

The Good News!

open hearts
open minds
open doors



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open minds
open doors



A Publication of
Smithville United Methodist Church
Smithville United Methodist Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation
June/July 2020

The people of The United Methodist Church

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THE GOOD NEWS PUBLICATION

Published by:
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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: **July 15, 2020**

FROM REV. CAROLYN'S DESK

One of my favorite verses is: *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."* In these past couple of months that has been my mantra as we have all faced a new normal. But in the midst of all the stay at home orders, shut-downs, social distancing, worship via Facebook Live, wearing masks and washing our hands for at least 20 seconds, God is still an unwavering presence in our lives.

We all go through dark times when our faith is tested, when our determination to follow Christ wavers, not just because of COVID-19. We face illnesses or financial difficulties; we experience the loss of a loved one; we find ourselves in a damaging relationship or we need to make a tough decision.

Often during those times we feel lost, confused and consumed. We might even feel as though God has abandoned us. But God understands these feelings. Christ understands our pain because he also has gone through it. Before he was arrested, Christ goes away to pray and feels the weight of what is about to happen. Christ felt overwhelmed and abandoned and he cries out, *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"*

When we go through difficult times, prayer is the key. When we feel abandoned and overwhelmed, God is our refuge and our fortress. With God we can feel secure and safe, remembering that nothing can separate us from God. That we can do all things with God. All we need to do is call to God.

Whatever happens in the weeks and months ahead, whatever life throws our way, God is there with us and for us. God's love is ours today and tomorrow. We are God's beloved today and always.

I don't know when we will be able to worship together in the sanctuary, but I do know that worship is not limited to a single place or time. Worship happens whenever we turn to God. Worship happens when we pray, when we sing in the shower, when we give thanks as we mow the grass.

God does not forget his children.

Blessings,

Rev. Carolyn M. Berry

Worship Schedule

FROM THE DESK OF AIMEE HARE

Sunday Mornings in June

Sunday, June 7—Communion

*2 Corinthians 13:11-13;
Matthew 28:16-20*

Sermon: "Parting Thoughts"

NNN

Sunday, June 14

*Romans 5:1-8;
Matthew 9:35-10:8*

Sermon: "All Together Now"

NNN

Pastor's
June
Sermons



NNN

Sunday, June 21—Father's Day

Palms 86:1-10; Luke 15:11-24

Sermon: "Prodigal Father"

NNN

Sunday, June 28

Psalms 13; Matthew 10:40-42

Message: "Water for Strangers"

NNN

How Does Your Light Shine?

Can it really be possible that I have not set eyes on most of you for over 2 months now? It feels like years! I miss you all so much. What do I miss about you? I miss your smile as I see you walk into the sanctuary on Sunday mornings ... the hugs ... choir practice and youth group ... the sound of your singing along with the hymns ... laughing at Rev. Carolyn's jokes ... seeing what the ushers have in store for Rev. Carolyn each week ... helping serve communion ... and enjoying a cup of coffee while listening to my Sunday School Class share their stories with me. That is just the tip of the iceberg of things I miss about seeing all of you.

The other day I had to go out to the store and get some vegetables, and so, I put on my face mask, grabbed my hand sanitizer and made my way inside the market. As I was walking to the door I passed an older gentleman and so I looked at him and smiled ... then I remembered he could not see me smiling because of my mask and probably felt like I was just staring at him so I looked away. Inside the store, I tried to do a good job of keeping 6 feet from anyone. I smiled at everyone I passed ... each time realizing they could not see me smile and the mask kept them from hearing me say "Hello" very well. So most of them probably thought I was mumbling AND staring at them! By the time I was at the check out I could not wait to get to my car and take that mask off ... I felt like an alien who did not know how to communicate with the earthlings. It was a frustrating feeling ... I felt like I wasn't really me because I couldn't smile at others or be as friendly as I enjoy being ... it made me feel like the light Jesus talks about that was put under a bowl (*a mask in this case*).

