

THE CHURCH WINDOW

A Monthly Newsletter of the Loudonville United Methodist Church

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JUNE 2025

By Pastor Kenn Curren



"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

1 John 4:7,12 (NIV)

Continued...

Love isn't just a quick feeling. As a society, we've become so used to tossing around the word "love" to describe all sorts of emotions. We say we "love" ice cream and that we "love" our spouse. But the "love" John is talking about in this passage is agape love. It's not just a shallow feeling. Instead, it's a supernatural expression of the ever-growing, outward-moving revolution of selflessness.

In 1 John 3:16 it says, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters." The most profound experience of love occurs when the joy of the giver intersects with the gratitude of the recipient. Love is truly complete when the giver's happiness is conveyed through the recipient's generosity, enabling the gift to be passed on to another.

J.D. Walt shared about a friend of his who always had a bunch of hundred-dollar bills in his pocket. One day, his friend just handed him one. J.D. was so grateful, and he could tell his friend was really happy passing the gift along. Later that day, J. D. ran into another friend who was struggling financially. J. D. took the hundred-dollar bill from his pocket and passed it along to his friend. His friend thanked him and he felt a joy throughout him knowing he had helped. When J. D. met the fellow who had given him the money, he shared what he had done with it and it gave the original giver joy again.

Love grows outward, like a spiral. "No one has ever seen God," but whenever this selfless generosity shows up in the world, God becomes clear. God sent Jesus so we could live through him. Living through him is the miracle of the gospel. By doing so, we become places where God's love starts. May God nudge us out of our comfort zone so that we may share God's love with others.

News from Your Community Meal Team

Our community meals continue to generate funds for our Apportionments and our Kitchen Fund, thanks to generous donations of food and preparation time by church members and others. Sincere thanks to all who make that possible!



Upcoming meals

June 3: French Toast Casserole, Sausage Patties, Fresh fruit

June 17: Family Picnic in Park (games and Bikes for Kids will be there) Hawaiian Ham Sandwiches, Mac Salad, Desserts

Our church served Pastor Kenn's Lasagna Meal to 28 mountain bikers May 16, as they prepared to ride 100 miles on Saturday. Riders were able to pay with our new Venmo account. We had a profit of \$182.78 for our General Fund, and were asked to do it again next year!

East Ohio Conference News

The United Methodist Church is organized into more than 120 annual conferences — geographic bodies consisting of multiple churches and other ministries that typically meet once a year. In the coming months, lay and clergy voters at each of these conferences will consider changes that:

Carry out the restructuring plan called “regionalization.”

Stand against racism and colonialism.

Expand inclusiveness in church membership.

Clarify who can vote for clergy delegates.

To be ratified, a constitutional amendment first requires at least a two-thirds majority at General Conference, which happened in April and May 2024. The amendment next must win at least two-thirds of the aggregate vote at annual conferences.

Put another way, the threshold for passage is not a two-thirds vote at each annual conference — but two-thirds of all annual conference votes. That means the results won’t be known until after all 127 United Methodist annual conferences in Africa, Europe, the Philippines and the United States have held a vote.

There is much more information about these amendments at <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/church-constitutional-amendments-head-to-vote>

East Ohio Conference News

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung led a delegation of leaders from the Ohio Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church to Korea in April. The team fostered relationships with longtime ministry partners in the Korean Methodist Church. They saw first-hand the impact the Scranton's made in the lives of people half-way around the world. Churches, schools, and hospitals exist in Korea today because of the love and commitment to missions of Mary and William Scranton, 140 years ago.

