WESTLAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (

To live so that others will become disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

Pastoral Reflections

"A PRAYER FOR YOU"

"The Lord bless and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace." ~Numbers 6:24-26

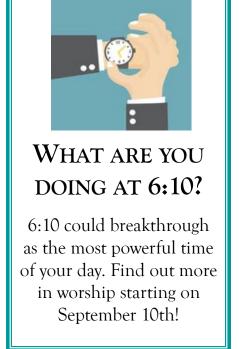
What an amazing summer it has been here at Westlake UMC! As I reflect on my time here at WUMC I am left speechless as I consider all the ways that God has been at work. Thank you doesn't seem to cover my level of gratitude for this church, Rev. Mollie, and all of you who have welcomed me into your midst and have allowed me to serve and worship alongside you. This summer has been filled with discernment, love, God sightings, and laughter. God is on the move in this church and in this community and it has been a blessing to bear witness to it. As we transition into fall and return to our routines, and as I say goodbye for now to WUMC, I am reminded of the priestly blessing found in the sixth chapter of the Book of Numbers. In this passage, God tells Moses to go to Aaron and have Aaron and his sons bless the Israelites with this blessing. This common benediction is my prayer for all of you, the Westlake United Methodist Church, as I depart to continue my studies at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. I pray that the Lord bless and keep all of you, that the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and that the Lord is gracious to you as you continue to worship God, serve one another, the Westlake community, and the world. I thank every one of you from the bottom of my heart for affirming me, for walking this journey with me, and for your support and faithfulness of this community of faith. It was a blessing to journey together these past twelve weeks, as we each continue to discern our own calls from God. I pray that the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace as you seek to live so that others will want to follow Jesus.

In Christ.

Mikayla Kovacik

WUMC Summer Pastoral Intern





NEWS, SMALL GROUPS, & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

<u>Coffee Sponsors</u>: Sponsorships are available for our weekly coffee hours following Worship on Sundays. If you would be interested in sponsoring coffee hour, please submit an envelope with the sponsorship amount included (\$40 per Sunday) at the office prior to the week of the sponsorship or in the collection basket. Checks made payable to WUMC. You can find Sponsorship forms on the table near the coffee at Fellowship Hour and in the lobby—or on page 7 of this newsletter.



September 3 The Schmitz & Kubancik Families (Anniversary Celebration)

September 10 Diane Ahlers: *In memory of George Vlach*

September 17 Calvin & Sue Herrick

September 24 Kathi Howard: In honor of Tim Kiwicki

Save the Date for TRUNK-or-TREAT



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH, 4—6 P.M.

Calling all lovers of Candy, Costumes, and Halloween Fun!

We need your help to welcome the community onto our church grounds for a safe and fun trick or treating experience. This is a great way to show people the joy we have in following Christ here at Westlake UMC. Please email epeiffer@westlakeumc.org to be involved.

Here are some ideas: •Donate CANDY! •Decorate your car's trunk! •Serve as an onsite host! •Join the planning team! — We will meet on September 13th at 7:00 p.m.

You Can Be an Usher!

Ushers help set the welcoming tone for the church and serve God in worship with a few simple but meaningful duties. Please consider if you could "up" your commitment by serving as an usher...approximately one time every other month. We would love to have ushers at all our worship times... 8:15, 10 or 11:28 a.m. Please contact Duane Miller via email if you would like to volunteer at duanemiller08@gmail.com. There will be an usher training session on Monday, September 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Small Group Invitation

It's our Mission to Live so that Others Want to Follow Jesus. Besides being in worship, meeting with a small group for study, reflection, prayer and service is a great way to grow in your faith and stay on the path of following Jesus. Many who started out as skeptical have found the group experience to now be indispensable to being the person God created them to be. There is a seat at the table for you! Please contact Don Lefelar at dlefelar@gmail.com or Ellie Peiffer at epeiffer@westlakeumc.org to discuss joining a Christ-care Group.

