

July/August 2023



PORTAGE FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

9922 St. Rt. 44, Mantua, Ohio 44255

Mission Statement: "To be a family of faith in Christ through caring, serving, and fellowship"

# The Bridge

## Our Summer Sunday Schedule

Sunday Worship 9:30 am

*Friends having Coffee at R44 will be held 8:15 - 9:00 am on the first and third Sunday of the month. Join us for an uplifting time.*

### Committee Meeting Reminders:

#### Finance Meetings:

Thurs., July 6, 6:30 pm

Thurs., August 10, 6:30 pm

#### Trustee Meeting:

Thurs., July 6, 7:00 pm

#### The Ad. Council:

Tues., Sept. 12, 7:00 pm

#### UMM Breakfast Meetings:

Sun., July 9, 7:30 am

Sun., August 13, 7:30 am

#### UWF Breakfast Meetings:

Sun., July 23, 8:00 am

Sun., August 27, 8:00 am

Mary Martha is taking the summer off, but will start again on Monday September 25, at 6:30 pm.

## Pastor's Corner

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Summer is upon us all once again. What a glorious time of year! Things get a little slower. Families come together. We have time to visit old friends, and opportunities arise to make new ones. An opportunity for all of us to make new friends is upon us now. We are United Methodists, and as such, we know that the length of time with have with our pastoral leader is always an unknown.

I want you all to know how much I have treasured the limited time that I have spent with you, my friends. Your acceptance, grace, and kindness have left an impression upon me that I will never be able to shake and don't ever want to. You have blessed my family and me beyond measure, and as I said in my final message to you, I will carry you in my heart to the end of my days and beyond. We will all meet again one day and for that I am so grateful.

I know that Portage Faith may be a little church, but it is a mighty body of Christ! I know God has great things in store for you if you continue to faithfully follow in the way of Jesus Christ. Your new pastoral leader, whoever that may be, doesn't know you yet, but they will know you soon. May that new family be as blessed as I have been to know and to love you.

I found a poem about "good-bye" that explains the term's true meaning. It struck me as a fitting way to end my final pastoral message to you.

### **Good-bye Means Not Farewell**

Poet: John Imrie

*"Good-bye! good-bye! " What kindly words, As they fall on the parting ear, Like the singing of summer birds, With their wonderful power to cheer; Their meaning true — "God-be-with-you! "With kiss and sigh — "Good-bye! good-bye!"*

*"Good-bye! good-bye! " Means not "Farewell!" But a wish for our Father's care! How sweet when hearts their fullness tell In the words of that loving prayer; "Good-bye! good-bye!" May God be nigh; The meaning true — "God-be-with-you!"*

continued

**Looking for children's church teachers!**

**September-May.** A curriculum from Group.com has been bought and is a scripted easy to follow lesson plan for each Sunday. If you'd like to teach a class or more see Erika Barnett.

**Liturgist Schedule**

**July**

- 2 Cindy Pearce
- 9 Chris Chaykowski
- 16 VBS Sunday (Youth)
- 23 Linda Weinkamer
- 30 Matt Ruchalski

**August**

- 6 Cindy Pearce
- 13 Debbie Bahr
- 20 Linda Weinkamer
- 27 Ted Taylor

**LADIES: SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 14, 2023 for a one-day retreat at Camp**

**Asbury!** Continental Breakfast will be 8:00 to 9:00 am. Day will end at 7:00 pm. More Information to follow!!

**The 4C's** - Donations of non-perishable food, cleaning & paper products, and personal care items are needed to help keep the 4C's well stocked for those in need. Bring donations to the church and put in the shopping cart near the entry.

*These words are sometimes idly said, Like passing sunbeams on the wall, And on the heart fall cold and dead, 'Tis then no fervent prayer at all. But plain — "Good-bye!" —A formal cry, No kiss nor sigh. Ah, friends! — why? why?*

*Remember, when you say — " Good-bye! 'Life is uncertain, short, and fleet; Then, let the love-light in your eye show friendship's bond is strong and sweet Thus, hand-in-hand, Friends understand The meaning true — "God-be-with-you!"*

Indeed, may God always be with you this day and always.  
Love,

Pastor Jill Lea Scott

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***Presently, the interim pastor will be Bill Graham. If you need pastoral care, please contact Bill by phone (330-235-3418) or email, Willywallygraham@gmail.com!***

**Register Deadline is July 2 2023 VBS at Portage Faith UMC Tuesday-Friday, July 11-14**



All Free!  
Supper at 5:30 pm  
Program 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm  
Children and Adults Welcome! It's free! Registration form can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please fill it out and return it to the church or Linda Weinkamer by July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Or Click on the following Link to fill out and electronically submit your registration(s).

[VBS Registration Form](#)



**Our Christian Sympathy for the family and friends of Reverend Bige Combs,** who went home to be with the Lord on **June 25, 2023.** A celebration of Life is being planned for a later time.

**Christian Sympathy for the family and friends of Sandra Kessler** who passed into eternity on **Tuesday, June 27.** A graveside service will be on **Saturday, July 1 at 10:00 am at Westlawn Cemetery.**

**The prayer chain** continues to be a source of comfort to all. It's easy to submit your prayer requests; either by writing it on the church prayer card during worship service, (check add to prayer chain) or by contacting Cindy Pearce by phone 330-274-0507. If you would like to be a prayer warrior, please let Cindy know.

