


BAKE SALE

The Mary Martha Circle will hold a bake sale on Pentecost (Sunday, May 19) in Wesley Hall. Proceeds will assist Pastor David with travel expenses for his upcoming trip to South Dakota Wesleyan. Anyone can provide baked goods to support the sale! Bring donations that morning or to the church kitchen prior, marked "bake sale".

Thank you for your support!



The congregation is invited to Kay Bergen's 80th birthday celebration on Saturday, May 11, 1:00-3:00p in Wesley Hall. Your presence is enough, no gifts please!



WUMC WORK DAY

Saturday, May 11 • 8:30-11:30a

A WUMC Outdoor Work Day is scheduled with a focus on weeding and mulching the WUMC grounds.

If you're able, bringing your own trowels, rakes, pitch forks, and wheelbarrows would be helpful!




Circuit Rider


May 2024

WOOSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

connect • grow • serve



This year's area UMC Lenten Services' collection was given to OHuddle; \$2088 was raised between all the area UMC services!



You may remember WUMC's collection to support an OHuddle Hour, a quarterly experience to promote hope, rest, fun, and self-care for Wayne County teachers/staff.

A WUMC-sponsored OHuddle Hour at the Wayne County Schools Career Center happened in April; on May 22, the high school teachers and staff will enjoy a food truck courtesy of WUMC in the Community!



Pancakes for PENTECOST

Stop in Wesley Hall following worship on Sunday, May 19 to enjoy pancakes for lunch! Sponsored by the Trail Seekers adult Sunday school class. A free will offering will be collected to support Kay Bergen's Liberia mission trip.



AREA UMC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
2024 OLYMPIC GAMES: RUN FOR THE CROWN
1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-25

SAVE THE DATE!

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

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

3 Use this link to register: 



WUMC LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, May 15 • Noon
Pizza and beverages provided!
Bring \$5 towards pizza.
Bring a side or snack to share if you wish!
All are invited!

FUNERAL MEALS



The WUMC Funeral Dinner Team prepares a meal made with love for those facing the loss of a loved one. Several volunteer teams rotate to help with preparation and serving.

If you'd like to hear more about serving on a team, contact the church office (office@woosterumc.org or 330.262.5641).



Pregnancy Care Center of Wayne County

Baby Bottle Fundraiser



MOTHER'S DAY—FATHER'S DAY

Help the Pregnancy Care Center of Wayne County by filling up a baby bottle!

- pick up an empty baby bottle in Wesley Hall
- fill with change, bills or a check
- return filled bottles to Wesley Hall

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

Pastor's Ponderings: A Church with Options



When I first started at Wooster UMC ten months ago, I emphasized my hope that we would live into a vision of being a Program-Sized Church. What do I mean by Program-Sized? Think of it as a congregation that's able to offer a variety of programming (worship, discipleship, mission).

Program-Sized churches employ multiple staff leaders to give direction to those efforts and to help laypeople get involved. In this post-Covid era, I think we're well on our way to making that a reality and are currently seeking to add more leadership support in the area of Discipleship.

A strength of a congregation like ours is that we have the resources to provide a variety of options people can choose to participate in. An example of that would be in the area of Mission.

Just this year, we've spoken about and invited the congregation to consider participating in a variety of mission-related efforts. Some are happening here in our local area, while others are happening farther away, including around the globe. Some efforts invite us to contribute money, some invite us to make and/or donate tangible items, others invite us to roll up our sleeves to do hard work, and still others invite us to simply show up and be present with others who need to know that someone cares. I hope you're hearing the variety and choice in these options.

Once in a while, we may ask the entire congregation to get behind an "All-Church" type of campaign, such as when funds were raised to build new dorms for women attending Africa University. But, by and large, it's unrealistic to think that everyone will get involved with every-thing. There are just too many needs to be met. So, that's why we work together.

What that means is it's ok to pick and choose mission efforts that seem important to you, ones that you're drawn to for whatever reason. What's important to me is that everyone would choose to be involved in at least one way to bless people in some practical, meaningful way.

Can you imagine what it would look like if every person in the congregation found at least one way to be involved in serving others? That would be amazing! And what would it look like if every person in the congregation was also involved in a group that helped grow their faith?

While we're larger than many churches around us, by no means would I consider Wooster UMC to be a "huge" congregation. I realize that our congregation was of an even greater size, with multiple pastors, in previous generations. However, by the same token, I don't see us as a "small" family-sized church either, where the expectation is that everyone knows everyone else and that everyone is expected to participate in everything that goes on. What's important is that you discover smaller groups within the church where you can connect, grow, and serve.

I celebrate being part of a church with options! As we move from the season of Easter toward Pentecost, I wish you joy and hope as we live empowered by the Holy Spirit! 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

Thank you for all of the wonderful cards, messages, flowers and visits from so many friends as we are going through a difficult time. We appreciate everything that the church family has been doing. Have a blessed week! Jyotsna & Ishwar Harris

Thank you to Pastor David Rittgers and the whole Methodist crew for all the wonderful work they did at the Larwill Street Gardens! It looks absolutely awesome. David Giffiths

Thank you for the lovely flowers I received as Person of the Week. They made my birthday special! Shirley Bauman

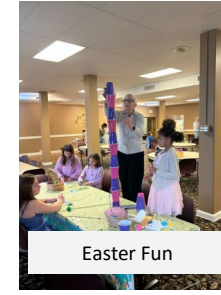
Please keep the church informed of illness and hospitalization of any person who may need a caring visit or phone call.

Recently ill/hospitalized:

Recent deaths: Eva Miller



Easter Kids' Choir



Easter Fun



Easter Fun



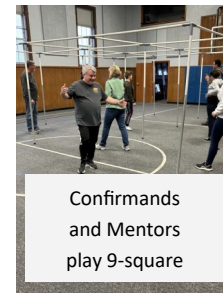
Egg Hunt!



Egg Hunt!



Easter Sunrise



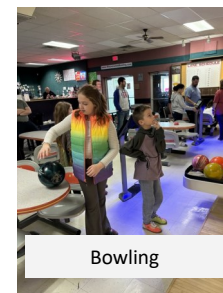
Confirmands and Mentors play 9-square



Easter Sunrise



Thanks to Jack Bardall for all his tireless work on the WUMC flower beds!



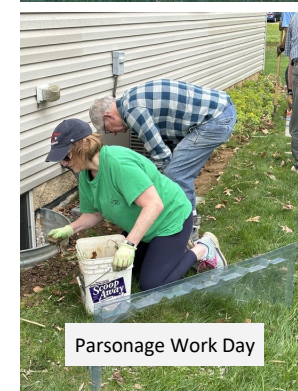
Bowling



Bowling



Parsonage Work Day



Parsonage Work Day



OHuddle Hour courtesy of WUMC



Below: Clean up and construction at Jo's Garden



Left: Director of Youth Ministries Deb Clow participated in a ASP Mission Trip

Right: A greeting with an Amazon gift card was sent to 8 WUMC college students!