Womens ChristCare Group

CREED. What Christians Believe and Why

Mondays starting September 18th at 12:30 p.m.

We're all searching. Sometimes the search is easy but sometimes our questions are complicated, and the answers are difficult to see and harder to articulate. How do we discover and examine the truths that give meaning and purpose to life? Adam Hamilton believes that some powerful answers are contained in the Apostles' Creed, an early statement of foundational Christian beliefs. In this 6 week small group study, Hamilton considers important questions of life, reality, and truth. He explores not only what Christians believe, but also why they believe it and why it matters. Childcare available upon request — please contact the office.

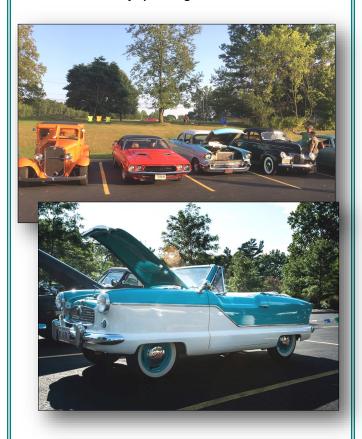
Cruisin' Westlake

2017

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH 5:30—8:00 P.M.

Don't miss out on Cruisin' Westlake 2017.... We'll bid goodbye to summer cruising fun on Wednesday, September 20th! Join us for great cars, fabulous music, fun people and a bonfire for roasting marshmallows!

Here are some of the great cars that cruised in to Westlake UMC in July & August:



Many thanks to Bob Myers and the committee and all the helping hands that make this outreach event possible. We need your help in September so please use the link here to volunteer: http://signup.com/go/UOouENz

Questions about the event? Contact Bob Myers at (216) 701-2064 —

See you there!

United Methodist Women General Meeting: Potluck!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH AT 10:30 A.M.

Welcome, all women of the church and your friends. Our friendly group would be pleased to have you join us for our monthly meetings, lunches, and



programs. The meetings begin at 10:30 with lunch at 12 noon and program at 1:00. Usually we bring a sandwich, but this September we are having a potluck. Please bring a dish to pass: a main dish, salad, or dessert.

The I:00 program will be "**The Cambodia Trip**" brought to life by those who experienced it — Rev. Mollie Brown and Kay Martin. What a privilege for all of us! Judy Lawless will conduct a Pledge Service during the meeting.

For information regarding the **Mission Outreach Circles**, please call Betty Levis at (440) 871-8644.



Women AND Men!

Save the Date for the UMW Fall Luncheon

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH AT 12 NOON

Tickets will be on sale through United Methodist Women or by calling Shirley Peritch at (440) 934-4542. Tickets are \$15 each. This fundraiser supports the many missions of the Westlake UMW. Beautiful books and puzzles will be given to everyone! Our program will be "Live Portrayals of Eight U.S. Presidents' Wives from Ohio." We look forward to seeing you there!

FINANCIAL INFO

The Income and Expense report that is usually reported in the *Messenger* was not available at the time of printing this newsletter.

Please look for an updated report in the October *Messenger*. If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Office at the church.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES & UPDATES



SEPTEMBER MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:

As Fall programs begin, WUMC is again supporting both Simpson UMC and Westside Community House with their Community meals.

SIMPSON UMC COMMUNITY MEAL

Simpson UMC is having their Community meal on **Sunday, September 10 at 4:30 p.m.** (Please note, this is usually held on the first Sunday of the month). We are looking for a few people to go to Simpson, join in fellowship, and help with clean up. Simpson UMC is located at 8519 Clark Ave, about 15 minutes from WUMC. Sign up on the lobby bulletin board.

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY HOUSE MEAL

We are also continuing to provide a community meal for the parenting program at Westside Community House on **Tuesday, September 19th**, and every the third Tuesday of the month. Thanks to Judy Massey and Suzanne Lamb who will be organizing the meals and asking for volunteers. Please consider supporting for this very worthwhile program.

