



Jefferson United Methodist Church
125 East Jefferson Street
Jefferson, OH 44047
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admin@jeffersonumc.com
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

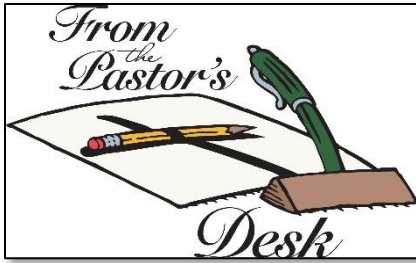
Office hours are 8:30 - 2:00 M-F
Lunch: 11:30 – 12:00 daily

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

September, 2023

Volume 108





“This is a day of new beginnings...” Each year when churches return to their program year, I am reminded of new beginnings. Surrounded by the plans of new Bible studies to be taught, the pile of paperwork to be completed by charge conference, and making sure each item is crossed off the ever-growing to do list offers both anxiety and joy. It is amid the seeming chaos and plans that I am reminded of a beloved hymn. “This is a Day of

New Beginnings,” a hymn written by Brian Wren. Originally, the hymn was written for a New Years Day Service. While Wren created the hymn for a singular event, he shares, “in itself, the new year is an arbitrary convention, its “newness” a mere mark on the calendar. The recurrent awakening of life in nature is not a strong enough foundation for hope of real change. Yet by faith in the *really* new events of the Christian story, a day, or a month, or an hour can become charged with promise, and be a springboard to a changed life.”

As we begin our new program year, I invite us into this attitude of ‘newness’. With discernment from leadership of the church, we are beginning this season with remembering our history and identity, living in the present, and striving towards perfection as we hope for our future. Years ago, under the leadership of Pastor Meredith, the church discerned a call and mission to center us as JUMC and more importantly as followers of Christ. This program year, we are returning to our roots as we envision again our call to, “Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World.” This year we will spend intentional time living into this mission: studying together, praying together, worshiping, and serving the least and lost together. I invite each of you to join us in this new mission as we strive towards an ever-growing faithfulness.

“This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that’s gone.” The first verse is a call, a much-needed call to set aside the hurt and worries of our past and current disappointments and disillusionments and live into this new day. God has called us to this new season, and we remember and give thanks for who we have been. Now, we must also set aside the past as our guide for the future; rather, we are called to put our new hope in Christ’s vision for who we are meant to be. While this may cause anxiety and feelings of uncertainty, Wren offers in verses three and four the following words, “Then let us, with the Spirit’s daring, step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find. Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.

May we find peace that Christ goes before us. We do not journey alone, and I pray that this year will be one filled with joy, laughter, holy discomfort, and answering’s to God’s love, a love that fills and perfects us. Brothers and sister in Christ, let us, “love God, love others, and serve the world!” It is a day of new beginnings!





We're gearing up for our week of service in 2024 to a location yet to be decided. Our team helps repair homes, build ramps and porches; whatever is asked of us by our host organization. No construction experience is necessary, just a heart to serve and build relationships while sharing the love of Christ with others. There is something for everyone to help with, even if it's supervising, photographing or talking with the homeowners. Please join us for our organizational meeting on Sunday, September 24th at noon. We welcome anyone who is interested in or may be interested in going on a weeklong mission trip next summer.

We do have 2 fundraisers on the calendar already, all are welcome to help, even if you are unable to participate in the mission trip:

- Saturday, October 7, 6:00 pm – Make and serve dinner for the Jefferson Historical Society Annual meeting.
- Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 14-15 - Covered Bridge Festival Pancake Breakfast which this year will be held at the Expo Center on the fairgrounds.

We hope you will join us on September 24th! For further information please contact Kathy Housel at 440-487-0527 or email kmhousel1962@gmail.com.



You may recall the large number of graduates we celebrated in May. Please remember to keep them in prayer as they enter the next chapter of their journey. Many of them are settling in on campuses locally and afar, joining young people from our church already established in the college life.

Please continue to pray for all our college students, that they will find community, study well, and thrive outside of the safety and comforts of home.



Verse of the Day

Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.

- Luke 16:10

Voice of the Day

You may die never sure if you have actually followed your calling. But in the day-to-day of your life, in the small things of your life, you can still experience Christ.

- Gene Luen Yang,

“Write Your Life, Live Your Faith”

Prayer of the Day

Lord, teach us to be faithful in what you have stewarded to us. May we find you in the small and quiet moments of our day.



