

The Messenger Newsletter

July 2017



First United Methodist Church of Middlefield
PO Box 207, 14999 South State Avenue, Middlefield, Ohio 44062
440-632-0480 office@middlefieldumc.com

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

Our Vision Statement: (How we will make disciples of Jesus Christ)
As we all unite together to do ministry for Christ, we will focus this way:
Going into our community with unconditional love,
intentionally offering Christ to everyone.

Rev. Erwin "Erv" Urschitz
(H) 440-632-0463 (C) 330-354-5500



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!!! PAVILION IN SIGHT!

Amazing and exciting!

Our church family, with a lot of faith, prayers, hard work, meetings, services, donations, tithing (both financially and of our time), fundraisers, determination, love and perseverance is on the threshold of being blessed with a beautiful pavilion on our church property. The Land Use Committee revealed the plans and proposals at the Town Hall meeting on June 25th after the Worship Service.

The proposed pavilion will measure 70ft. by 40ft. (2800 square ft), which is approximately the size of the Social Hall and the kitchen combined. When completed, it will have 2 - 15ft. by 14ft., and 1 - 15ft. by 12ft. enclosed rooms with a man door and a 6ft. by 8ft. garage door in the east end of the pavilion. The uses for these rooms will be 1) Maintenance storage, 2) Furniture storage, and 3) Prep area.

The proposed construction will include a scissor truss roof giving the ceiling a cathedral look, a 30-year metal roof, shake shingles on the gable ends, 8in. by 8in. posts, and a 2ft. overhang beyond the posts.

The proposed construction will take place in **5 phases** with the status and the proposed/estimated cost included. The Leadership Board voted on June 13th to officially approve the use of the Memorial Funds to start building the pavilion!

Phases

Phase 1 - Excavation of the property, leveling of the pavilion area with drainage and the parking area base installed is completed

Phase 2a - Setting the posts, the trusses and gable ends @ \$18,000

Phase 2b - To hire out the roofing to be installed @ \$2,500(estimate)

Phase 3 - Pour the concrete floor @ \$12,000 (with the possibility of completing sections at a time by ourselves to save \$4,000)

Phase 4 - To finish the stone for the drive and the parking lot @ \$10,000(estimated)

Phase 5 - The storage rooms to be constructed @ \$2,000

The electric and water will be installed as needed with the following costs (all are estimated):

- A) Main electric hook up @ \$1,500
- B) Wire the pavilion @ \$500
- C) Hook up to the water and tie it into the pavilion @ \$3,000

After completion

The pavilion will be able to be used by those in our church congregation and our community as a way of reaching out to our neighbors with God's love.

Sign up sheets are available in the Social Hall for those who want to be a part of this new adventure our church family is embarking upon. This pavilion will be a true blessing for many generations to come, and we all have a chance to be a part of it. Big or small parts, each is a necessary part as we are all necessary parts of Christ's church body.

Red envelopes will be available in the pockets on the back of the chairs in the sanctuary for those wishing to make a donation to the cost of the pavilion. All will be appreciated and applied where designated.

(Continued on page 4)Pavilion

It's almost here...
2017's Vacation
Bible School as it turns
**Middlefield United
Methodist Church**
into



"Hero Central"

where kids will go on an awesome adventure alongside some of their favorite Bible heroes and discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God!

July 24th to July 27th

Contact Kerry Culp
at (330) 651-0719
to sign up to help or attend,
or for information.
The positions still needing to
be filled are (for one day
or multiple days):
Helpers to assist
and Storytellers

Pastor's Note

Freedom is never free. As a Nation we have many freedoms and we are blessed to enjoy them. Our defenders of freedom have paid with their very lives for our freedom. Let us never take it for granted. Likewise, our Savior and Lord paid the ultimate sacrifice to purchase our eternal freedom. Let us never take His work on the cross for granted.

Because of Christ we are now free from the eternal penalty of sin.

Because of Christ we are now free from sin's bondage over our daily lives.

Because of Christ we are now free to approach God with our prayers.

Because of Christ we are now free to have a relationship with our Creator.

Because of Christ we are now free to live as we were created to live.

Because of Christ we are now free to worship God with our very lives.

It is great to be a Christian because we can be spiritually free! Let us give thanks for the many blessings God has afforded to us. Let us live lives worthy of all we have been blessed with.

Let us love God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit with our whole hearts and lives. Let us love others after the example of Christ. And let us live to the high standard Christ calls us to. That we may share the same freedom we have been given. As Isaiah 61 proclaims and we should join in proclaiming as Christ's hands and feet.

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion - to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

So enjoy your freedom in Christ and share it with everyone.

