

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

The Beat Newsletter

"Love Works Here" Feb/March 2023



YOU CAN FIND US ON



Millcreek Community UMC

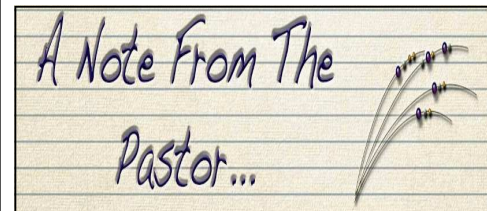
OFFICE HOURS

M-W-F 9am - 2pm

(330) 782-0573

info@millcreek.church (e-mail)

www.millcreek.church (website)



The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, and it remains an important and necessary part of our Christian journey to perfection. The forty days of Lent are meant to remind us of the forty days our Lord spent doing battle with Satan in the wilderness. Mathew, Mark, and Luke all record that Jesus used three potent weapons to win His battle with the enemy: prayer, fasting and Scripture. Luke is unique in that he tells us this: "Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time". Jesus won that battle, but the war against evil rages on. The devil retreated but has plans to return at a better time. From all indications it appears that time is growing near. Two thousand years later, the modern church is battling the same enemy Jesus faced, one who would like nothing more than to see us wander from the truth and abandon our faith and our mission. Though we don't have the weight of the world's sin on our shoulders, our battle with Satan will be just as important as that of Jesus. We will be enticed to give in to worldly temptation and do what is easy rather than do what is right. Let us not forget how we can be victorious.

While the world would remind us that we are so very imperfect in so many ways and have us dwell on our differences, Lent reminds us that we are all fallen people in need of a Savior and a Redeemer. The Good News is that God has sent that Savior into the world. His name is Jesus, and as Christians we are called to share His love and teaching as we dwell as exiles in a foreign wilderness we call life. Lent is a time to reflect upon the cross of Jesus and the sacrifice He made to free us from the bonds of sin. It also reminds us of our own need to make sacrifices as we follow Him. It is only by His grace that some of us will give less than others.

Lent is both a journey to the cross and a journey to the side of our risen Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ. Each day will present a new opportunity for us to either move closer or further away from Him. If we are to be victorious and move closer, we will pray, fast, and spend time in the Scriptures. There is no better time than Lent to practice those spiritual disciplines. If we don't, it will become an opportune time for the enemy to attack us with lies and deceit and test our faith. We will overcome, if we keep our eyes on the cross, that wondrous symbol of grace, love, and victory over death. Let us crucify those earthly desires, doubts and distractions that can send us on an unwanted detour. Be strong! PG

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ash Wednesday Service February 22 6:00pm



LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING
Tuesday 2/14 & 3/14 @ 5:30pm

THURSDAY EVENINGS
Music Team Practice - @ 6:30pm

WEDNESDAYS
11am Pastor's Bible Study



SUNDAYS
**9am Holy Grounds Café
10:30am Worship**



**Call any prayer requests to
Barb Childs (330-360-6796) or
Mary Lois Floyd (330-782-7683)**



**Join us for LIVE worship
at 10:30 am on our website
www.millcreek.church**

**Pastor Calko is available for visits. He can be reached at
pastorgreg@millcreek.church or by phone at 330-782-0573.**



Millcreek Community UMC



Millcreek Community UMC

Millcreek Community UMC - Leadership Team Meeting

February 14, 2023 @ 5:30pm

Present: Pastor Greg, Bill S., Elaine W., Hope S., Diane R., Barb B., Barb H., Susie J.

Pastor opened with a reading about God's grace and forgiveness. Minutes were approved from last meeting.

Administrative/Finance:

- Net \$23,220 operating loss for year of 2022
- January all bills current
- Investment fund positive last month
- A distribution from operating investment fund will be needed soon
- Apportionments up to date for Jan. & Feb.
- Unanimous vote for disaffiliation and Pastor has sent in his request for credentials and church request for membership in GMC. Should be official July 1st. Provisional Book of Discipline, etc. will be used for 12-18 months until convening conference of new Global Methodist Church

Personnel:

- New office manager (Sally) seems to be a good fit
- 45 days – do evaluation on her and Tay

Building & Grounds:

- Sound system amp had to be replaced
- Keys on piano are sticking
- Toilet paper holder needs replaced in restroom (handicap)

Missions:

- March - Pregnancy Center & Rescue Mission
- \$500 to Banes Cuba Church, continues Banes at \$500 & revisit in July
- Cookies – 80 bags went to nursing home
- Glenwood Grounds \$350 – husband & wife mission to help neighborhood
- Soup - \$269 + \$50 in basket

Worship:

- Continue book study with Sunday School
- Bill will lead worship on Feb. 19
- Ash Wed. 6pm, worship practice after
- March 5-12 Pastor & Tami on vacation
- Sunday March 11 – Diane will lead

Bill closed with prayer. Next Leadership Team Meeting: March 14, 2023 @ 5:30pm

PRAYER REQUESTS

Bert Pharis
Cheri Blackann
Harriet Case
Jim Lottier
Kenny Charity & Family
Marge Whitacre
Marilynn Makar
P. Mae White
Penny Hiller & Family
Quincy Penn
Richard Bland
Sidney Wylie

Remember our Shut-ins

Barb Zautner
Morningside House of Ellicott City
5330 Dorsey Hall Drive, Room 312
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Gloria Finkley

Margaret Whitacre
Briarfield Manor
461 S. Canfield-Niles Rd., Rm 317
Austintown, OH 44515

Marilynn Makar
Humility House Rm 20B
755 Ohltown Rd.
Austintown, OH 44515

Shirley Stauffer
Humility House Rm 37B
755 Ohltown Rd.
Austintown, OH 44515

Millcreek Community UM Church
invites you to our **FREE** St Patrick's Day drive-thru
dinner.



SATURDAY
March 18th
4:00-5:30pm

(or until dinners run out)

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

Donations thankfully accepted

IT'S A DINNER YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

**On Sunday, January 29th, our
congregation unanimously voted
to join the Global Methodist
Church. More info to follow.**

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

9th - Lillie Washington
25th - Macilla Grace
29th - Sean Roberts

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3rd - Leslie Fitzgerald
6th - Henry Fetty
10th - Evelyn Fischer
12th - Steve Easter
17th - Thelma W. Smith
23rd - Kara Ehret & Norman Toot
28th - Cathlene Harvey



“Hearts on Fire”

February's Missions:

Samaritan's Purse Ukraine Response - The Mission Team wants to keep the Ukraine people in our hearts and prayers. With God's help they are staying strong and dedicated to be free of Russian occupation. Let us be a beacon of hope to help feed and care for our neighbors.

New Mission! “Glenwood Grounds” a Ministry of Hope for Renewal, with Pastor Gary Koerth and his wife Cindy at the corner of Glenwood and Rt 62. Our friends at Protestant Family Services often hold meetings in their café. Open 7:00am - 1:00pm.

Banes United Methodist Church - We extend a hand in helping to build their church and soon we expect to see pictures of their progress.

Valentine's Day Surprise - On February 13th our Mission Team set up a cookie table for the residents at Humility House as we have two church members there.

March's Missions:

The Pregnancy Help Center @ 4845 Market Street, Suite 13, Youngstown, OH 44512

The Pregnancy Help Center @ The Rescue Mission of Mahoning Valley, PO Box 298, Youngstown, OH 44501

Banes United Methodist Church, Cuba

Dinner With the Mission Team - Cream Chicken Over Biscuit

Our dinner in January consisted of cream chicken over biscuit, tossed salad, cake and a surprise in every dinner box - a sack of Mott's juicy fruit jellies.

I had prepared the containers, the boxes that needed to be folded, the napkins and prayer cards inside with each dinner box. All hands became very busy with fixing the salads, cutting the cakes which our beloved church family graciously provided. The cake tables were beautiful, really the best part of the dinner! We thought what a blessing to have all these cakes.

For a short while we were enjoying our 3 Barb's - you must remember them. When you call out for Barb, they would all answer. Perhaps some Sunday they could sing a song for us - a trio of Barb's, just imagine the sound.

Well, getting back to our dinner, we laughed and joked as Chef Pastor Greg made sure all ingredients were in the cream chicken and he asked Janice to keep a check on the biscuits in the oven. Well done biscuits, they were!

The dinner bell rang and the rush began. Everyone was busy. It is one part of the day when you know where everybody is. It really is that fun having dinner with the Mission Team. Come join us!

Cast of Characters:

Barb H., Sandy W., Barb C., Janice R., Barb B., Elaine W., Kari H., Susie J., Diane R.
Chef Pastor Greg who manages to keep this flock together. Amen!

The Missions of January



We were blest to send a check in the amount of \$350 to “Wreaths Across America”. Thanks to Kevin Hubler who spearheaded this mission and delivered the check to his captain.



Another mission of importance was “Special Olympics of Ohio”, and, yes, Kari Hubler is still bowling but finds time to light the Church candles with her mom (Barb). A check in the amount of \$350 was sent to Special Olympics of Ohio. Thank you, Kari, for always being willing to help your Church.



In Cuba, the Banes United Methodist Church received a check for \$500. Bless our congregation and those who send donations through the mail. We are forever grateful.

