

The Good News!

open hands
open minds
open doors



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open doors



A Publication of
Smithville United Methodist Church
Smithville United Methodist Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation
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The people of The United Methodist Church

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THE GOOD NEWS PUBLICATION

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MISSION STATEMENT

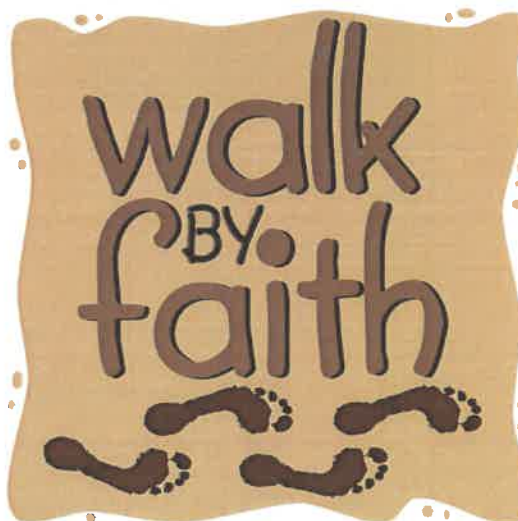
*"To Love Christ,
To Serve Christ,
To Share Christ,
No matter What It Takes"*

DEADLINE for next month's
articles: **September 15, 2021**

FROM PASTOR JAMES LANCE'S DESK

As some of you know, my father grew up near Wooster (*graduated from Waynedale High School*) and I attended and graduated from the College of Wooster. I grew up visiting the Wooster area and lived on campus during my four years at the college. I came to know the area and have a center from Wooster. As I settle into Smithville, I am learning to re-center myself and the map I have in my head. I am learning how to get to various places from Smithville and where different nursing homes, houses, and stores are. As I return to the area, I am rediscovering so many things I remember and truly enjoy ... like Hartzler's Dairy, Buehlers, and Acres of Fun. I am also learning what has grown, like the hospital is nearly doubled the size as I remember it being. I am learning places that have been here but are new to me, like the Carpenters Cup and Sam's Pizza. I am discovering things that are new, like the Ax throwing and Ollies.

As I reflect on all these things ... I am also reflecting on Jeremiah 29:11 *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."* The Lord has plans for me, even as I re-center myself, I know I do so in the Lord's plans.



As we transition from lockdown, we must also re-center ourselves in the Lord's plans. There are things that we must keep the same; things that nurtured us and our community. There are things that we must adapt as we continue them and there are new things we must start. As we reflect on Jeremiah 29:11 ... we are reminded that the Lord has plans for us through the changes in life and the transitions we make. The other thing that makes us

anxious is we don't fully know what those plans are. I will be learning as we decide as a church, but I do not know yet, what they will be. As Smithville UMC, we will discover what is important, what we keep but adapt and what we start new. In all this, whatever comes next for us, we remember that the Lord watches over us. We are living into the Lord's plans as Smithville UMC.

Pastor James

Worship Schedule

FROM THE DESK OF AIMEE HARE

Sunday Mornings in September

Sunday, September 5

Communion

*Mark 14:17-26;
Exodus 16:4-8, 31-36*

**Sermon: "What is Manna?
What is the Bread of Life?"**

~ ~ ~

Sunday, September 12

*Exodus 18:1-12;
Exodus 18:13-27*

**Sermon: "We are the Body of
Christ"**

~ ~ ~



~ ~ ~

Sunday, September 19

*Exodus 33:1-6;
Matthew 26:36-46*

Sermon: "Covenant Renewed"

~ ~ ~

Sunday, September 26

*Numbers 14:1-12;
Numbers 14:19-25*

**Message: "We are all Afraid at
Some Point"**

I was watching a video the other day of a woman by the name of Doreen Ketchens, playing the clarinet with a full orchestra in a cathedral. The caption of the video said, "You've NEVER heard the clarinet played like this!!!" They were right. I clicked on the link for the video and from the moment Ms. Ketchens started playing, it was clear that she was one in a million. Her talent and her passion for the music was evident from the first note she played ... she was lost in the beauty of the music and totally engrossed in playing. When the orchestra was not playing, they were just as in awe of her as the crowd that filled the seats. Even the conductor prefaced the song by saying that it was such an honor to be in the same room with her! When she was done playing the crowd jumped to their feet and erupted in applause and cheers. Once she was done playing, it made total sense why the conductor and the orchestra were in awe of her and why the crowd cheered for her. The joy that she felt while playing was all over her and it was contagious! She was extraordinary.