JUMC Library News



Work will resume in September on the extensive refreshing of your library. Look for book sales, and

other events as we work together to bring a new vibe to the library!

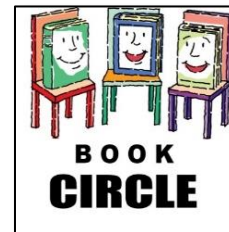
We are a great source for picture books, board books, novels, teen reads, Christmas, biographies, devotionals, Bibles, DVDs and music. Stop in! Be surprised!



The Chancel Choir has started rehearsing, but it is NEVER too late to join them. They meet every Wednesday night from 7-8:30 in the sanctuary. There is

always lots of singing, fellowship and laughter! We have a great time, so if you enjoy singing, please come on any Wednesday night and see what fun YOU can have! If you have any questions talk to any choir member or contact Ruth Rea at 216-319-9748.

The JUMC Bell Choir will start their rehearsals on Sept. 20 at 6:30. We will play for the first time this season in October. Let Ruth Rea know if you are interested in joining us or even subbing when we need some extra help!



September

The Mostly True Story of Tanner and Louise
by Colleen Oakley

Thursday, September 21st, 1:00 PM at Kathy Housel's. Please note the change of date and time from usual.

October

We Band of Angels

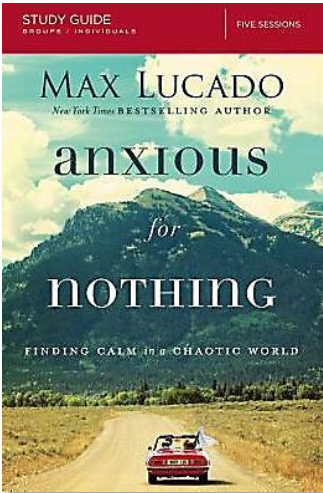
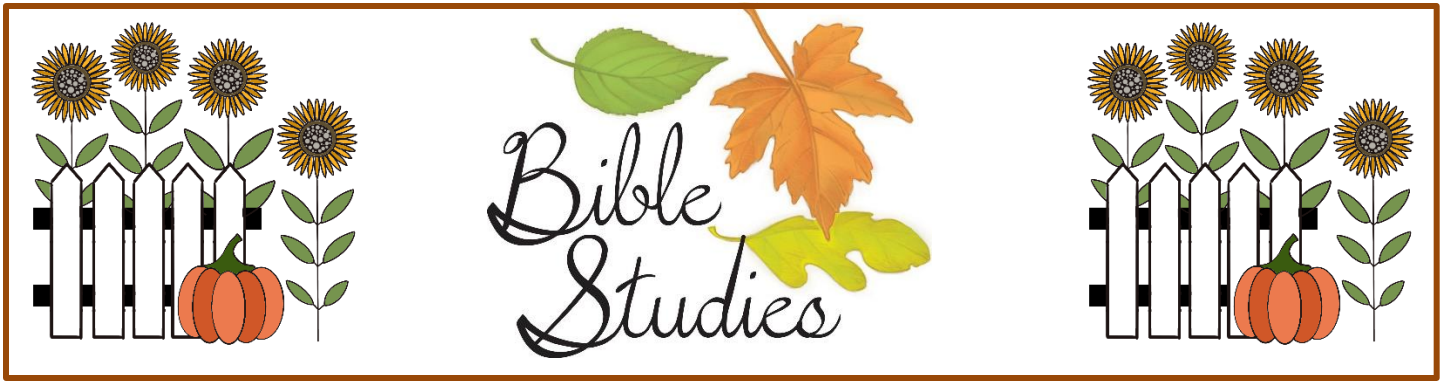
By Elizabeth Norman

November

North: A Novel

By Brad Kessler

Open to other suggestions for books to read!! Please join us & keep reading!



Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World Women at the Well Fall 5-Week Study

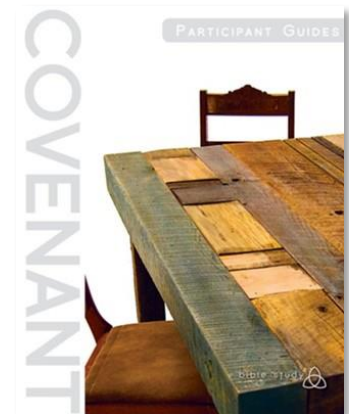
Thursdays 10:30am-noon
Beginning September 14th
Led by Laurie Krieg

Be certain to buy the study guide (\$8.50 on Amazon), not the text book itself.

