

The Good News!

open hearts
open minds
open doors



open hearts
open minds
open doors



A Publication of
Smithville United Methodist Church

Smithville United Methodist Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation
September 2020

The people of The United Methodist Church

The people of The United Methodist Church

THE GOOD NEWS PUBLICATION

Published 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 next month's
articles: **September 15, 2020**

FROM REV. CAROLYN'S DESK

As some of you know I have a black thumb. I might be a farmer's daughter but the growing gene must be a recessive gene and I didn't get it. My college roommate had a green thumb to the nth degree and still does. Our dorm room always had something green and growing madly. Unless of course I got too close to it and then all bets were off. I have killed more plants that supposedly were unkillable than you can imagine. Which is why I do not have green plants in my home.

So when the decision was made to pull out the old shrubs at the parsonage and put in new plantings, my heart sunk. My pride would not allow me to have someone else take care of the plants and get them established. I am after all an intelligent adult. So I told the trustees that of course I would look after them.

Of course the weather did not cooperate. The plants were put in the first part of July and there was no rain. So every evening I pulled out the hose (*and rolled the hose up every evening, my mother taught me well*) and watered them, all the while praying that they would not die that night. Every morning I would look out to see if they survived another day and pray that they would make it through another day.

Two months later the plants are still alive. I am still watering them every evening that it does not rain. I am still praying morning and evening that they stay alive.

What in your life do you think that you cannot do? What are you worried about? Have you ever wondered what you could do if you did your best and trust God with the rest? I know that there are many things more worrisome, overwhelming, and life altering than keeping some plants alive. But would those situations be so overwhelming and worrisome if you did your best and trust God and the messengers that God sends with the rest?



Admittedly, I am not planning to go out and get a bunch of houseplants, I do have a cat after all, who knows what she would do with all that green! But those plants in front of the parsonage are still alive and if I say so myself looking very green.

Enjoy your September,

Rev. Carolyn M. Berry

Worship Schedule

FROM THE DESK OF AIMEE HARE

Sunday Mornings in September

Sunday, September 6

Communion,
Holy Humor 2.0 Flamingo Frenzy
Psalm 149; Exodus 12:1-14
Sermon: "Everyone Has To Eat"

~ ~ ~

Sunday, September 13

Romans 14:1-12;
Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon: "Wipe the Slate Clean"

~ ~ ~



~ ~ ~

Sunday, September 20

Philippians 1:21-30;
Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon: "It's Not Fair"

~ ~ ~

Sunday, September 27

Philippians 2:1-13;
Matthew 21:23-32

Message: "Change and Believe"

A complete and utter mess ... that is the only way to describe what my eyes were seeing. As I drove down a beautiful country road, lined with neat and tidy rows of corn, bright green crops of soybeans, and lovely homes with perfectly manicured flower beds and lawns, I came upon what can only be described as a mess. Old bits of machinery pieces were laying everywhere as if a giant had tossed them into the air and they had laid where they landed to form rust islands. There was "trash" everywhere ... amidst the trees and shadows were piles of junk that were sprouting smaller clumps of garbage. Anyway ... you get the picture ... this piece of property was so unlike everything else surrounding it. It was chaotic, random and almost made you uncomfortable ... but then my eyes saw it ... something I never would have expected in a million years to see in the middle of that disaster area. In a small clearing in the center of all that rubbish, there sat a very small, but very quant little wooden structure – it reminded me of a child's playhouse but just a smidge bigger. It was a chapel of sorts – with a gorgeous stained glass window, a cross, a carved door, and the small area around that chapel (*which was too small for more than 1 adult at a time to be in*), the grass was perfectly mowed and NO trash touched the chapel.

It was an oasis in the midst an ocean of chaos.

It was where your eyes were drawn to when they looked for relief from the mess.

It was a perfect reminder of what my faith in Jesus is to me in this world.

Life is so messy. People do not tend to fall into neat and tidy rows like the fields of corn and soybeans I had seen. Our problems do not appear only when it is convenient for us to deal with them or when we have the time and energy to focus on them. Life is messy! As much as we wish we could control what happens to and around us, we cannot. We do not get to choose when things (*like a virus*) will completely change our world. We do not have the power to make people behave or choose what we think they should. We cannot dictate how the world functions ... and all that chaos swirling around often makes us feel out of control and fearful so sometimes we try to protect ourselves and close ourselves off from the "mess." But that is where we often make our mistake ... think about where people most often found Jesus ...

The disciples finally realized who Jesus was when they saw Him calm the raging storm around them with just His words ... without the storm they would have missed the storm-stiller ...

The friends who lowered the sick man through the roof to be seen by Jesus ... without the sickness, they would have missed the power of healing ...

The demon-possessed man wandering wildly in the cemetery ... without being utterly lost in despair, he would never have known the life changing peace of Christ ...

