

THE CHURCH WINDOW

A Monthly Newsletter of the Loudonville United Methodist Church

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS
SPECIAL ISSUE:

Community Meal - 3

Governance Board - 4

East Ohio Conference - 5

Events - 11

Church Family - 12



DECEMBER 2025

By Pastor Kenn Curren



Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?"

John 6:26-28 (ESV)

Continued...

What do we do when we have bills piling up? We hope for more money. How about when we are going through a difficult time? We hope for a solution to get us out of the circumstances. If we are struggling, we want victory. If we are hungry, we want food. In any of these circumstances, we want God to provide for us. Our Lord simply provides himself. And that is a problem for many. People don't want Jesus, they just want help.

That is exactly what is happening in this scripture. If we look back to John 6:1, we find the feeding of the five thousand. After they are physically fed, Jesus departs and goes to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Realizing where Jesus went, the crowd crosses over to find him. This crowd wanted Jesus to help them more than they wanted Jesus to have them. What they didn't realize is that the help was a temporary fix, while Jesus is the eternal solution.

In John 6:35, Jesus says, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." We look for solutions when what we really need is a Savior. Think of the old adage; "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you have fed him for a lifetime." Apply that to our scripture and we find that if you give a person an answer to their prayer, you help them for a time. Teach a person to abide in Jesus, and you have changed their life forever.

Although it may appear straightforward, entrusting ourselves fully, unreservedly, and continuously to Jesus is the most challenging endeavor we will ever undertake. This is the path of discipleship. True maturity does not arise from incessant pleading for answers to our prayers but from an ardent and unwavering pursuit of the One who provides them. May our fervent prayer be: grant us an unwavering desire for Jesus's presence, surpassing our ardent pursuit of problem resolution. May we cultivate an enduring love for Him, transcending what he can do for us and recognizing His divine essence.

News from Your Community Meal Team

December Meals (subject to change):

Dec. 2: Chicken Spaghetti; Cole Slaw/Applesauce; Brownies

Dec. 16: Christmas Ham, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans, Gingerbread Men

Dec. 30: Assorted Soups and Sandwiches



We are pleased to announce that we served 140 during our Nov. 18 Community Meal. Thanks to all who helped create, serve and eat the meal! We were able to put \$141 to our Kitchen Fund, and \$141 to Apportionment Fund 5.

Governance Board

October 2025



Loudonville UMC

Loudonville, Ohio

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

- \$10,000 was removed from the Interfaith FCU after 6 months and interest was put back into the Interfaith FCU Account to earn more interest.
- \$8650 was moved from Permanent Endowment interest to the Building Fund in hopes that we will have a committee to work on raising \$80, 000.00+ for the new roof we will need in around 3 years. Please let the office know if you are interested in being on that fund raising committee to help raise funds for the new roof.
- \$500 went to each of the designated funds, Missions, Youth, Evangelism, and Trustees. This money was from the interest accrued from Designated Endowment Fund.
- All BCI checks will be completed at the Ashland County Sheriff's Office for \$30
- Youth will lead church service in Feb.
- Please contact the office if you would be willing to be on the Governance Board next year.
- The Budget for 2026 was discussed and approved with amendments.

East Ohio Conference News

#GivingTuesday is a great opportunity to share with others what we have been blessed to receive from God. Again, this year, the East Ohio Conference Board of Missions will match donations made online on #GivingTuesday, Dec. 2 to EOC Advance Specials – with a \$500 maximum match per Advance. Donors can schedule in advance for a financial donation to be transacted on Dec. 2.

In 2024, 19 Advances received \$6,487 in matching donations. Let's make a goal of supporting even more Advance Specials ministries this year. You can make your donation at <https://www.eocumc.com/finance/advance-special.html>.

More than 300 students and adult leaders from 31 United Methodist churches came to the hands-on East Ohio Conference youth service event Project Feed. In partnership with Midwest Mission, students assembled 27,000 nutrient-rich meals that will be shipped directly to Jamaica in response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Melissa.

