

Jefferson United Methodist Church
125 East Jefferson Street
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-4561
admin@jeffersonumc.com
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

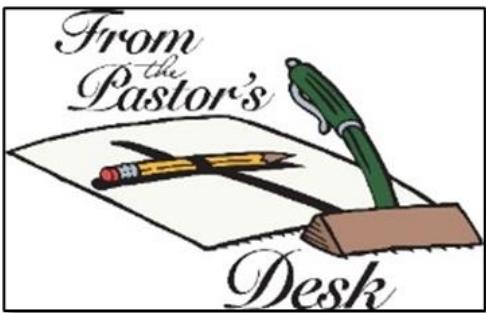
Office Hours:
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.**
Our Motto: Love God ~ Love Others ~ Serve the World

November, 2025

Volume 136





“We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign” (Rev. 11:17).

At the end of this month, a great American tradition will occur as we once again plan to celebrate Thanksgiving. And while other countries celebrate Thanksgiving in some way, it is true that Thanksgiving was originally an American holiday. Its roots, as we know well, go back to the days of the Pilgrims. The First Thanksgiving was a great feast by the Pilgrims and the Native Americans meant to celebrate and give thanks for making it through a difficult year – the first year for the Pilgrims in the New World. As time has gone on, we have also made Thanksgiving a time where we give thanks for the harvest as well as the year gone by.

I have to say, I have always loved Thanksgiving, and not just because it begins the Christmas season – my favorite time of year. Rather, I have enjoyed the time to share with family, to reflect on all the blessings I have been given in the past year, and, of course, a great meal is pretty neat, too!

But I think we all would agree that Thanksgiving seems to have lost its meaning over the years. Instead of a time to give thanks it has become a time to stuff our faces with food, have big family gatherings, and watch or play football. And of course, it is also the beginning of the holiday season! We know that once Thanksgiving comes, all bets are off as we jump right into the craziness of another Christmas marked by shopping, decorating, parties, and food.

Yes, Thanksgiving is a fine concept and a great American holiday, but do we really take the holiday as a time to express our thanksgiving? Because even though Thanksgiving is a great American tradition, it is also a great Christian virtue. Throughout Scripture we read about moments of thanksgiving. We are consistently commanded by God to give thanks in all that we do. So, keeping this in mind, isn't there a way to make Thanksgiving about more than turkey and football? Can't we find a way to make it more meaningful?



Well, let me help you out. As Christians, we can make this holiday far more significant than society makes it. We can ensure that it is not just a steppingstone to Christmas. How? By

expressing our thanksgiving to God for all that we have been given. And how do we do this? Well, many ways, but let me get you started with a few ways we read in Scripture:

1. We express thanksgiving through song.
2. We express thanksgiving through prayer.
3. We express thanksgiving to God.

So, this Thanksgiving, take some time to recover the true Spirit of the holiday. Make it about more than turkey, afternoon naps, and football. Give thanks to God! For by thanking God, we remind ourselves of how great and wonderful our God truly is. As it says in Revelation 11: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign" (Rev. 11:17). Thus, as you gather around the table at the end of this month, remember to give thanks!!!



Community Thanksgiving Meal
November 27, 2025 (Thanksgiving Day)

Everyone is invited

3:00-6:00pm

Donations are appreciated.

Pies and other desserts are always appreciated!!

Please join us for a wonderful day of food and fellowship.

For more info call Lisa 440-563-8758





3	Fran Wilson
3	Jacob Westcott
3	Zane Jerome
5	Marcia Kepiro
5	Joanne Martin
8	Tim Mizer
15	Jeannie Hoffman
20	Ron Ensell
25	Nancy Phillips
27	Betty Jacques
30	Dave Neubauer

Happy Birthday!





Game Night

Friday, November 14 from 6-8 p.m.

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

Come enjoy some fun & fellowship!

Pastor Jeremy's England Trip Presentation

Sunday, November 9 following worship

Curious about what Pastor Jeremy saw and learned on his John Wesley Heritage Tour in England? Well, after worship, grab your donuts and coffee and come see, as he shows pictures and talks about his experiences!!!



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 23 following worship

Come help get our church ready for the holiday season!!!

