

Millcreek Community UM Church
4570 Lockwood Boulevard
Youngstown, Ohio 44511-3799

The Beat Newsletter

"Love Works Here" May 2022

Be sure to read Pastor's message
for very important information!

YOU CAN FIND US ON



Millcreek Community UMC

OFFICE HOURS

M-W-F 9am - 2pm

(330) 782-0573

info@millcreek.church (e-mail)

www.millcreek.church (website)



Newsletter May 2022

We often speak proudly of our Wesleyan heritage, and rightly so. At one time, nearly every town and city in America had a Methodist church located on a major crossroad that ministered to their community. Only God knows how many souls have been saved in those great numbers of Methodist churches. However, Methodists also have a rich history and heritage of being divided Methodists (see timeline pg. 3). It is sad, but true. Where two or more gather in Jesus' name, at times there can be disagreement. Looking back in history, we will find that the areas of disagreement typically center upon theology, social concerns, and church doctrine. Who is God, and what does the Bible say about Him? What does society say? What does the church say? How does the church bring those three diversities together in harmony?

Since the birth of the Methodist Episcopal Church at the Christmas Conference held in Baltimore Maryland in 1784, conflict has caused division at least a dozen times. The first major split among Methodists was due to slavery, an issue that had also effectively divided America. In 1844 it would divide the Methodist church. Some Methodists, including a well-known bishop from Georgia that had inherited slaves, did not believe that owning slaves was a sin. That went contrary to the official position of the Methodist church established at the Christmas Conference sixty years earlier that clearly stated "we (Methodists) view it (slavery) as contrary to the Golden Law of God." Fearing a loss of revenue and offending some members, the General Conference eventually voted to split the church in two, those who identified with slavery, and those who didn't.

Spanish philosopher George Santayana once said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Sadly, that is true for the Methodist church. In fact, the people called Methodists are in the process of splitting once again. This time the question is not about the sin of slavery but the authority of the Bible, about who and what it reveals about Jesus, sin, and salvation. Are the Scriptures inspired and infallible? Was Jesus conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a Virgin in the town of Bethlehem? Did Jesus die on the cross to make sinners righteous? Did Jesus rise from the dead in bodily form on the first Easter Sunday? Is Jesus the Son of God, is faith in Him the only way to heaven, and will He return again in glory to judge the living and the dead? What is sin and who is a sinner? What role does the church have in making those truths known?

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It is not our opinions on those matters that will make a difference in the end, but whether we acknowledge and uphold the Scriptures that reveal them to be true. One thing is for certain and that is the Bible answers those first five questions in the affirmative. It also clearly reveals what sin is, how people can overcome it and the role of the church in our journey of faith. If we can't agree on those long held orthodox Christian beliefs, affirmed, and taught by followers of Jesus for more than two thousand years, we will likely not agree on anything of eternal significance. In fact, the UM Church can't even agree on how to disagree. It is becoming apparent that the equity that is prized by so many in the denomination has been carefully swept under the rugs of secrecy, delay, and mammon.

This latest conflict will affect the Millcreek Community Church in many ways. Out of pastoral love for you, I have prayerfully chosen not to leave the denomination at this point in time as some other UM pastors have done. My rationale is that as of now, the Book of Discipline for the UM Church has not changed, although key provisions are being blatantly ignored by some pastors and bishops. It is inevitable that the unofficial and readily apparent unorthodox UM positions on social issues such as abortion, marriage and human sexuality will soon be codified in such a monumental way that the revised Book of Discipline will be found to be in direct conflict with long established Scriptural (and Wesleyan) principles. I trust you will agree with me that unfaithfulness to the Word of God constitutes an irreconcilable difference.

It will be wise and prudent for us as a church to explore the various options that will become available to us, as many other churches have done throughout Methodist history. At this time, it appears there will be three. We can maintain the status quo, disaffiliate with the UM Church and join another Wesleyan denomination (i.e., the new Global Methodist Church), or disaffiliate with the UM Church and remain independent.

Our leadership team is charged with the responsibility of considering the implications of those options in the months to come. We will share them with you once we have adequate information that will allow us as a church to make an informed decision, one that will be pleasing to God. The leadership team meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM. It is an open meeting, and your presence and your peaceful voices are welcome. I would ask you to pray for myself, our lay leaders Diane Redfern and Steve Easter and for the entire leadership team here at Millcreek as we move forward in discerning God's will for our church. Trusting in His grace....Pastor Greg

Millcreek Community UMC - Leadership Team Meeting

April 12, 2022 @ 5:30pm

Present: Pastor Greg, Susie Justice, Diane Redfern, Barb Hubler, Doc. Hovell, Hope Sabanick, Elaine Williams, and Bill Stilson.