East Ohio Conference News

At its 2025 Fall Meeting held online November 3-7 the Council of Bishops announced that all four Constitutional Amendments voted on by Annual Conferences/Central Conferences since the 2020/2024 General Conference garnered more than the required two-thirds majority and became effective immediately. The four amendments are:

- Regionalization – a set of amendments to create new regional conferences that will each have equal power to adapt portions of the Book of Discipline within their respective regions.
- Inclusiveness of the Church – an amendment to add the words “gender” and “ability” to Paragraph 4, Article 4 of The UMC Constitution to categories that cannot be used to exclude membership in The United Methodist Church.
- Racial Justice – an amendment to strengthen Article V of The UMC Constitution by explicitly recognizing the church’s role in combating racism, racial inequity, colonialism, white privilege, and white supremacy.
- Educational Requirements for Clergy – General Conference voted to amend Section VI, Article IV of The United Methodist Church Constitution, which establishes the educational requirements for clergy members of annual or provisional conferences who are eligible to vote for clergy delegates to the General Conference.

East Ohio Conference News

On Monday, Nov. 17 Bishop Hee-Soo Jung and a small delegation of Cabinet members and local church clergy from the East and West Ohio Conferences participated in breaking ground for the new Scranton Memorial Hall and Memorial Church in Seoul, Korea. In his address at the ceremony, Bishop Jung celebrated the work begun 140 years by Mary Scranton and her son William Scranton, who traveled from Ohio to become the first Methodist missionaries to Korea.

"Supporting the construction of the Scranton Mission Center in Seoul is not simply financial support or participation. It is an act of honoring our spiritual heritage and renewing our responsibility for mission. It is a statement of faith in which we declare, 'we remember the missionaries we sent and we continue the work they began,'" Bishop Jung declared.

Adults leading ministries with children, youth, and young adults are invited to the Reset Leaders Retreat at Embassy Suites Akron-Canton Airport Jan. 23-24, 2026. The retreat theme is "Spiritual Renewal" and the time of reflection, encouragement, and practical connection will be guided by Psalm 51:10: "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

The cost is \$40 (commuters), \$80 (double-occupancy) or \$160 (single occupancy) and registration deadline is January 5. You can register at <https://www.eocumc.com/eventregistration/index.html>.



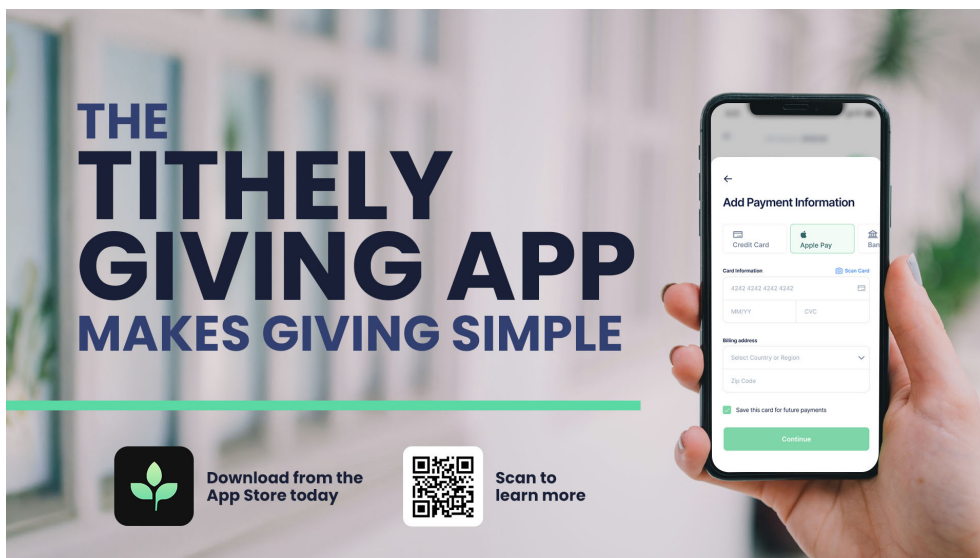
Operation Christmas Child Year-Round Shoebox Collection

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.