COMING UP

For anyone interested in participating in an easy, well run trip, not too far from home, East Ohio Conference is going to **Midwest Mission Distribution Center** in Chatham, Illinois. **November 12 - 18,** Cost: \$350.00 plus transportation. Several members of our congregation have participated at MMDC before and it comes highly recommended! For more information go to their website at http://midwestmissiondc.org Contact Sandy Bittner at sandy144@cox.net to sign-up or with any questions.

UMVIM TEAM LEADER TRAINING

As we move forward with our mission focus and travel to new places, we need trained mission team leaders. If interested in leading **or** just participating in a mission trip, near or far, this training is an excellent program. *You will NOT have to lead a trip after the training, it will be up to you!

Saturday, November 4th, 9:30am - 3:30pm At the Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland, 6515 Bridge Ave., Cleveland Ohio 44102. Cost is \$35.

Enjoy a day of fellowship and conversation to learn about leading a mission team locally, nationally, and internationally. Tammy Kuntz, North Central Jurisdiction UMVIM Coordinator, will lead this training. Questions or to register: Kathy Dickriede at kdickriede@gmail.com or (330) 468-2517

THANK YOU

Many thanks to our Congregation for donating backpacks and school supplies for Simpson UMC and Ohio Guidestone. We collected 48 backpacks, and many school supplies. There were several heartwarming stories from the distribution, as it meant so much to the children to have new backpacks and supplies to start their school year.

Thanks also to those from WUMC who went out in mission in July and August. We had 14 people participate in the monthly mission events to Twice Blessed Free Store and Flat Rock Children's Home, and five who went on WUMC first Adult Mission Trip to Blue Rose Mission!

Let us know what mission work you are doing for WUMC. Leave info in the Mission mailbox or contact Kay Martin at kcbrightm@aol.com

COMPASSION & CONGREGATIONAL CARE



Caregivers Support Group

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH, 7:00—8:00 P.M.

Westlake UMC holds monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month at Westlake UMC. (*Due to Labor Day, we will convene the third Monday for September). Caregivers are welcome to bring their care partner. A separate space and activities are available for them, staffed by volunteers. The group is facilitated by Gretty Myers, WUMC Stephen Leader.

Please contact Gretty to participate or to volunteer at (216) 701-2067 or email to grettymyers@sbcglobal.net.

CHRISTIAN ED AND FAMILY FUN!



From the Desk of Christian Ed

Mrs. Carol Ryan — <u>cryan@westlakeumc.org</u>

Our 2017-18 Theme: Vast Breather
The peace of Christ BE with you.

((I'm waiting))

Thanks. I hear you. And I hear God, or I try, sometimes, and sometimes I could try harder. We get so busy. The noise from all of life's so-called "have-to-dos" can be like white noise played on digitally mastered THX movie theater style surround sound speakers at full volume. How do I know it isn't just me? These faces of back-to-school shoppers and observed interactions with their best beloved quietly scream "pause" except for that mom with the "Hello Kitty" T-Shirt who screamed it out-loud to near applause from the Mead Pocket Folder aisle. There are forms, sign-ups, guilt over not signing up, sports, sports with games on Sundays and more decisions and more guilt, friends they like, and friends they like and you do not, work, work, and work. But as a Christian I am filled with peace. Wait, I think that was a question mark, like, filled with peace?

Maybe you can understand how I became drawn to John 16:33, and simultaneously to the lyrics of the John Diaz song "Breathe." It isn't just the coffee reference. Honest. Diaz sings, "I'm busy, busy, busy, and it's no surprise to see that I only have time for me, me, me... I'm hanging on tight to another wild day. When it starts to fall apart in my heart I hear you say... just breathe... Come and rest at my feet. And be, just be. Chaos calls but all you really need is to take it in fill your lungs (with) the peace of God that overcomes..." We need to pause and draw in the Holy Spirit, we need to breathe.

