

THE CHURCH WINDOW

A Monthly Newsletter of the Loudonville United Methodist Church

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AUGUST 2025

By Pastor Kenn Curren



**"Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me,
for in you I take refuge. I will take refuge in the
shadow of your wings until the disaster has
passed." Psalm 57:1 (NIV)**

Continued...

I don't know about you, but I believe it is much easier to praise God when things are going good for us. What about those times that life seems to be beating us down? Do we praise God then? When things are difficult, we usually don't think about raising our praises to God. If we read any of the Psalms, we are reminded that the true nature of praise is not rooted in our outward circumstances. Praise is about God's unfailing covenant love.

David wrote Psalm 57 when King Saul was hunting him down, trying to kill him. David and his men escaped and hid in a cave. Terrified, David asked God to protect him until the danger was over. He trusted that God would send him "his love and faithfulness." (Psalm 57:3)

God gives us the strength to overcome challenges, but he also reminds us of his unwavering faithfulness, even when we're going through tough times and waiting for his rescue. We know that God will not only save us from our earthly struggles, but also welcome us into his presence when our time on earth is up.

Despite the feeling of being besieged by adversaries, God's unwavering faithfulness provides us with the strength to endure each day and the assurance of His vindication. In Psalm 57, David envisions God's future deliverance as if it had already transpired. This unwavering faith enables us to express gratitude to God both during challenging and auspicious moments. Thanks be to God.

Peace, Pastor Kenn



Loudonville UMC

Loudonville, Ohio

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

News from Your Community Meal Team

Upcoming meals

August 5: Meatloaf, Baked potato, vegetable, dessert

August 19: TBD



Sunshine Club

Looking for donated vases to
give flowers to our shut-ins.
Vases can be left in the flower
room area.

East Ohio Conference News



Your supplies were shipped on our 39nd shipment of the year.
This container went to Honduras on July 23, 2025!

Midwest Mission disbursed Personal Dignity Kits, Rice Meals, medical supplies, sewing machines, clothing, folding tables and chairs, walkers, crutches, canes, cleaning and hygiene supplies, hospital bed and mattresses, diapers and toys.

The container weighed 18,301 lbs. and its value was \$116,249.00.

This shipment was sent through our partner Food For The Poor (FFTP). FFTP serves 17 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Because of your donations, people around the world have the supplies they need to live a hope-filled, healthy life.

Thank you to all our donors and mission volunteers who purchased and assembled these essential kits that show God's love in a practical way. Every kit assembled at Midwest Mission is made by a volunteer. Without your dedication, we would not be able to continue to help others.

East Ohio Conference News

Rice Meals and Personal Dignity Kits Assembled By:

- Albia Trinity- IA
- Aldersgate District- IA
- Allison Schlichting- IL
- Asbury UMC- Sioux Falls, SD
- Bethlehem UMC- Hutchinson, MI
- Central Bay District- Mt. Pleasant
- Christ UMC/Living Faith- IA
- Dike/First UMC Cedar Falls- IA
- Dixon UMC- IL
- Ludington UMC- MI
- Morristown UMC- OH
- Nevada UWF- IA
- Pathway Global Methodist- St. Joseph, MI
- Paton-Churdan NHS- IA
- St James UMC- Kansas City, MO
- Switzerland Ministerial Assoc.- OH
- Taylorville UMC- IL
- Youth UMC- Nevada, IA

Personal Dignity Kits and Supplies Donated By:

- Central Valley District
- Edison Memorial UMC
- Faith UMC- Tiffin
- Grace UMC North Canton
- Loudonville UMC
- Mayfield UMC
- Nova UMC
- Pearl Road UMC
- UMC of Chagrin Falls

Thanks so much for sending hope and empowerment around the world and around the corner.⁵

