

## ***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**

Bobbi DiNicola

#### **Music**

Alissa Bodner, *Keyboardist*  
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*  
Courtney McClain, *Choir Director*

#### **Audio Video Elements**

Mark Williams  
Marlynda Dziak  
Debby Haas

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The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God,  
in honor of Pentecost, Our Confirmands, and the 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of The Mareks.

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*Please join us in the Gathering Place between the services as we celebrate our Confirmands!*

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#### **Morning Prayer**

God of newness and delight,  
You greet your world again  
With light and life  
I awaken to your presence  
Behind, before, beneath,  
Above, and within me.  
I thank you for another day  
And ask only that you keep me  
So firmly in your care  
That I can move gracefully  
Through all I have to do.  
Guard my family, my friends,  
And all my brothers and  
Sisters in faith.  
Let me be a peacemaker today;  
In Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **Evening Prayer**

God and Holy One,  
You have led me through this  
Day of many encounters  
To the time when I may close  
My eyes and dream.  
I thank you for the people you  
Have sent my way today,  
For the work I have had to do,  
For the food, shelter, and  
Safety you have given.  
I pray that people everywhere  
May have all necessary  
Comfort and nourishment  
And that I may lie down in peace,  
Resting in the trust that  
You are watching over all creation.  
I pray this in the name of the  
One who made Earth,  
Called the children to come,  
And blows through our days  
With wisdom. Amen.

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#### **Peace with Justice Sunday is Next Sunday - May 26!**

As Jesus walked the earth, he taught his followers that peacemakers are blessed. Peacemakers are not only blessed but are also a blessing to others. Gifts to Peace with Justice Sunday support a variety of ministries that strengthen local and global peace with justice ministries, train new people to get involved in social justice programs, grow advocates for human rights and peace and environmental justice, and connect your annual conference to ministries in your local community, and the list goes on. Because of your prayers and generosity, *you* change the lives of those who are impacted by the initiatives supported. Please consider giving generously.



### **The UMCB audio/video team is looking to expand!**

Always wanted to work in the exciting field of broadcast but didn't know where to start? Here is your opportunity, join the UMCB streaming team. A rewarding experience and lots of fun. For more information, contact **Mark Williams** at [mwilliams@umcb.org](mailto:mwilliams@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x102**.



### **Last Day of Sunday School is TODAY!**

A big thank you to our Sunday School teaching team this year: Janet Mallarnee, April Thomas, Martha Mallarnee, Patty Worthem, Nancy Buehler, Chuck Dixon, and Margaret Proctor. And a big thank you to our families who brought their students to church to introduce them to Jesus and our faith community!



### **Read and Grow Book Discussion Group**

**May 20, 6:30 PM, Room 13**

We will meet to plan for next year. Bring your suggestions!



### **An Update on the Israel/Gaza Conflict**

**Sunday, June 2, 10 AM, Fellowship Hall**

Dr. Ellen Posman will join us on June 2 at 10 AM to share an update on the Israel/Gaza conflict with a focus on religion and American protests and policies.



### **New GriefShare Session Beginning**

**Mondays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom**

Have you ever wondered about self care following a loss? Grief and your friendships? Being stuck in grief? Come join us and we will guide you to the answers. For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at [marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com) or **440-409-5931**.



### **Messy Church Carnival**

**Today, May 19, 4-6 PM, The UMCB front lawn and Wesley Hall**

It's our last Messy Church of the school year! Let's celebrate the love of God, the love of fun, and grow in our faith together! Alongside carnival games and food, we'll also celebrate communion together! God's table is open to everyone, and it's for sure a celebration! To get more information on how to help, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x105**.



### **Loose Change Offering - Feed the Kids**

This month's loose change offering will support Feed the Kids, a summer food program to help sustain our community's children over the summer months. This money will help us to supplement our church's food donations so we can buy the many, many food items needed to complete the donation bags.

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](http://umcb.org/donate) using the "other" box and designating it as "loose change offering". Thank you!



### **Love Your Neighbor - Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland**

We will be serving a meal at the Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland on **Tuesday, May 21**. We will meet to leave for Nehemiah at **11:45 AM** in the church parking lot and return by 5 PM. The meal will be provided, however, we could use some desserts to bring. To volunteer, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x105**.

We are also collecting gently used clothing and household items for their Free Store. Place donations in the bin near the Outreach Board by Room 13.

### **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.

**2024 YTD TOTAL GIVING= \$117, 939**  
(2023 YTD TOTAL GIVING= \$136,801)

*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](http://www.umcb.org/upcoming-events).

### Sunday, May 19

#### *Pentecost*

#### **Confirmation Sunday**

#### **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

#### **Reception Celebrating the Confirmands**

10-11 AM / Gathering Place

#### **Modern Worship**

11 AM / Wesley Hall

#### **Messy Church Carnival**

4-6 PM / The UMCB Front Lawn, Wesley Hall /  
Contact Pastor Carrie

### Monday, May 20

#### **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)

#### **Read & Grow Book Planning Meeting**

6:30 PM / Room 13 / Contact Betsy Meikle at  
[meiklebetsyj@gmail.com](mailto:meiklebetsyj@gmail.com)

#### **GriefShare**

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

### Tuesday, May 21

#### **Morning Prayer**

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

#### **Nehemiah Mission Volunteer Opportunity**

11:45 AM / Contact Pastor Carrie

#### **Aspire Women's Bible Study**

6:30 PM / Zoom

#### **Staff Parish Relations Committee**

7 PM / Room 13

### Wednesday, May 22

#### **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)

### Thursday, May 23

#### **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](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com)

#### **Choir Rehearsal**

7 PM / Parlor / Contact Courtney Popp  
or Margaret Proctor

### Friday, May 24

#### **Morning Prayer**

9 AM / via Zoom / Contact Pastor Steve

#### **GriefShare**

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

### Saturday, May 25

### Sunday, May 26

#### *Trinity Sunday*

#### *Peace with Justice Sunday*

#### **Traditional Worship**

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

#### **Adult Formation**

10 AM / First Floor / Contact Pastor Carrie

#### **Modern Worship**

11 AM / Wesley Hall