



Jefferson United Methodist Church
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Office Hours:
Monday – Wednesday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Thursday 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

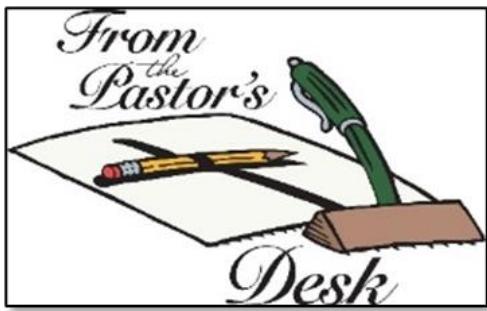
**Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.**

Our Motto: Love God ~ Love Others ~ Serve the World

September, 2025

Volume 134

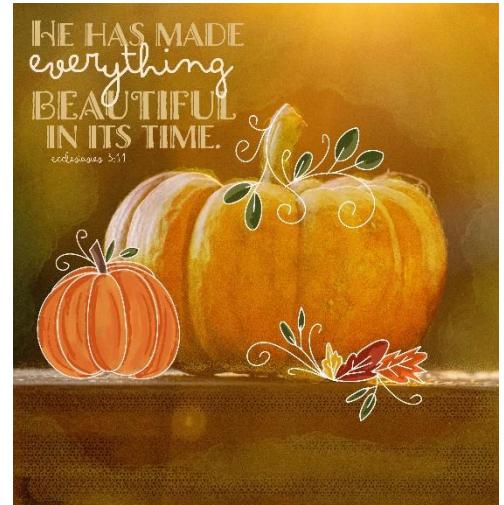




“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens”
Ecclesiastes. 3:1, NIV

EVERYTHING HAS ITS SEASON

One of my favorite passages in the Bible is Ecclesiastes 3. This chapter begins with the popular words: “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens” (Ecc. 3:1, NIV). It then goes on to talk about various parts of life and how each one of these stages has its place in our “story.” Around this time of year, I usually find myself reflecting on this passage quite a bit. Why? Well, first of all, there is a dramatic change in life. We move from summer to fall. The picnics begin to end, school starts again, the laziness of summer turns to the busyness of the fall schedule, the weather begins to cool down and the leaves change color. Fall is probably my favorite season of the year, but even more, I appreciate this “changing of the guard,” if you will. Even though I may find myself complaining in the heat of summer or the dead of winter about Ohio weather, I truly do enjoy the fact that in Northeast Ohio we get to experience all four seasons – even if they do like to mix themselves up a bit here!!!



Second, I usually find myself reflecting on Ecclesiastes 3 at this time each year because I watch how the seasons of life keep going on. Kids go back to school at a higher grade than they were before. (I’m in awe that mine are in 6th grade and 3rd grade this year!) My girls transition from softball to soccer. In my extended family, there are lots of birthdays (including my 40th in October) in the fall, so I reflect on the year past. Carin and I celebrate our anniversary September 22, so that brings another time to pause and appreciate the passing of time. All of this and more lends an ear to my reflections. For there truly is a time and season for everything.

And so, I start thinking about all the stages of life we go through. We have our ups and our downs. We have moments of happiness and moments of sadness. We have celebrations and we have remembrances. We have hellos and we have goodbyes. And certainly, this is just the tip of the iceberg. All of us go through many stages as we live out our stories in this life. But the important thing to remember is that they are just that – stages. Nothing lasts forever; rather everything is just another step as we continue on our journey.

But even more, each of these moments – these steps – are ordained by God. Yes, there is a time for everything, and everything is given to us by God. We will go through various different stages of life, but all of them work together for the good of our God who loves us so much. Each step is a part of the great plan God has for each one of us.

So, if you are going through a rough time right now, take some time to ask God for guidance and direction. If you are going through an exciting time, take time to thank God for what you have been given. For it all works together to create our story – the story which God has written for us. Take time to appreciate this and remember that God is always by our side. And furthermore, remember that even though the seasons change, God is always constant and unchanging. God is always there – loving us just like He promised!

Believe it or not, the summer is winding down quickly! On **Sunday, September 7**, we will have our Rally Day Kickoff, as we jump into the Fall and its accompanying ministries. Join us for worship at 9:30 as we honor our 50+ Year “JUMC Family Members.” Following, we will be treated to a yummy breakfast (cheesy eggs, sausage gravy & biscuits, cinnamon rolls, and beverages) by Bob Davis (+ helpers) and we will hold a Discipleship Fair – highlighting our ministries – many which maybe you didn’t even know about and may want to be a part of! It promises to be a fun day as we continue to celebrate our story!



