

Worship Participants

Pastors

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

Music

Megan Denman, *Organist*
Courtney McClain, *Cantor*
Hope Antczak, *Piano*

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debby Haas

Advent Candle Lighting

Paul Harlamert
Sally Mook



Hymn Sing

Sunday, December 31, 10 AM, Sanctuary and online at www.facebook.com/umcberea

The Sunday after Christmas, December 31, we will be having a hymn sing at 10 AM, instead of our usual two services. The pastoral staff will be taking the week off after Christmas to recuperate, travel, and visit with family during one of the few times that kids are home from school. This will provide the opportunity for the church to gather in a unique and enjoyable way without the need for pastoral staff. You will all get to lift up your voices and sing your favorite hymns together!



Blessing of Homes

Post-Epiphany (Beginning January 7, 2024)

In some parts of the world, there is a Christian custom of inviting God's blessing on dwelling places, including both homes and workplaces, and upon all who live, work, or visit there. Along with prayers for God's blessing, the front or main entrance is marked with chalk as a sign and reminder that we have invited God's presence into our homes. This tradition is rooted in the visit of the magi to the place where the Christ-child resided (Matthew 2.1-12), and so it is most appropriately practiced near or during the season after the Epiphany, on January 7.

If you would like to share in this brief and simple ritual of worship for your home, please contact **Pastor Steve** at sknisely@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x101** with a day and time that would be convenient for you, beginning January 7, 2024.



Save-the-Date: Youth Mission and Lock-In

January 14-15

We are excited to be hosting the East Ohio Conference's Youth Mission Event in conjunction with our Heroes of Justice Lock-In! **RSVP's accepted now!**

Let **Pastor Carrie** (cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**) know you're able to be a hero!



A New Year, a New Spiritual Practice

Available in the UMCB "bookstore" in Room 12

Looking to start out the new year with a new spiritual discipline? Or just need a new copy for a new year? The Upper Room's Disciplines are now available for \$10. These books include a scripture suggestion, short devotion, and prayer for each day of the year, and follow the lectionary. We also recommend, A Disciple's Journal, which also follows the lectionary, but with more room for reflection, daily prayers, and a Wesleyan emphasis to each week. Copies are \$15.



Race Transformation Conversations

Weekly on Wednesdays, January 10 - March 27, 7-9 PM, Offsite/via Zoom

Sisters Embracing Oneness Invites you to join them in a new study about racial justice, beginning Wednesday, January 10 and ending Wednesday, March 27 from 7-9 PM. The study will be led by its author, Dr. Angelle Jones. You may participate in person at our home or via zoom.

To register, please contact **Rev. Linda Short** at **440-785-6047**.



"Dressing Up" for the New Year

UMW is partnering with Second Mile Outreach in a New Year's food collection: bottled salad dressings and cooking oil. Please place your donations in the marked box across from the Gathering Place. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated. Happy New Year!!

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship with Come as You are Pageant

10 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Christmas Eve Traditional Worship Service

4 PM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Christmas Eve Contemporary Worship Service

7 PM / Wesley Hall

Christmas Eve Traditional Worship Service

11 PM / Chapel

Christmas Day - Monday, December 25

Staff Holiday - Church Offices Closed

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

No Survivor's Fellowship

Tuesday, December 26

Staff Holiday for Christmas Eve- Offices Closed

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Wednesday, December 27

Church Office adjusted hours of 9AM-Noon

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Parking Lot Fellowship

11 AM / The Gathering Place

Sisters Embracing Oneness Bible Study

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

Thursday, December 28

Church Office adjusted hours of 9AM-Noon

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Bell Choir Practice

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

Choir Practice

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

Friday, December 29

Church Office adjusted hours of 9AM-Noon

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

GriefShare

1:30 PM / Room 13 /
contact [MaryLynnSwartz](#)
at marylynn482@gmail.com

Saturday, December 30

Sunday, December 31

First Sunday after Christmas

Hymn Sing

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

New Year's Day - Monday, December 25

Staff Holiday - Church Offices Closed

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

No Survivor's Fellowship

Tuesday, December 26

Staff Holiday for New Year's Eve - Offices Closed

Morning Prayer

9 AM – 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

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.**

Christmas Eve

We welcome and invite everyone to join us and celebrate the birth of Christ.

4 PM Traditional Service

in the Sanctuary and www.facebook.com/UMCBEREA
with the Choir

7 PM Contemporary Service

in Wesley Hall with the Praise Band

11 PM Traditional Service

in the Chapel

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

HYMN SING

Sunday, December 31

10 AM in the Sanctuary and www.facebook.com/UMCBEREA
The Sunday after Christmas, we will have a hymn sing at 10 AM, instead of our usual two services.

Please join as we lift up our voices and sing our favorite hymns together!