Governance Board Meeting

July 2025

- Endowment Report: ending 6/30/2025
- Permanent Endowment 181,450.19 (+5,266.02)
- Designated Endowment 48,197.09 (+1,398.76)
- Building Fund 8,713.30 (+543.10)
- Interfaith FCU CD - \$40,297.34 (4.06%)
- Financial Secretary: Discussion ensued about the reporting of weekly giving vs weekly need in the bulletin. The concern being we report the dollars coming in from the cooperative churches elevating the perception of the congregation seeing we are doing well. After much discussion, we will move forward with reporting weekly giving from our church & giving from other churches.
- Eagle Scout Project: Greyson Oswald shared a CAD-drawing of his ideas for his Eagle Scout project. He took suggestions and answered questions. He has fund-raising to do and hopes to start in the next month or two.
- Vestibule ceiling has been fully repaired.
- The church roof has been repaired, buying us 3+ years before we need to look to replace it.
- Mini-Splits for Parsonage were installed, replacing window air conditioning and provides a back up for heating.
- Ramp on north end needs resurfaced or at least having the cracks filled. Also, two of the posts will need to be repaired.
- Oldham Little Church Foundation grant application: is in process.
- Education: - Connor is building lessons for the teachers.
- Missions: Sunshine Visitations are going well.
- 2nd Sprouts Consignment Sale – August 2, 2025.

Governance Board Meeting

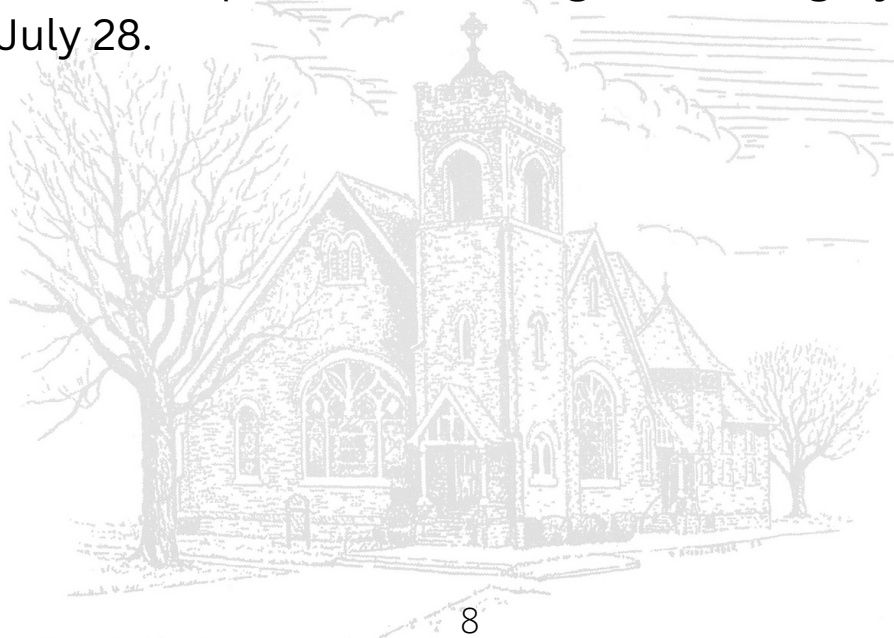
July 2025

- Community Meal:
- As of June 30, we have served 976 meals. We donated \$150.29 to the General Fund \$607.50 to the new Kitchen Fund; \$747.79 to Apportionments. A huge thank you to those who volunteer for kitchen duty, running or serving meals or who choose our Community Meal for their dinner. We are especially grateful to Walnut Creek Foods, who donates food items weekly, and to church members who also donate food for the meal.
- Future meals: We are open to suggestions for menus for our August and September meals!
- Outreach: We can still use google reviews to move us up in the search for churches.
- <https://g.co/kgs/r1GUU86>
- SPRC:- Pulpit coverage setup through November
- - Consultation w/ Cara Stultz-Costello set for Aug 26-29
- - Pre-work and prep for this will be Aug. 18-6:00 Pm with all parish churches at LUMC
- - SPRC initiated partial-pay for intern-Conner (\$700 July 10)
- - Parsonage inspection needs to be completed by October 15, done by two from Trustees and two from SPRC.
- - Continue search for Organist (Asked Angie for any potential high-school candidate, asking Christ UMC contacts) will continue to communicate opening by any/all means Note: Amy & Katie have been paid for previous help
- - Next SPRC Meeting - Aug 4-6:00 PM, The next meeting with the district will be 9/24.

