



Dear Union Avenue UMC Church Family,

Where did January go? It feels as though the month has flown by. In just a couple of weeks we will begin the introspective journey of Lent as we prepare to again celebrate Christ's resurrection.

During the season of Lent, many people give up something, like sweets. I encourage you to pray about how you can practice a holy Lent this year. What do you need in order to draw closer to Christ in this season? Maybe giving something up is just what you need. Maybe, rather than giving something up, you will take on a prayer or meditation practice.

Whatever you do, I encourage you to try not to think of Lenten practices as something to check off a list, but rather to think about Lent as a time of transformation and growth. Don't get so hung up on the practice itself, so much as its purpose: to open your heart more fully to God.

Our Lenten worship series, **The Power of Sacrifice**, will explore the ways in which Jesus demonstrated sacrificial living. Together we will follow Jesus' footsteps on the way to the cross – and together we will be transformed along the way.

I look forward to walking through this season with you, and I pray that you have a holy and blessed Lent.

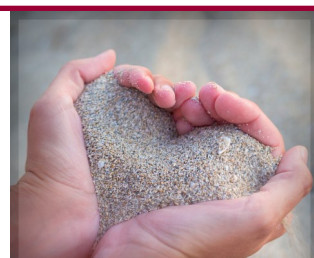
In Christ's love,

Pastor Becky

Pastor Becky

**ASH
WEDNESDAY
SERVICE:**

**7:00 pm, Wednesday,
February 14**

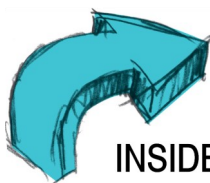


PASTOR BECKY'S SCHEDULE UPDATE — FEBRUARY:

Pastor Becky will take Mondays off in February. Drop-in office hours are:

Tuesdays – 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM (11:15 AM – 1:00 PM on 4th Tuesdays)
Wednesdays – 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM Thursdays – 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

If you need to make an appointment outside of these hours, contact the church office.



INSIDE:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Pastor's Page | 5. Finance/Stewardship |
| 2. Events | 6. Faith in Action |
| 3. Milestones, Listening Posts, Super Bowl Subs, | 7. Calendar |
| 4. Missions | |

NEXT ISSUE:
March deadline:
Thursday,
February 15



YOUTH GROUP (GRADES 6-12)

Our youth group will meet Sunday, Feb. 4th from 6-7:30 pm and Sunday, Feb. 18th from 11:15 am-12:30 pm at church. Lunch will be provided on Feb. 18th. Please notify Pastor Becky if your student has any dietary restrictions.



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

10:00-11:00 am, Wednesdays | Pastor Becky is offering a weekly Bible study. Each week we will study the scripture that Pastor Becky will preach on the coming Sunday. No preparation is required, and each session will stand alone so drop in whenever you are available.

3RD FRIDAY YOGA CHURCH

6:30 pm, Friday, Feb. 16 | Join us for gentle yoga, prayer and meditation. Bring a yoga mat, or use ours.

BOOK CLUB

7:00 pm, Monday, February 12 | *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett is our next book pick. *Tom Lake* is a meditation on youthful love, married love, and the lives parents have led before their children were born. Both hopeful and elegiac, it explores what it means to be happy even when the world is falling apart. Patchett combines compelling narrative artistry with piercing insights into family dynamics.

MOVIE NIGHT

6:30 pm, Friday, Feb. 24 | Save the date! We're planning a church-wide movie night with popcorn and other snacks. Details will be announced soon.

ANNIE MUSICAL

"The sun'll come out... in March!" Those may not be the exact lyrics from the musical *Annie*, but on Saturday, March 23rd, at 1:30 p.m., Social Ministries has tickets reserved to see *Annie the Musical* at Playhouse Square! This celebration of family, optimism, and the American spirit remains the ultimate cure for all the hard knocks life throws your way.

The limited number of discounted Social Ministries ticket prices for mezzanine and orchestra floor seating options are only \$52.50, with tickets for youth and children only \$27.50! Deadline to reserve tickets is Sunday February 18th.

A decision will be made closer to the show about dinner afterwards as a group. If paying by check please make out to Union Avenue UMC with "Annie Tickets" on the memo line. Call or text Will Stolicny with any questions at 330-257-4134. Look for details on the Social Ministries Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.