On November 9, many families with kids stayed after church to pack 50 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. The boxes were then prayed over and sent on their way around the world. Thank you to the congregation for all the supplies donated throughout the year for this mission.

The families also packed 60 meal bags with ingredients for ready-to-make meals, that will be used in the Hope cupboard in the coming months. The items were purchased through a grant from Mohican Area Community Fund.



We are excited to announce that giving to Loudonville United Methodist Church is easier and more convenient than ever! We have joined Tithely Giving.

Tithely Giving is an easy-to-use platform that will allow you to give online and on your phone. You can make both one-time and recurring gifts, give with a credit/debit card or ACH transaction, and even Cover the Fees (which will help your gift go even farther!)

Option 1: Give on the Tithely Giving App

Download the Tithely App from the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android). Once you've downloaded the app, select Loudonville United Methodist Church and follow the steps listed below (for using a Giving Form).

Option 2: Give on Our Website.

Go to: <https://loudonvilleumc.com/give> to access a Giving Form on our church website. Just like on our app, you can also set up a recurring gift that makes your regular giving automatic.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email us and we'd be happy to assist you further.

Thank you for your generosity. Your financial partnership helps to build the Kingdom of God in our community—and world.

Christmas Schedule of Events

**November 30 – First Sunday of Advent –
Combined Worship Perrysville UMC will join us at
10:30am**

**November 30 – Organ Concert at 3pm at First
Presbyterian Church of Loudonville.**

**December 6 – Mistletoe on Main – Downtown
Loudonville – Progressive Dinner from 6-7:30pm**

**December 7 – Christmas Sing Along at 5pm at First
Baptist Church of Loudonville.**

**December 14 – Community Christmas Service at
5pm at Trinity Community Church**

**December 21 – Children's Christmas program
during 10:30am Service.**

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service, 7pm

Upcoming Events



Loudonville UMC

Loudonville, Ohio

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

12/02 Community Meal, 5pm

12/06 Mistletoe on Main

12/08 Governance Board Meeting, 6:30pm

12/09 Perrysville UMC Meal, 5pm

12/13 Lakeville UMC Food Pantry, 9am

12/14 Community Christmas Service, 5pm at Trinity

12/15 Connected Parent Cafe, 5pm

12/16 Community Meal, 5pm

12/21 Children's Christmas Program, 10:30am

12/24 Christmas Eve Service, 7pm

12/27 Lakeville UMC Food Pantry, 9am

12/30 Community Meal, 5pm

Church Family

December Celebrations

Anniversaries

12/03 GENE & NANCY Heller

12/18 RODNEY & TAIRA Shultz

12/30 DAN & CAROL Speck

Birthdays

12/01 Nancy Statler

12/01 MARK Lemke

12/03 WENDY Zody

12/04 Drew Burkhart

12/05 CHERYL Raines

12/05 Keith Burkhart

12/07 RODNEY Shultz

12/08 RUTH Nickles

12/09 SANDY Weltmer

12/09 Kameron Parsons

12/14 TRACEY Bender

12/15 NORMAN Donley

12/18 DARREL Scott

12/19 RHONDA Close

12/22 JERRI Sprang

12/26 JOHN Chipner

12/26 LINDA Pratt

12/26 HEATHER Burkhart

Serving in Worship

Liturgists

12/07 Quinn

12/14 Robin Hughes

12/21 Barb Burd

12/28 Ted Daniels

Greeters

12/07 Nil and Patty

12/14 Jim and Sharon

12/21 Jackie and Dave

12/28 Gene and Gail