

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

The Beat Newsletter

"Love Works Here" July/August 2025



YOU CAN FIND US ON



Millcreek Community Methodist Church

OFFICE HOURS

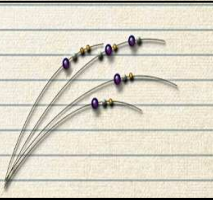
M-W-F 9am - 2pm

(330) 782-0573

info@millcreek.church (e-mail)

www.millcreek.church (website)

A Note From The
Pastor...



Growing up in the "country" I spent many a day on my grandparents farm, making hay, cleaning the barn, mending fences and hiking through the orchard in search of blackberries and elderberries. Our home was not a particularly exciting place to live, except for those times when the phone would ring and my mother would hear one of the neighbors yelling in broken English "your cows are out again". Now that I think about it, we didn't spend a whole lot of time fixing fences. There are two key words that need further explanation- "your and again". The fact of the matter was they were not my mother's cows or our cows- they belonged to my grandparents. I am not sure whether it was through ignorance or convenience, but it seemed like we were always the first people on the list to be called. The second key word is again, and it was the right word for the cows getting out was a common occurrence. It was no minor emergency, as a herd of thousand-pound animals can do immense damage to lawns and gardens, especially when the ground is soft. At the time, it didn't really matter whose cows they were, something had to be done. The cows had to be herded back to the pasture and the breach in the fence had to be repaired. Though cows and people can live in harmony, boundaries are necessary to do so; in this case a physical boundary- a fence- is required to keep order. We do live in an unsafe world and there will be times and places where boundaries are necessary to maintain order. Romans 13 teaches that respect for governments and political borders are part of God's plan for peaceful living.

But what about cultural fences, racial fences, religious fences, political fences and economic fences? They are more effective in separating and dividing people than any physical fence. Not only do they isolate people, they separate people from God. What causes us to put up these kinds of barriers? The answer lies within the sins of selfishness and envy. People have drifted away from God or even worse completely shut Him out of their lives. That void is quickly filled with things of the world, which result in unholy fences separating people from each other. Instead of seeking fellowship and communion with God and each other, (love God and love neighbor!) the priority becomes privacy and isolation from those who outwardly appear to be different from us. As followers of Jesus, we must do our best to reverse that trend. The good news is that most people do want to love their neighbor, they just don't know how. Now is the time for people to return to God. The harvest is great! Let us show them how to pick by remembering this truth: The closer we are to Jesus, the easier it will be for us to love our neighbor. Pastor Greg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY

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



WEDNESDAY

**11am Pastor's
Bible Study**

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Tuesday July 8th & August 12th @ 5:30pm

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST

July 12th & August 9th @ 9:00am - Truck World in Hubbard

Music Team Practice

Thursday July 3rd and 31st 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.**

You Tube

**Millcreek Community
Methodist Church**



facebook.

**Millcreek Community
Methodist Church**

Millcreek Community Methodist Church Leadership Team Meeting

July 8, 2025 @ 5:30pm

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

Pastor Greg opened with prayer and devotion from Isaiah 40 – Stay strong in the Lord.

Minutes of last meeting were approved and there was no old business.

Treasurer/Finance:

- Positive gains in investment and endowment accounts for June
- Tithes and offerings for June were \$9,000+, how do we show appreciation to givers?
- Net revenue down because we paid Allegheny Conference and Global Church. These are paid yearly

Administration:

- Alta is not renewing their lease for 2026-2027. They must leave any “permanent improvements” that have been made. PG is negotiating the remaining lease amounts for classrooms for June and July
- We have advertised classroom space for lease with Platz Realty

Missions/Outreach & Vision:

- August missions – Church of Monte Feria, Rescue Mission, Warren Family Mission, Samaritan Purse, Allegheny West Conference Disaster Relief for Texas Flooding
- Thanks to Susie and Hope for going to conference with Pastor Greg
- Free community drive-thru dinner July 19 with cheeseburgers, baked beans, chips and cookies
- Pastor to visit Monte Feria Cuba in November
- Block Party in August-bounce house, petting zoo, face painting, gyros, hot dogs, pulled pork, games, music, firetruck
- Luncheon after worship July 20th to honor Nancy Stark. Sandwich ring, cake and punch

Worship:

- Outdoor worship Sunday September 14th with picnic luncheon to follow

Meeting closed with prayer. Next Leadership Meeting August 12th at 5:30pm.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Joann Vitto
Lou Stark
Mike Calko
Shirley Stauffer
Carole Simone

P. Mae White
Lloyd Sloger
Marilynn Makar
Dominic Viola
Elaine Williams



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



JULY BIRTHDAYS

2nd - Michael Grace
5th - Bill Stilson
9th - Rev. Lester Wilson
10th - Jennifer Ferone
13th - Linda Williams
18th - Dawn Crosby
19th - Shirley Stauffer &
Cheryl Viola
29th - Kari Hubler

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2nd - Pastor Greg Calko
4th - Sandra White
7th - Terry Jarocki
12th - Mary Lois Floyd
13th - Barb Childs
16th - Kim Jarocki
21st - Diane Redfern
23rd - Lloyd Sloger



MILLCREEK COMMUNITY METHODIST CHURCH

ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

SATURDAY AUGUST 9TH

1:00P - 4:00P

FREE FOOD & DRINKS, MUSIC, PRIZES, FIRETRUCK BOUNCE HOUSE, FACE PAINTING, GAMES & MORE!!!