And what does all of the above have to do with our Sunday school year? Maybe 2016-17 was an anomaly, or maybe our collective kids' are a particularly intense, thoughtful, but worried crew, and maybe their multiple potentialities and gifts have them busier than ever for good cause. Maybe. But that seems like a whole lot of maybes. Even in lyric form, Diaz doesn't critique what we busy ourselves with but asks we "lay down the good and find what's best." To do that, we all need to just breathe and invite God's peace in.

We will spend time focusing this year on inviting God in, in trusting God, and in slowing down to breathe in our

God of Peace's peace. We will help little discerning Christians to know the Chaos calls AT us but God calls FOR us.

Join us on Rally Sunday to kick-off our *Just Breathe* year with our Praise Band, and the Annual Youth-led Games (for K-5th). Come as you are. For the full lyrics, click <u>here.</u>

RALLY SUNDAY — SEPTEMBER 10TH!

On Sunday, September 10th, we kick-off an exciting new season of fun, learning, and relationship building within our Sunday School program! K-5th will join us for Annual Youth Hosted Games during Sunday school. 6-12 will be hosting games. Planners and preparation crew information is provided by Rachael Grech Haning. **Young friends and youth, please DRESS to play!**

2017-18 WUMC CHILDREN AND YOUTH REGISTRATION

Yes. Once again, we ask you help us to help you by completing the online registration. Please click here to land on our registration forms page.

WHERE ARE THE DETAILS?

This Sunday emails return with Rally Day! If you are not receiving **This Sunday emails**, please make sure your child is registered because safety is super but also registration ensures you receive updates!

VOLUNTEER WITH CHRISTIAN ED

We know folks are strong armed, voluntold, and cornered for a variety of endeavors. Well we don't. If We all have gifts! However a reader out there may think Sunday school is lead primarily by active kids' parents (it is not) or that we require evidence of Pinterest or DIY mastery level skills combine with at least completion of a Disciple I-III (it does not). Teachers and helpers simply need to enjoy children, and be a believer as in full-on imperfect fan and follower of Jesus. For more information, contact Mrs. Ryan.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's choir will resume on September 10th! We rehearse each Sunday from 11:30 to 12:00 in the children's choir room. All students from kindergarten up are welcome to participate! (No rehearsal 9/17 as Annie will be out off town.) *Questions?* Contact the director Annie Kaschube at annie.kaschube@gmail.com or 440-223-9995.

YOUTH!



... Have you heard?

9/10 - Rally Sunday. (No regular Youth) Can you help run games?! Contact Rachael ASAP to sign up to help!

9/17 - First Regular Youth Group. Middle School (5-7pm) - Grapple with the THREE BIG QUESTIONS. What are they? Come and find out! High School (6-8pm) We are going to start the year growing some STICKY FAITH. How sticky? Well, come and find out! **Youth Leadership Council will be announced tonight! Don't miss it!**

9/25 - Regular Youth Group 5-8

Doughnuts and Discussions: All high school and college students are invited to join us at 9am EVERY Sunday to discuss topics (and what the Bible says about them) ranging from parents, to siblings, to courage, to homework. Join us this coming Sunday!

QUESTIONS? Contact Rachael Grech Haning, at youth@westlakeumc.org





Doug and I would like to thank each of you for your prayers and many acts of kindness during his recent surgery and recovery. We have truly felt wrapped in love! Your prayers have sustained us, your cards have encouraged us, and the amazing food you have prepared for us has nourished us in many ways. While the rehabilitation period will take many weeks, we know that you are walking with us each step of the way. Thank you so much. We are honored to be a part of this amazing faith community which lives out what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ every day.

With grateful hearts, *Mollie and Doug*

CHURCH FAMILY FOCUS

PASTOR MOLLIE IS MEETING WITH ANYONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH. Please stop by Panera Bread between 8 and 10 a.m. on Monday mornings in North Olmsted or Tuesday morning in Westlake, or call the church office to schedule a time to talk with her.

