

# THE MESSENGER



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



## Pastoral Reflections

Greetings Friends,

A new year is upon us! Somehow 2018 always sounded so far away to me, a distant date. Now we are at the dawning of, what I believe will be a very exciting year in the ministry and mission of Westlake United Methodist Church. Our breakthrough prayer initiative continues to reveal the movement of God in our lives and in the life of WUMC.

As you know, on December 10 Rev. Dianne Covault and I shared a joint announcement regarding the potential merger of Simpson UMC and Westlake UMC which would result in WUMC becoming a multi-site church. This model of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ has been used for many years in The United Methodist Church. Garfield Memorial UMC, with its Pepper Pike and South Euclid campuses, is a local example of this approach to ministry. Ginghamburg UMC in the Dayton area is another example. Ginghamburg UMC has a Tipp City campus, a Dayton campus called Fort McKinley, and a Trotwood campus called The Point.

The potential merger Task Force, chaired by Rev. Don Lefelar, has begun its work on the feasibility study with its first formal meeting on December 11. We initiated discussions regarding each church's culture and core values. We also have

begun the work of conducting financial and physical property due diligence. Efforts in all of these areas will continue into the New Year.

Some people may ask why we are considering the potential of a merger which would result in WUMC becoming a multi-site church. Both congregations can benefit from a combined church which will be larger, more diverse, and with greater opportunities for parishioners to grow in their relationship with God through faith formation and in mission and service to others. A multi-site church will keep both congregations facing outward versus turning inward focusing on ourselves. Turning inward and focusing on "our own congregation" instead of Jesus' commission to each of us to make disciples and show love to all people is often a triggering event to church decline.

The announcement that was shared in worship on December 10 is included at the end of this article. I want to reiterate the call that every person be purposeful in praying for discernment as to where God is calling WUMC. As our 6:10 prayer states, "create in us ways to reflect your light, shining as a beacon of hope, love, joy, and peace."

Prayerfully yours,

*Mollie*

## ANNOUNCEMENT MADE IN WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 10, 2017

This morning the following announcement is being made in all three of our worship services at Westlake UMC and at the noon worship service at Simpson UMC. During the annual SPRC consultations with our District Superintendent, which were held in October, Rev. Dr. Steve Bailey shared with the SPRCs of Westlake UMC and Simpson UMC his desire that both churches begin work on a formal merger as covered within *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*. As you know, for many decades our two churches have been partners in ministry. In January 2012 the following covenant statement was read in both churches which I will read to you now:

Inasmuch as Simpson UMC and Westlake UMC have historically been partners in ministry, together at this time we wish to reaffirm that partnership. We, therefore, covenant to strengthen both congregations through shared ministry, including spirit filled worship, Christ centered mission, and uplifting each other. We believe that by doing so, we can together be a strong United Methodist presence that makes disciples for Jesus Christ to transform the City of Cleveland now and in the future.

*(Continued pg 2)*

**WESTLAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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

**Sunday Worship at 8:15, 10:00 and 11:28 a.m.**

## News, Small Groups & Spiritual Growth

### (ANNOUNCEMENT CONTINUED)

Simpson UMC potentially becoming a ministry site of Westlake UMC through merger is a next logical step of our two churches fully living into the covenant that was established by our two congregations close to six years ago. Our District Superintendent has asked Rev. Dianne Covault, pastor of Simpson UMC, and me to establish a task force to conduct a feasibility study of Simpson UMC becoming a satellite campus through merger with Westlake UMC. The task force will be chaired by Rev. Don Lefelar with representatives from Westlake UMC being John Rife and Ellie Peiffer. Representatives from Simpson UMC include Jane Thorkelson, Angela Monsi, Janet Kappenhagen, and Sandra Marinella. Rev. Dianne and I will also be a part of the task force.

The multi-site concept of ministry is very well established within The United Methodist Church in this nation, within the state of Ohio, and in the North Coast District. The potential benefits to both congregations are considerable. Most importantly, the opportunities to live out the mission of making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ on the Westside of Cleveland, has led our D.S. to ask our two congregations to prayerfully consider this next step in being faithful children of God.

