

The Good News!

open hearts
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
April 2021

The people of The United Methodist Church

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THE GOOD NEWS PUBLICATION

Published once a month online by:
Smithville UMC
243 N. Milton St.
P.O. Box 375
Smithville, OH
44677-0375

PHONE:
330-669-2371

FAX:
330-669-2377

E-MAIL:
smithvilleum@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.sumc-ohio.org

Pastor:
Rev. Dr. Carolyn Berry
Ministry Coordinator:
Aimee Hare
Admin. Assistant & Editor:
Cheryl Hadsell



MISSION STATEMENT

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

DEADLINE for the
May newsletter is:
April 15, 2020

FROM REV. CAROLYN'S DESK

Finding Joy ...

A clergy couple that I have known for over 20 years retired in 2019. They had such wonderful plans for the summer and fall of 2020. They were going on an extended tour of the Holy Lands and then to England to visit Wesley's Chapel and other non-religious places. But then COVID-19 showed up and all their plans had to change.

One day last summer, they were looking at their back porch and thought why not turn it into a four-season room, so they could enjoy the views all year round. Silly them, they thought it would be a simple project. But one delay followed another and they are still in the middle of a construction zone of what will be a sun room slash reading room slash coffee nook slash get away from the world quiet space.

When I called them last week, I found them in their new space. They moved aside the tools and sawhorses, pushed the scraps of wood in a pile and moved in two chairs and a table. There amid the subflooring and dangling wires that will be a ceiling fan one day, they were enjoying their coffee. They had found joy in the incomplete space.

That is what God calls us all to do. Live in joy in an incomplete world. To see the possible in the midst of construction. As we celebrate Easter this year, may we also celebrate joy. The society is not back to where we would like to see it. But let's celebrate where we are. Let's celebrate joy. Let's celebrate God's love and grace. Let's celebrate an empty tomb and a risen Lord.

Happy Easter

Rev. Carolyn M. Berry

Worship Schedule

FROM THE DESK OF AIMEE HARE

Holy Thursday, April 1
Communion*Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14;*
*John 13:1-17*Sermon: "Do You Know What He
Has Done"

NNN

Good Friday, April 2*John 18:1-40; John 19:1-42*
Sermon: "God Never Finishes"

NNN



NNN

Easter Sunday, April 4*1 Corinthians 15:1-11;*
John 20:1-18

Sermon: "Christ Is Risen"

NNN

Holy Humor Sunday, April 11*Psalms 133; John 20:19-31*Sermon: "Do You Bleed Scarlett &
Gray?"

NNN

Sunday, April 18*Psalms 4; Luke 24:36b-48*Sermon: "Witness to the
Resurrection"

NNN

Sunday, April 25—Aimee Hare*Acts 4:5-12; Luke 5:17-32*Sermon: "A Broken and a Beautiful
Faith"FROM MY
ANGLE

When I was a little girl, I used to love to go into our woodshed where my dad would throw pieces of scrap wood and dig out the straightest ones I could find. Then I would go and find the big box of nails he kept sitting right inside the shed door and his hammer. Then the magic began ... I truly thought of myself as an amazing carpenter and would "build" grand things like a swimming pool for my Barbies. (In

reality, it was a not so square, not so flat, more nails than wood kind of a creation that I sat a plastic bowl in the middle of, to put the water in.) I also built a mansion for those same Barbies once (the structure looked a lot like the "pool" I built them but this time it stood on its side and I used bigger pieces of wood ... and even MORE nails.) I should probably mention that the greatness of my skills as a carpenter were not acknowledged by my mom, who would say things like, "those should probably be their outside house," or my favorite, "make sure you take your Barbies to the doctor for their tetanus shots." I thought her remarks, at the time were sweet ... worrying about my Barbies and caring so. Yes - in reality she was being funny and was saying a lot about my carpentry skills without flat out telling me I was awful! I was, in my own mind, a master craftsman. It did not phase me that all my creations looked the same or that they would have fallen apart if put to any real test. My Barbies never complained! Then one Christmas, my grandpa made a beautiful, wooden bed for my doll babies. It was dark and the stain was shiny. There were no splinters, no nails showing, and it was not square ... it was honestly beautiful. My grandma made bedding for the doll bed and it was such a special gift ... a true masterpiece! My dolls certainly would not require a tetanus shot to use it! The difference in that piece of furniture and those that I had created were worlds apart. It was easy to see who knew what they were doing and who was clueless. We used some of the same materials (wood, nails), but he knew how to cut the wood, stain it, put it together, and bring out the VERY best in the material he was working with. I knew how to hit a nail with a hammer.