Matthew 5:14-16 says, "*You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on a stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*"

That simple trip to the market really served as a poignant reminder for me ... we are called to be a light. And light can shine so brightly that a mask cannot hide it! On the way out of the store, the man that was cleaning carts (*who was also wearing his mask*) told me to have a nice day and to take care. I said, "Thanks ... you too!" And then I realized it. Kindness is not stopped by a piece of cloth. Yes, it takes more effort to make sure your light shines through, but it is TOTALLY possible! I can't speak for you, but when life gets bumpy or downright painful, it is far too easy for me to be tempted to put my light under a bowl and keep it there. When life is difficult, I feel like making excuses of why I don't need to bother to shine. But friends, that is the OPPOSITE of what Jesus teaches AND shows us! When the night was the darkest for Him, He shined the brightest. When he was being arrested in the garden and had been betrayed by Judas, He could have been angry and bitter, and he could have lashed out. Instead, He healed the ear of the guard. When He was on the cross, he could have called upon all the armies of heaven, but He chose love and forgiveness and self-sacrifice. He chose to shine brighter. What a beautiful example of love to a world in pain ... His love brought glory to God. May our lives and love follow the example of Christ as we navigate the rougher waters of our current world. May the peace, joy, and love of the Lord pour from your heart and light up the world around you!



Aimee



CRUISIN' in the 'Ville

In the Heart of Wayne County

Smithville United Methodist Church will host the 6th Annual CRUISIN' in the 'Ville, in the Heart of Wayne County! If you or someone you know has restored an old car, truck or motorcycle let them know we would love for them to display their vehicle at our CRUISIN' Event. Donations will be accepted at registration and the first 20 vehicles checked in will receive a plaque. Awards will be given to the vehicles in follow-

the ing categories: the People's Choice for the Best Car, Best Truck and Best Motorcycle, along with the Pastor's Choice.

TIL SUMMER OF 2021

Smithville
United
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Youth Group

Mondays at 7:00 p.m. ... Weekly "chat" session ... don't forget to log in each Monday evening just to see how everyone is doing.

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. ... Youth Group on ZOOM ... bring your Bibles and your sense of adventure for our ZOOM games!!!

***Don't forget to send Aimee your "I wish I knew ..." questions for the NEW Bible Study starting in July. We will be diving into the Bible, church tradition, and exploring faith stories to see God at work all around us!

Sunday Mornings in July

Sunday, July 5—Communion

Romans 7:15-25a;
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Sermon: "Mind vs. Soul"

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Sunday, July 12

Psalms 119:105-112;
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Sermon: "Get Dirty"

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~ ~ ~

Sunday, July 19

Psalms 139:1-12;
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Sermon: "Into the Weeds"

~ ~ ~

Sunday, July 26

Psalms 105:1-11;
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Message: "Know Your Pearls"

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~SUMC 2020/2021 Educational Grant Fund Scholarship ~

Graduating High School Students and College Students ... **It's that time ... Please mail ALL completed Scholarship Applications to the Church Office, P.O. Box 375, Smithville, OH 44677 by Wednesday, June 3, 2020.**

Join us ... NEW Bible Study



We will be starting Max Lucado's Book of Revelation in our Fellowship Hall, on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m., beginning June 10. It was requested to do a study on the book of Revelation and that is what we will do. The book is \$11.00. If you are interested please call the Church Office and leave a message or talk with Rev. Carolyn asap so she can order the right number of books.

HELP NEEDED ... Tuesday, June 9 we will be putting new mulch down around the Church. We are in need of anyone who would like to help out. If you would like help please contact Allan Bauman, (330)464-5683 asap.



An Invitation to Rest

Summer calls to mind a slower pace, time off from school and work. But many still face daily demands this time of year: farmers work long hours; teachers may take seasonal work to make ends meet; parents with kids now home all day may catch up on work late at night. Still, may the longer days and warmer weather beckon you into a bit of free time this season. Listen:

"When you take time to replenish your spirit, it allows you to serve others from the overflow. You cannot serve from an empty vessel." –

Eleanor Brown
(public speaker & educator)

"Sometimes it's important to work for that pot of gold. But other times it's essential ... to make sure that your most important decision in the day [is] which color to slide down on the rainbow." –Douglas Pagels (author)

"Rest time is not waste time; it is economy to gather fresh strength. ... In the long run, we shall do more by sometimes doing less."

–Charles Spurgeon

"Come to me, all you that are weary ... and I will give you rest. ... For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

–Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30)

Dog Obedience Class

By: Allan Bauman

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

Dates: Thursdays, June 11, 18 & 25

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 39 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.

Participating Dogs with Families - \$85 Nonparticipating Viewers - \$10

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. We can only have 10 people in this class due to Wayne County Health regulations.



SMITHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
243 NORTH MILTON STREET • P.O. BOX 375
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Pastor: Rev. Carolyn M. Berry

Ministry Coordinator: Aimee Hare
Administrative Assistant: Cheryl Hadsell

May 27, 2020

Dear Friends,

I am happy to let you know that beginning June 7 we will offer in person worship as well as remote worship. We will continue to stream on Facebook Live for those unable or not yet ready to worship in person.

