

AREA UMC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
**2024 OLYMPIC GAMES:
 RUN FOR THE CROWN**

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-25

SAVE THE DATE!



Friday-Saturday | June 7-8
Friday: 6-8:30p includes dinner
Saturday: 10a-3p includes lunch



Smithville United Methodist Church
 243 N. Milton St.
 Smithville, OH | (330) 669-2371



Use this link
 to register:



special SUNDAY
 PLEASE give generously

UNITED METHODIST

**NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES
 Sunday**

April 14 is Native American Ministries Sunday, one of six Special Sundays in the UMC, that aims to equip and empower Native American pastors, congregations, and seminary students to preserve their heritage and honor their past. Watch for a bulletin insert on April 14 or give via your usual method.

Thanks for your support! The 64th Annual Youth Spaghetti Dinner raised \$3420 for youth missions!

- 90 dine-in meals
- 50 carry out meals
- 85 meals delivered to Wooster/Wayne County First Responders
- 31 meals delivered to WUMC Limited Mobility Members

Thank you to all who purchased tickets, worked at the dinner, provided desserts, delivered meals, and supported WUMC youth!

STEER FUND

The Steer Fund is a WUMC effort to fill the Meals Together freezer. A steer is purchased, processed and donated to Meals Together. If you would like to assist with this effort, click the STEER FUND tile on the GIVE page at woosterumc.org, or donate via your usual method, making sure to note "Steer Fund".

LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, April 17 · Noon
 Pizza and beverages provided!
 Bring \$5 towards pizza.
 Bring a side or snack to share if you wish! All are invited!

UWF SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATIONS are now being accepted for 2024 UWF scholarship awards. The deadline to apply is April 30. For an application, visit woosterumc.org > Get Connected > Youth. Copies of the application are also available in the church office.

UWF EVENT May 1 - Unit Gathering at 5:30p, followed by Program at 6p. Our speaker is Katie Peterson of UMC Mission Barn, Pennsylvania. This is one of six UMCOR Relief Supply Network depots across the U.S.

MARY MARTHA CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, April 23 at 10:30a in Room A. Michael Berry of the Wooster City Fire Department will present the program on their services and offer some safety tips.

Circuit Rider

April 2024

WOOSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

connect • grow • serve

WUMC WORK DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 8:30-11:30

WUMC invites the whole congregation (come when you can!) to work at Jo's Garden, a community garden on Habitat land created with guidance from late WUMC member Jo Pugh. Jo's Garden is located on Larwill St, three blocks west of WUMC. Youth will create new raised garden beds to gain skills for their upcoming mission trip; younger kids can work with adults on clean up projects! Watch the bulletin for details!

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: Creation Care



The way we treat the created world around us says a lot about how we view and worship our God, doesn't it? Why do I say that? Because at the dawn of creation, God, who spoke the heavens and earth into existence, gave humankind a great responsibility. God said that humans were to take care of the Garden and all that was in it - plants, animals, water, soil, and so on.

A significant part of our discipleship journey includes caring for God's creation. After all, is this not the God who "so loved the world" that he gave His only Son to rescue and redeem it? Do we "so love the world" the way God does? If so, we will want to care for it.

In Paul's letter to the Romans, he said that all of creation is longing to be renewed/recreated: *The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice—it was the choice of the one who subjected it—but in the hope that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children. We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. (Romans 8:19-22, CEB)*

As we move into April, we will begin a new worship series, "Creation Care," by taking a look at one of the seven "days" of Creation each week. On April 7, the first week's theme from Day One is Light. God said: "Let there be light!" and the universe came into existence (Genesis 1:3). Eventually, God sent His Son, the Light of the World, into our darkness. We might ask ourselves, what could we do as Jesus' disciples to be good stewards of His light in this world?

Subsequent themes will include:

- April 14: Water
- April 21: Soil
- April 28: Heavens
- May 5: Animals
- May 12: Humanity
- May 19: Rest

On Sunday, April 20, we will have a special guest speaker. Brian Webb, who is the Director of Sustainability for the College of Wooster, will provide the morning's sermon and then offer an additional presentation during the hour following worship for those who would like to stay. Look for more details about this event to come soon.

I wish you the joy of the Resurrected Christ who we celebrate on Easter! He is the same Christ who is at work renewing and recreating the world in which you and I live. Thanks be to God!

Peace, Pastor David Rittgers



Kind words

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

Dear Church: Thank you for selecting us to be "Persons of the Week." The hydrangea flowers were greatly appreciated. They brought a little spring time to a rather gray and dreary February. Thanks again, Rick & Mary Maurer

Thank you for thinking of us with the spaghetti dinners! Paige, Daisy, Cassie, Madalyn, Melissa, Michelle, Cristy, Trent, Stephen, and Betty with Wayne County Communications

Thank you for all of the cards, texts, and emails after my mother's passing. While we've only been members of WUMC for a short time, we've felt the comfort of a wonderful, caring, and supportive church family during this very sad time. Susan Donley.

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:



Above: More tubing photos!

Above Right: The labyrinth in the Chapel was part of the Sacred Space for Lent.



As part of their preparation process, the WUMC Confirmation Class joined other area Confirmants at Camp Wanake for a weekend retreat.