Governance Board Meeting

July 2025

- Lay Delegate:
- -“Celebrating Methodist Missions in Ohio, Korea, and Beyond: The 140-year Legacy of Mary & William Scranton” is a three-day event to be hosted at Church of the Saviour UMC in Cleveland Heights August 4-6. We will welcome a delegation of clergy and laity from Seoul, South Korea and celebrate together our missions partnership. Scheduled speakers include Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, Bishop Chung Suk Kim, Bishop Jeremiah Park, and Council of Bishops President Bishop Tracy S. Malone. Cost is \$150. Register by July 19.
- -Mental Health First-Aid training on Wednesday, August 6 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the East Ohio Conference Area Center in North Canton. The evidence-based course will teach ways to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders in real, actionable ways. This training is free and open to all. Lunch will be provided. If you have questions about the course, please e-mail Meghan DeGregory . Register before July 28.



Governance Board Meeting

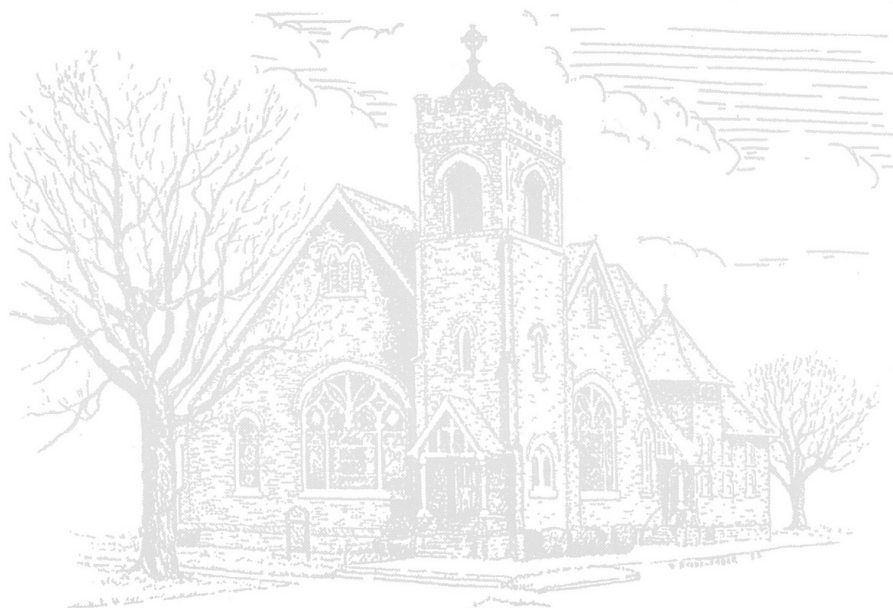
July 2025

- -Green Church Training provides a solid foundation for moving your church toward green solutions. The training includes Biblical, Wesleyan, and United Methodist teachings on creation care, tips for forming a Green Team at your church, and plenty of ideas and suggestions for creative ways to make your church more environmentally friendly. The training at Ashland First UMC will take place from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 20. The cost of the training is \$50 for a team of two people from your church. Additional church members may attend at a cost of \$10 per person. Dinner will be provided. If you have questions about the training and/or wish to apply for one of the limited scholarships to attend, please e-mail Melanie Thomas , Connectional Ministries office administrative assistant. Register by Aug. 17 at www.eocumc.com .
- -You are invited to our next Youth Leader Training Day. We will gather at Montrose Zion UMC (565 N. Cleveland Massillon Road) in Akron from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 23. Our theme is “Practical Discipleship: Helping Over-Scheduled Youth Develop a Faith that Sticks.” Cost for the training day is \$10/person, which includes lunch. Register by Aug. 20 at www.eocumc.com .
