

WOOSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

connect • grow • serve

Order of Worship ~ August 23, 2026

Gathering Music

Greeting ~ Rev. David Rittgers

Call to Worship ~ Liturgist

L: In the beginning, the Spirit of God moved over the primordial waters

C: As God spoke Creation into being.

L: At the Jordan, as Jesus emerged from the water, the Spirit descended as a dove

C: As God affirmed Jesus as Beloved, as one we should listen to.

L: Here, in this place, God's Spirit invites us to gather, that we would be renewed,
filled with the Holy Spirit,

C: As God reminds us who and whose we are.

L: Let us sing and pray together

C: As God moves among this community of faith.

Praise Song ~ "Rest On Us" by Lake, Figuera, Bashta, Jay, White, Brown

Affirmation of Faith ~ UMH #881

Psalm Reading ~ Psalm 138 ~ Liturgist

Children's Moment ~ Ali Vizzo ~ (*Dismissal for Children's Church*)

Hymn ~ "Baptized in Water" TFWS #2248

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Offering Collections/Special Music ~

"Above All" by Lenny LeBlanc ~ Sarah Fallon, soloist

Impact Moment

Doxology ~ UMH # 95

Offering Prayer ~ Generous God, you gift us with a variety of talents and call us into service together. As we offer our resources today, unite us in mission and purpose. May our gifts bring transformation and renewal to the lives of others through the ministry of your Church. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Sermon ~ "Baptism with the Holy Spirit" ~ Rev. David Rittgers

Main Scriptures: Matthew 1:18-21; Luke 1:30-35; 2:25-32; Matthew 3:11-12; Malachi 3:2-3;
1 Corinthians 6:11; Mark 13:9-11; Luke 11:9-13; Mark 1:9-12

Closing Hymn ~ "Spirit Song" UMH #347

Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Greeters: Terry & Sarah Beck Liturgist: Barb Lane | Welcome Center: Cathy Nicholson

Music Director: Nancy Franck | Lead Musician: Kyle Gould

A/V: Dave Braddock, Nathan Greene, Steve Grenert, Dave Riley, Aaron Vizzo

Ushers: Jack Bardall, John Crouch, Jim Gallander, Jenny Patterson

Altar flowers provided by Bob & Nikki Reynolds and family, Craig & Jennifer Reynolds and family

In memory of Anita & Pete Reynolds

Holy Grounds invites you to Wesley Hall after the service. Thanks for your support.



WAYS
TO GIVE
@ WUMC



IN PERSON:
• VIA OFFERING PLATES IN THE SANCTUARY
• PERSONALIZED OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE:
CONTACT STACY RUTT (FINANCE@WOOSTERUMC.ORG)



MAIL:
243 N MARKET ST
WOOSTER



ONLINE:
WOOSTERUMC.ORG
GIVE TAB



AUTO WITHDRAWAL:
CONTACT STACY
RUTT TO SET UP



RALLY DAY & MINISTRY FAIR

SAVE THE DATE: September 13

We'll celebrate Rally Day, welcoming a new year of Sunday School classes, and our Ministry Fair, where you can discover new ways to connect, serve, and get involved at WUMC. You won't want to miss it!



JOIN THE HOSPITALITY TEAM!

TODAY! | 11:30a

Interested in helping WUMC be a welcoming community? Join us for a refresher on welcoming guests and serving through the Welcome Center. Whether you're a current volunteer or would like to get involved, you're invited!



United
Women
in Faith

Inviting All Women!

United Women in Faith meets the first Thursday of each month (except July, November, and December) at 10:30a in Wesley Hall for devotion, fellowship, learning, and planning. We'd love to have you join us! Can't make Thursday



mornings? Scan the QR code or sign up at the What's Up Table to let us know what days and times work best for you.

WOVEN WOMEN'S GROUP

NEW STUDY BEGINS!