Rev. Dianne, the task force members, and I ask for your prayers as we consider how God is calling our two congregations to move into the future of ministry on the Westside of Cleveland. Both congregations will have opportunities to engage in dialogue through discussion groups and no final decision will be made without a church conference vote by members of their respective churches. Rev. Dianne, Rev. Don, and I welcome your questions, and most importantly, your prayers.

### Coffee Fellowship Sponsors

January 7	Tess Stephens
January 14	Hensley Family
January 21	John Salmon
January 28	Kubancik Family



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 in the offering plate. You may also indicate a remembrance or celebration for a certain date if desired (though not necessary). 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.

### The Daniel Plan is Coming TO WESTLAKE UMC DURING LENT



#### This New Year, Feast on Something Bigger Than A Fad!

The Daniel Plan is a groundbreaking healthy lifestyle program founded on Biblical principles and focused on the essentials of Faith, Food, Fitness, Focus and Friends. Note this is not the Daniel Fast...instead, the Daniel Plan guides you into enjoying God's natural abundance. The church is partnering with the Cleveland Clinic to participate in the 6 week Daniel Plan during Lent. This program is free and participants receive a complimentary confidential pre and post Biometric assessment done by Cleveland Clinic nurses, a free Daniel Plan workbook and access to recipes and ideas about simple healthy lifestyle choices. **Sign Up to reserve your spot by Sunday, January 14.** Sign ups can be done either Sunday mornings or online through the website at [Daniel Plan Signup](#). Watch the weekly eblast and bulletin insert for more information about this transformational and sustainable plan, rooted in the faith. Blessings for an amazing Grace-powered, Love-filled 2018!

#### Westlake UMC Daniel Plan Important Dates

- **Sunday, January 14** – Last Day to Register
- **Wed., February 7 at 6:30pm** – Kickoff Presentation with Cleveland Clinic Health Coach & Dietitian
- **Saturday a.m., February 10** – Confidential Biometric Pre -assessments
- **Sunday, Feb 11 - March 17** – Small group meetings (once a week)
- **Saturday a.m., March 24** – Confidential Post Biometric Results



FAITH



FOOD



FITNESS



FOCUS



FRIENDS

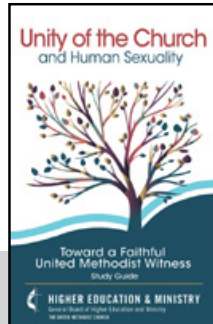
## News, Small Groups & Spiritual Growth

### SMALL GROUP STUDY

#### *Unity of the Church and Human Sexuality*

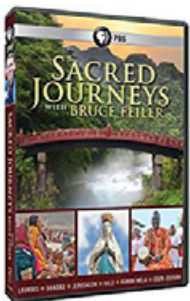
Led by Pastor Mollie Brown

**SUNDAYS AT 5PM  
BEGINS JANUARY 7TH**



As our church prepares to join in “Conversations on a Way Forward”, you are encouraged to be part of this 4 week study addressing how the church can be a witness and provide for a diversified human community. The book is based on the research of Dr. Charles M. Wood and offers United Methodists an opportunity to think about what has become a cultural and ecclesial flash point—human sexuality. The book comes out of the conviction that the church is thirsty for theological conversation. Methodism is no stranger to controversy. John Wesley addressed the contentious issues of his day and strove to hold the Methodist societies together across many lines of difference. This guide plumbs the depths of the Wesleyan heritage to enhance our faithful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ at a time when devout followers are deeply divided. Please RSVP for the Study online by [clicking here](#) or sign up on the lobby bulletin board.

- Session One: The Conversation Matters
- Session Two: Loving God with Our Mind Matters
- Session Three: The United Methodist Church Matters
- Session Four: Finding a Way Forward Matters



### WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S CHRIST CARE GROUP

**BEGINS WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 10  
7:00 P.M.**

The Wednesday evening women's Christ Care Group will be studying “Sacred Journeys.” Using a DVD of the PBS series

studying 6 sacred sights around the world, we'll be traveling to India, Saudi Arabia, Israel, France, and Nigeria. Along the way, comparing and contrasting core beliefs and practices of world religions—Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, Catholicism, Muslim and Yoruba. The first meeting of this series is January 10 at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Gretty Myers at [grettymyers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:grettymyers@sbcglobal.net)



**PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD**



**We are One in Christ**

UMCprays.org • A UMC Prayer Community

### **EAST OHIO CONFERENCE “CONVERSATIONS ON A WAY FORWARD” ARE UNDERWAY!**

To learn more and to sign up to participate, [click here](#).

