

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

The Beat Newsletter

"Love Works Here" November 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...*



As I write these words in the relative safety and comfort of my office, the Boardman Fire Department arrives to care for a student who just suffered injuries from a fall. As he is moved to a waiting ambulance, I pray that he will fully recover from his injuries and thank God for all those caring for him. As that was happening, I pray for our sister congregation in Cuba as they suffer from a direct hit from Hurricane Melissa. Pastor Liudmila and her family have done their best to protect their home and belongings from destruction. But unlike most of us here in the USA, they have no homeowner's insurance or government resources to help them recover from one of the worst storms in history. They have no option but to trust in the Lord to bring them through it. In her words, "we continue to believe that the Lord has the last word and will guard our lives". I anxiously await a message from her that they are OK as we both pray that the opportunity we have to meet in a few weeks will not be interrupted.

Then, anticipating worship for All-Saints Sunday on November 2, I remember those of our church family who have received their heavenly rewards this past year and pray for their families and friends whose lives will be forever changed by their passing. I look at the prayer calendar and consider all the great needs of those in our communities and pray for the young granddaughter of a church family suffering from a large tumor in her abdomen. I pray that people will not go hungry or face financial hardship due to the government being shut down. Finally, I wonder what opportunities for prayer next month will bring.

As Pastor Liudmila aptly reminds us, the Lord always has the last word. We may not understand it or even like it, but we are powerless to change it. What we can do is accept the invitation of Jesus found in Matthew 11:28, "come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest". We can heed and take comfort in Psalm 55:22, "cast your burden on the Lord, and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved". He will *guard* our lives.

Those are not only heavenly promises, but invitations to pray. We will only find rest for our soul in Jesus, and rest will only come when we pray without ceasing. Prayer allows us to sing with confidence the words of the hymn writer: it is well with my soul. Let's never stop praying or singing!
Pastor Greg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY

9am Holy Grounds Café
10:30am Worship



WEDNESDAY

11am Pastor's
Bible Study

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Prayer Team @ 10:15am

THURSDAY EVENINGS

Music Team Practice @ 6:30pm

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

November 11th @ 5:30pm

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST

November 8th @ 9:00am - Truck World in Hubbard



Call any prayer requests to
Barb Childs (330-360-6796)
Mary Lois Floyd (330-782-7683)
Betsy Stark (330-727-9634)



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**

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Millcreek Community Methodist Church Leadership Team Meeting

October 7, 2025 @ 5:30pm

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

Pastor Greg opened with Paul's letter to the Romans regarding members having different gifts.

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

Treasurer/Finance:

- Snow plowing will be \$10 more per time this winter
- New custodial company doing great job
- Investment and endowment funds both increased

Administration:

- Charge conference will be here October 19th @ 4:00pm
- Updated leadership team roster for 2026
- Pastor Greg on vacation October 10-17. Diane to fill in
- Stand in the Gap ministries revival October 15-18 in fellowship hall 6:00-9:00pm

Building and Grounds:

- School has emergency call list (Pastor Greg, Bill, Elaine, Hope) for fire alarm and other emergency events

Missions/Outreach & Vision:

- October missions – Church of Monte Feria, Rescue Mission, Warren Family Mission, and over the counter meds and supplies for Cuba
- Fundraising dinner for Cuba trip, sliders and soup. Will make on October 18th @ 10:00. Janice will pick up groceries

Worship:

- Dean on vacation October 19th and 26th
- Christmas Cantata coming up

Meeting closed with prayer. Next Leadership Meeting November 11th at 5:30pm.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Joann Vitto
Lou Stark
Mike Calko
Shirley Stauffer
H. Blackann

P. Mae White
Marilynn Makar
Dominic Viola
John Locicero
Al Miller
Lily - Terry & Kim's granddaughter



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



4th - MaryAnn Dahman
21st - Susan Justice
22nd - Nicole Miller
23rd - Hope Sabanick
25th - Susan McHale
30th - Dom Viola



Powerful Prayers

by Lara Busold, Communications Editor for Christian Educators

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. James 5:16 NIV

Have you ever hesitated to pray because you didn't know what to say?

Maybe you've thought, *I don't have the right words* or *I'm not good at praying like other people*.

If so, I want to share some good news with you: Prayer is powerful and effective not because we are eloquent and perfect, but because God is present. In other words, the power of prayer comes from the One who hears it.

Today's verse reminds us that "the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." But righteousness doesn't mean spiritual perfection. It means being made right with God through Jesus. If you belong to Him, you are already counted righteous, and that means your prayers matter.