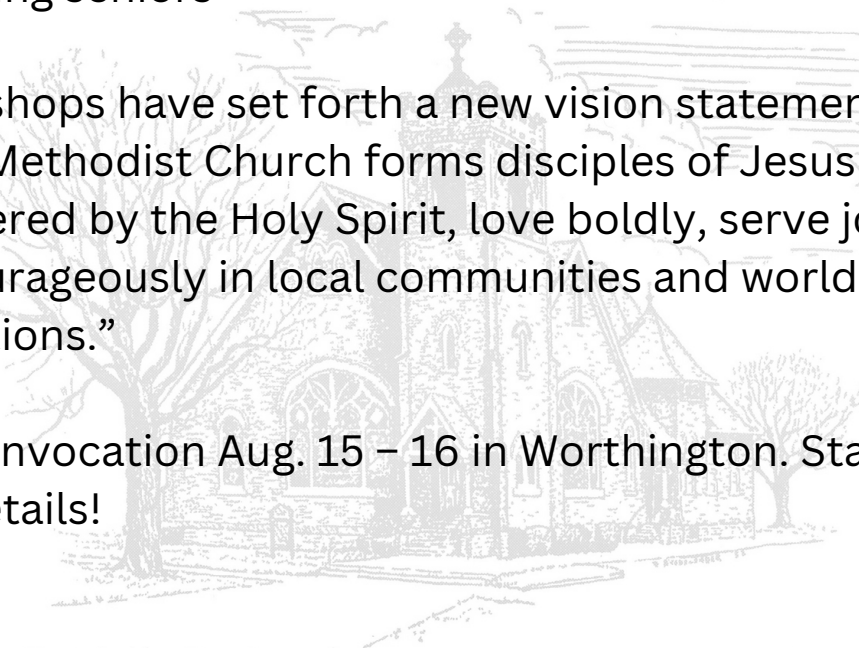
"Celebrating Methodist Missions in Ohio, Korea, and Beyond: The 140-year Legacy of Mary & William Scranton" is a three-day event to be hosted at Church of the Saviour UMC in Cleveland Heights August 4-6. We will welcome a delegation of clergy and laity from Seoul and celebrate together our missions partnership. Scheduled speakers include Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, Bishop Chung Suk Kim, Bishop Jeremiah Park, and Council of Bishops President Bishop Tracy S. Malone. As additional details are confirmed, they will be shared in E-News and on the East Ohio Conference website.

Giving to the General Board of Global Ministries, including UMCOR, by members of the East Ohio Conference exceeded \$550,000 in 2024, more than was given in 2023. Local churches in East Ohio provided salary support for 11 missionaries, funded health and hygiene projects, supported scholarships and church revitalization efforts, and answered the call when disasters struck in the U.S. and around the world. Together, we in East Ohio partnered with God's people around the world to make disciples, alleviate human suffering and promote justice and peace.

Governance Board Meeting

May 2025

- Still awaiting more estimates, so no action yet on the church roof, ADA bathroom, or minisplits for the parsonage. Plaster work in the vestibule is scheduled
- A parent support group, sponsored by Redbird Resilient and headed up by Tammy Kindle, meets once a month at our church
- Conner Dappert, our summer intern from Mount Vernon Nazarene University, is working on curriculum for older kids and mapping out summer plans for our youth
- Second Sprouts Sale (children's clothing/furniture) will be Aug. 2 in our church
- We have several children going to church camp
- Our church helped fund two community scholarships for graduating seniors
- UMC Bishops have set forth a new vision statement: "The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections."
- Laity Convocation Aug. 15 – 16 in Worthington. Stay tuned for more details!





Operation Christmas Child Year-Round Shoebox Collection

February	Hair bands, clips and barrettes, hair brushes and combs.
March	For the older kids: Tape measures, flashlights with batteries, small tool kits, sewing kits, heavy bright colored thread.
April	Outdoor fun: small rubber balls, jacks, chalk, jump ropes, yo-yos, deflated soccer balls and pump
May	Individual packaged toothbrushes, including children's sizes, band aids for kids
June	Small dolls, matchbox cars, decks of cards, card games
July	Watch for the picnic supplies sales: any plastic cups, bowls, heavy plastic utensils, and any kind of refillable water bottles.
August	Shop the school supplies sales for small notebooks, pencils, pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, watercolors and crayons
September	Ball caps or sun hats
October	Collect any items yet needed. We'll send out a list.
November	Pack our boxes and pray for the children receiving them. Donate \$10 for shipping of each box.



