

The Good News!

open hands
open minds
open doors



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open minds
open doors



The people of The United Methodist Church

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A Publication of
Smithville 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: **October 15, 2020**

FROM REV. CAROLYN'S DESK

October is probably my favorite month next to November. There is a crispness to the air but usually the snow has not arrived yet. The sun is shining most days, the winter cloudiness thanks to Lake Erie has not arrived yet. There is apple picking, hayrides, bonfires, pumpkins to carve and of course leaves to rake.

As a child leaf raking was not my favorite chore to do. But jumping in the piles of leaves was so much fun and the smell of burning leaves is still a favorite memory. But today it is rare to smell leaves burning and most people under the age of 30 or so have no idea why the smell of burning leaves brings a smile to those of older than 40 to 50. We know now that burning leaves can be harmful. Too many times unattended burning leaf piles spread into grass fires and worse. The air pollution from the smoke could be harmful to those who have respiratory illnesses. Children got burned from getting too close to the fire and the list could go on.

But I still miss the smell. That got me to thinking about what else do we miss? What other activities have fallen into the "I miss them categories" and why?

I was reading an article the other day on how children do not know the stories of the Old Testament. Out of 500 children surveyed, less than 30 percent knew the stories of Noah, Joseph and the multi-colored coat, Daniel and the Lions Den, Moses parting the Red Sea, David and Goliath, and others. The reason the children did not know the stories was because no one had taken the time to sit down and tell them.

A whole generation is losing out on hearing those great stories and learning those lessons because we have gotten too busy to tell them. So, I have a challenge for all of us, to make the time to tell the stories to our children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, the neighborhood children and other children you may know. Because if we don't do it, who will?

The days are getting shorter and the temperature is starting to fall, I pray that you will find a child, make some hot chocolate, sit in your favorite chair and share some wonderful stories about how God worked in the lives of those Old Testament folk and how God works in our lives today.

Now go rake some leaves. Happy Fall!

Rev. Carolyn M. Berry



Worship Schedule

FROM THE DESK OF AIMEE HARE

Sunday Mornings in October

Sunday, October 4

Communion

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20;
Matthew 21:33-46

Sermon: "Rest & Be Thankful"

~ ~ ~

Sunday, October 11

Philippians 4:4-9;
Matthew 22:1-14

Sermon: "An Invitation"



Sunday, October 18

Psalms 99; Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon: "Gotcha Questions"

~ ~ ~

Sunday, October 25

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17;
Matthew 22:34-46

Message: "What's Love Got to Do with It?"

The Storms Outside are Raging



- ~ 8 months into a worldwide pandemic bringing health & financial struggles around the globe
- ~ A contentious election
- ~ Racial tensions and riots and looting
- ~ Human trafficking is on the rise
- ~ Unprecedented violence against police
- ~ Fires ravaging the west and storms battering the south

For all these reasons and more, we are more stressed, more anxious, more on edge, and we worry more ...

Joni Eareckson Tada once wrote, "... *the time to trust God in triple measure is during those days when everything that could go wrong does and when everything bad happens at once.*" That feels like our world in 2020, in a nutshell ... doesn't it? People have made comments that it feels like we are stuck in the Jumanji game or in the Twilight zone. As I was talking with the Youth Group the other day, we shared how we often get bogged down in our circumstances. What we see going on around us has an affect on us. But we get to choose our *response* to circumstances even when we have ZERO control of the circumstance. There is nothing in life that has the power to take away our joy in the Lord UNLESS we let it ... not our struggles, trials, burdens, grief, sickness, etc. ... because the joy that we have in the Lord is eternal, not circumstantial (*like happiness*). Everything else is temporary, but the love, salvation, joy, and our relationship with Christ is FOREVER.

Habakkuk 3:17-18 says it like this, "*Even though the fig trees have no blossoms and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will be joyful in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!*"

Did you catch that? Empty fields, empty trees, and barns meant empty tables and empty wallets. It meant hunger and hard times. It meant no jobs. It meant struggle and uncertainty ... It means that we are not the first (*nor will be the last*) people to face despair, hardship, and uncertainty ... so how will you and I show those after us how faithful God is ESPECIALLY during times of fear and difficulty?? How will we live out the truth Habakkuk shared and be joyful because God is our salvation?

I was driving down the road the other day wishing that I could drive to my grandparent's house and sit at the table with them. I wanted so very much to hear my grandpa remind me that we just have to keep seeking the Lord and never take our eyes off of him no matter what "*this old world*" looks like, while my grandma poured a cup of coffee and wrapped me in a hug.

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH ... Kay Casterline

Banana Mug Cake (*single serve*)

- 4 T. Flour
- 2 T. Sugar
- 2 T. Brown Sugar
- 1/8 t. Salt
- 1/8 t. Baking Powder
- 1/8 t. Baking Soda
- 1 Egg
- 2 T. Oil
- 1/2 Mashed Banana
- 1 T. Chopped Pecans



Mix all ingredients in a mug.
Bake in microwave on high for 2–3 minutes.

Just Be — and Be Still

Various versions of the following sentiment are posted online: *"I am a human being, not a human doing. It's okay to just be sometimes."* Many of us get anxious if we think we're not *doing* enough, but peace activist Thich Nhat Hanh insists it's not a waste of time to just be: *"To be alive, to be peaceful, to be joyful, to be loving ... is what the world needs most."*

During the pandemic, when people were urged to stay home to slow the virus' spread, we had to think hard about how to continue being the church while limited in what we could go out and *"do."* Yet church leaders reminded us that we were actually loving our neighbors by staying home — by being less active.