Blessed in His Freedom,
Pastor Erv

CHURCH HAPPENINGS



Pastor Erv, Wendy, Claire (Caleb's wife) and Caleb
A Father's Day Surprise

For Father's Day, there were arrangements made to have Caleb Urschitz join our congregation as the surprise music leader. Most of us didn't know we were in for something special, but what was even better was that his father, Pastor Erv, didn't even know Caleb would be there. How wonderful to be sharing in serving at the Worship Service together with his son, on this special Father's Day. Thank you to his wife Wendy for sharing this special time in their family with our church family.



It's a Birthday Surprise for Betty Abram

Come and join Betty's family and friends in a 90th birthday celebration with a birthday cake on Sunday, July 9th in the Social Hall after the **Worship Service**. To help make this day even more special, please join us if you would as we give Betty a shower of birthday cards.

As we are hoping to keep this a surprise, please don't mention anything to Betty. If you have questions, call Cheri Sykora at 440-477-5398.

Prayer Room beside the elevator is available whenever the church is open. Please stop in and let us lift one another up to the Lord.



*Come join us as we combine
God Shares a Meal and
our Family Movie Night
Join us for the fun of it! We will
now have board games to enjoy
between the dinner and the movie,
time permitting!*

Friday, July 28th

Dinner is served 4 to 6:30 pm

Showtime is 7pm

In the Social Hall of our church, a free meal, board games to play, and a movie to watch are here for anyone in our community who would like to attend, ANYONE! We are handicap accessible. Donations are accepted. Also, if you are homebound and live in Middlefield, you may call for delivery of a meal by contacting the **church office** at 632-0480.

Because of the flexibility in the summer with fresh produce, the menu will be decided closer to the date of the dinner. Also, we are waiting for new movie releases becoming available to us, so again, we will wait until closer to the showing of the movie when we will make the title and details of the movie available. Both will be up to our usual standard of quality and enjoyment that you have come to appreciate. Both will be decided by the *Friday (July 21st) before* the "Dinner and a Movie" Night and posters will be put up in the church at that time. If you call the church at 632-0480, or Jackie Kawalec at 440-479-4820, after that date, we will have more information available to answer your questions.

The movie will be shown in the Social Hall with tables, chairs and bean bag chairs so come and relax and enjoy the show! With the movie we offer free popcorn and beverages. We hope you join us for a nourishing and entertaining evening.

See you there!

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

The Thrift Shop

(Volunteer Scheduler Needed)

As much as people love shopping at the Thrift Shop, there are times when the shop needs people to also serve by helping. We need a scheduler, someone to schedule the volunteers to work on Fridays and Saturdays between the hours of 9am to noon. If you would like to fill this position, serve on a regular basis, or serve by being a substitute during open hours, call Shirley Siracki at 632-1904.

We are open for regular hours to shop on
Friday and Saturday
9:00 am to Noon.

Donations are accepted and sorted
Mondays & Thursdays
7:30 to 8:30 am

Please **do not** leave anything
outside of the church entrances!



FEED THE HUNGRY

The Food Pantry is open on:

Monday from
11 to 12:30 pm

Tuesday from
6 to 7 pm

Wednesday from
3 to 4 pm

Thursday from
3:30 to 5 pm

Friday from
10 to 11:30 am

Saturday from
9:30 to 11 am

Donations are accepted in the carts in the Social Hall and also inside of the back door entrance **any time the Church is open**. Please **DO NOT** leave anything outside of the church entrances!

OUR CHURCH HOSTS for Our COMMUNITY:

Alcoholics Anonymous:

Wednesdays at 8:30 pm

Thursdays at 7 pm

Immunization Clinic

2nd & 3rd Wednesdays at 8–12 pm

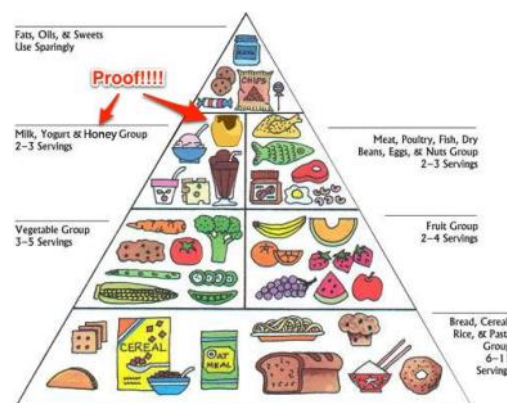
3rd Thursday at 2–6 pm

NAMI Geauga

Wednesdays at 7 pm

Overeaters Anonymous:

Tuesdays at 6 pm



Mobile Pantry Produce

Free Produce giveaway is on the 4th Tuesday of each month from **4 to 6 pm** which is **Tuesday, July 25th**. Help is always appreciated anytime between **3 to 7 pm**.