As of publication date, there is limited availability at the closest Conversation to be held at **Lakewood UMC on Monday, Feb. 5, 2018 from 6-9pm.**



**United  
Methodist  
Women**

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

### *Westlake United Methodist Women* **GENERAL MEETING**

**JANUARY 11, 2018 – 10:30 AM**

Dear friends, please join us at our monthly meetings where you will surely meet new acquaintances. Remember to bring a sandwich – the hostesses will provide dessert and beverages.

At 1:00 pm Mr. John Pekarik will present “Winter Stories with Warmth”. What a grand way to start the New Year!

*We thank those who supported the Christmas Tea and their response to the request for socks and underwear for needy children.*

## Compassion & Congregational Care



### INDIVIDUAL PRAYER TIME & COMMUNION

*With Prayer Partners*

**SUNDAYS 9 – 9:30 A.M. OR  
11 – 11:30 A.M.**

Stephen Ministers are available every Sunday morning in Room 203 from 9:00 – 9:30 and also 11:00-11:30 to offer a quiet, reflective time for individual prayer and communion. We also have sets of prayer beads available for you during this time.

***ALL ARE WELCOME!***

### CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

*With Prayer Partners*

**MONDAY, JANUARY 15\*  
7:00 – 8:00 P.M.**

Westlake UMC holds monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month at Westlake UMC 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 Thurston Cosner, psychologist, and Gretty Myers, Stephen Leader from Westlake, UMC.

Please contact Gretty Myers to participate or to volunteer at (216) 701-2067 or [grettypmyers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:grettypmyers@sbcglobal.net).

*\*Note date change due to New Year holiday.*



### Prayer Beads

God calls each one of us into a relationship with him through prayer. Christian (Anglican) prayer beads are a tactile aid to prayer as a way to connect with God. The beads become a way to deepen

your prayer life by encouraging not only the mind but the body to participate in prayer. The prayers keep the mind focused and the passing of beads through the fingers keeps the body engaged in prayer.

Christian prayer beads have a great deal of symbolism woven into the design and give some structure to praying. Sets of prayer beads are available at no cost for you and others who need to be reminded that God is with us.

**Stephen Ministers are available every Sunday morning in Room 203 from 9:00-9:30 and again 11:00-11:30** to help you understand the impact prayer beads can have in your prayer life. Please stop by on Sunday morning for your own set of prayer beads or a set for someone else and a brief explanation of how to use them.

We are able to make these prayer beads available with a generous donation of beads from Eleanore Lehto, hand-made crosses from Alex Combs, and the creative hands of Linda Eads and Mary Saffles.

**Questions?** Please contact Gretty Myers at [grettypmyers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:grettypmyers@sbcglobal.net)



### BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER INITIATIVE

An epiphany is a sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something, an intuitive grasp of divine reality through something (such as an event) usually simple and striking. As we enter the season of Epiphany, we are praying a very simple congregational prayer. At 6:10am or pm, it is still very dark outside. But inside our hearts, God's light and love shine! Through the recitation of our Matthew 6:10 prayer, may you experience an epiphany of God's goodness and creativity and know that God is at work breaking through the darkness.

#### MATTHEW 6:10

*"Bring in your kingdom so that your will is done on earth as it's done in heaven." (CEB)*

Jesus, you are the light of the world and the Lord of my life. Fill me with your eternal light which breaks through the darkness. As we seek your will for Westlake United Methodist Church, create in us ways to reflect your light, shining as a beacon of hope, love, joy and peace. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



## Mission Opportunities & Updates



### RISE AGAINST HUNGER FEB 18

Rise Against Hunger, formerly Stop Hunger Now, is driven by the vision of a world without hunger. Their mission is to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable and by creating a global commitment to mobilize the critical resources. We are committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of ending hunger by 2030.

During Advent the Children's Sunday school classes shared their abundance by giving their offering to support our upcoming Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now) event on **February 18th**. It only costs \$0.29 cents for each meal packed. As of 12/15 they collected enough money to produce over 50 meals.