COPELAND OAKS

MINISTRY TO CRANDALL

10 am, Tuesday, Feb. 13 | Crandall Medical Center residents are invited to join us for our next service. Other Copeland Oaks residents are invited to come, visit with residents, help them to/from the dining hall and sing the hymns with us.

UNION AVENUE COPELAND OAKS RESIDENT GATHERINGS

10:00-11:00 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 27, Williamsburg Lounge | Union Avenue Copeland Oaks residents are invited to join Pastor Becky and/or Pastor Scott, and other Union Avenue friends for devotional thoughts, singing and lots of conversation. We look forward to seeing you!



1 – Kay Hettler
1 – Alea Simbro

6 – George Kollar
6 – Eva Miller

3 – Chris Cochran
6 – Marco Bridgeman

11 – Jerry Hammerton
12 – Paula Hochradel
13 – Kathy Butcher
14 – Diana Madison
16 – Janet Carr
18 – Elizabeth Recchiuti

21 – Linda Brady
21 – Katie Young
22 – Bob Hawkins
22 – Vickie Weida
23 – Karen Gonder



January 29 — Rev. Phillip “Phil” Gehm
Union Avenue Director of Music 1963 - 2010

Funeral service at Union Avenue:
Saturday, Feb. 10, at 11:00 a.m.
Calling one hour prior.

CENTRAL VALLEY DISTRICT LISTENING POSTS

6:30-8:00 pm, Wednesday, Feb. 21, Union Avenue UMC*

The Central Valley District office is holding listening posts throughout our new district and wants to hear from YOU! Meet with co-superintendents, Rev. Edgar Brady and Rev. Cara Stultz Costello, Rev. Beth Ortiz, Director of Strategic Ministries, and Megan Myers, District Administrator.

Some thinking points: ~What are the gifts and needs of God's people in the Central Valley District?

~ What are the gifts and needs of your local church?

~ What are the gifts and needs of the district clergy?

***See flyer in Fellowship Hall for other locations.**

SUPER BOWL SUBS ARE BACK AT UNION AVENUE UMC!

Subs sandwiches will be available for pick up after worship, the morning of February 11th, Super Bowl Sunday.

Sandwiches will be made fresh on Super Bowl Sunday morning!

- Orders are due no later than Sunday, February 4th in the church office.
- All sub sandwiches are **\$8.00** each.
- You may place your order in the collection plate in the back of the sanctuary or drop them off during office hours.

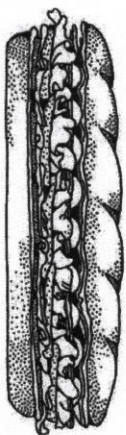
Four types of sandwiches are available; they include the toppings listed below plus lettuce. Tomatoes and homemade sub sauce will be available on the side that morning. Please indicate the quantity below:

- 8" Ham & Cheese Sub _____
- 8" Turkey & Cheese Sub _____
- 8" Ham, Turkey and Cheese Sub _____
- 8" All Cheese Sub _____

Total Number of Sandwiches X \$8.00 = \$ _____
Payment should be made when you pick up your order.

Name: _____

All proceeds will benefit the Social Ministries Team, to assist in reducing costs for the opportunities they provide for the church family as we work on gathering again in 2024 and beyond.



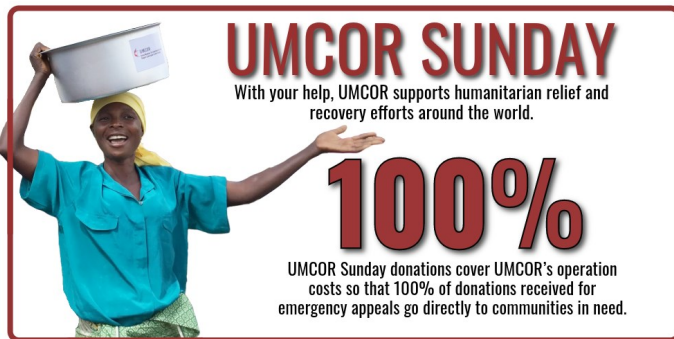


THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING

Thank you for your generous giving to the Advent Offering! \$5,382 was donated! The Preschool staff will receive \$1,000 to help wherever most needed to support their mission of providing learning opportunities and care for young children.

Our church’s Community Outreach Fund will have \$4,382 to assist those in our community who have one time needs. The Alliance YWCA screens applicants and informs Pastor Becky of persons who qualify for this assistance.