- -The Laity Convocation August 15 (starting at 5:30 pm)-16 (ends at 3:30 pm) at Worthington UMC will be a celebration of our faith and community. This event is designed for all members of the church who are not ordained clergy. Connect with fellow lay church members, participate in workshops, and grow in your faith. Don't miss out on this opportunity to deepen your spiritual journey and strengthen your role within the church community. Register at www.eocumc.com . No cutoff date given.

Governance Board Meeting

July 2025

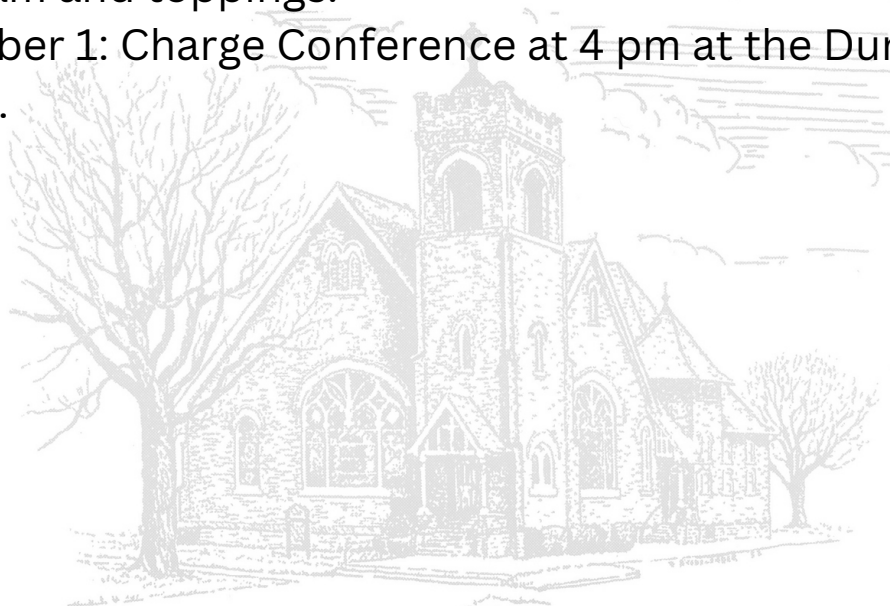
- Annual Conference information to add to my report in last newsletter: Thank you to all who donated items to the Midwest Mission during Annual Conference. The collection truck left Wooster with 4,412 lbs. of donated cleaning kits, hygiene kits, and other items.
- In addition, the College of Wooster pledged to donate 150 beds and arrangements are being made to get those beds to the Midwest Mission.
- Following General Conference 2024 changes, the United Methodist Board of Church and Society and Cokesbury have teamed up to produce a handbook of the new Social Principles that's now available for purchase. It's only \$9.99 for either paperback or eBook at Cokesbury.
- There are 11 pages of information and donation opportunities for Texas flood victims. Or you can donate to UMCOR Advance #901670, US Disaster Relief.



Governance Board Meeting

July 2025

- Two scholarships were given to seniors by the Ministerial Association, a result of dollars we proved along with other churches.
- Praying over the schools will be August 17, meeting at the Central Park Fountain, praying through Budd and McMullen, before heading to the high school campus.
- Community Help Mission is doing well. There are very few asking for help this summer. They did receive funding from both the Hugo Young Foundation and the Catholic Church.
- Future Dates:
- Perrysville Community Meal: UMC – 2nd Tuesday of each month
- Mohican Cooperative Council meeting – July 21 -6:00 LUMC – Barb and Tiffany to represent
- August 9 – Ice Cream Social at LUMC. Looking for donations for ice cream and toppings.
- November 1: Charge Conference at 4 pm at the Duncan Theater, Kilbuck.