I don't know if you have ever played an instrument or not ... for me, percussion and vocals are all I have ever really played ... but I always liked messing around with my friend's clarinets and saxophones in band. I could make that clarinet sound like a goose gasping for air in no time. I had ZERO talent with a woodwind instrument! None. When my mouth hit that reed, it was all squeaks and squawks from me. No one in their right mind would ever hear that and say "wow ... she is so good!" Honestly ... people would probably pay me NOT to play almost as much they would pay for Ms. Ketchens to play!

Weird, isn't it? How is it that the same type of instrument is brought to life so differently by two people? Yes, I know she probably has had a ton of training, countless hours of practice, and has honed her skills over the many years she has played. I was just goofing around during a break in band. Honestly though, I believe the main difference between us is that she clearly has a passion for her music and playing the clarinet. I know people that have musical talent but no love for it ... although they can be good, there is something missing. They can read music, they can count and have the timing, they get all of the technical parts of the song ... but when someone doesn't "feel" the song, it makes a difference. I think any musician would tell you that when you are in love with a piece of music you practice, play/sing, and perform it on a deeper level. It means something to you. You connect with it ... you play it from and with your heart. It is so much more than technic. It is love for the music.

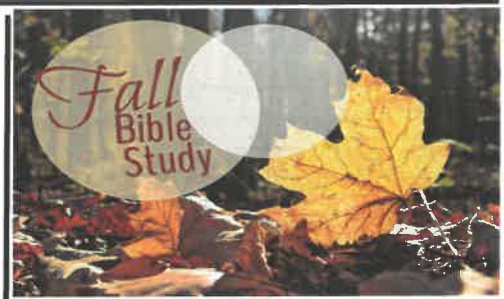
I believe that is what Paul was trying to convey to us in 1 Corinthians 13:1 when he says, "If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal." Sharing our faith, telling others about Jesus, living out our call is so much more than just a bunch of technical "do's and don'ts."

RECIPE OF THE MONTH ... Kay Casterline

Fresh Peach Cake

- 1 c. Flour
- 1 c. Sugar
- 2 t. Baking Powder
- 3 T. Shortening
- 1 Egg
- 2 c. Fresh Chopped Peaches

Put in a 9" square pan. Bake 350° for 30-35 minutes. Enjoy!



New Wednesday Night Bible Study

Christian Hospitality Study

You are invited to join us in a **7-week study about Christian Hospitality. The study will start on Wednesday, September 22 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.** This study explores a scriptural grounding for our call to hospitality, what our call in hospitality is as Christians, and what our responsibility is as Christians. We will be looking at historical and general understandings of hospitality, what hospitality means for us as individuals, and what it means for us as a church. We will be reading the book *"Making Room: Recovering Christian Hospitality as a Christian Tradition"* by Christine D. Pohl. We will be reading/skimming the chapter between sessions, watching a video then discussing our reflections as we meet.

Continued from page 2

If we are not loving others as Jesus called us to do, then we *"have gained nothing."* Being a follower of Christ, in my mind, is so much like being a musician. Some people have the rules (technic) memorized and follow them to the letter ... and they expect others to do the same. They can say the right words and do the right things, but if they do not do these things with love as the motive, then it is just an empty clanging noise to the ears of those who hear it. God's love changes us. God's love changes those around us. Without His love working in and through us, we are wasting our time. Loving others the way Jesus did means we WILL be made uncomfortable. We WILL be asked to connect heart to heart with people in places we would rather not think of. We WILL be asked to sacrifice and work hard and be stretched beyond what we feel we can ... but if we are willing to do these things with LOVE, then lives are changed. The acts of service and faithfulness we do, when done with love, bring faith to life. It is more than technic. It is love for God.



I pray today, wherever you are sitting reading this, that you will close your eyes, breath in deep, and ask the Lord of melody and life to fill your heart with love for those you will encounter today. Ask Him to make you a blessing to someone you see today ... and ask Him to teach you to love them the way He loves them. To see them the way He sees them. To feel the compassion towards

them and the connection with them that He does. I pray that when you say yes to loving others the way God has called you to, that you will have a passion and hunger for it ... and that love will always fill your songs and your soul.

Aimee

Smithville UMC wishes all our 4-H'ers an enjoyable week at the fair. We pray the weather cooperates, as well as your animals. We also pray that this is a good learning experience as well as a great week of making memories!



Wayne County Fair

SAVE THE DATES ...

SPR Committee plans to meet **Wednesday, September 8 at 7:00 p.m.** with the District superintendent in the Parlor.