PETTING ZOO FROM 1:00-3:00

PLEASE JOIN IN THE FUN!

4570 LOCKWOOD BLVD YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Pastor Greg's Recommended Reading

Heaven

By: Randy Alcorn

New feature beginning with the August calendar - Prayer Focus. Please call Pastor Greg or the church office if there is something special you would like added to the Prayer Focus.

See You At The Pole (SYATP) 2025

This program is a student rally (adult supervised) where students meet at their schools and gather in prayer. They pray for each other, their friends, families, teachers and their schools.

This now world-wide program started in 1990 as a small group of ten students at their own school. Today the program continues with millions of students praying on their campuses, churches and even participating online. The program is initiated, organized and led by the students.

The Global Week of Student Prayer is September 20th - 26th with SYATP taking place on Wednesday, September 24th. SYATP is held annually on the last Wednesday in September.

We can help and support the students through our prayers during student prayer week. We can also provide free "Life Books", which is the Gospel of John written for teens. The Life Book is a ministry of the Gideons and wholly funded by Gideons International. Life Books put the gospel in the hands of teenagers.

Meet with us, here at Millcreek Community Church, on Monday, September 22nd at 10:00am as we pray for our youth. Refreshments will be served at 10:30am. Is there a teen in your life to pass a Life Book on to? Books are available for their friends also.

We are evangelizing to our world around us: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel..."

Prayerfully,
Bets



The Sound of the Mission Bells



July Missions:

Methodist Church of Monte Feria, Cuba received \$150

Tunnel to Towers and Wounded Warrior Project each received \$100

Rescue Mission & Warren Family Mission Summer Food Programs \$100 each

Our Free Community Drive-Thru Dinner July 19th

August Missions:

Methodist Church of Monte Feria, Cuba

Rescue Mission Summer Food Program

Warren Family Mission Summer Food Program

Samaritan's Purse: Where Needed Most

*Allegheny West Conference:

A message from Superintendent, Jeff Greenway, asking that we be the church to provide emergency disaster assistance during this time. Let us help with a special donation between now and August 1st for the tragic flooding of the Guadalupe River in Texas.

Susie J, Mission Team Member

****Susie's Fun Corner****

Commitment is a line you cross...It is the difference between wishing and doing.



Do your work with your whole heart and you will succeed.

**Join us for an American Celebration at our
FREE Community Drive-thru Dinner!**



- MENU:**
- Grilled Cheeseburgers
 - Famous Baked Beans
 - Chips
 - Cookies



Saturday July 19th

3:30-5:00pm

(or until dinners run out)

Donations thankfully accepted

The Mission of a Methodist

I was born a Methodist, or so my Mom told me. So, Mom, what's a Methodist? *The story begins in 1703 when Susanna had a son named John.* Wait a second, Mom, I was born in 1951 so how would I know John (whose last name was Wesley)? *Slow that rocking horse you're riding and I will tell you. Mom's story begins...*

John Wesley grew to be a Christian Leader. Oh, you mean like our Pastor Greg. *Well, could very well be, Susie. Slow that horse you're riding and listen!*

John Wesley became an ordained priest of the Church of England. Yes, Mom, I get it, our Pastor Greg became Reverend Greg Calko. *Of course, Susie. John who had much faith and stressed the authority of the Bible, helped shape Christianity in his time - and ours. John became a scholar and an author.* Oh, Mom, what's a scholar and an author? *Susie, if you don't listen I am afraid you'll be neither. Please just listen.*

John Wesley's followers grew in number. In fact there could be millions of us Methodists. I can't count that high, Mom, what do I do? *Never mind, Susie, just continue to be a cowgirl for now...Susie are you listening?* Yes, Mom, I am still riding the trail!

His mother, Susanna, was very helpful to her son John, reminding him to study the Bible and remain faithful to God. Mom...Now what Susie...Did my name come from John's Mom's name, Susanna? *No dear, not at all! Just listen to the rest of the story Susie, please!*

It is important to know about John Wesley because his life reveals Christ's love at work in our world. You see, Susie, the common people, especially the poor were cut-off from the church and Christ. John Wesley brought them hope and showed them how a personal faith in God could change their lives. John was a missionary carrying God's love to thousands of people and organizing people into groups dedicated to religious practice and social action.

Now, Susie, if you can tie up your horse and tell me if Sunday School has taught you anything? Yes, Mom, I would love to ride through the country like John and also Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. They sing...

"Be good to your enemies and the Blessed Lord you're sure to please

How do I know, the Bible tells me so.

Don't worry about tomorrow, just be real good today

The Lord is right beside you, He'll guide you all the way.

Have hope, faith and charity and the Blessed Lord you're sure to please

How do I know, the Bible tells me so! "

Yes, Susie, no more singing - I know the song- you sing it every day. Okay, Mom, I love you too!

Let us all live with a purpose. I know I can count on my church family as I love you dearly. We live with a purpose when we follow the way of Jesus.

Susie J, Mission Control