



Cross Talk

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by loving, engaging, and serving our neighbors

“For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.”

Hebrews 3:4

“You might call us a homebuilder’s association!”

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR:

Reverend J. Harlen Rife

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST:

Pam Moore

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR:

Margo Holmes

ORGANIST/BELLS:

Betty Gross

WORSHIP LEADER:

Dustin Oliver

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brian Lawson

NURSERY DIRECTOR:

Diana Langenfeld

LOVING HANDS DIRECTOR:

Shannon Miller

ADMIN COORDINATOR:

Brittney Hurley

At the time of writing, I have just returned from doing a little painting at the parsonage. Vince Lehman, the trustees, and other church volunteers have already put in so much work on the house. For example, I got to see the rooms my children will occupy, Freshly painted in their favorite colors. This is just one of the many ways the people of Greensburg United Methodist have gone out of their way to make me and my family feel welcome here. It is a kindness that I look forward to repaying in the years of shared ministry we have ahead.

I took special joy in working with church members. There are many ways people connect to each other like humor, food, and music. We should never overlook the power of shared labor. It was a lesson I learned during my service in the Peace Corps. It was the first night with my Ukrainian host family. We had no language in common at that point. My host father, Sergei, had just returned from gathering wild mushrooms. We spent some time together washing and peeling (as Ukrainians do) the mushrooms. We got to know and trust each other in a way that didn’t rely on words. It feels similar having a shared project with church members. Each person is tackling the tasks they feel equipped to, and we are trusting that, together, we can accomplish our goal.

I think it is especially meaningful that we are working on a house. Building a house was an important part of life in the ancient Middle East and it is a common metaphor in our scriptures – from the Old Testament to the New. Isaiah says, “They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.” Psalm 127 says, “Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.” In Matthew 7, Jesus uses a well-built house as a metaphor for faith. It is in the Epistles, as seen in my opening quote. It runs the course of scripture, and it is still a good analogy today.

At the parsonage, we are making repairs to the home where I and my family will live amongst you. At the church, we are making a spiritual home where church members, friends in the community, and people we have not yet met, can grow in faith and faithfulness to the Lord. In partnership with other churches, we are working to reshape our communities to better reflect Christ’s heavenly kingdom – our homeland. With Christians here and around the world, we share the hope found in the book of Revelation that reads, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with humanity, and He will dwell with them.” You might call us a homebuilder’s association!

I want to extend my gratitude once more for all your help with the parsonage. I also want to say that, in ways big and small, we are building a home together. I am so grateful we can be co-laborers in Christ, and I look forward to our shared ministry.

Blessings,

Rev. Harlen Rife



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Eva Lane
Vince Lehman
- 3 Curtis Corle
James Schweikert
- 4 Ed Hackathorn
Lucy Scott
- 5 Betty Gross
- 6 Ann Hartong
Leo Sing
- 7 JoAnn Rossiter
- 8 Bonnie Kocsis
- 10 Joe Conley
Michael Hodges
- 12 Diana Langenfeld
- 14 Ben Lawson
- 15 Carol Baab
Jude Lawson
- 16 Brad Laterza
- 20 Chase Borland
- 21 Chuck Borland
- 24 William Fosnight
Elaina Waseman
- 25 Carly Rossiter
- 26 Pauline Bittner
Josefina Hetson
- 27 Janice Conley
- 29 Lori Myers
- 30 Bill Dando
- 31 Maela Harp



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Michael & Karen Hodges
- 7 Doug & Diane Oplinger
- 8 Chuck & Char Borland
- 16 Clarence & Carol Moore
- 21 Nathan & Amanda Haut
- 26 Bud & Sharley Greer

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE—BED BRIGADE UPDATE

In our last update we shared with you that a total of 20 beds were the result of our first Bed Brigade build in June –great news! Of course “many hands make light work” and we’d love to you have come and join us for **our next build on Saturday, August 27**. You will be glad you did when you become a part of the enthusiasm that is so contagious with this wonderful mission. Remember, there are a variety of jobs, some that won’t even put you near a hammer or saw! We’d love to have you a part of the team!

The approximate cost for putting together a bed frame is \$100 and for needed bedding \$50-\$70, so even if you can’t be a part of this upcoming build, monetary donations are always needed and appreciated. If this is where God is leading you, please make checks payable to Greensburg United Methodist, with “Bed Brigade” on the memo line. Or if you’d prefer to buy bedding yourself, see Patti Barrett or call the church office for details.

Our Mission? LOVE ENGAGE SERVE! Let’s go all in on who we are!

NEWS FROM ONE BOARD—FINISHING TOUCHES ON PARSONAGE

HELP NEEDED!!!

~ Sat and Sun (7/30 and 7/31) – 9am to 5pm – anything left to do! ~

Call the following Trustees to help!