Please read the introduction and Chapter 1, up to page 22 for our 1st week.

If you have any questions, call Laurie at: 440-858-3884

Beginning this month, Pastor Lizzie will be leading a Bible Study around the resource, Covenant Bible Study. "Covenant Bible Study guides small groups through a comprehensive, in-depth study of the whole Bible over twenty-four sessions broken into three eight-session modules. It underscores the unique relationship that God chooses to have with us as God's people. This relationship is grounded in the faithfulness of God's love and on our ongoing commitment to stay in relationship with God while we share signs of God's love with others.



Each Covenant Bible Study participant needs a Participant Guide and a Bible. The Participant Guide walks study participants through the daily scripture readings and offers space to interact personally with the readings, the group experience, and the weekly meditations. This single volume Participant Guide contains the materials required for all three modules: Creating, Living and Trusting.

Our study will begin on September 12, 2023. We will meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. The first 8 weeks will be held from September 12- October 31st. Please let Pastor Lizzie know if you have any questions.



Community Corner



To encourage intergenerational relationships in our church family, we are changing the way we do children's education. Instead of a traditional children's Sunday school, we will have Community Corner available in Wesley Hall each Sunday, beginning September 17th. Everyone will be welcome at the community corner tables. There will be a weekly, scripture-relevant craft or activity available for participants. Our hope is that these activities will provide an opportunity for volunteers to engage our kids and other adults in intentional conversations, creating meaningful relationships. We are seeking 1-2 volunteers each week to facilitate the Community Corner activities. The time obligation is very minimal, simply come to worship a few minutes early to orient yourself with the day's craft/activity, then sit in the Community Corner table during fellowship, assisting with the activity and engaging in conversation. There is no long-term commitment beyond the week you sign up for. However, we do view this as a collective, church-wide initiative to be welcoming to all. If everyone signs up for just one Sunday, we will easily have 2 volunteers in the Community Corner each week.



Join us at Jefferson United Methodist Church for a Blessing of the Pets on October 1st at 2:00 or if there is inclement weather it will be October 8th at 2:00.

Please bring your dogs, cats, birds, snakes, or whatever creature you call family, and let us offer a blessing for them and your household. Our pets are more than just animals; they are our family. Bring a lawn chair, and join us for a great opportunity for blessings and fellowship. Please park in the parking lot at Jefferson UMC at 125 East Jefferson Street,

Jefferson, OH 44047 We will gather in the park by the church (the one with the picnic tables). Dogs need to be leashed, and other pets need to be safely contained. There will be some pet treats and water bowls accessible for the pets. Please email or call the office if there are questions.



Manna deliveries



We continue to deliver to our 16 clients on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. In all, 23 people receive food through these deliveries. This is a rewarding and fun ministry, as we get to know our clients and become friends. If you find yourself wanting to participate, call 440-479-8252 for more information.



East Ohio Conference Annual Charge conferences will be held on October 14th. JUMC will once again be hosting ALL of the Ashtabula county UMC churches for this important day. Charge conference will start at 2pm. Stay tuned for more information!

SUSANNA'S CUPBOARD

I, Susanna, am writing to thank each of you who has given the large gifts and the small gifts to fill our little cupboard. The people who use the cupboard are grateful for every gift, and I am speaking for them. We have been a resource for three years now!

Pastor Lizzie has a great plan to hold a protein drive for our cupboard, as that is the most expensive thing we purchase. She will reveal the details about the protein drive on September 17th. GOD bless Pastor Lizzie for thinking of this.

I thank all our cupboard fillers: Barb Heath, Luann Lister, Helen Ferraro, Rebecca Feick, and Zane Jerome. Thank you for your faithful service!





As much as we don't like to think about it, the weather will inevitably turn colder and we will naturally become less active. We would like to highlight the opportunities here at JUMC to keep moving our bodies.

Pickleball

- Monday 9:00am – 10:30am: Organized games
- Thursday 9:00am – 10:30am: Organized games
- Equipment is available for use in the building anytime Wesley Hall is not occupied.

