

THE CHURCH WINDOW

A Monthly Newsletter of the Mohican Charge - Bigelow, Lakeville,
Loudonville, Perrysville, & Wayne Co. Fairview UMCS

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AUGUST 2026

By Rev. David Miller



Many times we look at the month of August as the “dog-gone-days” of summer. However the month of August is also a time for endings and new starts. It is a time for vacations to end. A time when the summer freedom for children ends. It is also a time when the summer ends and everyone gets back to doing the activities that are normally on their schedules.

The month August is also that time of the year when new starts happen. One start is the time when children and youth go back to school. Only this time, it is with a new teacher, a new grade, and a new classroom. In addition to school, another new start up might be your boss giving you new responsibilities on the job. There even might be new responsibilities at home.

Continued...

As I thought about all the different things that can end and start new during this month of August, I was reminded that our faith journey can sometimes be the same way. When we accept Jesus as our personal Savior, we usually become on fire for Christ and start to include everything we can to learn about it like prayer, worship, and reading the Bible. But then we get busy with life and we tend to not do these things as much anymore and we begin to feel a little shaky with our faith journey.

I remember a time in my life when one of my fellow colleagues asked me How I was? I began to answer that question with answers that talked about what I was doing, and what the church was doing. My colleague stopped me and said, "I didn't ask you what you were doing? I asked you how you were? I want to know how your being is?" This caught me off guard and I was not sure what to say but then I realized that it was the same thing that John Wesley asked his followers with the question, "How is it with your soul?"

As the summer ends and the new things begin, I ask you: How is it with your soul? How is your being? Are we carrying out what we believe in our lives? Are we living out our faith in the actions and duties that we perform? As August and the summer ends let us look ourselves over and see what our lives are like and what we may have to change in order to live out our faith. I know that if we are truly honest with ourselves and willing to allow God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit to speak to us and lead us, we will be able to make sure our soul and life is GREAT!

Your Pastor and Friend

David Miller

News from Your Community Meal Team

Upcoming Community Meals:

The background image for this section shows a close-up of a hand holding a silver fork over a plate of food. The food appears to be a mix of vegetables and possibly meat, though it is out of focus. The hand is in the foreground, and the fork is positioned as if about to pick up a piece of food.

August 4: Shredded chicken and gravy over mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, dessert

August 18: TBD

(Meals are subject to change, based on donations)

Donations for Kitchen

There are a lot of food items that we use repeatedly in preparing our Community Meals. Donations of these items would be greatly appreciated to keep our costs down. Please consider buying some of these items to donate to the LUMC kitchen whenever you find a sale: sugar, salt, flour, brown sugar, cream of soups (mushroom, chicken, celery), cake mixes, frostings, canned vegetables (#10 / gallon-sized).

News from Your Community Meal Team

Donations for Hope Cupboard

We go through a lot of personal hygiene and home cleaning products each month in the Hope Cupboard. If you find a good sale, we'd appreciate you donating any of these items: shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, SoftSoap, lotion, toothpaste, household cleaners, laundry detergent/softener. You could put them in the cupboard any time or give them to Robin at church.

Please know that we have a ventilated shelf in the second cupboard (the one with birthday supplies below) if you want to donate extra garden produce this summer.

Thank you all for your support of these outreach ministries! You are appreciated!

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Do you know of College/University students who are from our congregation? Please share names and addresses with the Church office to have in our files.

