



Heart Beat Newsletter

Zion United Methodist Church



In the Heart of Whitehouse

MAY, 2018

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Pastor Carol's Comments:

"The spring has sprung, the grass is riz, I wonder where the birdies is?" Spring has indeed (finally!) sprung, and I know where the birdies is. Yesterday I spent some time in the Blue Creek Conservation Area, surrounded by the sights and sounds of spring: birds and frogs calling, a robin's egg shell, dandelions, leafy trees and flowering shrubs, and a snake! That's when I remembered E. E. Cummings' poem "I thank You God for most this amazing," where he asks how anyone who witnesses the beauty of nature can doubt the goodness and presence of God. I hope you are blessed by this poem and the God-created beauty that is spring.

"i thank You God for most this amazing
day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky;and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday;this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings:and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any—lifted from the no
of all nothing—human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?"

Psalm 89:15 Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, Lord.

News around Zion:

Zion Rocks at the Whitehouse Flower Market!

In May, Zion will rock, literally! We will have a table at the Whitehouse Flower Market on the first two Saturday mornings in May (5/5 and 5/12 from 9 a.m. to noon). We will offer hand-decorated rocks for gardens and flower pots featuring words of hope, love, and inspiration—just in time for Mother's Day!

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UMM Love Packages – Christian reading materials are collected and distributed to ministries in poor countries around the world. A complete list is on the bulletin board in the narthex and downstairs. Items collected are Bibles, any Christian book and SS curriculum, devotionals, etc. We will collect items until the end of August. See Patricia Jones for more details.

Vacation Bible School is June 18-22, 9 - 11:30 a.m. Free to all 3-yr-olds through students who have completed 4th grade. (Offered in cooperation with Community of Christ Lutheran Church.) Learn about God's promise on life's wild ride through "Splash Canyon"! Life is full of thrills and spills; we may not know what's around the bend, but God does! Discover that Jesus is by your side and gives us life and hope every day and forever. The morning will open with LOUD music with Zion's Pastor Carol and CoC's Pastor Matt! Then, enjoy outdoor fun, craft time, snacks, Bible Challenge, and stories.

In addition to VBS, there is a 5th & 6th retreat at the same time and place. It is also FREE. To volunteer or register for VBS or the 5th/6th retreat, use this website - <https://vbsmate.com/events/6E67BF57/3528#about> or **Sign up [here!](#)**

Summer Church Camp information is available at the West Ohio Conference website at <https://www.westohiocamps.org/camp> If you'd like more information, please see Patricia Jones. We have camping guides for your family, also, and financial assistance may be available.

Save the Date for the Cherry Fest

Zion will be participating in the Cherry Fest, June 7-9. We will be offering a rest area for festival goers (or, as Pastor Carol calls it, the "Zion (Cherry) Pit Stop"). We will offer chairs for people to rest their legs, a diaper changing table, water, and band-aids. We also hope to participate in the parade. Finally, the Chamber of Commerce is putting together a service event focused on collecting food and money donations for the Food Pantry. This will be a great opportunity for the Whitehouse community to see what Zion is all about!

Upcoming Events:

May 1 and 15, 2018 – Food Pantry from 10 to noon; refreshments and fellowship from 9:30 to 10 a.m.

May 9, 2018 – Sisters in the Lord Bible Study 9:30 a.m. at Lou Rupp's home.

May 3, 10 and 17, 2018 – Learning to STEER Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. led by Pastor Carol (Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.)

May 5 and 12, 2018 – Whitehouse Flower Market from 9 to noon



June 3 to 6, 2018 – Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church (Lakeside)

June 7 to 9, 2018 – Whitehouse Cherry Fest booth

June 18 to 22, 2018 – VBS and 5th/6th Retreat from 9 to 11:30 a.m. (details above)