Loudonville UMC

Loudonville, Ohio

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Upcoming Events

06/03 Community Meal, 5pm

06/09 Governance Board Meeting, 6:30pm

06/10 Perrysville UMC Meal, 5pm

06/11-14 Annual Conference

06/14 Lakeville UMC Food Pantry, 9am

06/14 Outdoor games at Riverside Park, 1-3pm

06/17 Community Meal, 5pm

06/21 Water Play at Nazarene Church, 1-4pm

06/28 Lakeville UMC Food Pantry, 9am

06/29 Combined Services, Bigelow at Lakeville 9am

Perrysville at Loudonville 10:30am

06/30 Connected Parent's Cafe, 5pm

Upcoming Events for Youth and Children

June 10: Open gym at Nazarene Church, 6-8pm (Every Tuesday for the summer)

June 14: Outdoor games at Riverside Park 1-3pm

June 21: Water Play at Nazarene Church, 1-4pm

July 19: Family Fun and Games, 5-8pm

August 9: Ice Cream Social at LUMC, 6-9pm

Be on the look out for more Pop-up Events throughout the Summer.

Moving? Down Sizing? House/Garage Cleaning? Looking for Bargains?

The Christian Community Nurses' rummage sale is back and will be held Friday, July 11, and Saturday July 12 at the Christian Community Center. All proceeds will be used to support charitable causes in the Loudonville-Perrysville area such as the Christian Community Center, Community Help Mission, the Christian Community Nurses' Scholarship Fund, Helping Hands, Prescription Fund, WZLP and for purchase of medical equipment.

Donations of clean, gently used items can be dropped off at the Community Center, 807 Valley View Drive, Loudonville, from June 30 thru July 9. If no one is present, please leave items beside the back door. Donations will **NOT** be accepted after July 9.

For question and/or pickup of large items or large quantity, contact one of the following persons between hours of 10am-4-pm: Sue Brightbill: 419-565-1978; Vicky Stephenson 419-512-4391; Rhonda Close 330-465-0947; or Marcia Bitner 567-203-9649.

Small items will be sold by donation. Large items will be priced. **The sale will be held Friday July 11, 11am-6pm, and Saturday July 12, 9:am-1:00pm.** No early sales will be arranged.

Church Family

June Celebrations

Anniversaries

06/06 RON & LINDA Pratt

06/09 Blair & JULIA Cummins

06/12 JASON & May Burd

06/13 TYLER & Paola Scott

06/15 Nate & ANGELA Sponsler

06/18 TED & KATHY Daniels

06/19 Sean & KIM VanHorn

06/24 JACK & Tracy Burgess Jr.

06/27 JOHN & Jodie Cassill

06/30 MIKE & SALLY Warbel

Birthdays

06/01 JOHN Johnston

06/01 Brad Carr

06/05 LYNN Smith

06/05 Liam Scott

06/06 Joe Heath

06/07 Braden Carr

06/11 Adeline Bontatibus

06/12 Jacqui Pollard

Birthdays - continued

06/13 DAVID Vaughan

06/13 Conner Dappert

06/16 Lucy Pollard

06/17 Ryder Reidenbach

06/18 JACK Campbell

06/19 KIM VanHorn

06/20 KELLY Fetzer

06/20 Kenn Curren

06/23 Carlee Donley

06/29 JOEY Raines

06/29 Cybil Theis

Serving in Worship

Liturgists

06/01 Walt Burd

06/08 Cindy Maxwell

06/15 Kelly Fetzer

06/22 Joey Raines

06/29 Robin Hughes

Greeters

06/01 Gene and Gail

06/08 Karen and Ken

06/15 Tammy and Sandy

06/22 Patty

06/29 Jim and Sharon