I share this story with you because it reminds me so much of the difference between what happens in our lives when we try to control everything and when we surrender ourselves and allow God to lead us. Ephesians 2:8-10 says it this way, "I mean that you have been saved by grace through believing. You did not save yourselves; it was a gift from God. It was not the result of your own efforts, so you cannot brag about it. God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works, which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing."

When God creates us and places us in this world we have such potential to do things that will bring glory to Him and advance the work of His Kingdom! It is so exciting! It is incomprehensible how many hearts we have the chance to touch and how much good we have the opportunity to do ... and yet so often we don't. Why?? Well, it all starts when we decide to take the hammer out of God's hands and put it in our own. We randomly start nailing things into places in our lives, where they just don't belong. So, we put a nail here and place a piece of scrap wood there and when we think we have done a good job we step back to admire our work only to find that what we have made ... is an unstable mess. Our own efforts cannot save us. They cannot build a life that is good enough to get us into Heaven ... no matter how good we are! Only Jesus can do that! He has the knowledge, the tools, the skill, and the love for us that it takes to save us. The life that we can have if we surrender ourselves to Christ won't be easy, but it will be beautiful!

Continue on page 4

Smithville UMC Is Offering:

A Dog Obedience Course Workshop

By: Allan Bauman

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

Dates: Thursdays, April 8, 15 & 22

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 their 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. Call the Church Office to register ...

Participating Dogs with Families - \$85

Nonparticipating Viewers - \$10

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

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

*****Please note dogs must be people and dog friendly*****



Holy Humor Sunday

Sunday, April 19, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m.

OH ...

Wear something Ohio State ...

Their colors: Scarlet & Gray

... IO

Special Birthday...

Clara Zimmerman

4—29





Bishop Tracy Malone is appointing Rev. Carolyn M. Berry to Doylestown UMC effective July 1, 2021. Rev. Carolyn's last Sunday at Smithville UMC will be June 27.

It is also Bishop Malone's intent to appoint Pastor James Lance to Smithville UMC effective July 1, 2021, and his first Sunday with us will be July 4. If you would like to learn more about Pastor Lance feel free to pick up a pamphlet at the back of the Sanctuary.

Please join us in prayer for all the Pastors and Churches involved with this change.

SAVE-THE-DATE

The Trustees will be hosting a CHURCH-WIDE WORK DAY ... Saturday, May 22, times to be determined. They will supply the list ... you can supply the man or lady power! Hope you can join us ... Many hands, make light work!

youth group

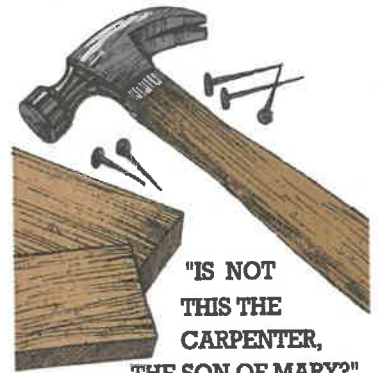
SCHEDULE

Wednesdays, April 7, 14, 21 & 28—2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Continued from page 2

It may be painful when He is pulling all the nails out that we have put in the wrong places ... it may hurt when he has to remove things that we thought we needed ... but he transforms our mess into a masterpiece. He takes all that junk wood and rusty nails and when he is done with them, they are a work of art ... they are one of a kind ... they are priceless ... they are YOU!

Now, my barbies never did say it, but I know they preferred that lovely hand-made bed that my grandpa made them over the swimming pool that I made. Truth be told ... so did I. Turns out, I am NOT a carpenter. You would not want anything I make! But I know THE carpenter ... and His work is breathtaking!



"IS NOT
THIS THE
CARPENTER,
THE SON OF MARY?"
MARK 6:3

Timez

Mountain's of Food at Akron's Open M

The Smithville UMC's Missions Committee would like to invite you to join them at Akron's Open M on Friday, May 21, from 7:30—11:30 a.m. If you have any questions contact Michael Thompson, Missions Chairperson.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH ... Kay Casterline

Cinnamon Roll Mug Cake

2 T. Applesauce
1 T. Oil
1 T. Milk
1/4 t. Vanilla
5 T. Flour
2 1/2 T. Brown Sugar
3/4 t. Cinnamon
1/4 t. Baking Powder
1/8 t. Salt

Cream Cheese Icing

1 T. Cream Cheese
2 T. Powdered Sugar
2 T. Milk



Mix icing ingredients and set aside. Mix all other ingredients in a mug. Bake in microwave on high for 1 minute, if not done, cook in 10 second intervals. Serve warm topped with icing ... ENJOY!!