Emma Miller will be moving back to Muskingum University for her junior year on Saturday August 22. Her mailing address will be: 260 Stadium Drive, Room 121, Kelly Hall, New Concord, Ohio 43762

Hospital Trips

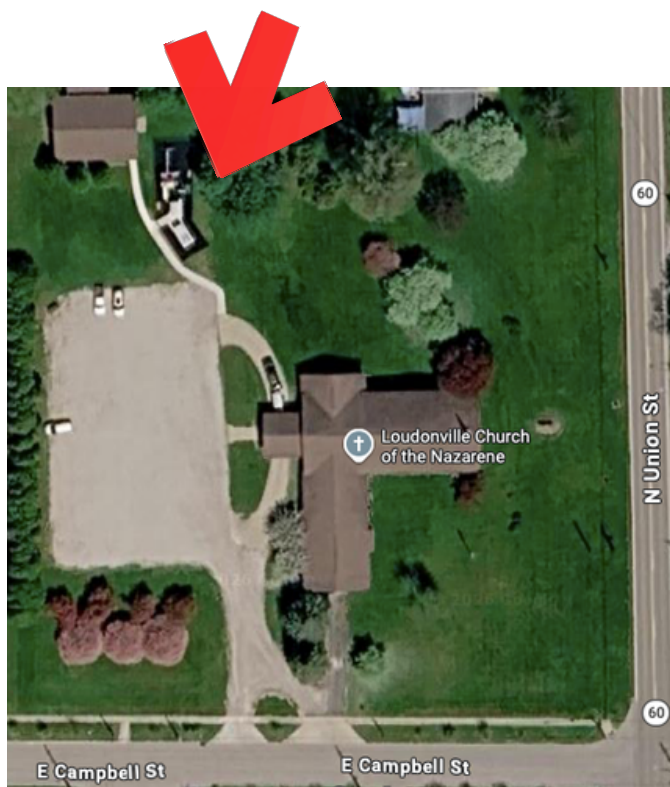
If you or someone you know is in the hospital please let Pastor David or the Church office know. The hospitals will not let us know that you are in the hospital, so please give us a call, especially if you would like someone to visit you. Thanks.



What is Messy Church?

It's church, but not as you know it! Once a month we meet in different locations to eat, play and worship together. Expect creative activities, songs, prayers and an entirely new way to express your faith!

Gather with us: Sunday, August 23 from 3-5pm at the Peter's Train Park at Loudonville Church of the Nazarene. Corner of N. Union and E. Campbell St. Enjoy games, crafts, songs, conversations and a picnic dinner!



Find us on Facebook: Messy Church: Loudonville OH

NEW CHURCH MEMBERS

The Loudonville United Methodist Church accepted 3 new members by transfer.

Krista, Emma and Isaac Miller

Krista has been married to David 34 years this coming November. (They are high school sweethearts). Listening to music, (especially music from the 1980's) and reading are two of Krista's pastimes. Cross stitching, crocheting, and quilting are healthy addictions Krista will honestly admit to having. She enjoys spending time with David, Isaac and Emma.

Isaac is enjoying his job at Kroger in Mt. Vernon. He is a huge NASCAR nut (he learned his double digit numbers back in kindergarten thanks to NASCAR.) His favorite driver is Alex Bowman - driver of the #48 car. He also enjoys the Green Bay Packers, his favorite player is the team quarterback, Jordan Love.

Emma writes: "I am 21 years old and I am a college junior pursuing a bachelor's degree in early childhood education at Muskingum University. Go Muskies!

My favorite colors are purple and pink. I like butterflies and horses. The things that I do in my free time are painting, drawing, diamond art and reading. I love Christian music, which my favorite songs are Press On by Mandisa Hundley and Holy Spirit if we're honest by Francesca Battistelli. I love playing golf with my brother and dad."



Governance Board

July 2026



Loudonville UMC

Loudonville, Ohio

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

- News from your Governance Board!
- It's time to provide an update on what has been happening within your church.
- **If you have property, it eventually needs repairs!**
- We are blessed to have church members jumping in where they can around their busy lives. Even the young people have had the opportunity to step up and help. The church is absolutely alive!
- The wind took down some limbs on the tree outside the education wing, so the tree had to come down.
- We will see BeeHive Construction at the church working on three different areas in the next few weeks: 1. building the bathroom in the old office, 2, repairing the rubber baffle in the tower, and replacing the rope to the bell. 3. replace the wooden window sills and caulk around the stained glass windows on the west side of the sanctuary.
- **Just a reminder** - we received a memorial gift as well as a grant for the bathroom from Ashland County Community Fund, The other expenses are being paid for from the church Building Fund.
- **If you have an interest in donating to any of these projects, label your gift appropriately.**