When Mary and Martha heard Jesus call Lazarus out of the grave ... without the death of their beloved brother they would have missed the miracle of resurrection ...

As much as we hate it ... as much as we kick and scream and drag our feet ... as much as we do ALL that we can to avoid pain, suffering, uncomfortable and difficult situations ... the truth of the matter remains ... it is often in the darkest times, the hardest fights, the most painful moments, that we see God's glory, comfort, strength, and power the most. None of us like the mess. I don't know anyone that "chooses" hard times on purpose. But when they come our way, and they do for all of us, we can either hide or we can call out to our Creator. That we CAN choose! That we CAN control! Our response is ours ... we can get lost in the mess and give up hope, or we can turn our eyes to peace-giver.

It is my prayer for you, my friends, that in this time of upheaval, uncertainty, and chaos, that you will find rivers of peace when you approach the throne of our King. May you see in Him the power to overcome all struggles and may He give you the grace to move forward each day to share His love, His peace, and His saving power with the world around you.

Aimee

RECIPE OF THE MONTH ... Cheryl Hadsell

Chicken Broccoli Rice Casserole

- 3 T. Butter, separated
- 2 cups Chicken (boneless, skinless or diced)
- 1 tsp. Italian Seasoning
- Salt/Pepper, to taste
- 1 1/2 cups Chicken Broth, low sodium
- 1 1/4 cups White Long Grain Rice, uncooked
- 2 cups Fresh Broccoli Florets, uncooked
- 10.5 Condensed Cream of Chicken Soup
- 1/2 cup Milk
- 1/2 cup Sour Cream
- 2 cups Shredded Cheddar Cheese, separated



Optional Seasonings:

- 1 tsp. Dried Thyme
- 1/2 tsp. Garlic Powder

Casserole Topping:

- 1 cup Ritz Cracker, crushed
- 2 T. Milted Butter

Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 350°. Cut Chicken into bite-sized pieces and season with Italian Seasoning and desired amount of salt/pepper. Heat 2 T. Butter in a large pot over medium heat until melted. Add the Chicken and cook until golden brown on all sides, about 5 minutes. Remove and set aside. Add 1 more T. Butter to the pot. Add the Chicken Broth, Rice to the pot and bring to a boil, then reduce heat to a simmer. Cover and cook for 7 minutes. Give the rice a quick stir, add the broccoli and cover. Cook for 8 more minutes. Turn heat off. Add the cooked chicken, soup, milk, sour cream, optional seasonings, and half of the cheddar cheese. Lightly grease a 9x13 casserole dish and pour in the rice mixture. Top with remaining cheddar cheese. Cover and bake for 20 minutes.

Additional Topping:

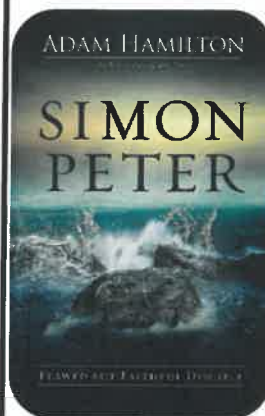
Melt the butter and crumble up the crackers. Combine to form the topping for the casserole. Top the casserole with the crumbled cracker topping and bake uncovered for 10 additional minutes. Let the casserole sit for 5 minutes prior to serving.

New Wednesday Night Bible Study

Simon Peter:

Flawed but Faithful Disciple

Join us ... Wednesday nights at **6:30 p.m.** in the Church Fellowship Hall **beginning Wednesday, September 23.**



Simon Peter—an ordinary fisherman who heard an extraordinary call.

He left everything to follow his teacher and possessed a passion that would change the world. That's one way to describe Peter. Here's another: poor, uneducated, quick-tempered, and full of doubts and fears. Doesn't even

sound like the same man. And that's the point of Simon Peter, a six-week adult DVD Bible study by Adam Hamilton. Peter was just an ordinary guy who heard and followed God's extraordinary call. Discover how you, too, have special gifts, talents, and abilities that God can use to make a difference today.

- Sept. 23—The Call of the Fisherman
 - Sept. 30—Walking with Jesus in the Storm
 - Oct. 7—Bedrock or Stumbling Block?
 - Oct. 14—"I Will Not Deny You"
 - Oct. 21—From Cowardice to Courage
 - Oct. 28—The Rest of the Story
 - Nov. 4—Bible Jeopardy
 - Nov. 11—NO Bible Study
 - Nov. 18—Bible Jeopardy
 - Nov. 25—No Bible Study ...
- Happy Thanksgiving!**

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!]



Join Us!!

Call the Smithville UMC Church Office or contact Rev. Carolyn to schedule your pet's appointment for their 2020/2021 blessing by Sunday, September 27!

[All animals welcome unless they slither.]

SAVE THE DATE ...