Wednesday, September 23 | 6:30p

The Woven Women's Group will begin *Revelation: Extravagant Hope* by Margaret Feinberg, a six-week Bible study that invites participants to see the book of Revelation in a new light. Join us as we discover the encouragement and assurance found in this often-misunderstood book of the Bible. The group meets in Large Turney Lounge. Books are \$10. Visit the What's Up Table in Wesley Hall to sign up!



"HELP AFTER HELENE"

Building Beyond Our Walls

As WUMC renovates our sanctuary, Pastor David and Church Council invite us to bless others who are building something new and support the ASP *Help After Helene* campaign to fill the \$50,000 financial gap to build a new home for a family impacted by Hurricane Helene. **A generous donor**

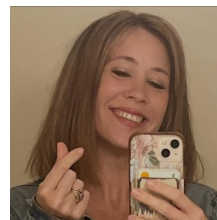


will double donations received between now and September 30, up to \$10,000! Visit the What's Up Table to learn more; scan the QR code to donate!



SUMMER SUNDAY SERIES

Welcome Sarah Fallon to the Summer Sunday Series! Sarah is wife to Matt and mom to Reed, works as a personal trainer for the Wooster YMCA, as well as a Silver Sneakers instructor. Outside of work she enjoys reading, gardening, thrifting and of

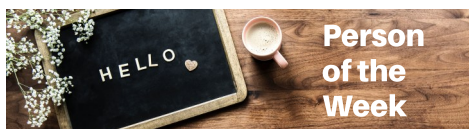


course, singing along to the radio. Sarah took vocal lessons in her teens, ran the youth group worship team for her last church and participated in a couple of musicals in Bucyrus. Sarah's family is very musical and enjoys singing together.

PRAYER REQUESTS

In the spirit of John Wesley who taught people to "Do no harm, do good, and stay in love with God" we lift these prayers:

- ◆ For leaders and nations that they may choose the path of peace over the path of destruction
- ◆ Kathy Allen (sister of Marge Wilcox), undergoing cancer treatment
- ◆ Family of Joe Lemon (brother of Emily Zuercher) on his August 9 passing (murray-funeral-home.com)
- ◆ Family of Fred Vizzo (uncle of Aaron) on his August 16 passing (mcintirebradhamslseek.com)
- ◆ Family of Gaile Peacock (mom of Diane DiDonato) on her August 16 passing (mcintirebradhamslseek.com)
- ◆ Dave Riley, surgery recovery



Person of the Week

You are encouraged to send a note or card.

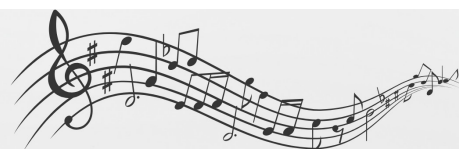
Craig & Jennifer Reynolds
2212 Wellesley Ave.
Wooster, OH 44691



WUMC in the Community

Since February, WUMC has donated **more than 1,800 items** to neighborhood give-and-take and local pop-up pantries, and OneEighty's emergency pantry! Help us keep the momentum going as we work toward an even bigger impact by the end of 2026. Pick up a list of needed items at the What's Up Table in Wesley Hall, and consider adding an item or two for a neighbor in need each time you shop for your own family. Small donations, when added together, can make a big difference!

Want us to do the shopping? Donate through the **GIVE** page at woosterumc.org or use your usual giving method, noting "food pantry".



MUSIC NOTES

Bell Choir Begins!

The WUMC Campanile Bell Choir will reconvene September 20 under the direction of Susan Franz! Practices are on Mondays at 5:30p beginning August 31. New members are welcome! Contact Susan (sfranz@woosterumc.org) with questions.

Join the WUMC Colla Voce Choir!

Choir reconvenes on September 13! Now is the perfect time to join! Rehearsals start August 27 at 7:00p in the WUMC Music Room; please contact Director of Music Nancy Franck for more info (nfranck@woosterumc.org). Can't stand for long periods? We can accommodate you!