Governance Board

July 2026



Loudonville UMC

Loudonville, Ohio

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

- On Sunday, July 26, we moved the camera for on-line service to the front pew. Miss Lori moved the camera around during the different parts of the service. Could you hear better? Please tell us what you think.
- The Governance Board has done some research on a better way for video and sound from the back of the sanctuary. The preliminary estimates start at \$10,000.
- **Church Kitchen:** The new ovens are in and we are enjoying them. The old ovens were delivered to Serve and Save in Millersburg for donation.
- **The parsonage** needed some minor repairs that the Trustees have addressed. We did have a gas leak in the basement and need to make some corrections long-term. 1. We are getting quotes to remove the large tree in front. It looks beautiful, but is dead in the center. 2. We still have water getting into the basement along the west wall and will continue to try discovering where it is coming from.
- **The Help Us, Help You program** is still in play. I realize we have missed a request or two, but please continue to let Eric or anyone on the Governance Board know what you need. If you have not filled out a request **TO HELP**, or a request **FOR HELP**, please do so.
- **We continue to put tasks on the white board . Please jump in where you can.**
- **We are blessed to have an active living church. God is good.**

Barb Burd

East Ohio Conference News

Report from Annual Conference 2026

Clergy and laity, 398 strong, met at the College of Wooster from June 11 – 13 for the 57th session of the East Ohio Annual Conference. It was a great time to mingle with other United Methodists. The theme centered on God's abundant grace, and that phrase was shared often during Conference. I served as parking lot attendant early mornings, and met some very dedicated baseball and tennis players who couldn't find their field/court due to Google Maps errors. Thank you, Mr. Gess for teaching me how to read a physical map! I got them where they needed to be.

This year we welcomed Rev. Nathan Howe as conference secretary as he succeeded Rev. Cindy Patterson, who served in that position for 14 years. On Thursday, we had discussion about the rules surrounding a potential merger of East and West Ohio Conferences. There has already been a lot of work to figure out how to staff such a large conference, and concerns that a simple majority vote is too low. Both East and West Ohio will vote next year whether to form one Ohio Conference.

East Ohio Conference News

We approved a host of appointments to committees and leadership positions, and met Ben Wilde, new director of camps operations and programs, and Hannah Weisbrod, new director of camp administration, development and marketing. Our three camps, Aldersgate, Asbury and Wanake, are all at least 70 years old and have all had some improvements this past year. Run River Consulting Firm is conducting a sustainability study of the camps, not to determine whether any should close, but to focus on governance clarity, financial coordination and ministry alignment. It was noted that while summer camp numbers are down, attendance during the off season (for retreats and such) is higher.

Bishop Jung's vision for 100 new faith communities by 2030 has already seen nine start, and between 17 and 30 are being developed. Congregations were encouraged to continue finding Fresh Expressions in their communities. Some suggestions were to sponsor a sport or initiate a trash cleanup.

East Ohio Conference News

In financial news, the conference paid the flat dollar amount, pay dependent amount and church match of clergy contributions without billing the local church in 2026. For 2027, all those components will be billed to the local church as designed, so our budget may need to increase next year. Flat rate health care premiums for clergy in 2027 will be \$25,992 per year. East Ohio Conference clergy are now receiving higher pay, so are no longer third from the bottom, but somewhere in the middle range. Minimum salaries were raised 3% for each of the three categories of clergy. Sustentation grants available to clergy were increased to \$3500 per calendar year due to inflation and growing need.

