

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

Cindy McCowen

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debby Haas

Music

Josh Kraybill, *Organist*
Courtney McClain, *Choir Director*
Victoria Penfound, *Bell Choir Director*
Erin Perry, *Soloist*
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

*The altar flowers are dedicated
to the Glory of God and in memory
of David Taylor and other beloved
teachers by Laura Rushton.*

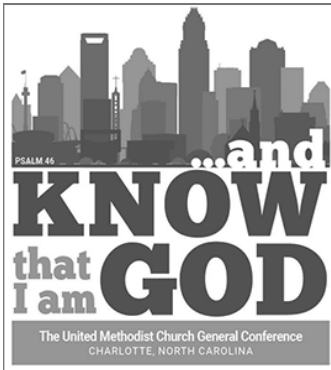
Morning Prayer

Good shepherd, walk beside me
through the joy and trouble this day,
and lead me in the right paths
for your name's sake. Amen.

Evening Prayer

Good shepherd, remain with me
in the dark and stillness this night,
and let me lie down in safety
to restore my soul. Amen.

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The General Conference of The United Methodist Church

April 23-May 3

The General Conference of the United Methodist Church meets this month in Charlotte, NC. The United Methodist Church has been in a period of transition with disaffiliations and disagreements over the ordination, marriage, and full inclusion of LGBTQ+ people. We anticipate that these matters will be addressed and that some sort of legislation will be passed. It is our hope that the United Methodist Church can maintain unity, while also becoming fully inclusive (at least in the North American context). Please be in prayer for the delegates and everyone who will be participating in this important, historic, global, and uniquely United Methodist process.

Please be careful that you utilize reliable news sources for your info on General Conference.

Recommended UMC sources of information are umnews.org and eocumc.com.



Next Sunday is Graduate Recognition Sunday

Sunday, April 28, 10 AM, Gathering Place

Join us at 10 AM in the Gathering Place on April 28th to celebrate all of our graduates! We will celebrate their achievements and pray blessings over them on their next steps!



Vacation Bible School 2024: Blue-Attitudes

June 17-21, 2024

Let's explore the Beatitudes and stories of Jesus with our favorite pup family. We'll have games, activities, and story time all inspired by your favorite Australian family. Come join us as we learn about being Healers of God's Creation.

VBS is open to preschool - 3rd grade (completed). Recommended donation is \$25/child, with \$50/family cap. No family is turned away. **Older kids want to join the fun?** They can join us as junior helpers for a discounted price (\$10).

Children and Junior Helpers register here: <https://forms.gle/52GUwcMhEWzyRdG16>.

Volunteers make VBS PAWsible! Join us for a memorable VBS where kids will get to know Jesus and Church community! Training will be **May 16 at 6 PM.**

Register as a volunteer here: <https://forms.gle/Ebjigig2HqnyoFfCGA>.



Messy Church Goes Wild

TODAY - Sunday, April 21, 4 PM, Coe Lake Pavilion

Meet us at the Coe Lake Pavilion for creation care themed activities, games, and scavenger hunts in the wild of Coe Lake! Be sure to bring your friends to this special community event that will not only celebrate Earth Day but will also remind us all of our calling to care for creation. This is a joint ministry of Messy Church and our very own Creation Care Team!

To get more information on how to help, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**.



Dinner Church & Fresh Expression Neighborhood Prayer Walk

Sunday, April 28, 5-7 PM, Beginning in the Fellowship Hall

It's our last potluck meal of the year, but the beginning of a new adventure as we explore what it would be like to take the message of Jesus into our community - outside the walls of our church!

Join us for a shared meal, followed by prayer walks (and drives) around our community. We will listen closely for where God is calling us to being a "Fresh Expression" of church community.

Contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**.



April Loose Change Offering

This month's loose change will benefit our fall mission "Love Your Neighbor Day". Funds will help purchase needed items to complete our mission projects for the day. We look forward to working with our congregation and community in this shared experience of loving our neighbors!

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".



Think Spring - UMW Collections for Second Mile Outreach

Please place your donations in the designated box by Room 13.

Time for a picnic and lighter meals. UMW is collecting canned meat and boxes of Betty Crocker Suddenly Salad. All donations will be delivered to Second Mile Outreach. Thank you for your generosity and support.



Save the Date - UMW Garage Sale

Saturday, May 18, 10 AM - 2 PM, Wesley Hall

Spring has sprung and UMW is ready to celebrate. On Saturday, May 18, UMW is sponsoring a Garage Sale in Wesley Hall from 10 AM - 2 PM. Stop in, shop, have lunch, and visit with friends.

Spring cleaning? We have you covered. Donate your goodies to our sale. Please deliver, price, set up and remove your items. (No clothing please.) To reserve a table (or two or three), please contact **Nancy Buehler** at **440-234-7613** or nbuehler75@gmail.com.

Ready to work in the garden? We have you covered. We will be selling J & J plant coupons (\$19).

How about a picnic? We have you covered. Shop, stay and buy a chicken dinner (with a side dish and slice of pie).

All proceeds will benefit UMW missions, locally and globally.

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.

Last week, we **GATHERed**.

This week, we **GROW** (youth/adult education, retreats, confirmation, books, training).

Our average monthly (2023) expenses for Christian Formation was \$630.91.

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

Happening at The UMCB this week:

For the most current information, please visit our online monthly calendar at www.umcb.org/upcoming-events.

Sunday, April 21

Fourth Sunday of Easter Festival of God's Creation

Traditional Worship

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

Formation

10 AM / Children - Second Floor /
Youth - Second & Third Floors / Adults - First Floor

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Campus Ministry Bible Study

Noon / Library

Messy Church Goes Wild

4 PM / Coe Lake Pavilion / Contact Pastor Carrie

Monday, April 22

Morning Prayer

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

Survivor's Fellowship

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

Tuesday, April 23

The General Conference of the UMC

Morning Prayer

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

10 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

Discipleship Collaborative

7 PM / Room 13

Wednesday, April 24

The General Conference of the UMC

Morning Prayer

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

Parking Lot Fellowship

11 AM / Gathering Place

Memorials Committee

Noon / Room 13

Sisters Embracing Oneness Bible Study

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

Thursday, April 25

The General Conference of the UMC

Morning Prayer

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

Bell Choir Rehearsal

6 PM / Sanctuary / Contact Tori Penfound

Thursday Evening Bible Study

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

Choir Rehearsal

7 PM / Parlor / Contact Courtney Popp
or Margaret Proctor

LGBTQ+ Caregivers Support Group

7 PM / Gathering Place / Contact Pastor Carrie

Friday, April 26

The General Conference of the UMC

Morning Prayer

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

GriefShare

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

Saturday, April 27

The General Conference of the UMC

Confirmation Retreat

9 AM / Third floor

Sunday, April 28

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Graduate Recognition Sunday

The General Conference of the UMC

Traditional Worship

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

Formation

10 AM / Children - Second Floor /
Youth - Second & Third Floors / Adults - First Floor

Graduate Recognition Fellowship Hour

10-11 AM / Gathering Place

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Dinner Church &

Fresh Expression Neighborhood Prayer Walk

5 PM / Fellowship Hall / Contact Pastor Carrie