Growing Our Story”

THE SEED THAT Fell on Good Soil: Growing Our Story



In Jesus' Parable of the Sower, we read about different places that the seed fell - in the rocks, amongst the thorns, on the path where birds ate it, in good soil. And we are told that the seed which fell in the good soil was the seed that grew to produce fruit. Furthermore, Jesus tells us that the seed is the Word of God, and that those who hear it and allow it to grow in them are the good soil.

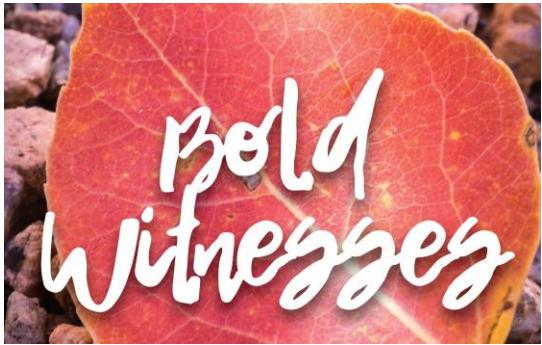
As we continue to seek to share our story - to new people...in new places...in new ways - we want that story of faith to grow! And so, we need to be like the seed in the good soil. For if we tend to our story, it will grow and produce fruit just like that seed. Part of this involves the commitment to generosity and simplicity - the giving of our time, talents, energy, and resources - which leads to joy...the joy of watching our story flourish and grow as more people hear it. So, may we all make that dedication and watch the fruit be produced a hundredfold!!!

This stewardship season, we will discover "The Seed that Fell on Good Soil: Growing Our Story," and seek to further grow the story we have to share. Based on Adam Hamilton's *Enough*, we will ascertain how the giving of our time, talents, energy, and resources through a life of generosity and simplicity leads to the joy of watching that story produce fruit. Furthermore, we will take a look at the past, present, and future of our story as we contemplate what the next chapter may be for us. And at the end, we will all have the opportunity to make our commitments to God and to the Church for the coming year! Join us and help our story grow!!!

Thank You for Your Kindness

³ *I thank my God for every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy ⁵ for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.* -Philippians 1:3-5

To our family at JUMC,
THANK YOU for the immense love and support you have given Bob and I since day one of us walking through the doors of Jefferson United Methodist Church. We were overwhelmed at mom's going away party seeing so many friends, and I'm sure that she was thrilled to see so many of her new friends come to say goodbye. You are amazing and we are eternally grateful.
We love you - Bob and Maribeth Davis



Verse of the Day

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority." - **Acts 5:29**

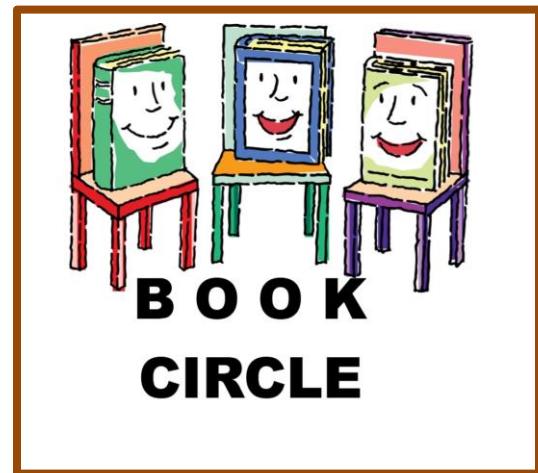
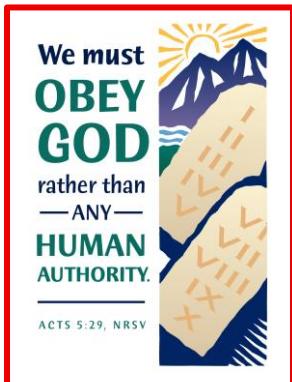
Voice of the Day

Wars will be stopped only when soldiers refuse to fight, when workers refuse to load weapons onto ships and aircraft, when people boycott the economic outposts of Empire that are strung across the globe.

- Arundhati Roy, "Public Power in the Age of Empire"

Prayer of the Day

God of justice and courage, strengthen our hearts to obey you above all earthly powers, that we may refuse to fuel the engines of war and instead labor for peace.