This year's Charge Conference will be online **Sunday, November 1, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.** with Rev. Kris Patt, Presiding Elder. The Pastor & Charge Conference Recording Secretary will be physically present on the church property. Others may attend virtually or physically provided that our social distancing precautions are in place and followed.

Thank you ...

A special thank you to all Smithville United Methodist Church members who sent cards, messages and phone calls along with donations to mark the passing of Mary L. Yoder. She valued her SUMC friends and her connection with the Church highly.

Gratefully,
Nancy, her daughter

**Thank you ...**

Thank you for the perfect snapshot of how the Body of Christ is to function within the realm of their reach.

I want to shout out a special thank you to everyone that took part in the creation of this beautiful Prayer Shawl that my sister Susan Jackson delivered to me on Sunday July 19, 2020.

Your prayers, labor of love and acts of kindness bring me peace that only God can affect on a person's faith, during difficult times as these have been for me and my family.

My prayer for you is that God would bless you many times over for your sincere acts of faithfulness and loving care that you have bestowed on those in need, of the physical touch that only God's people can deliver in full measure.

Every time that I look at this Prayer Shawl, I will be reminded of the beauty of God's people and the wonder of His love for me.

Your prayers and acts of love and compassion speak well of your church and it's impact on your community. Thank you for including me in your outreach ministry.

Thanks so much!

David Robinson & Family

Thank you ...

To My Church Family,

With Special Thanks ... This extra-special thank-you note sent to you today ... Holds more appreciation than any words can say ... For you're among the nicest people I have ever known, And you'll never be forgotten for the thoughtfulness you've shown.

Thank you for your prayers, your love, and all the cards you sent. A special thank you for the Prayer Shawl and care, it is just beautiful. Knowing God is with me through this journey, I am blessed.

Thank you to Rev. Carolyn and my wonderful Church Family.

Thanks for Everything,
Bob Krownapple

**Dog Obedience Class**

By: Allan Bauman

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

Dates: Thursdays, September 24, October 1 & 8

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.

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 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, Don Heinlen (Cheryl's dad), Jennifer Troyer (Aimee Hare's friend), 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.

"When we long for life without difficulties, remind us that oaks grow strong in contrary winds and diamonds are made under pressure."

~ Peter Marshall

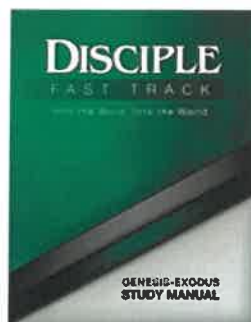
SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- 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
- 30 Roberta Welty

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

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

New Tuesday Morning Bible Study



Beginning soon ... September 22, we will begin a 12-week DVD Study that will immerse you in the books of Genesis and Exodus.

Disciple Fast Track Into the Word Into the World is an adaptation of the original, bestselling *Disciple Bible Study Into the Word Into the World*. The study is ideal for busy people who want to fit an in-depth Bible study into their schedule. The study retains the familiar *Disciple* format with its theme word, theme verse, statement of the human condition, daily and weekly assignments, and prayer.

Into the Word helps readers deepen their understanding of Scripture and make connections between what they already know and what they are reading. Each week you will encounter three spiritual disciplines, learn what they are, and how you can engage those disciplines. The first discipline varies from week to week, then moves into Sabbath and prayer. In every session, you commit to how you will respond to Scripture in terms of ministry in the world.

If you would like to be apart of this study, talk with Rev. Carolyn and order your Study Guide (\$16) today. Don't miss this Bible Study ... join Rev. Carolyn on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m., in the Church Parlor.

- Sept. 22—God Speaks
- Sept. 29—God Scatters the Proud
- Oct. 6—God Welcomes
- Oct. 13—NO Bible Study
- Oct. 20—Carrying the Covenant
- Oct. 27—Conflict Within the Family

- Nov. 3—God Works for Good
- Nov. 10—The Bonds of Slavery
- Nov. 17—God in the Fire
- Nov. 24—God Opens the Sea
- Dec. 1—God's Commands
- Dec. 8—NO Bible Study
- Dec. 15—The Just Laws of God
- Dec. 22—God's Dwelling Place



Aspire Tickets ... Ladies, if you haven't purchased **your Aspire tickets, for Friday, October 9** at Grace Baptist's concert in Brunswick, see Rev. Carolyn soon to get your ticket. **Tickets are \$20** and we still have a few left. The concert begins at **7:00 p.m. JOIN US!**

NNN



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

[Address Service Requested]

Join in the FUN Flamingo Frenzy!



Help us determine the winners of the Flamingo Frenzy ... Labor Day Sunday, September 6.

DON'T FORGET to wear **PINK** on this special Sunday ... Holy Humor 2.0 ... Flamingo Sunday!

Join in & be part of our Fantastic Flamingo Fling!