### WHY WE'RE RISING AGAINST HUNGER



**815 million**

people across the world don't receive enough nutrition to lead an active, healthy life.



**376,000 volunteers**

around the globe put their hands on hunger in 2016.



**1 million**

lives nourished by Rise Against Hunger meals and other aid in 2016.

*Image from riseagainsthunger.org*

There is a minimum of 10,000 meals to be packed, but two years ago we packed almost 21,000! It takes many hands the day of the event, but it also requires many giving hearts to pay for the 21,000 meals! There will be tin buckets around the church where you can leave change, cash, checks. Donations can always be placed in the offering plate or mailed in marked for Rise Against Hunger.

**Sign-up will be available in February for this popular event.**

### TWICE BLESSED FREE STORE AT NEHEMIAH MISSION



**SATURDAY, JANUARY 27  
9:00 A.M. — 1:00 P.M.**

WUMC will be serving by helping shoppers at the Twice Blessed Free store at Nehemiah Mission. Stay until 1:00 p.m. Please sign up on the bulletin board to carpool.

**Bring a friend!** Meet at WUMC at

8:30 a.m. to carpool, or meet up with us at 9:00 at the Twice Blessed Store (6515 Bridge Avenue, Cleveland).

Donations for Twice Blessed can be left in the large wooden box in Fellowship Hall. \*This month we are especially asking for donations of toiletries and personal care items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, diapers, soap, shampoo, etc. Household goods, pots and pans are always needed. Donation receipts available in the box.



— *Reminder* —

### SIMPSON UMC COMMUNITY MEAL

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7  
4:30 P.M.**

Simpson UMC serves a monthly community meal on the first Sunday of the month at 4:30. Please consider joining them in fellowship. Simpson UMC is located at 8519 Clark Ave, about 15 minutes from WUMC.

## Christian Education & Family Events



### SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are currently looking for a couple adults who can teach Children's Sunday school on a rotation basis. All lessons and support materials are provided. The benefits of sharing your time with our wonderful children are

immeasurable! Please contact Kay Martin at [faithformation@westlakeumc.org](mailto:faithformation@westlakeumc.org) with any questions about teaching responsibilities or to volunteer to keep this important program running strong while we are looking for a new staff Christian Education director.

Any teaching schedule changes go to Patti Barnes at [goofycat5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:goofycat5@sbcglobal.net).



### FOURTH GRADE BIBLES

Please contact Kay Martin with the name of your fourth grader (if you haven't done so already) to receive a Bible. Also, please let her know if there are any fifth graders who have not received one yet. [faithformation@westlakeumc.org](mailto:faithformation@westlakeumc.org)



**JANUARY 7** Doughnuts & Discussion, Confirmation, and Regular Youth Group – *Join us!*

**JANUARY 14** Join us for laser tag and pizza! 3 – 7 p.m., All 6th-12th graders welcome. \$20 includes three games, pizza, and drinks. Watch your e-mail for sign-ups! Plan to bring a friend! *Last Sunday to sign up for missions trip! All 8th-12th graders welcome!*

**JANUARY 21** Doughnuts & Discussions, Confirmation, and Regular Youth Group.

**JANUARY 28** Doughnuts & Discussions, Confirmation, and Regular Youth Group



**"WEAR YOUR BEST CHRISTMAS GEAR" YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY**



**QUESTIONS?** Contact Rachael Grech, WUMC Youth Coordinator at [youth@westlakeumc.org](mailto:youth@westlakeumc.org)

## Memorials & Sponsorships

### MEMORIAL GARDEN BRICKS

Our beautiful Memorial Garden is ready for you to add the memory of a loved one, a special celebration or to honor someone you love.

Memorial Bricks for the new Memorial Garden, located at the front of the church, can be ordered at anytime throughout the year. Orders will be submitted to the engraver in February for delivery in the spring and in August for delivery in the fall.