Book Circle for November 2025

Bring your lunch & beverage at noon & keep reading!

CHANGE OF BOOK!

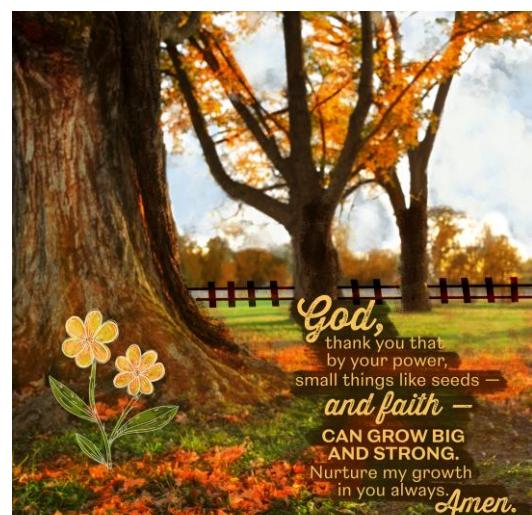
November 20: Jayber Crow
by Wendell Berry

December: Stay tuned!

January: Something to Look Forward To by Fanny Flagg

February: Buckeye by Patrick Ryan

Join us!!



MISSION Corner



**Susanna's
Cupboard**

In the last few weeks, we have received so many treats, fruit juices, and other magic, our clients must have been tickled pink. But now, we enter the season of cold, wet weather, and sloppy sidewalks, and on and on. This is the season when Susanna begs for socks and hats for our visitors. We have received two beautiful donations of hats: from Ruth Rae and from Edna Williams. But we still need hundreds of socks, gloves and mittens. We put out hats and socks every day from November to the end of April, trying to keep our friends warm and well. Will you be a sock angel this winter?



HEARD IN PASSING

How wonderful it is to hear the little chirps and peeps of the babies and toddlers in the church on Sunday morning! They are safe in their nest with all of us at JUMC, the future of our world, and our church. Welcome, Little Ones!

CAMBODIA: SUSANNA WESLEY MINISTRIES

This month, in addition to sharing the newsletter below, we're highlighting the three students we support in Cambodia. These students are working on their college degrees. Enjoy reading the biographies of the three girls which can also be found below. We send \$600 each year for each of the three students. Thank you all for your support through the Change the World Fund, which is supported by the loose change offerings each month and any other donations.

Susanna Wesley Ministries

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Susanna Wesley House

Shine Project

Children's Ministry

Welcome New Students to SWH (Written by Nya - GMF)

The new school year is beginning! We are excited to welcome Sreng Sreyneth and Nam Sineth as new students to Susanna Wesley House family!



Sreng Sreyneth is from Kampong Cham province and is now a second-year student majoring in Khmer Literature at Khmerak University. She grew up with many difficulties. Sreyneth hopes to become a Khmer teacher to help children in her community stay in school.

Nam Sineth is 18 years old from Siem Reap. Her parents divorced when she was three, and she has been raised by her grandmother. She dreams of becoming a teacher and is preparing for the university entrance exam to study at the Royal University in Phnom Penh.



Giving thanks to God for a meaningful Retreat



We give all thanks and glory to God, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who supported us in making the Susanna Wesley House retreat possible. It was more than just an event; it was a meaningful time of rest, reflection, and reconnection for our SWH family, including both current students and alumni.

Shine Project - Vocational Training Program

We are delighted to welcome **Chenda** from **Kampong Cham Province** into our family. Two years ago, Chenda experienced a serious accident that left her with a lasting leg injury. Though she spent over a year recovering, she still experiences pain when standing or walking for long periods. Because of her condition, finding stable work has been a challenge. Sadly, she has also faced hurtful words from some of her neighbors, who called her “useless” for not being able to support her family. Deeply affected by this, Chenda once even tried to leave her hometown, despite not having fully recovered.



