

Worship Celebration

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024



The **Easter Season**, also known as the **Great Fifty Days**, begins at sunset on Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost (this year, on May 19). This is our most joyous and celebrative season and the core of the entire Christian year. Together, we focus on Christ's resurrection and ascension and the continual invitation and call from God to live as Easter people, practicing resurrection by sharing God's renewing love with the world.

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

Heavenly God, our Father,
I am full of thanks for a night of rest
And for this new day and all that now awaits me.
I go forward toward encounters
With family and friends, work and play,
And all that will bring me into contact with strangers,
Certain that you are with me.
Lead and guide me in the way of resurrected life.
Help me to see the risen Lord today; in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Evening Prayer

Holy God, our Mother,
You are my comfort at the end
As at the beginning of each day.
You pull me toward your goodness you desire for me.
I give you thanks for all
That has come my way this day,
And I ask your enveloping power
To watch over me this night.
Give rest to all your people.
Wherever there is pain and struggle,
May your holy angels bring peace; in Jesus' name.
Amen.

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Worship Participants

Pastors

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Music

Josh Kraybill, *Piano, Organ*
Courtney McClain, *Choir Director*
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debby Haas

Liturgist

Sandy Marek



Native American Ministries Sunday *Sunday, April 14*

On Native American Ministries Sunday and every day, we are encouraged to participate in repairing past harm and moving forward with awareness and respect, celebrating and embracing the contributions of First Americans. Our giving may support a Native American seminary student's tuition, provide continuing education for pastors enrolled in the Native American Course of Study, secure a grant to churches who need to restore their worship space, assist the work of the annual conference's Committee on Native American Ministries, and much more. Please consider giving generously.



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! If you or someone you love is graduating from any level of education, please let **Pastor Carrie** (cantczak@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x105) know ASAP so we can celebrate your achievement and pray blessings over you on your next steps!



Confirmation Retreat *Saturday, April 27, 9 AM - 2 PM*

Our last Confirmation retreat for this year will be at the church on April 27. Please hold our confirmands and their teachers in prayer as they explore their membership vows and prepare for Confirmation. We will celebrate Confirmation on May 19, during both services.



Women's Soul Care Retreat *Saturday, April 13, 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM, The UMCB Parlor* *Registration ends next Saturday, April 6*

You're invited! Let us gather for a time of fellowship and spiritual renewal. Take this opportunity to leave your to-do list behind with your dirty clothes in the hamper and dirty dishes in the sink. Make time for YOU as we experience a Soul Care Retreat with learning, sharing, laughing, and relaxing. Registration forms are available on the table in the Narthex. For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at marylynn482@gmail.com or 440-409-5931.



Vacation Bible School 2024: Blue-Attitudes *June 17-21, 2024* *Registration opens April 1!*

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/Ebjig2HqnyoFfCGA>.

Happening at The UMCB this week:

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

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Worship

7 AM / Chapel

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

Monday, April 1

Easter Holiday for Staff - Offices Closed

Morning Prayer

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

Survivor's Fellowship

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

Tuesday, April 2

Morning Prayer

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

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

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

Stephen Ministers

6:30 PM / Room 13

Wednesday, April 3

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

** Continued in next column **

Wednesday, April 3 (cont'd)

GriefShare

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

Sisters Embracing Oneness Bible Study

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

Thursday, April 4

Morning Prayer

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

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, April 5

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 6

UMW Executive Board

10 AM / Room 33

Sunday, April 7

Second Sunday of Easter

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

Equal Exchange for Sale

10 AM / By the Parlor

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