

MEMBERSHIP CLASS @ WUMC
 BEGINS SEPTEMBER 17

WUMC will offer a 6-week class led by Pastor David.

- Classes meet at WUMC following worship (11:15a-12:15p).
- Who should attend? Anyone who would like to explore the United Methodist faith and/or make a deeper connection to Christ through this congregation.
 *NOTE: you do not need to become a member to take this class.

Interested? Sign up at the "What's Up at WUMC?" table in Wesley Hall.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

Pastor David is meeting with congregation members (10-12 people) in members' homes in September.

Dates available:

- 1) **Wednesday 9/6 (6:30-8p)**
@ Larry & Inez Shirer's home
- 2) **Monday 9/18 (10:00-11:30a)**
@ Kathy Kapp's home

Sign ups for these dates are available at the "What's Up?" table in Wesley Hall or by calling the church office.

MOSES: FOLLOWING GOD INTO THE UNKNOWN

Fall Sermon Series begins September 10!

Circuit Rider

September 2023

WOOSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

connect • grow • serve



WOVEN WOMEN'S GROUP

New bible study begins Wednesday, September 20, 6:30p, Morton Room

In this 7-session study, "When You Pray", join with six beloved Bible teachers who will help you study prayers in the Bible that can inspire your own. As you draw near to God through prayer, you'll find your faith strengthened and your heart united to Christ.

Contact Jane Braddock (braddockjeb@gmail.com or 330.607.3736) with questions.

WUMC LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, September 20 • Noon

Pizza and beverages provided!
 Bring \$5 towards pizza.
 Bring a side or snack to share if you wish!
 All are invited!



SAVE THE DATE!

Burning River Brass will be at WUMC on Saturday, December 16, at 1:30p.

The Deborah Circle bake sale takes place Sunday, September 10, after worship. Baked good donations are accepted! Proceeds benefit Wooster City School's General's Closet.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

New offering envelopes are available for pick up in Wesley Hall!

WUMC HELPING HANDS

WE'RE READY TO HELP!

WUMC Helping Hands ministry began from a desire to lend a hand to those in our congregation and community who need a little help with small projects around their homes.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?

- moved a chair upstairs from a basement
- washed two windows above a sink
- fixed a keypad (replaced batteries)
- tilled, raked, and seeded a 4' x 6' area in a yard
- installed 6 window blinds
- stained and repaired some deck boards
- provided transportation to an appointment
- removed a basketball pole and recycled

COULD YOU USE A HAND?

We're waiting to hear from you!

Contact Mike Mann
 • mdm_mann@hotmail.com
 • 330.749.1752



Missionaries Doug & Beth Wright checked in to thank us for our support. Doug is taking a break from Bible translation for his first vacation in years—hiking with a friend in Oregon!

RALLY DAY!

SEPTEMBER 17

RALLY DAY CELEBRATES NEW BEGINNINGS!

- WUMC CHOIR RETURNS FROM SUMMER BREAK!
- NURSERY NOW OPEN 8:45-11:15A
- BIBLE DISTRIBUTION FOR 3 YEAR OLDS AND 3RD GRADERS!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES RESUME!
 *NOTE NEWTIME! 9:00-9:50AM

Wonder: Pre-K—Grade 2, Room 212 (Yellow Rm)
 Spark: Grades 3—5, Room 316 (Purple Rm)
 Edge: Grades 6-8, Youth Center Cafe
 Quest: Grades 9-12, Youth Center Loft

A NEW ADULT CLASS BEGINS!
 Led by Pastor David and Beth Rittgers
 "God's Messy Family" by Pastor Jacob Armstrong
 Sundays 9:00-9:50 in Room A
 Signing up in Wesley Hall will help us determine how many books to order, but feel free to pop in when you can!

On Rally Day, Sunday school and bible study participants of all ages will gather in Wesley Hall at 9:00a for a fun kick-off to the year; afterwards, everyone can head to their classrooms!

Wooster UMC • 243 N. Market St. • Wooster OH 44691 • 330.262.5641

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Pastor David Rittgers drittgers@woosterumc.org
 Office Manager, Becky Pickett office@woosterumc.org

The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Pastor's Ponderings: A "New" Year Begins



How do you keep track of your years? For me, I have several ways. Yes, there is the traditional calendar year, which begins on January 1 and ends on December 31. In the business world, there's the fiscal year which, for many businesses, begins on October 1. We also have the church year, which begins at Advent (near the beginning of December). And in my family life, which is full of students and teachers, there is the academic school year, which has just begun.