Worship will be different than before. We will be following the guidelines from the East Ohio Conference and the Health Department. Some of the changes will include:

- A. We will be keeping social distancing during all gatherings.
- B. We will be wearing masks. If you do not have a mask, there will be some cloth masks available for you. You will be able to take it home, wash it and wear it the next Sunday.
- C. Hand sanitizer will be available in the sanctuary.
- D. There will be no handshakes, hugs, fist bumps, high fives, etc.
- E. The offering plates will be on the back pew, so that you can leave your offering as you enter or exit the sanctuary.
- F. Communion will be offered by sealed cups and wafers. You will receive your cup as you enter the sanctuary. Please remember to take the empty cup and wrappers to the trash cans outside of the sanctuary.
- G. We will not have fellowship time after worship.
- H. Sunday School Classes can resume but you must keep social distance and wear a mask.

The Church should lead the way in protecting people out of love and concern for our neighbors. Therefore we have the responsibility to do what is best for others, to love our neighbors, to care for and protect the most vulnerable among us.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Blessings

Rev. Carolyn M. Berry

"To Love Christ, To Serve Christ, To Share Christ, No Matter What It Takes"

Prayer Concerns

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

Please pray for... [health concerns]

**Coronavirus victims & families, Autumn Regula (4 yr. old),
Lisa Uhler, David Robinson, Laurie Parrish-Storm, Jackie
Becker, Lauren Buchwalter, Jenny Wagers, Paul Finley,
Kooper Howman & others in our Church Family**

Please pray for our Shut-ins...

Dorothy Hochstetler - Westview Manor, #212
Louise Holt—Wayne County Care Center, #105
Nancy Mills—Wayne Manor, 3110 E. Smithville Western Rd. Wooster
Kathy Noffsinger – Orrville-Pointe
Judy Reese—Wayne Manor, 4110 E. Smithville Western Rd. Wooster, #110
Mary Yoder—Home



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.

Special Birthday...

**Dorothy
Beichler**
6-17



We celebrate with you!

LETTERS OF THANKS



Dear Friends,

We want to thank you all for the prayers, cards and telephone calls during the illness and death of Pete. It certainly warmed our hearts. Your love and concerns were tremendous and, believe us, they will never be forgotten.

Also, we thank Rev. Carolyn for her help, caring and love.

He is so greatly missed.

Thanks again and God bless you all.

In Christs love,

Mary Christopher, Beth Nicol and Family



- 1 Rebecca Ebert
- 3 Jacklyn Becker
- 10 Patricia Blackwell
- 12 Joyce Shull
- 14 Keith Schrock
- 17 Dorothy Beichler
- 22 Judy Reese
- Joyce Studer
- 23 Eileen Arrington
- 24 Rose Evans
- 28 Carole Martin
- 29 Eida Imhoff



- 1 Irene Moore
- 3 Kristi Grimes
- 5 Pamela Beichler
- 7 Lydia Evans
- Marguerite Miller
- Matt Miller
- 8 Linda Rader
- 11 Peggy Imhoff
- 15 James Thompson
- 17 Wanda Fetter
- Andrew Shold
- 18 Priscilla Gresser
- 24 Richard Beaver
- 25 Nickolas Sayre
- 26 Dale Gurich
- 27 Lauren Shull



- 3 Timothy & Rebecca Ebert
- 5 Richard & Jackie Beaver
- 10 Ronald & Marla Singer
- 11 Sandy & Jerri Lynn Baxstrom
- Bryan & Heidi Hartzler
- 15 Keith & Susan Schrock
- James & Carol Thompson
- 18 Edward & Priscilla Gresser
- 22 Michael & Stacey Miller
- Rick & Lisa Tilton



- 10 Larry & Peggy Imhoff
- 14 Michael & Sharon Foy
- 17 Mark & Rose Evans
- 18 Dale & Carol Gurich
- 19 James & Donna Holderman
- 26 Bernard & LeeAnn Caldwell
- 30 Brandon & Angela Eichholz

Thank-you to:

Rev. Carolyn, Aimee, Kathy, Priscilla, Stacey, Steve and —anyone else who have kept our Church Service available to ALL.

Also thank-you to Rev. Carolyn and Cheryl for their phone calls.

So grateful for such a great Church Family ... helping to keep us in touch. :)

Joyce Studer

Happy Father's Day!
Sunday, June 21, 2020



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

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Join Us for
Worship
in person or ONLINE,
starting Sunday, June 7
at 9:30 a.m.

On
Face Book
Live ...
Search for
Smithville
UMC
Youth Group
Sundays
at 9:30 a.m.