Who wants ice cream?! We are going to gather at **Dairy Delight on Sunday, September 28 from 5-6 p.m.** and treat the community to ice cream. This is a chance to be out in the community at a popular establishment and meet those whom God has entrusted us to serve. Hope to see you there!



**Every 2nd Friday,
Beginning Sep. 12, 6-8 p.m.**

Bring your favorite board or card game(s) and a snack to share!

Come enjoy some fun & fellowship!



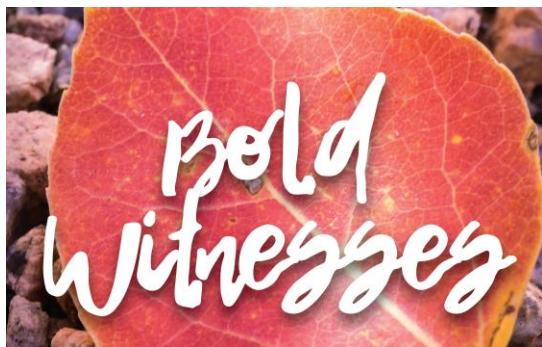
September BIRTHDAYS

A decorative banner with sunflowers and a lit candle is positioned below the title.

3	Kelly Jerome
3	Nita Mountjoy
8	Joy Ebersole
9	Roy Lawson
11	Doug Winner
12	Lisa Brail
13	Alexis O'Neill
13	Debbie Winner
15	June Marlow
19	Chuck Phelps
19	Sarah Misinec
27	Laurie Krieg
29	Carolyn Behr-Jerome

Happy Birthday





Verse of the Day

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

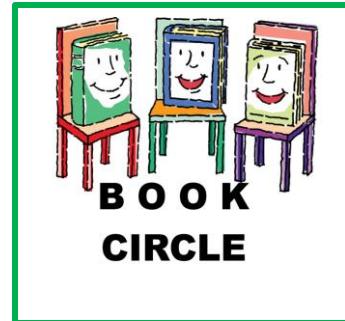
- **Isaiah 58:6**

Voice of the Day

If you want to be a friend of God — and God needs all the friends that God can get in these times — then you'll have to work for a better world. - **Michael Woolf**
[In Difficult Times, We Find Out What Kind of Christians We Are](#)

Prayer of the Day

God, make us true friends of yours by guiding us to free the oppressed, break every yoke of injustice, and work with love and courage for a better world.



September 18: The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

October 16: The Lotus Shoes by Jane Yang

November 20: None Left to Tell by Noelle Ihli

Bring your lunch and beverage and keep on reading! Join us!!

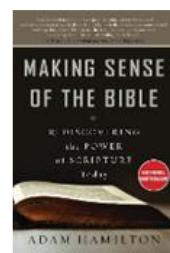
Fall Bible Study

Making Sense of the Bible
(Adam Hamilton)

6-Week Study, Beginning the First Week of September

Wednesdays at 10 a.m. AND Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Suggested Donation for the book is \$10
Sign up in the office!



Hugs from
Bev Berrier

Thank you for all the cards, phone calls and visits for my 91st birthday! Your kindness and generosity are so appreciated.

MISSION Corner

GOURMET GUYS & GALS!!

Don't forget to save time for the Gourmet Guys and Gals event. Yes, we didn't have enough guys to sign up, so now there are gals, too, who will cook & serve us on Sunday, September 7 at 4 PM. You won't even have to make dinner. You will find main dishes, side dishes, appetizers and desserts. Please attend--\$10 and all proceeds go to our Change the World. You can read in this edition about 2 of the agencies that we help to fund with this money. It should be a fun & filling evening!

CHANGE THE WORLD FUND

Thank you to all who have counted your coins & contributed to the Change the World fund through the calendars this year! Hope you had fun checking all the things over the 6 weeks!

MISSION BARN

There is one more scheduled visit to the Mission Barn in PA – Saturday, September 13. Please sign up on the clipboard sheet, if interested. We will probably schedule more in the spring.

WHERE DOES OUR MONEY GO?

We are, once again, highlighting the 4 agencies that we are supporting with our **Change the World Fund**. The first is the Kinship program at Ashtabula County Children Services.