Operation Christmas Child Year-Round Shoebox Collection

February	Hair bands, clips and barrettes, hair brushes and combs.
March	For the older kids: Tape measures, flashlights with batteries, small tool kits, sewing kits, heavy bright colored thread.
April	Outdoor fun: small rubber balls, jacks, chalk, jump ropes, yo-yos, deflated soccer balls and pump
May	Individual packaged toothbrushes, including children's sizes, band aids for kids
June	Small dolls, matchbox cars, decks of cards, card games
July	Watch for the picnic supplies sales: any plastic cups, bowls, heavy plastic utensils, and any kind of refillable water bottles.
August	Shop the school supplies sales for small notebooks, pencils, pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, watercolors and crayons
September	Ball caps or sun hats
October	Collect any items yet needed. We'll send out a list.
November	Pack our boxes and pray for the children receiving them. Donate \$10 for shipping of each box.

On June 29, LUMC joined the Nazarene Church to hold a Sunday evening VBS. There were 16 kids and about 40 adults. Lots of fun was had with songs, Bible study, a sand art craft, games and snacks!




Thank you to the following people who gave their time and talents to the VBS night: Kenn and Betty Curren, Emma Harper, Kara Armstrong, Linda Mehaffey, Kelly Fetzer and Rhonda Close. Judy Pollard and Robin Hughes made the star cookies and star sandwiches for the snack.





Ice Cream Social

Saturday, August 9: Ice Cream
Social at LUMC, 6-9pm.



Back to School Bash
Saturday, August 16
11am-3pm
At Nazarene Church



Loudonville UMC

Loudonville, Ohio

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Upcoming Events

08/05 Community Meal, 5pm

08/09 Lakeville UMC Food Pantry, 9am

08/09 Celebration of Life, 2pm

08/09 Ice Cream Social, 6pm

08/11 Governance Board Meeting, 6:30pm

08/12 Perrysville UMC Meal, 5pm

08/16 Back to School Bash, 11am-3pm At Nazarene
Church

08/19 Community Meal, 5pm

08/23 Lakeville UMC Food Pantry, 9am

08/25 Connected Parent Cafe, 5pm

08/31 Combined Services - Bigelow will host
Lakeville at 11 am and Perrysville will host
Loudonville at 9 am

Church Family

August Celebrations

Anniversaries

08/01 MIKE & SUSAN Beans
08/04 NATHAN & Kristin Donley
08/06 Mike & PAM Kassinger
08/14 Andrew & MEGAN Yoak
08/16 JOHN & MARY LOU Gess
08/18 JIM & SHARON Brewer
08/23 KYLE & Audrey Nickles
08/28 Josh & Jaime Portz
08/31 ERIC & TONYA Mitchell

Birthdays

08/02 EMMA Harper
08/04 JOE Janeczek
08/06 KAREN McClure
08/06 KEITH Lemke
08/09 Spencer Eicher
08/10 JACK Burgess
08/11 Brennan Daniels
08/15 Thomas Kauffman

Birthdays - continued

08/17 JOAN Johnston
08/19 HEATHER Carr
08/21 DOUGLAS Nickles
08/21 Lorelai Vaughan
08/22 JUDY Burgess
08/23 BEVERLY Mumper
08/23 Araiya Daniels
08/25 Mabel Gray
08/26 PATTY Hunter
08/27 KYLE Lemke
08/30 HEIDI Bontatibus

Serving in Worship

Liturgists

08/03 Cindy Maxwell
08/10 Kelly Fetzer
08/17 Walt Burd
08/24 Robin Hughes
08/31 Barb Burd

Greeters

08/03 Nila and Patty
08/10 Jim and Sharon
08/17 Jackie and Dave
08/24 Gene and Gail
08/31 Karen and Ken