

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

The Beat Newsletter

"Love Works Here" June 2025



YOU CAN FIND US ON



Millcreek Community Methodist Church

OFFICE HOURS

M-W-F 9am - 2pm

(330) 782-0573

info@millcreek.church (e-mail)

www.millcreek.church (website)

*A Note From The
Pastor...*



Aaah..... the sights, the sounds, the smells of summer. Tis the season for parades, picnics and celebrating with family and friends and enjoying God's creation. It is also a popular time for those who are still in the workplace to take some well-earned time away from the daily grind of eking out a living. Time does fly by when we are having fun and for most of us summer goes by way too quickly. It can be one of the busiest seasons of the year and if we are not careful, we may forget that Jesus needs (and wants!) to be invited to take part in our graduation parties, wedding ceremonies, family reunions, picnics, vacations as well as worship on Sunday mornings. It has been said that when two or more are gathered people will eat; and then we will find something to disagree about. Perhaps that is because we haven't asked Jesus to join us.

We are usually on our "best behavior" during Sunday worship and are focused on deepening our faith and our relationship with God, or at least we attempt to! However, once the benediction is over and the church doors close behind us, we have a whole world of things to distract us and keep us from being the disciple that God desires us to be. What might change if celebrating with Jesus went beyond Sunday morning or Wednesday Bible study? That may sound like a strange question, but one worth considering. What would the world look like if the love we have for Jesus went beyond Sunday mornings? What would the world look like if more people discovered how to love like Jesus?

From beginning to end the Bible reveals that our God is a God of relationships, a God of fellowship, and a God that desires people to be in communion with Him and each other. It stands to reason that few things grieve God more than people who are not in love with His creation and with His created. As we enjoy the summer of 2025 together let us remember Wesley's three rules for living the Christian (holy!) life: Do good, do no harm, and attend upon *all* the ordinances of God (worship, prayer, fasting, Holy Communion, Bible study). As we put them into practice, let us also remember that Wesley said an "inward transformation" is required lest we become self-righteous like the Pharisees. Let us stay in love with God and each other, not because the Bible says we have to but because our hearts say we want to!

Pastor Greg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY

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



WEDNESDAY

**11am Pastor's
Bible Study**

Pastor Greg, Hope and Susie will attend Annual Conference June 18th-21st. Please keep them in your prayers. The link for viewing the conference will be on our website or at www.alleghenywestgmc.org

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Tuesday June 10th @ 5:30pm

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST

June 14th @ 9:00am - Truck World in Hubbard

Music Team Practice

Thursday July 3rd at 6:30pm

This summer there will only be practice on Thursdays prior to Communion Sunday.



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



Join us for *live* worship at 10:30am 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.

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Millcreek Community Methodist Church Leadership Team Meeting

May 13, 2025 @ 5:30pm

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

Pastor Greg opened with prayer and a reading about the goodness of God, the source of all good.

Minutes of last meeting were approved.

Old Business:

- Trees for altar decoration – 2 green and 2 white if possible. Barb will pick up from Hobby Lobby

Treasurer/Finance:

- \$5,000 additional expenses in April due to parking lot being repaired and sealed
- Offerings for April was over \$9,000. Missions offering was up too
- Investment and endowment accounts increased
- Hope will take a distribution of \$25,000 out of the investment fund
- Hope is going to check into why the check for the copier payment has not cleared

Administration:

- Hope and Susie are attending the Annual Conference June 18-21 with Pastor Greg

Building & Grounds/Maintenance:

- Parking lot catch basin was cleaned out for \$500
- Fixing the siding is next

Missions/Outreach & Vision:

- June missions – Church of Monte Feria, Tunnel to Towers, Wounded Warrior, Protestant Family Service golf outing
- January to May mission offerings of over \$3,000
- Pastor to visit Monte Feria Cuba in November-will have fund raiser later this summer
- Diane brought grinder to make ham loaf for Saturday's Free Community Dinner

Worship:

- Summer schedule – worship team on hiatus in June & July; will sing on communion Sundays. Sunday School as usual

Meeting closed with prayer. Next Leadership Meeting June 10th at 5:30pm.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Joann Vitto
Lou Stark
Mike Calko
Shirley Stauffer

P. Mae White
Lloyd Sloger
Marilynn Makar
Dominic Viola
Abbe Harshbarger



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

Gloria Finkley
Caprice Health Center
9184 Market St, Rm 604
North Lima, OH 44452

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

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



5th - Al Miller

12th - Kevin Hubler

23rd - Elizabeth Penn

28th - Ken Bennett



Father's Day - June 15th

Let us give thanks to God for Dads, Grandpas, Brothers and Uncles who always have love in their hearts for us. Let us Celebrate!



Upcoming Millcreek Events

- July 19th - Free Community Drive-Thru Dinner
- August 9th - Neighborhood Block Party

*Please contact church office with any announcements for the newsletter.