Vince Lehman – 330-203-8471 Connie Leonard – 330-802-1440

John Myers – 330-966-6826

NEWS FROM UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH—FORMERLY UMW

United Women in Faith will not meet in July or August 2022 . We will resume meeting monthly on September 15 , 2022 at 3:30 pm in church library .

We welcome all women from our church and community. Dana Stevens, Pres.

WE WANT TO SAY THANK YOU!

GUMC,

Thank you so much for the snacks and goodies! I appreciate you thinking of me as I finish my first year of college.

Sincerely, Natalie Dando

Greensburg UMC,

The staff at Stark Co T.A.S.C. sincerely appreciate all of the donated household cleaning supplies received for the residents in the New Beginnings Program! Please pass this on to your congregation our sincerest thank you.

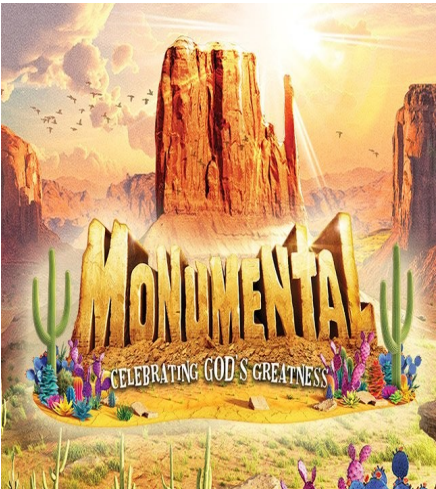
Best Wishes, Jan Canter, LSW

Adult Counselor/Case Mgr—Stark Co. TASC/New Beginnings

FUNDING THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF GUMC

| OPERATING BUDGET | Giving General | Actual Expenses | Budgeted Expenses |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| June2022 | \$ 17,019.54 | \$ 21,835.15 | \$ 22,768.50 |
| Year to Date | \$ 121,990.78 | \$ 137,055.17 | \$ 143,987.50 |
| BUILDING NOTE | Loan Giving | Monthly Payment | Loan Balance |
| June 2022 | \$ 1,358.80 | \$ 1,901.19 | \$ 75,506.45 |

FAMILY AND CHILDREN MINISTRY



MONUMENTAL—CELEBRATING GOD’S GREATNESS— VBS

JULY 31—AUGUST 4 @ 6-8 PM | AGES 3—6TH GRADE

We are going to celebrate God’s greatness through awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Science-fun Gizmos, games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the activities happening. Kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life, God Sightings. The Bible points this year are “God loved you no matter what, God is with you everywhere, God is in charge, God is stronger than anything, and God is surprising! From the story of Joseph. We welcome all children ages 3 years old-entering 6th grade. Please join us! For more information and to register please visit: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/greensburgunitedmc> or contact Miss Amy at advorak102@gmail.com.

~ GUMC “thanks” Miss Amy and all the VBS Volunteers!!! ~

STUDENT MINISTRY

REACH OUT CAMP is in the books! —July 17-23 at Lakeside, Ohio

Our youth at REACH OUT camp at Lakeside. Part of their camp experience was volunteering during this week. Andrea Rossiter attended with the students and sent us these pics while at camp for us to enjoy!



**CAMP STORIES COMING
WHEN THEY RETURN!**



Greensburg UMC

2161 Greensburg Rd,
North Canton, OH 44720

330.896.1936
www.greensburgumc.net

LOVE, ENGAGE, SERVE OPPORTUNITIES: COME BE PART OF THE GUMC COMMUNITY!

- Pray for the children attending VBS!
- Invite someone to attend church with you!
- Pray for Pastor Harlen and his family as they move
- Help with the landscaping at the church
- Join Chancel Choir or Hand Bells!
- Attend Services weekly in person!
- Be an Usher or Greeter for one of our weekly services
- Donate to Green Good Neighbors
- Pray for the children going back to school in August!

CHANCEL CHOIR NEEDS YOU!

The pandemic has really taken its toll on our choir. We have gone from having 20-25 people to having 6-8 people if we're lucky. We have still been able to sing on occasion, as long as no one is absent. Music has always been a big part of our church and it would be a shame if our choir is unable to continue because of a lack of people. All you need is a desire to sing.

So if you sing in the shower, or sing in the car, come make a Joyful Noise for the Lord. Please consider joining us when we resume practices in September. Without voices, we have no choir! We need you!

For more information see our Choir Director Brian Lawson or send him an email to brian.lawson@greensburgumc.net



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS FOR SUMMER

MONDAY—THURSDAY THE OFFICE IS OPEN FROM 9AM UNTIL 2PM. WE ARE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS.

NOTICE: The office will be closed Aug 8th-12th! (The voicemail will be checked daily though)