This year's Charge Conference will be back in person **Sunday, October 31, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.** with Rev. Kris Patt, Presiding Elder. Mark your calendars and plan to join us at that time.



Prayer Chain Coordinators

Ed & Gail Bersch are the Prayer Chain Coordinators. Call them at (330)347-4699 with your prayer requests. If you are interested in joining this important ministry, please give them a call.

Liturgist Openings ...



If you enjoy reading and are interested in being a Sunday morning Liturgist during

October, November or December please sign-up at the table at the back of the Sanctuary or give Cheryl, our Administrative Assistant a call during Office Hours. A BIG THANK YOU to our Praise Team who have been serving overtime during the Pandemic. We'd like to open this up to others that would like to serve in this capacity.



New Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Mission Statement Study

You are invited to a **7-week Bible Study Tuesday mornings**. The study starts on **Tuesday, September 21 from 10:00—11:00 a.m.** This study will follow along with the sermon series as we explore our Mission Statement at Smithville UMC. We will look at our mission as Christians, the importance of a mission statement, and what the Smithville UMC Mission Statement is specifically. We will read scripture based on each part of the study and discuss it as a group.

NEW Fellowship Time Schedule ...

- 1st Sunday of the month: Growing Christians Sunday School Class
- 2nd Sunday of the month: LeeAnn Caldwell & Kathy Buchwalter
- 3rd Sunday of the month: Debra Lenthe & Kay Casterline
- 4th Sunday of the month: The Trustee Men
- 5th Sunday of the month: Judy Davisson & Mike Serra

If you would like to help in serving or donating a snack, on any of these weeks, just talk to any of the people listed above. They would love to talk to you about helping!



Dog Obedience Class

By: Allan Bauman

(The course will consist of three 2-hour Sessions equivalent to a 7-week Course.)

Dates: Thursdays, September 23, 30, October 7

6:30 – 8:30 pm.

[in Smithville UMC—F. L.C.]

Cost: \$85 (\$175 value) it includes Allan's Book: **Pawsitive Dog Training**

All proceeds will go to SUMC for Community Outreach Programs. This is a special event and class registration is limited. All family members are encouraged to participate. Once registration limits are reached there will be an opportunity for non-participating members to attend without dogs.



Allan Bauman has been actively training dogs for over 40 years. He started his early career successfully competing in Obedience Competition. This developed into a career of Pet Care and Dog Training. He operated Goldenbrook Kennels for 18 years.

Allan is a Charter Member and Past President of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers. He currently serves on the Board of the APDT Foundation. He has lectured both Nationally and Internationally. Allan's book "Paw-sitive" Dog Training achieved a recommended reading by Dogwise through its reader's polls. The video version of his book received a Top Video of the year through The Whole Dog Journal.

The class is a full training course. Non-participants will have the opportunity to watch a class in progress and learn techniques and skills that they can apply to their own dogs at home.

For registration contact: Smithville United Methodist Church at (330)669-2371

**** Payment is due at time of registration ****

Call Church Office, (330)669-2371, Monday—Friday, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. to sign-up asap. Each class will only have 8 dogs.

Prayer Concerns

**Unspoken requests, Our Friends, Our Relatives,
Our Associates, Our Neighbors, Our Youth & Our Church**

**Pray for Liberty Prep, Smithville Schools & the Career
Center Students, Teachers & Administration**

Please pray for... [health concerns]

**Coronavirus victims & families, Jennifer Sayre, Sue Sayre,
The Donna Leach Family [7-29-2021], Margaret Miller, Nina
Benek, Ed Bersch, Dawn (Sayre) Ross, 5 yr. old Autumn
Regula, Jackie Becker, Jenny Wagers, Paul Finley, and
others in our Church Family**

Please pray for our Shut-ins...

Nina Benek—The Avenue at Wooster, #216, 1700 E. Smithville Western Rd.
Ed Bersch—Westview Manor, #509, 1715 Mechanicsburg Rd.
Dorothy Hochstetler—Westview Manor, #212, 1715 Mechanicsburg Rd.
Louise Holt—Wayne County Care Center, #105, 876 S, Geyers Chapel Rd.
Ellen Keith—The Avenue at Wooster, #122, 1700 E. Smithville Western Rd.
Ross Leach—Home, 6848 Back Orrville Road, Wooster
Marguerite Miller—Westview Manor, #603, 1715 Mechanicsburg Rd
Nancy Mills—Wayne Manor, 3110 E. Smithville Western Rd. Wooster
Judy Reese—Wayne Manor, #110, 4220 E. Smithville Western Rd. Wooster

LETTERS OF THANKS



Dear Church Family,

To Thank You ... Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated and will always be remembered.