The commitment of Union Avenue United Methodist Church members to mission and outreach is amazing! Again, *thank you!*



UMCOR SUNDAY — FEB. 18 - MARCH 10

UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) will kick off on Sunday, February 18. What is UMCOR Sunday? UMCOR Sunday supports the administration and operational needs of UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) so that **100%** of our donations to various Advance missions throughout the year go **directly** to the mission area.

If you and your family like to save money daily for UMCOR Sunday, you can obtain a Giving Calendar

which has fun suggestions for each day such as “donate 5 cents for every hairbrush you have in your house.” Those calendars will be available at the back of the sanctuary. Or perhaps you would like to save your loose change each day for 3 weeks. Mark your envelope with “UMCOR Sunday” and your name. If it is more convenient for you to donate via check, be sure to write “UMCOR Sunday” on the memo line. The final collection date is Sunday, March 10.

RAIDERS COVE
Resource Center

RAIDER’S COVE COLLECTION

Once again we are helping our college friends 'next door' with a donation drive for Raider's Cove. Raider's Cove is a Mount Union resource center for students who need help with food, hygiene items, and clothes. We are asking our church to help support their mission by donating any of the following items from February 1-25. Drop off baskets are located at the north and Hartshorn Street entrances.

If you are interested in supporting monetarily, please be sure to designate that on your donation. Thank you so much! Please contact Jen Slack at 330-418-6299 with any questions!

Suggested donations:

- Boxed microwave meals
- Snacks – toaster pastries, granola bars, popcorn, cereal, crackers
- Rice/Pasta with Sauce
- Shampoo, Conditioner, Body wash
- Toothbrush, Toothpaste
- Deodorant

UMU SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY CLASS TRIP

As we have for a number of years, we will assist Mount Union’s Social Responsibility Class spring break service trip. Watch the Sunday bulletin for further details soon.

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE

FALL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN RESULTS

The Union Avenue Stewardship Team is so grateful to our church family for your generous support during our Fall 2023 Stewardship Campaign. Your pledges and support empower us to live into our mission of sharing the good news of God's grace in Alliance and beyond!

2023 Stewardship Campaign Results: Total Pledged for ministry in 2024 is \$298,980.

2022 Stewardship Campaign Results: Total Pledged for ministry in 2023 was \$270, 915.

In 2022, we received 70 pledges. During our 2023 campaign we received 73 pledges.

Thank you for your continued support!

STEWARDSHIP MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2023

Congratulations church! With your generous support we were able to meet all of our financial commitments in 2023 and wrap up the year with a strong base for continued growth of our ministry and outreach programs in 2024. Support for local missions grew and contributions to the long-term financial health of UAUMC increased as well. We are blessed to be part of a vibrant and growing church community with great momentum to explore new mission and service opportunities heading into 2024.

	December	Year-to-Date 12/31/23	Last Year at 12/31/22
Operating Income Donations Received	\$ 39,373	\$ 333,428	\$ 297,616
Operating Expenses	\$ 25,613	\$ 304,911	\$ 299,321
Net	\$ 13,759	\$ 28,517	\$ (1,705)
Additional Contributions Received			
Missions / Benevolences	\$ 6,637	\$ 25,768	\$ 20,902
Directed Giving - Specific UAUMC Needs	\$ 910	\$ 23,036	\$ 11,216
Building & Maintenance	\$ 368	\$ 4,264	\$ 5,649
Memorials & Endowments	\$ 250	\$ 21,370	\$ 2,890
Total Gifts Received	\$ 47,538	\$ 407,866	\$ 338,273
Operating Fund Balances			
Specific Purpose Encumbered Funds Held Balance		\$ 81,895	\$ 118,306
Operating Reserve Balance		\$ 22,000	\$ 18,086
Available Operating Account Balance		\$ 41,300	\$ 16,010



Do you prefer online giving? Scan this QR code to support Union Avenue's ministries and the mission work of the United Methodist Church around the world. Thanks for your prayerful generosity!

AROUND UNION AVENUE

Members of the UMU volleyball team spent several hours on Martin Luther King Jr. Day helping out. Projects included cleaning the kitchen, cleaning chairs and tables in Fellowship Hall, and removing wallpaper from most of the church offices. The wallpaper was hung when the current offices were constructed from the church “catacombs” (basement) in 1985. After MLK Day, the office walls, ceilings and closets were painted, making the space much brighter. The furniture is back in place and other items will be back in place soon. We took photos of the tech cords/wires and labelled each one to make reconnections simpler. The project has been a good opportunity to sort through supplies and papers. Let us know if you need any thumbtacks!