BAPTISM

Tristan John Saltsman, son of Michelle Flury & Jeff Saltsman, was baptized by Rev. Mollie on July 30th at the 11:28 service. His godparents are Matt Bigadza and Michelle Mathis.

WITH SYMPATHY

Mary Chidester, long-time Westlake UMC member, passed away June 28th. A memorial service to celebrate her life was held July 9th at Westlake UMC officiated by Rev. Mollie Brown.

Rita Bassett, wife of Gary Bassett, passed away July 1st.

Bill Deierhoi, husband of Peggy Deierhoi, passed away July 13th. A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held on Saturday, September 23rd at 1:00 p.m. at Westlake UMC. Visitation will begin at 12:00 p.m.

Betsy Williams, aunt of Sharla Johnston, passed way on June 23rd.

Amy Strout, mother of Deb Kremer, passed away July 12th.

Laura Pickersgill, sister-in-law of Debbie Zeager, passed away July 10th.

Hilda Rice, aunt of Jackie Gramlich, passed away on July 24th.

Bob Scott, father of Lois Griffin, grandfather of Emily Griffin, uncle of Ellie Peiffer, and bother-in-law of Belinda St. Leger, passed away July 26th.

Elise Ybarra, niece of John Lux, passed away August 6th.

Fred Gottwald, husband of Carol DeWerth's cousin, passed away August 10th.

Christopher Stacho, nephew of Diana Stacho, passed away August 4th.

Tom Haning, father of Marshall Haning, passed away August 20th.

WUMC NEWS

Restroom Renovation Project Designated Contributions



Thank you to all who have contributed toward the Restroom Renovation Project (aka The Potty Campaign). Below is the list of remembrances and honors that were designated with some of the contributions.

Happy 1st Birthday to our son, Will. May your potty adventures begin soon! *From Anthony & Bridget Royce.*

In memory of Johnnie & Shirley Johnston. *From Gail Wearsch.*

For our loving family. From Len & Barb Siwik.

In memory of my loving husband, Alex Massey. *From Judy Massey.*

In honor and memory of Alex Massey. *From Anonymous.*

For my mother, Jane Weimer, who always appreciated a well-placed and well-equipped rest stop! *From Carole Miller*.

In loving memory of Tommy Vertal. *From Marilyn Vertal.*

In memory of Merle and Glendine Jeffery. *From Larry and Tricia Bowersox.*

In honor of all in the Armed Forces, past and present. *From Len & Sharon Kosatka*.



Check out our website at westlakeumc.org for updated event info — and like us on Facebook!

We are looking for sponsors for Coffee Hours for October through May. Please fill out the form below and drop at the office or in the offering plate on Sunday with your sponsorship donation.

2017-18 COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SPONSORSHIP



\$40.00 WILL SPONSOR A SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME*!

Encourage fellowship!

Welcome the WUMC Church family by funding a Sunday Coffee Fellowship Time.

You don't have to do anything! All work will be done by the Hospitality Team.

Enjoy fellowship with your church family!

*Fellowship Time encompasses the entirety of Sunday morning, with coffee and pastries available for all Worship participants.

Unless you request a specific date, we will assign a Sunday that is open on the calendar. Your name will be displayed on table signage and listing in the weekly bulletin.

| Name:(sponsoring individual, family or group) |
|---|
| Requested date? (opt.) |
| In celebration or remembrance?YesNo |

Please leave this form and payment in the collection basket or at the church office