We would like to thank you for remembering us with kind words, prayers and cards in the passing of Blaine.

In Christian Love,

The Blaine Davisson Family

"GOD IS WITH YOU IN everything YOU DO."
GENESIS 28:22

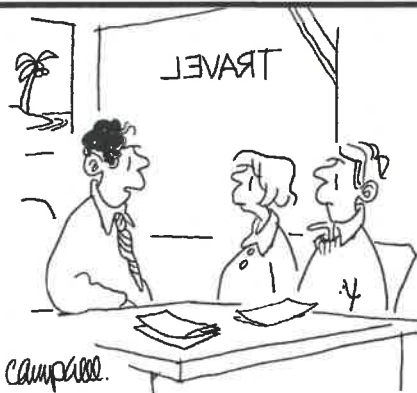
It is well,
it is well
with my soul.

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- 6 Jack Williams
- 7 Grace Strait
- 8 Carol Gurich
- 9 James Beichler
- 18 Amber Sayre
- 20 Ronald Singer
- 21 Cheryl Hadsell
- 22 Bill Davisson
- 24 Kyle Krownapple
- 25 Jacklyn Beaver
- 26 Abigail Ross
- 29 Jerri Lynn Baxstrom
Joshua Bersch

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

- 5 Sandy & Cheryl Hadsell
- 13 Patrick & Jane Miller
- 14 Merle & Julia Lautenschlager
- 26 Todd & Andrea Gerber



"You can still find an unspoiled paradise, but I'm afraid you have to die first."

Answers

Answers to prayers come in various ways,
sometimes in minutes, sometimes in days.
And some take years to fully unfold the harvest of love and blessings they hold.

Answers to prayers come in various forms,
sometimes in sunlight, sometimes through storms.
Some blossom early, and some blossom late,
but each one will flower — have faith and wait!

—Helen Inwood, *His Mysterious Ways*

To My Church Family,

With Thanks ... Your kindness is greatly appreciated ... Thank you for your support during my recent illness and hospitalizations. I am happy to report they figured out what's wrong and it's treatable. All of your concern, prayers and cards really helped and were much appreciated. Thanks to all.
God Bless,
Tom Rolf

Promises on Hand

Audrey Penn's book *The Kissing Hand* features a young raccoon who's nervous about the first day of school. Mom consoles him by kissing his palm, signifying her presence with him. The youngster can simply put his hand to his face any time he needs a kiss from her. If that isn't tear-jerking enough, as the raccoon scampers to school, he returns to kiss Mom's hand so she'll have a Kissing Hand too.
That story reminds me of Matthew 28:20, when Jesus promises to be with us always, and of Psalm 23:4, which says, "I will fear no evil; for thou art with me" (KJV). God gives us a Kissing Hand through baptism, sealing us forever with the Holy Spirit and the mark of the cross of Christ.
Just as the raccoons cherish their kissing hands, may we cherish the promise of our Father's eternal presence. Thanks be to God, whose "goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life" (Psalm 23:6).
—Julie Lee



CROWDER Tickets ... Anyone wanting to attend the CROWDER Concert but missed purchasing tickets. I have **3 tickets** for the chairs on the patio, in front of the Grandstand - **\$22 each**. See Aimee asap ... early bird gets the tickets!

NNN

Aspire Tickets ... Ladies, if you haven't purchased **your Aspire tickets, for Friday, October 1** at Grace Baptist's concert in Brunswick, see Pastor James or call the Church Office soon to get your ticket. **Tickets are \$20** and we still have 5 left. The concert begins at **7:00 p.m.** and doors open at 6:30 p.m.
JOIN US!

SMITHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
243 N. Milton, P. O. Box 375
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[Address Service Requested]



Let's celebrate the upcoming Fall with a **FUN, FREE, Family and Friends Scavenger Hunt!** Bring your whole family, lots of friends, a phone with a camera, and your sense of ADVENTURE! We will **meet at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 19, in the Smithville Church Parking Lot** where you will receive a list of items *(some to bring back & some to photograph)* that you will need to hunt for!

This game is for EVERYONE ... but please make sure you have a driver *(or if you are a student we will provide an adult to chaperone and drive the group)*

because this Scavenger Hunt cannot be done on foot alone *(unless you are the Flash)!!*

Please contact Aimee (330-605-3920) to register for this event ... ALL AGES WELCOME!!!

There will be A PRIZE for the winning car!!!!



Family Scavenger Hunt