Pastor Greg's Recommended Reading

Heaven

By: Randy Alcorn



Thank you Betsy and Lou Stark for the beautiful giftbags you made for the preschool students. Each child received a bag full of goodies to celebrate the end of the school year and to welcome their family to church. Betsy's giftbags are a perfect outreach for the 60+ families who have children attending preschool here.



Mission Bells Rang Out In May



Samaritan's Purse received \$100 to use where needed most.
The Methodist Church of Monte Feria, Cuba received \$150 to help with building their church.

We in this mission group are continuing to step to the beat of a different drum. In the month of May we were able to do the following:

Tunnel to Towers received \$100 helping the wounded of the 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers in New York.

Wounded Warriors received \$100 to support our troops from Desert Storm and the end of Saddam Hussein.

The Mission Support Team was back at it as we put on a successful Free Community Drive-Thru Dinner - the wonderful Methodist Ham Loaf Dinner! Our donations were \$287!



LOOK! A Sneak Peek at June's Missions:

- The Methodist Church of Monte Feria, Cuba
 - Wounded Warriors
 - Tunnel to Towers
- Protestant Family Services: The 5th Annual Jackie Burley Golf Outing. We will sponsor one of the holes.



Susie's Fun Corner

A positive attitude causes a chain reaction of positive outcomes. It is a catalyst... a spark that creates extraordinary results.



Many "Thank you's" to our church family who so generously keeps our Mission basket overflowing. All of my church family, near and far, prove God is always faithful. Jesus asks us to care for those in need and to bring love, hope and light into their lives. Let us continue to hold each other's hands and show the world that at Millcreek Community Methodist Church we can help send God's message of love, kindness and grace. We can reflect His love and light in the world.

Love to all,

Susie J, Mission Team Member



The World Renowned Ham Loaf



Are you serious? We sure are!

Let's start at the beginning. It was just a couple of years ago when Pastor Greg suggested ham loaf for one of our free community dinners. Well, I couldn't have been more surprised! Who on God's green earth eats ham loaf these days?

Ham loaf, as I learned, was a favorite of the Methodist Church. So said our Renowned Chef Pastor Greg and his Renowned Meat Grinder Ken. Both of them worked on dinners out in Berlin Center, sort of like farm country, get the picture? I came from Grace Methodist on the corner of Forest and Shehy and believe it or not, Elaine (our keyboard player) was across the street from us at the Catholic church. Well, enough of the historical part of ham loaf, we at Grace were used to roast beef and steak dinners. On the East side of Youngstown, the Italian Methodist church closed and joined with us at Grace. So, you guessed it, our dinners became spaghetti and meatballs - homemade by Grandma Agnesi. Fast forward back to the future, we are now known as the Millcreek Community Methodist Church that serves up the Renowned Ham Loaf dinners. ("The ice cream in the freezer is calling me - so if I hurry and finish this story guess what I'll be into!" - Ha Ha)

In our famous Millcreek Methodist kitchen all were very busy - our Renowned Meat Grinder Ken kept the ground meat coming, Dolly and Barb B. smashed the crackers and Cyndi would form the ham loaves to go in the oven. Cyndi actually flew home from Florida just to be with the kitchen group! She told us her arms were sort of sore from all the flapping she did to get home. I guess she took her lessons from "The Flying Nun".

Of course, Chef Pastor Greg made the glaze that was poured onto the ham loaves. Barb and Kari were getting the boxes ready to fill with our dinners. Much goes into getting the boxes ready - napkins, prayer cards and a candy treat.

Let's move on to dessert - oh yum! The Fruit Fluff Gals, Dolly and Barb, arrived to get the dessert ready. Wow, these gals know their "fluff". They drained the fruit cocktail, cherries and mandarin oranges, added them into the cool whip and then the mixing began. They called to me, "Susie just look at this FLUFF!" - and it was amazing. I had to remind them to add in the mini-marshmallows lightly and easily as to not make them mushy. Fluff Gals know how to add the marshmallows lightly - Go Fluff Gals Go!

Sadly, this story must come to an end but it will be a good ending. Just think - I will get to eat my ice cream! Yeah! "Never have so few done so much" - thank you for getting these community dinners out the door. All of you are so appreciated and loved. Now I present the Ham Loaves: Ken and Dolly Bennett, Barb Beach, Janice Rose, Cyndi Grilli, Barb & Kari Hubler, Pastor/Chef Greg & Tami Calko.

Parts of this story are true, and well really could all of it be true? I will leave that up to you. Hope some of you will come and find out the fun we have. So what IS real - I truly love my church family!

Susie J, Mission Team Member

"Special Thanks" to Diane Redfern and her son. Diane's son owns the wonderful meat grinder he allows our church to use. You are a blessing to us! With much appreciation,
The Kitchen Crew