God isn't grading your prayers like a term paper. He's not waiting for you to use the "right formula."

He's your Father. He listens to the groans, the whispers, the wordless cries, and yes, even the awkward, unsure prayers that spill out when you're not quite sure what to say. The beauty of this truth is that it invites us into a deeper, more honest relationship with God. We don't have to pretend or rehearse. We simply show up and trust that He's already listening.

So whether you're praying over your students, family, struggles, or future today, pray boldly. Not because you're powerful, but because He is.

Lord, thank You that I don't have to have perfect words for You to hear me. Remind me that prayer isn't about performance; it's about relationships. Help me to come to You freely, confidently, and often, knowing You are near and that You are powerful. Amen.

- Brought to you by the Prayer Team

FREE Drive-Thru Thanksgiving Dinner
Saturday, November 22nd
3:30 - 5:00pm
(or until dinners run out)



Festival of Trees at Fellows

Millcreek Community Church will once again participate in the Fellows Riverside Garden Festival of Trees. Our tree will be on display December 7- January 4 at the Davis Center along with other community sponsors. Christmas cards, candy canes, scripture prayer cards and crosses will be passed out. Come and see the trees and enjoy the beauty of the season!

Outreach Team



Pastor Greg's
Recommended Reading

Christian Patriot
12 Ways to Create One Nation Under God
By: Taylor Marshall



Mission Bells Are Ringing



October Missions:

Methodist Church of Monte Feria, Cuba
Rescue Mission Thanksgiving Dinner
Warren Family Mission Thanksgiving Dinner
Over-the-Counter Meds for Cuba

November Missions:

Methodist Church of Monte Feria, Cuba
Salvation Army Thanksgiving Meals
Protestant Family Services Thanksgiving Meals

Do You Remember?

- Clear moon, frost soon
 - When clouds appear like towers, the Earth is refreshed by frequent showers
 - Rainbow in the morning, gives you fair warning
 - Ring around the moon? Rain or snow real soon
 - Mackerel sky, storm is nigh
 - Rain foretold, long last; short notice, soon will pass
- Thanks to the 2025 Farmers Almanac...Some I do, Some I don't!

Susie J

Mission Team Member

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

Only those who risk going too far will ever know how far they can go.



We are having the usual thing for Thanksgiving Dinner...relatives.

It is that time of year!
Poinsettia Orders will be due November 16th. Order forms are available in your Sunday bulletin, the Narthex or please call the church office.



A Story About the "Silly Chili's"

I believe this story started on October 18, 2025. Those "Silly Chili's" entered the Millcreek Community Methodist Kitchen. Our Dear Reverend Calko needed help in cooking a Cuban meal - A What Kind of Meal (?) we all exclaimed! How this all came about was a Luncheon after our Sunday, October 19th service. Wow! He's kidding, isn't he? NO!

Okay, we get it - with a suitcase full of medicines and, of course, one filled with clothes he would need for himself for a few days, our Pastor was bound for Cuba.

The meat was cooking for the Chili in a huge pot. The "Silly Chili's" got into the ingredients and added a dash... or two or three or four ... you know how it goes!

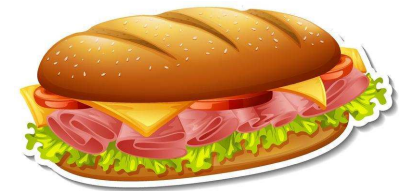
"Now, let's not get this too spicy," said one Silly Chili. "Everyone wants to enjoy this meal." Everyone was laughing at that.

There were other Silly Chili's making the small Ham Sandwiches which had to be heated up after church service on Sunday.

By the way, the Silly Chili's thought we should tell what was on the menu:



Chili (of course)
Hot Ham Sandwiches
Cuban Black Bean Soup
Cuban Cake



After Sunday Service, we hurried into the fellowship hall - we laughed as we set up tables, added pretty colored table covers and set out silverware (haha) plastic ware!

The Silly Chili's were everywhere helping our church folks. All were having such fun at this luncheon. We were movin' and groovin'.

So many helped with clean-up that it didn't take long until all was done.

The Silly Chili's were happy to be invited to this Cuban Meal. They said maybe we could do something like this again; it was great to eat lunch together - just to see the smiles on each beautiful face and to hear the laughter ring through the Fellowship Hall.

The "Silly Chili's" and the Cuban Meal

The Silly Chili's are listed below:

Pastor Greg, Ken Bennett, Barb Beach, Barb & Kari Hubler, Diane Redfern, Janice Rose



Love to my Church Family who made it all possible,

Susie J, Mission Team