**Currently we are ordering for spring, 2018.**

If you would like your Memorial Brick to be ready for spring of 2018, you must have the Memorial Brick form filled out with a check attached payable to Westlake United Methodist Church (Memorial Brick on the memo line) by **SUNDAY, February 18th** (in the church office). Forms are located in the church lobby

Prices are: 4x8 Brick \$50.00  
8x8 Brick \$100.00



### HONOR OR REMEMBER A LOVED ONE WITH ALTAR FLOWERS



If you would like to donate flowers for the altar on Sundays, please complete the Altar Flower form that can be found in the lobby. You may place the form & payment in the collection plate or turn into the office. Please note that available dates will be posted in the lobby. Flowers are \$35. The office will arrange to have them ordered and delivered. **Please contact the office with any questions.**

### 2018 Coffee Fellowship Sponsorship



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

*Encourage Fellowship!*

Welcome the WUMC Church family & visitors by funding a Sunday Coffee Fellowship Time. 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 listed in the weekly bulletin.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(sponsoring individual, family or group)

Requested date? (opt.) \_\_\_\_\_

In celebration or remembrance? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

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

## Financial Information

**Instead of an envelope with a check or cash on Sunday, there are two other ways you can make contributions to the General Operating Fund for Westlake UMC:**



**DIRECT DEPOSIT:** Scheduled automatic transfers from your checking account to the WUMC account. Please contact Sharon Parks, Finance Manager for the form needed at [sparks@westlakeumc.org](mailto:sparks@westlakeumc.org)



**ONLINE GIVING:** Use your credit card via our website at [westlakeumc.org](http://westlakeumc.org). In the lower left corner of the home page you will see a button for Online Giving (near "Live Streaming" — You do not have to login to contribute, but can create profile if desired). This can be a one-time contribution or regularly scheduled contributions.

*Westlake United Methodist Church*  
**Income and Expense Statement (UNAUDITED)**  
 OPERATING FUND 01, November 2017

	Current Period	Year to Date	Prior Year YTD	Prior Year	Year to Date Budget	Annual Budget
<b>INCOME</b>						
CONTRIBUTION INCOME	\$39,021.19	\$442,265.63	\$38,244.43	\$464,622.91	\$527,862.91	\$580,676.73
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>39,021.19</b>	<b>442,265.63</b>	<b>38,244.43</b>	<b>464,622.91</b>	<b>527,862.91</b>	<b>580,676.73</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE</b>						
STAFF PARISH EXPENSE	\$24,339.44	\$297,774.83	\$27,679.87	\$299,493.89	\$337,815.22	\$369,580.33
OFFICE EXPENSE	2,528.67	11,411.78	1,218.06	20,366.06	15,000.08	16,317.40
FINANCE TEAM EXPENSE	188.94	2,736.92	237.56	2,726.26	2,425.00	2,720.00
FACILITIES EXPENSE	9,658.70	58,918.96	2,742.84	51,513.92	64,945.00	72,670.00
<b>Subtotal Expenses</b>	<b>36,715.75</b>	<b>370,842.49</b>	<b>31,878.33</b>	<b>374,100.13</b>	<b>420,185.30</b>	<b>461,287.73</b>
<b>MINISTRY EXPENSE</b>						
MUSIC EXPENSE	0.00	2,371.85	0.00	711.33	2,335.00	2,700.00
WORSHIP EXPENSE	1,658.95	4,602.00	502.86	6,352.39	7,975.00	8,525.00
EDUCATION EXPENSE	2,035.06	11,796.25	3,337.79	14,215.82	18,908.67	20,640.00
OUTREACH EXPENSE	632.63	2,466.20	853.57	5,918.72	6,746.00	7,586.00
CONNECTIONAL GIVING	10,746.79	81,689.84	5,642.67	71,295.37	75,010.76	81,830.00
<b>Subtotal Ministry Expense</b>	<b>15,073.43</b>	<b>102,926.14</b>	<b>10,336.89</b>	<b>98,493.63</b>	<b>110,975.43</b>	<b>121,281.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>51,789.18</b>	<b>473,768.63</b>	<b>42,215.22</b>	<b>472,593.76</b>	<b>531,160.73</b>	<b>582,568.73</b>
<b>EXCESS INCOME\EXPENSES</b>	<b>-\$12,767.99</b>	<b>-\$31,503.00</b>	<b>-\$3,970.79</b>	<b>-\$7,970.85</b>	<b>-\$3,297.82</b>	<b>-\$1,892.00</b>



**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](http://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.*



## Church Family Focus

### IN REMEMBRANCE

**JOHN F. (JACK) CONNOR**, husband of Gail Connor, passed away on November 16th, 2017. A private graveside service was officiated by Pastor Mollie Brown on November 20th.