Susie opened with a story about conflict – The Rabbi's Gift. From the book The Spirit and Art of Conflict Transformation. Followed by prayer by Pastor Greg.

Administrative/Finance:

Giving \$6,049 and Mission \$817. Church is still operating at a significant deficit
Grants received must be spent or returned in the fiscal year received

Audit – Janice Rose will do.

Conferences – May 1st Spring District Conference @ Salem UMC and Annual Conference June 9-11th

Buildings and Grounds:

Floors in restrooms and Fellowship Hall have been cleaned and waxed

Purchased a new vacuum cleaner to replace one that quit working

Fluorescent lights bulbs in Fellowship Hall are being updated to LED. Labor to install donated by Andre' Scott (Brooke's husband)

PG installed new light fixture in men's room

Missions:

Rummage Sale April 29th and 30th. Time TBA. Proceeds go towards new lights in fellowship hall.

Free Community Dinner – May 21st. Cream chicken over biscuits, special blend vegetables and brownies.

New mission projects planned for coming months

Worship:

Mission Moments were suggested to be reinstated

Marketing – Pastor I/m with Communications Professor at YSU – student project? College intern?

Good Friday Service (combined with other churches) – 7pm @ Green Haven Memorial Gardens. Easter Sunrise Service (combined with other churches) 7am @ Green Haven Memorial Gardens. Easter Cantata 10am @ Millcreek Community UMC.

Approved performance/appreciation bonus for music director Dean Zawacki

Next Leadership Team Meeting: May 10, 2022 @5:30pm

***Join us for SUNDAY WORSHIP at 10:00am
(Praise, Pray and Proclaim)***



We also have *live* worship at 10am on our website www.millcreek.church

***Tuesday, May 10th - Leadership Team Meeting @ 5:30pm
Thursday Evenings - Music Team Practice @ 6:30pm***

PRAYER REQUESTS

Arnie and Ginger Timlin
Cheri Blackann
Colin Smith (military)
Gordon and Rose Milliken
Harriet Case
Hunter Schwab (military)

Jeri Witt
Jessica - age 4 (seizures)
Jim Lottier
Marge Whitacre
Marilynn Makar (HOSPICE)
Mark and Pam Boston
P. Mae White
Penny Hiller and family
Shirley Stauffer
Verna Wylie



Gloria Finkley

Margaret Whitacre

Briarfield Manor
461 S. Canfield-Niles Rd., Rm 301
Austintown, OH 44515
(330) 270-3468