Since 2023, we have spent almost \$4000 to assist kinship families using the funds provided by JUMC. We assisted 3 families with emergency clothing and 1 family with emergency food as the children often come to their homes without much warning and often with nothing. We assisted one family with purchasing a refrigerator; the family paid for half the cost and we paid the other half. We reimbursed one family for the driver's education fees for a child in their care and we paid for car repairs for another family. We also paid the program fees for 2 children attending A-Tech. And finally, we provided school supplies to several families last year and plan to do that again this year with a Back-to-School give away for kinship families.

We have made these funds available as "emergency" assistance to any kinship family in the county. I know the families are very appreciative to receive this help as kinship families are often retired grandparents on fixed incomes or families who already have birth children of their own to care for. When they call our agency for assistance, our Kinship Care Coordinator makes sure they get information about other helpful resources as well. Kinship families are welcome to call our office at 440-998-1811 and speak to Jasmine Hopson any time for assistance. Thank you JUMC for helping us help families and children!

Sincerely,

Tania Burnett, MSW, LISW-D, Executive Director

Here is our 2nd agency to support:

Here are some highlights from this past school year:

- Our CCO varsity student athlete ministry directly impacted approximately 250 of the 450 varsity athletes at the University of Pittsburgh through large and small groups led by staff and student leaders.
- I met weekly with 20 females for discipleship.
- We have a weekly large group fellowship for varsity athletes on Tuesday nights from 9-10pm. Our weekly attendance would range from 40-75 participants depending on competition and athletic schedules.
- We have a group of 15 student leaders that we meet monthly as a large group and weekly individually. These students are influencers on their teams and within the athletic department, as well as within our ministry helping with our large group fellowship and leading peers in small groups.
- In May we took 15 athletes on a mission trip to Marsh Harbour, Abaco Bahamas. Since 2011, my coworker and I have taken more than 250 student athletes on overseas mission trips.

This upcoming year we are excited to continue this flourishing ministry! We will continue our weekly programs and have a fantastic group of student leaders who are excited to share the love of Jesus with their peers!

Please let me know if you would like more info. Tried to keep it brief but specific as possible.

Blessings,

Kelly

Susanna Wesley Ministries

Greetings,

As you may know, there is ongoing conflict between Cambodia and Thailand. We ask for your continued prayers for peace and for the families who have lost loved ones during this difficult time. Your support means a great deal to us.

Please take a moment to read about what SWM is doing in Cambodia.

Thank you for your prayers for our ministry.

May God bless you!

SWM Team

Phnom Penh

Susanna Wesley Ministries

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Susanna Wesley House

Shine Project

Children's Ministry

Prayer for Cambodia (Written by Nya - GMF)

- Please pray for the ongoing situation between Cambodia and Thailand. Ask God to bring peace, understanding, and resolution to any conflicts, and for leaders on both sides to act with wisdom and compassion.
- Pray for the soldiers and all those who are directly affected by the conflict at the border. Lift those who have lost loved ones, homes, or property, asking God to comfort them in their grief and provide for their needs. Pray for God's mercy and compassion to cover the entire situation, and for peace, healing, and restoration for all who are suffering.



Understanding Ourselves and Each Other (Written by Nya - GMF)



As part of our student development program, dorm students recently took part in a Personality Test activity to explore their strengths and understand themselves better. For many of the students, it was their first time engaging in this kind of self-reflective activity. The test helped them discover more about their personality traits, such as whether they are introverted or extroverted, whether they rely more on thinking or feeling, and how these traits influence their

learning style, communication, and relationships. It was encouraging to see students not only gain insights into their own behaviors and preferences but also begin to understand and appreciate the differences in those around them. The activity was fun and meaningful, sparking conversations and laughter as students shared their results. It also reminded us that each of us is "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14), with different gifts and personalities given by God. We're thankful for this opportunity to grow in self-awareness and build stronger relationships within our dorm family!

Shine Project - Vocational Training Program

This month, we are excited to visit SreyMey, one of our Shine project alumni, who has successfully opened her salon in her hometown. SreyMey joined our program in 2023, where she honed her salon skills through dedicated training. After completing her courses, she gained valuable experience by working at a local salon for about a year and a half. In January 2025, she took a remarkable step by starting her own business,



and half a year has already passed since she opened her doors. SreyMey shared that although her hometown does not attract a large customer base but she can earn a good income, and the opportunity to stay close to her family and care for her parents brings her immense joy and satisfaction. (Written by Youlika)



Children's Ministry

Thank You for Support

We have donated a TV set to New Life Methodist Church, that located in Kandal province. In their church, it has about 15 to 25 kids and three Sunday school teachers who come to join them every week. We pray that through this project may the church may grow and bear fruit. The total cost to purchase a 55-inch TV and a stand is \$450.