Prayer Concerns

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

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

Health Concerns: Coronavirus victims & families, Ellen Keith, Pat Blackwell, Autumn Regula (5 yr. old), Jackie Becker, Jenny Wagers, Paul Finley & others in our Church Family

Dorothy Hochstetler — Westview Manor, 1715 Mechanicsburg Rd. Wooster, #212

Ellen Keith — The Avenue at Wooster, 1700 E. Smithville Western Rd. Wooster, #122

Nancy Mills — Wayne Manor, 4110 E. Smithville Western Rd. Wooster

Kathy Noffsinger — Orrville Pointe, 230 S. Crown Hill Rd. Orrville

Judy Reese — Wayne Manor, 4110 E. Smithville Western Rd. Wooster. #110

Anticipating Life's Waves



Joni Eareckson Tada, who was paralyzed after a diving accident, described swimming in the ocean as a child. Because the waves looked so high, her first inclination was to swim away from them. That, however, just left her tossed about and sometimes held underwater. *"The best thing,"* she discovered, *"was to swim fast toward [the waves] and dive under them before they*

had a chance to break on top of you."

That's true with life's "waves of crisis or difficulty" too, says Tada. *"The best way to beat those waves of trials and tough challenges is to face them. Head-on. Almost anticipating them. Sometimes I find myself literally diving into the middle of a problem before it has a chance to crash on top of me."* When problems are about to break on top of you, what helps you face them and stand your ground?

—adapted from *The Wired Word*



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.



Dear Friends,

May kindness return to you in the same beautiful way that it was given.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your prayers and cards meant so much during this difficult time. Again thank you ...

In Christian Love,
Sue Sayre & Family

A Note to Thank You ... Your kindness means the world to me.

Thank you church Friends for the cards and prayers we have received! They mean a lot and we are very grateful for the support. We miss Butch but know he is no longer hurting.

Larry & Peg Imhoff

SUMC Parking Lot Spaces available during Smithville Rummage Sale ...

Do you live outside of the Smithville City Limits? Have you ever wished that you could have a spot in town during the Smithville Rummage Sale to sell your treasures? Then join us this year Saturday, April 24 ... SUMC Trustees are offering outside spots (10x10 or larger), for anyone to use, on our Church Property. The designated area will be marked off and numbered for identification purposes. So don't delay. The Trustees are requesting a donation and they will be collecting that sometime Saturday morning. Contact the Church Office at (330)669-2371 if interested.

APRIL Birthdays

- 6 Cynthia Shull
- 10 Andrea Gerber
- 14 Barbara LaMoreaux
- 20 James Hohenshil
- Stephanie Wright
- 21 Joyce Surrell
- Ralph Gill
- 22 Michael Foy
- Leia Miller
- 29 Clara Zimmerman

APRIL Anniversaries

- 2 Steven & Kathryn Buchwalter
- 11 Timothy & Jacklyn Becker
- 12 Kyle & Tami Krownapple
- 14 Ronald & Deborah Leach
- 16 Mike & Mary Ann Ickes
- 17 Brian & Amber Sayre

You're invited to join us in person or on Facebook Live ...

Smithville Umc!

Easter Service Schedule

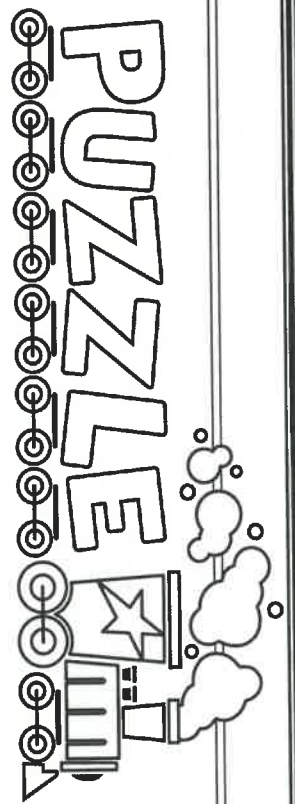
- ~ Palm Sunday Celebration (March 28)
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
- ~ Holy Thursday (April 1)
@ 7:00 p.m.
- ~ Good Friday Service (April 2)
@ 7:00 p.m.
- ~ Easter Sunday Celebration (April 4)
9:30 a.m.

Join us ...



SMITHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
243 N. Milton, P. O. Box 375
Smithville OH 44677

Address Service Requested



EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.

LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Luke 24:5-6, NIV