**JEAN N. BARNARD**, wife of the late Robert Barnard, passed away on November 28th, 2017. A private graveside service was officiate by Pastor Mollie Brown on December 4th, 2017.

**EVELYN M. (BOOTS) KUTCHKO**, passed away December 2nd, 2017. A graveside service was officiated by Pastor Mollie Brown on December 8th

**REV. GEORGE E. BAILEY**, father of Carol Tessmer, passed away December 5th, 2017. A memorial service was held on Saturday, December 16, 2017.

**JOSEPH CERVENKA**, brother of Patti Barnes, passed away on December 7th, 2017.

**KAREN WOLF**, sister-in-law of Lynne Wolf, passed away December 4th.

*We always thank  
GOD for all of you  
and continually  
mention you in  
our prayers.*

1 Thessalonians 1:2, NIV

### THANK YOU NOTES

**To the members of Westlake United Methodist Church.**

I want to thank all of you for your prayers, cards and calls during my illnesses throughout this past year, and my surgery in October. I will be forever grateful.

God Bless you,  
Carol Kreiger

\*\*\*

**Thank you to all the ladies** who baked, decorated and delivered the delicious cookies to me at the Normandy. I really appreciate their effort and kindness.

Sincerely,  
Florence Andrews

*Ready to make  
Westlake UMC  
your church home?*

Pastor Mollie will meet with all those that are interested in joining the church on **Sunday, January 14th from 3:30 – 4:30pm** at the church. Please RSVP to the office at [epeiffer@westlakeumc.org](mailto:epeiffer@westlakeumc.org) or by calling 440-871-3088 x20.



### 2018 NCD DATES TO GET ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

**February 10 & 24:** Spring Lay Servant Training at Church of the Saviour

**March 10th:** Leadership Academy at Berea UMC

**April 21st:** Spring District Conference at Westlake UMC

**June 10-14:** Annual Conference at Lakeside (yes, it really is a week earlier than usual! Please plan accordingly!)

**To the ladies who prepared cookies for shut-ins.**

Thank you for the lovely box of tasty decorated cookies delivered to me.

Tess Stephens

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**I would like to thank each of you** for the many acts of compassion that you have bestowed upon Doug and me during this past year. Words cannot fully express my thanks for the beautiful cards, the delicious treats, and the many acts of kindness with which you have blessed us.

May the hope, love, joy, and peace of Jesus Christ be with you always.

Mollie

## Kids Activities



### A NEW CREATION



The apostle Paul says everyone who believes in Jesus becomes brand new.



*Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.*

THIEROEFQORXEIDFAMNYAON  
SEILSITNCVHRKISDTTBHEWNE  
QWCDREYATMIOCNHFASWCOR  
MEGTHWEOFLDXHASSGZONL  
ETJHEWNEQWIDSHREROE

\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ :

\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ! 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV



### NEW YEAR'S NOISE-MAKERS

Ring in the New Year with these fun noisemakers!

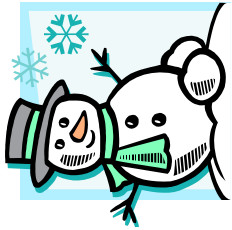


#### What you need:



- Wooden craft sticks
- Metallic paint (gold and silver)
- Paint brushes
- Jingle bells (gold and silver)
- Hot glue gun
- Metallic ribbon
- Scissors
- Adult help

#### What you do:

1. Paint half the sticks gold and half silver. Let dry.
2. Glue three bells to each stick.
3. Cut a six-inch piece of ribbon for each stick. Tie a bow and glue it to the noisemaker. Celebrate!



