

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.**

Worship Participants

Pastors

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Liturgist

Condit Dibble

Music

Carmen Massaro, *Organist*
Courtney McClain, *Choir Director*
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debby Haas

Morning Prayer

Loving God,
draw them to your light,
that I may avoid the dangers of sin
and receive the freedom of your grace
in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Evening Prayer

Lord Christ,
as shadows of night draw near,
sustain me by the light that banishes the fearful claim of death.
Help me believe in you with all my heart
that I may know the freedom of salvation
and at last receive the joy of eternal life. Amen.

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UMCOR (United Methodist Commission on Relief) Sunday is Sunday, March 10

Working in more than 80 countries worldwide, the United Methodist Committee on Relief provides survivors of devastating hurricanes, storms, wars, and other crises with temporary relief and long-term education, training, & support. UMCOR spends 100% of designated gifts on the projects that donors specify. None of these designated gifts support administrative or operating costs. On UMCOR Sunday, the special offerings received support UMCOR's administrative costs. These gifts lay the foundation for UMCOR to share God's love with communities everywhere. Please consider giving generously.



Engage Our Faith (A Mid-Week Service of Reflection & Reset)

Wednesdays in Lent, 7 PM, The Chapel

During this season of Lent we will be offering a regular Wednesday night service in the Chapel at 7pm as a way to reflect, reset, and stay engaged in our walk with Christ. The service will vary from week to week with offerings of communion, group engagement, moments of reflection, times of prayer, as well as other spiritual practices and moments.



Online Lenten Prayer

Thursdays in March, 8 AM and 7 PM, Online at [facebook.com/umcberea/live](https://www.facebook.com/umcberea/live)

Similar to what was offered in Advent, we will spend approximately 10-20 minutes in prayer, reading Scripture, and engaging in various practices of spiritual formation.

If you have questions regarding our Lenten Worship & Fellowship opportunities, please contact Pastor Steve at sknisely@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101.



Lent 2024 Formation - Color, Crochet, or Knit Your Way Through Lent!

Sundays, 10 am, Wesley Parlor (in the hallway adjacent to Wesley Hall)

Join the Mandala group in during Lent to add some color, texture, and reflection to your Lenten journey! In addition to those who wish to color using the **Reflections on Prayer** packet, those who crochet or knit are invited to work on one of "God's Cozy Blankets" for The UMCB Prayer Shawl/Blanket Ministry. After sharing a short devotion, scripture, and prayer, everyone will meditate in silence with their chosen art. Questions? Please contact **Rev. Linda McCowen** at lsmccowen@gmail.com or 440-234-7211.



Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

Monday, March 11, 6:30-8 PM, Room 13 or via Zoom

We will meet to discuss **Sister Effect** by Susan Mallory. For more information, please contact **Betsy Meikle** at meiklebetsyj@gmail.com or 440-243-5767.



Thursday Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom

Can you believe that we will be starting another new book this month? This series is called Companions in Christ...The Way of Forgiveness! We will be studying, subject like Facing our Anger, Transforming Anger, Living in God's Blessing. Anyone can join us and we love to hear others opinions on these subjects! Come join us! For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at marylynn482@gmail.com or 440-409-5931.



Remember or Honor a Loved One by Supporting a Student at Africa University this Easter.

Butterfly Request Forms & Payments Due by Friday March 15.

This Easter, we are inviting you to give missionally and fill our worship space with symbolic new life in the form of seed paper butterflies. Each butterfly will represent a donation made in memory or honor of a person of your naming. The funds donated will support our effort to fully fund a young woman's education at Africa University. Request butterflies by **Friday, March 15** online at www.umcb.org/donate or by using the forms at the back of each worship space. Your donation can be made by a check mailed to the church or online at www.umcb.org/donate with the memo "butterfly".



Messy Church - Easter Around the World

March 17, 4 PM, Wesley Hall

Join us for our annual egg hunt PLUS a special Messy Church celebration of how Easter is celebrated around the world! Get ready to get your passport stamped on this epic Easter journey! Extra volunteers for this event are greatly appreciated! This is one of our most popular Messy Church Events and we need help with nation stations, egg hiding, and hospitality! To get more information on how to help, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Palm Sunday Brunch

March 24, 10 AM, Fellowship Hall

Join us on Palm Sunday, March 24 at 10 AM (between services) for a potluck brunch which will benefit "Love Your Neighbor Day" this fall. At this meal, we are excited to share with you our plans to host a day full of hands-on service opportunities that will bless our community. Bring a dish to share if you are able, and participate in the love offering to fund this community-wide mission project.



Dinner Church -The Ice Cream First Supper & Introduction to Fresh Expressions

March 24, 5-7 PM - Fellowship Hall

5 PM: Celebrating the Last Supper with Jesus later that week, we'll celebrate The Ice Cream First Supper and reflect on our past year's journey with Jesus. **Bring savory snacks and appetizers to share after our ice-cream first course!** **6 PM:** Kids and Teens will then enjoy a special Easter movie - together! Meanwhile, adults will then begin a new journey - where we explore what it means to be and make disciples of Jesus. Volunteers needed for a special set up. Contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.

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.

Gotta love those pesky home maintenance bills, right?

Well, how about a home and church? Repairs, supplies, HVAC maintenance, elevator service contract, inspector's licenses, equipment, snow removal, lawn care...

Our average monthly (2023) maintenance costs were \$2972.

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

Sunday, March 10

Fourth Sunday in Lent, UMCOR Sunday

Traditional Worship

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

Campus Ministry Bible Study

10 AM / Library

Formation for All Ages

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

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Sunday Afternoon Hike

3 PM / Wallace Lake

Monday, March 11

Morning Prayer

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

Survivor's Fellowship

11 AM / Parlor, Lunch at Perkins /
Contact Phil Gehring at pgehrings@att.net

Staff Luncheon

Noon / *Church Offices closed for the afternoon*

Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

6:30 PM / Room 13

Tuesday, March 12

Morning Prayer

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

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

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

Sustainable Berea

6:30 PM / Room 13

Church Council Meeting

7 PM / Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 13

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

Lenten Mid-Week Service

7 PM / Chapel

Sisters Embracing Oneness Bible Study

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

Thursday, March 14

Online Lenten Prayers

8 AM / <http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos> /
[Contact Pastor Steve](#)

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

Choir Practice

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

Online Lenten Prayers

8 AM / <http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos> /
[Contact Pastor Steve](#)

Friday, March 15

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

Morning Prayer

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

GriefShare

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

Saturday, March 16

Sunday, March 17

Fifth Sunday in Lent

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 - Easter Around the World

4 PM / First Floor / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)