

Berea Community Outreach's mission is to support residents and connect the community by lending a hand to make a difference. We are grateful to partner with BCO for community raking day and more. Thank you for supporting this local partner who seeks to strengthen our community. You can support this mission by dropping your change in the offering plate, mailing an offering to the church, or donating electronically at umcb.org/donate using the "other" box and designating it as "loose change offering".

Financial Snapshot

As the leadership of UMCB, we desire to be intentionally transparent with the church finances. Over the coming months, we will be providing some "snapshots" of these finances in our church communications. Together, these "snapshots" will help inform our discussions of the fuller picture in the new year.

November Giving: \$29,486

November Expenses: \$37,023

Year-to-Date Income: \$329,028

Year-to-Date Budgeted Giving: \$375,283

Stay tuned as there is more to come. We are grateful for your constant generosity!

Sunday, December 10
Second Sunday of Advent

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at
<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

Formation for All Ages

10 AM / Adults - First floor,
Children - Second floor, Youth - Third floor

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Holiday Hike

4 PM / Meet at Coe Lake

Online Prayer Service

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

Monday, December 11

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Survivor's Fellowship

11 AM/ Parlor, Lunch at Goldie's Deli /
Contact Phil Gehring at pgehrings@att.net

Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

6:30 PM / Room 13, via Zoom

Online Prayer Service

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

Tuesday, December 12

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

10 AM/ Room 13/ Contact [Pastor Carrie](#)

Sustainable Berea

6:30 PM / Room 13

Online Prayer Service

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

Wednesday, December 13

Grindstone Appreciation Donations due Today

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

UMW Circle Christmas Brunch

10 AM / Fellowship Hall

GriefShare Surviving the Holidays

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

Sisters Embracing Oneness Bible Study

7 PM / Offsite / Contact Linda Short at
9short28@gmail.com

Online Prayer Service

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

Thursday, December 14

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Storytime

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

Bell Choir Practice

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

Thursday Bible Study

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

Choir Practice

7 PM / Parlor / Contact [Courtney McClain](#)
or [Margaret Proctor](#)

Online Prayer Service

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

Friday, December 15

Star Light, Star Bright Donations & Forms due today

***January Caller Submissions Due - Please submit articles
to info@umcb.org or the church office mailbox.***

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

GriefShare Surviving the Holidays

1:30 PM / Room 13/ Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at
marylynn482@gmail.com

Rehearsal for Messy Church Star Trip

7 PM / Sanctuary / Contact [Pastor Carrie](#)

Saturday, December 16

Online Prayer Service

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

Sunday, December 17

Third Sunday of Advent

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at
<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

Formation for All Ages

10 AM / Adults - First floor,
Children - Second floor, Youth - Third floor

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Messy Church Star Trip

4 PM / Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary

Online Prayer Service

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