How to Support: An annual tuition for most of the universities in Phnom Penh is about \$600.

Online support: <https://advance.umcmission.org/p-393-children-and-youth-scholarships.aspx>
Children and Youth Scholarships - Advance # 3020791

To donate by check: Please make your check payable to Advance GCFA and write the Advance # 3020791 on the memo line. (Address: Advance GCFA PO Box 9068 GPO New York, NY 10087-9068)

Contact: Reasey Long (Susanna Wesley Ministries Coordinator) - reasey1155@gmail.com

SUSANNA'S CUPBOARD

Thank you all for the wonderful treats you thought of for our summer kids! We received protein bars, drink mixes, sweets, cracker packs, fruit treats, pudding cups, chips, and so much more. Your generosity made a great summer for the kids who use the Cupboard!



September Choir Notes

Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings with bell choir rehearsal from 6:30-7:15 and chancel choir rehearsal from 7:15-8:30. We are hoping to see some new faces this year. There are kindhearted helpful people in both groups who would love to welcome some new members! Please contact the director, Mary Crow at merrymbc@gmail.com if you have any questions.

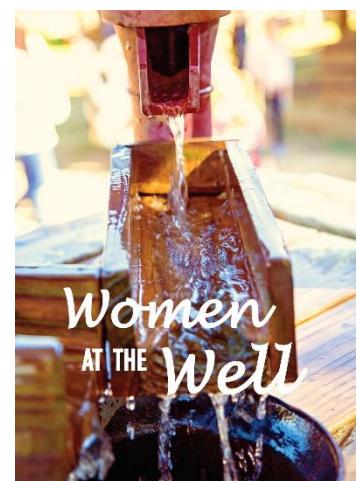
Jesus In Me Women's Bible Study

The Holy Spirit is the third person in the Trinity and probably the least understood. Yet Scripture tells us that the Holy Spirit is our guide and counselor. In the midst of life's changes and losses, we each need a friend, a confidante, someone who will come alongside us and share every step of our journey. Someone who will listen to us, advocate for us and comfort us. Someone we can trust.

Join us on Thursday mornings for 8 weeks as we learn more about our Comforter, Counselor and Friend. The Women at the Well Thursday morning Bible study will begin Thursday, Sept. 11, from 10:30 to noon. All women are welcome.

We will be using Anne Graham Lotz's workbook titled "Jesus in Me." It can be purchased from Amazon for \$16.08. Be certain to purchase the Study Guide and not the accompanying book. If you do not have an Amazon account, let me know and I will order it for you.

If you have any questions, contact Laurie Krieg at 440-858-3884.





The new roof for the parsonage project has been completed. This project cost the church approximately \$15,000. If you would like to contribute toward this project any help would be greatly appreciated! The Trustees wish to thank those that have already donated. If you have any questions, please speak with Lauri Allen or any of the Trustees.



We are **STILL** in **desperate** need of more volunteers to help with Junior Church, particularly for the months of October, November and December. **No planning** is needed. The entire lesson and materials are prepared ahead of time. All you need to do is show up and supervise! There are even extra activities available if things go quicker than expected. As fall approaches, please pray to discern if God may be calling you to help with this ministry for our children. Consider volunteering one week each month! If we don't have enough people volunteer, we may have to stop offering this program and we don't want to do that! Sign up on the clipboard on Sunday morning or in the office.

- ❖ Charge Conference Season comes early this year!!!
- ❖ Saturday, September 13 – Charge Conference Paperwork Due
- ❖ Sat. Sep. 27 at 11 a.m. – Charge Conference at **Painesville UMC**



WHO DUN IT? – Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

The Jefferson UMC Adult Sunday School Class will be hosting an entertaining night of mystery on **October 4**. Plan on joining us for a night of good food (salad, rolls/butter, oven roasted chicken, church funeral potatoes, Italian green beans, dessert) and a mystery to solve.

SNEAK PEEK: The congregation has been invited to a special meeting of the Board where the Pastor, Rev. Rose Berry has some very exciting news. Sadly, during the meeting, a death occurs and the Board will need help to figure out "who done it" and why! More information and details, including ticket prices, will be coming in September. For now, mark your calendar for this fun evening!!! Funds earned will go to the Parsonage Roof Fund.

Jefferson UM Church, Holidays in United States

Sep 2025 (Eastern Time - New York)