It's sometimes okay — ideal, even — to just be. In quieting our bodies, minds and hearts, we may find ourselves more often in prayer, more aware of God's presence and more nourished for when the time is right to again take up more active forms of ministry, peacemaking and love. *"In quietness and trust is your strength"* (Isaiah 30:15, NIV).

—Heidi Mann



Continued from page 2

When things in life seem so uncertain, I think it is natural for us to find joy and be drawn to the places and people that bring us comfort. As a child and teenager, that place was my grandparent's house ... they left a legacy of strength and love BECAUSE they depended on Christ in everything and for everything. For me, as an adult, those places of comfort are church and home ... they are the places for me where I know that love lives. They are filled with the people that I love doing life with, and when that life gets rocky or downright ugly, they are the places where hugs are found, encouragement flows, and God's truth and power are shared. I believe this is true because Jesus is the center of these places.

My friends, life today is not really that different from Habakkuk's day. Tomorrow will be no different either. The same God that breathed the universe into existence is still in control today ... and He will be tomorrow ... and He will be forever. Whether we are hungry or full, God is in control ... whether we are broke, or our checkbook is bursting, God is in control ... whether we are the perfect picture of health, or on our deathbed, God is in control. Our Circumstances do not change our God. They do not change His love for us. They do not take God's power from Him ... our circumstances are temporary! God is eternal! Rest in the assurance that He is never going to leave you to face anything on your own. He is all around you and His joy and peace will one day replace the chaos of this year ... and He will tell **ALL** the storms, *"Peace Be Still!"*

Aimee

Don't Forget ...

The Blessing of the Animals Service

Saturday, October 3, 2020

at 10:00 a.m.

[This year Rev. Carolyn will come to you, if you're local!]

Did you schedule your pet's appointment for their 2020/2021 blessing?

[All animals welcome unless they slither.]



Join Us!

**God is
Awesome!**

SAVE the DATE ...



Charge Conference

Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 p.m.

Smithville UMC or Online ...



All-Church 2021 Planning Meeting

ALL chairpersons please bring all your 2021 meetings and ministry dates to this **IMPORTANT MEETING** on Saturday, October 17 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to attend please send a representative from your committee with those dates.



Due to Covid19, the Choir will be doing things a bit different this year. Rather than having a Choir Anthem on Sunday mornings individuals will be doing special music. We would like to open this to the **WHOLE Church Family** or others you know that would like to share their special talent with us. If interested just contact Aimee Hare at the Church.

FREE TO A NEW HOME ... Do you need or do you know of someone who needs a **double bed mattress and box spring.** This mattress set is just 2 years old and is in great shape! These are **FREE** to whom-ever would like them just give Nancy a call and make arrangements to pick them up asap. Just call Nancy at (330) 601-0118.



Dog Obedience Class

By: Allan Bauman

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

Dates: Thursdays, October 15, 22 & 29 ~ 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Saturdays, September 26, October 3 & 10 ~ 8:30—10:30 a.m.

[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.

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

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

Current classes are FULL! Church Office,

(330)669-2371, Monday—Friday, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

if you would like to be added to the list. We can only have 10 people in this class including the instructor due to Wayne County Health regulations so the early bird gets the worm!

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, Deb Lenthe, Don Heinlen (Cheryl's dad), Alyssa Green (Joyce Shull's granddaughter), Ellen Keith, Diane Casterline, 4 yr. old Autumn Regula, Allan Bauman's parents, Bob Krownapple, David Robinson, Jackie Becker, Jenny Wagers, Paul Finley, Kooper Howman and others in our Church Family

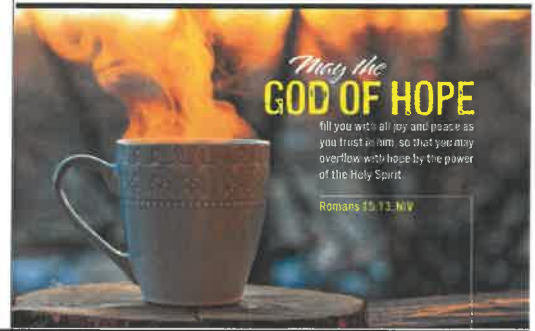
Please pray for our Shut-ins...

**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**



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.



OCTOBER Birthdays

- 8 Tom Rolf
- 11 Howard Streets
- 13 Sam Sayre
- 16 Scott Hare
- 17 Michael Miller
- 18 Clara Grimes
Matt M^cElroy
- 22 Melinda Gingery
Garland Jackson
- 23 Tami Buchwalter
Jay Vincent

OCTOBER Anniversaries

- 17 Richard & Pamela Beichler
- 21 Joshua & Katie Nickles

Sunday, November 1, 2020



Daylight Savings Time begins on All Saints Day

A Fixer-Upper



Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what he is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs

needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently he starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is he up to?

The explanation is that he is building quite a different house from the one you thought of — throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but he is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it himself.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

**"Start by doing what's necessary;
then do what's possible; and
suddenly you're doing the impossible!"**

~ Unknown

LOOKING
FOR
A PLACE
TO
PLUG IN?



Check US Out!

~ ~ ~

October

2020



SMITHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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[Address Service Requested]

We had a FUN Flamingo Frenzy!

The Winners ... It was a tie ...

... Gills & Krownapples

...Cathy Rolf

[guessing J.C. (John & Charles Wesley) & S.S. (Samuel & Susannah Wesley) correctly]



JC tastes pretty good,
so Ryan thinks!

Check us
OUT!

