



Heart Beat Newsletter

Zion United Methodist Church
In the heart of Whitehouse



September, 2019

Pastor Carol's Comments

School has started for many children, and the first day of school for our friends at Sunbeam Christian Preschool is just around the corner. Do you remember getting new (or new for you) clothes for the first day of school—the stiff new jeans, the shoes that still had to be broken in, maybe something in the latest style that you were so excited to wear?

As Christians, we get a new wardrobe, too! As God's chosen ones," Paul says, "clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience." More than that, we "clothe ourselves with Christ." Isn't that a wonderful image? We don't need to wait for a new school year to begin wearing these new clothes, and these are clothes that we can never grow out of. May we use each day as a new opportunity to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ."

Words of Encouragement

Donna Vascik has added a lovely touch to the narthex. It looks like a jar full of little slips of paper, but it so much more! It is a jar full of encouragement. Each slip of paper has a positive, encouraging message. You're invited to pull one out whenever you like—when you need a spiritual boost, or just as a regular practice (like taking a spiritual vitamin). You can keep the slip, or put it back. And, you can also contribute to the jar! When you come across a quote or scripture passage that you'd like to share, just write or type it out and drop it in the jar. Thanks to Donna for this gift of encouragement!

News Around Zion

Annual Church Conference—Save the Date

Our annual Church Conference is tentatively set for Sunday afternoon, 11/10, at Maumee UMC. We will receive confirmation of the date and time in the coming weeks, but please set aside that afternoon now. At this meeting, we review the past year, vote on our lay leadership, and set pastoral compensation.

New Bible Study: "Galatians: Gospel of Grace"

Our fall Bible Study will begin Thursday, 9/12, at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Carol will lead this six-week study, which will take a deep dive into Paul's letter to the Galatians. Paul wrote his letter during a time of great tension. As we face similar division in our nation and church today, this Bible Study will help us consider how the gift of grace through faith in Jesus sets us free *from* the burden of sin and the law, and *for* unity in spite of our differences, so that we can bear the fruit of love in Spirit-filled community. No book other than a Bible is required. Sign up on the form in the narthex or email Pastor Carol if you'd like to participate.



Emmaus Walk

We have a pilgrim going on the September 19 to 22 Women's Emmaus Walk at Widewater Camp. Please keep Cassie A. in your prayers as she attends this retreat. For further information, contact Pastor Carol or Patricia Jones.

JOIN US FOR RALLY DAY 9/8



News Around Zion (continued)

From the Mail Box

We received this lovely note from Christ’s Church in Bowling Green: “Whitehouse Zion UMC—We pray over ministries in our area during our staff meetings. We want you to know we prayed over your staff, congregation, and outreach that it would be blessed and reach people for Jesus. If you have any specific requests you would like us to pray over, please let us know. God bless—Your friends at CCBG.” Let’s return the favor and keep Christ’s Church in our prayers as well.

Wanted!

We have plenty of dates available for readers, so please check the list and sign up. Some people sign up for a recurring Sunday, but it’s fine to sign up for whichever dates work in your schedule. Whenever we have gaps, someone has to track down a reader for that date, using time that could be better spent on our ministries. So, don’t be shy! Sign up to be a reader.

We also have slots available to purchase altar flowers. Our flowers cost \$15.00 each week, and you can take them home or give them away as you wish. If you wish, you can donate the flowers in memory or in honor of someone special, and this will be noted in the bulletin. Simply sign up on the sheet on the narthex bulletin board, and place your \$15.00 in the offering plate or get it to the office and indicate that it’s for altar flowers.

Community Prayer Services

On the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., a prayer service for our Anthony Wayne community is held in Studio A of the Anthony Wayne YMCA in Waterville. The service lasts about an hour, and all are welcome to participate. Each month features a different prayer focus. Upcoming meetings will focus on the AW Communities of Waterville, Whitehouse, Monclova, and Neapolis, together with their administrators and staff (September), First Responders in the AW community, including those who provide snow removal and power line repair (October).

TAP (Tutoring Assistance Program) Information

Our TAP program starts Sept.18. We tutor students from Whitehouse Elementary on Wednesday afternoons from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. You can volunteer to tutor, provide snacks, or help at the monthly fellowship meals. Contact Sandy Morse for more information.



Church Information

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Upcoming Events

Sept. 3 & 17 - Food Pantry, coffee and conversation at 9:30; food pick-up 10 a.m. to noon

September 3 & 4 - Preschool starts

Sept. 8 - Rally Day (included carry-in lunch)

September 9 - Community Prayer at 7:00 p.m. at Waterville YMCA

September 12, 19, 26 - New Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. (every Thursday evening for 6 weeks)

September 19 to 22 - Prayers requested for Emmaus walk.