

## Participants

### Pastors

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

### Liturgist

Condit Dibble

### Music

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

### Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams  
Marlynda Dziak  
Debby Haas

The altar flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God  
and by the family of Barb Peterson in memory of Barb's mother, Nancy Baldwin Peterson.

### **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:**

Loving God, no matter what I am facing today-  
Mourning or gladness, buying or selling-  
Help me to focus on you throughout it all.  
Then bring me home safely to you.  
Amen

#### **Evening Prayer:**

Loving God, thank you for the assurance  
That I live forgiven and loved by you.  
I need your grace with others.  
As I face this night, help me to pour out my heart to you  
And then rest in peace. Amen.

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#### **Children's Sunday School Theme: Include**

This month, children will be focusing on including others in the community of faith. As a part of this, you are encouraged to help your child invite a friend to church and/or Sunday School. Both your child and their guest will receive a prize, and the good feeling of knowing what it's like to include others in God's love.



#### **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](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com) or 440-409-5931.



#### **GriefShare**

**Wednesdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom or Fridays, 1:30 PM, 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](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com) or 440-409-5931.



#### **Prayers, Candles, and Mandalas**

**Sunday, January 21 and the third Sunday of each month, 10 AM,**

**Wesley Parlor (located in the hallway adjacent to Wesley Hall closest to Seminary St.)**

Advent is over but the quiet, the prayer, and the coloring of mandalas to continue. **Everyone is welcome to join us!** What should you expect? A very short intro, scripture and prayer followed by a quiet time of coloring and meditation, and ending in reflection and prayer. The only noise during coloring will be the sound of pencils and some very quiet music. We'll have battery operated candles, pencils (bring your own if you like), and mandalas. No books needed.

Questions? Please contact **Rev. Linda McCowen** at [ismccowen@gmail.com](mailto:ismccowen@gmail.com) or 440-234-7211.



### “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!!



### Messy Church - Movie and Mermaid Beach Party!

**TODAY - January 21, 4 PM, Fellowship Hall Hall**

Bring your towels and swish your tails for a winter beach party and a mermaid movie! Let’s talk about loving who we are and growing into the people God made us to be! *See you under the sea!*

To get more information, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x105**.



### Dinner Church

**Sunday, January 28, 5 PM, Fellowship Hall**

We look forward to meeting the folks YOU will bring with you to Dinner Church this year! As we begin a new year, we'd like to renew our focus on making sure we are inviting and bringing friends with us to this outreach worship experience. Over the next few months, we'll be focusing on the Sermon on the Mount in our messages - this is a great opportunity for those who don't know Jesus well, to hear and explore his teachings. Please plan on inviting folks - a chance to share a meal and share faith.



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

The TLC 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/3KE3R1ODPNZC9>). 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.



### EarthKeeper Applications Due February 1.

In 2016, the Board of Global Ministries kicked off a new mission program–EarthKeepers which is a training program designed to help participants lead environmental projects in their communities. Training topics include eco-theology, antiracism, community organizing, and project planning.

You must have a project in mind to participate in the training. I was inspired by the training. Each training cohort becomes part of the larger EarthKeeper community providing a great source of ideas and support.

Training is offered in the spring and late summer. The next EarthKeeper training will be **March 1 – March 16**. All training is on Zoom. There are three full group sessions, two small group sessions and one one-on-one session, for a total of 8.5 hours. There is some independent learning as well.

Here is a link for more information and for the application: <https://umcmmission.org/earthkeepers/>.

If you have any questions or want to know more about EarthKeepers, please reach out to **Barb Dawson, 440 885-1672**.

### 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.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023 (cont'd)</u>	<u>2024</u>
Planned spending	\$554,140	Planned giving \$409,400	Planned spending \$540,148
Actual spending	\$508,482	Actual giving \$391,507	Planned giving \$390,000
Variance	\$46,658 (underspent)	Shortage \$17,893	

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

## Happening at The UMCB this week:

### Sunday, January 21

*Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

#### **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 - Movie 7 Mermaid Beach Party**

4 PM / Fellowship Hall

### Monday, January 22

#### **Morning Prayer**

9 AM / via Zoom / [Contact Pastor Steve](#)

#### **Survivor's Fellowship**

11 AM / Parlor, Lunch at Aladdins /

Contact Phil Gehring at [pgehrings@att.net](mailto:pgehrings@att.net)

### Tuesday, January 23

#### **Morning Prayer**

9 AM / via Zoom / [Contact Pastor Steve](#)

#### **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

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

### Wednesday, January 24

#### **Morning Prayer**

9 AM / via Zoom / [Contact Pastor Steve](#)

#### **Parking Lot Fellowship**

11 AM / Gathering Place

#### **GriefShare**

6:30 PM / via Zoom / Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at [marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com)

#### **Sisters Embracing Oneness Bible Study**

7 PM / Offsite / Contact Linda Short at

[9short28@gmail.com](mailto:9short28@gmail.com)

### Thursday, January 25

#### **Morning Prayer**

9 AM / via Zoom / [Contact Pastor Steve](#)

#### **Bell Choir Practice**

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

#### **Thursday Bible Study**

6:30 PM / Zoom / Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at [marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com)

#### **Choir Practice**

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

### Friday, January 26

#### **Morning Prayer**

9 AM / via Zoom / [Contact Pastor Steve](#)

#### **GriefShare**

1:30 PM / Room 13 / Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at [marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com)

### Saturday, January 27

#### **Open House for Eleanor Long's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

1-4 PM / Fellowship Hall, Gathering Place

### Sunday, January 28

*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany*

#### **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

#### **Dinner Church**

4 PM / Fellowship Hall

#### **Youth Group**

*(following Dinner Church worship)*

6:15 PM / Room 31

#### **Church Office - Beth Barner**

**Mon. - Fri.,** 9 AM - 3 PM *(Remote on Tues. & Thurs.)*

[ebarner@umcb.org](mailto:ebarner@umcb.org), 440-234-3525 x100

**Cell:** 440-710-4498 *(answered during office hours)*

#### **Finance Office - Maryann Herron**

**Mon., Wed., Fri.,** 10 AM - 3 PM

[mherron@umcb.org](mailto:mherron@umcb.org), 440-234-3525 x103

#### **Facilities Manager - Mark Williams**

Office Hours vary based on need.

[mwilliams@umcb.org](mailto:mwilliams@umcb.org), 440-234-3525 x102

#### **BW Campus Minister - Judith Hammer**

Office Hours vary based on need

[jhammer@umcb.org](mailto:jhammer@umcb.org), 440-234-3525x104

#### **Dr. Stephen J. Knisely, Ph.D.**

Office Hours vary based on need *(Saturday Sabbath)*

[sknisely@umcb.org](mailto:sknisely@umcb.org), 440-234-3525 x101

#### **Rev. Carrie Antczak**

#### **Pastor of Christian Formation & Outreach**

Office Hours vary based on need *(Friday Sabbath)*

[cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org), 440-234-3525x105