Yet through all these struggles, Chenda's spirit remains strong. She is determined to change her life, overcome her challenges, and start her own business. We are inspired by her courage and commitment, and we're excited to see how God will continue to guide her journey forward. Supporting a participant costs \$500. *(Written by Youlika)*

Children's Ministry

Thank You for Support



We are **grateful** to share that a TV set was recently donated to Pailin Methodist Church in Pailin Province. This generous gift has been a great blessing to the church, serving not only the Sunday school children but also enhancing Sunday worship services and slide presentations. We truly thank God and everyone who made this possible. The total cost to purchase a 55-inch TV and a stand is \$450.

Greetings,

As October comes to an end, we give thanks to God for every moment He has given us here in Cambodia. The hot season has passed, and we can feel the cool wind has arrived. This month has been filled with His grace, guidance and many blessings through the ministry and our time with students. May we all continue to see God's hand at work in every season.

SWM team,
Phnom Penh

SWH Students



Sreyleak Lai is a remarkable student currently in her fourth year, balancing her studies with a part-time job as a barista and cashier at TUBE coffee, a well-known Cambodian coffee brand. She consistently excels academically and is always willing to lend a hand to her fellow dorm mates, showing great care and support for everyone around her. As she approaches the end of her studies, Sreyleak is feeling the pressure of preparing for her thesis and the upcoming State Exam. It's an intense time for

her, and any positive thoughts or prayers you could offer would surely mean a lot. Let's rally behind her as she navigates this challenging yet exciting chapter of her life!

Sara Pok is a second-year student studying Biology. Coming from a Christian family, she is the youngest of five siblings. Sara is known for her friendly and helpful nature, always making those around her feel comfortable and welcomed. Her passion for learning shines through as she continually seeks out new knowledge to enhance her confidence and skills. Sara's dream is to become a Biology teacher for middle and high school students after graduating from university. With her dedication and warmth, she is sure to inspire many future students along the way.



Lida Chon is currently a second-year student majoring in Khmer literature, with aspirations of becoming a Khmer teacher. As the eldest sibling in her family, she carries the weight of expectations, and her mother takes great pride in her journey, continually encouraging Lida to pursue her dreams through higher education. Lida is known for her friendly demeanor and her eagerness to explore new ideas and knowledge. Although she initially faced challenges adjusting to the college environment, her determination to learn allowed her to quickly adapt and integrate into the community. Her resilience has made a positive impression on her peers and instructors alike.

Here is some additional information about Sreyleak Lai. She is passionate about pursuing a degree in public administration and hopes to use her education to make a positive impact in her community. She dreams of becoming an administrator, either in a company or in a government office in her hometown, and is highly motivated to achieve her goals. She is currently looking for a part-time job related to her major, which is why she has been working as a barista for a while.

SNAP Cuts on the Horizon for Ohio Households



The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helps more than one million Ohioans purchase healthy and nutritious food each year. SNAP primarily benefits children, seniors, those with disabilities and many hardworking families. In Ohio, SNAP benefits are distributed to different households over the course of the first 3 weeks of the month. Here are specific changes that begin on November 1st that will cost many in our communities their daily bread.

1. New Bureaucracy: The federal government in July added a lot more bureaucracy to SNAP in HR 1. These bureaucratic work reporting requirements add additional requirements for many households who will be at risk of losing benefits. [You can read more about these here.](#)

2. Immigrants will lose SNAP: Under U.S. law, an undocumented immigrant has never been eligible for SNAP. However, many legal immigrants such as refugees and asylum seekers fleeing violence and war torn areas will lose out on food security as a result of H.R.1. [You can read more about the impact of the federal policy changes on those new neighbors following U.S. law here.](#)

3. The Federal Shut Down means no SNAP benefits in November: We learned last week from ODJFS that SNAP benefits will not be distributed in November in Ohio as a result of the federal shut down. In Ohio SNAP benefits are distributed onto household EBT cards by the 20th of the month. There was hope that the federal government would provide a mechanism for states to issue partial benefits, or allow those who receive benefits early in the month to receive them. However, the federal government continues to play politics with hardworking Ohioans lives.

[You can read more about SNAP in the federal government shut down here.](#)

Different states are responding differently, and at this time it is unclear if the Ohio General Assembly or Governor will intervene on behalf of more than one million Ohioans who won't be able to buy groceries in the coming weeks.