Yoga

- Monday 10:30am – Adaptive Yoga
 - This practice uses support to help you build strength & stamina, improve balance & have more energy. Suitable for all levels - mat recommended but not required (wear supportive rubber sole shoes if not using a mat).
- Monday 6:30pm - Low Light VinYin Yoga
 - Active vinyasa flow blends with the long holds of yin for strength, cardio endurance, flexibility & deep tissue release. Mindful movement, breathwork, seated and standing postures in low light let you explore connection of mind, body & spirit. Suitable for all levels. Bring your mat & a bottle of water. Suitable for most.
- Investment: Donations accepted.
 - Suggested donation: Older adults & Students \$3-5 / Others \$10-15
 - All amounts gratefully accepted (donations shared with JUMC)

Walking

Our sprawling building offers a great opportunity to get those walking steps. And if you would like to challenge yourself, you can add incline walking (the ramp) and stair climbing (basement or sanctuary steps) to your route.





Hunger can affect people from all walks of life. Millions of people in America are just one job loss, missed paycheck, or medical emergency away from hunger. But hunger doesn't affect everyone equally - some groups like children, seniors, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color face hunger much higher rates. Hunger also most often affects our neighbors who live in poverty.

Facts about hunger in America

- According to the USDA, more than 34 million people, including 9 million children, in the United States are food insecure.
- The pandemic has increased food insecurity among families with children and communities of color, who already faced hunger at much higher rates before the pandemic.
- Every community in the country is home to families who face hunger. But rural communities are especially hard hit by hunger.
- Many households that experience food insecurity do not qualify for federal nutrition programs and visit their local food banks and other food programs for extra support.
- Hunger in African American, Latino, and Native American communities is higher because of systemic racial injustice. To achieve a hunger-free America, we must address the root causes of hunger and structural and systemic inequities.

Pick a Protein Drive

Jefferson UMC wants to do our part to help, so we are calling on YOU! Jefferson UMC'S Susanna's Cupboard helps to feed those in our community that have food insecurities. Often, some of the most needed foods are proteins. **Beginning on September 24th- October 15th**, we will collect various proteins to help stock Susanna's cupboard so that we can help those who might be experiencing difficulties with food insecurity and hunger. **We invite you to help with our 'Pick a Protein Drive,' by bringing cans of chicken, tuna, Spam, hash, and jars of peanut butter. We will collect them during worship each Sunday, and we will see the gifts of protein as we worship.** If you would like to donate during the week, there will be a box in the office where you can drop off your donation. Thank you for your help!





On September 10th, we will transition to a NEW program year schedule.

There will be one worship service, led alternately by the Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, and Praise team, at 9:30am.

Fall Kick-Off

Since we all know dessert is the best part of the meal, we are kicking off the program year with a dessert party! Bring your favorite dessert to share after worship on September 10th. We will have a wonderful time of fellowship and fun as we sample everyone's best recipe.

Beginning September 17th, fellowship, adult Sunday school classes, and community corner activities will start after worship, at approximately 10:30am.

ADULT Sunday School

We have opportunities for adults to engage their faith in new and expanding ways on Sunday mornings.

- Siblings in Christ – led by Ann Marrison and held in the classroom by the WIC office. Materials provided by the church, contact Ann or the office.
- New Class – led by John and Nancy Patterson. Organizational meeting to be held in Angel's Wing on 9/17 to discern content and direction. Open to all adults.
- If you are interested in leading or starting a new class, please contact Pastor Lizzie or the office.



**JUMC “General Fund”
Monthly Summary through
July 31, 2023**

Monthly Budget	\$29,718
Average Monthly Contributions	\$22,991
Average Monthly Expenses	\$25,022
“Shared Ministries” (Conference Apportionments) Paid	58.7%

**JUMC “Building Fund”
Summary as of
July 31, 2023**

Total Expenses (Phases 1-3 plus new entrance driveway)	\$660,344
Paid to Date	\$535,344
Congregational Loans (<i>Payable by 12/31/2024</i>)	\$60,000
Congregational Loans (<i>Payable by 12/31/2027</i>)	\$65,000

Susanna Wesley House in Phnom Penh



Greetings!

For the month of July, we made a 2 min 30 sec video of Susanna Wesley House so that you can see the smiles of our students as they have fun with our SWH alumnis (and some church friends) after church. As a bonus, we have a short clip to show what the wet season looks like for our students.

[SWH July 2023 Newsletter/Video](#)

We pray that this short clip can bring smiles to your face!

Thank you for your continued love and support for the Cambodia mission!