Two hundred thirty-one churches paid 100% of their apportionments, including Bigelow, Lakeville, Loudonville and Perrysville. That's 27 more churches than last year. We approved the 2027 budget at \$8,646,992 for apportioned funds and \$7,926,371 for non-apportioned funds, with the understanding that the camps budget (non-apportioned) has yet to be determined, and is expected by December or January.

East Ohio Conference News

Five churches closed, including Dalton, and 10 properties, including district parsonages, were sold.

There were 10 resolutions presented. Each needed to pass by 2/3 affirmative votes. The first that passed encourages local churches to join the Green Church Movement by going through the steps to earn Green Church certification. The second seeks to establish an Ohio Area Substance Abuse Task Force. The third resolution was concerning Christian Nationalism, stating that it is inconsistent with the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. The fourth, acknowledging that 1 person in 5 has a disability, urges local congregations to submit annual Accessibility Audits and take steps to improve accessibility for persons with disabilities. The fifth that passed was concerned with doing justice in our neighborhoods, among immigrants and children, and in all places needed. The sixth opposed the cruel treatment of immigrants by the United States Government and asked local churches to raise voices against this treatment. The seventh was about welcoming the stranger in our midst, as we are called to live as messengers and models of God's love. The eighth resolution asks us to support civil rights protections for transgender people in employment, housing, education, healthcare and public accommodations. The final approved resolution urges support for equitable representation for the Associate Member and Licensed Local Pastors in preparation for General Conference in 2028.

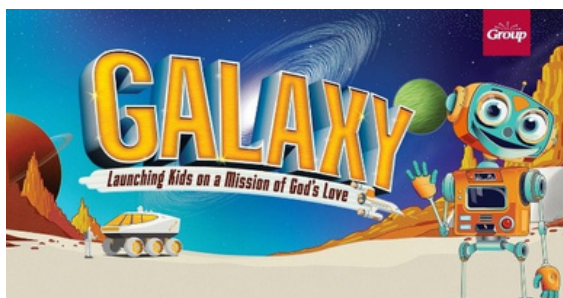
East Ohio Conference News

The only resolution that was not adopted concerned answering the call of Kairos Palestine II, but prayers were lifted for Palestine. I have the complete wording of all these resolutions, and will share with anyone who is interested.

Every day we heard from Ray Buckley, whose lineage is Lakota, Tlingit and Scottish. Using his calm voice, he shared wisdom from those groups, and encouraged us to read *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein, *House Made of Dawn* by N. Scott Momady and to listen to "Gabriel's Oboe." He also said it makes sense to give your worst to God, and that an inclusive church isn't being progressive; it's just doing what is right.

It was unfortunate that the Mission Fair was held in an outdoor tent on the hottest day of conference. I'm sure their attendance was down from previous years, but this is only the second time we've been at the College of Wooster, so we should expect some more changes for next year.

I am happy to be your delegate to Annual Conference and look forward to serving in this capacity again next year. Thank you for the opportunity!



Community VBS

July 13, 14, 15

The kids at VBS went on a journey to outer space to learn about how they can spread God's love to others. Loudonville United Methodist, Trinity Community, Zion Lutheran, Loudonville Nazarene, First Presbyterian and First Baptist Churches joined together to present a 3-day VBS which was held at Zion Lutheran this year. 44 children and many leaders and helpers enjoyed, songs, Bible stories, games and crafts together.