Missions

Briar Hill and Briar Cliff Nursing Home Hymn Sing

During the **first Wednesday, July 5th at 2pm** there will be a Hymn Sing at **Briar Hill North Side**. During the **second Wednesday, July 12th at 2 pm** there will be a Hymn Sing at **Briar Cliff South Side**.

Contact is **Janet Brazil** at **834-4920**.



Area Nursing Homes' Visitation Ministries

Monthly Worship at
Burton Health Care on the first
Sunday (July 1st) at 2 pm
with Vinnie Hodgkinson

Monthly Worship yek
at Pleasant Hills
on the fifth Sunday (July 30th)
at 1:30 pm
with Karlene Pilarczyk

Monthly Hymn Sing
At Briar Hill
on the second Wednesday
(July 12th)
at 1:30 pm
with Karlene Pilarczyk

These are the times when a leader is there and would very much appreciate any help you can give. Just be there and volunteer! Help is always appreciated. Questions?

Contact **Karlene** at
440-632-5661 or e-mail
david0011@windstream.net.

Pavilion in Sight!!!

(Continued from page 1)

In regards to the land loan, the most remarkable thing happened this past year. The land loan balance was lowered by \$42,123.64! To help lower this amount further, with the success of the fall and spring fundraisers, a Fall Dinner and Auction is scheduled again this year tentatively on Saturday, November 4th, 2017 at the Huntsburg Community Center. Details to follow.

Praising God in amazement and excitement, come and be a part of it!



Regular Sunday Services

**Communion is the 1st
Sunday of the Month**
(usually, call us if the is a need)

Worship Celebration
10:00 am

All are welcome to a time of snacks and fellowship after the Worship Celebration in the Social Hall.

Parents, your children will begin in the Sanctuary with you and will go together to the LOWER LEVEL for DEEP BLUE for their own worship, offering, teaching and experiential time AFTER the Children's Message. Please pick up your child(ren) in the LOWER LEVEL within 10 minutes after the Worship Service is over.



Receiver of the Big Heart Award, Congratulations to Carole Gappa

At the annual awards dinner of the East Geauga Kiwanis recently, Carol Gappa was recognized for her years of service preparing "food to comfort" in the community. We know Carol's good recipes and great food being prepared in our own kitchen for potluck lunches, church events, weddings, God Shares a Meal and much, much more for the past 25 years. We are truly blessed (and well fed) to have this wonderful lady as part of our congregation.

Volunteers needed as Substitute Church Greeters

With the busyness of summer, there are times when having a substitute to fill in only when needed as a Church Greeter would be most helpful. The only requirement is to be at church 1/2 hour earlier and to like smiling and greeting people. To volunteer, please contact Cindi Boehnlein at 834-1191. You would only be called if there is a need.

E-GIVING TWO WAYS

1. Online Giving: You set up and manage your own secure account through a link on our website, www.middlefielddumc.com
2. Consider working with your personal bank to set up an automatic payment to the church for your regular giving

Your electronic contributions are recorded on your own personal giving statement that is prepared as requested and provided for each year-end.

2017 Leadership Board

Todd Ross—Chairperson
tross1@windstream.net
(440) 636-3322

Skip Boehnlein—Lay Leader
sbenline@sbcglobal.net
(440) 313-2095

Kendra Fashing—Treasurer and
Lay Member to Annual Conference
fashing01@gmail.com
(330) 717-3874

Additional Members of the Board

Betsy Anderson—Trustee Specialist
musiclady2003@windstream.net
(440) 286-1122

Cindi Boehnlein—Nurture Specialist
cbenline@sbcglobal.net
(440) 834-1191

LuAnn Burger—Trustee Specialist
(440) 968-3779

Kerry Culp—SPR Specialist
kclp68@yahoo.com
(330) 651-0719

Julie Dulka—UMW Representative
julianne1@windstream.net
(440) 636-5576

Kate Greth—Finance Specialist
k.greth@csuohio.edu
(440) 591-0427

Don Hunter—SPR Specialist
donalddhunter@gmail.com
(440) 632-5431

Aimee McGowan—Missions
Specialist
mclass2009@live.com

Juli Stone—Finance Specialist
jdstone13@windstream.net
(440) 725-0970

All meetings in the church are open meetings. Everyone who would like to attend the board meetings is welcome. Questions may be asked of the above members at the meetings which are generally held in the Pastor's office the 2nd Thursday of the month which this month is on **Thursday, July 13th at 7pm.**

Anyone who would like to get a copy of the budget report may contact our treasurer, Kendra Fashing.

Anyone who would like to get a copy of the minutes from the board meetings will find them in the hanging file outside of the office.

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