SWH Team

Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Am I the only who finds it hard to believe summertime is waning? As we move in the Fall season, we are looking at scheduling issues and seeking input from you. We currently have the following schedule of activities:

- 9-11 - food prep, setting tables, preparing coffee pot, setting out coffee mugs, glasses, plates, trays, etc.
- 12:30 – 3:30 –heating food, packaging food for our deliveries, washing up pots and pans, cutting and plating desserts, setting up the steam table, plugging in coffee, etc.
- 3:30 – 7:00 – Prepare hot water for tea, and make decaf coffee. set out ice, ice water, tea water, lemonade, iced tea depending on the season, getting food to the steam table, serving, busing, washing dishes, pots and pans, putting away/freezing leftovers, wiping down counters, taking out the garbage, turning off lights, securing doors.

We are sad to share that Miki is stepping down as our CC main cook to spend more family time – grand babies will do that, we know. Miki (and a number of others) have been cooking up yummy food since the beginning of Christian Café, 20 years ago. Miki and Doreen have worked together for a number of years to provide wonderful meals for many in our community. Miki will be missed for her many contributions and we acknowledge her many years of dedicated service in helping to make Christian Café an ongoing success. Thank You, Miki.

Doreen is now assuming the leadership role in preparing hot foods and ordering supplies, so we are looking for additional cooking help with the hope that we can have a rotating schedule of cooks. If you are interested in helping, please contact Doreen directly about the cooking schedule. Or if you know of someone who enjoys cooking and might like to assist, let us know. Contact Doreen for more information on the schedule for preparing food.

We have strong regulars for the first two slots but can always use back-ups to cover an absence. Our greatest need for regular helpers is the 3:30 – 7 slot and we are asking for help for a new time slot: 5:30 – 7 to help with the final surge to the finish line. Perhaps someone who is employed or in school would like to help and this time slot can provide the perfect time opportunity so think about joining us.

Please help us continue this important ministry for our church and our community.

If you have any questions, please call: **Doreen 440 319 7972** **Martha 440 862 2331**

Martha Haluszka, Health Ministry



Jefferson United
Methodist Church
Youth Group

BACK 2 YOUTH GROUP

OPEN HOUSE

*September 10th @6pm
in the youth room*

We will have refreshments and light snacks.
We also want to take this opportunity to get together and talk about new visions and goals for the youth group this year. We encourage all the parents to come and stay so that we may get your input as well, new ideas are welcome!

For more information call our front office at 440-576-4561 or email me at crystal@jeffersonumc.com



**Hooray! Messy
Church is here
to stay!**

Join us every third Tuesday
of the month at 5:30 PM
starting September 19th for
Messy Church here at JUMC.
We welcome volunteers to help
at the craft table, in the
kitchen, or help lead a small
10-minute devotion.
We would love you to come out
to teach us something new.

For more information or to sign up please
contact Crystal Rivera, Kathy Housel or the
front office at 440.576.4561





SEPTEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

3	Kelly Jerome Nita Mountjoy
7	Ben Gage
8	Joy Ebersole
9	Roy Lawson
11	Doug Winner
12	Lisa Brail
13	Samantha Waller Alexis O'Neill Debbie Winner
15	June Marlow
16	Kim Paul
19	Chuck Phelps Sarah Misinec
26	Wayne Glover
27	Laurie Krieg
29	Carolyn Behr-Jerome



SEPTEMBER, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9am - Fellowship 9am - Praise Band 10am - Worship	9am - Pickle Ball 6:30pm - Boy Scouts	10am - Ministry team	7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's 6pm - Practice	8am - WIC	12pm - Private Event
9am - Fellowship 10am - Worship	9am - Pickle Ball 6:30pm - Boy Scouts	4pm - Christian Cafe @	7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball	8am - WIC	8:30am - Stephen Min.
9:30am - Praise Band 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 6pm - Youth Group	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6pm - Ad Board 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	6:30pm - Covenant	7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's 3pm - Quilters	8am - WIC	9:30am - Private Event 10am - Quilters
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 10:30am - Sunday	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 4pm - Finance meeting 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	4pm - Christian Cafe @ 5:30pm - Messy 6:30pm - Covenant	6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's 6pm - Private Event	8am - WIC	9:30am - Private Event 10am - Quilters
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 10:30am - Sunday	9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Yoga - 6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow	10am - Min. Meeting 6:30pm - Covenant	5pm - SPRC 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	9am - Pickle Ball 12pm - R & R Pasta	8am - WIC	9:30am - Private Event 10am - Quilters