Work also continues on the project to preserve our stained glass windows in lighted frames (photo lower right).





SUNDAY WORSHIP:
9:45 a.m. - Church and
facebook.com/uaumc
11:00 a.m. - 91.1 FM

C - Church: Z - Zoom, F - face

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Union Avenue Administrative Council: Chairperson – Clyde Lepley (+Ushers); Lay Leader – Len Slack; Annual Conf. – Dana Bericchia; Financial Secy. – Chris Cochran; Treas. – Tyler Kinser; Secy. – TBD; UMM – Jed Mewborn, interim; Historian – Karen Perone.

At-Large: Kathy Butcher, Pat Gates, Mark Harper, Linda Miller (2024) Dick Bashore, Kathy Kramer (2025) Jim Bales, John McIntosh (2026)

Committees: Kirk Miller (Trustees, Tech); Kevin Redinger (Finance); Patti Brimlow (Counting); Rev. Becky Weamer (Lay Leadership); Kathy Kramer (SPRC); Brad Goris (Endowment); Will Stolicny (Social Min.); Kay Hettler (Missions); John McIntosh (Preschool); Kim Lewis (Worship); Lynda Slack (Altar Arts); Carla McIntosh (Communion/Prayer); Margaret Brown (Social Hour/Meals)

<p>PASTOR BECKY'S OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 9:30–1 (4th Tu 11:15-1), Wednesdays 11-1:30, Thursdays 9:30-12 To schedule other times, 419-528-9586 or pastor@unionavenueumc.org.</p>			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p>9:45am Worship (C, F) 11am 91.1 FM, HOLY COMMUNION 6pm Youth</p>		<p>4:30pm Spaghetti Dinner (at CUMC)</p>	<p>10am Bible Study 6pm Praise Team</p>	<p>10am The Hour (Z) 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>		<p>11am Phil Gehm funeral</p>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<p>9:45am Worship (C, F) 11am 91.1 FM Super Bowl sub pick up day</p>	<p>7pm Book Club</p>	<p>10am Service at Crandall</p>	<p>10am Bible Study 6pm Praise Team 7pm Ash Wednesday Service</p>	<p>CIRCUIT RIDER DEADLINE 10am The Hour (Z) 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel</p>	<p>6:30pm Yoga Church</p>	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>9:45am Worship (C, F) 11am 91.1 FM 11:15am Youth</p>			<p>10am Bible Study 6pm Praise Team 6:30-8 District Listening Post 7pm Trustees</p>	<p>10am The Hour (Z) 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>		<p>6:30pm Movie Night</p>
25	26	27	28	29	<p>SUNDAY SCHOOL and SOCIAL HOUR: Kids - 9-9:30 Social Hour - 9:00 Adults - 11:00</p>	
<p>9:45am Worship (C, F) 11am 91.1 FM</p>		<p>10am UA at Copeland Oaks</p>	<p>10am Bible Study 6pm Praise Team</p>	<p>10am The Hour (Z) 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>		



**UNION AVENUE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

*A United Methodist Church
practicing Safe Sanctuary
through the child
protection policy*

Rev. Rebecca Weamer
Elder and Lead Pastor

Tyler Kinser
Treasurer

Rev. Scott Hayward
Minister of Pastoral Care

Christine R. Lamb
Administrative Assistant,
Membership Secretary

Dale Brown
Custodian

J. Kim Lewis
Director of Music

Christine K. Cochran
Financial Secretary

Pam Harlan
Preschool Director



Kirk Miller
Preschool Treasurer

Cindy Saari
Preschool Custodian



UNION AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Phone: 330-823-9270

Email: office@unionavenueumc.org

Website: unionavenueumc.org

Social media: facebook.com/uaumc,
instagram.com/unionavenueumc

Rev. Becky Weamer
Elder and Lead Pastor
Church 330-823-9270

Rev. Scott Hayward
Minister of Pastoral Care
Home 330-526-6887
Cell 419-618-0952

Chris Lamb, Admin. Asst.
Office hours: M-F, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

SUNDAY: 9:45 a.m. in Sanctuary and facebook.com/uaumc; 11 a.m. on WRMU 91.1 FM