

+Closing Hymn

Postlude

Hymn Sing

December 31, 2023 + 10 AM

UMH 251

arr. Paul Manz

4. O ho - ly Chil, how si - lent		
Prelude	From Heaven Above to Earth I Come	arr. David N. Johnson
Words of Welcome		
+ Opening Hymn	O Come, O come Emmanuel (verses 1-4)	UMH 211
Hymn	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice	UMH 224
Hymn	Angels We Have Heard on High	UMH 238
Lesson - Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3 (<i>NRSVUE</i>)		
Hymn	What Child Is This	UMH 219
Hymn	Once in Royal David's City	UMH 250
Lesson - Psalm 148 (<i>NRSVUE</i>)		
+ Hymn	O Come All Ye Faithful (verses 1, 3, 6)	UMH 234
Hymn	There's a Song in the Air	UMH 249
Hymn	He Is Born	UMH 228
Hymn	O Little Town of Bethlehem	UMH 230
Call to Silent Prayer	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (verse 3)	UMH 216
Silent Prayer		
Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer		
Opportunities for Ministry and Invitation to Give Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	Silent Night	Arr. Alfred Fedak
+ Doxology	The First Noel (verse 5 and refrain)	UMH 245
+ Prayer of Thanksgivi	ng O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (verse 3)	UMH 247
Hymn	It Came Upon a Midnight Clear	UMH 218
Hymn	Angels from the Realms of Glory	UMH 220

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night

Participants

Music

Megan Denman, *Organist* Courtney McClain, *Choir Director* Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

Liturgist Cindy McCowen

Audio Video Elements Mark Williams Marlynda Dziak Debby Haas

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.



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.



Human Relations Day Sunday, January 14

What is Human Relations Day? Human Relations Day is a denomination wide Special Sunday designed to celebrate and raise awareness to further the development of better human relations by involving congregations in community and youth outreach. For more than half a century, United Methodists have observed this churchwide special Sunday in recognition of the message Jesus demonstrated during his life: all of God's children are important. One of the wonderful aspects of The United Methodist Church is that we can do so much more together than we ever could do on our own. Our gifts are part of building "the beloved community." Please consider giving generously on Sunday, January 14.



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! Registration is limited and **ends January 7**! Go to this link to register your student: https://forms.gle/d3vaTk1FVhPDhFvc7.

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



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 follows 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.



Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

Monday, January 8, 6:30-8 PM, Room 13 or via Zoom (ID: 815-5894-6774, passcode: 942297) The book for January 8 is Walk with Me by Kate Clifford Larson.

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



Sisters Embracing Oneness starting a new study: Race Trasformation 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**.



New Women's Group - Aspire!

Last fall, a group of women went to the Aspire Women's conference and decided that we'd love to stick together, grow our group, and encourage each other in our faith journeys.

Our vision: We stand on the promise that God's grace and love are enough, and that aspiring after God's purpose will affect the lives we lead as well as the people we interact with. This winter and spring, we will be working through the study, *Joshua: Winning the Worry Battle,* by Barb Roose, who was our speaker at the conference. All are welcome to join us. We are meeting just once a month offsite.

For more info & to purchase a book, contact Pastor Carrie (cantczak@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x105).



Thursday Bible Study Thursdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom

This study is open to everyone. We would love to have new members join us. Some people can only make one or two sessions in a month. That is fine .. just come and enjoy! We are starting a new book, **Jesus Calling: Experiencing God's Presence** by Sarah Young. You will be encouraged to lay down your cares and just spend time each day with your heavenly Father. As you follow the Lord's instruction to "be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10), you will encounter His peace, be filled with His strength, gain a new perspective on your situation, and experience the full life that only He can provide.

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



GriefShare

Wednesday starting January 10, 6:30 рм, via Zoom or Fridays starting January 12, 1:30 рм, Room 13 We will start again in January with two new sessions and hope that others will join us.

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



You are Invited to a UMW Luncheon/Program Wednesday, January 17, Noon, Fellowship Hall

UMW is hosting a luncheon/program at Noon on Wednesday, January 17. Our speaker is a representative from the Alzheimer's Association and will share some new developments in the treatment and care of those struggling with Alzheimer's. We will also learn about resources that are available to help us navigate the challenges of Alzheimer's. We would love to have you join us... \$5 for a light lunch and program.



"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!!



Love Your Neighbors Project - TLC Room at Berea Midpark High School

To address the needs associated with poverty, school counselors in the Berea-Midpark Middle School and High School created Titan Loving Care (TLC) rooms to "allow for our student's basic needs to be met so they can focus on learning. The rooms are confidential and available to identified students and families in need. The school counseling department maintains and manages the items in the rooms. Students are able to 'shop' for basic necessities to support their overall health and wellness." Your support in providing for the BCSD's most vulnerable students would be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be made by purchasing items on the TLC Room's Amazon Wish list (https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3KE3R10DPNZC9). The selected items will be shipped directly to the schools (please select "TLC Rooms % Sarah Hastings as your shipping address). Additional options include buying gift cards (grocery store or Amazon - and put in the finance office mailbox) or by donating high need items (new socks, underwear, sweat suits, coats, and hygiene items) directly in the outreach bin. A list of needed items will be posted on the outreach board near the collection bin.

Happening at The UMCB this week:

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, January 1, 2024

Staff Holiday - Church Offices Closed

Morning Prayer

9 AM - 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

No Survivor's Fellowship

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Staff Holiday for New Year's Eve - Offices Closed

Morning Prayer

9 AM - 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Wednesday, January 3

Morning Prayer

9 AM - 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Prayer Shawl Ministry

10 AM / Room 13 / Contact Linda at lsmccowen@gmail.com

Parking Lot Fellowship

11 AM / The Gathering Place

Sisters Embracing Oneness Bible Study

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

Thursday, January 4

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, January 5

Morning Prayer

9 AM - 9:30 AM/ via Zoom

Saturday, January 6 **UMW Executive Board**

10 AM / Room 33

Sunday, January 7 Epiphany of the Lord

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

Church and Society/Creation Justice 12:30 PM / Room 13

Volunteer Opportunity - Metanoia Meals

Contact Laura Rushton at ilaurush@gmail.com

Church Office - Beth Barner

Mon. - Fri.. 9 AM - 3 PM - Works remotely Tues. & Thurs. 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

BW Campus Minister - Judith Hammer

Office Hours vary based on need ihammer@umcb.org, 440-234-3525x104

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.