# January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  <i>Office Closed</i>	2 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal	3 11:30am Purl Girls (100) 1:30pm Arthritis Exer. (103)	4 10am UMW Board Mtg (105) 5:30pm Marijuana Anon(100) 7 pm ChristCare - DL(107) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	5	6
7 5pm Bible Study (207)  <i>Youth Group 5-8 p.m.</i>	8 12:30pm ChristCare-EP (100) 12:30pm Games N Such (FH) 6pm Trustees (105) 7pm Stephen Ministry (100/7)	9 5:00 pm Oberlin Choristers (FH) 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal	10 9:30am All Staff Mtg (205) 11:30am Purl Girls (100) 1 pm Parish Nurse Available 1:30pm Arthritis Exer. (103) 2 pm ChristCare-JMc (205) 3pm Girl Scouts-Rachael (FH) 7 pm ChristCare-GM (107)	11 10:30am UMW Gen. Mtg (FH) 5:30pm Marijuana Anon(100) 7 pm ChristCare - DL(107) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	12	13
14 5pm Bible Study (207)  <i>Youth Laser Tag 8-7 p.m.</i>	15 <i>Office Closed</i> 12:30pm ChristCare-EP (100) 7pm Finance (107) 7pm Caregivers Group (100/Library) 	16 5:00 pm Oberlin Choristers (FH) 7:00pm Mission Team (107) 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal <div>MESSANGER DEADLINE</div>	17 11:30am Purl Girls (100) 1:30pm Arthritis Exer. (103) 6pm Girl Scouts -Susan (FH) 7 pm ChristCare-GM (107)	18 10am CWRU (107) 10am Bible Study (205) 5:30pm Marijuana Anon(100) 7 pm ChristCare - DL(107) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	19	20
21 5pm Bible Study (207)  <i>Youth Group 5-8 p.m.</i>	22 12:30pm ChristCare-EP (100) 7:30pm ChristCare-G/J/L (205) 7pm Leadership Council (207)	23 5:00 pm Oberlin Choristers (FH) 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal	24 11:30am Purl Girls (100) 1:30pm Arthritis Exer. (103) 2 pm ChristCare-JMc (205) <b>5:30pm Community Meal</b> 7 pm ChristCare-GM (107)	25 10am CWRU (107) 10am Bible Study (205) 10am UMW Missions (FH) 5:30pm Marijuana Anon(100) 7 pm ChristCare - DL(107) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	26 Theater Group (FH) 3—6pm	27
28 5pm Bible Study (207)  <i>Youth Group 5-8 p.m.</i>	29 12:30pm ChristCare-EP (100) 7:30pm ChristCare-G/J/L (205)	30 5:00 pm Oberlin Choristers (FH) 7:30pm 11:28 Rehearsal	31 11:30am Purl Girls (100) 1:30pm Arthritis Exer. (103) 7 pm ChristCare-GM (107)			

## **WESTLAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Mollie Brown *Senior Pastor* [mgbrown@westlakeumc.org](mailto:mgbrown@westlakeumc.org)  
Annie Kaschube *Organist, Children's Choir Director,*  
*Director of Handbells, and Interim Chancel Choir Director*  
Betsy Kaiser *Nursery Assistant*  
Rev. Don Lefelar *Volunteer Visitation Pastor*  
Ellie Peiffer *Small Group & Welcoming Ministries*  
Gretty Myers *Stephen Ministry Coordinator*  
Jeanne Halaby *Nursery Assistant*  
Jill Farkas *Custodian*  
Kathy Tafuri *Volunteer Parish Nurse*  
Kay Martin *Interim Christian Education Director*  
Lynne Wolf *Office Coordinator*  
Morgan Lux *Nursery Assistant*  
Patti Barnes *Nursery Coordinator*  
Rachael Grech *Youth Coordinator*  
Rich Gallo *11:28 Worship Leader*  
Raphe Neapolitan *Finance Manager*  
WUMC Volunteer Librarian: Katie Salis

### **OTHER PASTORS CONNECTED TO THIS CONGREGATION:**

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

## *Coming Up*

- 1/7** Simpson UMC Community Meal (p. 5)  
**1/11** UMW General Meeting (p. 3)  
**1/14** Last day to register for Daniel Plan (p. 2)  
Youth Laser Tag and Pizza! (p. 6)  
**1/15** Caregiver's Support Group (p. 4)  
**1/27** Twice Blessed Free Store Mission  
Opportunity at Nehemiah Mission (p. 5)

**\* MESSENGER ARTICLES FOR FEBRUARY: DUE MONDAY, JANUARY 15TH \***

Mailed December 29, 2017  
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)

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**WESTLAKE  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**