September 2017



Sat

Fri

Thu

Wed

Tue

Mon

| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
|--|---|---|--|---|--------------------------|---|
| 3 | | 5 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 9 9 a.m.—1 p.m. Private Beritale |
| | Church Office Closed | 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal | 11:30am Purl Girls (100) I pm Parish Nurse Available 1:30pm Arthritis Exer. (103) 4-9pm J. Konow —Piano | 10 am UMW Bd. Mtg (104) 5:30pm Marijuana Anon (100) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 3-6pm Theater Group (FH) | David Thrall Avon Music School |
| 10 Rally Day | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Uast Dreathe 11:30am Children's Choir Frederick Gottwald | 12:30pm Games 'N Such (FH) | 5:00 pm Oberlin Choristers (FH) 7:00 pm Mission Team (107) | 6 | _ | 3-6pm Theater Group (FH) | |
| 4:30pm Simpson UMC Meal | 7 pm Stephen Ministry (107) | 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal | 4-9pm J. Konow –Piano 7pm Trunk/Treat mtg (107) | /:30pm Choir Kehearsal | Messenger Deadline | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Youth Group 1st Meeting 5—8 p.m. | 12:30pm Women's ChristCare (205) 7pm Caregiver's Support Group | 4:00pm WSCH Meal 5:00 pm Oberlin Choristers (FH) 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal | 11:30am Purl Girls (100) I pm Parish Nurse Available 1:30pm Arthritis Exer. (103) 4-9pm J. Konow —Piano 5:30pm Cruisin' Westlake | 10 am CWRU (107) 5:30pm Marijuana Anon (100) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 3-6pm Theater Group (FH) | Bill Deierhoi Memorial Service 1:00 p.m. Visitation @ 12:00 p.m. |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 11:30am Children's Choir Youth Group 5–8 p.m. | 12:30pm Women's ChristCare (205) 7:00 pm Usher's Training | 5:00 pm Oberlin Choristers (FH) 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal | 12pm Purl Girls (100) 1 pm Parish Nurse Available 1:30pm Arthritis Exer. (103) 4-9pm J. Konow –Piano 5:30pm Community Meal | 10 am UMW Mission Outreach (FH) 10 am CWRU (107) 5:30pm Marijuana Anon (100) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 3-6pm Theater Group (FH) | |

WESTLAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Mollie Brown Senior Pastor: mgbrown@westlakeumc.org **Annie Kaschube** Organist, Children's Choir & Handbell Choir Director **Betsy Kaiser Nursery Assistant** Carol Ryan Christian Education Associate Don Lefelar Visitation Pastor **Ellie Peiffer** Small Group & Welcoming Ministries **Gretty Myers** Stephen Ministry Coordinator Jeanette Albrecht **Nursery Assistant Nursery Assistant** Jeanne Halaby Jill Farkas Custodian John Rife Interim Finance Manager Joshua Konow Director of Adult Choir Kathy Tafuri Volunteer Parish Nurse Lynne Wolf Office Coordinator Morgan Lux **Nursery Assistant Patti Barnes Nursery Coordinator** Rachael Grech Haning Youth Coordinator Rich Gallo 11:28 Worship Leader

WUMC Librarians: Nanci Danburg & Katie Salis

OTHER PASTORS CONNECTED TO THIS CONGREGATION:

Rev. Ron Dietrich Rev. Don Lefelar Rev. Bob Remington Rev. Diana Guyette Rev. Dr. Richard Lehto Rev. Tom Taylor

Rev. A. Renee Jacobs Rev. Dr. Richard Parks









YOU CAN JOIN WESTLAKE UMC AT THE 10:00 SERVICE WITH OUR LIVE STREAMING!**

Traveling? Can't make it to church on a Sunday morning? Worship with us via our website: westlakeumc.org for the 10:00 service.

You will see the link to the broadcast in the lower left corner of the home screen.

You are also invited to register your attendance, send prayer requests, and/or make contributions online.

**Please note that due to copyright & licensing restrictions, not all music or multimedia presentations may be broadcast.

- MESSENGER ARTICLES FOR OCTOBER: DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th -

DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY



*Live-streamed via our website

Sunday Worship at 8:15 a.m. (Reflective) 10:00 a.m. (Traditional)* 11:28 a.m. (Contemporary)

27650 Center Ridge Road Westlake, Ohio 44145 (440) 871-3088 www.westlakeumc.org westlakeumc.org

WESTLAKE
CHURCH

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED