

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

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debby Haas

Liturgist

Mia Basit

Music

Josh Kraybill, *Organist*
Elizabeth Philopot, *Soloist*
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*
Courtney McClain,
Choir Director & Soloist

Morning Prayer

God of all beginnings, you bring a new day,
And you promise to journey with me through the hours.
I thank you for the breath and strength I have,
And I beg your help that I may use my powers wisely
And with compassion toward everyone I meet.
Let my questions today be a form of pruning
To bring forth in me new understandings,
Healing, and good fruit; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Evening Prayer

Sweet Jesus, in this night of rest,
Heal my broken places and restore my faith.
You are my vine; only in you am I strong enough
To face the darkness of this world.
I thank you for the safety of my home
And pray for those who have no bed tonight.
Make me grateful,
In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
One God, Mother of us all. Amen.

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Congratulations to Our Graduates

Eric Wang and his family are from China. He is a graduate student in the Leadership in Higher Education program and will graduate from Baldwin Wallace University with a Masters of Art in Education.

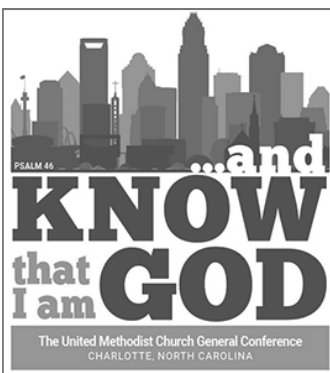
Jonas Ardillo is graduating from Baldwin Wallace University with a Bachelor of Music Education.

Erin Perry is graduating from Baldwin Wallace University with a Bachelor of Music Performance: Vocal. She has been accepted at Peabody School of Music.

Elizabeth Philpot is graduating from Baldwin Wallace University with a Bachelor of Music Degree, majoring in Music Therapy and minoring in Psychology.

Olivia Rentsch is graduating from Case Western Reserve University.

Jonathan Frederick Blevins is graduating from Olmsted Falls High School. He will be attending the Farmer School of Business at Miami University.



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.



Rev. Dr. Bill McFadden to Speak About the “Lift Her Up” Campaign /Africa University
Next Sunday, May 5, Both Worship Services

Rev. Dr. Bill McFadden will be visiting us on Sunday, May 5 to speak about the Lift Her Up Campaign. This mission aims to bring a young woman from a refugee camp and provide them with a four-year education at Africa University. Let us look forward to our collective participation in this vitally important mission.



Youth Annual Conference
Friday, June 7 - Saturday, June 8

Join the fun June 7-8 as the youth of East Ohio gather for Youth Annual Conference 2024 at Kalahari Resorts in Sandusky. If you haven't registered for this memorable and exciting event yet, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**.



Sisters Embracing Oneness Summer Activities

Sisters Embracing Oneness will resume its study of Racism in the fall. For the next few months, we will focus on building relationships with a variety of activities (see the May Caller for more specifics). Women who are interested in joining us should contact **Rev. Linda Short** at 9short28@gmail.com.



Dinner Church & Fresh Expression Neighborhood Prayer Walk
Today, 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**.



The Creation Justice Team Plant Sale
Saturday, May 18, 10 AM, Wesley Hall (During the UMW Garage Sale)

The Creation Justice Team is hosting a plant sale and needs your help. Our plant sale will consist of plant clippings from indoor plants and divisions of perennials of our, and hopefully your, indoor and outdoor plants. If you can participate, please place the plants in paper or recyclable containers (e.g., cottage cheese tub), label them, price them, and bring them to the Creation Justice Table at the Garage Sale on May 18 at 10 AM in Wesley Hall.

Proceeds from the plant sale will go to Brookdale Orchard, (learn more at brookdaleorchard.org.) If you have any questions, please contact **Barb Dawson** at **440-885-1672**.



UMW Garage Sale
Saturday, May 18, 10 AM - 2 PM, Wesley Hall

Spring cleaning? 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.

Then, on May 18, stop in, shop, have lunch, and visit with friends. We will be selling J & J plant coupons (\$19) and chicken dinners (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.

We've **GATHER**ed; we've **GROW**n; and now we **GO**!

Our monthly average (2023) **Congregational Outreach** expenses
(missions, Messy Church, membership/nurture, Upper Room) were **\$401.41**.

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 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

Monday, April 29

The General Conference of the UMC

Morning Prayer

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

Survivor's Fellowship

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

Tuesday, April 30

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

Wednesday, May 1

The General Conference of the UMC

Morning Prayer

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Parking Lot Fellowship

11 AM / Gathering Place

Sisters Embracing Oneness Bible Study

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

Thursday, May 2

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

Friday, May 3

The General Conference of the UMC

Morning Prayer

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

Saturday, May 4

UMW Executive Board

10 AM / Room 33

Sunday, May 5

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

Equal Exchange for Sale

10-11 AM / By the Parlor

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Please Note: Office Manager, Beth, will be on vacation this week, returning on Monday, May 6. While she is away, office emails and voicemails will be monitored and returned as other staff is able during regular office hours (Mon.-Fri., 9 AM - 3 PM). You may also contact the other members of staff for assistance during this time.

If you are in immediate need of pastoral care during this time, please call the church at 440-234-3525 and select extension 104. Please leave a message with your name, your concern, and the best number to reach you. One of our pastors will respond to you as soon as they are able.