If you have any updates to your membership status, name, address, phone number or email, please notify the church office. Call or email the office at 330-274-8987 or [pfumcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pfumcoffice@gmail.com).

**United Methodist Men started a Utility Fund** on May 8, 2016. This fund is dedicated for an upgrade in our water and sewage utilities. This is an entire church project and the U.M.M. are actively seeking donations. For more information, please contact Tom Kennedy (330-388-1356) or Rick Bahr (330-527-4499).

**GOT SCRAP?** The United Methodist Men would like to take it off your hands. The United Methodist Men's scrap drive has been a great fundraiser. For pick up, just call Tom Kennedy (330-388-1356)

**Friends @R44 will meet on Sunday, July 2 at 8:15 am at Restoration 44 Coffee Company right in town. Come Join us!**

**The Finance Committee will meet on Thursday, July 6 at 6:30 pm and The Trustees will follow with a meeting starting at 7:00 pm.**

**The UMM will have a breakfast meeting on Sunday, July 9 at 7:30 am.**

**Book Club will meet at 10:00 am on Tuesday, July 11 in the Library!!**

**Come Join us at Restoration 44 Coffee Company for Friends @R44 on Sunday, July 16 at 8:15 am.**

**The UWF will have a breakfast meeting on Sunday, July 23 at 8:00 am and Gera Kennedy will be the hostess!!**

**Hope Circle will enjoy their Annual Picnic at 12:00 pm on Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup>.** This year it will be held at the home of Bonnie Marek.

**The UWF are hosting a Super Salad Luncheon on Sunday, July 30 right after church!** A variety of salads will be provided along with dessert and beverages. Cost will be \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children age 4-12. We look forward to you joining us for fellowship and food!

**Friends Day meeting July 30<sup>th</sup> after church.** All are welcome to sit in and help with ideas/planning. See Jeff Barnett for a quick rundown of what it could be.



We were richly blessed with special music by Virginia Goodell and Sandy Havlena on Trinity Sunday (June 4, 2023). Virginia and Sandy make a great duo, playing "Serenade" and "Country Gardens" Thank you so much for sharing your talents with us!

### Happy July Birthdays

- 1 Joshua Cutlip
- 7 Torrey Taylor
- 7 Bonnie Marek
- 10 Kathy Lance
- 11 Cindy Pearce
- 11 Iris McCon
- 11 Kim Schwesinger
- 12 Vicki Schrecengost
- 13 Darlene Dennis
- 15 Adalynn Seebacher
- 17 Kimberly Tipton
- 20 Jim Marek
- 21 Laura Taylor
- 21 Chad Roberts
- 23 Imogene Fletcher
- 23 Connor Pearce
- 24 Mary Tipton
- 24 Scott Weinkamer
- 27 Rowen Kerkan
- 31 Amelia Kennedy

### Happy August Birthdays

- 1 Jackie Combs
- 1 Barb Burgess
- 2 James Peters
- 3 Gera Kennedy
- 3 David Hluch
- 5 Christopher Fletcher
- 5 Amanda Ruchalski
- 6 Kaitlyn Roberts
- 8 James Hoover
- 9 Sharron Bysura
- 10 Margaret MacLearie
- 11 Mary Ellen Hill
- 11 Harold Ullman
- 12 Alie Ruchalski
- 15 Erika Barnett
- 18 Henry Hoover
- 19 Debbie Sike
- 20 Kathie Baumgardner
- 21 Tom Shaulis
- 21 Katrina Richards
- 27 Linda Shaulis
- 28 Douglas McIntosh
- 29 Jocelyn Pearce

### Thank you for blessing of beautiful Altar Flowers:

#### May

In Honor of all our beautiful Moms by Jeanette Ryman.

In Honor of Memorial Day, by Doug and Carol McIntosh.

#### June

In Celebration of April Sike-Brumm's birthday by Deb and Chris.

In Support of Terri Wilde and to bring her cheer by the Church Family.



### July Anniversaries

- 1 Warren & Recia Ragle married 45 yrs
- 3 Tom & Laura Taylor married 24 yrs.
- 23 Tim & Lynne McDermott married 29 yrs
- 28 Jeff & Erika Barnett married 11 years
- 28- Connor & Rachel Pearce Married 5 years

### August Anniversaries

- 1 Steve & Mimi Domnie married 50 years
- 11 Ken & Rhonda Grudowski married 39 years
- 14 Harold & Joyce Ullman married 58 years
- 16 Bige & Jackie Combs married 54 years
- 19 Eugene & Doris Gharky married 51 years

### Congratulations!!



Welcome **Luke McCrady** born on **June 6, 2023 to the proud parents Chris and Cressinda McCrady.** Luke weighed in at 6 lbs. 13 oz. and was 18" long. "Congratulations" cards may be sent to Cressinda and Chris McCrady at their new home, 9408 Rochester Road, Minerva, OH 44657.



# REGISTRATION FORM

(ONE PER CHILD)



Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last school grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/caregiver's cell phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home church: \_\_\_\_\_

**Crew number or name (for church use only):** \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions: \_\_\_\_\_



In case of emergency, contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_

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(Address Service Requested)