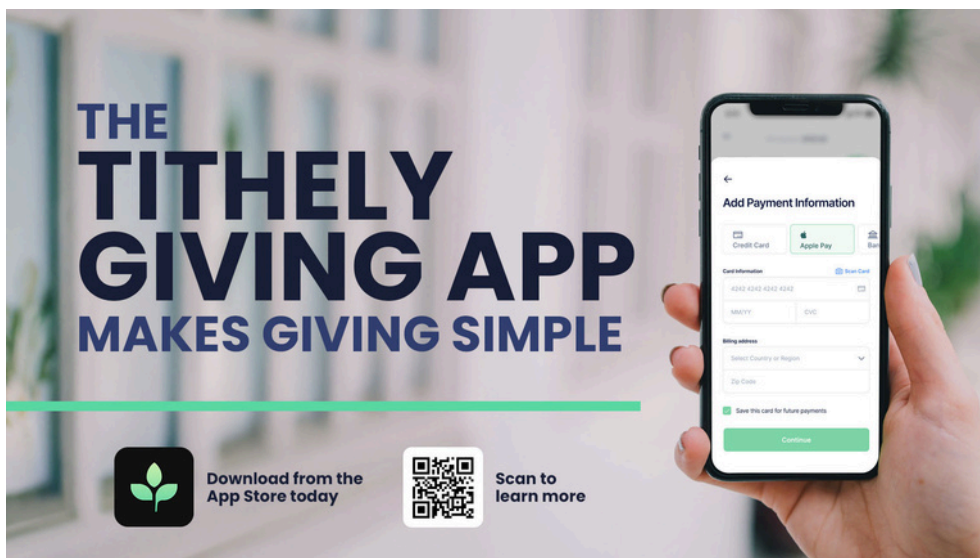


24 birthday cake kits were collected and assembled to share with our community in the Hope Cupboard.



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.



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.



second
sprouts
consignment sale

August 1st

8am to 3pm



Loudonville United Methodist Church
124 N. Market Street

**ALL THINGS KID FROM
MATERNITY TO JUNIORS**

Proceeds to Benefit the LUMC

Cash, Check, and Credit Card with a 3%

Upcoming Events

08/01 Second Sprouts Consignment Sale, 8am

08/3-6 Perrysville Community VBS at Perrysville

Baptist Church 6-8:30pm

08/04 Loudonville Community Meal, 5pm

08/08 Lakeville UMC Food Pantry, 9am

08/10 Loudonville Governance Board Meeting,

6:30pm

08/11 Perrysville UMC Meal, 5pm

08/16 Back to School Prayer Walk, 4pm

08/18 Loudonville Community Meal, 5pm

08/22 Lakeville UMC Food Pantry, 9am

08/23 Messy Church, Peter's Train Park, 3pm

08/30 Combined Worship Service

Cooperative Parish Future Dates

September 29 at 6:30 PM is the SPRC Consultation
at Doylestown UMC

Charge Conference for Mohican Parish is
November 4 at 10 AM at Creston Cannan UMC.



Loudonville

Church Family

August Celebrations

Anniversaries

08/01 MIKE & SUSAN Beans
08/04 NATHAN & Kristin Donley
08/06 Mike & PAM Kassinger
08/14 Andrew & MEGAN Yoak
08/16 JOHN & MARY LOU Gess
08/18 JIM & SHARON Brewer
08/23 KYLE & Audrey Nickles
08/28 Josh & Jaime Portz
08/31 ERIC & TONYA Mitchell

Birthdays

08/02 EMMA Harper
08/04 JOE Janeczek
08/06 KAREN McClure
08/06 KEITH Lemke
08/09 Spencer Eicher
08/10 JACK Burgess
08/11 Brennan Daniels
08/15 Thomas Kauffman

Birthdays - continued

08/17 JOAN Johnston
08/19 HEATHER Carr
08/21 DOUGLAS Nickles
08/21 Lorelai Vaughan
08/22 JUDY Burgess
08/23 BEVERLY Mumper
08/23 Araiya Daniels
08/25 Mabel Gray
08/26 PATTY Hunter
08/27 KYLE Lemke
08/30 HEIDI Bontatibus

Serving in Worship

Liturgists

08/02 Linda Mehaffey
08/09 Robin Hughes
08/16 Youth
08/23 Joey Raines
08/30 Ted Daniels

Greeters

08/02 Nila and Patty
08/09 Jim and Sharon
08/16 Gene and Gail
08/23 Jackie and Dave
08/30 Karen and Ken