Marilynn Makar

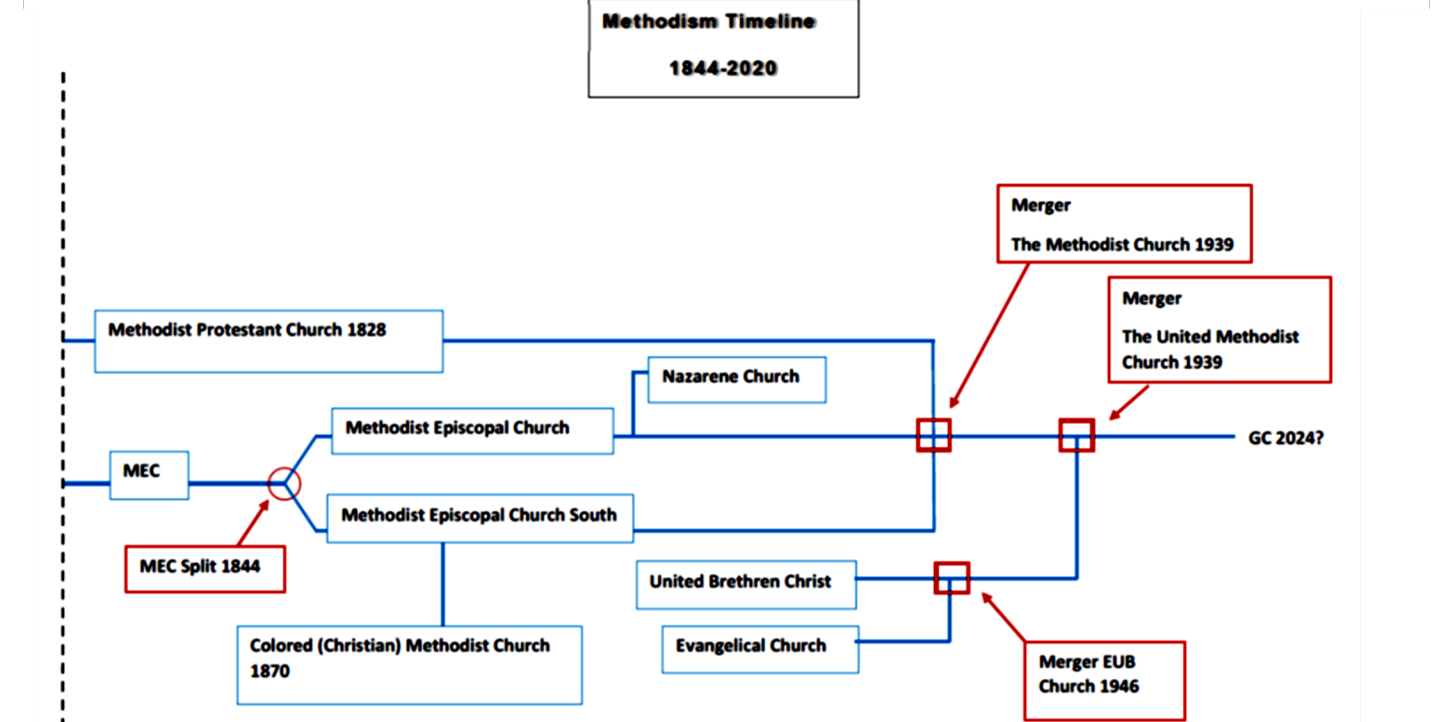
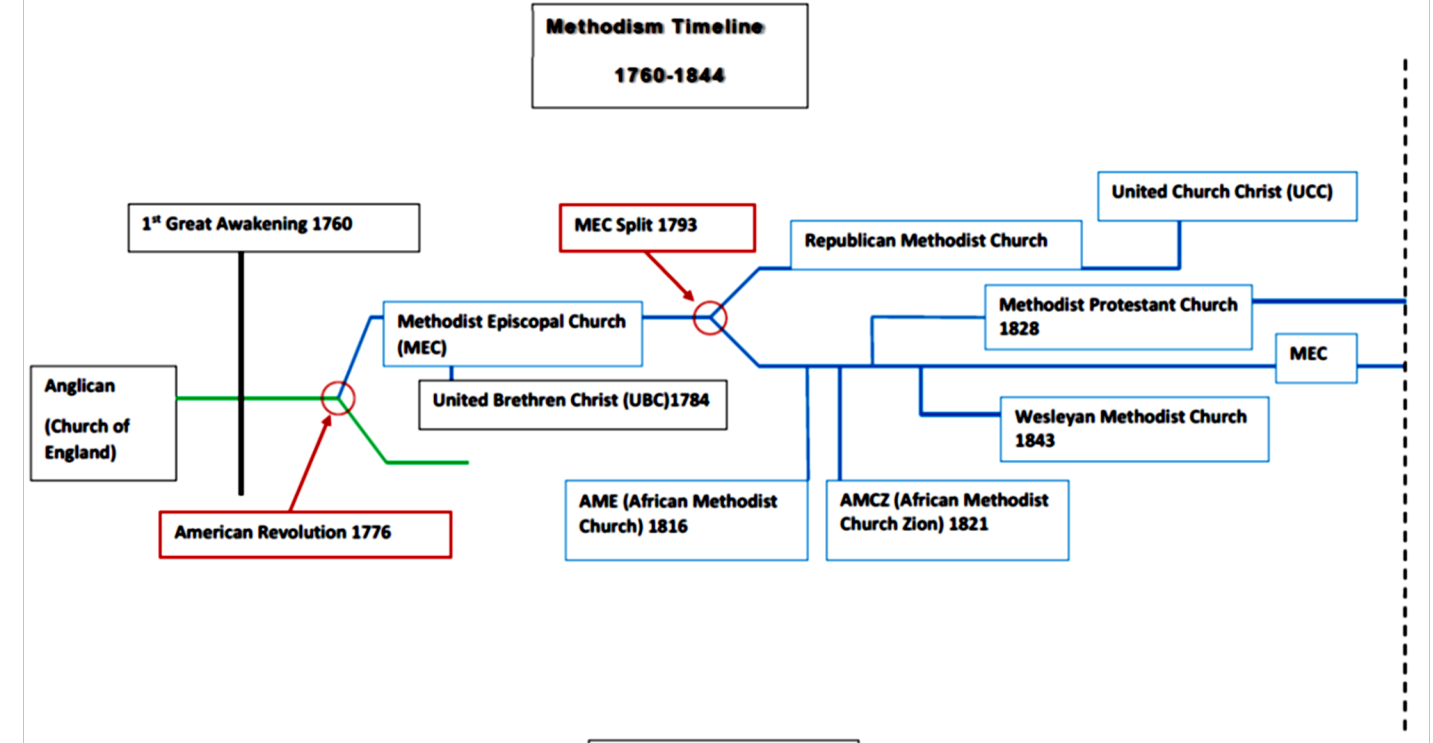
Park Vista
1216 5th Avenue, Rm 260B
Youngstown, OH 44504