Even though I've only been with you for two months now, I must say that I'm very excited about the start of the school year and what that means for our congregation! In just a few weeks, on September 17, we will hold **Rally Sunday**. That morning, we will begin a new schedule with a full slate of Sunday School classes at 9:00 a.m. We will have classes for preschool-aged kids up through high school, as well as nursery care available all morning. I'm thankful for the many people who have stepped forward to offer themselves as teachers, organizers, and leaders.

At that same 9:00-9:50 a.m. "hour" we will offer three adult Sunday school class options. Our Trailseekers and Pathfinders adult classes will continue to meet as they have been doing. In addition, a new adult class will begin which is open to anyone who would want to find a smaller group setting where you can connect with others and grow in your faith. My wife, Beth, and I will lead a six-week study called "God's Messy Family: Finding Your Place When Life Isn't Perfect" by Jacob Armstrong. It's an overview of the Genesis story about the family of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Our worship service time will remain unchanged, beginning at 10:00 a.m. As a reminder, we offer in-person worship in the sanctuary in the church building here in historic downtown Wooster. We also offer that same worship service online via our Facebook page and YouTube.

For those who are interested in becoming a member of the congregation, I will be offering a six-week class that begins on Sunday, September 17. This membership class will be held after worship concludes, starting at 11:15 a.m. New members will join the church during our worship service on Sunday, October 29. Please contact the church office if you're interested.

I hope you can feel my excitement as I describe these Fall activities. I hope you don't hear this as just another busy schedule that we've set up on Sundays, but rather as opportunities that we have to grow in our faith together. My hope and prayer is that you will consider being involved in these ministries in some way on Sunday mornings, as you are able. Of course, we have other opportunities for you to **CONNECT – GROW – SERVE** at other times during the week, too.

What would it look like a few months from now if we all decided to engage in spiritual growth activities this Fall? I think it would be a very good thing! Let's find out.

Thanks Be to God! Pastor David Rittgers drittgers@woosterumc.org



Kind words
Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul, and health to the body. Proverbs 16:24

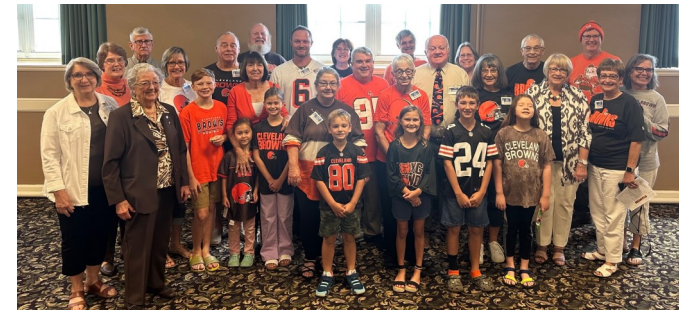
Dear Church Family: Thank you to everyone here who helped raise me and shape me into the woman I am today. I will always carry with me the lessons I learned here. Thank you! Anna Tefs

Thank you to all my friends in our church, a wonderful, kind place to be in my life. The Person of the Week flower is lovely on my table. With my love to all, Janice Patsolic

Thank you so much for the quilt frame. Your generosity will be remembered. We appreciate your kindness. With many, many thanks from local quilters: Rose Ann, Nancy, Bev, Lou Ann, Carol, Beth, Linda, Judy, Julie, Virginia and JoLynne

Dear Wooster UMC Family: We wanted to extend our thanks to all of you as we gathered our mother's most important friends and family to celebrate Verna's 100th birthday. Please know that the true spirit of WUMC was present in Wesley Hall that day. The members of the church continue to be a big part of our family. We pray it continues on through faith, love, music and fellowship. Blessings to all as you continue your memories in Wooster. Sincerely, Janet (Oeh) Mohr & Diane (Oeh) Gannon

Please keep the church informed of illness and hospitalization of any person who may need a caring visit or phone call.
Recently ill/hospitalized: Recent deaths: Tim Franck



WUMC congregation members donned their Cleveland Browns attire in memory of fellow WUMC member, Tim Franck.



WUMC collected LOTS of school supplies to support teachers and students at our neighborhood school, Cornerstone Elementary. Thanks to Nancy Franck for delivering!



Above: Folks enjoyed brunch from the Rolling Leaf food truck as a wrap-up to our "Food Truck Party" Sunday school curriculum!



Left: Lappers and United Women of Faith members gathered in the WUMC Chapel for a Blessing Service led by Pastor David Rittgers. Items being blessed were a quilt for Veterans to be given at the Wayne County Fair, baby blankets and book bags made by the Lappers sewing group.



Left and above: Games and stories were part of the summertime "Food Truck Party" Sunday school curriculum! Older students and adult teachers provided leadership.