All of these federal cuts come on the heels of Ohio's operating budget last spring cutting funding for Ohio's food bank system by more than \$7 million a year.

The federal and state government must prioritize hungry neighbors and guarantee that all receive their daily bread.

Join us in November to talk about the cuts to America's number one defense against hunger - SNAP.

Join us on Thursday at 7:00-8:00 on November 13th to talk about SNAP and other issues threatening the food security of Ohioans. [Sign up Here!](#)





CHRISTIAN CAFÉ UPDATE BREAKFAST FOR DINNER???

On Tuesday, November 4, we will be serving breakfast for dinner. Bakers, instead of desserts, we will need breakfast treats – muffins, coffee cake, sweet rolls and doughnuts to name a few. So, pull out your favorite recipe and make it a scrumpdiddlyumptious affair. Carol has left a few “tried and true” recipes in the office if you want to check them out. Barb will be happy to copy one for you!

News from Finance



As you know, the parsonage roof project has been completed. The total cost of the roof was \$13,324.58. Monies were borrowed from the Emergency Building Fund to pay for the roofing project. We have been replenishing that fund with contributions as they have been received. We want to thank those of you that have contributed. To date we have received \$9,251.87 in donations which includes the proceeds from the Mystery Dinner in the amount of \$818.87. If you would like to contribute toward repayment of the Emergency Building Fund, any help would be greatly appreciated!



Did you know???

(a tip from the Finance Committee)

According to the IRS, “**Required Minimum Distributions**” (RMDs) are minimum amounts that IRA and retirement plan account owners generally must withdraw annually starting with the year they reach age 73. Generally, these withdrawals are subject to income tax. However, if you choose to have your RMD sent directly to the church, it does not count toward your taxable income. Several of our members have chosen this method of giving. This could be a good way to increase your contributions to the church and possibly save you money in return!

Check with your tax or financial advisor for the details.



**Messiah Chorus of Lake County
75th Anniversary Presentation of Handel's Messiah
Sunday, December 7, at 4 P.M.
St. Gabriel Catholic Church
9925 Johnnycake Ridge Rd, Concord, OH**

For more information, contact
Martha Haluszka 440 862 2331

CARE FOR CAREGIVERS

Support Group Update

In the October Newsletter, it was announced that a Care for Caregivers Support group would begin here at JUMC. I am happy to announce that it has officially begun. Our first meeting was held on October 16 with 7 individuals attending. We understand at least 6 additional caregivers are likely to attend. The group will meet again on Monday, November 10, at 11 am in Angel's Wing. The current plan is to continue our meetings on the second Monday of each month at 11 am. As we evaluate the input from the October attendees about their biggest challenges, we will begin to plan our meetings going forward. Evaluation of the caregiver needs will also lead to conversations about how our church family can help support them, so stay tuned for updates.

If you would like more information, please contact Maribeth Davis at 440 344 4582 or Martha Haluszka at 440 862 2331.



RUNDOWN



WHAT IS 3 CORNERS?

3 Corners is a gathering of all the youth groups in Ashtabula County. This will be an opportunity to bring our youth together for worship, fellowship, food, and fun!

HOW DO WE JOIN IN?

Contact the host church to let them know how many youth will be coming. We would love to have you join us at all three gatherings!

NOV 23, 2025 4:00-6:00 AT ANDOVER UMC

181 South Main Street, Andover, Ohio 44003
440-293-6290

MARCH 29, 2026 4:00-6:00 AT JEFFERSON UMC

125 East Jefferson Street, Jefferson, Ohio 44047
440-576-4561

MAY 31, 2026 4:00-6:00 AT NEW LEAF UMC

110 Gateway Ave, Conneaut, Ohio 44030
440-593-2525

Jefferson UM Church, Holidays in United States

Nov 2025 (Eastern Time - New York)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	Pastor Jeremy Trip to Loose Change Sunday 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Fellowship 10:30am - Sunday School	8am - Pickle Ball 6:30pm - Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow	10am - Ministry Team 6pm - Safety meeting	6:30pm - Bell Choir Practice 7:15pm - Choir Practice	6:30pm - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women at the Well 4pm - Finance Committee 4:30pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - Trustee meeting	8am - Men @ Mugs Halloween
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