Barb Zautner
Morningside House of Ellicott City
5330 Dorsey Hall Drive, Rm 312
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042
(330) 207-3750 cell

May Birthdays



4th - Elijah Ehret
11th - Benny Ferone
13th - Gert Marinelli
21st - Krishawn Shaw
22nd - Debbie Myers
25th - Barbara Yonnotti
31st - Cindy Kramer & Ronald Stauffer Jr.



Above timelines are representative of historical events and may not be 100% accurate!

Compiled by Pastor Greg Calko, Millcreek Community UM Church
Boardman, Ohio 5/2/2022

Millcreek Community "May Mission"

Pregnancy Help Center



A NEW PARTNERSHIP IN THE MAHONING VALLEY



and



(Project Making Kids Count)

All funds received in the month of May will go towards these important programs that are so very much needed in our community. Let's show our support!



For the month of April, we were able to send Warren Family Mission and Rescue Mission 250.00 each to help make Easter Dinner possible for those in need in our community. A very big Thank you to our Millcreek Community UM Church Family!



The Wonderful Rummage Sale at Millcreek

It certainly wasn't your typical rummage sale. We had many great items for sale, ok you can laugh now! The wonderful help from Kevin, Barb & Kari Hubler made everything about the rummage sale go extremely well. Barb suggested we let our customers set the price on what they would purchase. As our guest's came & went with their purchases, we thanked each one & invited them back on Saturday. We felt it was a good feeling to see the looks on the faces & it made us as happy as it made them!

Janice rose sat at the table with Barb & Kari as I kept arranging items on the tables,. Kevin kept plugging in items to make sure they worked. He kept busy with removing trash as Pastor Greg took pictures of certain items to check the value of them.

Around noon a "special" person walked in & said "Hi everyone!" I turned & was so happy to see Mary Ann Dahman standing in our Fellowship Hall! She had brought a couple items for the sale. Graciously she said she had some time to spend & could she help us out as we ate lunch---- wow! That would be appreciated! When we explained our pricing scale, she was amazed but we said we had enough faith in God that we were sure "He" would watch over us & our sales so that enough would be make to purchase new LED lights for the Hall. Many thanks to Mary Ann for telling your memories of Rummage Sales in our church & remembering all those who came to help with such a task.

Entering the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, I found it to be fuller with items even after all we sold on Friday. The good hearts of Bill Stilson & Pastor Greg went & picked up 2 truckloads of items at Cliff & Penny Hiller's. Thank you Cliff & Penny for the donations as we sold a lot of those! Packing up what was left at the end of our sale is always a job. We all pitched in & went to work---- no one was still. Nancy Stark was kind enough to offer St. Vincent DePaul's info. so they could come & pick up what's left. We were happy & blessed to realize we make a little over \$500.00 to purchase the new light for the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks be to God who helped all of us to make improvements to His House.

The faithful helpers:

Pastor Greg, Bill Stilson, Keven, Barb, Kari Hubler, Janice Rose, Diane Redfern, Elaine Williams, Henry Fetty, Susie Justice

Millcreek Community United Methodist Church
invites you to our FREE drive-thru dinner!

SATURDAY

May 21st

4-5:30pm

(or until dinners run out)



MENU

- ***Cream Chicken over biscuit***
- ***Special blend vegetables***
- ***Brownies***

Donations thankfully accepted